

Delta State

THE MAGAZINE FOR DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Fall 2006 • Issue 1



Fred Carl, Jr.

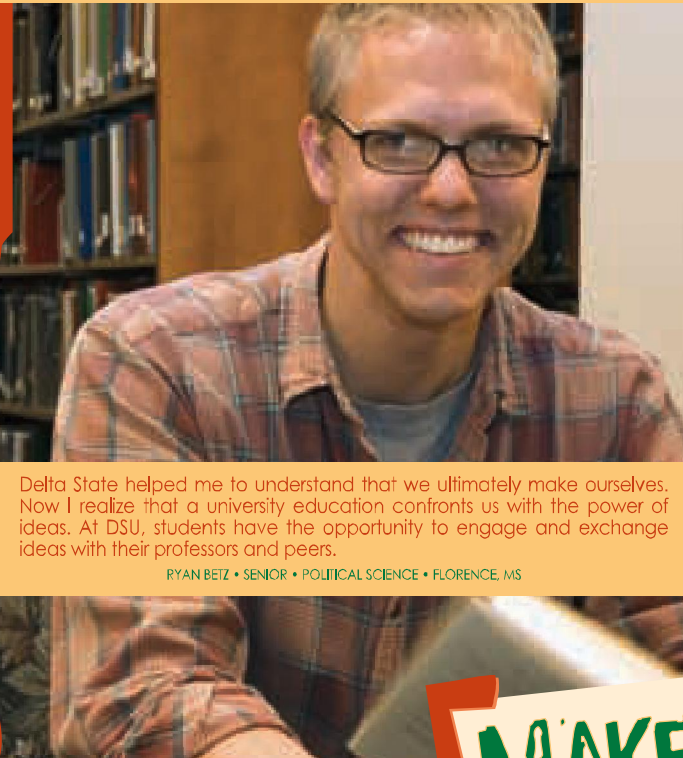
President & CEO of Viking Range

Class of 1975

Alumnus of the Year



College of Arts and Sciences



Delta State helped me to understand that we ultimately make ourselves. Now I realize that a university education confronts us with the power of ideas. At DSU, students have the opportunity to engage and exchange ideas with their professors and peers.

RYAN BETZ • SENIOR • POLITICAL SCIENCE • FLORENCE, MS

College of Education



Delta State has an awesome elementary education department that is truly preparing me to become a great teacher. My professors have taught me to always strive for the very best. I have never met teachers who have such a passion for what they do.

DENERICE McDONALD • JUNIOR • ELEMENTARY EDUCATION • GREENWOOD, MS

MAKE YOUR STATEMENT
at Delta State

College of Business



Delta State was a great choice for me. The CIS program here allows me to choose the path I want to take. The College of Business' curriculum allows me to achieve my goals. The entire faculty goes out of their way to set me up for success.

DAVLON MILLER • JUNIOR • COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS • HERNANDO, MS

School of Nursing



I can honestly say that the School of Nursing is one big family. I have cried, laughed, struggled and been successful. My professors have been there by my side, guiding me 100 percent. My college experience wouldn't have been fulfilled if I had gone anywhere else.

BRITTANY FLIPPO • SENIOR • NURSING • ENID, MS

**Alumni, want to recommend a prospective Statesmen or Lady Statesmen?
Let our Recruiting & Admissions Office know at admissions@deltastate.edu.**

Delta State University recently unveiled its newest admissions campaign, "Make Your Statement at Delta State." The marketing effort, aimed at prospective Delta State students, features currently enrolled students "telling their story with their words and their experiences, first hand. We asked them to tell prospective students what it is, what it was that attracted them to the University," explained Rori E. Herbison, Director of University Relations. Delta State is currently boasting its largest enrollment in the institution's 81-year history behind a recently released headcount enrollment of 4,216 students, representing an almost three percent increase from a year ago.



Delta State
University

Cleveland, MS • 1.800.GO.TO.DSU • www.deltastate.edu



Delta State University

Delta State Alumni Magazine

Fall 2006 Issue 1

The Delta State Magazine is published by the DSU Alumni/Foundation with assistance from the Office of University Relations and Sports Information, Box 3141, Cleveland, Mississippi 38733, E-Mail: alumni@deltastate.edu 662-846-4660

PresidentDr. John Hilpert

Alumni-Foundation:

Executive DirectorKeith Fulcher

Alumni SecretarySharon Krugler

Chief Financial OfficerDeborah Cox

Director Annual GivingMissy Pearce

Director of Alumni AffairsVicki Fioranelli

Administrative AssistantAnn Giger

BookkeeperSharon Kuhn

Development SecretarySheryl Stephens

Annual Giving SecretaryDameon Shaw

Office of University Relations:

DirectorRori E. Herbison

PhotographerBill Moses

Graphic DesignerLaura Fleeman

SecretaryGloria Enriquez

Sports Information DirectorMatt Jones

Board of Directors

Delta State University Alumni Association:

Bill Greenleaf, president; Daye Dearing, vice president; John Cox, secretary/treasurer; Arthur Johnston, past president; Jimmy Newquist, Foundation president; Duncan Baird, Jo Ann Clark, Derrick Cooper, Mark Davis, Amy Deer, Cory Donnelly, Mandy Gardner, Nancy Gerrard, Wayne Lee, Jr., Lauren Lewis, Sasha Monty, Ted Poore, Edward Pope, Beth Price, Steve Puckett, Mickey Robinson, Chelsea Shepherd, Will Simpson, Rileyann Smith, Wayne Smith, Doug Sullivan, Craig Verhage, Lynn Weaver

Board of Directors

Delta State University Foundation, Inc.:

Jimmy Newquist, president; Frank Sibley, vice president; Judson Thigpen, secretary/ treasurer; Peter Jernberg, past president; David Abney, William Alford, Louis Baioni, John Brewer, Glenn K. Brown, Hunter Cade, Scott Coopwood, Harold Corbin, Billy Dorgan, Sr., Carl Easley, John Hamner, Timothy Harvey, Archie James, Tom Janoush, Ed Kossman, Jr., Jack Kyle, Dr. Derek Miles, Ned Mitchell, Mike Morrison, Douglas Murphy, Mike Neyman, Billy Nowell, Dr. Sam Polles, Carol Puckett, Nan Sanders, Rick Shepherd, Jim Tims, Brian Waldrop, Jeanne Walker, Janet Webb, Anne Weissinger, John Quon, faculty representative; Bill Greenleaf, Alumni President

Design and Layout by Coopwood Communications, Inc. Cleveland, Mississippi

Note:
As a cost saving measure only one magazine per household is mailed.

On the cover: Viking employees and Delta State Alumni

Jane Crump, Tabbatha White, Linda Smith, Matt Finke, Tiffany Honeycutt, Nancy Tharp, Nan Dean, Tiffany Carter, Howard Alderman, Brian Waldrop, Andrea Wilson, Todd Goss, Michelle Yarbrough, Hollie Long, John Long, Chris Elmore, Wayne Clark, Scotty Thornton, Guy Sharpe, John Bariola, Carla Caldwell, Steve McDaniel, Stan Dorroh, Jamie Nance, Gerri Dangelo, Lee Hodges, Atley Everitt, Mike Milner, Steven Ham, Cindy Lacey, Jackie Gibson, Carolyn Willis, Bill Crump, Fred Carl



page 10



page 14



page 18



page 20

features

- 4 THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- 5 CAMPUS NEWS
- 10 S. WAYNE THOMPSON JOURNALISM LAB
- 12 FRED CARL, ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR
- 14 RETIREMENT HAVEN... CLEVELAND
- 18 AN ANIMATED ALUM: BRUCE TINNIN
- 20 HERO OF IRAQ
- 22 NO IFS, ANDS OR BUTS ABOUT IT...
- 28 WITH THE CLASSES
- 32 BABY STATESMEN

21st Annual Pig Pickin September 23, 2006

This year, more than 50 Regions Bank employees volunteered to help in all aspects of the 21st annual



Pig Pickin'. Don Pittman once again spearheaded the volunteer efforts of Regions Bank. I sent out an email asking bank employees all over North Mississippi if they would like to attend or help, and the responses just came rolling in. It has become a tradition and people come from as far away as Tupelo to help serve food, sell tickets, sell DSU logo items and even help with clean up, Pittman says. He also gets calls from people wanting to attend from Birmingham, Memphis and even Nashville.

Pig Pickin'. Don Pittman once again spearheaded the volunteer efforts of Regions Bank. I sent out an email asking bank employees all over North Mississippi if they would like to attend or help, and the responses just came rolling in. It has become a tradition and people come from as far away as





Another great year for Delta State

Dear Friends,

When I deliver my annual State of the University address, there is a particular sentence I enjoy saying. It is this: the state of this university is sound. I was able to say it again this year on August 17 at the Opening Convocation. We have more students and more resources than at any time in the history of Delta State University.

Another of the opportunities to which I look forward in the address is reciting many of the top accomplishments of faculty and staff during the previous twelve months. I asked members of the President's Cabinet and the Academic Council to submit lists of three or four of the best of the best from their areas, and, of course, most fudge a little and give me a few more. For this publication, I thought I would report a select few items to you. I hope you appreciate the accomplishments of faculty and staff as much as I do.

- For the second straight year, the university achieved record enrollment (4,284) with its focused enrollment marketing and management model. Also, enrollment in graduate programs rose to an all-time high.
- Wings and Roots, the multi-year fund raising campaign, sailed well past its initial goal of \$12,000,000 with a total result in excess of \$37,000,000.
- Nearly \$30,000,000 in financial aid went to 3,500 of our students. Special funding for Hurricane Katrina victims brought an additional \$1,300,000 to 170 students.
- Viking Corporation donated equipment for the Family and Consumer Sciences program; the facility was renovated, and dedicated as the Ada Swindle Mitchell Foods Laboratory. Our alumnus, Fred Carl, is founder and CEO of this international firm, and we're proud of his success.
- During the year, the Division of Finance completed more than \$10,000,000 in construction and renovation projects and planned or initiated another \$40,000,000 in projects.
- The Social Work Program was re-accredited for eight years with no contingencies, and this distinction is achieved nationally by only 20 percent of the programs reviewed.
- Our Geographic Information Systems Center received regional and national recognition for its role in the recovery efforts for victims of Hurricane Katrina.
- In its second year, our e-learning program served more than 200 high school students with Spanish language instruction by two-way audio and video from campus studios. More than 300 have enrolled for the coming year.
- College of Business faculty and staff raised more than \$1,000,000 in grants, contracts, and special appropriation funding.
- Studies showed that the Small Business Development Center had a \$3,500,000 economic impact on the Mississippi Delta.
- Increased recruitment activities by the School of Nursing paid off – admissions to the undergraduate nursing program grew 33 percent this past year.
- Nursing students contributed 35,398 service learning hours during 2005/06 which calculates to more than \$630,000 in value added to local organizations and communities.
- Delta Regional Development attracted and managed \$6,900,000 in grant funding for a variety of projects.
- Staff Council sponsored "Feed a Family" in November and collected enough food to feed 25 families at Thanksgiving.
- Ten thousand alumni, friends, donors, students, and parents participated in alumni events during the last year.
- In 1995, the Foundation provided \$42,000 in scholarships. This past year that number had grown to \$282,000 serving 287 students.
- Alyse Hasty, a softball player, was named the Gulf South Conference female athlete of the year.
- Jasper Johnson won the Howell Award for the top Mississippi Collegiate Basketball Player and the honor of being named the National Player of the Year. Former head coach Steve Rives was named the National Coach of the Year for men's basketball.

