

# Excellence

FALL 2002

FOR ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY AND FRIENDS



*The Mission Is the Answer*

## INSIDE

Alumni Events from Coast to Coast

Nursing Students in Mexico

Miss Oklahoma 2002 from ORU

Still Making Music



# The Mission Is the Answer

**A**re you on the mission field? I am. Every day. That might sound just a little crazy, since what I do most days is drive up the George Washington Parkway, cross the Potomac River, and go to an office in the heart of our nation's capital. Martin Luther King wrote his "I Have a Dream" speech in the building where I work, and Abraham Lincoln lived here for a few months while waiting to move into the White House next door. Now it is mostly inhabited by law firms, including the one where I work.

This is not the place most Christians picture when they think about the mission field. The people I meet as I walk around the hushed corridors of Washington's law firms and government offices look like they have it all together. They don't look like the "needy" people in the pictures I get from the missionaries we support. But you know what? Appearances can be deceiving. The people I rub shoulders with every day are just as "needy" spiritually as any of the people in those pictures (and perhaps more so, since many of them think they are too busy even to think about God).

When God told Oral Roberts to raise up students to go "where My light is seen dim, where My voice is heard small, and My healing power is not known," He knew that would include Pennsylvania Avenue in

Washington, D.C., and this is my mission field. As ORU alumni, we've been called to "everyman's world" and I'm learning day by day just what that means.

Sometimes it means taking on a pro bono case where, through my legal work, I can care for the widow and orphan, as Jesus commanded — seeking political asylum for those in danger in their home countries. Most of the time, though, my legal work is more removed from "the mission" and it's hard to see a clear connection. Some

days, all I do is work on technology transfer issues between U.S. and foreign corporations. But I'm learning that every day the Lord has a "divine appointment" for me, if I'll only be alive to Him, and to those in need, enough to recognize it.

Yesterday I prayed with someone whose closest friend died the night before. Today, I prayed for the daughter of a co-worker whose helicopter went down fighting the big fires in Colorado, and now we're praising God she's safe. God is showing me small ways to show His love every day.

As we truly come to recognize our neighborhoods and places of employment as mission fields, we will be God's voice where it is heard small, His light where it is seen dim, and purveyors of His healing power where it is not known. This issue of *Excellence* describes what God is doing at ORU

*As ORU alumni, we've been called to "everyman's world" and I'm learning day by day just what that means.*



*Bob Vander Lugt with Alumni Office staff member Tammy Denton (right) and Laneice Goodwin (left; daughter of John [74]), an ORU student who interned at the Pentagon this year.*

and in lives of ORU alumni who have dared to accept the challenge to live this mission in their homes, their neighborhoods, and all around the world. I hope you are challenged and encouraged by these stories, and that you will let us know if God is doing something in your life that you would be willing to share to challenge and encourage others.

One last thing. I want to thank all of you who participated in our little "experiment" this year as we sought to find a fresh new look for *Excellence*. We received lots of input from you about the two formats we were comparing (spring and summer issues) and will keep working to make this magazine — your magazine — one that is not only fun to read, but that challenges us all in the fulfillment of our mission every day.

God Bless You,

Robert D. Vander Lugt (87)



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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 mis-  
sion of ORU is being carried out  
on a daily basis all over the  
globe — "in every person's  
world."*

*On the cover: Bret Teegarden  
and Eric Darken  
Cover photo by Peyton Hoge*

# Excellence

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## Features

### **The Mission Is the Answer**

In a world beset by attacks on everything that God considers holy, a university like ORU is needed now more than ever before. The ORU mission — preparing its students to become whole people and share Jesus with those who don't know Him — is a mission that continues, and alumni are finding creative ways to fulfill it. From producing uplifting music to adopting babies to sharing dental skills in Afghanistan, ORU alumni are making a difference all over the world.

**6 Music to the World's Ears**  
Alumni in Nashville, Los Angeles, and other cities are traditional (and not so traditional) in their work.

**10 China Dolls**  
Stacey Rogers was surprised to find that someone she knew was adopting a Chinese baby, too.

**12 Richer With Time**  
Alumni reflect on why they support ORU.

## Departments

**2 Your Voice**  
Bob Vander Lugt is on the mission field.

**4 Presidential Perspective**  
It's more than a mission; it's a mandate.

**9 First Person**  
David Barton weighs in on the Pledge controversy.

**14 Head of the Class**  
A talk with Casey Preslar, the new Miss Oklahoma.

**17 Campus Currents**  
• A Call to Heal  
• Enrollment

**20 The Eli Report**  
• Volleyball Team Puts God First  
• Men's and Women's Basketball Schedules

**22 Lifelong Links**  
• Chapter Events  
• Golf Outing  
• Notes from Alumni  
• Mark Hodge and Gary Wood in Afghanistan  
• A Note of Gratitude



### Also in this issue . . .

- Homecoming 2003
- Transferring Assets
- Our New Designer
- Pick the Alumnus of the Year
- The Alumni Web Page
- The New Alumni Directory



# Our Mission, Our Mandate

**H**ere at ORU, we are serious about training and equipping students for the mission field of *every person's* world. And God is revealing new opportunities every day.

At the first chapel of the semester, Jim Ryun and Walter Jones, U.S. congressmen from Kansas and North Carolina, respectively, reminded our students of just how important they are to raising standards and keeping God in our nation. They emphasized the need to vote godly men and women of ability into office, and to exercise our right to speak out as individ-

One of the most important things I can say about ORU today is that we are still raising up spiritually alive students to see the world the way it is and *do* something about it. But if we are to be like Christ, we must acknowledge in our daily lives that we are called to be holy. The theme for this year is "A Quest for Wholeness," and I am calling the campus to holiness like never before. Part of this plan involves a decision I made after a year of praying about it: *Effective Aug. 21, 2002, the men have a curfew of 12:30 a.m. on weekdays and 1:30 a.m. on weekends (30 minutes after the women's curfew).* You just



Richard and Lindsay Roberts

Lindsay and I and the staff of ORU are committed to encouraging our students to *believe* in all that God promises and to constantly use His Word as a mighty sword against the enemy, wherever they go, whether they become evangelists, accountants, doctors, lawyers, or whatever. People everywhere are craving a relationship with God, and ORU graduates are equipped to serve and spread the love and hope of deliverance and intimacy with Christ!

Right now thousands of ORU alumni are doing just that all over the world . . . and we will just keep sending out more graduates every year until the Lord returns.

The mission is the answer to counteracting terrorism and destroying the bondage of hunger, homelessness, and hopelessness. It's our answer when we wonder, "What am I supposed to do?" or "Who am I supposed to be?"

Every day we keep reaching. Every day we keep getting closer to Jesus. Every day we keep seeing more miracles.

*Richard Roberts*

Richard L. Roberts  
President and CEO



ual citizens of this country. Only 22 percent of Christians voted in the last presidential election, so it is clear there is much work to be done. It is no accident that our students are at ORU, and it is no accident when godly men and women get elected. It is our call, as citizens and as children of God, to keep the government on the shoulders of Christ as the Bible says.

can't be a holy *whole* person if you're staying out all night. ORU offers students a top-of-the-line education with a divine appointment to grow in faith, but students cannot fully take advantage of that if they haven't slept or are sick, or are involved in the things of this world they ought to run from. Our mission is to raise up students who are whole in mind, body, and spirit to bring *healing* to this lost and hurting world, not to get caught up in it.



# Homecoming 2003: Celebrate the Legacy

**H**ome can be an environment offering security and happiness, a valued place regarded as a refuge, or a place where something is discovered, founded, developed, or promoted. Hopefully some of these descriptions ring true of Oral Roberts University for you — a place of happiness, perhaps a refuge, or even the place where you discovered God's plan for your life. Whatever ORU meant to you, we hope that you will return to campus for Homecoming 2003 as we "Celebrate the Legacy."

The traditional activities for everyone will be part of the agenda for Feb. 6-8. The excitement of Golden Eagle basketball immediately follows the complimentary President's Banquet, at which three alumni will be honored as "Alumnus of the Year" recipients.

Come find out who has earned this honor!

Throughout the weekend many campus groups and departments hold special events for their graduates. Athletes can challenge faculty and staff on the basketball courts of the Aerobics Center on Saturday morning. Homecoming chapel is always a highlight, as alumni experience again the excitement and power of more than 4,000 young people worshipping God together.

Special reunions will bring an evening of fun and fellowship to the Classes of 1973, 1983, and 1993. Don't miss your once-a-decade opportunity! Committees for all three reunions are being formed. Be sure to call Winnie Perdue at the Alumni Office (918/495-6627) if you want to be a part of planning your special event. Come and celebrate this special milestone in your life.

The Alumni Association will host the third annual

continuing education conference for mental health professionals at Homecoming. This popular event provides a great networking opportunity and valuable information from leaders in the mental health profession.

When you return for Homecoming, you will be able to see the new parking lot and bridge, and hear more about the new Student Center. What an exciting time to come back and see what's changed since you graduated!

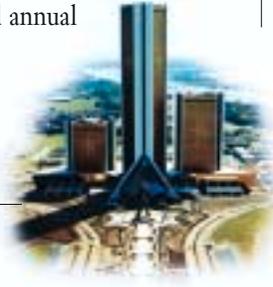
Each alumnus is invited to recall the memories of yesterday and share in the excitement of tomorrow with more than 1,000 alumni who return to campus for this special weekend. Watch your mail for the Homecoming 2003 brochure and registration form. Be part of *celebrating the legacy!* ■



1960s



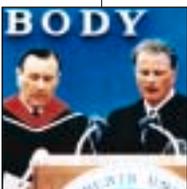
1980s



2000s



1970s



1990s



# Music to the

# World's Ears

BY JESSICA HILL

SINCE 1965, STUDENTS HAVE KNOWN THAT THE MISSION OF ORU — TO GO INTO EVERY PERSON'S WORLD — DOESN'T APPLY TO THEOLOGY MAJORS ONLY. SOME HAVE SELECTED THE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE OF MUSIC AS A WAY TO FULFILL THE MANDATE. INVOLVED AS THEY ARE TODAY IN EDUCATION, COMPOSITION, OPERA, AND ENTERTAINMENT, ALUMNI ARE FINDING PROFESSIONAL SATISFACTION AND WAYS TO HONOR GOD THROUGH THEIR WORK.

After pursuing successful independent music careers in Nashville for 14 years, **Eric Darken (88)** and **Bret Teegarden (A)** have recently teamed up to launch their own independent record label, EB Music Group ([www.ebmusicgroup.com](http://www.ebmusicgroup.com)).

Darken started his professional music career as a student, performing with various Tulsa-area symphonies and groups. After his move to Nashville, he began by doing copy

PHOTO BY LARRY HUEHE



*Larry Dalton (69)*



work for arrangers and orchestrators. As a percussionist, drummer, composer, and producer, he has also had the opportunity to work with

artists Faith Hill, Amy Grant, Vince Gill, Jewel, Brooks & Dunn, Trisha Yearwood, Art Garfunkel, LeeAnn Womack, and Steven Curtis Chapman. One of the projects of which he is most proud is a Christmas project called "A Drummer Boy's Christmas," and of course EB Music Group's latest projects with artists Bonnie Keen, Richard Kingsmore, SAYSO, and



*Bret Teegarden (A) and Eric Darken (88)*



*Kristin Steveson Shriks (00)*

Reese LeRoy (87).

