

# Austin College



MAGAZINE  
JUNE 2006

## *of* SERVICE & SACRIFICE

STUDENTS ASSIST KATRINA VICTIMS ❖ AFRICAN SCHOLARS VISIT ❖ CUMMINS NAMED PIPER PROFESSOR

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

### The Few, The Proud ...

For many years, the United States Marine Corps has used as part of its marketing campaign, “The few, the proud, the marines.” While a few Austin College graduates have joined the Marine Corps over the years, a number of students have made other branches of the military their career choice.

To some, the “fit” of transitioning from a liberal arts education to military service may not be obvious. But to others, the preparation from the experiences at Austin College is quite clear. Four years at this institution have afforded its students a strong values-centered education in the liberal arts and sciences, more than 70 percent of them the chance to study abroad, interdisciplinary studies, experiential learning and internships, and opportunities to demonstrate leadership through service. Aside from attending one of the military academies, it is as appropriate a preparation as any.

The College has brought attention to alumni with careers in the health sciences, clergy, Peace Corps, political sciences, law, theater, and other disciplines, but not often has the College taken the time to recognize its alumni who have devoted their lives to serving their country through the armed services. Throughout the College’s history, a select group of its constituents have participated in shaping the nation in this way — serving in the Mexican-American War, the Civil War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War, Vietnam, Gulf Wars I and II, and the various conflicts between. This magazine and its features, “Of Service and Sacrifice” and “On the Front Lines,” focus on those constituents — from a recently enlisted female graduate who is going through the rigors of basic training to the private letters of a soldier who participated in the liberation of the concentration camp at Dachau during World War II.

We owe a great debt to this constituency and the families who endure their absences during times of deployment. As the country celebrates Independence Day this July 4 and approaches the five-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, I hope you will join me in saluting our fine young men and women who have made and continue to make service to and defense of the United States their number one priority.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate the 317 bachelor’s and 24 master’s graduates of May 2006 who are taking on new challenges of their own.



Sincerely,  
Oscar C. Page  
President

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## AUSTIN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

June 2006

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# C O N T E N T S

## FEATURES

### 12 Of Service and Sacrifice

From the Civil War to the World Wars, Vietnam to the Persian Gulf War and the War in Iraq, Austin College has prepared men and women who have served their country, sacrificing home, comfort — and sometimes lives — for their nation.



### 24 'Roos on the Front Line

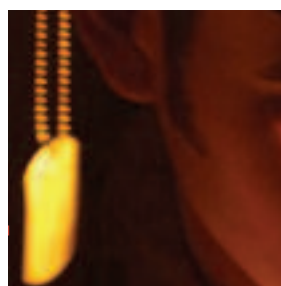
The world changed on Sept. 11, 2001, and several Austin College alumni have found themselves on the front lines of conflict in Afghanistan and Iraq.

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### Front Cover

Office of College Relations  
and M Square Design

### Back Cover

Photo by Vickie S. Kirby



# Light Cummins Named Piper Professor

**Light Cummins**, Guy M. Bryan, Jr., Chair of American History, has been named a 2006 Piper Professor by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. The foundation annually honors 15 Texas college professors for superior teaching, based upon nominations from Texas colleges and universities upon invitation by the foundation.

"I am deeply gratified to be named 2006 Piper Professor. This is a significant honor that reflects as much on the educational atmosphere at Austin College as it does my teaching," Cummins said. "Faculty members at Austin College enjoy a special intellectual relationship with their students. We are colleagues in learning. My being named a Piper Professor is, in many ways, recognition of that reality here on our campus."

A member of the Austin College history faculty since 1978, Cummins also is co-director of the College's Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies, a program that provides outreach, student internships, and community service activities designed to educate students about common issues facing Texas and Mexico. Cummins earned his bachelor and master's degrees at what is now Texas State University. After service in the U.S. Air Force as an intelligence officer during the Vietnam era, he received a doctorate in history from Tulane University.

Cummins' research specialty is the history of the Spanish Borderlands, especially the Texas and Louisiana Gulf Coast. He is especially interested in the

18th century Anglo-American migration into the lower Mississippi Valley and Gulf Coast areas. Among his six books are *A Guide to the History of Louisiana*; *Spanish Observers and the American Revolution*; *Louisiana: A History*; and *A Guide to the History of Texas*, and he is the author of several dozen scholarly articles dealing with colonial Louisiana and Texas. His most recent book, *United States History to 1877*, is forthcoming in July 2006 from HarperCollins for use as a textbook in Advanced Placement and college survey courses. He is completing a biography of Emily Austin Bryan Perry, the sister of Stephen F. Austin and daughter of Moses Austin, to appear as part of the Texas Biography Series from TCU Press.

The Piper Professor Program was begun in 1958 with eight awards. The roster of Piper Professors includes outstanding professors from two and four-year colleges and universities, public and private.

Austin College President **Oscar C. Page** said this deserving historian joins a distinguished list of six other Austin College professors who have earned Piper Professorships dating back to 1959, only the second year of the Piper Professor Awards. Current faculty members honored by the foundation include **J. Forrest Bryant**, associate professor *emeritus* of biology; **Clyde Hall**, professor *emeritus* of economics and business administration; **Ken Street**, professor *emeritus* of government; **Shelton Williams**, professor of political science; and **Jerry Lincecum**, professor of English.

Selection as the Austin College Piper Professor nominee is considered one of three annual Austin College teaching awards.

COURTESY PHOTO



Light Cummins

## THREE NAMED TO PROFESSORSHIPS

Three faculty members were installed in endowed professorships and chairs during the annual Honors Convocation in April. These chairs and professorship recognize faculty who have distinguished themselves as teachers and scholars. A faculty committee recommends candidates to the president who in turn nominates them for consideration by the Board of Trustees, which bestows the honor. The Board of Trustees voted to honor the following faculty members at the March 2006 meeting.

### Daniel L. Setterberg

#### Cecil H. Green Professorship in the Communication Arts

**Dan Setterberg**, a member of the College's faculty since 1976, teaches courses in communication theory, media and the first amendment, television criticism, visual

communication, and other media studies offerings.

His professional and research interests include the critical analysis of American television programming and the ever-changing regulatory issues facing both media practitioners and

consumers. In addition, he is an active videographer and still photographer. A recent sabbatical project, 'roadnotes,' was exhibited in Johnson Gallery of the Wright Campus Center. His video projects have typically involved collaborative efforts with faculty colleagues and students on location in Texas and the Southwest, and in various countries in Central and South America.

"It is a distinct honor to be the first recipient of the Cecil H. Green Professorship in Communication Arts," Setterberg said. "Mr. Green was a visionary philanthropist dedicated to the support of higher education and who recognized the unique value of liberal arts institutions such as Austin College."

The Cecil H. Green Professorship was established in 2005 by the estate of Cecil Green.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



*Daniel L. Setterberg*

### Timothy Tracz

#### Craig Professorship in the Arts

**Tim Tracz** joined the Austin College art faculty in 1986, and in addition to his classroom teaching, he has been active as an artist in photography and digital imaging. His works have been included in hundreds

of solo and group exhibitions and in several permanent collections around the country.

"Austin College demands effective and intelligent teaching and I would not be so effective without concurrent initiatives in my own art,"

Tracz said. "I am very much bullish on the liberal arts manifesto: I think it is important for any intelligent person, whether he/she wants to be an exhibiting artist, doctor, business person, or any other career orientation, to have a broad realization of modes of information processing and synthesis. This is no less true for an exhibiting artist, whose most important role is probably in some way to reflect on the presiding culture and represent relevant commentary visually."

The Craig Professorship in the Arts was established in 1970 by Mrs. Kathryn Heard Craig.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



*Timothy Tracz*

### Kevin Simmons

#### Clara R. and Leo F. Corrigan, Sr., Chair in Economics and Business Administration

**Kevin Simmons** has been a member of the College's economics faculty since 2003. Having spent 17 years in the corporate world as a financial analyst and statistician, he entered Texas Tech in 1995 to earn a doctorate in economics, planning to teach at the college level.

His first teaching position happened to be at Oklahoma City University in 1999, when a devastating tornado struck the city. He soon found himself involved in research of the economic issues of natural disasters. Since 1999, Simmons has written more than 30 publications, primarily about windstorms

and related issues, and become something of a natural disaster economics expert.

Simmons' articles have been published in the *Florida State University Law Review* and the *Journal of the Academy of Business*

*Education*, and *The New York Times* and *Chicago Tribune* have featured his work on natural disasters. Simmons has continued his research at Austin College, involving a number of students researchers who have participated in presentations and prepared publications for professional organizations.

The Corrigan Chair was established in 1975 by Mr. and Mrs. Leo F. Corrigan, Sr.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



*Kevin Simmons*

## Mark Monroe Receives Teaching Excellence Award

**Mark Monroe**, associate professor of art, received the Austin College Excellence in Teaching Award at Honors Convocation in April. A 1981 graduate of Austin College, Monroe earned a master's degree in fine arts from the University of Texas at Austin and served as a studio assistant to Texas artist James Surls before joining the Austin College art faculty in 1991.

At Austin College, Monroe teaches art fundamentals, sculpture, and ceramics. "He inspires his students and works tirelessly to help them achieve excellence," said Mike Imhoff, vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of the faculty in announcing the award. In addition to classroom teaching, Monroe works with students through the art interest group and student exhibitions.

Monroe recently led a group of students in "The 1216 Grand Project," which

involved salvaging materials from a Grand Avenue house scheduled for demolition for use in a series of sculptures and exhibitions.

Monroe is an active artist himself, with recent exhibitions at the Dallas Center for Contemporary Art. He also was selected to participate in the installation of "The Gates

of New York City" in Central Park by the artist team of Christo and Jeanne Claude. Monroe shared those experiences at an Austin College event in February at the Austin Museum of Art during the museum's exhibition of that renowned team's work.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Mark Monroe

## Stewart Is CASE Professor of the Year Nominee

**Betty Stewart**, professor of chemistry, was announced at Honors Convocation as the Austin College nominee for the CASE Professor of the Year Program, which recognizes extraordinary undergraduate teaching. The program is supported by The Carnegie Foundation and selects one

professor of the year in each state and one national-level winner in each of four categories. The CASE winners will be announced in September. The CASE nomination is considered one of three annual Austin College teaching awards.

## Professional Activities Social Sciences

**Tom Baker**, professor of education, attended the annual conference of the Association of Teacher Educators in Atlanta on Feb. 19-21. He presented a roundtable session "A School-College-Community Collaborative Program."

**Andrew Konitzer**, assistant professor of political science, received funding from the Austin College Richardson Fund to travel in December 2005 and January 2006 to Serbia and Montenegro to conduct research into the success of the Serbian Radical Party in Serbian local elections. He has received grants from the International Research and Exchange Board and the American Political Science Association funding a month of continued research in Serbia this summer. In April, he and

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Clyde Hall

*The day Clyde Hall retired in 1988, he took off his watch and trashed his calendar. "Anything I do in retirement is self-imposed."*

## CLYDE HALL PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF ECONOMICS, 1950-1988

So what does a retired professor do after visiting all 50 states and becoming a Life Master of the American Contract Bridge League? **Clyde Hall** has started frequenting Sherman's cemeteries. No, he is not turning morbid or seeking his final resting place; he is collecting local history. "That's what keeps me going day in and day out," said Hall.

Official Texas historical markers do not appear by magic. First, Hall said, a historical narrative must be written and submitted to the county. If the county approves, the narrative is then sent to Austin. "It is a lengthy process," Hall said, "and the narrative history is key." Hall said he has written two dozen historical narratives himself and has edited or advised on more than 70 others. Some of the markers Hall has worked on include the coming of the railroad to Grayson County, the Fredrick Douglass School in Sherman, and the Butterfield Trail marker on the courthouse lawn.

Is there a chance Hall will run out of local history to document? "That's why we've turned to individual grave markers," he said.

Hall has been a tenor in the Covenant Presbyterian choir for 54 years, delivers Meals on Wheels once a week, and is involved in too many activities to list here, but he does not do just whatever people ask him to do. Each activity must pass the Clyde Hall Retirement Activity Test: "Anything I commit to," Hall said, "must be postpone-able."

Write Hall at 1405 N. Wharton, Sherman, TX 75092, call (903) 892-9817, or email [clhsherman@hotmail.com](mailto:clhsherman@hotmail.com)



colleagues from Texas A&M University presented the paper, "Education, the Economy, and Post-Materialist Values in Russia: New Evidence from the Chechnya Conflict," at the 2006 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago. In May, he appeared at the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies in Washington, D.C., for a presentation on his book, *Voting For Russia's Governors*, published last year through Johns Hopkins University Press. He also appeared on the Voice of America's radio talk show "Talk to America, In Russian" and the television program "FOCUS" discussing the book. Konitzer and Steve Wegren of Southern Methodist University wrote the manuscript, "Federalism and Political Recentralization in the Russian Federation: United

Russia as the Party of Power," which was accepted for publication in *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*.

**Janet Huber Lowry**, associate professor of sociology, has been elected to serve a four-year cycle of offices for the Southwestern Sociological Association, beginning as vice president this fall, president-elect with program responsibilities in 2007, and in 2008, association president, followed by a year as past president. In April, Lowry and Lara R. Jones co-wrote a paper evaluating "Grandparents as Parents" programming efforts of the Texoma Area Agency on Aging. Students in Lowry's "Aging and Society" course, which included **Roma Bhatt '06**, **Vikas Goyal '06**, **Ambily Mathew '05**, and **Meredith Williams '06**, helped launch the study. As part of her work as chair of the American Sociological Association Task Force on Assessing the Undergraduate Major, Lowry presented workshops on assessment of the sociology major in Boston, Omaha, and San Antonio at the association's regional meetings. Lowry

and Kamal K. Misra, Fulbright Scholar in Residence at Austin College for 2003-2004, have edited a book of social science empirical research studies of women in India, with 25 contributors from Europe, India, and the United States. The book will be released later this year by Rawat Publishers in Jaipur, Rajasthan, in India.

## Humanities

**Jerry Lincecum**, the Henry L. and Laura H. Shoap Professor of English Literature, retired from Austin College in June after nearly four decades of teaching. He led a

"Readers' Discussion of *To Kill a Mockingbird*" in April as part of the Read Across McKinney program, coordinating a discussion panel including **Jim Wilson '53** and **Jana Reddin Long '93**. In February,

**Peggy Redshaw**, professor of biology, and **Lincecum** were elected fellows of the Linnean Society of London, founded in 1788 for the cultivation of the science of natural history. They were recognized for the books and articles they have published about Jerry's ancestor, Gideon Lincecum, who corresponded with Charles Darwin and published an article on the agricultural ant of Texas in the *Journal of the Linnean Society* in 1862. Lincecum and Redshaw attended the annual meeting in April of the Texas Folklore Society in Galveston, Texas, where Lincecum presented the paper, "Portrait Photography in Central Texas in 1866: State of the Art," and Redshaw presented the paper, "Grayson County Common Schools."

**Jackie Moore**, associate professor of history and director of the Asian Studies program, is one of 25 college and university faculty members accepted to attend the five-week National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, "The Silk Road: Early Globalization and Chinese Identity," to be held in July and August in

Honolulu, Hawaii, at the East-West Center. The East-West Center is an education and research organization established by the U.S. Congress in 1960 to strengthen relations and understanding among the peoples and nations of Asia, the Pacific, and the United States.

**Mark Smith**, associate professor of art, has been promoted to professor of art effective Fall Term 2006. Paintings by Smith were selected by the Van Cliburn Foundation for the covers of the season's Cliburn Foundation Concert publication series. The suite of colorful paintings is from a series of works displayed at the William Campbell Gallery in Fort Worth, Texas. Smith's latest paintings will be the subject of a solo exhibition in September at the Craighead-Green Gallery in Dallas.

## Divisional Awards Given

Academic divisional awards are presented each May to recognize faculty service to the College community, teaching excellence, and individual scholarship. The Humanities Division selects two recipients for each award due to the larger faculty in the division.

### Service:

**Bruce Arnold**, associate professor of business administration; **Steve Goldsmith**, associate professor of biology; **Jackie Moore**, associate professor of history; and **Roger Platizky**, professor of English.

### Teaching:

**Brett Boessen**, instructor in communication arts; **Brad Smucker**, assistant professor of chemistry; **Hunt Tooley**, professor of history; and **Jane White**, associate professor of education.