As satisfying as these and the dozens of other accomplishments have been for us in 2005/06, we're now at the threshold of another academic year. We have set new, challenging goals for ourselves in the areas of student success; programs related to student, staff, and faculty diversity; salary distribution models; accreditation-related opportunities; feasibility of unit-based fund raising; and various physical plant projects. We've also established a new theme for special programming this year: Health and Wellness in the Delta.

Thank you for your support during this past twelve months. We look forward to your continuing participation in the life of your alma mater this coming year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Hilpert". The signature is stylized and cursive.

JOHN M. HILPERT

Freeman conferred with honorary degree

At Delta State University's most recent spring commencement, Hollywood icon Morgan Freeman was conferred for the degree, Doctor of Arts and Letters, in front of a filled-to-capacity coliseum.

"Mr. Freeman's commitment to the Delta has been steadfast and solid. He has never forgotten his roots and we appreciate him for that," Delta State President, Dr. John M. Hilpert, lauded. "We are privileged to honor Morgan Freeman, an outstanding Mississippian whose long and distinguished career has brought great pride to everyone in his home state and particularly to all of us who live in the Delta."

Freeman, amidst countless cameras flashes and an extended standing ovation, accepted his large framed degree, smiled brightly and acknowledged, "I had two pages of remarks written, but for the sake of being shorter, I will

simply express my appreciation, my gratitude and say, 'Thank you.'"

Later at a reception following the commencement services, Freeman acknowledged Leola Gregory Williams, an elementary teacher in his native Greenwood. "She was a magician, a true magician." Williams inspired Freeman and challenged him "to make something of my life, to do good."

Williams would become the first African-American instructor in English at Delta State. Annually the University awards The Leola Gregory Williams Award to students who have written outstanding papers in general education classes.

Freeman becomes the third recipient of an honorary degree from Delta State, joining alumnus Elbert R. Hilliard, Director Emeritus, Mississippi Department of Archives and History;

and Charles W. (Charlie) Capps, a native of Cleveland, and former District 28 Representative in the Mississippi House of Representatives.



Delta State University President Dr. John Hilpert (at right) presents Dr. Morgan Freeman with a framed honorary degree from Delta State University.

Moon awarded prestigious fellowship



Dr. Beverly Moon

Dr. Beverly Moon, associate professor of English and Coordinator of the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies degree program, was recently awarded a Sasakawa Fellowship through the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

The fellowship supported Moon's participation in the National Faculty Development Institute on "Incorporating Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum" at San Diego State University June 1 to June 23, 2006.

Designed for faculty without prior experience in Japanese studies, the institute introduces participants to a comprehensive range of teaching and learning resources related to the study of modern Japan.

Made possible by a generous endowment from the Nippon Foundation, Moon applied for the Sasakawa Fellowship because her interest in interdisciplinary studies, cross-cultural experiences and study-abroad programs. Further, she felt it imperative to provide such opportunities to Delta State students.

"The classes I teach will benefit from my increased awareness of Japanese culture, history, language and business - an awareness that corresponds to what I stress is essential for my students in our world: global interests, international perspectives and multidisciplinary focuses," she offered.

Roberts completes premier leadership training

Dr. Michelle Roberts, Executive Assistant to the President, recently completed The Millennium Leadership Initiative (MLI) in Washington, D.C.

Sponsored through American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), MLI is a premier leadership development program focused on "preparing the next generation of presidents and chancellors."

Roberts was one of only 37 people from across the United States accepted into the MLI program.

"MLI's institute was one of the most rewarding professional development experiences in my career. The program provided me with an

opportunity to examine the nuances of the college presidency and to explore the various aspects and skills needed to lead a successful university," Roberts said.

In its seven years, MLI proudly touts 214 graduates, 27 of which have become presidents and chancellors - many at AASCU member institutions.

AASCU represents more than 400 public colleges, universities and systems of higher education throughout the United States and its territories, including Delta State University. AASCU schools enroll more than three million students or 55 percent of the enrollment at all public four-year institutions.



Dr. Michelle Roberts

Morganti honored with President's Award at BPAC



David Dallas, Executive Director of the Bologna Performing Arts Center, with Dr. Leroy Morganti.

Given annually in recognition of outstanding service to the Bologna Performing Arts Center, Dr. Leroy Morganti of Benoit, was recently named the 2006 President's Award Winner.

"This recognition is long overdue," David Dallas, Executive Director of the Bologna Performing Arts Center, offered. "This award honors the vision and dedication of Dr. Morganti."

As the Center neared completion in spring 1995, then Delta State University President, Dr. Kent Wyatt, decided Morganti would direct the operations of the Center, in addition to his role as Vice-President of Executive Affairs.

"Leroy had a vision of what the Performing Arts Center could become and do, not only for Delta State, but for the entire Delta region. He, more than anyone else, is responsible for the many successes of the Bologna Performing Arts Center."

Morganti worked closely with Pat Halloran of The Orpheum Theatre in Memphis in developing a box office management strategy, a technical team and a plan for selecting an Executive Director. Additionally, he formed an Advisory Board consisting of campus and community leaders.

Morganti served at the helm of the BPAC from its inception in 1995 until his retirement in 2002. He was instrumental in securing famed composer and songwriter Marvin Hamlisch as the BPAC's inaugural performer.

Delta State loses dear friend, colleague

The collective Delta State University community is mourning the loss of John Quon, as the assistant professor of accountancy passed Sunday, Sept. 10, at his Moorhead residence.



John Quon

Quon, 64, dedicated over 40 years of his life to the professions he loved — teaching and accounting. In an announcement sent to other

Delta State faculty, the College of Business noted, "Mr. Quon will be remembered for his devotion to students, to Delta State, and to the accounting community, he worked his lifetime, to build."

He began his teaching career at Mississippi Delta Community College in 1966, before moving to Northwest Community College in 1967. He spent three years at the University of Mississippi as an instructor, and later came to Delta State University in 1971, where he would serve until his untimely death.

"Mr. Quon believed in doing what was best for Delta State University, the College of Business, our students and the accounting profession. He represents the epitome of our profession. He leaves behind a legacy of professionalism and dedication. His maintenance of high academic standards is legendary," Dr. Billy C. Moore, Dean of the College of Business expressed.

"He challenged our students academically and socially, and wanted our students to have a high-quality education that would prepare them for their chosen careers. For this commitment, he was well respected and will be remembered by his students and colleagues. When one mentions accounting at Delta State, his name is the first one that comes to mind. His position may be filled, but he will never be replaced," Moore concluded.

A graduate of the University of Mississippi, Quon earned his bachelor's degree in accounting in 1964, before completing his MBA in 1965, also at Ole Miss. He later completed advanced study in finance, accounting, microeconomics, quantitative economics and organizational behavior in 1971, also at Ole Miss. Quon became a licensed CPA in 1985.

Active both on the Delta State campus and in civic and professional organizations, Quon earned the University appointment, "John

Yurkow Distinguished Professor of Accountancy" in 1998, while also being recognized with a gubernatorial appointment to the Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy.

Recognized as the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants' Outstanding Educator of the Year in 1999, the S.E. Kossman Outstanding Faculty Award in 1992 and twice presented the Panhellenic Outstanding Faculty Award in 1989 and 1992, Quon's devotion to his student and the University was well known, well respected and well rewarded. He was inducted into four honor societies, including Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK), Omicron Delta Epsilon, Delta Mu Delta and Beta Alpha Psi.

His commitment to ODK carried far past induction, having served as faculty secretary-treasurer from 1986 to the time of his passing. He was equally committed to his work with Delta Mu Delta (a national honor society in business administration), having dutifully served as faculty adviser since 1984.

He is survived in death by his wife, Frieda, a librarian and assistant professor of library services at Delta State; two sons, Trey and Shannon; and three grandchildren.

Donations can be made to the John Quon Accounting Scholarship Fund, c/o The Delta State Foundation, DSU Box 3141, Cleveland, Miss., 38733.

Betsy & John Elliott: 51 Years of Combined Service



Betsy Bobo Elliott

Hired by the University following her 1973 graduation, Betsy Bobo Elliott, Director of Community College Relations, has 33 years of devoted service to her credit. She was recently presented the H.L. Nowell Outstanding Staff Award, which recognizes an extraordinary staff member annually.

Husband, John, also a 1973 graduate, first came to work for the University in 1988 and was recently promoted to the Registrar's lead position in July 2005, after serving as the assistant to the Registrar for 17 years. Of the promotion, he offered, "I thank Delta State University for the wonderful opportunity to serve as Registrar. I look forward to the challenge and will ensure that the high standards of those before me will be honored."



John Elliott

Alums attend Oxford Round Table in England

This summer, celebrated Mississippi artist and Fine Arts Department Chair at Holmes Community College, John L. Cheatham, III, along with his wife, Laurie (Cook), attended the Oxford Round Table, an annual international conference held at Oxford University, Oxford, England.

The Oxford Round Table is a series of forums, each focusing on different educational disciplines. Each forum consists of forty educators, administrators and intellectuals from around the world who lecture, discuss and debate issues affecting education.

Cheatham led discussions and also lectured on the validity of the Arts and Humanities in education. Laurie, professor of Sociology at Holmes, also participated in discussions related to Sociology and History.

The Cheathams participated in the Arts and Sciences forum, which was held at Jesus College, Oxford University, and addressed the separation of culture between the Arts and Humanities and Mathematics and Sciences.

Cheatham's lecture, entitled "Frivolous Creativity," addressed the creative deficiencies of math and science majors – a creative and moral element which can help mathematicians and scientists more effectively apply theories and concepts, thus leading to better scientific developments which can benefit mankind.

The week-long conference included



Alums John and Laurie (Cook) Cheatham in England.

presenters from around the world and was both intellectually and culturally charged.

Cheatham received his bachelor of fine arts from Delta State University in 1995, and a master of fine arts from the University of Mississippi. Laurie received a bachelor of

business administration from Delta State in 1997 and a bachelor of arts from the University of Mississippi. Laurie also received a master of arts in history from Jackson State University, sociology from Syracuse University, and geography from Texas State University.

Graeber Foundation makes \$50,000 gift

Lewis A. Graeber, Jr., on behalf of the Graeber Foundation, recently presented a check for \$50,000 to the Delta State University Foundation, Inc.

Lewis Graeber and his brother, James P. Graeber, formed the Graeber Foundation in the mid-1950s as an instrument to financially help schools, colleges, charities and other institutions in need of their services. Today, the Graeber Foundation is managed by Lewis Graeber, two of his sons, Clark and Bill, of Marks, and James' son, Skip, of Clarksdale.

"Delta State University is one of the best schools in Mississippi," Lewis Graeber contended. "Delta State provides the opportunity for a quality education to our children, and it is right here at home."

