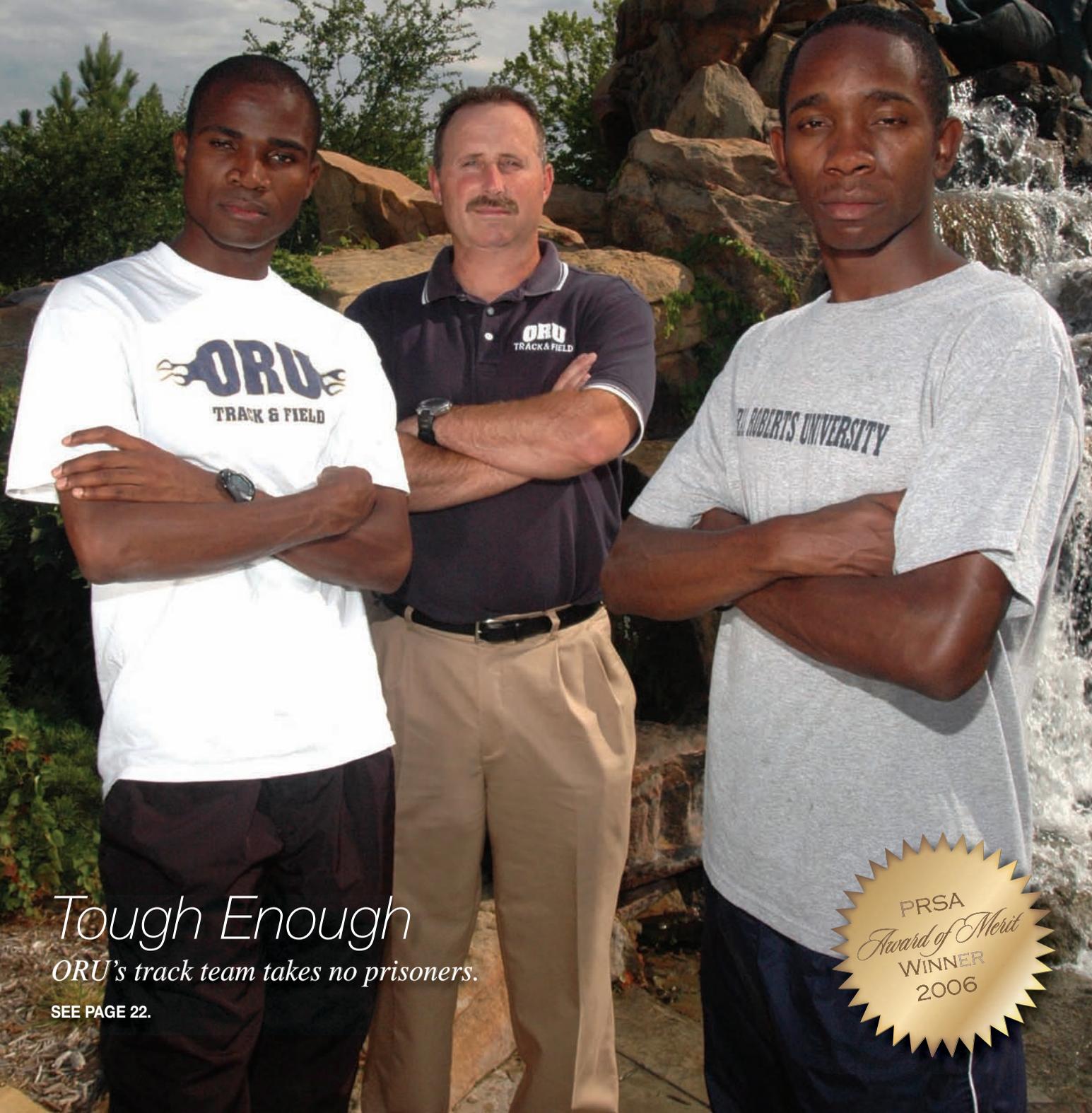


summer 2006

excellence

for oral roberts university alumni and friends



Tough Enough
ORU's track team takes no prisoners.

SEE PAGE 22.



Have a Heart

At ORU we not only learned a lifestyle, we were challenged to go into every corner of this world to show God's love to all people.

Whether it is with our family, our neighborhood, or with a worldwide organization, as alumni we strive to fulfill the mission God has given us in different ways. No matter what the venue, I believe the toughest issue is the same.

The hardest part of our mission . . .

- is not the recruitment of volunteers to serve the poor with needs around the world.
- is not praying with those who are hurting in our communities.
- is not the study and preparation for that Bible lesson.
- is not the procurement and handling of donations of materials.
- is not even the raising of financial contributions, whether large or small, for our churches, schools, or ministries.

The hardest part of our mission is touching the human heart. Touching hearts for eternity is our direction. Unless the heart is touched, the work will not last. So, how do we touch the human heart? First we have to understand how and why God put us, His creation, together.

We were wonderfully made. He formed our innermost being, and knit us in our mother's womb. Most important of all, He created us to love. One of the scribes asked Jesus, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "The first is this: 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your *mind*, and with all your *strength*'" (Mark 12:28-30).

We see that, in God's eyes, each human being is made of four elements, which are distinct yet woven together: heart, soul, mind, and strength (body).

Within the soul is found the heart.



As alumnus John Smithwick has found, sharing God's love and healing power with others makes all the difference.

The heart is the center of our being. It is the place from which our unique identity proceeds, to impact and affect our selves, our neighbors, our environment, and our God.

It is the seat of willpower, and of conscience. The heart is a container, or seat, of the Spirit. We keep things in our hearts. We pick them up, weigh them, study them from different angles, and relate them to other things. The things we keep in our hearts will be points of reference for us.

Those things will affect our soul, our body, and our mind, and will come out in our speech, our thoughts, and our deeds.

Here's an example of a willing heart that I observed recently at Mercy Ships. One of the crew members serving on one of our ships in Liberia was called on to go down to the hospital ward to give blood to a patient who was in need. Giving blood is not her favorite pastime, but knowing how necessary it was for patients to receive blood — often numerous times — she was willing. Little did she know what was in store for her. She was able to actually see her blood being given to the patient. She had an incredible week getting to know this patient who claims she saved his life. He

became a Christian and has asked her to teach him the Bible. Due to the 15-year war in that nation, he had not been able to get an education and could not read. She had the most unbelievable time teaching him how to read. Her church had sent her a kid's easy-reading Bible, which has made it so exciting for him. His heart was touched. He feels she was an angel sent from God.

We share best whatever is in our heart. When our heart, soul, body, and mind are in agreement, we have integrity. With integrity comes virtue, which is spiritual power. With virtue comes the ability to make an eternal impact for God's kingdom and His glory, and for the benefit of our sisters and brothers. As we experienced at ORU, our mission is to love God — in mind (thought), in body (deed), in soul (expression), and in heart (will) . . . and to love our neighbors.

The more we love God, the more time we spend with Him, the more He will renew and fill our hearts, and the more love we will have to give to our brothers and sisters.

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excellence

FOR ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

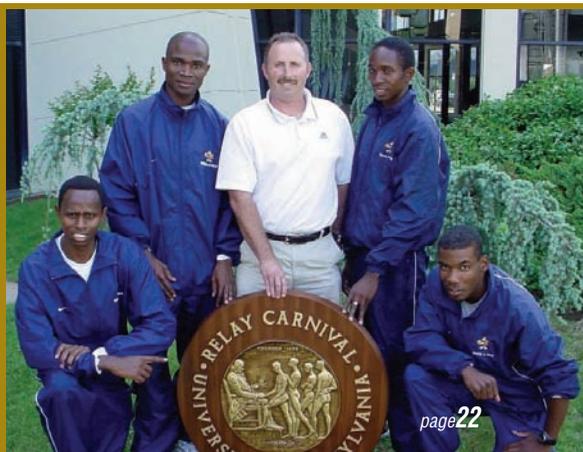
Summer 2006 | Vol. 18, No. 2



page 14



page 20



page 22

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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."*

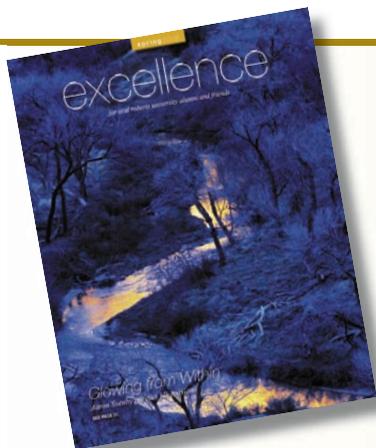
On the cover: Prince Mumba, track
coach Joe Dial, and Shaun Smith
brought ORU men's indoor track its
first-ever top-25 ranking this year.

FEATURES

- 5 Fulfilling God's Plan**
"See the world!" For Neal Bratschun, that has meant a stint in Afghanistan.
- 8 Making It Their Business TO LEAD**
Four business alumni, four very similar leadership positions.
- 11 Calm Seas**
Nine-figure deals? Yeah, David VanderLugt can handle those.
- 14 Winning the 'Show Me' Generation**
For John Smithwick, it's about demonstrating the power of God.
- 16 Back to School**
Trina Lutzke had a job lined up long before graduation.

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 Your Voice**
- 4 Presidential Perspective**
- 18 On Campus/Off Campus**
 - *CSF's Crusade*
 - *Bauman Joins Staff*
 - *Commencement*
 - *Leadership Transition*
- 22 The Eli Report**
 - *Catch Them If You Can*
 - *Basketball Preview*
- 26 Lifelong Links**
 - *Alumni News*
 - *Board News*
 - *Obituaries*
 - *City Events*
 - *Homecoming 2007*



Excellence Wins Awards

What's that seal on the cover? It's there to tell you that *Excellence* magazine has won an "Award of Merit" from the Tulsa Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

Two judges (in this case, from the Western Michigan PRSA chapter) evaluate magazines in four to six categories. Then, their scores are averaged. Scores between 80 and 89 (out of 100) receive a "merit."

Excellence also received an "honorable mention" from the Oklahoma College Public Relations Association in July.

Many thanks to everyone who helps make *Excellence* excellent!

It's Time to Search

Lately, the Lord has impressed upon Lindsay's and my heart the need to better emphasize soul-winning. She and I realize you can get to heaven if you're sick, but you can't if you're not saved. ORU is a soul-winning *machine*, with alumni winning souls all over the world. As I was thinking about this, it occurred to me to begin adding up all the souls that members of the ORU family brought to the Lord between April of 2005 and April of 2006.

I started making phone calls and sending e-mails. Responses started flooding in. Do you know that during those twelve months, ORU students, faculty, staff, and alumni won over 700,000 souls? I announced this in chapel before classes ended back in April, and I challenged students — those returning and those graduating, faculty, and staff to double the number of souls they have personally won in the past year. I challenged us all to bring in 1.4 million new souls before graduation next year.

Now it's harvest time.