### Scholarship:

**Light Cummins**, professor of history; **Andy Konitzer**, assistant professor of political science; **Todd Penner**, associate professor of religion; and **Don Salisbury**, associate professor of physics.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



*Jerry Lincecum*

# Beyond Borders

by Brian Builta

*I'll be everywhere — wherever you look.*

— Tom Joad in John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*

Amid the tens of thousands of Latino families who filled Dallas streets to support immigrant rights on Sunday, April 9, 2006, — some say the crowd numbered 500,000 — were at least 12 Austin College students and **Terry Hoops**, associate professor of anthropology. Hoops did not exactly blend into the crowd, but make no mistake — as an immigrant he knows what it is like to live in a country feeling he does not belong.

Hoops was born in Costa Rica and grew up in Argentina. His parents, Baptist missionaries, moved to Trenton, N.J., for Hoops' senior year of high school — “a terrible year,” Hoops said because he was never able to understand the American culture that his classmates valued. He had not been totally accepted in Argentina, either, because he was an American. The experience taught Hoops that “one makes one's community wherever one is.”

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Terry Hoops

The Dallas rally for immigrant rights was a significant moment in U.S. history, Hoops said, and fits squarely in the tradition of civil rights marches. “I’ve never seen that many Latino families together outside of a Latin American city,” he said. “The significance of this event was completely missed by local and national media. This was the face of America, along with all the other faces of America, and finally recognizing this will be good for the United States.”

Hoops does not seem like the kind of person who would be screaming at a rally; he is a quiet, soft-spoken man. What speaks volumes for Hoops are his actions. Three months before the immigration rally, Hoops accompanied a group of students on a relief trip to New Orleans, where they took supplies and lent a hand rebuilding that devastated city. In December 2004, five days after a tsunami struck Indonesia, Hoops was part of the January Term class that took supplies to Thailand. In fact, in Hoops' second year at Austin College, he took part in the first 'Roo Relief effort, accompanying a team of students who

took supplies to Nicaragua in 1999 after Hurricane Mitch wrecked the country.

Like Tom Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath*, Hoops seems to show up wherever people are suffering and in need. “I’ve developed a deep empathy for people who have suffered,” Hoops said.

What opened his eyes was the year he spent studying at Argentina's Universidad Nacional de Tucuman in 1975. The student revolts against military rule in Argentina had just begun, Hoops said, and it was a time of political upheaval throughout Latin America. After he left, his friends and acquaintances in Argentina began disappearing. The lesson, Hoops said, is that “authority is not necessarily right, just because it is authority.”

These experiences make anthropology more than just a personal or scholarly endeavor; for Hoops it is a calling. “It has to do with a vocational sense of living in the world,” he said, “a sense of responsibility toward the world.”

Hoops has written about water rights in Argentina and has taught classes about war and peacemaking. “The struggle for justice,” he said, “is something that goes beyond the borders of particular countries.”

Perhaps what John Steinbeck wrote about Tom Joad also applies to Terry Hoops: “maybe ... a fella ain't got a soul of his own, but only a piece of a bigger one.” 🦊

## EDUCATION:

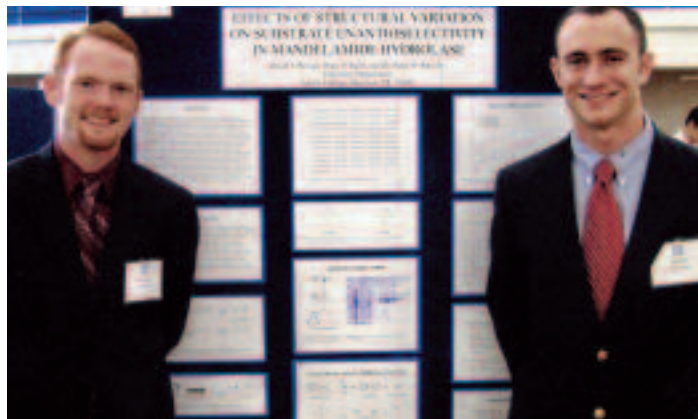
Ph.D. and M.A.,  
Michigan State University, 1990  
B.A.,  
Wheaton College, 1976



## Students Present Research at Conference

**David Savage '07** and **Drew Kelly '08**, biochemistry majors, presented a poster at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in April at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. Their presentation was "Effects of Structural Variation on Substrate Enantioselectivity in Mandelamide Hydrolase."

The students spent summer 2005 working on the project in Austin College's chemistry research lab along with **Betty Stewart**, professor of chemistry. ►



*David Savage, left, and Drew Kelly, right, show their research results.*



*Pictured, left to right, are Meggin Rutherford, Austin Barton, Katie Scofield, Walter Cronkite, Parker Hevron, Amber Childress, and Frank Rohmer, faculty sponsor.*

## Sumners Scholars Meet Walter Cronkite

Austin College Sumners Scholars **Meggin Rutherford '06**, **Austin Barton '07**, **Katie Scofield '07**, **Parker Hevron '06**, and **Amber Childress '07** attended "A Conversation with Walter Cronkite" in March at the National Center for Policy Analysis Distinguished Lecture Series in Dallas. In addition to attending the lecture, the Sumners Scholars met briefly with Cronkite following the luncheon.

The series is sponsored by the Hatton W. Sumners Foundation for the Study and Teaching of the Science of Self-Government to allow business leaders and college students an opportunity to hear nationally and internationally renowned speakers. ◀

## Senior Attends International Conference in Hungary on U.S.-European Relations

**Agueda Paredes '06** was one of 50 students who attended the third International Student Conference on U.S.-European Relations hosted by the Institute for Social and European Studies in April in Koszeg, Hungary. Paredes was studying abroad in Strasbourg, France, at the time of the conference, "Whether or Not the United States and Europe Can Be Reconciled."

The four-day conference, attended by American students from 12 different colleges who were studying throughout Europe, brought together students and professionals to discuss the differences in politics, economy, culture, and foreign policy between the United States and Europe. Speakers from Britain, Hungary, Ireland, and Switzerland provided students with historical context for their discussions.

Being part of this conference allowed Paredes to see firsthand how Europeans view the United States. However, she found that the lack of an American scholar at the conference left the American students feeling their opinions were rejected. "What I brought away from the conference — and what I hope everyone learned — is that if everyone keeps attacking other cultures instead of trying to

understand them and respect cultural differences, then reconciliation will be impossible," Paredes said. "Everyone should have the right to think for themselves, but at the same time come up with solutions to continuous international conflicts."

Paredes, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate with a major in political science and a minor in French, said her entire semester of study abroad and her many international experiences were amazing. She returned to the United States in June and plans to work for a year before entering law school in 2007.



*Agueda Paredes*



▲ Zeeshan Danawala



Elizabeth R. Hoffman ▼



▲ Carly Hale

### Three Students Earn Graduation Awards

During Commencement each year, the J.C. Kidd and J.M. Robinson Scholarship medals are awarded to the two graduates achieving the highest academic record. The faculty selects the recipients, with no distinction between them, on the basis of students' entire academic records. In 2006, faculty members were unable to distinguish between the top *three* students. Medals were awarded to *summa cum laude* graduates **Zeeshan Danawala** of Carrollton, Texas; **Carly Hale** of Sherman, Texas; and **Elizabeth R. Hoffman** of Boerne, Texas.

**Danawala** earned a major in biology and a minor in history. In addition to his academic accomplishments, Danawala was involved in the Indian Cultural Association, Student International Organization, Circle K, and served as president of Muslim Students Association. He was elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Chi honor societies and the Beta Beta Beta honor society in the biological sciences. He received the William B. Steele, Genevieve Wakefield Steele, and Sue Steele Memorial Fellowship for an outstanding student in liberal arts in 2005.

He spent a January Term in research at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas, and a second January Term studying medicine while shadowing a surgeon in Pakistan.

He plans to attend medical school at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston this fall and is considering a specialty in cardiology or nephrology.

"The most valuable part of my education was the intimate one-on-one interaction with my professors," Danawala said. "Whenever I needed them, they were always available, both in academic and personal respects. This constant guidance has allowed me to achieve a success that otherwise would not have been possible."

**Hale** graduated with a major in biochemistry. During her Austin College education, she completed a January Term career exploration internship at a veterinary hospital and participated in a January Term program in which she spent the month at Wilson N. Jones Medical Center in Sherman, working alongside physicians in various departments of the hospital.

The Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Chi member was the recipient of the Stephen Dudley and Lillie S. Heard Fellowship for an outstanding student in the sciences. She was a member of the College's Best Buddies service organization and Delta Phi Alpha, honor society for students of German.

She plans to work as a research technician for a few years before attending graduate school, and eventually plans a career in research.

"What I appreciate most about my education at Austin College," Hale said, "is that I was asked to think — to understand

PHOTOS COURTESY FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY

and apply my acquired knowledge — not just to repeat memorized facts. As a professor once told me, ‘It’s important to get an education that teaches you *how* to think, not *what* to think.’”

**Hoffman** graduated with majors in biology and communication arts. She earned Honors in Biology for her thesis, “Regulation of Tyrosine Hydroxylase Expression by CLOCK.”

Selected to Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Chi honor societies, she earned the Paul W. Beardsley Memorial Fellowship for an outstanding student in communication arts and the Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Erwin Fellowship for an outstanding student in pre-medical studies. She played three years on the women’s Lacrosse Club and was active in the Pre-Medical Society, for which she was the service chair.

Hoffman was able to take advantage of several research opportunities during her Austin College education, including work with **John Enwright**, assistant professor of biology, in completion of her honors thesis about the regulation of a gene that produces the major enzyme involved in dopamine synthesis. She also took part in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center doing research in psychiatry on short-term memory, and worked at the University of Texas- San Antonio Health Science Center on research in the Cell

and Molecular Biology Department on DNA repair. She spent a January Term in Piste, Yucatan, in Mexico working in a rural medical clinic and another January studying the history and biology of the Hawaiian Islands. Hoffman also conducted research in communication arts, studying relational communication in hospital waiting rooms and also studied doctor-patient communication with Spanish-speaking patients in Sherman, San Antonio, and Mexico during a January Term.

She will come closer to her goal of a career as a physician scientist this fall as she begins the M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She eventually hopes to work as a pediatric neurologist and run a lab to study developmental neurological diseases.

“Getting to work with a professor on his research in the Biology Department at Austin College made me realize how much I liked doing research — being able to think of your own question and design an experiment to test it,” Hoffman said. “My work in a clinic in Mexico was another amazing experience. After working in the clinic, I knew that I wanted to be a doctor, and I also realized that I had a special interest in treating children. I want to be able to spend my time doing research that will ultimately translate into a better understanding or treatment of a particular disease.”

## STUDENT AFFAIRS DIVISION HONORS LEADERSHIP

The Student Affairs Leadership Awards honor students each spring for their campus involvement and leadership. Among the top honors are the Altrusa Outstanding Senior Woman, Outstanding Senior Man, and Outstanding Freshman.

### Outstanding Senior Woman

**Rachel Baumann** ’06 of San Antonio, Texas, graduated with a major in psychology and a minor in communication arts. During her four years at Austin College, she was involved in theatre productions and served as an ACTivator with the mobile ministry team, a Religious Life intern, a member of the Omega Zeta sorority, a cheerleader and mascot, and as a resident assistant. She was elected the 2005 Homecoming queen and was selected as senior speaker for Commencement.

For four years, she participated in Covenant Presbyterian Church’s WOW program, a weekly session for elementary school children, at which they played games, had Bible study, and ate dinner together. During her college career, she also completed a summer internship in historic preservation with the City of San Antonio and a January Term internship at KTEN-TV studio in Denison, Texas.

Baumann spent a January Term in Cozumel, Mexico, then traveled in spring 2005 to study abroad in Wollongong, Australia. During January 2006, she traveled to New Zealand to spend three weeks camping, hiking, climbing mountains, and sea kayaking.

With travel now “in her blood,” she plans to backpack throughout Europe for the next year with **Adam Shor** ’06, and is on the lookout for “alumni who want to host us for a night or two!”

Following the year in Europe, Baumann plans to attend graduate school in psychology. “I never want to stop



*Rachel Baumann*

PHOTO BY AARON FLORES



learning and growing," she said. "I am overwhelmed by the honors I have received and the opportunities I have had at Austin College, but some of my favorite college memories are just staying at home and playing Scrabble with my friends."

### Outstanding Senior Man

**James Covey '06** of Telephone, Texas, graduated with a major in psychology. He served as a Residence Hall Council member, a resident assistant and head resident in Baker Hall, was involved with Student Development Board, Pre-Medical Society, and Psychology Club, and was selected Homecoming king for 2005. He reported he participated in every intramural sport offered (winning a few championships along the way). He was one of the founders of the Austin College Hockey Club, and participated in Lacrosse Club and A Cappella Choir until his work schedule required him to give up those activities.

While juggling class work and many campus activities, Covey worked as an emergency medical technician (EMT) at a local hospital and was a part-time youth minister.

This summer, Covey will follow up on an earlier opportunity provided by a Lilly Project internship and will work full-time for Focus On Missions in Matamoras, Mexico.

Covey will attend Southwestern Baptist Seminary this fall, pursuing a dual master's degree program in education and marriage and family counseling. He eventually hopes to become a licensed professional counselor and work in Third World countries.

"Austin College focuses on allowing its students the opportunity for a diverse education," Covey said. "While taking many psychology classes, I was able to take courses in almost every discipline, not just to fill required dimensions, but to broaden my horizons. However, the important lesson learned is that your life will be what you make it — the more energy, excitement, and effort one puts in, the greater the reward at the end. I am confident that my education has helped me become more open-minded and a well-rounded individual ready to tackle (or body check) whatever life throws at me."

PHOTO BY AARON FLORES



*James Covey*

### Outstanding Freshman

**Ann Huston '09** of Oak Ridge, Tenn., received the 2006 Outstanding Freshman Student Award, which recognizes excellence in leadership and scholarship as well as future leadership potential.

Huston plans to major in environmental studies and biology at Austin College and would like to attend graduate school to study ecology.

While at Austin College, she plans to spend a January Term in France and looks forward to testing her skills in the French language, which she began studying in middle school. She also plans to study abroad in Queensland, Australia, at the School for Environmental Field Studies, and learn about rainforest restoration.

Huston had a busy freshman year, involved in the Posey Leadership Institute, Rotaract, and the Environmentally Concerned Organization of Students (ECOS), which she will serve as president in the upcoming year. She is a member of Omega Zeta social sorority and a member of St. Lukes' Episcopal Church of Denison where she serves as assistant youth director. Throughout the year, she also regularly volunteered at a therapeutic riding program, was a companion to an elderly woman, and helped with renovations at the Whitewright Children's Home.

Huston said a highlight of her freshman year was the campus visit of renowned environmental author Bill McKibben. "It was very encouraging to see a person who held similar (to me) environmental ideas and spiritual beliefs put his thoughts to actions, and really make a positive difference. Having the opportunity to talk with such a well-known and respected person made me realize what an amazing school I had chosen, and what great possibilities there are while I am here."



*Ann Huston*

PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

### Additional Student Affairs Leadership Awards:

- E Cresanda Allen '06** of Cedar Hill, Texas — Servant of the Year, for commitment to service;
- E Geoffrey Mecoy '08** of Allen, Texas — Goodloe Lewis Scholarship, for leadership in co-curricular opportunities;
- E Nicole Mittenfelner '06** of Mesquite, Texas — Henry Bucher Global Citizen Award, for commitment to service and study in a global context;
- E Austin Trantham '08** of Argyle, Texas — Robert Bradshaw Memorial Scholarship, for involvement in co-curricular activities; and
- E Raney Bauer '07** of Muenster, Texas — Nelda Lambert Excellence Award, for performance in a campus work-study position.

# FROM REVOLUTION TO GRADUATION

by Brian Builta

**M**elida Flores Ailshire '06 remembers what she was wearing the day she left Nicaragua in 1978: bell-bottom blue jeans, a white T-shirt, and a maroon corduroy jacket. "I hated that outfit," said Melida, who left behind her favorite yellow dress and her high-top boots as her family fled the revolution that destroyed the life she loved. "Hated it."

Melida was born in 1964 in Granada, Nicaragua, the same town in which her father was

assassinated 14 years later, one of the 50,000 victims of the Sandinista revolution that began in 1977 and sent 150,000 Nicaraguans into exile. She grew up on a farm, the oldest of five children in a loving Catholic family that valued education. It was a great life, Melida said, "and then one day it wasn't."

The family fled to Venezuela and Melida eventually moved to Panama City, Panama, where she lived with an aunt in a convent. Melida found work as a housekeeper and spent three years saving money and buying plane tickets until her entire family had moved to Panama. She finished high school, started college, quit college, and then tried to enlist in the U.S. Army because she had heard it would pay for college. Tom Ailshire was stationed in Panama and was supervising the military police the day Melida arrived to enlist. When Ailshire saw Melida, he told himself he would marry her —

and he did. He also talked her out of joining the Army.