The donation was made in honor of Jeff Tarver of Tarver, Tarver, Kirby and Jackson, certified public accountants of Greenville. A 1976 graduate of Delta State, Tarver is a life long friend of the Graeber family.

"I am grateful to the Graeber Foundation's very generous gift to my alma mater and deeply touched that it is made in honor of my family's long-time business association and friendship with a family that I admire tremendously" Tarver offered. "The Graeber and the Tarver families have known each other since the late 1940s when my father became the accountant for Graeber Brothers. I am very fortunate to be carrying on the relationship, which is both personal and professional."

Steeped in a long history of attending Delta State University, Jeff's father, Bill, was a 1938 graduate, while his mother, Annie Louise Stovall was a 1937 graduate of the then Delta State Teachers College (DSTC). Jeff's wife, the former Donna Tolar, is a 1973 graduate and two of their children are graduates of the University.

"We are pleased that the Graebers' generous gift was made in honor of Jeff, and I express thanks on behalf of our 21,000 alumni," Keith Fulcher said.



Keith Fulcher (right) presents Jeff Tarver (center) and Bill Graeber with commemorative donor lapel pins in appreciation for the Graeber Foundation's \$50,000 contribution that will fund scholarships for deserving students.

For more information on establishing a scholarship or to make a gift to Delta State University, please contact the Alumni/Foundation office at (662) 846-4708.

Chinese Baptist Church Endows \$100,000 Scholarship



The Chinese Baptist mission of Cleveland in 1951.

For over 70 years, the Chinese Baptist Church has made many valuable contributions to the Cleveland community. After the decision to disband in August 2005, the remaining active members of the church made one last contribution that will continue to provide for Delta State University students for years to come.

The Chinese Baptist Church Presidential Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in

July in the amount of \$100,000. The interdisciplinary scholarship may be awarded to students in any academic area of the University who may be in need and it may be renewed annually if the student remains in good academic standing with the University.

According to the *History of Bolivar Baptist Association of Mississippi*, The Chinese Baptist Church began as a mission in

September 1934, under the direction of First Baptist Church of Cleveland. At that time, Dr. Ira D. Evenson was the pastor at First Baptist and had an interest in the Chinese community in Cleveland that stemmed from his six-year service as a missionary in China. By 1937, plans were already in progress for the construction of a Chinese church and school.

The mission was organized into the Chinese Baptist Church on November 22, 1959, with 25 charter members. Since that time, the Chinese had five pastors: Paul Au; Dr. Jackin Y. Chan; Chee Wu; Paul Chan; and Phillip Kwong.

"The Chinese have a long and rich history in the Delta dating back to post-civil war. The creation of a school and a church in Cleveland are but two examples of their efforts to add quality of life for Chinese citizens," Dr. John Thornell, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs offered. "Their record of community involvement has always been exemplary.

The decision by the membership of the Chinese Baptist Church to make a gift of \$100,000 to Delta State University reflects that commitment. Delta State is indeed fortunate to have their support. The University is grateful for the opportunity to use the funds for scholarships that provide increased access to education for future generations of Delta State students."

Roy Wiley celebrates 99th birthday

Roy Wiley celebrated his 99th birthday in June with a kiss from Miss Mississippi Kristian Dambrino, a student at Delta State. Dambrino performed at the annual Quadrangle Oak Society reception honoring alumni and friends who have named the University as a beneficiary to their estate. Mr. Wiley has named the University as a beneficiary to a trust fund and has also donated his personal residence.



Miles away from Delta State

Delta State University boasts over 21,000 alumni, many of which are far from their beloved campus. Despite the miles, though, our alumni keep their alma mater close to their heart, proudly displaying their Statesmen pride wherever their adventurous travels may take them.



1,751 Miles Away: (L. to R.) Vaughn Clutter, Marie Clutter, Maggie Garrett ('59) and Dr. Wayne Lee, Jr. ('57), professor of Health, Physical Education & Recreation at Delta State in Red Lodge, Montana.



4,408 Miles Away: (L to R) Jamie ('91) and Lajan ('95) Van Vulpen on the road to Hana in Maui, Hawaii.

Where has the road taken you?

Share your travels with us. Let us see where you're reading the Delta State alumni magazine. Email us your photos at alumni@deltastate.edu.

THE 2006 Delta State Fund FALL PHONATHON

A DSU STUDENT WILL BE CALLING YOU!

Oct 22 thru Nov 9

It only takes a minute
to change a student's life.



Changing lives one gift at a time.
DELTA STATE ALUMNI-FOUNDATION



Gotcha

VETERAN JOURNALIST REMEMBERS ALMA MATER WITH GIFT

By Patricia Roberts

Like many print publications, Delta State University's student newspaper, *The Delta Statement* has long struggled to bridge the technological time warp from clanking

typewriters to computers, from ink-smudged galley proofs to paperless PDF files.

Until recently, the situation was dire. On stormy days, water poured through the leaking roof in a far corner of the forlorn newsroom on the third floor of the H.L. Nowell Union. Heavy electric cables criss-crossed the worn carpet. Circuits overloaded, and computers would break down at the worst deadline moments.

Then came help, from a man named Wayne Thompson, a journalist none of Delta State's growing cadre of journalism majors would ever get to meet, from an era they could only learn about in journalism history class.

Back when Wayne Thompson, a 1943 Delta State graduate, ran the sports department of *The Clarion-Ledger* in the 1960s, phrases like

"cut and paste" meant just that. There were scissors and glue pots on every desk, used to cut apart laboriously typed text and paste the pieces back together. Stories went to press so marked up the typesetters could barely decipher the meaning.

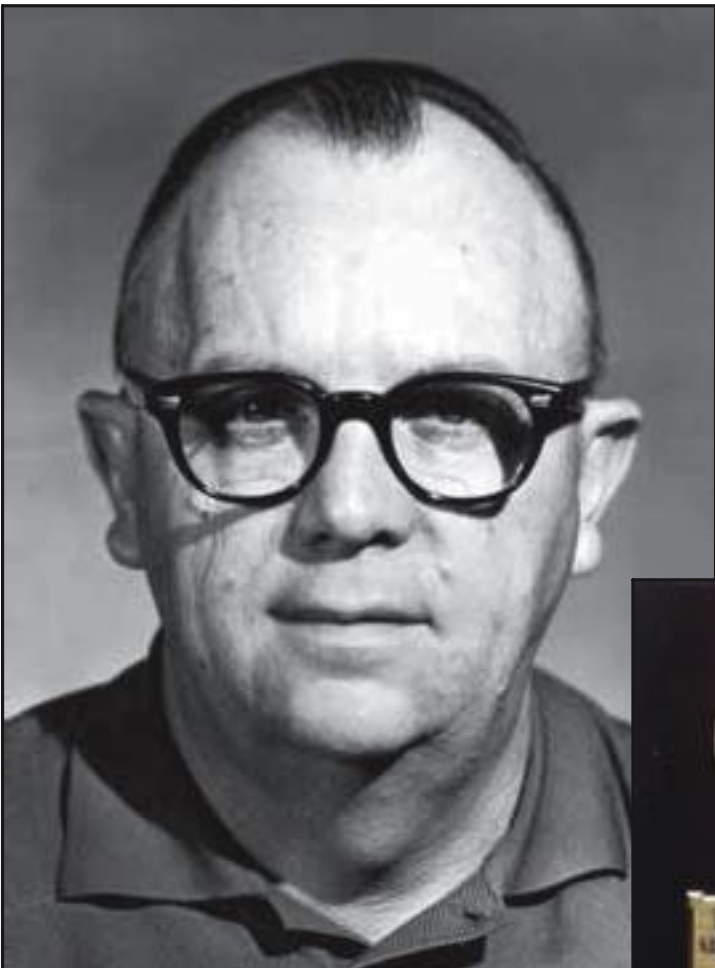
Newsrooms were also famous for shouting, cursing, smoking and hard-drinking, an atmosphere that helped cut the deadline tensions, the relentless demand to "feed the beast." Few journalists bothered to go to journalism school, and some didn't bother with college at all, but their love of truth, well-honed skills and deadline accuracy more than made up for it.

Thompson, a Benoit native, former Marine and World War II veteran, lived that era in nearly four decades as a Mississippi sportswriter and editor. His long career at the *Clarion-Ledger* and *The Commercial Appeal* won him such recognitions as Mississippi Sports Writer of the Year (1965), induction into the Mississippi Sports Writers Hall of Fame, and honorary membership in the PGA of America.

But his friends and colleagues tend to remember Thompson for the witty, irreverent, oft controversial, wisecracks he called "gotchas" - like starting a rumor that his least favorite sport, basketball, caused cancer; or switching the half-pint of bourbon hidden in a friend's desk for Coca-Cola; or perhaps best yet, the state uproar he stirred in 1970 with an April Fools column that claimed Ole Miss star player Archie Manning was dropping out of school to go pro.

"There could be a convention discussing Wayne's wit and wild antics," says friend James Watts but "the funniest 'Wayne stories' can't be printed and barely told."

"The stories from him, on him and about



1943 Alumnus, Wayne Thompson dedicated many years to the profession he loved—Journalism.



him are endless, the best of which are not appropriate for publication,” says D.L. Upton, a former *Clarion-Ledger* colleague.

Upton also found Thompson “honest and straight-forward (to a fault some might say) as both a reporter and a man, and a person who stuck by his friends.”

“Because of his personality he could get away with saying anything,” recalls Dr. Leroy Morganti, Vice President of Executive Affairs Emeritus at Delta State. “Wayne only picked on those he liked, and it was a compliment to be the butt of one of his jokes or one-liners...I don’t know anyone who did not like Wayne, or anyone who could think of him without breaking out in a warm smile. I know I can’t.”

In the mid-1960s Morganti apprehensively encountered his new boss for the first time at the *Clarion Ledger*, recognizing Thompson from the caricature that ran with his golf column, “The Bogey Man” - “this short, balding, middle-aged guy with a bit of a baby face who was pounding away on his typewriter.”

Morganti recalls, “I stood there for a few seconds until he looked up, and the following conversation ensued:

‘Yes, Sir?’ said Wayne.

‘I’m Leroy Morganti,’ said I.

‘All right, what can I do for you?’ said Wayne.

All my feelings of apprehension about not having interviewed with Wayne came rushing back to me.

‘Uhhhh, I thought I was supposed to start work here today,’ I stammered.

‘Oh, I know it, come on in here,’ Wayne said, jumping out of his chair and shaking my hand. And with that auspicious beginning ‘gotcha’ which Wayne never let me forget, a life-long friendship between two Delta boys took root.”

Thompson also had a serious professional side. “He had a strong sense of right and wrong, and always stood for what was honorable,” Morganti recalls. “When journalistic ethics or principles were on the line, there was no joking from Wayne. He was a professional, and he conducted his business in a professional manner.”



Landry Barbieri of Clarksdale, works at a computer inside the Wayne Thompson Journalism Lab, located on the second floor of the H.L. Nowell Union. The lab serves as the primary production area of “The Statement,” the campus’ student newspaper. Barbieri serves as editor of the publication.