Oral Roberts University was forged in the fires of healing evangelism, and there are many of you who have caught that fire and are spreading it to the people in your lives. Some of you, like me, have been called to minister to thousands of people at conferences, international crusades, and on television. Some of the first people I heard from in April were those in full-time ministry who keep track of salvations during their altar calls. Ministries like Ron and Katie Luce's Teen Mania, Billy Joe and Sharon Daugherty's Victory Christian Center, and John Smithwick's overseas crusades receive salvation testimonies from tens of thousands every year.

Of course, not everyone is called to preach to the masses; many of you are building relationships with key individuals and being a witness in the workplace and elsewhere along the highways and

byways of every person's world.

As I told the students during chapel, I am expecting that within the next year, we will go over the 1.4 million mark when it comes to the number of souls we will help bring into the kingdom of God as a result of our witnessing. Proverbs 11:30 tells us, "He who wins souls is wise." It is time for us to become more intentional than we have ever been concerning soul-winning. Why? Because Jesus is coming soon. And did not the scripture say that "this gospel shall be preached in all nations as a witness, and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14)?

"This is a place where students are not only serious about getting a quality education from a quality faculty, but also about changing your world. We're concerned about bringing health and healing and life into whatever profession or ministry or business or job that God's called us into. That means you're to be a soul-winner, and I am to be a soul-winner."

— President Roberts, April 26, 2006 Chapel



Richard and Lindsay, the president and first lady, are encouraging students, faculty, staff, and alumni to increase their soul-winning efforts this year.

Well, if you and I intend to exceed the work of our founder, Oral Roberts, we'd better get with it. It's conservatively estimated that my father, now in his 88th year, has won more than 20 million souls to Christ in his lifetime. We've got a ways to go.

It is my privilege to lead this university — this *soul-winning machine*. Alumni, not only are you an extension of this ministry, you are the hands and feet of Christ, reaching out to people in need and walking in His love.

I am so proud of what you are doing for God. I hope you will decide to join those of us on the campus of ORU in this campaign to double the number of souls won for the kingdom. Keep me posted; I'll be praying for you.

May the Lord bless you and enlarge your borders.

Richard Roberts

Richard L. Roberts
President and CEO

Fulfilling God's Plan

Graduate has a chance to rebuild nation as
God takes him around the globe.

BY GINGER SHEPHERD

Neal Bratschun knew that God planned for him to go around the world, but he never thought it would lead him to a war-torn country looking for help to rebuild in the post-Sept. 11, 2001 world.

After Sept. 11, Bratschun spent many hours in heartfelt prayer, including asking the Lord to send those whom He desired to assist in bringing truth to Afghanistan. Then an opportunity presented itself. The head of ORU's MBA program received a call from someone who was looking for a qualified person to serve as a special assistant to an Afghan cabinet minister. For Bratschun, it became a mission he couldn't turn down.

"There's a dual meaning to the word 'minister,'" Bratschun explains. "I worked in a (government) ministry, and I'm a (Christian) minister."

In November 2002, Bratschun made his first trip to Afghanistan, where he was placed to serve as a special assistant to Dr. Yusuf Nuristani, Afghan Minister of Environment, Irrigation and Water Resources. While in that post, Bratschun enjoyed out-of-the-ordinary experiences, such as accompanying the minister to the World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan. His work must have impressed his superiors, too, because although Bratschun originally committed to be in the country for just four months, he was asked to stay on . . . and on.

Along with the satisfaction that came with the job, there were some technical challenges he had to overcome. Many Afghan buildings and homes had no doors or windows; they were just shells. And in the first building where he worked, there was no electricity — just a small generator that could power only one computer and printer at a time.



Bratschun has circled the globe and is now playing an important role in the rebuilding of Afghanistan.

ALUMNI FEATURE

But things have improved and rebuilding is really happening in Afghanistan, Bratschun said during a visit to ORU in January. Along the way, job opportunities for Bratschun have taken a different turn. In his second position, he worked as the management information systems (MIS) advisor for the National Emergency Employment Program (NEEP) in the country, a job that included developing, installing, and maintaining databases.

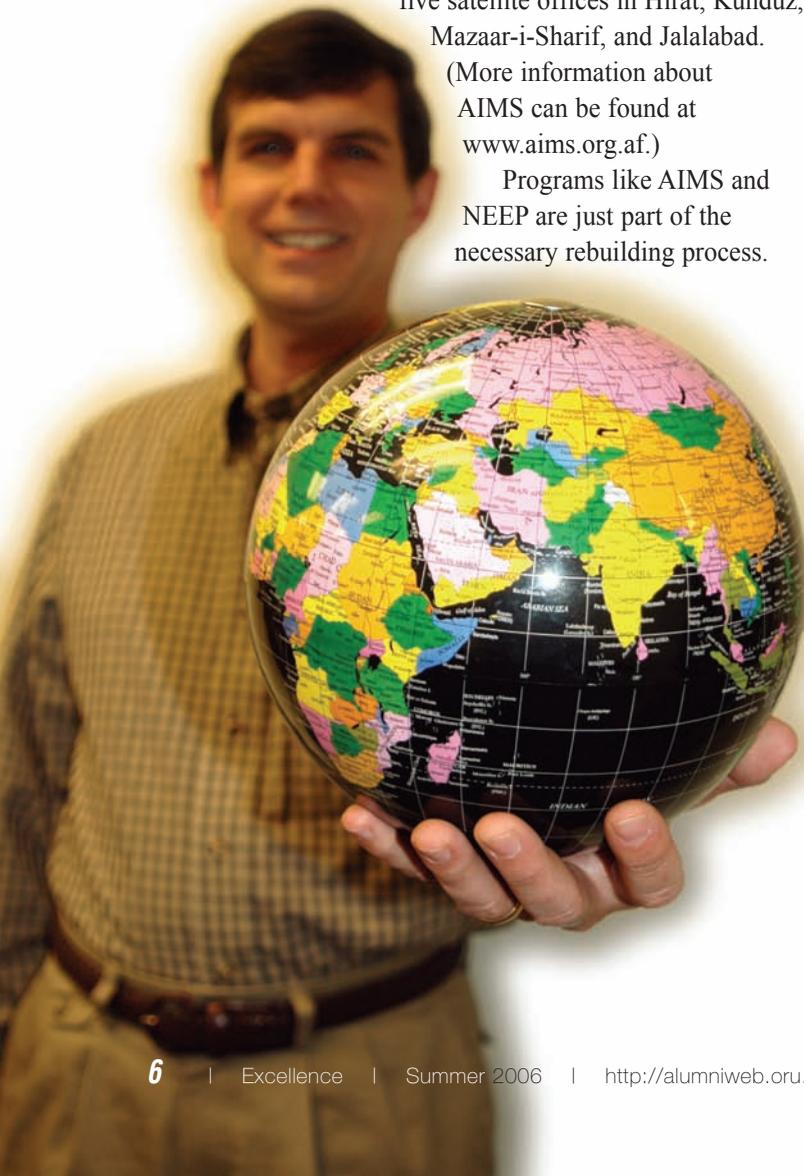
In mid-2005, he took a job with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and currently serves as the programme manager of the Afghanistan Information Management Services (AIMS).

“AIMS is responsible for building information management capacity within Afghanistan, especially within the Afghanistan government,” Bratschun said, adding that there are database elements to the work as well as geographic information systems (GIS) work. Additionally, AIMS provides training in database and GIS and even sells maps of Afghanistan.

As the programme manager, he oversees roughly 80 employees and six offices: the main office in Kabul and the five satellite offices in Hirat, Kunduz, Mazaar-i-Sharif, and Jalalabad.

(More information about AIMS can be found at www.aims.org.af.)

Programs like AIMS and NEEP are just part of the necessary rebuilding process.



Top: Jared Buswell 05 (back to camera) assisted with the recording of members of an Afghan democracy-building, education NGO (non-government organization). He later edited these recordings and helped an American aid group place them onto solar-powered digital audio players that were distributed to Afghans before their first presidential election to educate them about the importance of voting, the functions of the offices, and practical advice about registering. **Bottom:** Tobias Moum 04-MBA (left) makes a friend.

“Afghanistan has to be rebuilt. It’s a Third World country,” Bratschun said. And it’s been through a lot: Soviet occupation, civil war, Taliban rule, and a five-year drought. The area and people are still affected by war, even by how they react to the violence.

“I remember hearing five missiles one evening. The next day while I was talking to an Afghan guy, he said that was nothing. ‘During the civil war there would be 500 missiles a day, so if there were 200 to 300, people would say it was a good day,’ he said.”



Above: Tobias Moun 04 (right) and Sara Rodriguez 05 (back to camera) survey a well project completed by Shelter Now International.



Donna Bratschun is the administrative assistant in ORU's College and Career Guidance Center.

Since Bratschun has been there, there have been attacks on AIMS vehicles and at locations near AIMS offices. Recently, more than 500 rioters attempted to break into and loot the AIMS Kabul office. In the understatement of all time, Bratschun says, "It is a bit interesting."

When it comes to Afghanistan, Bratschun's role has not been limited to government and humanitarian work. He has also helped a group called Strategic Impact Consulting bring over recent ORU graduates and students to work in various government positions. Bratschun is quick to point out his own role is limited because of his position with the U.N., but he has helped identify openings and lodging for students.

"Graduates of ORU can use their talents and abilities to make a significant difference," Bratschun said.

His work in Afghanistan has required some sacrifices for his family. While he puts his MBA to good use thousands

of miles from home, his wife, Donna, and their three children are back in Tulsa. They talk almost every day, he said, by phone or through e-mail. They've gone to the extreme of scheduling reunions in various countries in order to maintain their family ties.

"We had Thanksgiving in Paris," Bratschun added, and he makes a point of coming home five times a year.

Getting to and from Afghanistan and traveling for work requires layovers and stops in various places, such as Dubai, Istanbul, or Japan. When Bratschun thinks about it, he realizes that what he always knew would happen has come to pass: God really has taken him around the world . . . for a very good cause.

NEAL IS A 1981 MBA GRADUATE.

Making It Their Business TO LEAD

In the late 1990s, the paths of four ORU business grads converged on campus. But only for a moment. All four eventually went on to deanships and other leadership roles within business education administration.

BY JADELL FORMAN '90

Dr. Mark Lewandowski '88, '92-MBA

I can't believe I get paid to do this.

Mark Lewandowski posts this quote bottom-center on his computer monitor. As dean of ORU's business school, he sits three floors above and nearly two decades beyond where he started as a student in the department. (For more background, see *Excellence*, Fall 2004 issue.)

On a rapid-fire tour through his office, Lewandowski shows memorabilia from his corporate stint. Framed articles decorate the wall. From a top shelf, he pulls down a one-foot-deep stack of paper that reminds him of the research required for only *one* deal.

Then, just as quickly, he kicks back into his chair and summarizes his corporate career. "I had my run."

Now "thrilled" to be preparing other business-minded types, Lewandowski claims a different temperament.

"I'm a soft Type-A." To him that means keeping his business-world bluntness, but tailoring it to the thoughtful, theoretical world of education — ingredients he sees in his three fellow business school grads and now colleagues.

"Roller, Bovee, Andrews . . . they're brilliant thinkers." About these three men's rise to leadership, Lewandowski believes, "Others see their God-given characteristics and want to promote them."