Melida learned English from television — Peter Jennings, J.R. Ewing of *Dallas*, and Kermit the Frog. When Ailshire left the Army in 1992, the couple settled in Sherman, where Ailshire had graduated high school. For six years, Melida did not have much interaction with Austin College, but after Hurricane Mitch struck Nicaragua in 1998, College Chaplain Henry Bucher encouraged Melida to join Austin College students and faculty in relief efforts there.

Melida left Nicaragua in 1978 full of anger, and she carried that anger with her like a clinched fist for the next 20 years. But when she returned in 1999 with 'Roo Relief and emerged from the airport to see children begging in the streets, her anger left. "That could have been me," said Melida, who finally forgave those who had caused her exile and forgave herself for hating them. Returning home gave Melida's disjointed life perspective: "You lose something," she said, "and you gain something."

Having three children of her own brought balance back into her life, Melida said, and finishing college certainly did not hurt. "I was so afraid that first semester," she said. "I had seen college as something unreachable." Melida had never taken formal English classes and was not sure how students would react to her age. She took each day as an opportunity to learn something new; the students embraced her and she embraced them as she would her own children; and four years later, Melida is a college graduate.

"Four years," Melida said, shaking her head. "I wish I had more." 🐉



Melida Ailshire

"What I miss most," Melida said of Nicaragua, "is the sound of the roosters in the morning, and being a family, and my childhood friends to whom I never said goodbye."

**MAJOR:**

Anthropology and Spanish

**HOMETOWN:**

Sherman, Texas

**CAREER GOAL:**

"Anything can happen."





# of SERVICE AND

*I don't intend to dwell on the subject of war too much. ... All these things, I know, you have already read in the papers or magazines. ...*

*But you never reach the reality of it until you make some personal contact with it. Here I see it actually, and tell you some of the things I have verified firsthand. Then, you're actually finding it out for yourself, while not first hand, from a source so close to you as to make it strike close to home, puts quite a personal shade on the war to you and the family.*

— J.D. Cope '35, letter home from Germany, March 6, 1945





## *A GLIMPSE OF AUSTIN COLLEGE ALUMNI AT WAR*

*by Brian Builta*

# SACRIFICE

Austin College was founded amid war, opening its doors one year after the Mexican-American War (1846-1848) and between two others: the Texas Revolution of 1836 and the Civil War of the 1860s. The Civil War claimed the lives of half of the Class of 1860: James Murray, Lucius Moreland, and Richard Sims, while the entire class of 1858 — William Hill and his brother Champion Hill — was wounded in battle. William Allen 1856, the fourth person to receive a degree from Austin College, died fighting for the Confederacy at Gaines Mill, Va., on June 28, 1862, and by war's end trustees John Hume and John Hill each lost a son in the Civil War.

From the Civil War to World Wars to Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War and the War in Iraq, Austin College alumni have a long history of military service.

### **A TASTE OF WAR**

The first time someone shot at Bryant Sewall '88, he was driving through the burning Wafra oil field in Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm in 1990. Sewall was the lead artillery forward observer for 1st Battalion-7th Marines and one of the first Marines to enter Kuwait. Driving through the blazing desert was like driving on a birthday cake, Sewall said, where the flaming oil heads were the candles and the sandy desert floor was the cake. The wells spewed black smoke and sent oil everywhere. The heat made useless the thermal vision goggles Sewall wore and the next thing he knew, three Iraqi tanks had turned into his unit and fired. The

round exploded behind Sewall and he picked up the radio and ordered a missile from a nearby Cobra attack helicopter. Ten seconds later — “the longest 10 seconds of my life,” Sewall said — the first Iraqi tank exploded ....

From 1889 to 1897, Austin College adopted a military training program mandatory for all students, complete with uniforms, military drills, and classes in military strategy. A similar program, the Student Army Training Corps, appeared on campus between 1918 and 1919 and more than 300 students were prepared for service as World War I came to a close. Twenty years later yet another training program, the Civilian Pilot Training Program (CPT), appeared on campus in anticipation of the United States’ entry into World War II. Between 1940 and 1943, the CPT helped train 17 flight instructors, 87 flight students, and 124 ground personnel. In 1943, the 77th Flight Army Air Training Corp replaced the CPT, occupying two floors of Luckett Hall and parts of the YMCA building.

## THE HORRORS OF WAR

Twenty-six alumni lost their lives in World War II and more than 750 alumni served. The most highly decorated alumnus of World War II was **David Lee “Tex” Hill** ’38, one of the original Flying Tigers who eventually joined the 23rd Fighter Group in 1942 and earned the Distinguished Service Cross. (Read a 2002 profile of Hill: [www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?3516](http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?3516).) But perhaps no Austin College alumnus has seen the horrors of war more vividly than **J.D. Cope** ’35, who served with the 7th Army in Germany. On April 12, 1945, Cope wrote home: “Things are getting so pretty. The buds are on some of the late trees, and the fruit trees are in full bloom. The region around here is particularly beautiful. Low mountains, rolling valleys, hills covered with evergreens.”

Then he visited Dachau. Between May 5 and May 13, Cope entered the concentration camp at Dachau. He saw the camp, he wrote, because the commanding general wanted as many witnesses as possible, so when lies arose, “there will be proof at home from those who have seen.” Cope wrote home of what he saw. (He was an exacting writer; readers who do not wish to read of the concentration camp horrors, skip to A Quiet Memorial.)

*“Dachau is a quiet little town 26 kilometers north of Munich. There’s an air of some commercial, small shop prosperity about this town not present in the usual little places of similar size. Like most of these places, the streets are narrow and winding and, since there weren’t many G.I.s around it was hard to find out where the camp was. ...*

*As we went to the entrance, nothing seemed sinister about it. There was a wall ... not very high, with barbed wire, covering about 50 acres. (I found out why, later, the wall wasn’t very high; all the prisoners were too weak from hunger to get over it.). ...*

*I saw warehouses full of victims’ clothing, carefully sorted for reclamation. On the RR tracks in a nearby town I found several carloads of the clothes being shipped to Augsburg. Then there was the huge, neatly, oh so neatly stacked? piles of shoe soles with the heels still on. When the prisoners were dead, they cut the tops away and stacked the bottoms. ...*

*Just before I got into the camp there was a railroad with a string of cars on it extending into the camp. ... When the Americans came, these cars were full [of bodies], and, since rail lines had been cut some time before, and the weather was hot — they were not very pleasant. When I got there two or three days later, only the flies and stench and filth oozing thru the planks of the floor remained!”*

Cope also visited the gas chambers.

*“You can’t understand how brutally revolting, how violent that stench is. My throat, nose, stomach seemed covered with the filthy slime I saw running slowly down the cement steps of the building. The first thing I noticed was the flies. They were having a field day. You couldn’t have put a pencil point down on the small windowsill without spearing one. When we went around the corner of the building to get a better view of the steps down which the slime was oozing. The stuff was about 1/8” to 1/4” thick, about the color of white salmon. Inside the room, stacked along the far wall like cordwood were about ... 200 bodies. I could have reached around their thighs just above the knee with the thumb and fingers of my right hand. They were that starved. They were adult men — I could see that — (they were naked) but they looked like boys, they were so shrunk in height. Some of the hipbones had actually punched through the rotted flesh, which was a dull, bruise-colored blue. Some of them had dark brown stains around their mouths and chests. Blood. It was customary to save everything! Even the gold teeth. George Howard saw one man who had been cut in two just under his ribs. Part of the body was at angles a small distance from the others, still clothed, but severed completely, even if ragged at the edges. They had sawed him in two with one nice long, sustained burst of a “burp gun,” the machine gun which spews out 1,200-1,500 slugs per minute, over 20 shots per second! We then went to the door of the next room. About 300 here.*

*I never really believed it. At least not all of it. And I know that if you don’t keep this, you’ll not believe it ten years from now. I’ll remember. So will a lot of other guys.”*

## A QUIET MEMORIAL

On the Austin College campus between Thompson and Dean halls stands a cluster of 12 live oak trees, planted in 1919 by groundskeeper M.B. “Grandpa” Reid and dedicated on June 1 that year to the memory of the 12 Austin College men who lost their lives during World War I. Today, students walk daily in the shade of these 12 live oaks and few know the story behind them. No plaque tells the tale, no monument lists the names.

Ten of the live oaks date 87 years back to the original dedication; two have died and been replaced. The trees are largely an



afterthought these days, much like the Great War itself; they stand each day, absorbing the sun's energy, converting carbon dioxide into life-sustaining oxygen. It is humbling work, essentially grunt work, soldiers' work.

### THE FORGOTTEN WARS

On the northwest corner of the College Green stands a lone red oak tree. It is not a large tree, nor is it noticeable from a great distance, but standing in front of the tree it is easy to see the plaque planted next to the trunk:

DANNY GILSTRAP '67

KILLED IN ACTION, VIETNAM '68

Not much is known about **Danny Gilstrap**. A classmate described him as a steady guy, good sense of humor, hard-working, athletic, great heart. He began his tour in Vietnam on Jan. 3, 1968, and died Feb. 22, 1968, in Binh Duong province, South Vietnam, a casualty of small arms fire. He was 22-years-old, married, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. "It tears your heart out," a friend said, "to think about everything you've enjoyed since 1968 and that Danny volunteered and gave his life in 1968."

**Patrick Egan '53** also died in Vietnam, a Navy pilot whose plane was shot down over Laos on April 29, 1966. His body was not recovered and no tree or marker has been planted on campus in honor of his life and service.

Korea and Vietnam were different from previous wars. No elaborate training programs came to campus and no one seemed to keep track of alumni who participated. Vietnam was flat out unpopular. Many alumni, even today, are not interested in talking about Vietnam, and that war's effect on the Austin College campus has not been extensively documented.

**Mary Ann (Vandergriff) Barnett '66** served as a physical therapist in an Army evacuation hospital in Asaka, Japan, in 1969 and 1970. She treated many soldiers wounded in Vietnam. "They either stabilized enough to go back to the United States or they died," Barnett said. "It was a tough two years." For Barnett, joining the Army was a chance to be a rebel — she said she was one of the few members of the Class of 1966 to join the Army — plus the Army gave her a top-notch education in physical therapy. Barnett said Austin College, at the beginning of the Vietnam War, was "like an island in the world," where the war and protests were not prevalent.

The worst part about serving in the military during the Vietnam War, Barnett said, was being called a baby killer. "Here I was," she said, "trying to rehabilitate our troops, yet all people could see was the uniform."

### NOTHING ABOUT WAR IS PRETTY

The grim results of war struck Sewall in the Wafra oil field. After the first Iraqi tank exploded, Marine tanks quickly destroyed the other two. Driving past the flaming tanks, Sewall saw Iraqi soldiers lying amid the wreckage, their bodies broken and bloody and burning.

"Burning flesh is a smell you never get used to," he said. "That was my first taste of what war is all about. I did my job, but I realize that those soldiers were someone else's sons. Saddam Hussein had sent them into the teeth of the strongest military on the planet and they didn't have a chance. You realize those are 35 Iraqis who are not going home. That never leaves you. But I'm also responsible for bringing all my boys home, and that's more important.

"It's unfortunate," Sewall said. "Nothing about war is pretty."

*Read excerpts from other war letters and find the names of those alumni who lost their lives in World War I and World War II:*

[www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?2217](http://www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?2217)

*Resources for this article include Search for the Summit by George Landolt, Austin College: A Sesquicentennial History by Light Cummins, and the War Letters Collection of the Austin College Archives.* 🦋



A blog is a journal available online that can be easily accessed and updated by those with little or no technical background..

The activity of updating a journal is "blogging" and one who adds to it is a "blogger."

Austin College 'Roo's who are in service in Iraq and Afghanistan have similar and dissimilar experiences to the military 'Roo's of the past.

Share your thoughts about these topics on the 'RooBlog:

[www.austincollege.edu/info.asp?4857](http://www.austincollege.edu/info.asp?4857)



## AWARDS GALA HONORS ALUMNI, FRIENDS

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Austin College's annual Awards Gala honors alumni of the College who have distinguished themselves in their personal and professional lives and alumni and friends who volunteer on behalf of the College.

Distinguished Alumni honorees for 2006, pictured left to right at top left, were **Kedrick Couch '55** of Dallas; **Rebecca Simmons '78** of San Antonio, Texas; **Joe Barrett '68** of Dallas; and First Decade Award winner **Brittany Norman '95** of San Marcos, Texas. Alumni Association President **Rebecca Russell Sykes '67** presented the awards to alumni.

The Heywood C. Clemons Volunteer Leadership Awards are given to those who serve Austin College in the spirit of former Board of Trustees chair **Heywood C. Clemons** of Fort Worth, Texas. The 2006 Clemons Award recipients, pictured at bottom left, were **Jennifer King '92** of Dallas and **Tim Kennedy '98** of Washington, D.C. Active alumni, King and Kennedy have represented Austin College at many events in their cities and have hosted events for the College. **Sarah Campbell Stevens '75**, director of Alumni and Parent Relations, made the announcement.

Members of the Austin College Alumni Association Board will begin in July to review nominations for 2007 Distinguished Alumni Awards. Candidates should exemplify leadership in their profession, in community involvement, and in service to others, and abide by ethical standards. See more information and nomination instructions: [www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?886](http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?886)

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



## Cunningham Lecture Series Features Presbyterian Seminary Presidents

Austin College's Cunningham Lectures were presented in February by **Laura Shelton Mendenhall '69**, president of Columbia Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Decatur, Ga.; **Cynthia M. Campbell**, president of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Ill.; and **Theodore J. Wardlaw**, president of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas. Austin College Chaplain **John Williams '84** coordinated the series.

Responses and lecture discussion were offered by a panel of north Texas pastors including **Steve Jester '79**, pastor of St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Hurst, Texas; **Shannon Johnson Kershner**, pastor of Woodhaven Presbyterian Church in Irving, Texas; and **Sallie Sampsell Watson '78**, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Bonham, Texas.

The conference concluded with a roundtable discussion involving **Eugene March '57**, A.B. Rhodes Professor *Emeritus* at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and the three seminary presidents, moderated by **Jack L. Stotts**, former president of McCormick and Austin seminaries.

Audio recordings of the lectures and roundtable discussion are available. Contact Chaplain John Williams at (903) 813-2220 or [jwilliams@austincollege.edu](mailto:jwilliams@austincollege.edu) for information.



*Lecturers, panelists, and moderators of Austin College's 2006 Cunningham Lectures gathered for a photo are, left to right: Shannon Kershner, John Williams, Jack Stotts, Cynthia Campbell, Eugene March, Sallie Sampsell Watson, Theodore Wardlaw, Steve Jester, and Laura Shelton Mendenhall.*

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

## Eugene March Is Honored for Lifetime Service to Presbyterian Church

**Eugene March** '57 of Louisville, Ky., was honored in February with the James I. McCord Award for Outstanding Service to the Presbyterian Church, presented by the Austin College Board of Trustees. The presentation was made by Austin College President **Oscar C. Page** at a dinner in March's honor in conjunction with the Austin College Cunningham Lectures.

March is the A.B. Rhodes Professor *Emeritus* of Old Testament at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He joined the faculty of the seminary in 1982 and served from 1993 to 1999 as academic dean, and continued as professor until his retirement in 2004. Representatives of the seminary sent a banner to the dinner honoring March, signed by the faculty along with a proclamation declaring Feb. 15, 2006, "Gene March Day" at Louisville Seminary. The proclamation was read at the dinner by **C. Ellis Nelson** '36, a former president of Louisville Seminary.

The James I. McCord Award was named for the late James I. McCord '38, a long-time president of Princeton Theological Seminary. The award was created to honor Austin College alumni who have demonstrated the depth of service to the church that McCord exhibited throughout his life. The award, established in 1999 in connection with the Sesquicentennial of Austin College, is presented only as the College's Board of Trustees deems appropriate. Prior recipients of the award include **John F. Anderson, Jr.** '41, **James E. Andrews** '53, **Shirley Guthrie** '49, **Patricia McClurg** '61; **Sara Bernice Moseley**, **C. Ellis Nelson** '36; and **David L. Stitt** '33.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Eugene March

## Symposium on Africa Highlights Women

Internationally recognized human rights advocates highlighted Austin College's third annual Symposium on Africa in April.

Molly Melching, who as founder and executive director of Tostan, has had significant impact upon the futures of the people of Senegal, presented "The Social Dynamics of Changing Harmful Traditional Practices in Africa." Austin College students worked with Melching in 2004 and 2006 January Term study trips in Africa.

"Defending Justice" was the focus of the lecture by Hauwa Ibrahim, a Nigerian human rights attorney who gained international attention when she defended an alleged rape victim found guilty of adultery and sentenced to stoning.