Prankster and serious journalist came together in biggest “gotcha” of all some years after Thompson’s 1985 retirement. Thompson, by then a widower, confided to Morganti that he was leaving a “small gift” to DSU in his will.

Thompson died in 2002, at age 80, leaving the “small” gift, which all tallied, endowed the university’s fledgling journalism program with some \$350,000. From a working journalist who wasn’t born rich – and who didn’t play the stock markets – it was a hefty gift. Friends could hear him saying it again, loud and clear: Gotcha.

The Thompson endowment makes possible an annual average of \$15,000 in journalism scholarships given in memory of Thompson’s parents, Silas Wayne Thompson and Lula Wilson Thompson. The fund also made possible the official opening of the S. Wayne Thompson Journalism Lab in the H.L. Nowell Union on campus this year.

The facility is a spacious working newsroom, an on-line facility designed to enable the Delta State journalism program and its flagship publication, *The Delta Statement*, make the

transition into high-tech 21st century journalism.

The Thompson lab enables journalism students to master computerized skills unknown to Thompson’s generation of journalists, but now demanded in entry level jobs: Internet-based research skills using international databanks; digital photography and layout skills.

Those skills enhance the traditional journalistic skills of interviewing, reporting, editing and writing, which Thompson’s generation understood well, in journalism courses to be based in a smart classroom adjacent to the Thompson lab.

On the walls of the new facility hang two plaques Thompson was proud of: his Sportswriter of the Year and induction into the Mississippi Sports Writers Hall of Fame. At the doorway will soon hang a third plaque: the S. Wayne Thompson Journalism Lab. That one makes his friends, the university he loved – and a new generation of Delta journalists – prouder still.

Fred Carl, Jr.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS of THE YEAR



By Lisa Cookston

Around 25 years ago, there was a gaping hole in the kitchen industry. There was no glamour, no drama, and no oomph. The kitchen was strictly a room for function, shoved in the back of most houses, away from high traffic areas.

The most exciting thing about kitchen appliances was their limited array of colors like almond, avocado and harvest gold. There were high-end appliance manufacturers, but no one recognized the need for heavy-duty appliances for the home chef. That's where Greenwood native Fred Carl, Jr., a fourth-generation homebuilder and Delta State University alum, stepped in and lit the pilot light for a new type of range.

The story goes something like this. In the early 1980s, when Fred Carl, Jr. shopped around for a range like the old Chambers stove his wife, Margaret, grew up with, he found there was nothing to his liking on the market. Commercial ranges weren't well insulated; therefore they were unsafe and impractical for home use. Carl would soon revolutionize the kitchen industry, and the rest is Mississippi Delta and American history.

As a youngster growing up in Greenwood, Carl

had a keen interest in architecture and design. At the age of six, young Fred traced a set of floor plans of the large home his father was building. He says that from then on, he helped his father on job sites in any capacity needed.

As an adult, Carl left Greenwood to serve in the military and attend college. He worked for a condominium developer in Jackson and then decided it was time to go back to Greenwood to do the work he loved and knew—building homes. His specialty was designing and building luxury homes, but he did some commercial work, too.

Carl developed a reputation for excellence in his building. Like his father and grandfather, he was known for quality, never cutting corners in his work. He began dealing in cabinetry as a natural extension of his building. He then added

appliance dealer to his list of services. He represented Sub-Zero, Thermador, KitchenAid and Jenn-Air in the early '80s. He felt there was a need for his clients to have the high-end kitchen appliances available at that time.

But when he and his wife couldn't find the type of stove they had in mind for the new house they were building for themselves, Carl's knowledge of appliances, kitchen design and quality home construction came together to create the first Viking Range. He soon realized that he was on to something. If he and Margaret wanted an industrial-style range for their home then certainly other homeowners did, too. And the market soon proved him to be right.

The kitchen was evolving into the central gathering spot and becoming the number one selling point for a house. It became a grand theater for those who could afford it and the stainless steel aesthetic trickled down to the middle-income consumer. Today all major appliance companies now have stainless steel options, but it was unheard of in the mid to late '80s.

Viking Range Corporation now has an annual payroll of almost \$40 million and employs more than 1,400 people. As if job creation in the Mississippi Delta wasn't enough, Carl decided that he could do more to give back to the town he loves. He invested his money in historic properties in downtown Greenwood. Viking corporate headquarters are housed in the old Opera House on Front Street. Carl's office overlooks the muddy Yazoo River where cotton was loaded onto riverboats to be shipped down to New Orleans. In fact, Carl bought almost the whole block of Front Street for office space and modernized the buildings with the aim of preserving their historic integrity.

That was simply the beginning. In 2003, Carl unveiled a luxury, boutique hotel (known as The Alluvian) constructed from the old Irving Hotel, built in 1917, that was listed on Mississippi's

Most Endangered Buildings hot list. Across the street is now the Alluvian Spa, Viking retail store and Mockingbird Bakery in the old J.C. Penny's building. He bought the old Fountain's Department Store building that anchors the northeast corner of Howard and Washington where the brand new Turnrow Book Co. has joined Mississippi Gift Company in occupying the first floor. Apartments are in the works for the second floor and third floor. With world-class accommodations, Greenwood has become an unlikely destination for dining and shopping, and adventurous travelers looking for a slice of Southern life.

In 2004, Fred Carl and Viking Range won the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Leadership award for Business Leadership in recognition of it unwavering commitment to Greenwood, for revitalizing the commercial district, and holding itself up as an example for other businesses to stay and flourish in city historic districts.

Downtown Greenwood is now bustling once

again with upscale shops, restaurants and activity, thanks to Carl's commitment to his hometown and historic preservation. Because of his substantial investments, others have invested too. Recently, Greenwood was named by Budget Travel magazine as a Top 10 destination to visit. The latest Inc. Magazine recently profiled Carl in a piece about his commitment to Greenwood, including his memories of downtown as a child and how architecture has always inspired him.

Carl is also leading the way in helping rebuild and revitalize the Mississippi Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Katrina. He's pushing for affordable and durable modular housing as Director of Housing for the Governor's Office. It's yet another revolutionary idea that Carl has researched. He wants to make the option of modular housing more affordable by cutting the state sales tax rate from seven percent to three percent. Carl advocates that the homes are of the same or better quality as "stick built" homes and, if properly made, consumers cannot see the difference between to two.

In the end, Carl remains committed to improving the quality of life in Greenwood, the Delta and Mississippi. Carl has never forgotten Delta State University where he completed his undergraduate degree in 1975. He adds, "Delta State provided me a solid educational foundation at a critical time in my early adult life, long before I ever dreamed of Viking Range Corporation. Returning from military service and with a young family to support, I was extremely fortunate that Delta State was near my home in Greenwood. I was able to commute for two and one-half years, get a quality education, work to support my family and complete my college degree. Viking Range Corporation continues to benefit from its proximity to Delta State, hiring many fine graduates as employees and utilizing the resources of this university in our ongoing educational programs for our employees."

**See Homecoming schedule on back cover.*

2006 Alumni Association's Service Award Recipients



Smith

The Gladys Castle "Friend of Delta State" Service Award is named for Gladys Castle, a 46-year employee of Delta State University who served as the first alumni secretary. Robert E. Smith of Cleveland is the 2006 recipient. An active member of the First United Methodist Church, Smith supports numerous charitable causes and outreach ministries. He is a former board member of the Delta State Foundation and currently serves on the Wesley Foundation Board of Directors. A retired rice and soybean farmer, Smith has endowed several scholarships at Delta State's School of Nursing.



Avery

The Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni Service Award is named for Hugh Ellis Walker who served as the Director of the Delta State Alumni/Foundation for 24 years. Dr. Jimmy Avery is the 2006 award recipient. Avery is the Extension Aquaculture Leader and Professor for Mississippi State's National Warmwater Aquaculture Center located in Stoneville. He received his master's degree from Delta State in 1982. Avery has served as president of the DSU Alumni Association and president of the Green and White Club.

In addition to his numerous volunteer efforts on behalf of DSU, Avery serves on the Board of Directors for the Bolivar County Habitat for Humanity and as a coach for the Cleveland Park Commission.



King

The Legacy Award is presented to a Delta State alumnus who made an institutional changing contribution. Sue Thweatt King, a 1941 graduate, contributed two "firsts" to Delta State. She was the first Director of Admissions, a title given to her by former Delta State President Dr. James Ewing after she and H.L. Nowell began traveling to area high schools recruiting students on their own. As an employee in the Registrar's office she saw a need to actively recruit the best and brightest students to the University during the late

1930's and early 1940's when many students had left campus for military service.

Her second "first" was that she was the first female member of a flight team. In the early 1940's when the country was at war, there were few men on campus. The Air Force was organizing ten member flight teams on campuses to prepare pilots for WWII. When there were only 9 available men, she was asked to be the 10th. Although she never served in the military, she received her pilot's license.



Verhage

The Kent Wyatt "Young Alumnus" Service Award is presented to an alumnus 35 years of age or younger who has given outstanding service to DSU. The award is named for former university president, Dr. Kent Wyatt who served for 24 years at the helm of Delta State. Craig Verhage is the 2006 award recipient. Verhage has been an Agent with Shelter Insurance Companies for 12 years. He graduated from DSU in 1992 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

While a student, Verhage was a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, Student Alumni Association and Interfraternity Council. He currently serves on the Alumni Board of Directors and has served as past president of both the Green and White Club and the Bolivar County Alumni Association.



Home Again

Alumni could consider alma mater retirement haven

By Landry Barbieri

A trend is sweeping across the country on large and small university campuses, alike – and it's not the newest, coolest, brightest cell phone accessory or the latest Billboard Top 40 hit. In fact, the movement is isn't even among the 18-25 age bracket.

Instead, it is the movement of Baby Boomers toward college towns, creating a way of life that rivals that of their younger, undergraduate counterparts. In coffee shops, at football games and in the classrooms, retired alumni are giving "campus living" a new meaning.

At more than 50 campuses nationwide, university-linked retirement communities (ULRC) have popped up and carved out niches in their surrounding towns. ULRC or retirement communities on or near a thriving college, are now becoming the ideal spots for boomers nearing the end of their careers.

"I would say that the future looks very bright for college campuses hoping to attract aging

baby boomers and retirees," predicted Matt Thornhill, president and founder of The Boomer Project, a group that provides research on this large generation. "The boomers want to be in a livable community where they can continue to grow and learn.

"The big opportunity that college campuses have is lifelong learning," he continued. "Boomers have been very willing to get additional education, start new business and move to different communities. The question is now 'What am I going to do next?' They are going to live somewhere where they can run a small business or learn a foreign language. The last thing that boomers want to do is become stagnant."

Typically formed in two ways, ULRC consist of retirement complexes built directly on property owned by the university, thus generating profit through the rent or sale of homes; or by bringing retirees to a town in order to enjoy its strong ties with the institution.

Continuing with the "town and gown"

mentality, Delta State and Cleveland are coming together to gather support for the idea of university-linked retirement community. The Cleveland-Bolivar Chamber of Commerce has embraced the idea, seeing the potential revenue base a large retiree community would bring.