IN DECEMBER '05 AT ORU, ROLLER, BOVEE, ANDREWS, AND LEWANDOWSKI PICKED UP WHERE THEY LEFT OFF.



As a student, Lewandowski sat under Roller's instruction. As an instructor, he officed alongside Bovee and Andrews. All four remain in contact. And all agree their time in ORU's School of Business inspired them to dream big, serve, and lead.

Dr. Robert H. (Bob) Roller 79, 86-MBA

When Bob Roller left ORU the first time, he had a degree in business and theology. But a few years in the field told him he needed more education.

"While serving in large churches, I found that my management skills were much more needed than my theology skills. So, I came back to ORU to earn my MBA."

With master's degree in hand, he began teaching at ORU, and he discovered a new passion. So, to his teaching load he added the pursuit of a Ph.D. Dr. Eugene Swearingen (then business school dean) suggested Roller consider academic administration. He did.

After four more years of teaching (in Atlanta) Roller acted upon Swearingen's advice. He moved to Roberts Wesleyan College (Rochester, N.Y.), where he was the founding chair of the Division of Business and oversaw the creation of a master's program in management. In 1998, he accepted a chair at LeTourneau University in Longview, Tex., and became business school dean two years later.

"To become a dean, you have to want to become a dean. Most faculty members don't want to be in administration, because their first love is teaching. Being a dean drastically reduces the amount of time you spend in the classroom."

In Roller's mind, the position contains a list of requirements. "... You have to love serving as the spokesperson and ambassador for the school, whether that is with internal or external constituents. You have to love sharing the vision of the school ... have solid leadership skills and ... have the respect of the academic and business communities."

That respect, according to Roller, is easy to come by for those people who live their faith. "People in the business world respect competent, hard-working, productive people of faith." People come to Christian universities such as ORU or LeTourneau, according to Roller, because they know they'll find graduates with strong morals, integrity, and a good work ethic. "Faith is highly respected in the business world."



Roller acquired a new perspective at ORU. "The ability to trust God for great things . . . really made the difference."

As an ordained minister, Roller still has a heart for ministry. "Business graduates truly have the opportunity to go into every man's world with the gospel, [getting] into countries where professional ministers cannot." He has often told students he is "training them to be missionaries in some of the darkest mission fields on the face of the earth."

Roller found ORU to be "a place that teaches students to dream big dreams." Thankful for his good education, he says, "It was the attitudes that I picked up at ORU — the ability to trust God for great things — that has really made the difference."

The next great thing for Roller began July 1, 2006, when he became the president of the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education, a specialized accrediting body for undergraduate and graduate business programs.

Dr. Steven L. Bovee 89, 90-MBA

Fittingly, on the geographic watershed between the Mediterranean and the Dead seas, Steve Bovee experienced a professional watershed moment.

"I started my educational journey as an engineering student, but then ran into calculus. [My professor] told me that my final course grade was somewhere between C and D, and that he'd give me a C if I changed my major, which sounded like a good deal to me."

Still unsure of his next move, a missions chapel inspired him to take a summer missions trip to Israel, with intentions of staying for a semester of biblical studies.

Instead of ministering and studying throughout the nation, Bovee ended up recuperating from mononucleosis in a Jerusalem basement. "I was alone, very sick, and quite depressed with my circumstances." During this time, Bovee says he had a Jacob experience of wrestling with God. Like the patriarch, Bovee finally obtained a blessed clarity.

"God assured me that I hadn't missed Him...and began to reveal His plan to use my gifts to serve others in business."

Upon his return to ORU, Bovee took a few business classes. "After Mr. [Ray] Gregg's accounting class, I was hooked!"

Having earned his accounting degree, Bovee immediately pursued his MBA, which exposed him to a broad, strategic



BOVEE ON THE JOB AT ROBERTS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, WHERE HIS LEADERSHIP MENTALITY HAS DEVELOPED FROM BEING SURPRISED TO RELUCTANT TO OVERWHELMED TO SURRENDERED.

understanding of business and how organizations work. He took a job at the Rochester, N.Y., office of Deloitte & Touche for one year. Finding public accounting too narrow to hold his interest, he determined that he'd like to teach.

A phone call to Dr. Eugene Swearingen resulted in four years as an instructor at ORU. During this season, he began his doctoral studies at Oklahoma State University. It was a providential encounter with Dr. Bob Roller, who was also completing his doctorate at OSU, that eventually led Bovee back to his native upstate New York.

"I've always had a great interest in how organizations, systems, and people work together to get things done, and a passion for figuring out how to do it better." So, when Roller (then at Roberts Wesleyan College) asked him to return to Rochester and help launch a graduate management program, he accepted.

Bovee completed his Ph.D. about the time Roller moved to LeTourneau University. He assumed responsibilities as chair of the Business Division — a position essentially the same as dean, and the one he still holds eight years later.

He describes himself as a leader who has transitioned — from surprised to reluctant to overwhelmed to surrendered. In part, those changes began at ORU.

He says the ORU experience expanded his vision and instilled a desire to use his gifts and talents to glorify God and serve others. "During my time at ORU, my faith became my own and I caught a vision for my life. What is that worth?"

Dr. Brett Andrews, 93-MBA

"I have always been entrepreneurial," says Brett Andrews, now dean at Oklahoma Wesleyan University. This business leader's career began behind a lawnmower.

"I started my first 'company' when I was twelve, mowing lawns for neighbors."

Enjoying the thrill of success based upon his efforts, and encouraged by his father, Andrews grew in business acumen. So, when it came time for college, "a business degree was an easy choice."

With an undergraduate diploma from Northeastern State University, he came to ORU for his master's. "God provided the ORU MBA program to be just what I needed at the right time. It was the perfect mix of challenge, convenience, and excellence."

After earning his Ph.D., Andrews began teaching at ORU. Two years later an opportunity arose to become associate dean at LeTourneau University.

"God opened the doors to my administrative career through . . . Dr. Bob Roller (then dean at LeTourneau)." Upon taking the job, he told Roller, "Make me dean material."

Accordingly, his new boss assigned him projects typical for a dean: new program development, relationship development with the Business Advisory Board members, faculty credentialing, and accreditation. By the time he became dean, he already had experience to help him succeed.

Andrews also credits his collegial relationships with Bovee and Lewandowski for leadership development. "Because of our friendships, I can always pick up the phone and call either or both and get valuable insight . . ."

Noting the gifts in his colleagues, Andrews remarks, "Mark is the most creative, productive executive I have ever seen. Steve is a cutting-edge strategic thinker and knows how to maximize a university's potential.

"I often get asked why I would choose to stay in education when I could double or triple my salary in the corporate arena." For Andrews, the answer is simple. "I didn't get into this career to become wealthy. I wanted this position so I could aid students . . . who have a call . . . for the business world."

Having done that, on July 1, 2006, Andrews assumed the position of vice president for Adult and Graduate Studies at OKWU.

Calm Seas

David VanderLugt is at peace in the world of high finance.

BY JADELL FORMAN 90

David VanderLugt 90 has always been a saver and investor. “It must have been in my genes,” he says. | He started out mowing lawns for \$10 to \$15. As soon as he saved \$360 and bought a sailboat, he was hooked. The satisfaction of planning, strategizing, and accomplishing a goal set his compass toward the finance and banking world. | So, when it was time for college, VanderLugt already had a clear career objective in mind. And his college of choice was ORU. | “I never considered another school,” he says. The youngest of three siblings, his sister and brother preceded him to ORU. **Sandra (Vander Lugt 86) Haines** graduated before he arrived, and **Bob 87** was a senior and student body president his freshman year. | This self-proclaimed “average student” believes his time at ORU proved to be “critical” in shaping his life — personally, spiritually, and professionally. | On a personal level, VanderLugt met his future wife, **Amy (Pruet 90)**. The two married in 1993.



These days, VanderLugt goes by a non-spaced version of Vander Lugt. “Over time, I just let it get pushed together.”

Regarding spiritual development, a senior-year missions trip to Africa deepened his belief that “we are on earth to know Christ and to make Him known — that’s it.” His seven-person team performed salvation-story skits before various audiences, sometimes with witchdoctors watching from the edges.

Back in the States, VanderLugt finds himself still involved in missions, this time in a supporting role. His former team leader, **Walker Schurz 89**, eventually started *Africa Outreach* with his family, and continues a work dear to VanderLugt.

Since graduating and spending more than a decade in the world of corporate finance, VanderLugt testifies that ORU shaped him professionally as well. “I received an education that allows me to compete in an industry full of the nation’s best-educated individuals.”

After a few “exploratory jobs,” VanderLugt worked 13 years with GE Capital, relocating four times before settling in Atlanta in 1999. Last year, he left GE to take a similar position with Goldman Sachs Specialty Lending Group.

“Technically, I am in a sales job,” he says. “I source and recommend investments in the \$25- to \$150-million range,” specializing in media and communications. “In a typical year, I look at 30 to 40 deals, amounting to over \$1 billion in potential transaction volume, closing about four or five of those a year.”

Finding challenges and rewards he could never have imagined, VanderLugt thinks the qualities that serve him well in this job are those typical of most jobs: sincerity, integrity, and relentless hard work. But not intuition.

“You can’t invest \$50 million based on gut feelings. I spent the first eight years in commercial lending on the credit approval side, conducting due diligence and preparing the approval submittals . . . and am very selective in the deals I present for investment.”

For those not versed in industry lingo, he offers a simplified explanation. “I tell my kids I’m a banker.”

The VanderLugts have three children: Andrew, 9, Joshua, 7, and Julie Anna, 5. Trying to train up his children according to their individual gifts, VanderLugt notes that two of the three have the savings gene. His eldest does not. “He can’t save four dollars

In their neighborhood, Amy and David stand behind their children, Julie Anna, Joshua, and Andrew.

in a row. He blows it.” Except for 10 percent.

All three get an allowance, mostly for the purpose of a lesson. “We’re now teaching them how to tithe . . . to give a dime of every dollar.”

VanderLugt himself is still learning about finance. “My struggle with money is how to be the best steward I can be.” He believes we are stewards, not owners, and held accountable for the blessings entrusted to us.

“My pastor once spoke about the stewardship of money, and made a point that has really stuck. When someone hires a money manager, that professional asks, ‘What do you want to do with the money?’ and can answer the question, ‘Where did it go?’ We have the same accountability to God.”

Overall, VanderLugt anchors his faith in the belief that God is in control. “We all have daily issues — work, family, finance, whatever. Instead of responding with stress or worrying, I try to respond mentally with, *It’s okay. God is in control. He knows this is happening, and I just need to find the lesson in it.*”

So, while God is steering the world, VanderLugt is back in a boat — this time with a family of his own. His favorite times are those spent at their lake home. He likes to ski and fish with the kids. “Yes, my daughter in her pink bows can hold her own with a Barbie fishing pole.” Or just sit “on the dock chatting with Amy,” as they navigate life.



Get the Picture?



Besides being products of ORU, they were all nominated for “Alumnus of the Year” honors by their fellow alumni.