Peter Anderson, who will join the Austin College English Department this fall, presented "African But Not Black? Postcolonial Identity in Alexandra Fuller's *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight*."

**Carol Daeley**, professor of English, coordinated the symposium to supplement African cultures in the curriculum. She wanted to present information not only about Africa but *from* Africa, and most speakers have been African or have had extensive and direct personal experience in Africa.

Plans are underway for a 2007 symposium that will focus on the literature of Africa.

Each symposium has served as a fundraiser to support local groups working in Africa in support of children, and of women's health and human rights efforts.



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## Bowerman Joins Advancement Staff

**Josh Bowerman** joined Austin College's Institutional Advancement Division as director of major gifts and gift planning in March, said **Jim Lewis**, vice president for Institutional Advancement.

Bowerman has more than eight years experience in development work, including the last four at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania where he was regional manager of capital giving.

A Texas native, Bowerman is a 1997 graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and earned a master's degree in business administration at Bellarmine University in Kentucky.

"Austin College is pleased to have someone of Josh's experience and enthusiasm join the staff," Lewis said.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Josh Bowerman



## Women's Chorale Performs in Oklahoma

The Austin College Chorale, a 22-voice ensemble, traveled to Oklahoma to share music through a spring tour, performing at churches in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. The program included South African ceremonial songs as well as other secular and sacred works.

The chorale has been directed for the past seven years by **Sylvia Rivers**, adjunct instructor in music at Austin College.

Austin College's A Cappella Choir, directed by **Wayne Crannell**, associate professor of music, also conducts an annual spring tour. This year the choir performed in the Texas cities of Austin, McKinney, Paris, and Temple.



*Chorale members pose before a performance in Oklahoma this spring.*

## Scholarship Initiated to Honor Lockharts

Family and friends of Ellis and Mary Elizabeth Lockhart have established an Austin College endowed scholarship in their honor.

Ellis, who served Austin College as business manager, personnel officer, and treasurer for more than 22 years, retired in 1978. While active in many campus capacities, he was best known as an enthusiastic supporter of Austin College athletics. Following his fourth receipt of the Athletic Department's Spirit Award, the award was re-named the T. Ellis Lockhart Spirit Award. He was named an honorary member of the Austin College Athletic Hall of Honor in 1991. He died in 1997.

His wife, Mary Elizabeth, was often at his side along the sports sidelines and also has been active in many aspects of Austin College life. Family and friends gathered on campus to celebrate Mary Elizabeth's 90th birthday May 6.

Make donations to the Lockhart scholarship by contacting **Jim Lewis**, vice president for Institutional Advancement, at (903) 813-2419 or [jlewis@austincollege.edu](mailto:jlewis@austincollege.edu).



*Mary Elizabeth and the late Ellis Lockhart at a game in the early 1990s.*

## Third Annual Law Symposium Focuses on First Amendment Issues

More than 100 students, faculty, and members of the law profession attended Austin College's third annual Law Symposium on campus this spring, "Press Freedom and Religious Liberty in America." The symposium addressed topical legal issues affecting those working in or interested in the law profession. Current lawyers were able to earn up to six hours of continuing education credit during the event.



*Lorraine Branham*

The symposium was co-sponsored by the Austin College Pre-Law Society, the Office of Alumni and Parent Affairs, and the Alumni "L" (Law) Association, with grant support from the Hatton W. Sumners Foundation of Dallas. **Frank Rohmer**, associate professor of political science and sponsor of the Austin College Pre-Law Society, specifically recognized Hatton W. Sumners Scholars **Rebecca Lake '08**, **Emleigh Stewart '08**, and **Meggin Rutherford '06** for their planning efforts and **Osler McCarthy '73**, staff attorney to the Texas Supreme Court, who assisted with the programming.

Lorraine Branham, director of the University of Texas School of Journalism, spoke to the group during lunch. The G.B. Dealey Professor at the University of Texas, Branham spent 25 years as a newspaper editor, editorial writer, and reporter.

See [www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4734](http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4734) for a complete listing of session topics and presenters. Contribute to the Press Freedom and Religious Liberty blog:

[www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4858](http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4858)



## Spring Break Offers Service Opportunities

While Spring Break for many still involves sun, sand, and beaches, many Austin College students took advantage of the week-long opportunity to help others.

### Gulf Coast

Students who spent a January Term assisting Katrina victims in New Orleans knew they had left tremendous work undone. A group of students worked with **Melanie Oelfke**, Service Station coordinator, to arrange an Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans to continue their efforts. Three sponsors and 27 students made the 11-hour drive to spend five days working on flood and hurricane-damaged homes. The group was surprised by the arrival of additional crew members, Oscar and Anna Laura Page, who joined the relief effort for a day.

The students stayed in tents at the relief campus hosted by the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which also coordinated work sites for the students.

### New Mexico

Seven students with the Austin College chapter of Habitat for Humanity traveled to Belen, N.M., where they worked with the Valencia County Habitat affiliate and other college groups to build homes for those in need.

### El Salvador

Ten students traveled to El Salvador as part of a delegation called LISTEN (Letting International Study and Travel Enlighten North Americans). The group spent the week visiting grassroots organizations and individuals working to restore the lives of citizens following the country's civil wars of the 1980s.

Each student prepared a project to assist the El Salvadorans, including providing funds for sewing supplies, over-the-counter medications, Moringa tree seeds, art supplies, funds for a school cafeteria, and radio equipment. Each student then dedicated one checked bag to carry donated items. On the return trip, those bags were filled with Fair Trade coffee to be sold on campus at the Oxfam banquet. Several of the projects were supported by the Austin College Lilly Theological Exploration of Vocation Project.

**Julia Holmer '06** said each student put in countless hours of preparation for the trip and in planning their service projects, but that they benefitted personally from the experience. "What really resulted from these projects was that we became personally connected to the people and communities of El Salvador," she said. "Our donated items will help the people of El Salvador in the future, but what simply blew them away was the fact that we traveled all the way from the United States to their tiny country to hear their stories. These personal stories of war and love, devastation and hope, offered freely and openly to us, are far more valuable than any of the items we could have given."

Read more about the El Salvador trip:

[www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?4925](http://www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?4925)



*Austin College volunteers pause outside a New Orleans house in March.*



*Members of the LISTEN delegation learn about life in El Salvador.*



*Student volunteers found much devastation remains in New Orleans.*

COURTESY PHOTOS

# Peers Honor Oscar Page with Chief Executive Leadership Award

Austin College President **Oscar C. Page** was honored in April with the CASE District IV Chief Executive Leadership Award during the annual district conference in Oklahoma City. District IV of CASE (Council for the Advancement and Support of Education) includes almost 300 member colleges, universities, and prep-schools in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mexico.

The CASE Chief Executive Leadership Award recognizes presidents or other chief executive officers for their outstanding efforts in promoting and supporting education. Successful candidates demonstrate the ability to actively support advancement, create a vision and inspire others, establish a positive image for his or her institution while leading it to higher levels of success, increase the institution's stature in the community, and encourage

innovation and risk-taking among employees. Awards are given in eight districts and a European division.

Page expressed his gratitude for the honor and acknowledged

the contributions of many in the successes achieved, particularly acknowledging the Austin College Board of Trustees. "I can say without hesitation that I have had the best Board and the best Board Chair of any institution in America," Page said. "They understand the importance of their role and are committed to contributing their time, energy, and financial resources for the benefit of Austin College. The last 12 years at Austin College have been fun and challenging, and I have been honored to be in the position of leadership during this exciting time in the history of the College."



PHOTO BY TAYLOR JONES



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

*E. Don Williams*



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

*Lawana Slaughter*

## Homer P. Rainey Award Is Given

Co-recipients **E. Don Williams** and **Lawana Slaughter** were awarded Austin College's Homer P. Rainey Award during academic year-end ceremonies. The Board of Trustees presents the award annually to a member of the faculty or staff for outstanding service to the College.

Williams, Chadwick Chair of Mathematics and dean of sciences, has been a member of the faculty since 1970.

Slaughter, administrative assistant to the vice president for Academic Affairs, has been a member of the College staff since September 1984.



## New Scholarship Honors Anna Laura Page

**Anna Laura Page**, first lady of Austin College, was honored this spring with the announcement of the Anna Laura Page Sponsored Scholarship for a Student in Music.

In early May, approximately 200 Texoma community women gathered to honor the wife of College President Oscar C. Page. During the luncheon, Frances Pelley, executive director of Texoma Council of Governments, and **Carrie Tibbals '06** told of their experiences with Austin College's first lady. Tibbals also spoke of the joys of working alongside the Pages during a Spring Break relief trip to New Orleans.

Anna Laura received a bachelor's degree in vocal music education with a concentration in piano and a master's degree in music theory with a concentration in organ from the University of Kentucky. She is an accomplished and prolific composer of handbell, organ, and choral music.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Anna Laura Page

## Commencement Highlights Busy Spring

Austin College's 157th academic year officially closed May 14 with 317 Bachelor of Arts candidates and 24 Master of Arts in Teaching candidates participating in Commencement ceremonies.

Former Dallas mayor **Ron Kirk '75** delivered the Commencement address. The senior address was presented by graduating senior **Rachel Baumann** of San Antonio, Texas.

Kirk, along with Jimmie Johnson, baccalaureate speaker and pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Waco, Texas; Texas State Representative Bob Hunter; and Robert J. Wright, chair and CEO of Medical Cities, Inc., and chair of the Austin College Board of Trustees, received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees during the morning's ceremonies.



PHOTO BY ARYA REJAE

Graduates are all smiles.

## Kopp Tapped for Leadership Award; Cronkite Offers Leadership Insights

The inaugural Austin College Leadership Award was presented in March 2006 to Wendy Kopp, founder of Teach for America, at a gala event at Dallas' Hilton Anatole. After receiving the award's \$100,000 check, Kopp shared the story of founding the agency that provides young, dynamic teachers for some of the nation's inner city and rural students.

The evening also featured a discussion on leadership between former *CBS Evening News* anchor Walter Cronkite and *Dallas Morning News* publisher Jim Moroney, and Cronkite's reflections on the leaders he has encountered during his extensive career.

Also shown during the evening was a video honoring the leadership and vision of business leader Lee Posey of Dallas, who has mentored and contributed to the educational pursuits of many students and supported Austin College's Posey Leadership Institute and Leadership Award.

The Austin College Leadership Award honors those who exemplify servant leadership through advancing a humanitarian or educational purpose, serving the youth of a region or nation, or creating opportunities for young people that help them enhance their educational experience. Nominations have closed for the award to be presented in March 2007. Learn more about the award:

[www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?3523](http://www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?3523)

## Cultures Showcased During Asia Week

A performance by the Kobushi Taiko Drummers began Asia Week 2006, which included a number of lectures, films, and cultural demonstrations. Taiko drums have been used for centuries in traditional Japanese music, as well as for religious ceremonies and to signal villagers for special occasions. More recently, musicians around the world have been exploring music using large numbers of drums to create thundering, powerful rhythms, with a playing style influenced by dance and martial arts. The eclectic Kobushi Taiko group's repertoire consists of traditional Japanese pieces and modern original works.

**Jackie Moore**, associate professor of history, is the director of Asian Studies and coordinates Asia Week, held each April. 🐉



PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

Taiko Drummers perform for Asia Week.





1.Elizabeth Hoffman, left, and Erika Hofer.  
2. Platform party, left to right: Mike Imhoff, Ron Kirk, Oscar Page, Bob Hunter, John Williams, Robert Wright, and Jimmie Johnson. 3. Clint Wren, left, and Ross Worden. 4. Baccalaureate speaker Jimmie Johnson. 5. Naveen Sharwini. 6. Teddy Safo, left, and Vanessa Tosi. 7. Aubrey Jones and Patricia Shongedza. 8. A proud mom and Kyle Floyd.







1



2



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6

1. Commencement speaker Ron Kirk. 2. Derrick Ruthardt and James Kowalewski. 3. Senior speaker Rachel Baumann. 4. Rachel Martin, left, and Carrie Tibbals. 5. Adam Delka, left, and Nancy Alfonso. 6. Joel Mott, left, and Ryan Patrick. 7. Nicole Mittenfelner and graduates. 8. Trustees prepare for the procession.

Commencement photos by Brian Builta, Vickie S. Kirby, and Arya Rejaee.





# Austin College

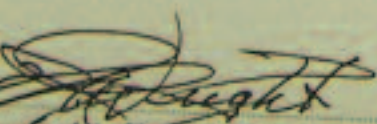
By the authority of the Board of Trustees of Austin College  
and upon recommendation of the Faculty thereof, the degree of

Bachelor of Arts

with all of the rights and privileges thereto appertaining  
is conferred upon

**Brandon Paul Lokey**

Given at Sherman, Texas, this nineteenth day of May,  
in the year of our Lord, two thousand and two.

  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



  
President of the College

# 'R O O S O N T H E F R O N T L I N E S

*by Brian Builta*



*The day Brandon Lokey '02 graduated from Austin College, he also was commissioned into the United States Marine Corps. It was not an elaborate ceremony. It took only a few minutes; but in those minutes, Lokey pledged to obey the orders of the President of the United States and to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic."*



Four years later, 1st Lt. Lokey does not have a master's degree. What he has, instead, is an education in wartime violence in places like Haiti and Iraq. He has firsthand knowledge of gang violence in Port au Prince, a place where a trip to the market may involve gang members waving guns in people's faces and taking what they want; he has the putrid smell of canal sewage burned into his olfactory memory, a smell composed of dead animals and debris and human waste and dead bodies and burning trash; and he has received a Humanitarian Service Medal for delivering water and food to naked and starving children left homeless in Haiti after a tropical storm brought the water up and the mud down. Lokey created an interdisciplinary majored in law and environmental studies at Austin College and today is an accomplished engineer who can repair schools and hospitals and once built a soccer field. He knows the city of Fallujah, Iraq, inside and out; knows the challenge of fighting an invisible enemy whose streets sometimes explode unexpectedly; and knows how to build bridges and detect mines. He knows the eerie sound of broadcast prayers reverberating through a city day and night calling for the death of American soldiers. He knows what it feels like to think he might not make it home.

**Ashley (Veal) Lokey '02** said her husband, after four years in the Marine Corps, is the same man he was before — the same and yet different. "His outlook on the world has grown," she said. "He's more experienced. I don't ever want to know the things he's seen."

Lokey said he wants to tell people to "be patient, fighting terror is not easy, and it's not something that is going to be won in five years. It is going to take 20."

At least five other members of the Class of 2002 — the first graduating class after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 — have served in the military or spent time in Iraq.

**Mark Wester '02** graduated with two years of service in the Marine Reserves, then earned a Master of Arts in Teaching from the Austin Teacher Program and landed a job at Jesuit High School in Dallas. Three months into his new job, Wester was called to serve in Djibouti, East Africa. **John Palmer '02** also served in Djibouti, drilling water wells, building schools and hospitals, and improving military bases with the U.S. Navy Seabees. **Ross Jackson '02** joined the Navy six months after graduation and completed primary flight school in March 2006. He has begun training to fly the F-18 Hornet. **Stephen Smith '02** was commissioned as a naval officer after completing Officer Candidate School in 2003. **Danny Walzel '02** did not join the military, but five days after the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, he was fighting oil well fires in southern Iraq as a well control engineer with Houston-based Boots & Coots.

These are not typical post-graduation stories, but little since Sept. 11, 2001, has been typical. The lives of several Austin College alumni have been redirected to the Middle East during the past five years. **Glen Kelly '80**, a colonel and attorney in the Marine Corps, found himself practicing law in Iraq from August 2005 until January 2006. **Bryant Sewall '88**, a major in the Marine Corps who fought in Operation Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991, returned in 2003 to

*Courtesy Photos below, left to right:*

*Chris Sheets '93 in Baghdad's Green Zone.*

*Darren Davis '90 sporting night vision goggles. Ninety percent of Davis' missions piloting C-130 transports planes were flown at night, when it is more difficult for insurgents to target the huge aircraft.*



COURTESY PHOTO

help British forces take control of Basra in southern Iraq. **Darren Davis '90** was a pilot for American Airlines the day two of that company's planes were hijacked and flown into the Pentagon and the north tower of the World Trade Center. "That very easily could have been me," Davis said. Two years later he was flying C-130 cargo planes into Afghanistan and Iraq for the Air National Guard. **Chris Sheets '93** was teaching science at Travis Talented and Gifted Academy in Dallas on Sept. 11; he had just become principal at Wolfe City High School in 2003 when he was "cherry picked" out of his Marine Reserve unit and sent to Iraq.

Many other alumni have served in the war on terror. Their stories, while not a complete telling of the war, offer snapshots of what the war looks like on the ground, on the home front, and in the minds of those who served.