“I think most people I work with professionally know me as a musician and as a Christian,” says Darken. “The opportunities God has provided me have given me the chance to share about Him and the hope we have in Him. Now we are producing music that will bring entertainment to the whole family, and it’s just another opportunity God has given us.

“In my career, I’ve been able to share about what a great school ORU is and what it has to offer. I will always have great memories from my college days and my experiences there.”

Bret Teegarden also got his start at ORU, playing the bass guitar in the university’s Pep Band and on the television program *Sunday Night Live*, taking part in a music ministry tour, and working in the television audio department. He opened his own studio in Tulsa before relocating to Nashville, where his work has helped artists win

*“The opportunities God has provided me have given me the chance to share about Him and the hope we have in Him. Now we are producing music that will bring entertainment to the whole family.”*

17 Dove Awards and earn six gold and platinum records. He’s toured with Twila Paris and has engineered and mixed records for artists such as DC Talk, Michael W. Smith, 4Him, the Gaither Vocal Band, and Integrity Music, but says that some of his favorite recording projects have involved working with “custom artists”

who are pursuing a music ministry not for money or fame but purely because they are called. “They are not signed to a recording contract and most are not even pursuing a contract,” says Teegarden, “but I feel they often reach people on a more personal level.

“In some small way, I feel that I am helping to share Christ through what I do. I know that several million people have been touched by the recordings in which I have been involved,” he says, “and if their days have been brightened or their burdens lifted, that I have not labored in vain.”

Many alumni have followed the career of **Larry Dalton (69)**. While at ORU, Dalton found he was able to blend his love of music with his desire to do ministry and evangelism. A concert pianist and Steinway artist, as well as a producer, arranger, and conductor, Dalton also has moved from Tulsa to Nashville, where he is currently involved with three solo recording

*Jeff Lippencott (87)*



*Arlene Friesen (70)*

projects and a Christmas collection and is developing albums for other artists, including an opera singer and a Memphis-based pianist. This year he traveled to Europe and Africa, performing in churches and ministering to missionaries. Back in Tulsa, he is president of *Ars Musica Christiana, Inc.*, a nonprofit corporation that works with musicians in the Christian church around the world.

Dalton has been sharing his love of music and ministry since his days at ORU. Along with Terry Law (69), he was a co-founder of Living Sound International, a music ministry that sent college students around the world performing concerts in countries that often were closed to missionaries; Dalton was vice president and music director for nine years.

Through many years of performing, Dalton is able to put his work into perspective. "If people enjoy themselves, I think it's wonderful," he says, "but if they say that God touched them, that means so much more. Applause alone doesn't come close to that standard."

Alumna **Arlene Friesen (70)** is helping to raise up a generation of worshippers. Her work as the director of the music department at Christ For the Nations Institute in Dallas puts her in contact with hundreds of students each year. She oversees the academic aspects of the department, which includes a training track in music ministry and a minor in music. She serves as advisor and instructor for an advanced School of Worship and the Arts, and works with four praise-and-worship chapels a week, several annual conferences, and an annual live worship recording. Currently, Friesen is in the process of coordinating their annual worship conference, scheduled Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2002, which draws

1,000 attendees from around the world each year.

"At CFNI my role has been to help Bible college students become 'world-changers' through practical training in music, the arts, and the ministry of worship," says Friesen. "Many of our students are from nations in Asia, eastern and western Europe, Africa, and Latin America as well as North America. Whether they go on to seminaries, conservatories and universities, or return to their homes and nations and places of ministry, students leave

*"While I was at ORU,  
God gave me the  
strength to persevere  
and the faith to believe  
in a dream He planted  
in my heart."*

here equipped to take God's presence and power into more places than I could ever go. It's a wonderful privilege to see through our students and their ministries the extension of God's will for my life as a musician, an educator, and a worshiper of God."

**Jeff Lippencott (87)** has made the ORU mandate his own. For him, that's meant a recent move across the country to Los Angeles. He spent the last 15 years in Nashville doing everything from conducting to producing, arranging, songwriting, composing, and orchestrating. Now he's ready to take the next step in his career: developing original film scores. In fact, he's working right now on an independent film

with Lucasfilm, Ltd. Lippencott has been involved in a variety of projects as a freelancer, working with both Christian and mainstream artists. "I really feel that I've been able to 'go into everyman's world' in the music business," says Lippencott, "and I'll be doing that even more in L.A. since I'll be working almost exclusively with secular projects. I know that God has led me here for a purpose and I am now ready to find that purpose. I have had a very fortunate and blessed career in Nashville, but now God is calling me to start over again in Los Angeles, and so here I am.

"While I was at ORU, God gave me the strength to persevere and the faith to believe in a dream He planted in my heart. Now, with the perseverance He supplies, I choose to follow Him again as I did at ORU to find His will and calling in my life."

One of ORU's best-known alumni, **Kristin (Stevenson-2000) Shriks**, became Miss Oklahoma 2000 shortly after graduation. Shriks, who thrills audiences with her mastery of operatic arias, is part of the Tulsa Oratorio Choir and sang recently with the Oklahoma Symphonia Signature Series. Outside of music, Shriks remains active with the Salvation Army and their Boys and Girls Clubs, frequently serving as a guest speaker at events throughout the country.

"The alumni of ORU," Shriks says, "including myself, offer something to the world that other university alumni don't. We represent what we believe in. We represent Christ, and we represent that Christ's people are rising up and becoming successful." ■

*In our next issue: Part Two of "Music to the World's Ears."*



# Solving the Pledge of Allegiance Controversy

By David Barton (76)

The recent court ruling that saying “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance threatens our American form of government came as a shock to millions of Americans. While this decision was described by adjectives such as “outrageous” and “ridiculous,” it was not the single worst decision rendered by courts in recent years; it was just the one we all heard about. And while millions of Americans are asking whether this decision will be overturned, the more important question is how this decision came about.

The nation received its first public glimpse into what lay behind this decision during the second presidential debate in St. Louis in 2000. Al Gore promised that if he were elected president, he would place judges on the courts who believed that the Constitution was a living document. George Bush pledged that his judicial nominees would be strict constructionists.

A strict constructionist (unlike a loose constructionist) interprets the Constitution as it is written, not as he or she wishes it had been written. Thus, the Constitution’s guarantee of the “free exercise of religion” would protect the right to use “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Only one of the three judges in the Pledge decision was a strict constructionist — and he was outvoted by the two “living constitution” judges. Significantly, they struck down the Pledge because it failed the “Lemon Test,” the “Endorsement Test,” and the “Psychological-Coercion Test” —

three recent tests erected by the Supreme Court to replace the express language of the Constitution.

The Senate’s clear understanding of these two philosophies has caused one of the biggest unreported battles this session. President Bush, true to his



PHOTO BY AL COOK

*Barton addresses a policy briefing in Washington, D.C.*

promise, has nominated 103 “strict constructionists” to fill federal judgeships. The Senate leadership, however, has refused to confirm his judges slated for the Court of Appeals. Therefore, even though the Senate voted 99-0 to condemn the Pledge decision, for many senators this vote was largely disingenuous since more than half the Senate (nearly all the Democrats) is actively engaged in keeping judges off the courts who would uphold the Pledge.

Yet the Senate is not to blame for this travesty; Christians are. Why? *Because of their widespread refusal to vote.* Of the 60 million evangelicals in America, only 15 million voted in the last election. Five senators who lost — by a collective total of 100,000 votes — would have provided us with a majority of senators to confirm President Bush’s judicial nominees.

If we want to see less Pledge of Allegiance-type rulings, then it’s time that Christians get out and vote. President James A. Garfield (an ordained minister of the Gospel) foresaw a century ago where we are today:

*Now, more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption . . . . If the next centennial does not find us a great nation, it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces.*

Thirty-three states have Senate elections this November, and in many of those states there are solid, evangelical Christians running for the Senate. Let’s make sure that in this election, Christian voters become part of the solution! ■

*David Barton is the founder and president of WallBuilders, an organization dedicated to the restoration of the moral and religious foundation on which America was built.*

*If we want to see less Pledge of Allegiance-type rulings, then it’s time that Christians get out and vote.*

# China Dolls

By Elissa K. Harvill



Now with both babies at home in the United States, the two families are enjoying naptime and “baby watching.”

“When you have a baby, you’re in for the unknown,” says Even, director of the MultiMedia Institute at ORU. “There’s no way you can prepare for all of that — Iris read a lot of books and we both prayed every night that someone was holding and rocking Elise.”

Stacey shares that having Emily has completed a lifelong dream.

***“We actually feel more connected to the heart of God and His wishes for all of us. Adoption is an amazing way to explain the outrageous love of Christ.”***

Even and Iris say it was God who led them to adopt a baby from China: “We had a strong desire to have children and we prayed a lot about it; God led us to adopt from one of two countries — we had heard the stories of the little girls in China. We’ve just always had a soft heart for them.”

Being adopted herself, Stacey felt that adopting a child was just the natural thing to do. “I just wanted to give back something special. Our choosing China came about because my husband and I really love that area of the world. China is truly one of the most

amazing places on earth. Thousands of people there are coming to know the Lord. From the moment we arrived we felt like we belonged. Even before we received Emily, we were in love with the Chinese people.

“While I was a student at ORU,” Stacey adds, “Dr. Culp played a huge role in directing where I thought I would be going in my degree choice. I always shared with him my love for other cultures. I never would have dreamed we would share something quite like this! It’s exciting to have something so different in common with someone you respect. Now when we come for a visit to Tulsa, we have lots in common — like changing diapers.”

“It’s amazing how much your mind can change,” Even muses. “Another alumna (Heidi Mehlretter-Sneath-90 and her husband, David) adopted a baby from China, and I thought,



It all started with a Christmas card from Stacey (Dalrymple-93) Rogers and her husband, Vance. Something about *going to China*. Suddenly a very curious Dr. Even Culp, recipient of the Rogerses’ annual Christmas card and Stacey’s former ORU advisor, was on the phone. The Oregon couple had not mentioned *why* they were going to China. Come to find out, both they and the Culp were “waiting families” about to adopt Chinese babies. Their paperwork had been sent over at the same time, and while Iris Culp (83) was in Kun Ming collecting baby Elise (on Mother’s Day), Stacey had already returned and was introducing baby Emily to Even: “I thought, ‘In ten days, this is what I’m going to be experiencing — this is a preview!’” Even says.



The Rogers family

**Stacey adds that “God is moving in China! Not only in the cities but in the remote areas. Areas that do not have the Bible in their language are reporting they are seeing dreams and visions of Christ.”**

**‘What a brave couple! — they’re so young and energetic, it will work out for them.’ Now, five years later, I’m doing it!’**

“Adopting internationally involves an enormous amount of patience,” Stacey says. “Once you finally get all the paperwork done, you then spend about

Both couples agree that adopting is well worth the wait. “Please don’t give up during the waiting,” Stacey advises. “God can do some wonderful things during the process of waiting, and of course the rewards are so life-changing. And never, never think it’s too expensive—their little

lives are worth every penny.”