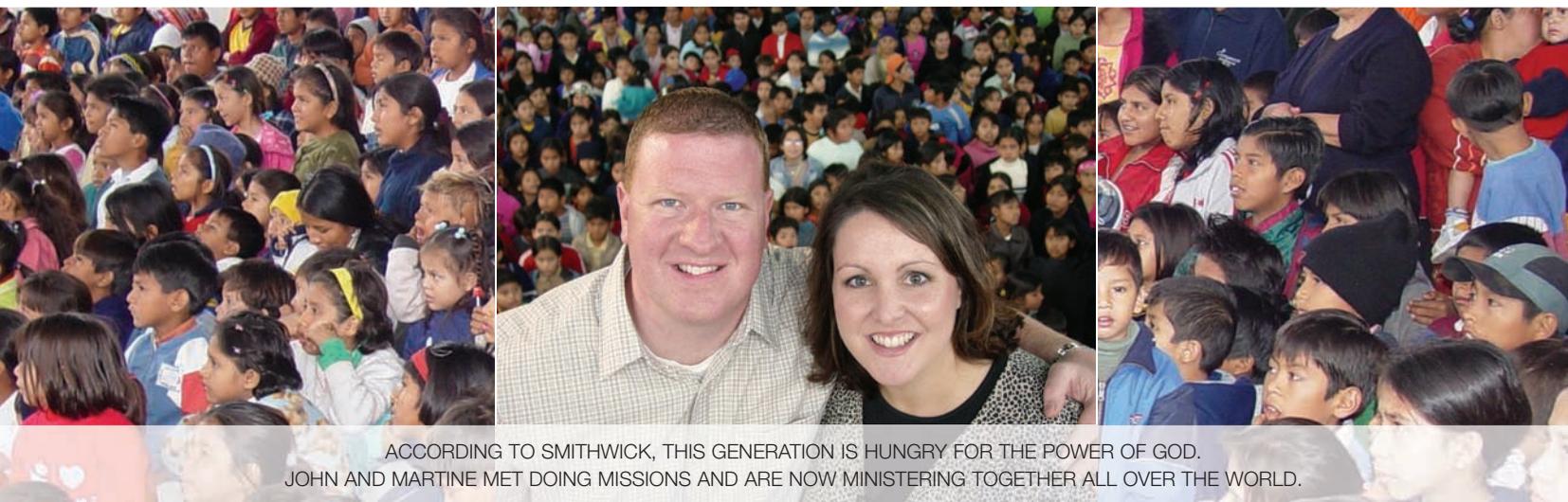
Now it’s your turn to fill in the empty spot at the center of the frame above with a nominee — one or more! — of your very own.

Just log on to http://alumniweb.oru.edu/programs_services/board/aoy.php and click on Nominate an Alumnus Now!

If you want to avoid one of those dreaded photo finishes, be sure to complete the form before July 1, 2007 (for the 2008 awards).

Winning the ‘Show Me’ Generation

BY ELISSA K. HARVILL



ACCORDING TO SMITHWICK, THIS GENERATION IS HUNGRY FOR THE POWER OF GOD. JOHN AND MARTINE MET DOING MISSIONS AND ARE NOW MINISTERING TOGETHER ALL OVER THE WORLD.

When President Richard Roberts decided last spring to get a rough estimate of how many souls had been saved as a result of ORU's ministry through its students and alumni between April 2005 and April 2006, **John Smithwick** was among the first to report from the harvest field.

For the past eight years, Smithwick has dedicated his life to major crusade efforts that are reaching people who have never heard the gospel. According to Smithwick, who has worked for ORU alumni-founded Teen Mania and Impact Productions, about three billion people on the earth have never heard the gospel — not once. A short time ago, he returned from ministering in Iligan City, Philippines, and Thanipodi, India, where 66,737 people were saved and 500 instant miracles were experienced at crusade services.

“I believe that is the last great move of God — seeing people from every tongue, every tribe, every nation being won to Christ and in an unprecedented way,” Smithwick shared. “And I feel that it’s the miracles, signs, and wonders that are bringing in the harvest like never before and are essential in making an impact — not just in developing nations overseas, and in Third World countries, but even here [in the United States].”

A while back, Smithwick was driving through Missouri and got inspired by the Missouri license plate, of all things. “The spirit of God just dropped in my heart, ‘This generation is just like the Missouri license plate, “The Show Me State” — it’s the *show me* generation,’” he said. “They don’t want to hear any more good messages or any more philosophies or good ideas; they want to see the real thing demonstrated to them.”

In this hour, Smithwick believes the mandate on the church is to manifest the real power of God in demonstration. “I believe with all my heart we have got to raise up this next generation. With all the things that are going on — with the Internet pulling people this way or that way, when it comes to just the stuff that young people are now exposed to — I feel like the only thing that can pierce through all the junk that’s going after this generation is an encounter with the supernatural power of God.”

Before his trip to Asia, Smithwick was ministering to a youth group and two Satanists were in the crowd. After they heard the gospel and watched the video clips of the miraculous healings that had occurred during previous crusades, the two young men came forward for salvation, each of them wanting Smithwick to lay hands on them so they too could experience the power of God.

Smithwick says that reaching the next generation doesn’t have to be complicated. “The most educated, wealthiest person

can have a heart encounter and change when he's tasted and feels the power of God as it's preached, and then the simplest, most uneducated, poorest villager from around the world can have that same life-altering encounter the moment he hears the simple gospel," he explained. "They [both] need something that's going to change their broken hearts, something that's going to heal the wounds that they've encountered, something

around the world," Smithwick said. "You know, Jesus took up the fragments after He multiplied the loaves and fishes and filled up so many more baskets. I think that's really how God has moved. People have just connected with the passion in my heart and seen that it is about touching other people, and then common people have chosen to make uncommon sacrifices and step out in uncommon ways."



LIKE ORAL ROBERTS' TENT MEETINGS, SMITHWICK'S ARE CHARACTERIZED BY MIRACULOUS HEALINGS AND SIMPLE GOSPEL TEACHING. SMITHWICK STOPS TO POSE WITH THIS EIGHT-YEAR-OLD BOY WHO WAS CRIPPLED FROM BIRTH AND IS NOW TAKING HIS VERY FIRST STEPS.

that's going to lift them. And it's the love of God — seeing what Jesus did for them on the cross and through the resurrection."

Smithwick's journey has been step by step. While still working at Impact Productions, he felt led to go live in Peru for a year. There he met a British couple studying linguistics at the university. They invited Smithwick to tell their priest about miracles, so God opened the door for him to minister in England. From there he had the opportunity to minister throughout Europe, which is where he met his French-Canadian wife, Martine, whose call is children's ministry.

"God never asks us to take a leap of faith or do something that's crazy, but He'll lead us in steps," he said. "A lot of times you don't see the very next step, but if you're obedient as He directs you, He'll open it up before you and the provision will be there."

While in Ireland, Smithwick felt led to go to India but had no connections there. As he shared this with a pastor in November of 1999, he was connected to Jerry O'Dell in India, and in February of 2000 Smithwick found himself preaching to over 50,000 Indians who had never heard the gospel. Each step of the way the Lord has provided, often through unexpected sources.

"The secret of [God's provision] has been not so much that mega ministries have been behind me, but just common, everyday people who want to be a part of what God is doing

Personally inspired by the life and mandate of Chancellor Oral Roberts, Smithwick encourages fellow alumni to "Go for it!"

"There is no dream that God has put in any of our hearts that is too big," he said. "If God can take me and allow me to do the things that we've been seeing on our largest crusades — we've seen 100,000 come to Christ! If He can take me and do that — I was a 17-year-old boy, lying in bed crying out to God, 'How am I going to get to the nations?' And envisioning all those masses of people, and I didn't know how, but God gave me the next step to go to ORU, and then that's where I did my very first missions trip — to China. And that led me and connected me to further missions trips. Now here, twelve years later, I'm in full-time ministry and we've seen right under 800,000 come to Christ through all the ministry we've been allowed to do and share in over the past eight years . . . so I'd say go for it. The dream is not too big. God put it in you for you to fulfill it and He'll bring it to pass by His grace and power."

In June, Smithwick went to Thailand to hold crusades and plant a church, which his ministry will fund for the next three years. And then in July, he was planning to go back to Peru.

Three billion people haven't heard the gospel? Smithwick is one man who is doing his part to lower that number.

To learn more about John Smithwick, a 1994 ORU graduate, and JSMI, visit <http://jsmintl.org>.

Back to School

BY JADELL FORMAN '90

Are ORU graduates a hot commodity? It seems so. This English lit major was snatched from the job pool before she even got her feet wet.

The bell rings as American Literature students at Broken Arrow's Grace Christian School settle into their seats. Like education's answer to Vanna White on *Wheel of Fortune*, their teacher strides and pivots across the front of the room. From overhead projector to light switch and back, she turns off the lights and draws attention to three questions projected onto the wall.

"Shhhhhh." As the projector splashes light on one side of her face, **Trina (Campbell) Lutzke '06** hushes the class with a finger in front of her mouth. "Start your journals." Within seconds all 20-plus students quietly begin to write.

According to the Oklahoma Employment Outlook 2012, teaching (primary, secondary, and adult) is the state's 26th fastest-growing occupation. For 2002-2012, the outlook projects a 36.7 percent growth rate; annual openings during that period are expected to average 210.

(Printed and issued by Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, the Economic Research and Analysis Division. February 2005.)



Lutzke's childhood desire to teach has turned into a position at Grace Christian School in Tulsa.

For Lutzke, this is exactly how her story was supposed to unfold. Recounting her childhood years in Apple Valley, Minn., she says, "I've always wanted to teach. It's the type of thing every 5-year-old says they want to [do]. But [my resolve] actually stuck all the way through college."

College for Lutzke included an English literature major with an education minor, along with an ORU heritage. Parents **John "Kirk" Campbell (A)** and **Glory (Palm) Campbell (A)** met at ORU in the early '70s. Two of three siblings have ORU degrees: **Tosca (Campbell) Grimm '94** and **Todd Campbell '02**.

Lutzke started out wanting to teach math because of the fulfillment she found in helping her classmates. "Watching them get that look on their face when they finally understood something — that was just so gratifying to me." However, her desires changed during her first encounter with college-level English. "Dr. [Trice] Butler was my . . . English 101 teacher, and I just loved it, everything about it. So, I switched over, and am really glad I did."

Given her previous practicum at Grace Christian School and her English tutoring at ORU, Lutzke was well-equipped. She says the ORU English faculty got behind her in a big way. When Grace needed a replacement last spring for a



Trina and new husband Zach, an ORU senior majoring in history and minoring in education. Despite refusing to become half of an ORU couple like her parents, she did. "He's from Wisconsin. We had driven home a couple of times together. Sure enough, I'm that couple now."

teacher — an ORU graduate who was moving to another state — Lutzke pulled together her paperwork in pursuit of the position.

"I completely owe the job to the English department. Dr. Butler (also Lutzke's advisor) was the one who made the phone calls. Several teachers offered to write recommendations."