## A JOB TO DO

Marine Maj. **Bryant Sewall '88** stood in a dusty street in Basra, Iraq, in March 2003, inspecting a pile of rubble that days before had been the home of Ali Hassan al-Majid, the man known as Chemical Ali because of a 1988 chemical attack he masterminded against the Kurds on behalf of Saddam Hussein. Using a laptop computer and satellite imagery, Sewall had called the strike that dropped four 500-pound laser-guided bombs on the house. Rumor spread that Chemical Ali was dead. "It was a very clean attack," said Sewall, who

*Courtesy Photos below, left to right:*

**Danny Walzel '02** fought oil well fires like this one in southern Iraq. The heat is so intense, Walzel said, that the sand surrounding the well turns to glass.

**John Bristow '88** in Afghanistan. As a member of the U.S. Army's Special Forces, Bristow said he is allowed modified grooming standards. Bristow has completed four combat tours since Sept. 11.



had decided to use smaller munitions instead of the 1,000-pound variety out of fear of collateral damage, although one wall on the house next door did collapse.

As Sewall stood in front of the house, he said two Iraqi men approached him. "You kill Chemical Ali?" one of them asked, and then started weeping and hugging Sewall. "He killed my family." Both men spoke of wives being raped and children being killed and then showed Sewall their hands missing fingers and their backs bearing deep grooves from whips and dark spots from electroshocks. "What do you say to that?" said Sewall, who told the men they were welcome and now they were free and their country would be great again.

Then a BBC reporter appeared and asked Sewall if he was responsible for the mission. "Yes," Sewall said. "Well how does it feel?" the reporter said. Sewall gave a blank stare and the reporter asked, "Were you aware that an entire family next door was killed?" The wall that collapsed apparently crushed the family of five inside, Sewall said. "If that happened, then I feel terrible," Sewall told the reporter. "But I'm not the one who put Chemical Ali in this house."

The BBC report focused on the death of the family next door, Sewall said, and ignored the importance and success of the mission. The mainstream media did not report on the 80 schools rebuilt with running water, Sewall said. "The average Iraqi could not thank us enough for what we did there, but you never heard about the good things in the media."

Chemical Ali escaped the bombing — the man who died was a body double — but the U.S. Department of the Navy still awarded Sewall an Achievement Medal for his efforts. "I was honored to get





the award," Sewall said, "but running that mission was my job, what I'm paid to do. I certainly did not deserve a medal."

It is strange, said **Darren Davis** '90, to be sitting in a cozy den in Fort Worth one day and standing in the biting, blowing sands of Iraq two weeks later. Such is life in the Air National Guard. For four years, Davis landed passenger airplanes on smooth runways for American Airlines. By 2003, he was landing mammoth C-130 cargo planes in desolate desert landscapes in Afghanistan and Iraq. "We don't even need a runway," said Davis, who took enemy fire twice during his two tours in the Middle East. The lumbering C-130s fly like winged elephants, which makes them a favorite target of insurgents. "Being shot at brought an emotion I never accounted for," Davis said. "When it happened, it made me incredibly angry."

Despite the dangers, Davis — like Sewall and many others in the military — described his work simply as "a job. You become so focused on the task of the day," Davis said. "You don't step back to see how it's going to affect the bigger picture."

"It is only a job," agreed **John Bristow** '88. "I have certain skills that can help keep some of the less-experienced [soldiers] alive." Bristow has been an Army Ranger and served in the Special Forces while attending Austin College. He has been an infantryman, a combat diver, a jumpmaster, a medic, a Green Beret, and a psychological operations officer; and served on missions in the Balkans, Haiti, Panama, Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He has served four combat tours since Sept. 11, most recently leading a unit fighting Improvised Explosive Devices in Afghanistan. He cannot recall the number of missions he has performed and said it does not matter. "I don't think about it."

Bristow said his experiences are hard to share with people who have not been where he has been. "I can't describe how it feels to hold a 3-year old, 15-pound malnourished child in your arms," Bristow said, "or to identify the bodies of my teammates at the morgue, or to sit on the ground and share a meal of rice with my Afghanistan security team. They couldn't speak English and my Pashto is even less, but we have a bond — a silent pact to defend each other till death."

## THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ

Lokey said it is important for Americans to know that the people the coalition forces are fighting are primarily not Iraqi. He points to the battle of Fallujah, where she said most of those captured or killed were "terrorists, not Iraqis. Terrorists are who want to see us fail."

The one thing Operation Iraqi Freedom has in common with Operation Desert Storm, Sewall said, is the appreciation and thanks

expressed by the people. "Grown men were coming down the street with tears in their eyes thanking me because two hours earlier Iraqi soldiers had been threatening to kill them," Sewall said. "There is no greater feeling in the world than to liberate a country."

**Chris Sheets** '93 spent the first part of his 2004 tour in Kuwait, helping troops prepare for the journey north to Iraq. "I won't say the Kuwaitis were happy to have us there," Sheets said, "but politically they know they owe us." When Sheets moved north to the Iraqi port city Um Kasr, the citizens were more sympathetic to the American presence. Sheets said one Iraqi restaurant owner told him that under Saddam Hussein, they were not allowed to own satellite televisions or other mass communication devices. "The only information they got was from Saddam Hussein," Sheets said. "The average citizen was extremely happy to have us there."

Davis said he met farmers in Iraq who had not had crop water for seven years because Saddam Hussein had closed irrigation channels. The news he was getting, Davis said, was that the average Iraqi citizen was earning eight times more money than before the invasion, daughters were finally attending schools as adults, and Iraqis throughout the country were enjoying freedoms they had never known before. "You can see it in their eyes," Davis said. "Is our way of doing things the best ever? Probably not. But the level of their lives is better than it has been since the 1980s. You can see it."

Despite new freedoms, Davis said hatred for America has been deeply ingrained in Iraqi citizens, and freedom does not come with an instruction manual. Sewall worked two months with Iraqis rebuilding the city of Al Medina. He said Iraqis had a great desire for freedom, yet once they got it, had no idea what to do with it. "They had no frame of reference," Sewall said. "They were so used to being told what to do and how to do it that they had no self-initiative. That's why the first elections did more good than anything."

After Hussein was overthrown, the most popular items for sale on the streets of Iraq were cell phones and satellite dishes, Sewall said. "The Iraqi people just want to be able to see what the rest of the world is doing," he said. "They just want to be free."

While squelching oil well fires in southern Iraq, Walzel said he worked with Iraqi engineers repairing sabotaged wells. "Everybody I met and worked with was nice. They just wanted to fix the wells so they could go back to work," Walzel said.

## HOME FRONT

*It's going to be okay, it's going to be okay, it's going to be okay,* Stephanie Sheets told herself during her husband's 10-month stay in Iraq. Chris Sheets had joined the Army Reserves in high school in 1988. Fifteen

# 9 - 11

F I V E Y E A R S L A T E R ...

**T**he world changed Sept. 11, 2001. Nearly 3,000 people died that day. Two of the world's tallest buildings collapsed and the world's largest office complex burst into flames. Airlines crashed to the ground and nations mourned. It does not seem like five ago, and yet it seems a lifetime.

Five years, and civic leaders in New York City continue to struggle over an appropriate memorial. The Islamic fundamentalist group Al-Qaeda continues to take credit for terrorist attacks in Indonesia, Madrid, London, and Amman, and Osama bin Laden remains at large.

Five years, and Sept. 11 continues to change the world. In October 2001, the United States invaded Afghanistan in order to chase the Taliban government from power and to disband terrorist training camps. In March 2003, a coalition force of mainly American and British soldiers invaded Iraq, overthrowing Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in an effort to find weapons of mass destruction. Although Hussein had used biological weapons before, no nuclear materials have been found in Iraq. Since then, Hussein has been brought to trial by the new Iraqi government. The war in Iraq continues with soldiers trying to quell insurgent groups and Iraqi leaders trying to establish a self-sufficient democratic Iraqi government.

The United States, as of May 2006, has 133,000 troops in Iraq and 19,000 in Afghanistan. As of May 18, 2006, officials counted 509 coalition force deaths in Afghanistan — 295 of those were U.S. soldiers. In Iraq, the death toll of American soldiers was 2,454, and nearly 18,000 wounded.



PHOTO BY JEREMY WOODHOUSE/PIXELCHROME, INC.





years passed without a major deployment. Then, in November 2003, he was called to Iraq. For Christmas, before he left, the family gave Chris a compass and a knife. "We didn't know where he was going or if he would have everything he needed," Stephanie said. While Chris was in Iraq, Stephanie and their two daughters moved to Shreveport, La., to be with family.

Stephanie said that having a friend who survived the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center made her an instant supporter of the war on terror. She said she sees her husband's time in Iraq as part of that war and believes in the importance of what he was doing there. Still, that did not make his absence any easier. Almost daily contact through the Internet, web cameras, email, and sometimes satellite and cellular phones proved invaluable.

"Chris could hear the girls' voices and they could hear him," Stephanie said. "It made it seem not so dangerous." Stephanie sent pictures and videos of their daughters and Chris even made a video that was shown at a Wolfe City High School pep rally after the football team made the playoffs. Communication and a community of support made Sheets' deployment more bearable. Prayer also helped, Stephanie said, particularly during the times between calls or emails. "I just had to believe he would be okay. I had no other choice."

"When you say 'one year' it doesn't sound bad," Chris Sheets said, "but living that year, day-in and day-out, drags on. Without a doubt," he added, "Stephanie had it harder than I did."

The hardest part, said Ashley Lokey, is worrying. Usually she would avoid watching news from Iraq, but then some days she would get a bad feeling and turn on the television. "My feelings bothered me more than the news."

"Serving your country definitely comes at a price," said **Rachel (Behl) Wester '03**. "Sadness and loneliness remain welled up just below the surface," but trust and open communication between spouses and a network of support at home help keep the situation positive, she added. "I have talked to people who say [Mark] was crazy for leaving me here. They doubt the solidarity of our relationship. But Mark and I believe that when you make a commitment, you should see it through. The fact that he has done that makes me believe in him and in our marriage that much more."

The price of service is not just injury and death, Ashley Lokey said. "Our children have paid a price." Lokey said her 2-year-old son had nightmares and often woke up crying for his daddy. Brandon Lokey missed the first steps of one son, but arrived home in time to

*Courtesy photos, left, top to bottom:  
Brandon Lokey, Danny Walzell, and Chris Sheets*

see the birth of his second son. "What Brandon is doing, he's doing for our children," Ashley Lokey said. "He's trying to make the world a safer place for our children, and that's definitely worth the sacrifice."

Davis has been in the Air National Guard for 12 years. He has spent more than his share of time defending his country, flying missions not only in Afghanistan and Iraq but Panama and South America. He could leave the Air National Guard at any time, but he stays. "I am still convinced, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that if terrorists could, they would walk into my kids' school and blow it up — with the kids still inside," Davis said. Believing Iraq harbors terrorists, Davis continues the fight.

## APPRECIATION

Soldiers back from the Middle East talk much about simple things: "Running water and not having to walk 100 yards to go to the bathroom," Sheets said. "Just getting up with an alarm clock, walking into the bathroom, flipping the switch, and washing your face," Davis said. "And ice! And not having sand in all your clothes."

In other words, life in the United States is good. Sept. 11, however, revealed the vulnerability of the freedoms that many of these soldiers say U.S. citizens take for granted. "I don't think we give terrorist enough credit," Davis said. "They can hide in a cave for 10 years and harbor hatred while we go back to our lives and forget. Hatred is strong, and they have more patience than we do."

These Austin College alumni, many of whom may be called back to Iraq or Afghanistan or wherever war turns next, have employed their educations and placed their lives in danger on behalf of their country. Not one of them said they enjoyed the experience in the Middle East, and while they have been fighting and conducting the sad business of war, the goal, they said, is peace.

The war on terror is about giving hope to the hopeless, Sewall said. "If you wake up in the morning with hope, with a life of opportunity and prosperity, you are not going to strap a bomb to yourself and walk into a bus station or a pizza parlor."

Brandon Lokey returned home from Iraq in September 2005. Camp Lejeune, N.C., was a sea of waving flags and "Welcome Home" banners. The first thing Lokey did was get on the floor and play with his son. "It was the middle of the night, but we didn't care," Ashley Lokey said. "It was good to have him back home and know that he was safe." 🦘

Learn more of Austin College alumni on the front lines:  
[www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?4922](http://www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?4922)



A BLOG IS A JOURNAL  
AVAILABLE ONLINE.  
THE ACTIVITY OF UPDATING THAT  
JOURNAL IS "BLOGGING" AND  
SOMEONE WHO ADDS TO IT  
IS A "BLOGGER."  
PEOPLE WITH LITTLE OR NO  
TECHNICAL BACKGROUND CAN  
EASILY ACCESS AND UPDATE  
A BLOG.  
AUSTIN COLLEGE 'ROOS WHO ARE  
IN SERVICE IN IRAQ  
AND AFGHANISTAN  
HAVE SIMILAR AND DISSIMILAR  
EXPERIENCES TO THE  
MILITARY 'ROOS OF THE PAST.  
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT  
THESE TOPICS ON THE  
'ROOBLOG:  
[WWW.AUSTINCOLLEGE.EDU/INFO.  
ASP?4857](http://WWW.AUSTINCOLLEGE.EDU/INFO.ASP?4857)



*After graduation, I was looking for a change  
in my life.*

*I did not want to go to graduate school  
and the idea of a job where I was stuck inside  
all day was not tempting.*

*My decision made my parents and friends  
think I was nuts.*



*by Melissa Freer '06*

Life is good at throwing curve balls. My life experienced such a curve ball when, on Sept. 10, 2005, I joined the United States Army. It was a childhood interest that had been like a kid's dream of becoming famous or the president of the United States. I completed a bachelor's degree in psychology in January and then shipped out for basic training Feb. 3, 2006.

Expecting the worst, I thought I would encounter drill sergeants from hell, high school misfits, college dropouts, and such. I also was expecting a physical exertion of nightmare proportions. Instead, I found drill sergeants who did what they had to do to get trainees to do what was needed, interesting people from all walks of life, and a level of physical exertion that was tough enough to be rewarding but not depressing.

Basic training was at Fort Jackson, S.C. My first lesson was that no matter your rank, life experience, or age, teamwork was a difficult concept for 48 strangers to master. Everyone had an opinion to voice and no one wanted to listen to someone else who also was just a newbie. Finally, after about eight weeks, those strangers began moving in sync as a team.

Seven Army values were part of our training — loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Personal courage was my focus in training. I had an insane fear of heights, and many of the physical training courses included heights. Our first obstacle to climb was a four-story tower. Through the help and encouragement of my battle buddies I faced my fear and made it up the tower. Battle buddies (assigned like roommates) are an integral part of life; they help police up after you, make sure you are on the right track, help you through the tough times, and guard your back. My battle buddy, Amber Sampson from Arizona, has become one of my best friends.

Drill sergeants were another part of basic training. They could be a blast, telling hilarious stories of past experiences and just chatting, but they also demand lots of physical training — mostly

push-ups and flutter kicks and side straddle hops. Every drill sergeant had his own sayings, which often were heard throughout the barracks: "Fool, how 'bout that!" "Say it ain't so. Oh, it is so." "Battle it is." and "I say, Hooah!"

Some of my fondest memories include completing all the foot marches — including a nine-mile march to Victory Forge and a six-mile march at 2:30 a.m. to the Rite of Passage Ceremony — and being gassed. Alpha Company gassed two platoons from Delta Company while conducting an attack with smoke grenades and blanks fired from automatic weapons and M16s. Trainees slept with gas masks beside our heads.

I never allowed being a small female to be an excuse for anything. Some of the men admitted uneasiness about working with women, but the women soldiers demonstrated equal, and sometimes greater, capabilities than the men. With an injured wrist, I led the squad through push-ups and, using a "fireman's carry," I carried a soldier who weighed more than 200 pounds and was a foot taller than me.

In basic training, I learned that I could do a lot of things that I never thought I could — such as running past the feeling of dying, discovering that mind-over-matter is real, and finding that watching out for your comrades will save lives. I am a lot more confident in my ability to try new things and succeed at them. I have enjoyed my experience at basic training and am hoping that my time in the Army — which I plan to make a lifetime career — proves to be just as exciting. 🐾

*Melissa Freer of Orange, Texas, completed her Austin College degree in January and reported to Basic Training days later.*

\*Though the spelling and origins of the word are uncertain, few in uniform question its meaning of confidence, preparation, and high morale.