"We have been talking to Delta State and Dr. (John) Hilpert for months just swapping ideas (on the subject)," explained Judson Thigpen, Executive Director of the Cleveland-Bolivar Chamber of Commerce and Delta State alumnus. "We have been talking about the idea of Cleveland as a retirement community for about two years pretty heavily."

"Everything that a retired person could want can be found in Cleveland," Keith Fulcher, Executive Director of the Alumni-Foundation at Delta State University contended. "There are so many benefits Cleveland and Bolivar County have to offer to our retired alumni."

There are no immediate plans to build a housing complex on campus that is directly geared toward alumni and retirees. However,



both Delta State and the Chamber are hoping to build a retirement community based on the quality of life found in Cleveland and Bolivar County.

Strong bonds with Delta State coupled with the town's reputable stability seem to pose Cleveland to become a sanctuary for aging alums. The effectiveness of area law enforcement, a thriving real estate market and growing downtown district are among the elements that make Cleveland an ideal candidate.

Cleveland's low crime rate is virtually unmatched by other parts of the Delta, enabling its residents to enjoy the comforts of a safe, secure atmosphere.

"Overall, the major crime reported to FBI is a lot less than that of neighboring municipalities," reported Cleveland Police Chief Drew Warren, who has led the department for more than four years. "We have had a lot of programs put into place in the last three years to help reduce the occurrence of crime. We have a strong neighborhood watch and crimestopper program. We have increased the number of law enforcement officers so that when calls for service do come in, we are more readily available."

Assistant Police Chief at Delta State University, Benn Walker explained that similar to Cleveland, campus crime rates remain almost non-existent.

"We are out doing our job, and I think just the persistence of our on-duty officers, out and about, is going to curb any incident that we come across," said Walker, who has been with the force for 13 years now.

Thigpen believes the area's low crime-rate only bolsters the area's attractiveness, adding, "One of the things that people are looking for in a place to live is a low crime."

The availability of housing close to either downtown or the campus itself also plays a part in the retiree's decision to call their alma mater home again. According to The Baby Boomer Report, published annually by the Del Web Company, a leader in the establishment of ULRCs, six out of 10 individuals, age 48-52, are likely to purchase a new home in which to enjoy retirement. With a healthy real estate market, the

neighborhoods around Cleveland continue to grow.

"The market in or around Cleveland is a strong market," Lynn Pace, founder of Pace Reality in Cleveland, acknowledged. "We have had a revitalization around Delta State. Homes are being purchased and renovated because of the University. We have an eclectic group of homeowners. There is a mix of young, mature renters and homeowners."

Team a robust real estate market with a revitalized downtown and the result only strengthens Cleveland's case for a retiree haven. The hustle and bustle of downtown Cleveland provides an environment that can be matched by few Delta towns, if any.

Sharpe Avenue and Cotton Row are packed with upscale boutiques and antique shops, as well as Southern inspired restaurants. Retirees can wander the recently bricked sidewalks or walking trail before ducking into the newly constructed Martin and Sue King Train and Heritage Museum.

"We have always had a wonderful downtown, but with these recent improvements we are not lacking in a thing," boasted Neysa (Nowell) Yeager, who has owned Neysa's Fireside Shop on Sharpe Street for 18 years. "I think that downtown is an ideal place for retirees. We have just had new planting and sidewalks put in and the walking trail is such a plus for us. I can't think of anything that people would feel that they would have to go to a city for. I think Cleveland has it all."

Delta State, itself, is above all an unparalleled feature that is available to retirees who choose to live Cleveland, offering the finest in performing arts programming at its Bologna Performing Arts Center, top-caliber sporting events and a myriad of academic and continuing education offerings.

Recently heralded as the "Best Performing Arts Center" in the state by the readers of Mississippi Magazine, the Bologna Performing Arts Center offers season ticket packages as well as tickets for its various offerings.

"We offer great opportunities for alumni and area retirees to enjoy different aspects of culture," Director of the Bologna Performing Arts Center, David Dallas offered. "We have many retired professors who love to come to the BPAC for a chance for connect, to come together. There are

not only the performances but also dinners and other special events that are available for retirees."

Delta State also offers classes to retirees at a fraction of the normal costs. Last semester more than 150 students over the age of 55 were enrolled at Delta State. With courses ranging from Anatomy & Physiology, to Introduction to Pottery, the University can provide learning experiences for all interests.

One of the largest assets that the University currently has is the ability to offer access to its various athletic facilities. Activities such as Pig Pickin', Homecoming and themed sporting events are designed with the intention of being an appealing option to the alumni base.

Dr. Brad Teague, Director of Athletics at Delta State, explained, "We will do anything we can to enhance the community. We understand all that the alumni and retirees do for us.

"Our athletic programs provide almost year-round entertainment for retirees," he continued. "We have 13 different sports and every season provides plenty of opportunities for retirees to come out and become part of the crowd. We see retirees at every away game. Because of that, we have the best following of any University in Division II athletics."

"We invite our alumni to consider returning to their alma mater during their retirement years and continue that life-long relationship with Delta State University," Fulcher concluded.

For more information on Cleveland-Bolivar County, please visit www.visitclevelandms.com.

For more information on what Delta State University has to offer retired alumni, please call 1-800-468-6378.



The Fifteenth Annual ELLIOTT-NOWELL-WHITE SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM



Robert L. Elliott, M.D., Ph.D.

Delta State hosted the 15th Annual Elliott-Nowell-White Science Symposium a "Program of Excellence" on October 12 and 13. This forum was created by Dr. Robert Elliott to educate students and stimulate their minds, just as his professors had done. Dr. Elliott founded the Elliott Mastology Center and the Mastology Research Institute in Baton Rouge, now known as the Elliott-Elliott-Head Breast Cancer Research and Treatment Center. Dr. Elliott's vision and hard work has turned his center into one of the leading privately-owned cancer research centers in the world. On a visit to the Delta State campus in 1991, Drs. Robert and Mary Elliott, both Delta State graduates, were renewed with a feeling of pride for their alma mater and decided to give something back. Thus, the "Program of Excellence" was formed.

This year's symposium featured such distinguished speakers as Dr. Charles E. Hoyle, a professor in the Departments of Polymer

Science and Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Southern Mississippi, Dr. Harry I. Ringermacher, a senior physicist at the General Electric Global Research Center in New York, Dr. Joe Whitehead, an associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy and Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Southern Mississippi, and Dr. William W. Turner, Jr., the James D. Hardy Professor and Chair in the Department of Surgery at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

In addition to the symposium, Drs. Robert and Mary Elliott, have created scholarships to outstanding Delta State students, and also provide an opportunity for students to participate in the "Research Fellowship Program." The internship allows selected students to learn alongside the Elliotts and other members of the team at the center in Baton Rouge. For more information, please call the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences at (662) 846-4240.

Walker tabbed new DMI director

Her hope is to become a successful cross-over artist. It is not musical genres Tricia Walker is looking to cross, though. Rather the Fayette, Miss., native is aiming to parlay over 24 years of industry experience into the educational corridors of Delta State University's Delta Music Institute (DMI).

Recently selected the program's new leader, Walker officially took the reigns July 1, replacing former director Norbert Putnam.

Of Walker's hiring, Dr. John Thornell, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost at Delta State University, offered, "I am pleased that Tricia Walker has accepted the directorship of the Delta Music Institute. Her background in the music industry in Nashville and her management of her own music production company will serve her well in this important position.

"I am confident she will not only move the academic program forward with our students, but also create partnerships with music constituencies throughout the Delta," he continued. "She provides the enthusiasm needed to ignite this program and bring it to its full potential. We look forward to her joining the DSU community."

A 1974 graduate of Delta State University, Walker earned a bachelor's degree in music education en-route to completing her graduate work in theory and composition at Mississippi College. While in Clinton, she performed at various festivals and bookings. She won American Song Festival and Mississippi Song Festival awards and moved to Nashville to sign with giant gospel music publisher Word, Inc. As her songs were recorded on Grammy-nominated discs by Kathy Troccoli, Debby Boone and The Imperials, her reputation as a songwriter spread.

Recent musical highlights included singing at Robert Redford's Christmas Cantata at Sundance Resort in Utah as well as a live performance during a newly choreographed work for the Nashville Ballet entitled "All the Way Home," co-written by Walker and Kate Campbell.

Delta State's DMI allows students to study music engineering, music production and video



Tricia Walker

editing, as well as contemporary composition and study musician theory and practice. It is a first step towards a broad program in arts production. The concept of DMI originated with Fred Carl, who also made a very generous gift in 2003 to fund the program.

For more information on the Delta Music Institute, please call (662) 846-4579 or visit dmi.deltastate.edu.

To make a gift to Delta State, contact the Development Office at development@deltastate.edu or call 662-846-4708.

Delta State contributes \$65 million to regional economy, study finds

By Landry Barbieri

A recent study found Delta State University generates \$64.9 million in economic activity annually in the counties of Bolivar, Coahoma, Washington, and Sunflower. Additionally 725 jobs exist in the region due to the presence of the University. The \$64.9 million represents an increase of \$14 million over a ten year period for a 28% increase.

Former studies show that the impact of Delta State on the surrounding community has steadily increased over the last ten years. A previous 1998 study revealed the total economic impact to be \$55.9 million. A study conducted in 1995 placed the economic impact at \$51.1 million.

“It is no surprise that with a graduation roll of 21,000, Delta State University has a tremendous effect on the on the prosperity of the communities in the Mississippi Delta,” stated Dr. Charles Wagoner, associate professor of Economics, who conducted the 2005 and 1998 studies. “The University’s impact stretches far beyond those that walk across the stage of Walter Sillers Coliseum at graduation.” Wagoner was assisted in the study by graduate student Landon Phillips and Dr. Garret Ross, associate professor of hospitality management.

“There is a standard procedure for doing impact studies,” Wagoner explained. “The study takes into account, primarily, salaries of University employees, purchases by the University, campus construction, and spending by employees, students, visitors to campus.”

The impact on employment is astounding. “Delta State provides direct employment for 451 individuals and 274 indirectly, totaling an impressive 725, making it the second largest employer in Cleveland; second only to Baxter



The study found student spending is close to \$8 million dollars.

STUDY FINDINGS:	
Delta State’s total annual economic impact	\$65 million
Impact on direct and indirect salaries	\$47 million
Total spending of 4,000 students	\$8 million
Annual construction spending over last ten years	\$7.8 million
Total annual purchases by Delta State University	\$3.5 million
Total number of jobs created directly & indirectly	984

Healthcare Corporation,” Wagoner continued. “Delta State is a powerful economic engine that creates direct and indirect benefits to the entire region as evidenced by the study.”

Just in Bolivar County where the majority of employee live there is an economic impact of over \$33 million in earnings.

While living and working in the Delta, these individuals contribute a significant amount to property tax revenue,” he further maintained.

One of the more obvious contributors to the economic impact of the University on the surrounding community is the some 4,000 students enrolled. Wagoner surveyed large numbers of students displaying a cross-section of the student body, some that lived on campus and others that did not.

According to the study, student retail impact figures sit close to \$8 million dollars and money gained from rental payments upwards of \$8 million also.

The 2005 study also revealed that due to construction projects, Delta State spends close to \$8 million annually that trickles back down to the community.