In addition to ORU faculty support, Lutzke's reputation spoke for her. The Grace teacher with whom she did her practicum had been promoted to vice principal. Lutzke recounts his words: "I remember you [from] three years ago and being impressed. I can only imagine where you're at now."

"I was like, *Oh, good,*" she said with a Northern lilt. Lutzke landed the job, a two-thirds position with "fun" opportunities to substitute-teach Algebra.

The ORU faculty support that Lutzke found as a student she also currently finds as a teacher. "Even now I'll e-mail them and get information. 'Can I have your 11-paragraph format for the research paper I did with you in English 101?'" — the very assignment her American Literature class worked on after completing their journal entries.

Along with a diploma to hang on the classroom wall, Lutzke now has a full-time position at Grace for the coming school year.

"I've got a job, a house, a husband. I'm set for a few years."

Lutzke is a 2006 ORU graduate.



Annual Fund 2006 {Not your daily grind.}

WARM IT UP AT
ALUMNIWEB. ORU. EDU

Grand Gestures, Grants, and Graduation

Current and future students will benefit from the generosity and diligent efforts of ORU alumni and staff. Meanwhile, the latest group of graduates faces life's toughest questions: Where shall they go and what shall they do?

CSF's Latest Crusade

Crusader Scholarship Fund, run by a group of alumni who are determined to keep top-quality, financially challenged ORU students in school, has done it again.

For the 2006-07 academic year, CSF has made awards of \$4,500 to each of the students pictured here.

CSF has been at it since 1988, raising and distributing hundreds of thousands of dollars to deserving students. Board members are **Dave Crowell 80, Dan Barlow 82, Greg Sparlin 81, Jim Stovall 81, Michael Schultz 88, Rob Campbell 81, and Jeannie Burns Hardie 87.**

To join the crusade, contact Stovall at JimStovall@aol.com.

Bauman Signs On

Kelly Bauman joined the University Relations team in May as the director of Sponsored Programs. She will be managing all operations regarding grants and sponsored programs, with emphasis on pre-award issues. Among her many external relationship-building responsibilities, Bauman will help faculty discover funding for scholarly research, program enhancement, and service opportunities.



Crusader Scholarship winners for 2006-07: (pictured L to R) Miranda Kelley, Carly Thomas, Kenya McKinney, Christina Diliberto, Melinda Martinez, and Chelsea Knisely.

Bauman attributes her passion for impacting people's lives to her mother, a veteran public school teacher who modeled boldness, patience, and generosity.

"I believe God has been grooming me for this position at ORU," Bauman said.

For the past six years, she has served Oklahoma State University in Okmulgee, directing several large grant projects that included both federal and state monies. She also served the school as director



Kelly Bauman

of Admissions, director of Recruitment, and as a Social Science faculty member.

Bauman holds degrees in psychology and human resource development from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and a master's in human relations from the University of Oklahoma. She is currently finishing a doctor-

ate in education from Oklahoma State University. "What I love best about grant work is seeing the results of the monies obtained," Bauman shared.

“It really is about helping people and furthering a vision.” A few of the grants she has written in the past included areas of focus in leadership and mentoring, student development, adult basic education, and at-risk youth and adults.

“Grants are not just about paper and numbers,” she explained. “They are a means to change a life, and they do. I have seen it — been a part of it — and it has touched my life in a profound way. This is what I want to do at ORU.”

Mi Alma Mater es Tu . . .

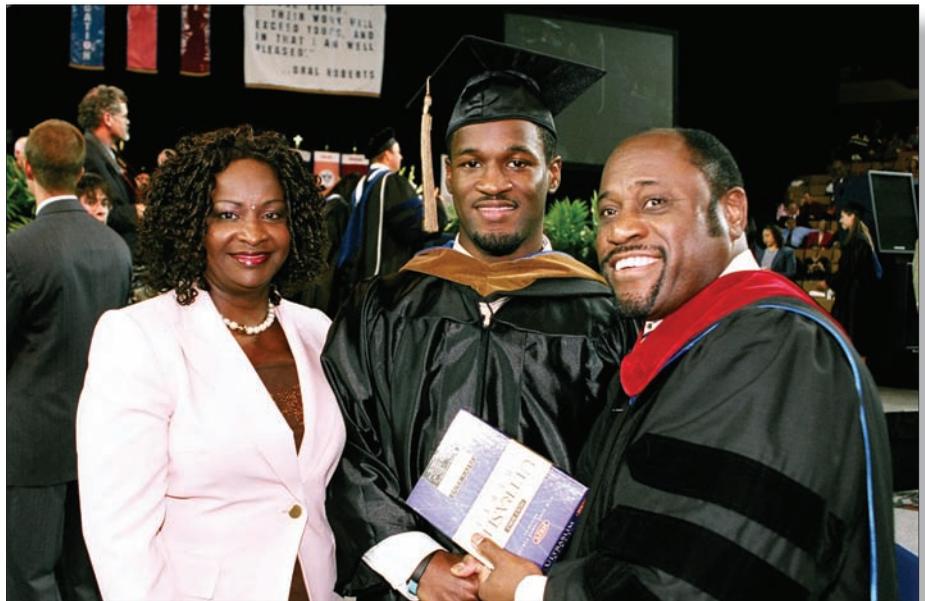
Alumni offspring are following in their parents’ footsteps, as demonstrated by these photos from the May 6 Commencement ceremony.

What was said at this year’s ceremony . . .
 “The one who succeeds among you is not the one who is most talented. The one who succeeds among you is not the one who made the best grades. The one who succeeds among you is going to be the one who just refuses to give up. When everything says quit, he will keep going because he’s motivated by the hand of God.”

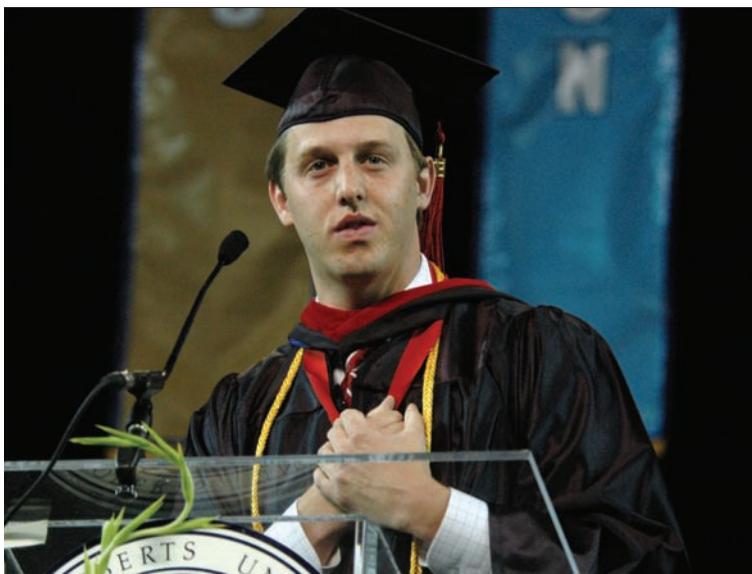
Pastor John Hagee
 Commencement speaker



Mark and Paula Sterns welcome son Matthew into the alumni fold.



The Munroes — Myles and Ruth — have raised two ORU graduates. This year, it was son Chairó’s turn to don cap and gown.



“Here at ORU we’ve experienced the life-changing power of God. We’ve seen the gifts of the Spirit demonstrated. We’ve learned how to learn, and we discovered the fueling power of espresso.”

Emmanuel Earls
 student response speaker

Transition Positions University for Growth and Expansion

BY JADELL FORMAN 90

The campus buildings and flowerbeds may look the same as they did decades ago. But the university is changing as it prepares to cover more ground and bear more fruit.

The most recent of those transformations occurred in the administrative structure and landscape. On March 1, Student Services became two departments: Student Development and Academic Outreach, and Enrollment Services and Special Events.

Previously, Dr. Jeff Ogle oversaw all areas as vice president of Student Services, with Dr. Nancy Brainard serving as his associate. The March 1 changes include the promotion of Dr. Brainard to vice president status, now sharing leadership with Dr. Ogle.

He explains the renaming and his new role: “*Student Development* is the traditional departments of Spiritual Life and Student Affairs. Student Development provides services and programs [such as housing, missions outreach, and career guidance] to undergraduate and graduate students that facilitate and complement their attendance at ORU.”



Looking out for the well-being of students is the focus of Drs. Ogle and Brainard, who now share VP status.

The other portion of Ogle’s role is Academic Outreach, which he describes as “a reaffirming of our commitment to provide high-quality distance-learning programs to adult learners. I will be working with faculty, department chairs, and academic deans to develop . . . technology-based delivery systems and degree programs for future offerings.”

For example, the university will expand its pen-and-paper correspondence program to include Web-based classes and degrees. It’s like building an addition to a house — something Ogle is used to.

Growing up in northeastern Oklahoma, he assisted in his father’s side business of house-building. During those years, the senior Ogle noted his son’s aversion to labor, reportedly saying, “Jeff, don’t avoid the work. Work it to death.”

As a transfer student back in 1983 for whom good grades did not come easily, young Jeff discovered the wisdom of those words and made them his own. “That became my rubric: Show up, work hard, and do your best.”

All that hammering at his education served him well. In 1986, he graduated magna cum laude from ORU with a Christian education degree, eventually earning his master’s and doctorate in education.

Ogle’s ORU career began in 1985 with stints in the Financial Aid Office, the School of LifeLong Education, Enrollment, and Student Services.

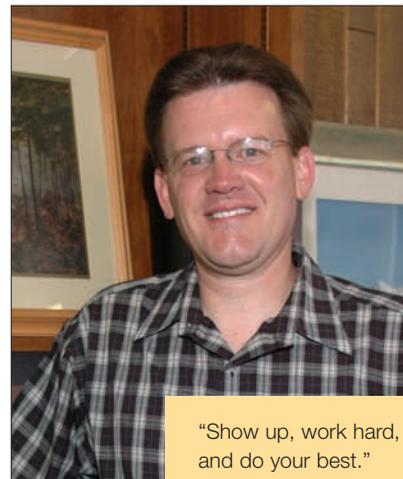
Applying his labor rubric to university endeavors, he says, “I think we need to work harder at investing more of ourselves into the students so they have a better opportunity to understand the *why* behind many of the things we ask them to do.”

Ogle says ORU differs from other universities in its aspirations. “In order to graduate students who are a cut above, the students who are going to school here . . . encounter expectations that are not present at other institutions of higher learning.” He believes those higher expectations require greater investments of time and relationship, which will start with him and his staff.

“My heart in this newly organized position . . . is to . . . ultimately do a better job of investing into students — the core values of ORU, the reasons for ORU, the commitments we hold dear, to accomplish the mission statement.”

Two doors down from Ogle, Brainard has settled into a new office and a new role she says is “less reactionary and more proactive.” Her goal is to strengthen the university by

Now in a “less reactionary and more proactive” position, Dr. Nancy Brainard determines to improve ORU’s areas of first impressions — Admissions, Registrar, and Financial Aid.