<http://usmilitary.about.com/od/jointservices/a/hooah.htm>

## COLLEGE HONORS OUTSTANDING ATHLETES

*Austin Belrose '07 of Center, Texas, and Veronica Stephens '07 of San Antonio, Texas, took top honors, as voted by the coaches, at the 2005-2006 Athletics Award Convocation in April.*

### Pete Cawthon

#### Male Athlete of the Year

##### Austin Belrose

Swimming and Diving

Belrose helped lead the 'Roos swimmers to a strong finish at the Liberal Arts Championship, along the way ranking as high as ninth nationally for diving.

During the season, Belrose twice broke an Austin College record that had stood for 27 years, won nine events, and finished second five times. He also became the first Austin College student-athlete to qualify for the NCAA Division III National Swimming and Diving Championships.

### Gene Day Female

#### Athlete of the Year

##### Veronica Stephens

Volleyball

Named Female Athlete of the Year for the second year in a row, Stephens also was the American Southwest Conference East Division Player of the Year for the second straight season and was an Honorable Mention All-American. She also was named All-ASC and All-ASC East Division.

Stephens ranked third nationally in assists, and was named a College Sports Information Directors of America/ESPN Academic All-American as well as an ASC All-Academic performer.

### Bo Miller Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Academics

The Bo Miller Awards are given to the senior male and female athletes who have earned the highest academic record. Three athletes were recognized this spring.

**E Matt Ellington '06**, Football, Phi Beta Kappa, *summa cum laude*, mathematics major, Greenville, Texas;

**E Ashley Snyder '06**, Volleyball, Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude*, history and Spanish majors; Katy, Texas; and

**E Lauren Whittle '06**, Basketball; *magna cum laude*; sociology major; Gatesville, Texas.



PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

*Austin Belrose and Veronica Stephens*

A LIST OF ALL ATHLETICS  
AWARDS RECIPIENTS IS  
AVAILABLE ON THE AUSTIN  
COLLEGE WEBSITE:

[WWW.AUSTINCOLLEGE.EDU/CATEGORY.ASP?1737](http://WWW.AUSTINCOLLEGE.EDU/CATEGORY.ASP?1737)

### Tim Jubela Outstanding Freshman Athlete Awards

**Holly Messamore '09**, of Wichita, Kan., led the women's soccer team with 15 goals and 32 points.

**Scooter Means '09**, from Denison, Texas, led the Austin College football team with 78 tackles, including 11 for loss, as the team's starting middle linebacker. He also started in left field for the baseball team, helping the squad reach the ASC tournament for the first time in school history.



PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

*Holly Messamore*



PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

*Scooter Means*



## Women's Tennis Team Claims Spot in American Southwest Conference Tournament

The women's tennis team played tough in its final American Southwest Conference season, while the men's team saw a number of freshmen and sophomores provide solid performances and leadership in the 2006 season, though not reflected in its 1-9 overall record. The women's team posted a 4-8 record overall and a 4-2 mark in ASC play to earn the third seed in the conference tournament, where the team fell to a strong Texas Lutheran University team.

The women's team opened the year strong with a win over conference rival University of Texas-Dallas, but faced some tough non-conference competition against Southeastern Oklahoma, University of South Dakota, Hendrix, and Dallas Baptist

University. The team rallied from those losses with strong play against conference foes LeTourneau University, Louisiana College, and the University of the Ozarks to claim its spot in the ASC tournament.

**Gillian Lightfoot** '06 posted five singles victories to lead the way on the women's side, finishing her career with a singles record of 23-11. **Mica Tucker** '08 and **Kelly Wiggins** '08 earned All-ASC East Division honors, with Tucker named Second Team East Division and Wiggins named Honorable Mention.

The men's team was led by **Stephen Moore** '08 and **Nathaniel Navey** '09. Navey had an outstanding first season with the 'Roos, earning five victories in singles

competition. Moore worked his way up to the number one singles player for the team, winning three singles matches during the year, and teamed with Navey to pick up a pair of victories in doubles play.

Academic All-ASC honorees were **Michael Martin** '08 and **Stephen Moore** '08 for the men's team, and **Kathryn Cantrell** '08, **Valerie Emmett** '07, **Gillian Lightfoot** '06, **Mica Tucker** '08, and **Kelly Wiggins** '08 for the women.

With no seniors departing from the men's team and young talent on both sides, the 'Roos men and women are in prime position to take a big step forward as they enter the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference in the 2007 season.

## Women's Basketball Team Overcomes Adversity

The women's basketball team faced an emotional season, dealing with the death of freshman guard **Brittany Simpson**, and enduring an up-and-down season to finish 14-12 with an 11-11 record in American Southwest Conference play.

The team opened the year strong, winning seven of its first nine games, including victories over conference foes Mary Hardin-Baylor, Sul Ross State, and Texas Lutheran, but a three-game skid followed and the team split its next six games to bring the record on the year to 10-8. The squad hit its stride again Jan. 28 with two wins over Louisiana College and then nationally ranked Mississippi College.

Later, the 'Roos brought their overall record to 13-8, but a pair of tough losses to UT-Dallas and UT-Tyler at home left the 'Roos scrambling for a berth in the ASC Tournament. The team rebounded with a 70-61 road victory at LeTourneau to lock up the fourth seed in the ASC East Division despite a year-end loss to East Texas Baptist University.

In the ASC Tournament, the 'Roos ultimately fell to McMurry, the eventual tournament champions.

**Andrea Bauer** '06 had the best season of her four-year career, leading the team in scoring and rebounding with averages of 14.2 points and 7.0 rebounds per game en route to being named First Team All-ASC East Division.

**Ceren Unal** '07 was named the East Division Co-Defensive Player of the Year while **Kristen Davis** '06 and **Brittany Smith** '08 were named to the All-ASC East Division Honorable Mention team. Unal blocked 51 shots and grabbed 5.4 rebounds per game en route to her defensive award. Davis finished the year averaging 6.2 points and 5.4 rebounds per game, while Smith was second on the team with a 9 points-per-game average.

Earning spots on the ASC All-Academic Team were **Andrea Bauer** '06, **Angela Collins** '06, **Kristen Davis** '06, **Annie Laski** '08, **Brittany Millar Sissney** '06, **Cat Moran** '07, **Ceren Unal** '07, and **Lauren Whittle** '06.

Coach **Deb Hunter** was named the East Division Coach of the Year after guiding her team to the ASC Tournament while overcoming tremendous adversity faced during the season.



*Andrea Bauer, shooting, led the team in scoring.*

PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

# A Family Affair

by Jeff Kelly

When a sports team becomes close over the course of the season, the athletes sometimes begin to refer to each other as family. For the Austin College women's basketball team, the word "family" was more apt than usual during the 2005-2006 season.

Coach **Deb Hunter's** roster boasted not just one or two, but three of Bob and Kathy Bauer's daughters. **Andrea '06, Raney '07, and Jacqueline Bauer '09**, sisters from Muenster, Texas, comprised one fifth of the 'Roos squad for the season and helped guide the team to a 14-12 record and a berth in the American Southwest Conference tournament. Perhaps the most amazing part is that they did so without even a hint of sibling rivalry. On the contrary, there is nothing but mutual cheerleading among the sisters.

"We are each other's biggest fans," said Andrea '06, an English major and the oldest of the bunch. "Whenever one of us succeeds, the other two are completely happy."

Jacqueline, a biology major and the newest Bauer at Austin College, echoed her big sister's thoughts, but added, "We are each others' toughest critics. Andrea is definitely harder on me and Raney than anyone else on the team."

"There are definitely times when we yell at each other," agreed Andrea, "but the cool thing about that is as soon as it's over, there are never any harbored thoughts or feelings."

Such is to be expected of a trio that has spent so much time playing ball together. They began at a young age — their aunt ran a summer basketball camp that allowed them to grow up on the court — and carried their love of the game into high school.

Raney, a business major, and Andrea played together for three seasons on their high school varsity team. Jacqueline spent her high school freshman season on the junior varsity team, making this season the first time the three sisters have played on an actual team together.

Still, it was far from expected that all three sisters would end up at Austin College. After Andrea fell in love with the school on a visit her senior year, Raney often visited on the weekends. However, "she swore she would never come to Austin College," said Andrea. "Obviously that didn't work out for her." The real surprise was Jacqueline, who was adamant that

she would never come to Austin College and considered New York University and Arkansas-Fort Smith. She ultimately applied to just one school: Austin College.

This season, Andrea enjoyed a career year as the team's leading scorer and rebounder, earning All-ASC First Team honors and establishing herself as one of the best forwards in the conference. Raney served as a key member of Coach Hunter's guard rotation, often starting, and was among the team leaders in assists and 3-point shots.

Jacqueline, waiting patiently for her chance to play behind her older sister, said, "Andrea made it kind of difficult for me to get on the floor other than during time outs." With Andrea's graduation in May, Jacqueline figures to have an increased role on the team and hopes to see more time on the floor with Raney. If the success shared by the Bauer sisters in the past is any indication, the future looks bright for what has become a family affair.



Andrea, Raney, and Jacqueline Bauer

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



## Men's Basketball Team Looks Toward SCAC Play

The men's basketball team struggled this season, finishing with a 3-22 overall record and a 2-20 mark in American Southwest Conference play.

Opening the season with a victory over the University of Dallas, the 'Roos then lost 13 games before a dramatic upset win over conference rival East Texas Baptist University.

The 'Roos dropped their next seven games, posted a dominant 66-40 win on the road against LeTourneau, and wrapped up the season with a road loss at East Texas Baptist University.

Starting seniors **James Hill** and **Anthony Holman** served as leaders of the team this year with Holman named to the All-ASC East Division Second Team. He posted team-best averages of 16.8 points and 5.8 rebounds-per-game, and passed the 1,000-point mark for his career. Hill was second on the team in scoring and rebounding, adding 9.4 points and 5.2 rebounds per game.

Guard **Adam Bishop '09** was named to the ASC East Division All-Freshman team, was among the team leaders in 3-point shot percentage, and scored double figures in the three games.

Guards **Kyle May '07**, **Hunter Mandeville '07**, and **Brian Hambrick '07** proved to be key players in the 2005-2006 campaign, with May dishing out a team-leading 72 assists as the starting point guard and Hambrick knocking down a team-high 38 percent of his shots from beyond the 3-point arc.

**Newman Carrell '08**, **Anthony Holman '06**, **Hunter Mandeville '07**, and **Elliot Parr '06** were named to the ASC All-Academic Team.

## Swimming and Diving Teams Make Big Splash; Belrose and Gibson Have Record-Breaking Seasons

Excellent individual performances led the men's and women's swimming and diving teams to the Liberal Arts Championship (LAC) in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Austin Belrose '07** and **Marjory Gibson '08** had record-breaking seasons for the 'Roos, with Belrose the first Austin College student-athlete to qualify for the NCAA Division III Swimming and Diving Championships and Gibson the first member of the 'Roos to win an LAC event.

During the season, Belrose twice broke a 27-year-old school record in the 1-meter dive and won nine events. He finished second in five events and took third place in the 1-meter and 3-meter dives at the LAC to cap off an outstanding season.

Gibson broke four school records over the course of the year and brought home the title in the 1,650-yard freestyle at the LAC. Gibson went undefeated in the 500, 1,000, and 1,650 in dual meets during the year and remains unbeaten in those events in her two years at Austin College. At the LAC, Gibson finished the 1,650 with a time of 18:13.92, which obliterated the previous school record, set by Gibson earlier in the year, of 18:40.

The team had several strong finishes over the course of the year, highlighted on the women's side by an early

season sweep of McMurry University and John Brown University as well as a third-place finish at the Hendrix College Relays. Along with Gibson, swimmers **Katie Clifford '06**, **Traci Brooks '08**, **Casey Check '09**, and **Rebecca Hinojosa '06** made consistent contributions to the team, which finished with a seventh-place rank at the LAC.

The women's team continued its streak of top 10 rankings in the College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Academic All-American teams, with a 3.39 grade point average.

The men's team finished eighth at the LAC thanks to good swims by **Carter Northcutt '06**, **Daniel Phipps '09**, **Jamey Coley '09**, and **Brent Burk '08** in addition to Belrose's two third-place finishes. The team also took third place at the Henderson State Invitational and fourth at the Hendrix College Relays.

The men's team posted a 3.23 grade

point average to rank on the Division III listing of CSCAA Academic All-American teams.

With both Gibson and Belrose returning next season, the 'Roos will look to make a splash in their first season in conference competition as Austin College joins the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference this fall.



PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

Marjory Gibson

## DID YOU KNOW

Between Pearl Harbor Day and Christmas of 1942, the entire Austin College football team volunteered for military service.

Source: George Landolt, *Search for the Summit*

## 'Roos Baseball Team Enjoys Historic Year with First Postseason Tournament Play

The 'Roos baseball team enjoyed a historic season in 2006, earning a postseason tournament berth for the first time since Austin College joined the NCAA more than a decade ago. The team finished the year with a 19-22 record and 9-12 in American Southwest Conference play to earn the fourth seed in the ASC East Division. The 19 wins this season equal the win total from the previous two seasons combined.

The 'Roos won three out of four games against the University of Dallas to open the year, and improved to 10-6 with a three-game win streak. The team found itself at the top of the East Division with a 17-11 record after wins against the University of Texas-Tyler, LeTourneau University, and Louisiana College. A nine-game losing streak dropped the 'Roos to 17-20, battling for the final spot in the ASC tournament.

**Dennis Kelly '06** and **Bobby Schleizer '08** were honored by the American Baseball Coaches Association of America as NCAA Division III First Team All-West Region performers, the first players in Austin College history to receive first-team honors.

Coach **Carl Iwasaki** was the runaway winner for ASC East Division Coach of the Year after guiding the 'Roos to their best season in recent memory. Eight players received All-ASC honors. **Kelly**, **Jake Shockley**, and **Justin Frost**, all '06, earned spots on the ASC East Division Second Team. Kelly finished the year batting .383 with eight home runs and 15 doubles, while Shockley batted .320 with seven doubles and 26 runs batted in. Frost led the 'Roos pitching staff with a 3.55 earned-run-average and 49 strikeouts en route to a 5-4 record.

Schleizer was named All-ASC East Division Honorable Mention after batting .366 with 14 home runs and 46 runs batted in. Also named to the Honorable Mention team were **Don Ferguson '06**, **Clay King '07**, **Austin Mitchell '08**, and **Cory Stevens '09**.

Academic All-ASC honorees were **Jonathan Ashton '08**, **Jason Duplessis '07**, **James Erdle '06**, **Dennis Kelly '06**, **Clay King '07**, **Matthew Pike '08**, **Justin Richardson '07**, **Jake Shockley '06**, and **Sam Shropshire '06**.

The team must replace seven valuable seniors, but a strong core of underclassmen returning will look to continue the 'Roos' turnaround as they enter the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference in the 2007 season.



PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

*The seven seniors on the baseball team shared the Cecil Grigg Award for outstanding player of the year. Pictured, left to right, are Josh Culp, Don Ferguson, James Erdle, Dennis Kelly, Sam Shropshire, Jake Shockley, and Paul Hoffmeyer.*

## ANNUAL LEGENDS CELEBRATION SET FOR JULY

The annual Legends Celebration will be held Saturday – Monday, July 15-17. Portions of the event will be held on campus this year, and a Saturday reception has been added to the agenda.

On Saturday, alumni will honor a variety of football accomplishments in a Reunion of Champions in the Austin College Pouch Club at 7 p.m. The honorees are the 1981 national champions; the 1959 "Mineral Water Bowl" team; the 1935, 1959, 1979, 1981, 1984, 1985, and 1988 conference champions; and 1990 NAIA playoff team.

The Sunday Gala, 7 p.m. in Wright Campus Center, will honor the 2006 Athletic Hall of Honor inductees, **Larry Fedora '85**, **Marisa Hesse '99**, **Blake Hyde '86**, **Kenneth Loyd '64**, and **Brian Riley '87**; the Coach Joe Spencer Award for Meritorious Service and Lifetime Achievement in Coaching recipient, **Reggie Davis '62**; and the Coach of the Year honoree **Claude Webb '77**.

The 24th annual Slats McCord Golf Tournament will begin Monday at 8 a.m. at Stonebridge Ranch Country Club's Dye Course in McKinney.

Details and registration information: [www.austincollege.edu/Catgegory.asp?1662](http://www.austincollege.edu/Catgegory.asp?1662) 



PHOTO BY BRIAN BULTA

*Golfers pose for a photo on the course.*



# JOHNSON EARNS ANOTHER AWARD FOR *PAPER CLIPS*

COURTESY PHOTO



Robert M. Johnson

**R**obert M. Johnson '53 received the Community Leadership Award from the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington in June. A plaque presented to Johnson indicated recognition of his "outstanding leadership and philanthropic efforts, including the award-winning production of *Paper Clips* and his efforts to stimulate interfaith dialogue and focus national attention on vulnerable populations."