Through building projects such as the current remodeling of the H.L. Nowell Student Union and recent construction of Kent Wyatt Hall, the university has created additional employment for 259 individuals.

“Based on the numbers, the results are compelling.

However, the University’s contributions are equally as impressive in the quality of affordable education that Delta State provides. The University is fulfilling its strategic role in the Mississippi’s higher education system and in doing so is helping to ensure a new generation of prosperity,” said President Dr. John M. Hilpert.

“Obviously, when you have students, staff and faculty members enrolled at Delta State University or working at the University, they are stopping to buy gasoline and food whether they are staying on campus or not,” said Judson Thigpen, Executive Director of the Cleveland Bolivar Chamber of Commerce. “That is a partial picture. Then, you take the cultural, athletic, and recreational activities that bring in a good amount of people, such as a swim meet and the things that go on at the Bologna Performing Arts Center all result in direct revenue for Cleveland and the Delta. Delta State University offers a never-ending stream of opportunities that will bring money to our communities.”

“Yes, the study does provide a specific number,” he maintained. “But, I believe it grossly underestimates the true number. Suffice to say, The Delta is extremely fortunate to have Delta State University, just as Delta State is fortunate to have Cleveland as its host city.”

“The Delta State University Foundation, Inc. was pleased to sponsor the economic impact study. The data provides the Foundation with tangible evidence that making a gift to the University enhances the economic vitality of the region,” said Keith Fulcher, executive director of the Alumni-Foundation.



By Rori Eddie Herbison

AN AN

Great experience yields greater work.

For Delta State University alumnus, Bruce Tinnin, no other mantra seems more fitting, as this current-day Renaissance man's resume is as sundry and romantic as the rugged landscapes he celebrates in his paintings and as wildly entertaining and sometimes zany as the animated features he sketches.

From graphic designer to photographer to lead singer in a Rockabilly band to painter to ranch hand to roper to mold maker in bronze foundry to bass guitarist to songwriter to in-betweener to director of 2D animation to most recently, co-founder, partner and president of his own animation company, the Georgia-born, Mississippi-raised Tinnin has done it all.

And, it's those life experiences, those true and real moments in Tinnin's 49-year journey that serve as both the backdrop and inspiration for his personal and vested creations. All of it the jobs I've had, the places of lived, the things I've seen they all add up and you need them if you're going to be good, he offered from behind his meticulously arranged desk. Those type things, those life experiences, it's so important in animation to be able to convey those sort of things; or in general, into any of the creative stuff you are going to do whether it's writing, painting, whatever it is, obviously all of that goes into what it is you are trying to deliver.

Tinnin has been delivering art since an early age, crediting father, Jack, and mother, Daye, as his early mentors. My father taught me to oil paint at nine years old. He also taught me 'Old Joe Clark' on the guitar. My parents would take us to the Atlanta Art Museum and expose us to music. They were really supportive that way, the second born of four Tinnin children recalled.

His home-grown art talents earned Tinnin a scholarship to Meridian Community College, after which he transferred to Delta State, graduating in 1979 with a bachelor's of fine art degree in painting, with a minor

For more on Tinnin's work, please visit www.powerhouseanimation.com or www.brucefinnin.com.

Photo by Laura Fleeman

IMMATED ALUM:

bruce tinnin

in graphic design.

As an art student, Delta State's reputation was unmatched. I liked what the program was going to teach me, and I liked that it seemed like a school I would get more individual attention. I just liked the whole feeling of Delta State, he smiled, warmly remembering his days on the Cleveland campus. There was such an intimacy; it was just such a neat, little place. I came away with such a positive experience. I couldn't think of another place I'd rather have gone.

Immediately following graduation, Tinnin went to work with an ad agency in Meridian, as both photographer and graphic designer. He wouldn't stay long, though, as aided by the tried and true philosophy, 'You're only young once,' Tinnin began fronting a Rockabilly/British pop band, 'The Drapes.'

Really, I was just young and figured, 'Why not?' I had always loved music and had never really stopped playing. It was one of those opportunities in life you just can't turn down, and it was a good ride while it lasted, a reflective and content with his 'no regrets' approach to life Tinnin laughed heartily.

His ride next took him to Flagstaff, Ariz., with pit stops in Hattiesburg, Miss.; Dallas, Texas; and Sedona, Ariz., as a ranch hand, roper and mold maker in a bronze foundry. The molding work was excruciatingly detailed labor that entailed cutting the original sculptures into pieces that could be easily separated from the molds. Clients included mainly western artists, but soon the foundry fell on hard economic times, and the still cowboy hat wearing, cowboy boot donning, cowboy at heart Tinnin was laid off.

That was an important turning point for me, he maintained. I had helped to create so many beautiful pieces of art and it really got me excited about my own art again. I had never really stopped (painting), but it felt more like a hobby. At some point I realized, 'You know, I went to school for this,' and I started to miss it, really miss it.

He soon after had gallery shows in Sedona,

Santa Fe, Scottsdale and California, displaying his mainly cowboy-inspired, western-themed landscapes, thanks to gallery owner and good friend, Elaine Horwich. He had fulfilled his goal of living off of his own art, until Horwich's passing.

When Elaine died, I just didn't want to pursue another gallery, so I went another direction, Tinnin explained.

His new direction quickly became animation. I studied every book I could find and practiced every free minute. I became obsessed, truly, Tinnin leveled.

Soon, he had a prepared portfolio and began shopping his new-found talent around. He was invited to test, a common practice in



A cowboy at heart, Tinnin worked as a ranch hand in Arizona with his faithful Appaloosa companion, Silverton.

the animation business, with 20th Century Fox. In 1995, from a pool of over 30,000 applicants and after several tests, Tinnin was hired by Fox Animation Studios as a rough in-betweenner, the absolute ground floor in animation.

To his credit at Fox, Tinnin worked on his first feature film, *Anastasia*, which would be followed with a straight-to-video release,

Bartock the Magnificent. In 1997, Tinnin began work on what would become the last project of Fox's animation division, *Titan A.E.*

After another short-lived stint with a dot.com company and a move to Austin, Texas, the now happily wed (to wife, Jess) Tinnin, and animation veterans, Frank Gabriel and Brad Graeber, incorporated Powerhouse Animation, April 1, 2001.

We were just determined not to have to be dependent on any more investors or loans, he charged, dogged and resolved. Animation is a tough game, and we knew that, but we also figured 'Why not?'

Again displaying his 'no regrets, attack-mode' approach to life, Tinnin, along with Gabriel and Graeber, have propelled Powerhouse Animation to one of the premiere animation studios in the country. Clients have included Kevin Smith of *Clerks* fame; country music band, Lonestar (the *Mr. Mom* video); Sony Pictures (Adam Sandler's *Eight Crazy Nights*); Dell; Comedy Central and the Disney Channel.

Founding a business, running your own business it's tough, I'm not going to lie, but we trust ourselves. We've had the success, both as individuals and as a company, that allows us to trust ourselves, a rooted and still genuinely humble Tinnin levied. You have to believe in your talents, you have to have the discipline and you have to try not to take yourself so seriously. You have to laugh. I mean after all, at the end of day, minus the deadlines, minus the stresses, we're making cartoons.

Animation is about the made-up and make-believe. We can be anything we want to be, we can fly to the moon and make cars talk. That's a pretty good deal, Tinnin smiles even brighter now, the Austin sun setting over his right shoulder, as if, fittingly, scripted from an old Cowboy western.

HERO

Marine alumnus shows selfless courage

By Greg Hamilton

With bullets smashing into the dirt and concrete all around him, 1st Lt. Rick Posselt had but one thought in mind: Get my Marine out of there.

He was not thinking of his wife and children waiting for him stateside, or of his family back home in Citrus County, Fla. Posselt's focus was solely to get Cpl. Michael Estrella, lying wounded in the street of a dusty Iraqi village, out of the line of sniper cross-fire.

Posselt, a 2003 graduate and member of the 2000 Statesmen championship football team, ran to the bleeding 20-year-old and pulled him to safety, an act of instant heroism that astounded his battle-hardened fellow Marines and the Iraqi soldiers who were with them during the ambush.

Posselt's selfless actions were the stuff of Hollywood, but this was no movie stunt. The bullets, and the danger, were very real.

Evidence of that came all too quickly. The bullets that struck Cpl. Estrella proved fatal.

His death was a dubious milestone. Cpl. Estrella became the 2,500th U.S. service member to lose his life in the ongoing war on terror.

For that reason, and because of the extraordinary bravery that Posselt exhibited, this incident has become national news. Posselt was featured on Sunday evening on CNN's *Fallen*



Posselt (33) was a member of the Statesmen's 2000 Championship Football Team.

Heroes segment. He was interviewed about the attack and his actions but, more importantly to him, he got to speak to the family of Cpl. Estrella via a satellite link.

Cpl. Estrella's mother in Hemet, Calif., said that when she heard that her son had been hit, her heart broke at the realization that she had not been there for him in his final moments.

But her anguish was eased somewhat by the knowledge that he did not die alone. Through her tears, she thanked Posselt for trying to save her son and for not leaving him behind.

As befits a hero, Posselt remained modest and composed, telling the grieving mother that her son was a great Marine. He was the unit's communications chief, aptly nicknamed *Scratchy*.

Posselt shared that he had served with *Scratchy* in Afghanistan and now in Iraq. He was always able to fix whatever communications crisis the unit had, Posselt said, even getting their iPods to work.

His words were a great comfort to the Estrella family, giving them an image of a happy Michael helping his fellow Marines listen to their music instead of a fallen son dying thousands of miles from their arms.

For his part, Posselt would rather not be a part of any of it. He has downplayed his own actions time and again, but his fellow soldiers won't let it slide by.

"He showed uncommon courage," said an Iraqi soldier in a Department of Defense release.

"He put his life on the line without even thinking about it," added Sgt. Jason Sakowski of Wilkesboro, N.C. "This is my third combat deployment but it is the first time I have seen bravery to that degree."

To those who know Posselt and to those of us who only know him through his days as a Crystal River High School athlete, it is easy to see him performing legendary feats of strength and valor.

This is a young man who set the standard that still stands at CRHS when he starred as a running back from 1995-98. Seemingly chiseled out of granite, Posselt would just as likely run through a defender as around him, earning second-team All-State honors, an astounding recognition for a small-town kid.

People speak with awe about his prowess in the weight room here and at Delta State University. In Crystal River, he was a state champion. In college, he was an icon.

They still talk about the competition where other athletes managed to lift 315 pounds anywhere from eight to 10 times. When Posselt hit 40, his coach made him stop.

Today, Posselt, born 25 years ago on Veterans Day, is a walking recruiting poster for the Marines. With a shaved head, shoulder muscles stretching the fabric of his camos to their limits, and an intensity that bores into your very soul, Posselt embodies all that it means to be a member of the corps.

Greg Hamilton is Editor of Editorials for the St. Petersburg Times in Florida. He can be reached through email at Hamilton@sptimes.com.



The Impact of Grants

Grant income is quickly becoming an important source of funding for Delta State University. In recent years, many grants have assisted in generating indirect funds that help to pay for university operating expenses as well as funding specific programs.