“Show up, work hard, and do your best.” From student to vice president, that’s the rubric Dr. Ogle has applied throughout his twenty-three years at ORU.

increasing teamwork and streamlining processes under her leadership.

About one-half of her new role, Enrollment Services, she says, “involves providing services to prospective and current undergraduate students,” services such as admissions, enrollment, and financial aid, which give the crucial first impressions of ORU.

“Special Events prepares a number of events each year [such as] the National Finals Competition for the Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship, the annual conference of the International Charismatic Bible Ministries Fellowship, and the ORU Family Christmas benefit concert.”

Although Brainard jokes that she can barely keep her houseplants alive, she likes to nurture. “Anything that is nurtured and watered and fertilized and put in a bigger pot, to use the flower analogy, is going to grow.”

Brainard grew her career by first transplanting herself from Ohio to Tulsa in 1988, when she began her ORU education. Four years later she graduated with an education degree, eventually obtaining her master’s in management and her doctorate in education.

In 1995, “I began working at ORU . . . first in the ORU Home Education Department . . . From there Dr. Jeff Ogle hired me to become the director of the Adult Learning Service Center.”

About her promotion, she says, “This transition allows me to nurture and give attention to a couple areas” versus the many she previously tended. She believes the focus of her energies “will produce fruit just because of the level of depth, the care we’re able to give.”

Whether discussing these changes in terms of program nurturing, as Brainard does, or relationship-building, as Ogle does, the neighboring VPs foresee their new roles yielding new growth and expansion.

Catch Them If You Can

BY ELISSA K. HARVILL

Coach Joe Dial's motto, "Just win," is working. It takes more than a motto, however, to deliver the type of results that this past season's track teams achieved. What was their secret?

"Well, first of all, they're good athletes, and they're just good kids," explained Dial. "You get one good kid and then another who wants to be successful, and they're kind of just chasing each other because they don't want to be outdone."

For the second straight year, both the men's and women's indoor track teams claimed Mid-Continent Conference championships. The men's indoor team broke into the top 25 in

the nation for the first time ever, finishing with their highest ranking at No. 15. The women placed 11 athletes on the All-Conference squad, finishing the season with the Mid-Con's top times in nine individual events and one relay.

ORU sent five athletes to the NCAA Outdoor Championships in June. Prince Mumba earned his third All-American honors in the 800 meters, while Diana Chelimo earned her first in the 1,500-meter event.

And for the fourteenth time in his 14 years at ORU, Dial, himself a former pole vault world champion, was named Coach of the Year by the Mid-Con (for men's and women's indoor teams), and for the Midwest Region by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (for men's outdoor team).

Shaun Smith was on the world's #1 ranked 4x800 relay team.

Three-time All-American Prince Mumba is from Zambia.

Faithy Kamangila, a sophomore finance major from Harare, Zimbabwe, received All-American honors at the NCAA Championships.

Student stars include James Wanjiku and MVP Aisha Mitchell, both named Mid-Con Athlete of the Year. Indoor MVP Mumba is ranked 23rd in the world in the 800 meters and Andretti Bain (outdoor MVP) currently holds the Mid-Con's best time in the 400-meter dash and the 4x400 relay. Women's outdoor MVP Chelimo has the Mid-Con's best time in the 800- and 1,500-meter runs. Shaun Smith broke a 27-year-old stadium record in the 800-meter run at the Nebraska International, and Faithy Kamangila brought home a gold medal in the illustrious Texas Relays 5K run. Mumba, Chelimo, and Smith were named to the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association's NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field All-America Team in June.

Not to be outrun in the classroom either, 14 of the women and seven of the men made the Mid-Con Academic All-Conference Team for maintaining a minimum 3.0 grade-point average last year.

With favor early on in the recruitment phase, Dial and his assistants, Chris Brown and Alick Musukuma, were able to sign all but one of the athletes they visited. According to Dial, ORU's Christian culture is appealing to many of the athletes' parents, though some athletes fear that the rules will be too strict. Either way, it hasn't stopped ORU from recruiting some of the finest athletes in the world. It also helps that ORU athletics are fully funded, which means that Dial and his assistants can offer top athletes the same amount of scholarship money as other top universities.

"[Athletics director] Mike Carter has done a great job," observed Dial. "I was here before he got here, and then President [Richard] Roberts got here — he really supports

athletics. We might not have the greatest facilities, but the athletics department at least gives us the opportunity to win."

Being a coach since '89 and father to three sons (Timmy, Tommy, and Tyler), counseling and role modeling comes naturally to Dial, whose childhood dream was to become a coach. "Some years [the teams] are really good, and then some years you've got a rebellious group," he shared. "Each group is different. It seems like I'll kind of preach to them, and then it will be about three years before I have to really say anything. And then I'll think I haven't said my speech in three or four years, and I'll ask one of my seniors if they've heard it and if they say 'No,' I know it's time to say it again. I don't have any trouble at all if I hear a kid is out at some kind of party . . . if it's just a rumor, I just bring him in and sit him down in either that crusty chair" — here he indicated a chair in his Aerobics Center office — "or the other one, and I just talk to them. I have a lot of experience with that," he said, pointing to a picture of his adopted son, Tim, now deceased. "He went out and drank one time and somebody killed him, so it really hits home with me."

Dial also offered this coaching insight: "Every kid is different. So to reach them, you have to take a different path on every one of them. With some, you can yell and scream at them and they really respond, and then some, if you just look at them wrong, they're just (he feigns horror) . . . it's figuring out what type of kid you have."

As for this dream team's dynamic, Dial admits that there is definitely rivalry, but he says that's normal. "I just let it happen. I let them

On the right track: "Coach Brown (right) is the most organized person in the world. I'm just me — 'whatever works,' and Coach Alick (left) is on the mountaintop," said Dial (center) of their successful recruiting efforts.



All-American Diana Chelimo is from Uganda.

argue and fuss and fight among themselves, but when we get close to a championship, you pull them all together and it's time to forget their differences. When you have a large group you're going to have differences, but before the meet I'll give a talk, and that night before we have a competition they'll all be like, 'I love you, man' and all that."

If it hadn't been for the many injuries and major back surgeries Dial has suffered in his own track and field career, he would most likely still be competing today. But he's content to live through all the students he coaches, from the time he recruits them until they leave the ORU campus.

"What really helped was *exit interviews*," he explained, "because kids in the past used to leave so mad at the university; they were totally mad at ORU — if you're here four or five years you're bound to get mad about something. I said, 'We have to do something so that when they're leaving here they've got to have a good feeling about what's happened.' So we always have a big presentation; it's just track team-wise, our family environment here. I'll give them a picture" (he picks up a picture of a female athlete

competing), "and I'll talk about their career here at ORU in front of all their peers. It can get pretty emotional. They leave knowing they were appreciated here and that they're welcome back. A lot of kids will leave and you don't hear from them for three or four years, and then they'll call and say, 'Coach, I appreciated what you did, I'm glad you didn't kick me off the team when you could have.' They realize this is a good place to be."

Thanks to cell phones, Coach Dial regularly hears from track and field alumni from all over the world. In fact, during this interview, a track alumna from Colorado was text-messaging him scripture.

"That's what really makes me feel good. They'll call and say, 'Hey, coach, this or that has happened in my life . . . ,' from all over the world they call in. Norway, Jamaica, Germany, they call. They've got my cell phone number, they'll let me know what's going on."

In a sport where numbers are everything, ORU track alumni obviously have one of those numbers that matters most to them on speed dial.



Coach Joe Dial

SCORECARD

Highlights from Joe Dial's 14 years at ORU

- 16** Mid-Con Indoor and Outdoor Titles
- 14** Mid-Con Coach of the Year Awards
- 22** Current Mid-Con Record Holders
- 14** Mid-Con Athletes of the Year
- 12** Mid-Con Newcomers of the Year
- 219** All-Conference Performers
- 16** All-Americans
- 65** NCAA Qualifiers
- 15** Olympic Trials Competitors

HOLD US BACK!

CAN'T WAIT FOR BASKETBALL SEASON TO START?



Go, Golden Eagles!

GO TO THE WEB ([HTTP://WWW.ORUGOLDENEAGLES.COM/](http://www.orugoldeneagles.com/))
FOR THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SCHEDULES.

Photographer Bill Powell captured this image of (back row) Ken Tutt, Caleb Green, (front row) Jonathan Bluiitt, and Larry Owens at the 2006 Mid-Continent Conference championship game. Bluiitt and Owens are gone now, but Tutt, Green, and a dazzling cast of newcomers are ready to help drive the Eagles back into the NCAA Tournament. The men's schedule includes games against Kansas (coached by former ORU head coach Bill Self), Arkansas, and Seton Hall. The women are welcoming four new recruits, including Carol Volpato from Brazil.

Notes From Alumni

1970s

After 28 years of ministry in Tulsa (16 at ORU and 12 on staff at First United Methodist Church), **Arden Autry 70** and his wife, **June (Vasby-A)**, have moved to Galway, Ireland, to join the ministry of “An Tobar Nua,” Gaelic for “The New Well.” An Tobar Nua’s outreach transcends denominational lines, as Baptists, Pentecostals, and Roman Catholics work together and keep the focus on the main thing: knowing Jesus. Arden will provide the next step in discipleship: a Bible diploma program to ground them in God’s Word. He will also provide classes for American students who come to work in An Tobar Nua’s evangelistic outreach. June is expecting to help in the office of this expanding ministry.

Robert Goodwin 70, president and CEO of the Points of Light Foundation in Washington, D.C., joined forces with artist Thomas Kinkade to coauthor a new book: *Points of Light — A Celebration of the American Spirit of Giving Today*. Together they tell inspiring stories of ordinary volunteers who do extraordinary works. With a foreword by former President George H.W. Bush, this book “will inspire those who have experienced the abundant rewards of giving and motivate those who will want to after reading it.” The Points of Light Foundation is also launching the “We are Family” cam-

paigned to help strengthen families affected by Hurricane Katrina. This campaign will include a remake of Sister Sledge’s song, *We Are Family*, a CD with world-renowned artists, a DVD, and much more. Log on today for more information. <http://www.pointsoflight.org>

Randy Barr 72, former member of the Wild Bunch wing, is known for raising the bar both in the kingdom of God and as a record-setting competitive weightlifter. As pastor of Fountain of Life Church in Lombard, Ill., he makes souls his number-one priority. In the weightlifting arena, he continues to set the standard for weightlifters in his age group. Last year, he broke his own world record at the World Natural Powerlifting Federation World Bench Press and Dead Lift championships, where he bench-pressed 380 lbs. in the 50- to 60-year-old master’s division (166-181 lbs). He set his first world record by pressing 375 lbs. at a qualifying meet in July 2005; the old mark was 374 lbs. He hopes to return to this year’s championships and bench an unbelievable 400 pounds. In a newspaper article, he stated, “I think we always need something that we’re shooting for. Once you’ve done something, you need to re-establish new goals to keep yourself motivated. That’s not just for weightlifting; that’s everything.”

Don Ryan 72 was inducted into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame on June 21. “It is flattering and humbling to be so

Imagine This . . .