The Culp’s have friends who speak Chinese, and plan to expose baby Elise to Chinese culture while she grows up.

“If either one of our daughters expresses a desire to

know Chinese,” Stacey says, “by all means we’ll help them, but until then we’ll just play with our world See-N-Say.” Stacey and Vance have an older daughter, MacKenna, who is three-and-a-half.



The Culp’s

There are many opportunities to adopt a child from China, and all ages are available. “The older children take time to process,” says Stacey. “The best advice I can give is to select an adoption agency that you feel comfortable with, such as Cascade Children’s Hope or Dillon, and just start the process.”

Even and Iris offer this advice: “Appreciate the simple joys of having a child in your life, and sleep when you can.” ■



The Rogers family in Nanjing.

13 months waiting and waiting. But the day eventually arrives when you receive the photo and medical history and then it’s like you never waited.”

# Richer with Time

*What does it take to keep building God a university? Prayer, hard work, and money. The first two always seem to be available in abundance, but the third, alas, is often in short supply. Fortunately, there are alumni who are generous in their support of ORU because they have such good memories of their time on campus, and they want their alma mater's more-relevant-than-ever mission — to raise up and train tomorrow's leaders — to continue.*

By Debbie (Titus-77) George

**A**s the world gets darker," says **Christian Cable (95)**, a Fellow in medical oncology at Scott and White Hospital in Temple, Tex., "the contrast becomes greater. Living godly lives makes more of a difference the worse the news gets at night."

"The whole vision of ORU is to make Christ's name known in a dark world," agrees **Shauna Shotton (2000)**, a CPA at Locke and Associates in Tulsa. "ORU is raising up leaders to do that. That's why I believe in it."

Cable and Shotton are part of a group of alumni who contribute a sizable sum each year to the Alumni Foundation. Why do they do it? Their reasons vary.

"I feel strongly about investing in the vision of ORU, not only because of the education that I and my wife (Esther Winton) received there, but also because of my oldest daughter Heather now being a student there,"

Mark Sterns poses in a B-737 simulator.

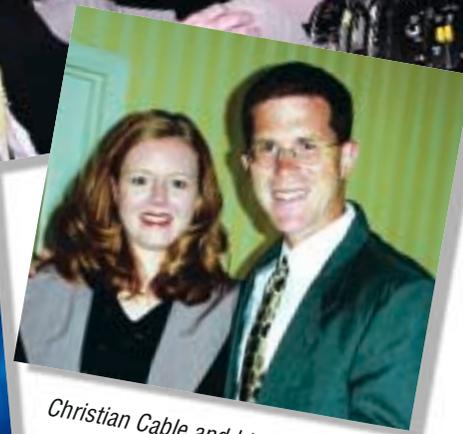


Jerry Cable and his mom at Christmastime.



The Brumit family (from left): Matthew, Tim, Heather (a senior at ORU), Esther, and Heidi (a freshman at ORU).

says **Dr. Tim Brumit (73)**, a pediatrician in Denison, Tex., whose younger daughter, Heidi, just enrolled at ORU this fall. "As the parent of two students



Christian Cable and his wife, Jill.

in a culture attacked by amoral values, I even more strongly see the need for a university based upon the authority of the Bible." As a natural science department graduate, Brumit is committed to helping endow a chair in the sciences.

Atlanta-based **Susan Kroll (88)**, a freelance producer for CNN, believes that “because of ORU, I am where I am, and I want other students to have the same opportunities. I think ORU gives you a very good foundation before you go out into the ‘real world’

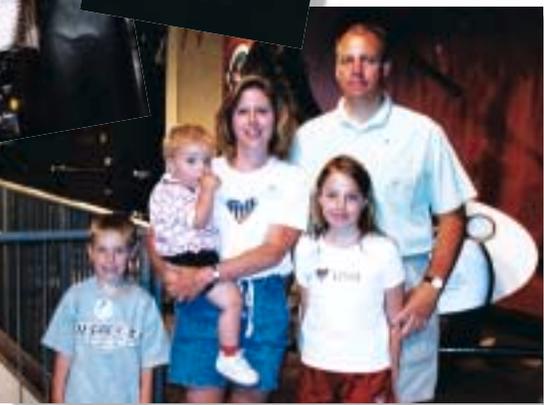


*Susan Kroll with Afghanistan's president, Hamid Karzai, in early 2002.*

PHOTO BY ALAN B. MONDAY, JR.

that we all used to joke about.” As an example, Kroll says that in her work she is “surrounded by

*Shauna Shotton*



*Sue and Steve Jensen with Brian, Andrew, and Rachel.*

intellectuals. Being able to quote from the Bible is really important.”

The main reason Kroll gives to ORU is that she believes strongly in tithing. Citing Malachi 3:10, she says that “time and time again when I have given, He has given back to me. [The money itself] may not be important to

Him, but it’s important for us [to be obedient].”

Alumnus **Jerry Cable (79)**, a computer consultant in Allen, Tex., says, “I just know that I’m supposed to do it (give). I want ORU to continue to fulfill Oral Roberts’ vision of going into every man’s (and every woman’s!) world. I hope my small contribution is helping to recruit — and retain — the highest caliber of students and to give them a quality education and quality facilities, both for learning and for recreation.”

**Sue Jensen (90)**, a worship leader at her church and a full-time mom to Rachel, Brian, and Andrew, believes that “God wants to do something great in many areas of the world,” and that this is reflected in ORU’s mission statement. “It was a word that God gave specifically to Oral for the students. God is still calling students to ORU for that purpose.”

Jensen is encouraged by the plans for the new Student Center. “It’s very impractical the way [the departments] were laid out before. ORU needs to think about and plan for the future.”

“Practically and financially speaking,” says **Mark Sterns (78;80-MBA)**, “I want to give back because I received scholarships, and there were so many people who had given to the university to make it possible for me to attend.

“ORU gave me experiences that I could not have gained at another university,” adds this president and co-owner of Higher Power Aviation, a Dallas/Ft. Worth-based Federal

Aviation Administration Training Center. He and Paula (McGregor-77) have two sons, Matt and Tyler. Matt is a Fellow in the ORU honors program. “There I was challenged in chapel to ‘make no little plans here,’ to dream and attempt something so big that without God I would utterly fail. In the classroom, I was challenged to apply the principles of my faith. On campus, I had the privilege of forming relationships with individuals in a shared community. These experiences grow richer with time.”

Shauna Shotton is grateful that she was able to graduate from ORU without any debt. “Through scholarships,” she says, “they were saying, ‘We believe you’re going to fulfill the mission.’” She’s happy to be able to help perpetuate ORU’s core values.

“Right out of high school you need those values,” she says. “I know I wasn’t strong enough in my faith. You can get swayed pretty easily at that age.”

“My wife, Jill (95), and I had such an incredible time of growth and strengthening at ORU,” adds Christian Cable, the father of three young sons. “ORU made such a core difference in the adults we are becoming. The habits you build there are lifelong. When you come into dry places, you’ve got something to return to.”

Cable is glad to hear that ORU remains forward-thinking.

“I appreciate President Roberts making it a priority to get ORU out of debt. And to see construction like the Student Center, something that will bless the students in a more modern way—I hope it’s the first of many projects.” ■

*“In the classroom, I was challenged to apply the principles of my faith. On campus, I had the privilege of forming relationships with individuals in a shared community. These experiences grow richer with time.”*



# So Far, So Good

By Debbie (Titus-77) George

**T**here's a lot of talent in the Preslar family. Marvin sings and plays the bass. His wife, Marilyn, majored in music, was a drum majorette, sings, and plays the timpani and tambourine. Oldest daughter Amanda (2001) and youngest daughter Shelly (an ORU sophomore) are accomplished singers and musicians.

And what of the middle child, Casey? The one who says she "came into this world singing"? She's merely the new Miss Oklahoma,

due in no small part to her voice.

Considering the role that music has played in Preslar's life, it's logical that her platform — her mission, if you will — is "Developing Young Minds through the Power of Music."

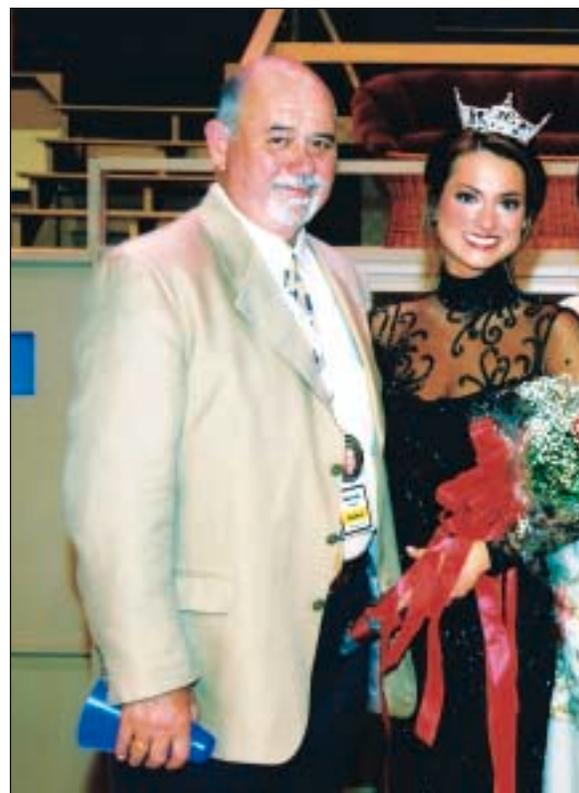
"When I first started five years ago with this," Preslar says, her enthusiasm obvious in her voice, "I was just focusing on music and math. I saw the correlation between the two. I never realized how much I love math — and I've been involved in music all my life."

Growing up in Hattiesburg, Miss., Preslar began singing at 2, took dance at 3, violin at 4, piano at 5, and then moved on to operas. At ORU, where she's about a semester shy of graduation, her majors are music and mass media communication.

"As I began to study more," Preslar continues, "I began finding research on how music relates with lots of other subjects, such as science and history, and the effect that music has on the brain, especially in young children.