According to Dr. John Thornell, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, “Grants and contracts are vital to the university. They allow us to support projects for which state funds aren’t available.”

“Delta State University’s goal is to be the best regional university in America. Grant and research dollars are fundamental to accomplishing this mission through generating additional financial resources,” said Dr. Myrtis Tabb, Senior Administrator of Special Projects at DSU. “Grant dollars allow the university to work closely with regional groups to develop innovative programs, which address community and economic development. These programs utilize the expertise of the faculty and students, which fosters new knowledge, tools and strategies for community research and economic development. This also allows DSU and its regional partners to develop a shared vision, which can help forge a concerted, coordinated and integrated strategy of development for the Mississippi Delta Region.”

According to the Grant Institute more than \$400 billion in grant money is available annually. Not all of these dollars are directed to colleges, universities and professional or graduate schools but the Foundation Center reports that nine out of ten foundations award dollars to higher and graduate education.

Delta State is stepping up the quest for its share. Last year, the university received funding for 78 grants for a total of \$6,858,729 and the forecast is even brighter for the future. At the conclusion of the last academic year, faculty and staff had generated new proposals requesting \$10,862,642 in funds for programs, building renovations and professional development.

Under the direction of Kay Stricklin, the Office of Grants and Contracts provides assistance in identifying external funding

sources, developing proposal narratives and budgets.

Federal dollars represent one source of funding. Delta State has been the recipient of multiple large federal grants. The Delta Education Initiative is one example. It brought close to a million dollars a year from the United States Department of Education to the university for four years.

“We have several



key

programs

that are funded with “soft” money that have made a tremendous difference in the quality of the education we offer to our students,” said Thornell. “The grant from the Hearin Foundation to fund the GIS Center and the federally funded Delta Education Initiative are just two such programs that are making a huge difference at DSU.”

“The Delta Education Initiative grant has a tremendous impact on the educational leadership programs at DSU. It funds scholarships for students who would not otherwise be able to be a part of our full time masters program. These students must take a year from work in order to participate and the financial burden would be overwhelming without the scholarship,” said Dr. Lynn Varner, Director of the Center for Rural School Leadership and Research.

Dr. James Nicholson, Executive Director of the Delta Area Association for the Improvement of Schools (DAAIS) emphasized the undergraduate programs included in the

DEI, “The Delta Education Initiative Undergraduate Scholarship Program provides some of the best scholarships available in Mississippi to teacher education students who agree to teach in Delta schools for at least the number of years that they receive the scholarship. With these attractive scholarships, we are able to attract students from across the state who then begin their teaching career in the Delta and many stay in the Delta to teach.”

Grants are just one way that Delta State reaches out beyond campus and into the communities and the lives of the people of the Delta, which helps to further its mission of teaching and service to the community. A classic example of this comes from The School of Nursing (SON).

According to Dean of the School of Nursing, Lizabeth Carlson, “The Mississippi Delta region is experiencing an unprecedented registered nurse shortage. RN vacancy rates are currently at 30%, which is double the state and national levels. Without grant funding, the SON could not have experienced growth that has doubled our numbers over the past several years.”

Many faculty use grant opportunities to further their own professional development, which in turn brings enrichment to the classroom and the campus life at Delta State. One example of this is Dr. Beverly Moon, Assistant for Accreditation and Planning and Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Studies who has just returned from the AASCU National Faculty Development Institute on Japanese Studies, held in San Diego in June. Her participation was made possible by a Sasakawa Fellowship grant (see article on page 5.)

Alumni can be another valuable source of grant income. The Tri-State Education Foundation is just such an example. Dr. Bob and Sylvia Ferguson have supported a blues education program that has reached thousands of Mississippi students in their schools. The program coordinated through the Delta Center for Culture and Learning has not only introduced many young Mississippians to their own cultural heritage, the blues, but also exposed them to DSU and the tremendous opportunities the university has to offer.

Senior QB Scott Eyster looks to guide Statesmen to top spot

NO IFS, ANDS OR BUTS about it...

By Rori Eddie Herbison

He's cringing, already uncomfortable and uneasy, with the possible scenario. He has played, rewound and played again the potential conversation in his head a thousand times over.

It goes something like this: Five, 10 years from now, Delta State football enthusiasts are gathered, reflecting on the Statesmen's gridiron tradition and the Hammond, La.,



native's name is remembered. Scott Eyster yeah, he was a great quarterback, but he couldn't win the big game. Or there is this scenario, Scott could throw the ball, no question, but he couldn't get past Valdosta.

It's that singular word but; a small, three-letter conjunction that stands as Delta State University quarterback Scott Eyster's largest motivating factor this season. At the end of the day, how good a player I may have been doesn't mean a whole lot, unless we're winning as a team. And we've yet to do that at least to our full potential, the fifth year senior deadpanned.

There's a but to any legacy I would leave up this point. I know that, I would expect that, he continued behind a frankness and collected maturity. The records, the individual awards sure, I want to set them, but I want to set them because this team is winning and doing what we're capable of. This team thing just eats at me. I don't want to be a great player; I want to be part of a great team. If I'm going to be remembered, I want to be remembered for the team I played on.

And this team, the 2006 edition of the Delta State University football team, is capable of greatness, very capable of something special, Eyster tipped with a trademark devilish half-smile.

There is definitely more talent on this team coming in than in any of the other years I've been here on both sides of

the ball. Expectations are high, no question.

We've got it in our head that we are not supposed to lose a game, that if another team does come in here and win; they've got to beat us. We're not overconfident, but we're really confident let's put it that way, the three-time Charles Conerly Award finalist and 2006 hopeful contended.

That invincible mindset began to shape itself at the close of the 2005 season, which saw the Statesmen post a respectable, yet by some standards underachieving 7-4 final tally. At the end of last year, we (the team) just looked at one another and asked, 'What are we doing here? Are we going to be special or just another average football team, winning the games we're supposed to and dropping the tough ones?' That was the wake-up call, that's when it clicked, an obviously rededicated Eyster assessed.

The question, then became, 'Why not work harder? Why not stop making the mistakes that cost us games, beat us and put us in bad situations? Why not work harder, so we can look back and be proud of what we have accomplished? Why not be special?' I knew my answer to the question, he levied.

So that is exactly what the Statesmen signal caller has been doing since the close of the 2005 campaign, some 10 months ago. I'm just trying to get my mind right working as hard as I possibly can because I can see the type of team we can have. I've been here through ups and downs, a now reflective Eyster offered. We've always had the talent, but it's those little things those little things that nobody can see like taking off a rep in the weight room. Those things' develop bad habits once the season starts and they show.

They show in a missed tackle here, a blown assignment there those things can lead to the big play that can turn a game around,

There's a but to any legacy I would leave up this point. I know that, I would expect that, he continued behind a frankness and collected maturity. The records, the individual awards sure, I want to set them, but I want to set them because this team is winning and doing what we're capable of. This team thing just eats at me. I don't want to be a great player; I want to be part of a great team. If I'm going to be remembered, I want to be remembered for the team I played on.

cost us the victory and cost us the season. And, I'm just as guilty, he leveled, holding his own feet to the fire. I'll admit that (working hard) hasn't always been a trademark of mine. I've worked in practice in the past but probably, definitely not as hard as I could have been just enough to get by.

And, that's where it all starts. It starts with the example I set, because if you're going to call someone out, you better be the one working the hardest on the field, in the weight room anywhere and everywhere. You better be putting in that extra effort, the 22-year-old rationalized.

Determined to walk-the-walk and talk-the-talk in this, his final season under center with the Green and White, Eyster is working to ensure his teammates understand the adopted 2006 Statesmen philosophy.

I think getting the message engrained in every player's mind, that's the first step. If we can all go out there and perform, take it out on the field like we're supposed to, with that confidence, I just don't think we should lose a game, he further maintained. We have to know; we have to trust that late in a game, late in the season that we can fight through anything. We have to be mentally prepared, mentally tough every week, every game, every snap. There's just no other way to do it.

You know, it's all right there for us. We've got the players, got the coaches, got the favorable schedule and the bottom line, it's on us if we don't take advantage, if we don't do our jobs, he delivered, straight and poker-faced. Our goal has to be to play our game, to dictate. We're obviously looking for that first conference championship (the first since 2000) and getting to the play-offs. I think we'd be a pretty dangerous team in the postseason.

While adopting this redirected mentality, Eyster will also be welcoming a new crop of wide receivers to his offensive scheme, while also padding up for the first time in his career without high school teammates and former Statesmen lettermen, Ryan Barker and Pete Golding.



Led by Scott Eyster and their high-powered offense, the Statesmen will have six regular season home games at Travis E. Parker Field, including Homecoming, Oct. 21 versus North Alabama. Kick-off is scheduled for 4 p.m. To follow the action all season long, log onto www.gostatesmen.com.

I'm not going to say I'm moving on without them, because I don't think there will be a game where I don't think of them. I've always taken snaps from Ryan, for as long as I can remember and it will definitely be different, the former Hammond High quarterback offered. They may not be on the field, but their spirit is still with me and they've been really good about saying, 'Don't do it like this, like we did our senior year; do it the right way.' They want me to do good in my last year. It's almost like they're living through me.

Taking over front-line duties for the graduated Barker will be second-year Statesmen John Simmons. Of his sophomore center, Eyster reported, 'He's tough and we're working hard to develop that relationship, that bond, that feel. We're not there yet, but we're getting there.'

Also getting there is Eyster's wide receiving core, which includes returning starters Rob

Davis, Jeremy Ricks and Michael Wallace and a Holmes Community College transfer Eric Marshall, that has the Statesmen quarterback, very excited.

We've got the right group of guys, a good mix. We've got the three of the top four receivers from last year returning, with a good group of young guys wanting to step up. We've got the speed, the break-away ability, and if Eric is the big play guy I think he can be for us, we'll be in very good shape, Eyster predicted.

In his three years as the offensive leader for Delta State, Eyster has collected 9,961 passing yards, a school record, with 80 career touchdowns, another school record, and an average of 311.3 yards-per-game, yet another school record. His gaudy statistics have earned the 6-3, 195-pound quarterback Preseason All-American honors and Harlon Hill candidacy coming into the 2006 campaign.

Despite his numbers, though, Eyster's career has been plagued by one nemesis, in particular Valdosta State University. He has been on the losing side of that battle the past three seasons, and it is the one statistic he does

care about.

I've said it before; I'm driven by team recognition, nothing else. But, the one stat I do want to change is the head-to-head against Valdosta. I'm very aware of that record, and I will get one before it's all said and done. They're circled, for sure. I'm working hard to make sure that happens, the fiercely competitive Eyster assured.

And that hard work, the recommitment, it's all part of the process, the growth, the maturation Scott Eyster has undergone in his five years on the Cleveland campus and as part of the Delta State football program.

I've got to believe the hard work is going to pay-off, but at the end of the day, football is a game, a now philosophical Eyster reflected. It's a game, and I don't want to lose sight of that. I don't want to forget how much fun this game can be, how much fun this game is, and God, I'm having fun.

leave up this point. I know that, I would expect that. sure, I want to set them, but I want to set them because be a great player; I want to be part of a great team.