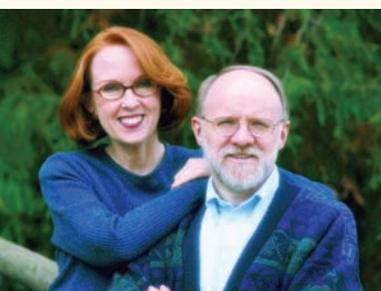
You never can tell where ORU alumni might meet to worship! Last July as **Sue Rhodes Dodd 78** stood to sing “The Via Dolorosa” in St. Anne’s church — located adjacent to the Pool of Bethesda ruins in the old city of Jerusalem — she knew she was singing to two generations of alumni. Dodd was part of a group of “friends” on a spiritual pilgrimage to Israel hosted by **Dr. Jan Dargatz 72**. Among the alumni in the group were **Twila Allwine Easley 71**, **Kathy Korell Steiner 72**, **Janet Beck Moseley 72**, and **Lili Dodd 06**. Hannah Tranberg, daughter of **Ann Davies Tranberg 72** and **Dale Tranberg 76**, was also part of the pilgrimage. During the song, the group was joined in the cathedral by a church tour group from Murfreesboro, Tenn. The Tennessee believers joined in fully with the singing and praise, and offered songs of their own. The leader of that second group? ORU alumnus and pastor **Allen Jackson 80!**



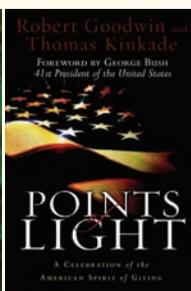
highly honored,” Don said. “I did not start playing jazz until my junior year at ORU (36 years ago already!) and am most grateful for the many people that helped me develop and grow in this wonderful art form. Interestingly enough, in all of this I find myself an unofficial PR person for ORU because admirers always want to know where you’ve studied. So here I am going into this particular world!” (Don was featured in the Spring ’03 issue of *Excellence*, available online.)

After playing the role of Ubaldo Piangi in the Broadway production of *The Phantom of the Opera*,

Larry Wayne Morbitt 74 was offered the role in the new Las Vegas production of *Phantom* at the Venetian Hotel and Casino. This new production has been five years in the making. Between the new theater built just for the show and the production itself, the total investment is well over \$80 million dollars. “The added special effects are not to be believed,” Larry says. “The one-ton chandelier actually freefalls over the audience in every show, causing loud gasps and screams from the nightly patrons. An actual disclaimer has been posted in the lobby to warn the faint of heart. (No joke!)” Larry’s contract gives him the option of returning to his



AUTRY 70



GOODWIN 70



RYAN 72



BEHNKEN 83



COCHRANE 83, 87

role on Broadway after June 12, 2007. On Jan. 9, the New York *Phantom* production celebrated becoming the longest-running show in Broadway history — 18 years and counting. Larry says it is likely that he will return at the end of his one-year contract. Last March he taped his first “Homecoming” video with Bill Gaither and the Gaither Vocal Band. The video will come out in September. He was the guest soloist at this year’s Profiles in Courage Award Ceremony at the Kennedy Library at the personal invitation of Senator Ted Kennedy. “It just so happened that I sang at an event in Los Angeles last December where the senator first heard me,” Larry said, “and it was there that he extended the invitation to sing at the annual May event. Larry Dalton was kind enough to fly into Boston and be my accompanist. We performed ‘Nessun dorma’ from *Turandot*, ‘The Music of the Night’ from *Phantom*, and ‘They Call the Wind Maria’ from *Paint Your Wagon*.” Larry encourages alumni to come see *Phantom* in Vegas.

Jeff Jackson 78 became the chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Duquesne University on July 1. Jeff and wife **Cindy (Howe) 78** taught at ORU from 1986 to 1988. Their daughter, **Rebecca 05**, was an honors program student and Spiritual Life Dorm Director; she and **Todd Asper 05** planned to marry on June 17. The Jacksons’ son Peter is a cur-

rent ORU student and has been president of the honors program and an editor of *The Oracle*. The two younger Jackson children, Emily and Benjamin, are also leaning toward attending ORU some day.

1980s

John Billings 81, 85-MBA is now the senior vice president and manager for KeyCorp’s Correspondent Banking line of business. He began his financial services career in 1984, starting at Bank of Oklahoma and moving on to Mercantile Bank, Wells Fargo Bank, Missouri State Bank and Trust, Southwest Bank of St. Louis, and US Bank (St. Louis). In a PRNewswire-FirstCall online news release, John’s immediate superior, Richard W. Owens, said, “John brings to Key more than two decades of experience building market share in correspondent banking at major financial services companies. We’re delighted to have him join our Capital Markets arm as we continue to grow our Correspondent Banking services.” Tom Bunn, KeyCorp vice chair and head of Key National Banking, said, “John will be integral to our success as we look to expand the breadth of Key’s Correspondent Banking to new markets.”

Dr. Bruce Behnken 83 is working for Calvary International out of Manilla. He and his wife, Emma, report they now have “2,100 Bible school graduates in seven nations of Asia. Several of the nations are closed access like

Nepal, Indonesia, and Vietnam. It is a powerful Spirit-filled work in some very dark nations. We will soon have graduates in Laos, which is a tightly monitored Communist nation and Bhutan, a tightly guarded Buddhist nation. Our daughter, **Sharon 03**, graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in business and now lives in Tulsa. She did a short-term missions trip to Thailand several years ago and is considering teaching English in China for a year. Our son, Brian, starts ninth grade in August.”

Dr. Leslee Cochrane 83, 87-MD, medical director of Ramona VNA & Hospice in Hemet, Calif., has been named Home Care Physician of the Year by the California Association for Health Services at Home. He received the award on May 18. This award goes to a physician who excels in providing and utilizing home care. Leslee leads an interdisciplinary team of nurses, social workers, chaplains, home health aides, and volunteers in patient care. Karen Estes, hospice director for Ramona VNA & Hospice, said of Leslee, “He is a community collaborator, and our staff has the greatest respect for him. He willingly teaches internally and externally to help increase knowledge related to end-of-life care.” Estes added, “Dr. Cochrane is one of the rare, quiet physicians. He never has a harsh word and is authentic in his interactions with everyone. He is trusted by those in his care and by those he works with. His professionalism, ethics, and integrity are known by all with whom he comes in contact, and

he is a model and mentor in his role. He can be heard many times a day repeating the following phrases: ‘What does the patient most want? Let’s get the best result for the patient. Always err on the side of the patient. Do the right thing.’” Leslee was selected from among hundreds of nominations from across California. He has served as medical director of Ramona for three years. In 2003, he received the House Call Doctor of the Year award. He and his wife, **Susan (Bethel-A)**, have taken part in medical and dental missions trips.

Brooke (Norris) Burger 84 responded to fellow alumnus **Celia Wilcox 85**’s blurb in the Fall 2005 edition of *Excellence* where Celia asked for photos, yearbooks, etc., from friends and roommates. Celia had lost her home in the tidal flood caused by Hurricane Katrina. Her request was answered by Brooke, who says, “I wondered for years why I kept two copies of the 1984 yearbook. I now know why.” Brooke was able to contact Celia and send her the extra copy. Celia says, “The yearbook was a blessing, particularly because it was someone who did not even know me — just what was going on here.” She asks that we keep the Mississippi Gulf Coast and New Orleans/southeastern Louisiana in our prayers. Because Katrina “destroyed so much and displaced thousands of people, it will take many years for the people of our area to heal and rebuild.”



DECASTRO 89



WINGO 93



CHIODO 99



O'NEAL 01

Notes From Alumni

Chaplain Captain David B. Knight, Jr. 84 was awarded the Edwin R. Chess Award as “Chaplain of the Year” earlier this year by the U.S. Air Forces Europe. The Chess Award goes to company grade officer chaplains who represent excellence in leadership, job performance, self-improvement, and base or community involvement. Knight qualified to compete against nine award winners from the other USAF commands for “Chaplain of the Year” of the entire USAF. David is currently stationed at Lajes Field, the Azore Islands, Portugal, with his wife, Stacy, and their children, Kelsey and Caleb. He is a member of Holston Conference United Methodist Church and a member of the Charge Conference of East Stone Gap-Legion Memorial United Methodist Churches.

Lori (Matsen) Hartsoe 87 has been married to **Tony Hartsoe 87** since November 1987. They have four children (Matsen, 12, Marissa, 10, Walker, 5, and Emma, 3) and have lived in Winston-Salem, N.C., for the last 12 years. After a successful career in insurance and information management, Lori has stayed home to raise their children. Tony worked five years in the insurance field and then went to law school in 1991, graduating from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis in 1994. He worked for large firms for six years and opened his own law office in 2001. Hartsoe & Associates, P.C., now has three lawyers and helps bring Christ into its clients’ legal matters, praying with them and holding them accountable to biblical

principles as they work through conflicts. Tony is also a certified mediator and has received training in Christian mediation and arbitration. The Hartsoes are both very active in their church and community, attending services at First Assembly of God in Winston-Salem.

Charlyne Boddie 88 says friends should contact her or check out her Web site to see what she’s been up to. <http://www.charlyne.com>

David Mansberger 88 is currently serving as a U.S. Air Force Chaplain in Misawa, Japan, where he was recently promoted to major. His wife, Angel, is the secretary for the Protestant Women of the Chapel for the Asian-Pacific region. David reports, “We have been greatly blessed and just celebrated our 12th wedding anniversary.” They have two children, Jonathan, 10, and Jacob, 8.

Major Dean L. Prentice 88 was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. A ceremony took place earlier this year at Scott AFB, Illinois. Dean began his career as a clinical nurse on the medical unit at Malcolm Grow Medical Center in Andrews AFB in 1988. He is now an Executive Officer to the Commander of 18th Air Force. Dean, wife Melissa, and their three children — Lauren Grace, 9, Claire, 6, and Shad, 3 — were moving to Washington, D.C., in August as Dean became the Commander of the Medical Operations Squadron at Bolling Air Force Base.

Ruel “DC” DeCastro 89 has served the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) for 15 years. He is currently a writer and producer for CBN’s Direct Marketing Division. One of DC’s primary responsibilities includes the audio production of Pat Robertson’s monthly “Power for Life” teaching. DC and his wife, Tracee, have two beautiful daughters, Morgan Olivia, 6, and Mya Elaine, 2. DC would love to hear from old friends and for anyone reading this, please feel free to visit his Web site at www.xanga.com/five11nation.

1990s

Kathy (Murphy) Wingo 93 was voted “Teacher of the Year” last spring by her colleagues at Vian Elementary School in Vian, Okla. Kathy now teaches third grade and serves as her church’s pianist. She and her husband, Curtis, and their three children live on their family’s ranch in Vian.