"Music works both sides of the brain [at the same time]. It's the only thing that does that. From birth to age 6, the brain is like clay. All these neurons are

*Preslar has been named a national spokesperson for VH1 Save the Music Foundation.*

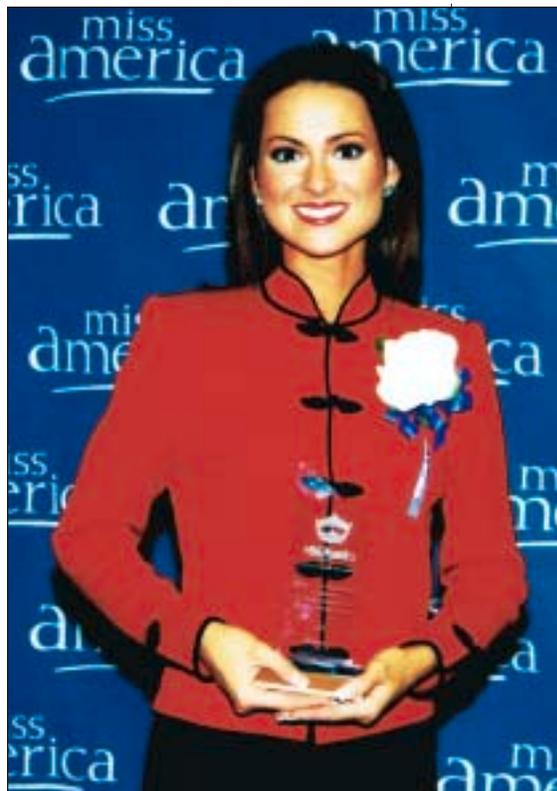
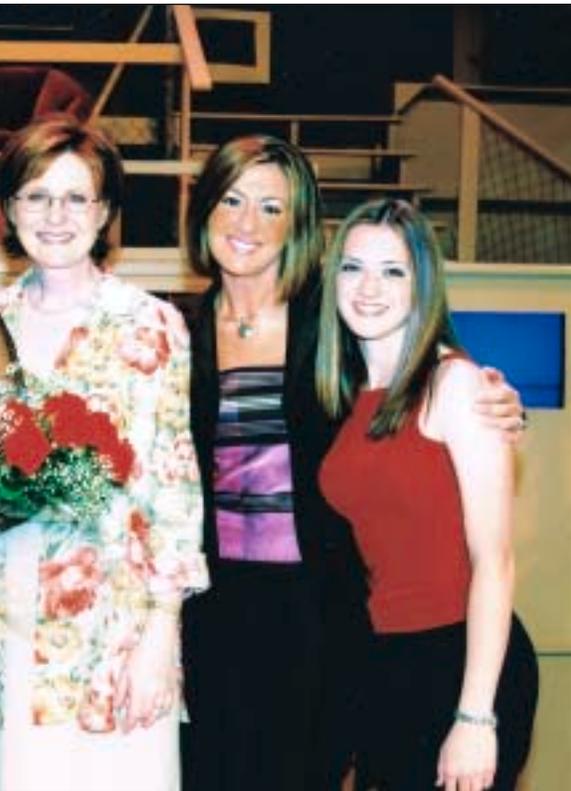


*I'm so excited at what God's going to do, because I can already see what He's done in the past, and, so far, so good.*

trying to form connections, and music does that more than anything else. Children who study music will have a more developed brain, improve their self-esteem, learn determination and motivation and discipline — these are concepts that are going to get applied to the rest of their lives."

Having music as a core curriculum, Preslar says, "is something that I want to see in every school." It's a goal she has already begun to achieve. She helped Tulsa Public Schools obtain a





**Clockwise from far left:**

*Marvin, Casey, Marilyn, Amanda, and Shelly Preslar*

*On Thursday night of Miss America pageant week, Preslar was one of three women to receive the Eleanor “Big Mama” Andrews Scholarship for the Performing Arts, a \$2,500 prize. This award goes to talent winners who plan to pursue a career in the performing arts.*

*After Wednesday night’s Miss America preliminaries, state reps from (left to right) Arkansas, New Jersey, Illinois (the eventual winner), Oklahoma (Preslar), and Nevada were in high spirits.*

Photos by Jim Grillot

\$350,000 grant from the VH1 Save the Music Foundation, which was distributed to sixteen school districts to help purchase musical instruments.

“TPS had no idea that VH1 was out there,” Preslar says. “You can see how just finding out about a funding program like this can save the music department within a school.”

Preslar, who with her sisters has been a regular on the Oral Roberts Ministries TV program, *The Hour of Healing*, for several years, says she’d also be taking an “undercover platform” to the Sept. 21 Miss America Pageant.





At Miss America's Wednesday-night preliminaries, Preslar won the talent award.

"When I first started doing the Miss Oklahoma Pageant five years ago, I said, 'Can my platform be "Jesus Saves"?' Can we have a platform that everyone gets saved and goes to heaven?' As Miss Oklahoma, I have to be cautious with the words I use, but I'm praying God will give me opportunities to draw people in and minister to them."

With her pageant days ending, Preslar is becoming more focused on her future: serving out her Miss Oklahoma reign, completing her ORU degree, considering graduate school, eventually marrying, and, of course, having a career in music.

"I want to be a professional singer," says this already-seasoned performer who also loves to bowl (average: between 120 and 135), swing dance, ride her bike along Riverside Drive, paint pottery, and drink coffee (Java Dave's and Nordaggio's are favorites). She'd also like to do TV commercials. "I think they're so much fun," she

laughs, broadly hinting that she's ready to serve as a spokesperson for a car dealership or even for Taco Bell. She and her sisters also have been invited to return to Branson, Mo., to perform with the Lawrence Welk Orchestra.

During this interview in July, Preslar was relaxed and confident and ready to take on Atlantic City.

"If Miss America is anything like the Miss Oklahoma Pageant, where God is in control, I'm not worried about a thing," she says, flashing her signature smile, "because He's going to give me peace.

"I'm so excited at what God's going to do, because I can already see what He's done in the past, and, so far, so good." ■

*Editor's Note: Preslar was the second runner-up at the Miss America Pageant.*



Preslar was all smiles on Saturday night at Miss America when she won second runner-up and a \$30,000 scholarship.





# A Call to Heal

By Jessica Hill

When Dr. Kenda Jezek became dean of the Anna Vaughn School of Nursing in 1994, God called her to build bridges, both within the university and in the community. Out of that call have come important partnerships and growing opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills on the mission field while they gain practical clinical experience.

For the past two years, senior students in the school's Nursing Leadership class have worked with the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) in Pawhuska, Okla., to provide medical care and education to residents of the Osage Nation reservation. Last summer, four senior students took part in the first-ever community nursing leadership experience at Roca Blanca Mission Base in southern Mexico. In September, students joined in President Richard Roberts' crusade to Nigeria, and plans are underway to send students in 2004 to Manna Mission in Accra, Ghana, a medical mission established by Dr. Seth Ablorh (85).

"We want to make a commitment to the organizations and communities with whom we partner," says Dr. Jezek. "This is an opportunity to serve them — to find out what they need and how we can intervene to improve the health of their people."

There's both a spiritual and a practical side to these experiences for student nurses, says instructor and course leader Audrey Thompson. "The students go into a community where

there are no programs and complete a needs assessment, identify resources, and administer a comprehensive educational plan. Most bachelor's degree nurses don't get this experience until they are on the job. Our graduates will already know how to put everything together."

At Roca Blanca, students spent four weeks working with patients in the clinic and teaching health in the Bible school. They also visited towns and villages where they set up temporary



Students Laura Spier (left) and Angela George (center) worked in the Mission's pharmacy with assistant Erika Lopez.

clinics and were able to witness to the patients, rotating leadership responsibilities weekly. Laura Pratt (88-MSN) has been working as a nurse at Roca Blanca for the past 10 years and served as an adjunct faculty member while the students were in Mexico.

"Our students should be able to minister to the spiritual part of man, ministering both medical and miracu-



Laura Pratt is a missionary nurse in Roca Blanca.

lous healing," says Jezek. "The School of Nursing is uniquely poised to carry out the mission of ORU in that way. We see nursing as our way of fulfilling that mission."

Working in Mexico, the students saw patients who came to the clinic in crowded pickup trucks, bringing fruit and poultry as payment, even though services are provided free of charge. "It's so different [from America], it's hard to compare," says student Carrie Yeo. "Some of the patients come from three hours away and wait all day long to receive medical help."

The students also saw a level of worship and surrender not usually seen in the U.S., simply because the people are more dependent on the Lord to meet their needs. "Their attitudes are so different from [those] in America," remarks Liza Colangelo (2002). She and some of her fellow students hope to return to Roca Blanca next year . . . as missionary nurses.

"We want to minister health and healing to people in the name of Christ, not just in the U.S. but wherever God has called us to go," says Jezek. "So our students must be prepared to go anywhere. They need international experience as students, and we are providing that." ■



# Transferring Assets Through a Trust

## The 'How?' of Estate Planning, Part II

By Marshal Wright (83;89-MBA)  
Associate Professor, School of Business

**M**any estate plans can benefit greatly from the use of a trust. While there are several types of trusts, the most common trust is the revocable living trust. This trust (which the owner retains the right to revoke or amend) is often used to provide for the care of incapacitated beneficiaries, to avoid probate, and to assure that planning is done to reduce or eliminate estate taxes. As a result, the revocable living trust has become the cornerstone of many estate plans. Its advantages include:

### **Avoidance of guardianship/probate.**

As discussed in the Fall 2001 issue, "Probate is the procedure by which the court orders assets to be transferred to the beneficiaries." This procedure is a legal process that is costly and time-consuming. It's necessary because at the decedent's death, there is no one alive who holds legal title to the assets with the authority to transfer them to

the beneficiaries. So, the court has to actually order the transfer of the assets to occur. Similarly, if incapacity during life occurs, the court may need to appoint a guardian to manage the assets. With a revocable living trust, these court procedures may be avoided.

**Avoidance of probate.** If the estate owners pass away without a trust, a probate procedure may be required to order the distribution of the assets to occur to the beneficiaries. With a trust, however, the back-up trustee(s) (appointed by the owner/creators) have the legal title to the assets and are able to distribute the assets to the beneficiaries according to the owner/creators' stated desires — *without* the need for the Probate Court procedure — because they have the legal authority to complete those transactions.

**Avoidance of guardianship.** In the same way, if the estate owners become incapacitated without a trust, a guardian or conservator may need to be

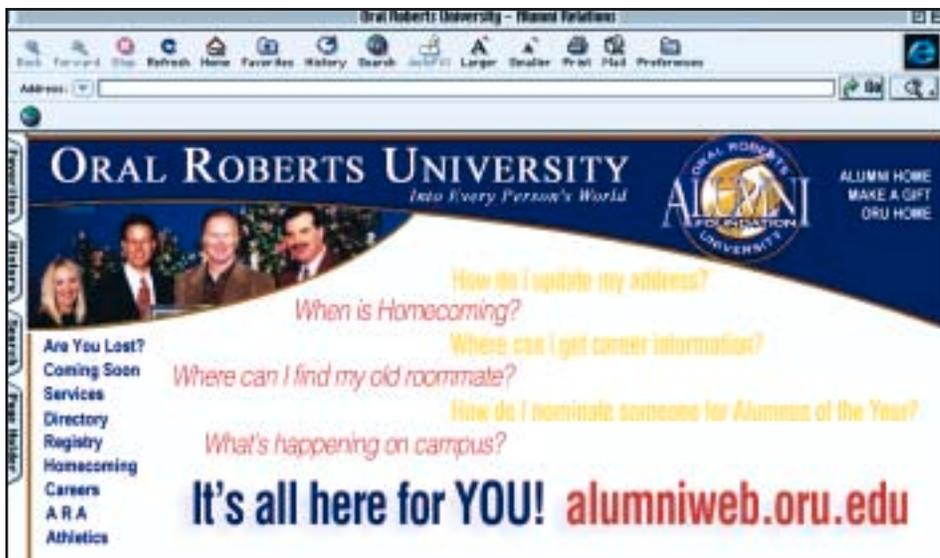
appointed over the assets to make all of the financial decisions for the owner/creators. This procedure must be done in the court system, and can be costly and time-consuming. With the trust in place, the back-up trustee(s) (because they have the legal title) manage the assets for the benefit of the owner/creators without the need for the guardian court procedure.