"You never realize that this kind of honor will come to you," Johnson said, receiving the award. "You just do what you believe in and what you feel in your heart needs to be done and must be done."

Johnson was the producer of the documentary film, *Paper Clips*, which chronicles the story of middle school students from rural Tennessee who learned that 6 million Jews had died during the Holocaust. The students decided to gather 6 million paper clips to help them grasp the enormity of that number. They collected the paper clips from people around the world and the project turned into a life-changing experience, not only for the students, but their community.

The documentary has been honored with 14 major awards at film festivals, received the Jewish Image Award for excellence in cross-cultural production, and was named one of 2004's five best documentaries by the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures.

Johnson, president of The Johnson Group has more than 35 years of experience in broadcasting, event production, and communications. Two recent projects, *Living With Hope*, a documentary about teens with HIV/AIDS and *SAFE!*, an education video on the problem of domestic violence, also have won awards for excellence. Johnson also has produced the Christmas Pageant of Peace, the lighting of the National Christmas Tree by the President of the United States, for the past 14 years.

Bob and his wife, Joyce, live in McLean, Va.

## PUT HOMECOMING ON THE CALENDAR

Homecoming 2006, scheduled for Oct. 13-15, focuses on "Connections" with the campus and the community.

A number of special reunions are scheduled, plus many opportunities to meet with old friends.

See the website:

[www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?2434](http://www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?2434).



## 56 50-YEAR CLASS REUNION CELEBRATED MAY 2006

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



*Class of 1956 alumni gathered for a photo during the May reunion are, left to right, Rows 1 and 2 combined, John Brand, Mellie Brown Brand, Minnie Rogers Hosey, Ida Lou Berly Collins, Irene Ortega Bullard, Bonnie Pennycuik Lamberth, Margaret Hunter; Jim McLean, John Salmon; Row 3, Wayne Smith, Betty Bamford Parker, Martha Kincaid Christian, Thomas Jarvis, Pat Broyles Gohlke; Row 4, Betsy Russell Bryan, Nancy Sizer Oelfke, Robert Moore, James Powell; Rows 5 and 6, Fred Babb, H.P. Hosey, Jim Stephens, Bill Oelfke, Clifford Grum, Billy Redding, Jim Deatherage, Bob Shaefer.*

Several members of the Class of 1956 attended a 50-year reunion on campus in May, held in connection with Commencement activities. The alumni officially became Golden 'Roos, graduates of 50 or more years ago, and several "older" Golden 'Roos joined them for the weekend's festivities. The 50-year alumni were honored at a dinner where they received anniversary diplomas and medallions, took part in the Baccalaureate procession, and were recognized during Commencement. More photos: [www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4824](http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?4824)

## Alumna Is Austin College Phi Beta Kappa Inductee

Elaine Manglesdorf Hull '63 was selected as an alumni inductee into the Iota of Texas Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Austin College in May. A professor of psychology at Florida State University, she is a leader in the field of behavioral neuroscience. She has received several awards for teaching and professional excellence and been awarded numerous grants in support of her research.

Hull was named a Distinguished Alumna of Austin College in 2004. She joined the Florida State University faculty in 2004 after serving more than 30 years on the faculty of the State University of New York at Buffalo.

## 61 45-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

## 66 40-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

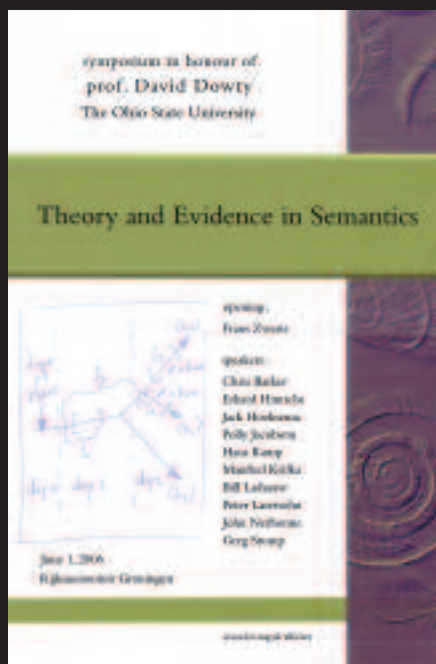
Kathryn Bumpass, musicologist, retired from California State University in July 2004 and was named professor *emerita* of music. She lives in Pismo Beach, Calif., where she writes and does volunteer work.

## 71 35-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

## 73

Sam Tressler, III, has practiced pediatric medicine at Lackland Air Force Base's Wilford Hall Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, for a year. Before his move to the military hospital, he had been a pediatric practice owner for 24 years. He continues to serve evening men's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) classes as an area adviser. During summer 2005, he served for the second time as a chief medical officer at the National Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in

## David Dowty '68 Receives International Honor



David Dowty '68, professor of linguistics at Ohio State University, will be a distinguished guest at the symposium being held in his honor, "Theory and Evidence in Semantics," at the University of Groningen in June in The Netherlands. He will be a plenary speaker at Tabu Day, a one-day linguistics conference in conjunction with the symposium. According to symposium materials, Dowty has contributed "extensively and creatively to many areas in grammatical theory" for more than 30 years. His areas of research include semantic and syntactic theory, lexical semantics and thematic roles, categorial grammars, and semantics of tense and aspect. Dowty was selected as the alumni inductee to the Austin College's Iota of Texas chapter of Phi Beta Kappa in 2005.



Virginia. His wife, Penny, is head of the children's division at the headquarters of BSF International in San Antonio.

## 76 30-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

79



Jim Avery

Jim Avery was awarded the distinction of Colorado Super Lawyer 2006. Super Lawyers names Colorado's top lawyers as chosen by their peers and

through independent research, selecting the top five percent of Colorado attorneys in more than 60 practice areas. Avery practices nationwide and is licensed in Colorado, Indiana, and New York in the personal injury fields of malpractice, product liability, negligence, and wrongful death.

■ **David Mattson** became the regional representative, responsible for India and Sri Lanka, for Christoffel-Blindenmission International (CBMI) in April 2004. He served as deputy regional representative for CBMI responsible for Southern Africa from 1992-1995. The work of CBMI centers on the prevention and treatment of blindness and other disabilities through medical care, education, rehabilitation, vocational training, and integration programs.

### SEND YOUR PHOTOS

Share memories and send Austin College photos from your days on campus for possible inclusion in the Every Picture Tells a Story feature on the inside back cover. Email to [editor@austincollege.edu](mailto:editor@austincollege.edu) or mail to Austin College, 900 N. Grand Ave. Suite 6H, Sherman, Texas 75090. Photos will be returned.



PHOTO BY AARON FLORES

Several alumni gathered on campus in February to watch 'Roos basketball and stay on for the annual Alumni Basketball Game. Pictured are, left to right, Clarence Warren '51, Al Hambrick '79, J. P. Johnson '05, Sam Shields '60, Michael Sissney '04, Mark Hudson '71, Brittany Millar Sissney '06, Amanda Smith '01, women's coach Deb Hunter, Brooke McKinney '03, Nelleke Plantinga Adair '04, Carl Dethloff '91, Keith Strickland '98, men's coach Chris Oestreich, emeritus professor and coach Slats McCord '50, and Matt Wallis '97.

## 81 25-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

82



Michael Phillips with Tom and Deven Nuckols

A son, Deven Thomas, was born March 28 to Sherine and Tom Nuckols. Deven, the grandson of Thomas W. Nuckols, Austin

College professor *emeritus* of religion, was delivered by Michael Phillips '84.

83

**Clay Oliphint**, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Richardson, was pictured in *The Dallas Morning News* in March in an article about a nation-wide church building boom. Oliphint's 6,000-member congregation moved in March into its new sanctuary, which Oliphint called "Texas Gothic" based on its huge wooden beams and multiple stained-glass windows.

85

**Jeffrey S. Lisson** was elected vice president of the Water Valley, Texas, Independent School District board of trustees and

secretary/treasurer of the Concho Valley Community Action Agency. He is vice chair of the Concho Valley Adult Literacy Council. He practices civil and estate litigation with Carter & Boyd, P.C., in San Angelo, Texas.

## 86 20-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

**John McGown** is working as an American Red Cross delegate in the tsunami-affected regions of southern Thailand. Based in Phang Nga province, he welcomes any visitors, "provided they bring a decent bottle of wine and sense of humor."

88

**John Bristow**, major in the U.S. Army, was awarded his second Bronze Star while serving with the 3rd Special Forces Group in Afghanistan. ■ **Mary C. "Capp" Johnson Crofford** lives in Dallas with her husband, Jon, and their four children.

■ **Becky England** became a National Board Certified Teacher in 2005 through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She is a teacher-librarian at Kittredge Magnet School for High Achievers in Atlanta, Ga.



Becky England

COURTESY PHOTO

89

Laurie Barker James and her daughter, Kaylie, attended the opening game of the



Laurie, Christine, and Kaylie

Texas Rangers where Christine Jensen throws a tailgate party on opening day every year. When they're not cheering on the Rangers,

Jensen is a real estate claims manager for CNA Global Specialty Lines in Dallas and James is the grants manager for All Church Home for Children, Inc., in Fort Worth, Texas. ■ Margaret Heather Shiels received her master's in business administration in May from St. Edwards' University.

90

Alyssa Banta was published in the *Fort Worth Weekly* in March, including several photos and the cover story, "Ciudad Fort Worth," highlighting Hispanic culture in Fort Worth, Texas.

## 91 15-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

Greg Ellis is a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry and was appointed faculty member of the Center for Aesthetic and Restorative Dentistry in Dallas. He has a dental practice in Fort Worth and spends his free time enjoying his 1963 Mooney M20C plane.

92

A daughter, Sarah Marlene, was born Jan. 11 to Victor and Melissa

Bradshaw Behar. The family lives in Houston.

■ Bethann Bernstein Eccles opened the Eccles Law Office, P.C., in



Sarah Behar

Austin, Texas. She was formerly a partner with Brown McCarroll, L.L.P. Eccles, also a CPA, specializes in estate planning, probate, trusts, and tax issues. She, her husband, Beau, and children, Mara, 6, and Sam, 1,



Alex Parrish

live in Austin. ■ A son, Alex, was born Dec. 5, 2004, to Dianne and Marc

Parrish. The family

lives in Austin, Texas. ■ Michael Price and Victor Myers '90 met recently with two-year-old future 'Roos, Trey Price and Jacalyn Myers, in tow. Both children were



Victor and Jacalyn Myers with Michael and Trey Price

born in December 2004. Price is an attorney with Milner and Finn in Dallas. Victor owns a contracting business and builds custom homes.

94

Tony DeSanto and Kristen Rogers were married in June 2005 at Texas Discovery Gardens in Dallas. The wedding party included Susan Rogers Senn '91, Joanna Photiades Gabler '93, Ted Levine '93, and



Kristen and Tony DeSanto

Adam Gudgeon. Many other alumni and faculty attended. Tony works for United Surgical Partners in Dallas as an information technology project manager and Kristen works for Parkland Memorial Hospital as manager of inpatient clinical nutrition

services. ■ A son, John James, IV, was born Sept. 7, 2005, to

Jay and Marissa Chapa Fontanini

'96. Big sister,

Adriana, welcomed

him home in Pompano Beach, Fla.



John and Adriana Fontanini

95

A son, Maxwell John, was born Jan. 30 to



Maxwell Teagarden

Michael and Jill Harter Teagarden. The family lives in Dallas where Jill is the director of research and development for VHA, Inc., and Mike is a business technology consultant with eVerge Consulting. ■ Monica Paggi Islahi is a principal consultant for Sogeti, part of Cap Gemini Group. She also was elected to the board of the MPA: the official industry association for Microsoft Office Project. She and her husband, Tahir, live in Plano, Texas, with their sons, Zamir and Kaden. ■ Carlos Zeisel is an assistant professor of sociology at Morris College in Sumter, S.C., while completing his doctorate in sociology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This summer, he will complete his dissertation, "Conceptions and Understanding of Violence in Post-Civil War El Salvador." His teaching areas are social theory and research methodology and his research interests are human rights and the social development of Latin America.

## 96 10-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

Kelly Trish and Scott Petry were married April 24, 2004, in St. Martinville, La. Their daughter, Anna Kaitlyn, was born



April 7, 2005. Kelly graduated from the LBJ School of Public Affairs and the University of Texas School of Law in 2000. Before becoming a full-time mom, she worked at NASA-Johnson Space Center. Her husband is an attorney with Thompson and Knight in Houston.

97

A daughter, Carys Judith, was born Oct. 10, 2005, to Weston and **Karen Hooper Blaney**. The family lives in Alexandria, Va., where Wes works for Envision Design and Karen worked with the National 4-H



Carys Blaney

Council before the birth of Carys. The family plans a move to Austin, Texas, later this year. ■ **Chris**

**Brooker** graduated from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine on June 3 and is moving to Scottsdale, Ariz., to begin his family medicine residency. ■ **Marissa Elkins** graduated with honors from the University of Connecticut School of Law in May 2005. After a clerkship with the Honorable Joan G. Margolis, Federal Magistrate Judge for the District of Connecticut, she now works as a public defender in Northampton, Mass.

98



Samuel Skaggs

A son, Samuel Henry, was born Dec. 31, 2005, to **Jack and Amy Scull Skaggs '00**.

## Koch Named Teacher of the Year in Austin Middle School

**Kadia Koch '00** had never taken an art class until she was a student at Austin College. A rather late introduction to art did not curb her growing passion. She took courses in drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, ceramics, and digital imaging. Though she completed a major in psychology and a minor in gender studies, it was art that was to provide her career.

Three years ago, Koch became an art teacher at Dobie Middle School in Austin, Texas, teaching sixth, seventh, and eighth grade art. In February, she was named the school's Teacher of the Year. And while she loves teaching, she also enjoys the chance to continue learning. "Every time I teach a new art lesson, I learn more about art,"

Koch said. "I feel lucky to be an art teacher because I get to learn and grow with my students."

"The best part of teaching art is sharing my passion with my students," she said. "I love that a typically 'difficult' student can be my best and most focused artist. It is gratifying to watch a student improve his skills and abilities and develop a drive to succeed, improve, and create."

Koch's background in psychology also is at work in her classes. "Understanding when a student is upset or distracted determines my ability to generate successful products with students," she said. "As an art teacher I have the opportunity to provide a casual form of art therapy to my students. In art class, students have the opportunity to explore their sense of self and develop a stronger identity. A student that struggles in core academic classes may enter my room with low self-esteem. It is my goal to build a child's self-esteem through success in art class despite possible limitations in other areas."

Koch earned a Master of Arts in Teaching through the Austin Teacher Program and said she would not be Teacher of the Year without the patience and compassion of her professors. "I use the knowledge they instilled in me every day."



Kadia Koch

99

A daughter, Bethany Marie, was born Oct. 23, 2005, to David and **Alice Kelley**



Nicholas Gitcho

**Fielding**. ■ A son, Nicholas George, was born Dec. 30, 2005, to **Greg and Brandi Veazey Gitcho**.

00



Caden Blitz

A son, Caden Alexander, was born March 7 to **Bobby '01 and Shanna Dunn Blitz**.

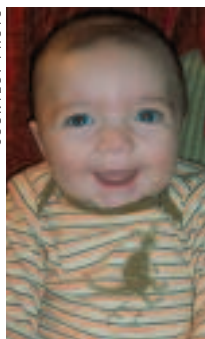
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Distinguished  
Alumni Awards

[http://www.austincollege.edu/  
Info.asp?886](http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?886)

■ **Donny Kalluvilayil** is the administrator of pediatric cardiology at Mount Sinai

Medical Center in New York City.

■ A son, William Connor, was born Oct. 7, 2005, to Scott and Brooke Dorsey McMillan. The family lives in Austin, Texas.



*William McMillan*

## 01 5-YEAR CLASS REUNION OCTOBER 13-15, 2006

**Shawnia Elder** received her master's degree in communication disorders from the University of Texas at Dallas in May 2005.

She was married in June 2005 and had a daughter Nov. 7, 2005. Shawnia is taking some time off to stay at home with her daughter, but hopes to join a private practice to work with children as a licensed speech pathologist. ■ **Andy French**

graduated from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in June and has begun his residency training in emergency medicine in Denver. ■ **Bess Fulmer Wilson** completed a master's degree in gifted and talented education from Hardin-Simmons in May 2005.