Natasha Washington 94 was chosen as a fellow for the 2006 Spring Journalism Symposium at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro, N.C. She was one

of only 12 journalists (broadcast and print) nationwide invited to be a part of the symposium called “Rosa Parks: Civil Rights in the 21st Century,” which focused on the history, current status, and future of the civil rights movement. Natasha won first place at the Maat Awards competition in the headline-writing category. Awards were presented at a banquet in conjunction with the 2006 National Association of Black Journalists regional conference in Oklahoma City. As part of the conference, Natasha also led a print journalism student practicum in which high school and college students produced a newspaper called “The Voice,” which correlated with the conference theme, “Making Our Voices Heard.” In July, Natasha was selected to participate as a fellow (one of 18 from across the country) at the Summer Institute for Midcareer Copy Editors at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Jennifer (Boston) 99 and husband **Jason MBA 00 Chiodo** are living in West Haven, Conn. Jason is a successful realtor with ReMax Right Choice. Jennifer is a part-time nursing instructor. They had their first child, Abigail Elizabeth, in July 2005.

e-mail: alumni@oru.edu
<http://alumniweb.oru.edu>



SMITH 03



FENN 05



VOLK



LEE



SELINGER

2000s

Jayce O'Neal 01 is making a mark in Hollywood. His latest role was on the WB's *One Tree Hill*. Jayce has also acted on shows that have appeared on networks such as ABC Family, The Discovery Channel, TLC, National Geographic, The History Channel, and Sci-Fi Channel. His acting ventures have brought him opportunities, including sitcom pilots, soap opera pilots, voice-over work, independent films, industrial videos, and theater. Some of the theatrical productions Jayce has participated in include *All My Sons*, *Death of a Salesman*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Enemy of the People*, and *Tears of Soy*. Along with acting, Jayce has also directed shows for the camera and the stage. He gained much of his knowledge of the acting industry while working as an acting agent himself. During that time in his career, he worked with casting directors, producers, directors and, of course, actors. Jayce earned his master of arts in communication (acting emphasis) and master of arts in counseling from Regent University; he is currently working on his doctorate in the field of leadership (also from Regent) while continuing to pursue his acting endeavors and teaching at the John Robert Powers School for Acting and Modeling. He is also overseeing the young adult ministry at his church, going on various missions trips, and writing a book. He has had a best-selling novel, *Summer of the Midnight Sun* by Tracie Peterson, dedicated to him; the book's main character was named after him. myspace.com/jayceo.

Jacob 03 and **Betsy (Lewis) Smith 03** joined the mission field full-time beginning in April 2006. They will be traveling to about 20 different countries between Morocco and China, working with different missionaries and contacts for around 10 months. They ask that you keep them in your prayers as they step out in faith for this next journey

of life. www.acrossthe1040.com

Jason Fenn 05 graduated from Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning in Columbus, Ga., and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. During the 14 weeks of training, Jason received "basic soldiering" instruction in leadership, professional ethics, soldier team development, combined arms tactics, weapons defense, combat water survival, maintenance, communications, staff and general military subjects, and physical training and conditioning. He, wife **Sophia 04**, and daughter Sabrina are currently stationed in Fort Benning, Ga.

Associates

Holly Labar was involved in a missionary endeavor called HopeRwanda (www.hoperwanda.org), facilitated through Hillsong Church in Sydney, Australia. Many different missionary teams were sent out during a 100-day period (April 7-July 15) in an effort to restore hope to a nation torn apart by the 1994 genocide. Holly was one of two Americans chosen to participate with the education team traveling to Rwanda, April 10-26. She went as a high school math teacher to "enable and equip" teachers in Rwanda. Holly reports, "We had almost 180 people born again just through our team alone."

Cheryl Taylor-Roehl currently lives in Ellensburg, Wash., home of Central Washington University. She says, "It reminds me of college . . . yet these children look so young and in their own world. I was probably the same. Anyone remember Todd Farley, the mime who came to ORU? I brought him to an ORU chapel service and it was neat [to see] how an arts ministry can affect so many. I was told that particular year the sign-up for off-campus ministries was the highest. (I think Ron Luce was over this program . . . or

Measure Fails to Pass

In May, alumni were asked to go online and vote on an amendment to the Alumni Association Constitution.

The amendment involved switching from an elected Board of Directors to an appointed board.

The amendment required a two-thirds majority to pass. It received 374 "Yes" votes (58 percent) to 270 "No" votes (42 percent), for a total of 644 votes.

was he over the missions department? It hurts to think that far back.) One thing I can't forget are all the wonderful memories and friends I made. I would like to say thank you. If anyone would like to drop a line, please do so . . . Blessings."

Obituaries

Raymond Eugene Boyd, Ph.D., a member of the Class of 1969, died on Feb. 26, 2006.

Susan Hensley, a member of the Class of 1989, died in August 2004.

Walter F. Majerczyk, who graduated in 1978 with degrees in business and English Bible, passed away on December 26, 2004. His EMR roommate, **Neil Coen 79**, remembers "He was with you one hundred percent. His greatest gift was his relational skills, openness of heart, and generosity of spirit. He was always fully engaged and in over his head in every discussion we were having around the dorm. He had a great love for his wife and daughter. Because he lived without a father for most of his life, it was a big deal for him to stay connected to his children. His mom was a classic southern belle, a Virginia debutante, so he had a natural southern politeness and deference to elders and adults. It was important for him to be a good dad and a good friend — that's the hole that he'll leave. He was always so willing to be engaged and was very verbal. I hadn't talked to him in ten years and was surprised to

find out he had passed away on my 50th birthday." Another college friend, **Bruce Edwards 78, 80**, e-mailed: "He played the 12 string guitar and was quick to laugh. He was well-liked by others and drove a new Beetle bus. A group of us went to California for spring break in his van in 1976. We picked up two ORU girls who were stranded in Arizona because their car had broken down. We took them the rest of the way to California."

Bob Volk, an associate alumnus who was ORU's first All-American, died on April 12, 2006. He was a member of the 1978 baseball team that made ORU's first and only College World Series appearance. Volk died of cancer.

Dr. Wayne D. Lee, former director of Education at ORU in the 1970s and 1980s, died on April 29, 2006, after an extended illness. Dr. David Hand, current dean of the School of Education, says that Dr. Lee "was instrumental in laying a strong foundation" for the good things that are happening in the school today.

Sidney Selinger, one of the best friends that ORU baseball (and athletics in general) ever had, passed away on April 12, 2006. He was 89. In recognition of his many contributions to the baseball program, the press box at J. L. Johnson Stadium is named for Selinger, as is a VIP lounge. He also received a Distinguished Service Award from ORU in 1981.

A Capitol Affair

About 100 ORU alumni and current students converged on the Capitol on the evening of Thursday, March 23.

The objective, according to then-Alumni Relations director Tim McKittrick, was “to provide a forum for D.C. alumni to get together with each other, and also to give current students an opportunity to talk with them.”

Among the hors d’oeuvres reception’s attendees, about half were students who traveled to Washington with government department chair Dr. Timothy Brooker to participate in seminars and other “Hill” opportunities for class credit.

In addition to McKittrick’s general greetings, Brooker addressed the group, as did David Wagner, vice president for University Relations and Development.

“We had a great time of fellowship and business networking, with lots of laughter, lively debates, and real-world discussions,” shared McKittrick. “A good time was had by all.”



The D.C. trip gave students a chance to see their federal government up close.

Look familiar? Alumnus Kelly Wright (second from left) is on Fox News.



Two generations of alumni: Anna 06 and Rachel (Rowland 73) Wagner.



Brandon Brooker 05 and Laneice Goodwin 04 (scheduled to be married Aug. 19) are right at home in D.C.



This flag was flying over the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.



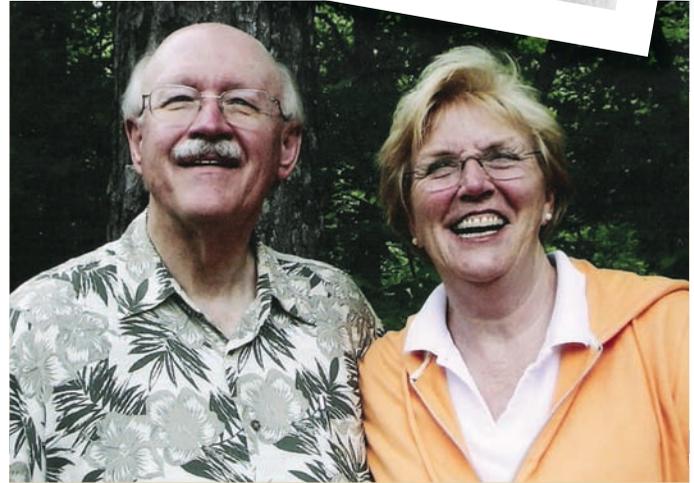
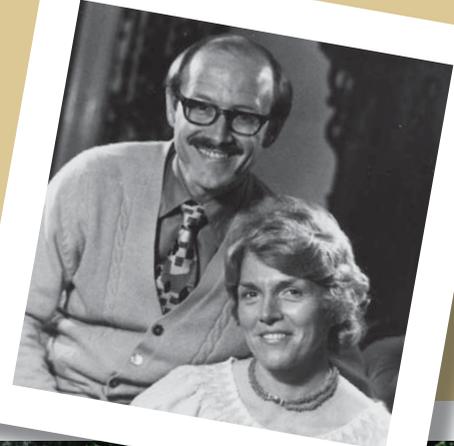
Dan Paul 74, 78-M.Div. is a military chaplain.

Has It Really Been 30 Years?

Congratulations, Brother Bob and Ellen, on your 30th wedding anniversary!

Bob Stamps was ORU's campus chaplain from 1968 to 1981. He married Ellen de Kroon, then the assistant to Corrie ten Boom, on Aug. 1, 1976. Brother Bob — "Dr. Robert J. Stamps" since 1986 — retired from the United Methodist itinerancy in June. He says he'll now "be using my Ph.D. at last," teaching in the U.S. and abroad. His thesis, "The Sacrament of the Word Made Flesh," will be published this year.

"Thinking back to ORU," he said, "the greatest experiences of all, besides the contacts and relationships established with students, were the worship services, particularly Friday-night Communion and Sunday-night Vespers. The happiest days of our ministry, bar none, were the years at ORU."



Back by popular demand . . .

Homecoming!

February 9 and 10, 2007

If you haven't been back in a while, you'll enjoy seeing the changes that have been made to the campus. (LRC/GC 3 is not the same!)

One thing hasn't changed: our desire to welcome you back and find out what you've been doing since you left the hallowed halls of your alma mater.

Homecoming '07 will be a landmark event for the classes of 1997, 1987, and 1977. Ten years . . . twenty years . . . thirty years . . . and yet it probably seems like yesterday when you walked across that Mabee Center stage. (Trust us; you don't look a day older.)

We're giving you plenty of time to make your travel plans, get in touch with old friends and arrange to meet up with them in Tulsa. Just send an e-mail to the Alumni Office (alumni@oru.edu) if you need to get addresses, etc.

Watch the alumni Web page for details about this wonderful weekend!



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'...where His light is seen dim...'

It's impossible to know how many souls have been saved through the testimony and ministry of ORU alumni. What we do know is that alumni like John Smithwick (pictured here during one of his crusades in India) are following closely in our founder's — as well as our current president's — footsteps.