**Trust funding.** *The benefits explained above can only happen if the revocable living trust is funded at its creation.* This involves placing assets into the trust by changing the title and/or beneficiary designation on all of the assets to the owner/creators as trustees of the trust and, in the event of their incapacity or death, to their back-up trustees. If this does not occur, the trustee(s)/back-up trustee(s) will not be able to manage the assets during incapacity or distribute them upon death as intended.

### **Estate Tax Planning**

Many people believe that the repeal of the estate and gift taxation system in the United States will result in a reduced need to plan for their estate. This is not the case! In fact, many foresee a *repeal of the repeal* of the transfer tax system before it is fully implemented, causing most planners to suggest that planning continue as if the repeal will *not* take place.

**Transfer taxes and the unified tax credit.** Any time there is a transfer of assets from one person to another, tax must be paid on those transfers. In other words, you have to pay for the





right to give your assets away. One of the challenges estate planners face is how to minimize or avoid transfer taxes, which are some of the steepest in our tax system and can deplete an estate very quickly. One of the major planning tools allowed by Congress, the *Unified Tax Credit* (UTC), currently allows the estate owner to transfer \$1,000,000 worth of taxable assets and eliminate all tax through the application of the credit. The taxes would equal \$345,800, but since the credit also equals \$345,800, there will be a zero balance when it is applied against the taxes. The good news concerning the UTC is that it is scheduled to phase up over the coming years so it will protect more and more. Also, each individual husband and wife is entitled to a separate UTC, so combined they can currently shelter

\$2,000,000 from transfer taxes. The bad news is that the husband and wife must plan together to affirmatively use both UTCs or they will more than likely lose one.

**A-B trust plans.** One of the best ways to plan for the use of both UTCs by husband and wife is through the use of an A-B trust. This trust can be drafted in such a way that it will provide all of the assets of the estate for the care of the surviving spouse without taxing the surviving spouse on the half (up to the amount covered by the UTC) that was owned by the deceased spouse. What a plan! Not only does the properly funded trust provide for the avoidance of guardianship in the event of incapacity and for the avoidance of probate upon death

— it also provides for the maximum application of both spouses' UTCs in order to reduce or eliminate transfer taxes. The combined benefits of the trust could easily equal a savings of \$250,000 or more.

**Summary.** Through this series of articles, we've introduced some very foundational concepts of stewardship and estate planning. To develop a plan that's best for you, contact the appropriate professionals. ■

*ORU's Office of Estate Planning Services can help. Call 1-800-822-8203.*

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# Unique. Worthwhile. Significant.

*Is it enough to attract more students?*

ORU's enrollment figures for the fall semester are encouragingly high once again. Total enrollment stands at 5,418, compared to 5,389 for the fall 2001 semester. There are 4,359 for-credit and 1,059 noncredit students being served by the university. Numbers, however, are only part of the story.

ORU has been working harder to do a better job of communicating its core values. Since taking part in a longitudinal marketing research study conducted in 2001 by Maguire and Associates for the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, ORU has implemented several suggestions targeted to address the negative perceptions about Christian universities, such as "academically inferior" or "too churchy."

"As President (Richard) Roberts often states, we're not going to change who we are," emphasizes Dr. Jeff Ogle, Vice President for Student Services. "We're going to do a better job of explaining ORU, of letting parents and students see not only our excellent academics, but that we are unique in our Charismatic Christian commitments."



On the practical side, ORU has streamlined paper handling and computer support by automating the admissions decision process and the receipt of test score data. "This will make us more agile, timely, and effective in responding to prospective students," Ogle says.

ORU is getting involved in more direct mail marketing activities in order to expand the inquiry pool, and is using image-rich e-mail messages to reach its audience.

The president and first lady are fully focused on recruitment. At the Board of Regents' spring meeting, they asked for input and support and received an enthusiastic response. Lindsay Roberts volunteered to be the

regents' contact person and has since prepared a media kit containing ORU print materials, ads, and TV spots. Regents Creflo Dollar, Benny Hinn, John Hagee, and Kenneth Copeland invited ORU to set up tables and distribute admissions materials at their conferences; they have also personally endorsed ORU from the stage.

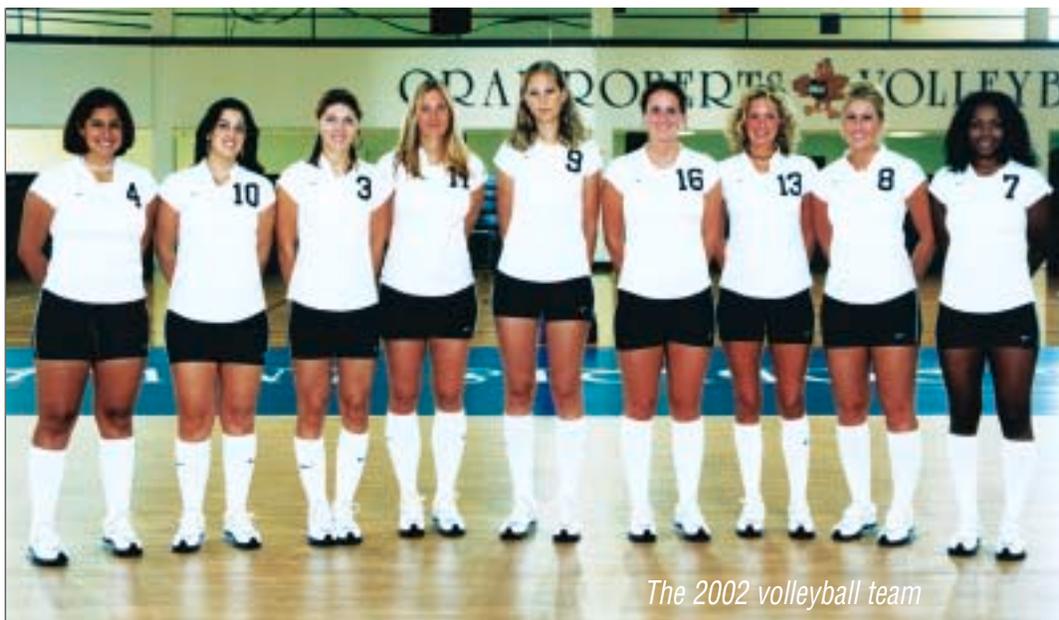
"I think we'll really see the fruits of these efforts over the next year," Ogle says. "Our mission is unique, worthwhile, and significant. Time will tell, but we seem to be making progress on all fronts." ■



# Volleyball Team Puts God First

By Julie Heden (2002)

What do some of the Americans, Brazilians, Croatians, and Canadians enrolled at ORU have in common? They're what head coach Amy Farber Knowles calls her "ABCs" — the young women who make up the Golden Eagle volleyball team. Handpicked from around the world, these young women are part of a stellar volleyball tradition. ORU is the perennial Mid-Continent Conference champion (five tournament crowns in five years), a regular at the post-season NCAA tournament (every year since 1995), and, more importantly, a team that's committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ.



The 2002 volleyball team



April Syko

With their 2002 theme of "World Class" to carry out both on and off the court, these Eagles are ready to add to a tradition of success.

Led by sixth-year coach Amy Farber Knowles, the team that was undefeated at home last year is hoping for a repeat. The past few years, the coach says, have been rebuilding years; the overall win-loss record was 121-48, including a 57-3 record in league play.

This year, with five seniors (April Syko of Canada, Patricia Menezes and Anna Moreno of Brazil, Ivana Placko of Croatia, and Lindsey Engel, an American), Farber Knowles is expecting a fearless, confident team. Her fellow Mid-Con coaches seem to agree.

In August, they picked ORU to finish first in the league in 2002. But just winning the Mid-Con and receiving an automatic berth in the NCAA Tournament is not enough. These ladies want to win it all.

Besides coaching the Golden Eagles, Farber Knowles stays in touch with non-athletes by teaching beginning volleyball, advanced volleyball, and the

theory of teaching/coaching volleyball. She was a volleyball player herself at the University of Oklahoma and was an assistant coach there for four-and-a-half years. She also coached for one year at Northeastern Illinois before coming to ORU.

The spiritual atmosphere on her team, the coach says, is incredible. "Everybody knows the Lord. There is great unity not only in volleyball but also in Christ. Volleyball is the tool that He blessed us with in order to glorify His name." On a trip two years ago to Nebraska, the Golden Eagles' team manager went up to a boy and told him that Jesus loved him, and ended up leading the boy to Jesus. "Leading someone to God is very important to

*"Leading someone to God is very important to this team."*

— Amy Farber Knowles





this team,” Farber Knowles says. “I want us to choose to set a good example, lift up God, and win!”

During the season, the women practice anywhere from 18 to 20 hours a week, including two weightlifting sessions. In the off season, practice time is cut to 8 hours a week. Even with all those practices, the women still maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.3 in the classroom last year. They were only two-tenths of a point shy of receiving the NCAA cup for academics. “As much as we love volleyball, it’s not going to be our life,” Farber Knowles acknowledges. “The impact on other people’s lives is very important. So are jobs after graduation, and great grades are a part of that.”

This year, the volleyball team’s goal, as always, is to reach the NCAA regionals and keep winning. They also hope to upset some nationally ranked teams along the way. “I wouldn’t trade my team for anything,” Farber Knowles says. “They’re well-balanced, and yet so diverse. I love them as daughters.”

Senior April Syko, the Eagles’ outside hitter from Winnipeg, Manitoba, buys into the family imagery. “I consider my teammates to be like my sisters,” she says. “Some of them come to the team and aren’t Christians, and they are our first mission field. Then we focus on the other girls we meet in tournaments and matches. Our opponents see something different about our team, and they wonder what makes us who we are. That’s when we know we’re fulfilling the mission of ORU — when the other teams see the unity we have and the higher standard we have for our team and our lives.”

Playing volleyball with young women from other countries is “tough but rewarding,” says Syko. There are not only the language and cultural differences, but differences in their style

of playing volleyball. “I think playing together and adjusting to one another stretches each of us and binds us closer together,” Syko says.

Will unity and high standards be enough to take this team past the first round of the NCAA to an Elite Eight spot like the one they enjoyed in 1995, when they finished the season ranked tenth in the nation?