She will continue her studies as a doctoral student in educational psychology, with a specialty in gifted and talented education, at the University of Connecticut. Her husband, Jon, and daughter, Lily Elizabeth, 4, look

forward to the snowy winters ahead. ■ A

son, Blake Ryan, was born Dec. 20, 2005, to Jennie (Knapp) and Daniel Harper '02. The family

lives in Kyle, Texas. ■ A son, Grant Fox, was born Feb. 6 to Christine and Matthew Nevitt. Matthew is a

resident in orthopedic surgery at The Campbell Clinic in Memphis, Tenn., and Christine is a corporate attorney. ■ A son, Dawson John,

was born Jan. 19 to Doug and Amber Townsend Zarazinski.



*Blake Harper*



*Grant Nevitt*



*Dawson Zarazinski*

## 02

**Sarah Cooper** and **Bill Searight** '01 were married in June 2005 in Atlanta, Ga. The wedding party included **Stephanie Flores**,



*Sarah and Bill Searight wedding*

**Heather Graham**, **Sarah Kinard**, **Matt Kinard**, **Kurt Esslinger**, **Jared Warren** '01, and **Genevieve Nichols**. Sarah and Bill received their master's degrees in divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary in

Decatur, Ga., in May. ■ **Amy Summers-Minette** graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary in May 2005 and was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church on Nov. 13, 2005. She serves as associate pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Staunton, Va.

## 03

**Jennifer Johnstone** and **Brandon Shelby** '01 were married Sept. 24, 2005. The



*Jennifer and Brandon Shelby*

wedding party included **Kimberly Bean Cassady** '04, **Mark Gibbs** '01, **Justin Caruthers** '01, and **Daniel Vogel** '02.

**Brett Shelby** was the best man. Wedding music was provided by organist Anna Laura Page, soloist Wayne Crannell, associate professor of music, and trumpeter **Joey Mott** '06. The couple lives in Dallas, where Jennifer is a corporate account executive and Brandon is an attorney.

## 04



*Karis DeWitt*

A daughter, **Karis Nicole**, was born Feb. 16 to James and **Emily Anderson DeWitt**. The family lives in Jasper, Texas, where James is a youth minister. ■ **Meghan Cardwell** and **Bascom Wilson** were married



June 12, 2005, at A&M Gardens in Azle, Texas. The wedding party included best

COURTESY PHOTO



*Meghan and Bascom Wilson*  
man **John Alecu** and bridesmaids **Heidi Rushing** and **Sarah Russell**. **Caroline Beasley** kept the guestbook and **Joseph Allison '01** served as an usher. ■ **Jill McMillan** is doing a summer externship with Boat People SOS, a non-profit organization founded by the descendants of Vietnamese refugees that provides legal defense and assistance to victims of human trafficking. She attends University of Houston Law Center and plans to complete her degree in 2007.

05

**Delilah Rodriguez** and **Jesús Navarrete '06** were married Feb. 12, 2005. The wedding party included maid of honor **Janet Lee '04**, bridesmaids **Jennifer McDowell** and **Kelli Marshall**, and groomsmen **Brandon Pugh**, **Cory McDowell**, **Alejandro Story**, and brother of the groom, **Daniel Navarrete '07**. Several other alumni attended. The couple lives in McKinney, Texas. **Jesús** will continue in the graduate program of the Austin Teacher Program in his preparation to teach sixth through 12th grade Spanish.



COURTESY PHOTO

*Navarrete wedding party*

## 2004 Graduate **Abbas Ravjani** Wins Prestigious National Graduate Fellowship

COURTESY PHOTO



*Abbas Ravjani*

**Abbas Ravjani '04** has been named a 2006 Paul and Daisy Soros New American Fellow. The 30 new fellows receive up to a \$20,000 stipend plus half-tuition for up to two years of graduate study at any institution of higher learning in the United States. Ravjani has been admitted to Yale and Harvard law schools and will attend Yale Law School this fall. He now works for the U.S. Department of the Navy as a Middle East political-military analyst in Washington, D.C. Ravjani's parents, now naturalized citizens, immigrated from Pakistan in the 1970s.

Almost 800 applicants, who are naturalized citizens, resident aliens, or the children of naturalized citizens, completed applications this year. They represented 134 countries of origin and came from 360 colleges and universities. The 30 fellows were selected from 84 finalists who were interviewed in New York and Los Angeles.

The Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans were established in 1997 as a charitable trust of \$50 million dollars to assist new Americans in furthering their careers through graduate education. The donors, both new Americans, created the trust to thank the U.S. for the life provided them and their children. More than 230 fellowships have been given in preceding years. This year, 60 fellows are studying 21 subjects at 21 universities.

## ALUMNI PROFILE:

COURTESY PHOTO



Paula Rosenberg '89 said the national news media tend to create panic when they focus on the "disease of the week," be it SARS, West Nile Virus, or avian flu. "A bigger threat is influenza," Rosenberg said, "which kills at least 20,000 people each year in the United States." Rosenberg encourages people to be more concerned about everyday health threats. "We want people to be prepared," she said, "not panicked." Visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for tips on preparing for unexpected threats.

## THE LESSONS OF ANTHRAX:

### Fighting bioterrorism with Paula Rosenberg '89

by Brian Builta

In the weeks following Sept. 11, 2001, seven envelopes containing anthrax bacteria were mailed to major news media offices in New York City and to two U.S. Senate offices in Washington, D.C. Five people died from these anthrax attacks and those responsible have never been found. Paula Rosenberg '89 was in her 11th year with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and had just moved into the Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program weeks before Sept. 11. "The morning of Sept. 11, I had just finished reading my last background article on bioterrorism," said Rosenberg, who is a public health adviser. "I turned to my boss and said, 'What's next?' He told me a plane had just hit the World Trade Center."

After Sept. 11, the CDC sent 40 people to New York City where they spent 10 weeks performing syndromic surveillance on disease patterns in hospitals, searching for possible bioterroristic agents. During the subsequent anthrax attack, Rosenberg's staff jumped from four people in a small room to 200 people in an auditorium, fielding what staff members called "white powder calls," Rosenberg said. "We had to take all of them seriously."

The anthrax attack made the CDC a more focused organization, Rosenberg said. They computerized operations, established an emergency operations center, and sharpened their communication skills, all of which helped after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast. The CDC sent 400 people to the Gulf Coast, "looking for diseases and stopping them when they cropped up," Rosenberg said, and helped New Orleans re-establish its public health department, which had been devastated.

Lessons from the anthrax attacks of 2001 obviously paid off — no major diseases erupted on the Gulf Coast — but Rosenberg said the CDC cannot take full credit. "As in all responses, success is half skill and half luck."

### The East Coast Connection

Students and alumni met for dinner in New York City during the National Model United Nations competition in April. Pictured are, left to right, Phillip Manning '06; Breanna Shay '06; Holly George '05 of New York City; an Italian friend; Anna Day '05 of Boston, Mass.; Vanessa Tosi '06; Adam Sandlin '05 of Washington, D.C.; Sean Sweatt '04 attending Columbia University; and Sean T. Garciagodoy '04 of Boston.



COURTESY PHOTO



## DID YOU KNOW

The names of 26 Austin College alumni are recorded who lost their lives in military service during World War II.

Those names can be found on the Austin

College website:

[www.austincollege.edu/Category.](http://www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?2217)

[asp?2217](http://www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?2217)

## A HOMECOMING FOR Legends 2006

**July 15-17**

Saturday – Sunday on campus

Monday Golf Tournament in McKinney

[www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?2647](http://www.austincollege.edu/Info.asp?2647)



### Send Us Your News

'Roo Notes will publish news of recent marriages, births of children, promotions, and other news of Austin College alumni.

**Email:** [alumni@austincollege.edu](mailto:alumni@austincollege.edu)

**Mail:** Class Notes, College Relations  
Austin College  
900 N. Grand Ave., Suite 6H  
Sherman, Texas 75090

Photos are welcome and will be used as space is available. Electronic photos must be 300 dpi (high resolution). All must be publication quality.

## IN MEMORIAM

'29	Nancy Perry Johnston	November 4, 2005
'48	Kenneth Kuykendall	April 5, 2006
'49	Clarence C. Phipps	March 5, 2006
'49	Josephine Gregg Groben	June 5, 2006
'50	Earl R. Hedrick	April 4, 2006
'52	James Andrews	March 7, 2006
'52	Warren R. Foster	January 27, 2006
'57	Sherry Walker Howard	January 30, 2005
'61	Joyce Pilkinton Davis	April 6, 2006
'63	Emily Lawhead Glover	April 13, 2006
'63	Guy L. Tucker	March 23, 2006
'67	Mary Meador Moody	February 22, 2006
'70	Margaret J. Cook	June 10, 2006
'72	Joe B. Meade	February 1, 2006
'73	Rita M. Wheeler	April 27, 2006
'74	Mike Snyder	March 4, 2006
'76	William J. Suski	April 21, 2006

Carolyn Beaird, former trustee, died Jan. 26, 2006.



Jack Frost McGraw, Class of 1932, died June 12, 2006, at her home in Sherman. One of the College's oldest alumni, she had written and published six volumes of her memoirs through Austin College's "Telling Our Stories" program during the past several years. Her works can be found in the Austin College Collection of Abell Library Center.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### CHAIR:

Robert J. Wright, Dallas, TX

### CHAIR-ELECT:

Robert M. Johnson '53, McLean, VA

### TRUSTEES:

John O. Adams, Jr. '84, Southlake, TX	Robert W. Minshew '60, Sherman, TX
Richard J. Agnich, Dallas, TX	Steven M. Mobley, Austin, TX
Margaret Allison, San Antonio, TX	Samuel S. Moore '64, Dallas, TX
Jerry E. Apple '60, Irving, TX	Linda C. Morris, Fort Worth, TX
Lee Dean Ardell '74, Houston, TX	Marcus Payne '58, Waxahachie, TX
James D. Baskin III '75, Austin, TX	Jo Ann Geurin Pettus, Graham, TX
Jacqueline R. Cooper '73, Oakton, VA	Davis B. Price '67, Lubbock, TX
Barry B. Donnell, Wichita Falls, TX	Fazlur Rahman, San Angelo, TX
F. R. "Buck" Files '60, Tyler, TX	Annadele H. Ross '66, Dallas, TX
Rebecca Moseley Gafford '72, Dallas, TX	Ann Colt Sporer Smith '65, Fort Smith, AR
Dennis E. Gonier '83, Fredericksburg, VA	Caroline Elbert Taylor '66, Wyalusing, PA
Mary Ann Stell Harris, Houston, TX	Jesse R. Thomas '74, Sherman, TX
Charles Hendricks '61, The Woodlands, TX	Linda Plummer Ward '78, Nashville, TN
M. Steve Jones, Sherman, TX	William E. Warren '74, Plano, TX
Sharon S. King, Dallas, TX	Todd A. Williams '82, Dallas, TX
Jeffrey Landsberg '81, Dallas, TX	Stanley M. Woodward, Dallas, Texas
Fred R. Meyer, Dallas, TX	Michael G. Wright, Dallas, Texas

## MEET THE TRUSTEE

W.C. "Dub" Miller was born when Theodore Roosevelt was president, graduated from law school at the start of the Great Depression, and served six years on the Dallas City Council before there was such a thing as the Dallas Cowboys football team.

Miller's association with Austin College began in the late 1950s when his sons **Charles "Bo" '61** and **Will '64 Miller** attended. "Dub" Miller served on the College's Board of Trustees from 1960 to 1980, and has been a senior trustee ever since.

Miller has been a horseman his entire life. Born in Brady, Texas, in 1905, Miller graduated from Dallas' Oak Cliff High School and attended SMU, where he eventually earned his law degree. In 1937, Miller's father-in-law invited him to join what is now the oldest business in Dallas: the commercial real estate firm of Bolanz & Miller, founded in 1874.

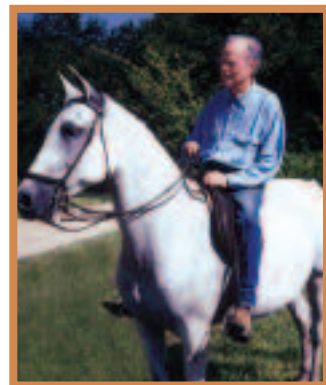
Asking Miller, who turned 100 years old in December, about his greatest accomplishment is like asking Babe Ruth about his favorite home run — too many to choose from. Miller and wife Nell were charter members of Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas; Miller served six years on the Dallas City Council (1953-1959) and 25 years as director of the State Fair of Texas (1955-1980). "But the best thing I ever did," Miller said, "was marry the most lovely woman there ever was," in 1936. Nell Miller died in 1996.

"One of my greatest interests and loves would have to be Austin College," Miller said, "the people I met there, the families, boys and girls, all the great leaders, such unselfish people."

Miller's life still revolves around horses. He visits his own Arabians twice a week — they live on a ranch south of Fort Worth — and just last April he showed some of his horses in Nacogdoches,

Texas. When Miller was young, a neighbor, annoyed at the boy's incessant horse riding through the neighborhood, told Miller's mother, "That boy is going to get killed on that pony," to which Mrs. Miller replied, "Well, then he'll die happy." Even living in north Dallas, Miller is never far from horses; his home is filled with pictures, paintings, and sculptures of horses.

In his bedroom Miller keeps three saddles piled on top of each other; when he wakes each morning, the saddles are just within reach. 🐾



W.C. "Dub" Miller, 100, and his mare Brook.

COURTESY PHOTO



july



**Legends Celebration**

[www.austincollege.edu/category.asp?1662](http://www.austincollege.edu/category.asp?1662)

- 15 Reunion of Champions Reception  
Austin College Pouch Club (Cash Bar)
- 16 Legends Gala and Awards Dinner  
Mabee Hall, Wright Campus Center
- 17 Slat's McCord Legends Golf Tournament  
Stonebridge Ranch Country Club Dye Course, McKinney, Texas

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

- 24-27 New Student Orientation
- 28 Opening Convocation
- 29 Fall Term 2006 Classes Begin

august

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



- 22-23 Parent and Family Weekend
- 28 North Texas Land Stewardship Lecture: Andy Sansom, 11 a.m.  
Hoxie Thompson Auditorium, Sherman Hall

sept.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

oct.

- 13 Forster Art Studio Groundbreaking
- 14 An Evening of Mozart with friends, 7:30 p.m.  
Wynne Chapel [www.communityseries.com](http://www.communityseries.com)
- 13-15 Homecoming
- 26 Lecture: Jackson Katz, 11 a.m.  
Hoxie Thompson Auditorium, Sherman Hall

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

See the Austin College Campus Master Calendar for a full schedule of events:  
<http://www.austincollege.edu/MasterCalendar.asp?2057> 



## EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

The Austin College Archives is filled with photos from the 157-year history of the College. Alumni with information to share or names of individuals from the above photo can write Editor, Austin College, 900 N. Grand Ave., Suite 6H, Sherman, Texas 75090 or [editor@austincollege.edu](mailto:editor@austincollege.edu).

**Alumni:** Send in your Austin College photos for possible inclusion in **Every Picture Tells A Story**. Send to Editor at the above address.

## THE STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO



Margaret Winfield Jackson '85 wrote that she got the "scoop" on the February photo from her mom, Dorothy Tucker Winfield '53. She explained that the photo is of freshmen girls cleaning the senior sidewalk with toothbrushes and Ba-Bo cleaner in 1949-1950. Margaret asked her mom how often they cleaned it and was told, "Anytime the seniors felt it was dirty." Dorothy said this picture had to be taken after homecoming since the freshmen are not wearing their beanies. Rosemary Beachy Banta '51 also wrote to identify the photo and Marilynn Slate McKnight '53 said the Kangarettes were scrubbing the Upperclassman Walk. Between Winfield, Banta, and McKnight, they offered the following identifications (or guesses in some cases!): clockwise from bottom left: Barbara Bailey Hooks '53; Marie Davis '53 or Mary Francis Evans '54; Lucille Muehlhause Hightower '53; Louise Muehlhause '53; Nancy Roundtree '53; Esther Long Day '53; Hope Lawrence Sheppard '53 or Ann Johnson Van Vooren '53; Marilynn Slate McKnight '53; Dorothy Tucker Winfield '53; and Janet Guthrie Sims '53. Banta said the research brought back many wonderful memories and McKnight questioned the absence of "slime caps" since she remembers that the Homecoming game was lost that year. Ah, tradition ...





# Ron Kirk

## 2006 Commencement



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

*Former Dallas mayor Ron Kirk '76 delivered Austin College's 2006 Commencement address to the 317 bachelor's degree candidates of the Class of 2006, 24 students earning master's degrees, and members of the Class of 1956 celebrating their 50-year anniversary. The May 14 ceremonies marked the close of the 157th academic year of the College. At left, Board of Trustee Chair Robert J. Wright and College President Oscar C. Page listen.*

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