Will this be the year that ORU realizes its true potential? No one knows. Whether or not they become the national champs, however, you can count on the Golden Eagles to be “World Class” at home in the Aerobics Center, in the classroom, and on the road. ■

## 2002-03 ORU Basketball Schedules

### Men’s Basketball

<b>November</b>		
9	<b>ATHLETES FIRST*</b>	7:05 p.m.
19	<b>MAKE SURE SPORTS*</b>	7:05 p.m.
23	<b>OKLAHOMA WESLEYAN**</b>	7:05 p.m.
26	<b>ARKANSAS</b>	7:05 p.m.
30	<b>WICHITA STATE</b>	7:05 p.m.
<b>December</b>		
2	at Tennessee State	7:00 p.m.
4	<b>SMU</b>	7:05 p.m.
7	at Mississippi Valley State	7:00 p.m.
14	at Stephen F. Austin	7:30 p.m.
19	at Tulsa	7:05 p.m.
21	<b>MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE</b>	7:05 p.m.
29-30	State Farm Good Neighbor Classic at Charleston, S.C.	TBA
<b>January</b>		
2	at Minnesota	7:00 p.m.
4	<b>COLGATE</b>	7:05 p.m.
9	at Southern Utah	7:05 p.m.
11	at Chicago State	4:00 p.m.
16	<b>IUPUI</b>	7:05 p.m.
18	<b>OAKLAND</b>	7:05 p.m.
25	at UMKC	7:05 p.m.
30	at Valparaiso	7:05 p.m.
<b>February</b>		
1	at Western Illinois	4:00 p.m.
6	<b>CHICAGO STATE</b>	7:05 p.m.
8	<b>SOUTHERN UTAH (Homecoming)</b>	7:05 p.m.
13	at Oakland	7:00 p.m.
15	<b>IUPUI</b>	7:00 p.m.
22	<b>UMKC</b>	7:05 p.m.
27	<b>WESTERN ILLINOIS</b>	7:05 p.m.
<b>March</b>		
1	<b>VALPARAISO</b>	7:05 p.m.
9-11	Mid-Continent Conference Tournament at Kansas City, Mo.	TBA

**HOME GAMES in bold.**  
\*- Exhibition \*\*- Home Opener

### Women’s Basketball

<b>November</b>		
16	<b>ARKANSAS TECH*</b>	2:05 p.m.
22-23	Bertha Teague Classic at Tulsa: OSU, OU	TBA
27	<b>TULSA**</b>	7:05 p.m.
30	<b>LIPSCOMB</b>	2:05 p.m.
<b>December</b>		
3	at Texas-Arlington	TBA
13	<b>PANHANDLE STATE</b>	7:05 p.m.
15-17	Fun in the Sun Shootout at Cancun, Mexico: Texas-San Antonio, OSU	TBA
28	at Arkansas-Pine Bluff	TBA
30	<b>ST. GREGORY’S</b>	7:05 p.m.
<b>January</b>		
3	at Lipscomb	7:05 p.m.
7	<b>HOUSTON</b>	7:05 p.m.
11	at Chicago State	TBA
13	at Southern Utah	6:05 p.m.
18	<b>OAKLAND</b>	2:05 p.m.
20	<b>IUPUI</b>	7:05 p.m.
25	at UMKC	TBA
28	<b>TEXAS-PAN AMERICAN</b>	7:05 p.m.
<b>February</b>		
1	at Western Illinois	TBA
3	at Valparaiso	7:05 p.m.
8	<b>SOUTHERN UTAH</b>	2:05 p.m.
10	<b>CHICAGO STATE</b>	7:05 p.m.
15	at IUPUI	TBA
17	at Oakland	TBA
22	<b>UMKC</b>	TBA
<b>March</b>		
1	<b>VALPARAISO</b>	2:05 p.m.
3	<b>WESTERN ILLINOIS</b>	7:05 p.m.
8, 10-11	Mid-Continent Conference Tournament at Kansas City, Mo.	TBA

**HOME GAMES in bold.**  
\*- Exhibition \*\*- Home Opener

For ticket information, contact the Mabee Center ticket office at 918/495-6000.



Stories by Tammy Denton (87;99) and Winnie Perdue

## All Aboard at Union Station!

The dramatically restored 106-year-old Union Station in downtown St. Louis offered the perfect setting for two alumni dinners earlier this year. Both nights, alumni from the area enjoyed their complimentary meal as they shared memories and caught up on current news.



Brother-sister wing outing?

The graduates from many different years found a common bond and fellowshiped until the restaurant was closing down around us. Several expressed appreciation for the opportunity to enjoy a night out and interest in planning more events for St. Louis alumni. If you live in the area and have ideas for fun events, please do not hesitate to call the Alumni Office (918/495-6610). We are excited to return to meet old friends and make new ones.



Union Station hosts the "Titan Train."

## Indy Alums Set the Pace



Alumni "Hoosier" style

Bowls of fried chicken, green beans, corn, mashed potatoes, and gravy filled the tables of the alumni gathering at Dodd's Townhouse in Indianapolis. Although full, everyone seemed to find enough room to enjoy the ice cream too!

The unique setting provided in this turn-of-the-century landmark added to the fun of the evening. More than 20 alumni shared memories about their



"Friends" rerun.

days at ORU (including mud wrestling!). Many recalled wonderful times with friends and the special ways that God touched their lives during these years. Alumni, spouses, and

guests learned about ministries, an upcoming wedding, and children from fellow grads. Indianapolis alumni can enjoy another evening of fun as ORU joins IUPUI on the court in February. Watch your mail for details!

## Eager Alums . . .

So eager to reunite with ORU friends, Washington, D.C.-area alumni arrived early and stayed late!

On July 18, alumni met at the Tyson's Corner Olive Garden to enjoy an evening of friends, fun, and of



1984 graduate, 2012 graduate (?).

course, food. What a party! We maxed out the room. Guests mingled, reminisced, and shared stories, humorous and poignant. But, most of all, they traveled back in time to their days at



Full house.



*Old friends, new fun.*

ORU and the way that their university had shaped their lives.

Many in the D.C. area are in some area of the ministry and are affiliated with the "District." All are examples of



*It was a night of laughter.*

the ORU lifestyle and play important roles in their communities.

Alumni Association Board chairman Bob Vander Lugt (87) welcomed alumni and guests. The Alumni staff vowed to return. Plans are being made for the next event.

## Ask Them — They Will Come

And, did they ever. The beautiful Swan Terrace Restaurant, located at Regent University, was the setting for the **Virginia Beach Alumni Dinner** held on July 19.



*Beach bums, Virginia style.*

We can't be sure — perhaps the special invitations enticed this dinner crowd — but we are certain that an ambience of fellowship and the traditional ORU spirit prevailed.

ORU staff members hosted the festivities that included a spontaneous rendition of the school song and countless stories of college days.

Old friends met new friends and each had a wonderful story to share. ORU has and will continue to shape their lives.

Yes — we invited them and they came — and yes, a most wonderful evening was shared. Some volunteered to help plan future events, and all stated that they would come.

The tradition continues . . .

## Off-the-Chart Success

The Chart House, home of the **San Diego Rowing Club** for more than 80 years, became home for ORU alumni for one evening. The house's waterfront room, graced with more than a century's worth of memorabilia, was the perfect setting for Southern California alumni to rekindle friendships and recall memories of their own.



*Smiling for the camera.*

Stories of brother/sister wing adventures, all-night study sessions, favorite professors, and Sagabogganing quickly filled the room. The crowd quieted only momentarily for a brief campus update and door prize drawings which appeared to be rigged in favor of the Barboza siblings! The excitement grew as graduates learned about the incredible changes taking place at their alma mater.

Delighted to have personally met so many wonderful people, the Alumni staff was already making plans to return as the evening drew to a close.

### Center Court Celebrations • Alumni Event Schedule • 2002-03

<b>December 2</b>	Alumni Event and Basketball Game in Nashville ORU vs. Tennessee State • Times and location to be determined
<b>December 19</b>	Event for ORU/TU game
<b>January 25</b>	Alumni Event and Basketball Game in Kansas City ORU vs. UMKC • Times and location to be determined
<b>February 6-8</b>	Homecoming 2003: Celebrate the Legacy
<b>February 15</b>	Alumni Event and Basketball Game in Indianapolis ORU vs. IUPUI • Times and location to be determined



# Sunset Boulevard Met Its Match

ORU alumni filled the chandelier-studded dining room of the famous Taix French Restaurant in Los Angeles back in August, and the crowd was rowdy! In fact, some recent grads had an especially fun time. Just ask them. They want to help plan future events and suggested potential beach sites for return visits.

Dinner was delayed due to joyful greetings and hugs shared by the many reuniting alumni. Alumni staff



*It's the rowdy crowd.*

members got in the act as friends, former student workers, and colleagues reminisced about times past. The evening became a true celebration of what it means to be associated with ORU.

Following dinner, Tammy Denton (Alumni Development) shared campus news and the university's plans for the future.

Spontaneous applause interrupted her presentation and cemented the evening's success, bonding the crowd in a commitment to the university that continues to represent its founder's dream. ■



*The gang's all here.*



*Remember when . . .*



*"Chappy" (right) and one of his "shadows."*

## What happens to ORU graduates?

Some create new businesses . . .

work tirelessly for their alma mater . . .

write best-selling books . . .

serve God with their medical skills . . . and wind up being

chosen "Alumnus of the Year."



To nominate a fellow alumnus for Alumnus of the Year 2004, go to [alumniweb.oru.edu](http://alumniweb.oru.edu) and click on Nominate AOY.

**Deadline: July 1, 2003**





# Alumni Golf Outing

## July 26-27 • Gaylord, Michigan

ON A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER'S NIGHT IN GAYLORD, ABOUT 50 ALUMNI AND THEIR FAMILIES MET AT THE HOME OF TIM (89) AND SARAH (HUGHES-89) FREEMAN. ALUMNI ENJOYED NOT JUST A FEAST, BUT STORIES ABOUT THE GOOD OLD DAYS AT ORU AND UPDATES ON WHAT FELLOW ALUMNI HAVE BEEN DOING SINCE THEY LEFT TULSA.

Early the next morning, the Alumni Foundation held its first-ever golf tournament at Treetops Golf Resort, one of Michigan's premier golf vacation areas. More than fifteen alumni and friends hit the greens. Aside from an extremely brief rain shower, the weather was perfect. So, nearly, was Dr. Ralph Fagin's game, as he shot a 76. Close behind was Paul Freeman with an 83. Putting in a special appearance on both Friday night and Saturday was former tennis coach Bernis Duke, whose son-in-law, Matt, shot an 84.

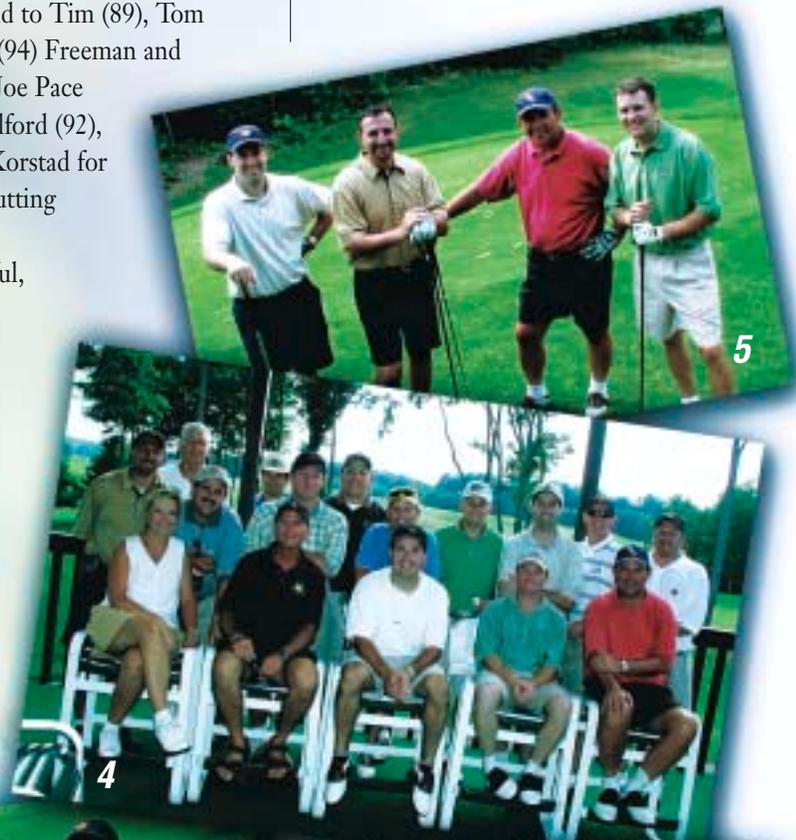
By consensus, the decision was made to hold a second annual golf tournament next year — same time, same place. Tee times for 30 golfers have been reserved for July 26. It's not too early to RSVP; contact Kevin Bish in the Alumni Office at 918/495-7436.

Special thanks to Freeman Family Enterprises, and to Tim (89), Tom (91), and Paul (94) Freeman and their families, Joe Pace (91), Mike Wolford (92), and Dr. John Korstad for their help in putting together this highly successful, thoroughly enjoyable event. ■

**NOTE:** *If you'd like to have an alumni golf tournament in your area, call Kevin Bish.*

Photos by Dr. John Korstad

1. Matt Westfall, James Maffett, Mike Wolford, and Paul Freeman.
2. David Jackson, Dr. John Korstad, and Tim Freeman.
3. Guy Richardson, Mike Miller, Teri Miller, and George Fisher.
4. Of course, everyone had a great time.
5. Reuben Maher, Joe Pace, Dr. Ralph Fagin, and Tom Freeman.





# NotesFromAlumni

## 1970s



**CHARLES H. KELLEY** (72) and wife Cathy live in Norwalk, Ohio. Charles is a special projects accountant at Audio/Video Rack Services, located in Sandusky, home of Cedar Point Amusement Park. They have a son, Kris, who is in the Navy at Norfolk, Va.



**TED COTTINGHAM** (77) wrote and published a book (first in a series) called *God in Business—A Common Man's Guide R (to the 7th power) = U (to the x power)*. This book deals with what it means to partner with the Holy Spirit in business. It has also been translated into Russian. For more information, go to [www.GodinBusiness.com](http://www.GodinBusiness.com). In May, Ted went to Russia with his daughter, Amy (ORU senior), to speak at a pastors' conference and at a Bible school, where he was able to discuss his book.

"Part of my purpose is to help activate the gift of entrepreneurship in everyone I speak to," Ted says. "So many [people] feel like they can't do anything because they don't have money. But they have the Holy Spirit." In addition to his travels, Ted has started GodinBusiness School where he teaches GodinBusiness 101 and 201. He and wife **BARBIE** (77) live in Tulsa and also have a son, Christopher, who attends ORU.

**ALLEN MEYER** (79;82-Law) and wife Veronica have moved to a new address with their two daughters, Gina and Alyssa. Allen is seeking secondary education certification in social studies. He taught part-time for Keyport High School in 2002 while practicing law, and was seeking a full-time teaching position for this year. They would love to hear from anyone from second-floor New Towers 1977-79 and law graduates.

## 1980s

**JAMES KERR** (81) is one of 12 finalists for the 2002-03 Oklahoma State Teacher of the Year. He teaches earth science at Union Public Schools Eighth Grade Center.



**TERRY BREUNIG** (82) has been in consulting since 1986. His practice focuses on helping companies overcome organizational obstacles and achieve breakthrough improvements. **ELLEN** (84) is working part-time on a second bachelor's degree in interior design. Daughters Melanie and Deanna "are growing in the Lord," doing extremely well in school, and keep Mom and Dad on their toes. Terry and Ellen are both very active in their church and its affiliated school. Terry has taught classes on the Holy Spirit and leads a Sunday-evening worship/teaching service. Ellen volunteers often at school and has co-led one of its Girl Scout troops for four years.



**RICK TUEL** (82) and wife Karen had their sixth child in February 2002. Hannah Grace joins Nathan, Kaitlin, Carolyn, Kristin,

and Matthew. Rick was recently promoted to Senior Business Analyst in the Information Systems Division at Wal-Mart. He is currently assisting traveling speaker Don Soderquist, retired Senior Vice Chairman of the Board, with his presentations on ethics in business. Rick and Karen are facilitating their fourth class in "Growing Kids God's Way" at their church. Rick would like to say "hi" to Dr. Culp, Charles Zwick, Roger Bush, Dr. and Mrs. Lewandowski, and anyone else who is still in Com Arts from 1982.



**JOHN** (85) and **JEANNE SCHRAMM** (87) **PAFF** have four young sons: John David, Mark, Joshua, and Michael. John, managing director of communications at Huntington College, recently earned Accreditation in Public Relations (APR), which is a voluntary certification program for public relations professionals. He launched Huntington's first Web site, serves as the Webmaster, and is the founding president of the Huntington County Community Network, which brought the first public Internet



service to Huntington.



**MARI MIGLIORE** (87) and husband Henry (former ORU business dean) recently visited Mexico to meet with former ORU faculty member Dr. Juan Hernandez and discuss proposals for seminars. Dr. Hernandez is on the cabinet of Mexico's president. Dr. Migliore has written a new book: *Strategic Planning: A Guide for Latin America*.



**DAVID MANOS MORRIS** (87) has been working with computer effects in the film industry since 1988. At the beginning of 1994, he went to work for George Lucas' Industrial Light & Magic and has earned credits on

numerous feature films, including both recent *Star Wars* films, *Jurassic Park: The Lost World*, *ET*, *The Mummy Returns*, *Harry Potter*, and many others. David married Sherry Trumbo in 1998, and they had twins in December of 2001. Sherry is a registered nurse. David would love to hear from anyone from ORU, especially old friends and anyone in media.

**KEVIN COONEY** (88) and wife Atsuko would like to announce the birth of their son, Kian



*Three generations.*

Andrew. He was born June 28, 2002, weighing in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces, 20 inches long. The Japanese meaning in kanji characters is "Ki" for hope and "an" for peace, which boils down to "hope for peace."

**BRENDA CLAWSON CHIN** (89) and husband Bill announce the arrival of their second child, Joshua Michael, on June 28, 2002. The family is thanking the Lord for this blessing and mira-



cle! See more family pictures at <http://clearmoon.home.attbi.com>



**EDDIE** (89-MA;94-M.Div.) and **SUSAN** (89-MA;94-MA) **HYATT** live in Euless, Tex. and work with their own ministry organization, Hyatt International Ministries. Eddie recently published a book through Charisma House called *2000 Years of Charismatic Christianity: A 21st Century Look at Church History from a Pentecostal-Charismatic Perspective*. It highlights those people and movements throughout history that were used by God to bring a renewing of spiritual life into the Church. In July, he presented a lecture at Oxford University in Oxford, England, on 2,000 years of revival and persecution.



**PAUL LUYSTER** (89) is a science department chair and biology/philosophy teacher at Social Circle High School. He received a master's in secondary education in 1997. He also writes character education curriculum, coaches cross-country, does Tae Kwon Do, teaches fitness classes at two gyms, competes regularly in long-distance running races and triathlons, and is an active member of Mensa.

**STEVE KATSIS** (89) is especially eager to hear from old friends. He is particularly interested in finding out about the "8 gazillion" alumni in the Tulsa area that may not be aware that he is located in the area. In addition, he would love to hear from RAs of 1987-89 and the medical school freshmen from 1989.



# NotesFromAlumni

## 1990s



**DR. KEITH E. ROLLE** (90), retired Air Force Chaplain, earned his doctorate in Church Leadership/Organizational Systems from Bethel Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., on June 1, 2002.



**JOHNIE HAMPTON** (91) married Krystal Byrd on July 4, 2000. The event was so spectacular, it landed them a feature story in *Modern Bride Magazine* (8/01 issue). Johnie recently left his 9-year tenure at Impact Productions in Tulsa to start his own design firm, Hampton Creative.

No little ones . . . yet.



**DENISE COFFMAN NOBLE** (91) is currently working in the St. Louis area as a school social worker (earned M.A. at Washington University in St. Louis). Her husband, Dave, is the senior minister of Pontoon Beach Christian Church. They have two daughters, Alexis, 7, and Natasha, 4, and two foster children, David, 12, and Sydni, 2, who are all “the light of our lives!” Denise would love to hear from old friends and former wingmates.



**RUSS** and **NICOLE CHRISTENSEN SCHINZING** (92) are currently living in Bensalem, Pa., with their three children: Zachary Matthew, Victoria Grace, and Jacob Tyler.

Russ works with Cardone Industries and Nicole is the nursery director of Christian Life Center. They would love to hear from old friends, especially **JEFF HOUSTON**, **NEVA DUNN**, and **KAREN KOLPACK**. The



**CORYNA KERWIN** (92) is living in Spokane, Wash., with her husband, Brett, and their two children, Jack, 7, and RoseMarie Victoria, who arrived on Feb. 6, 2002, weighing in at 8 lbs., 6 oz. and measuring 19-1/4 inches long.

**PAULA HERMAN PERRY** (92) is married and “has lots of news to share” if you write to her. Paula is working in sales at Mervyn’s in Fort Collins, Colo., and would love to hear from friends who attended ORU between 1987 and 1992.

**HEATHER SCAIFE** (92) reports that, as is “the norm” for her, she has spent 2002 moving from Seattle, Wash., to Orlando, Fla., to Middletown, Conn.; however, for the friends who have her “permanently penciled” in their address books, she’s pleased to announce that Connecticut is the last stop for a while — all due to David. More news to follow on that one.

**SHAWN SCHUMACHER** (92) spent four years in mechanical engineering after graduation and then began medical school at the University of Oklahoma. He is currently completing a residency in anesthesiology in Birmingham, Ala. He and his wife, Tricia, have two children, Emily and Joshua.

**WENDY DAVIDSON** (93) has worked with Youth With A Mission full-time for 5 years. She resides in Budapest, Hungary, but travels a lot, working on projects and/or schools.

**KRISTI LOUCKS SURFACE** (94), manager of finance at Qwest Communications, is now



living in Denver, Colo., with her husband, Dean, and their young son, Devin. Kristi would love to hear from old friends.



**LAURA GARZA WARE** (95) is living in Dickinson, Tex., and wishes to announce the recent arrival of Isabella Ruth on July 7, 2002 (8 lbs., 19 inches).

**BRIDGETT SANDERS CLARK**

(98) is still living in British Columbia and happily married. She is working across the border in Bellingham, Wash., and looking to head south soon. She says, "Canada is beautiful, but I hear the southern heat calling my name. I found Mattie Thompson! Drop a line sometime — I miss all my college buds."

**2000s**

**BRIAN** (2000) and **SARAH STYLES BESSEY** (2001) write that Brian is the Youth and College and Career pastor at Tree of Life Church in New Braunfels,

Tex. He loves getting up in the morning to go to work. Sarah is the Marketing Communications Specialist with the investment management company of USAA in San Antonio. Brian and Sarah have not listed any tax deductions as of yet but are expecting their first this summer — a brand new baby house. They spend their time "wrangling the 200 teenagers at Tree of Life, reading, laughing, and loving life." They would love to hear from the guys on Wesley 7, Edge, and Unity. Also the girls on Ivy League, Lambda Phi, Alpha Omega, and, of course, the girls in the RA program.

**Obituaries**

**Sherry Lee Corbett** (69) died July 27, 2002, as a result of multiple gunshot wounds sustained near her home in Hamilton, Ohio. She was 55. Corbett was a nationally recognized leader in housing rehabilitation and an expert in historic housing. She had bought and renovated dozens of apartments and historic homes in Hamilton's historical district, for which she received the city's Citizen of the Year Award in 1995. Since 1974, she had taught sociology, gerontology, and anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences at Miami University. Born December 4, 1946, she received

her bachelor's degree from ORU, a master of arts degree from The University of Tulsa, and a doctorate from Oklahoma State University.

**Janice Kay Gamble** (74) died June 24, 2002, from complications of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. She was 49. Gamble was born July 24, 1952, in Tulsa and graduated from Hale High School in 1970. She graduated from ORU with a degree in religious education and had been the children's minister at Gracemont Baptist Church for 26 years. Through her ministry at the church, she established several programs including the "CPR" (care, prayer, and repair) program for widows, the "Growing Kids God's Way" program for parents, and the "Child Lures" program to protect kids from dangerous situations. Gamble is survived by her husband Joe, daughters Katie and Kerrie, and son Brant.

**Rev. Wilmer F. Smith** (76), born Aug. 23, 1932, died on March 31, 2002, in Summersville, W.Va. He majored in religious education at ORU. He went on to attend Southern Methodist and Duke University schools of theology and at the time of his death, he was a retired United Methodist minister.



**Dennis Horne** (78) died suddenly of bacterial meningitis on Jan. 18, 2001. He was the vice president of Donor and Community Relations for the Children's Home of Wyoming Conference in Binghamton, N.Y. His wife of 17 years, Diane, says that Dennis was extremely involved in the community and was excellent at fund-raising. A communications major at ORU, he was born on Oct. 31, 1955. He is also survived by his three children: Andy, 15, Aaron, 13, and Rebecca, 11. ■

*If you have news to share concerning the death of a fellow alumnus, please be sure to send us the person's full name, year(s) of graduation/attendance at ORU, date of death, his/her activities at ORU, and any other information you would like us to include in an obituary. E-mail to us at alumni@oru.edu.*



# A New Word for Afghanistan

**A**fter hearing about the plans of two physicians to establish a dental mission base in Afghanistan, Dr. Mark Hodge (85-DMD;96-MA) felt that he was “supposed to be on this trailblazing trip.”

Hodge called fellow dentist and alumnus Dr. Gary Wood (83-DMD), who also felt led to go to Afghanistan. Both men were very involved in student missions while attending ORU and are board members of Health Teams International, the group partnering with the missionary physicians (and an offshoot of the former ORU dental school).

This mission will aid in laying the infrastructure of an ongoing outreach with two basic goals: 1) to provide health care services to the nationals and 2) to provide education and support for the doctors, dentists, and other healthcare workers in Afghanistan.

Because of the fragmented education of local dental personnel, Hodge and Wood conducted a continuing education course to upgrade the knowledge base of these dentists. They traveled to Kabul, Afghanistan, via Islamabad, Pakistan, and stayed for two weeks. Following is an excerpt from a letter Hodge sent to his supporters:

*“Through a series of divine connections, I learned that there were dental manufacturing companies in Pakistan whose products were priced at about 30 percent of the U.S. prices. Thus, the donated funds went further. However, the key element of this was that the manufacturers offered to engrave each of these instruments at no cost. So, when I placed the order for 25*



*Hodge shares his knowledge.*

*instrument kits (1,675 instruments total), I asked that each of the instruments be engraved with the word ‘AGAPE.’” The result? “We now (had) 1,675 stainless steel evangelistic tracts, in the form of dental instruments.*

*“ . . .The director of the dental hospital graciously welcomed us and arranged a schedule for us to conduct daily training sessions for 50 of the local dentists . . . . As we introduced our first dental topic, I told them that during our visit, in addition to our dental lectures, I wanted to teach them a new word: AGAPE. I wrote this on the chalkboard and asked them to be sure and remind me to explain the word before the end of our visit. Each day, I would again reference the word on the board but lament that we did not have enough time to explain it that day.”*

The day finally came to make the official donation of the engraved tools. The room was packed for the special presentation. Mark asked his audience — twice — for their permission to explain the word AGAPE. They agreed.

*“I shared that ‘the word Agape means the love of Jesus Christ,’ and that each of us had fallen in love with Him. ‘In fact, it is our love for Him that causes us to be willing to do whatever He asks. Because of His love for the Afghan people, He prompted us to journey to Afghanistan and because of our love for Him we said, ‘Yes.’ He loves Afghanistan and the Afghan people.*

*“When we fell in love with Jesus Christ, it was not Jesus as a prophet but Jesus Christ as the Son of God.’ (At this point, six visibly upset doctors stood and made a noisy exit.) ‘Because of that relationship we have with Jesus, we have peace in our hearts and joy in our lives. Our hope for you is that in addition to having peace in your country, each of you would experience peace in your hearts and joy in your lives.’*

*“ . . . I believe we were obedient to God’s objectives for this trip. The seed of God’s Word will continue to be sown, but it is the Holy Spirit that tends, tills, and cultivates the soil of men’s hearts . . . ” ■*

*In a word, Hodge and Wood came to serve.*



# A Note of Gratitude

Dr. Johnny Mac Allen, associate professor in the communication arts department, received an e-mail from a former student last spring concerning what she's doing now and the part that he and ORU played in her career success.



Sarah Styles (2001) Bessey graciously agreed to allow us to reprint a portion of her e-mail. She recently moved from a job at an international marketing research, training, and consulting company to accept a position as a marketing communications specialist at USAA, which she describes as "the provider of choice for the U.S. military when it comes to insurance, banking, financials, and investing." USAA, located in San Antonio, Tex., is a Fortune 200 organization with more than \$60 billion in assets.

*"I have found," Bessey wrote, "that what makes a difference is integrated marketing. These days, rarely do you find in the 'real world' a specific PR person or a specific advertising person. You need to have balance with the ability to bring an entire package to the table, having a clear understanding of all aspects of marketing (from writing to PR to advertising, design, and layout as well as market research and the market in general). The other thing that made the difference [for me] was internships. If I could go back to ORU and tell anyone what makes or breaks you, it is practical experience. Degrees can be a dime a dozen; practical experience with a sharp portfolio guarantees a spot for an interview. I also recommend that your students read, read, read. Constantly. I actually had the Senior Vice President of Corporate Marketing ask me what I was in the middle of reading!*

*"To say I am happy with my new job would be an understatement," Bessey continued, referring to her salary, benefits package, and working for a company where "everything that happens...is based on honesty, integrity, loyalty, and service.*

*"Thank you so much for preparing me, Dr. Allen. Thank you for having confidence in me. I truly believe that your confidence in my abilities has me where I am now. While many of my peers are still clearing tables at Chilis, I already have my dream job. God is so faithful. I appreciate Him placing you in my life. May God bless you, sir. You have made a difference."*

# Promethia

A LITERARY AND  
ARTISTIC JOURNAL

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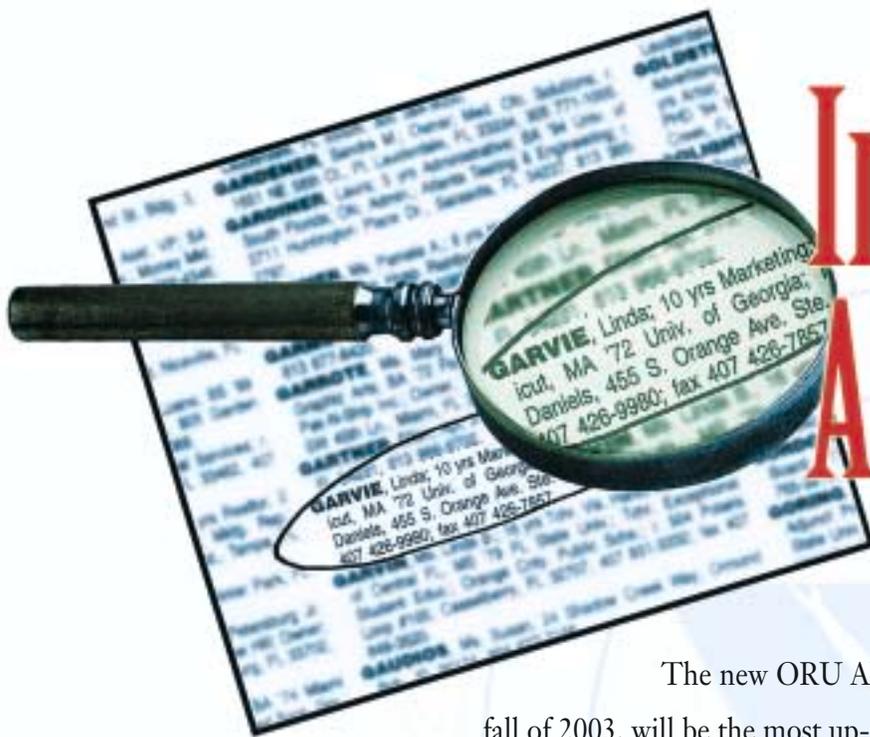
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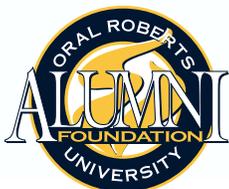
## We Have a Designer

As we announced in the spring issue, we've been looking for a new designer for *Excellence* magazine. After comparing the styles of the two agencies that designed the spring and summer issues, we've made our choice: Waller & Company PR of Tulsa, designers of the spring issue. Congratulations to Waller, and thanks to all the alumni who wrote and called to tell us their opinions of the two versions. Keep in mind: We're still interested in your input. Let us know what you like and don't like about the magazine so we can include the types of stories that you like to read.



# In Search of All Alumni

The new ORU Alumni Directory, scheduled for release in the fall of 2003, will be the most up-to-date and complete reference of more than 19,500 alumni ever compiled. This comprehensive volume will include current name, address, phone number, academic data, and business information (if applicable), bound into a classic, library-quality edition. ■ The Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, Inc., will produce the directory. Harris will soon begin researching and compiling the information to be printed in the directory by mailing a questionnaire to each alumnus. (If you prefer not to be listed in the directory, please contact the Alumni Office in writing as soon as possible.) ■ The last Alumni Directory was published in 1998.



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