SIMPLY DEFINED a Legend

CLARK ENTERS HALL

The dictionary defines legend as a person of achievement; one who has brought glory to himself or occupation.

At Delta State University, Lady Statesmen fans define legend simply as Lloyd Clark. The three-time NCAA champion women's basketball coach officially joined the ranks of Mississippi's athletic elite this past July at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet. Clark's induction marks the ninth Delta State University inductee into the Hall.

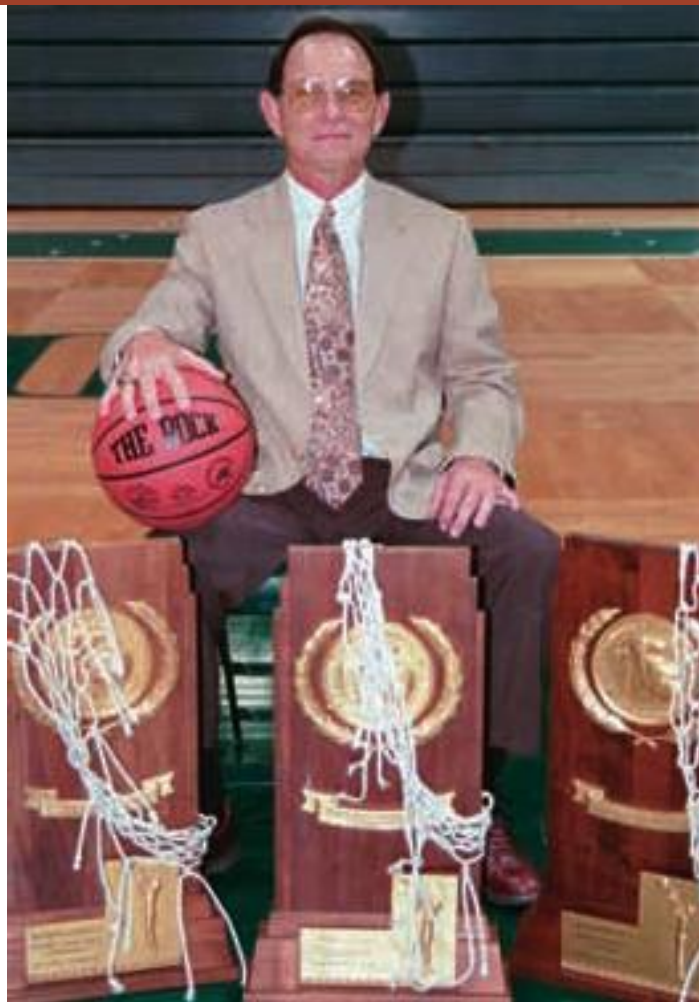
I'm excited and humbled by this whole experience, Clark offered. This is something you don't achieve by yourself! Bernadette MacDonald, Lusia Harris, Robert Tanner, Scottie Batts, Dr. Kent Wyatt and Brad Hovious all played a part in this. There are a lot of emotions going into this I am truly humbled.

Clark became the sixth coach in the program's history on July 1, 1983. The program was then in NCAA Division I but was beginning to make the transition to the Gulf South Conference and NCAA Division II. In his two years against Division I competition, the Lady Statesmen posted an impressive 39-15 record. After the move to Division II, the Lady Statesmen claimed five straight GSC titles, and amassed a record of 70-4 during the first four years.

Delta State University has a special place in women's basketball history, a tradition you always want to live up to and we tried our best to do just that, he contended. There is no doubt the success I've had at Delta State was attributed to building on the tradition Margaret Wade laid here. Many a practice I used that tradition, those banners hanging in the ceiling and the trophies in the case I'm just proud to have been a part of it all.

In 19 seasons, his teams would compile one of the best records in women's basketball history (494-98) and solidify his name as one of the all-time greats in college basketball coaching. He ranks first in career wins at Delta State University, having put together five 30-win seasons, and eleven 20-win seasons. His .834 winning percentage ranks second all-time in NCAA history and his 494 victories rank eighth all-time in the NCAA record book. Clark also ranks first all-time in the Gulf South Conference with 456 victories and in winning percentage (.849).

Clark guided teams to the NCAA tournament 16 times. His 1988-89, 1989-90, and 1991-92 teams claimed the NCAA Division II National Championships. Eleven of those years, DSU advanced to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight. In



With his recent induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, former Lady Statesmen head coach Lloyd Clark becomes the ninth inductee to represent Delta State.

those 16 appearances, the Lady Statesmen compiled a 39-14 (.736) record.

Clark's record in the Gulf South Conference is equally impressive. Over his career, the Lady Statesmen amassed a record of 206-38 (.845) in GSC play. The GSC recognized his excellence as a coach, recognizing him as the Coach of the Year five times. He has also won numerous NCAA

Region Coach of the Year honors as well.

The Drew native was also a noted history instructor during his time at Delta State University. Clark is married to the former Babs Walker of Drew. They have two sons, Scottie and Brady, both DSU graduates, and two grandchildren, Walker and Will. The Clark's currently reside in a lake side home in Vicksburg.



Media Relations Laps National Competition

Delta State University Athletic Media Relations Director Matt Jones and his staff received the CoSIDA College Division Best Cover Award for the 2005-06 Swimming and Diving Media Guide at the annual CoSIDA Convention. The award is the first for Jones and his staff. Delta State also had three publications finish in the top ten in their respective sports.

Each year the College Sports Information Directors of America sponsor a national publications contest for each collegiate sport. All NCAA and NAIA Divisions are represented. For more information on CoSIDA or the contest, please log on to www.cosida.com.

Best of the Best



Alyse Hasty

Alyse Hasty became the third Delta State University Lady Statesman in school history to capture the prestigious Gulf South Conference Commissioner's Trophy.

The Commissioner's Trophy is awarded annually to the student-athlete who best combines outstanding performance on the field or court and high academic achievement in the classroom with significant community service and extracurricular activities.

Hasty is the first honoree since the school swept men's and women's honors in 1991-92 (Brad Teague and Amy Carroll).

I am truly overwhelmed at this honor, Hasty gushed. This is a tremendous honor for me



With her recent selection, Alyse Hasty becomes Delta State's ninth overall Commissioner's Trophy winner and third women's honoree.

and my family. I would like to thank Commissioner (Nate) Salant, the GSC, coach David Kuhn, my teammates and all of DSU for supporting me over the last four years.

The St. Louis, Mo. native easily established herself as one of the best softball players to

ever don a Delta State uniform, and given her many contributions to her team, her school and the communities she touched, perhaps the greatest.

During the 2006 season, Hasty set conference records for stolen bases in a season and career. She also led the league in runs, hits and total bases en route to her second straight GSC West Division Player of the Year Award and All-GSC First Team. The centerfielder is also the first Lady Statesman named NFCA First Team All-American in the program's history. Her other honors include: NFCA All-South Region First Team, Delta State Most Valuable Player and the Delta State Charles S. Kerg Senior Athlete of the Year.

Academically, the Political Science major earned National Fastpitch Coaches Association Academic All-American Scholar Athlete, as well as a place on the GSC All-Academic Team and the GSC Honor Roll. She also made the CoSIDA Academic All-Region Team, DSU President's List and the Pi Gamma Mu National Social Science Honor Society.

Off-the field, Hasty served as President of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), coordinator of the DSU Chapter of the James Madison Pre-Law Society and President of the Madison Center Society. She also chaired the Lady Statesmen's K's for Cancer Fundraiser.

During my career at Delta State University, I have never seen a young lady with such presence on and off the field, softball head coach David Kuhn lauded.

Alyse has everything she needs to succeed in life. Her leadership has helped build this program into a championship contender and I know we are a much stronger group because of her leadership.

Alyse is the very definition of a student-athlete, Athletic Director Dr. Brad Teague offered. Her work on the field speaks for itself, but her leadership with the SAAC and the countless community-service projects she is involved with speak to her leadership abilities and character. Alyse will be successful in any endeavor she chooses and I believe she is the epitome of what this award stands for.



HEADING HOME

Crawford Center Nears Completion

As the Delta State baseball program concluded the 2006 season, Roy Collins Construction, Inc. of Cleveland began putting the finishing touches on the Robert L. Crawford Center. The Crawford Center will be the latest addition to the already famous, Dave Boo Ferriss Field.

The Robert L. Crawford Center will be the main entrance and exit point for all future Statesmen baseball games at Ferriss Field. The facility will feature the Statesmen/Ferriss Baseball Memorabilia Room, expanded rest room facilities, an umpire's locker room, concession areas and a merchandising stand.

The Crawford Center is the second building in as many years to be completed for the Statesmen baseball program. In June of 2005, the J.A. Bud Thigpen, Jr. Baseball Annex was completed. The Crawford Center, Thigpen Annex and Dave Boo Ferriss Field combine to give the Statesmen the best facilities in all of NCAA Division II. Without the support of the Thigpen and Crawford families this would not be possible, stated Brad Teague, Director of Athletics. Their generosity will insure that the legacy of success continues at Delta State for many years to come, Teague added.

If we're going to do something, let's make something nice, Dr. Brad Teague, Director of Athletics commented. We think it's just a great facility that will enhance the whole baseball operation.

The Statesmen/Ferriss Memorabilia Room will feature all sorts of memorabilia, as well as lots of facts and history on the best baseball program in the United States. DSU legend Dave Boo Ferriss, a Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer, will also have a number of items in the facility.

It gives us more of a museum-like atmosphere for our kids and our fans, and we think the community will come out more and more for baseball. Teague concluded.

For more information on the Robert L. Crawford Center, please contact the Delta State University Athletic Department at (662) 846-4300 or e-mail us at athletics@deltastate.edu.

06-07 STATESMEN BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	T/R
11.6	Ole Miss%	7:00
11.17	Clark-Atlanta^	7:00
11.18	Miles^	6:00
11.22	Southern Univ.	7:00
11.25	LeMoyne-Owen	7:30
11.29	North Alabama	7:30
12.1	Ecclessia College	7:00
12.9	West Alabama	7:30
12.11	Dillard	7:00
12.13	West Georgia	7:00
12.16	Tougaloo	7:00
12.30	Tougaloo	7:00
1.3	West Alabama	4:00
1.6	Ouachita Baptist*	4:00
1.11	Harding*	8:00
1.13	UA-Monticello*	4:00
1.18	Sou. Arkansas*	7:30
1.20	Christian Brothers*	4:00
1.25	Arkansas Tech*	8:00
1.27	Henderson State*	4:00
1.30	Central State	7:00
2.1	Ouachita Baptist*	8:00
2.8	Harding*	7:30
2.10	UA-Monticello*	5:00
2.15	Southern Arkansas*	7:30
2.17	Christian Bros.*	4:00
2.22	Arkansas Tech*	7:30
2.24	Henderson State*	7:30
2.28-3.4	GSC Tournament	TBD
3.8-3.11	NCAA Regionals	TBD

Legend:

* - Denotes Gulf South Conference game
 ^ - State Farm Classic-Walter Sillers Coliseum
 % - Exhibition

Ball in Conner's court now



Jason Conner smiles brightly after being named Delta State's new head men's basketball coach.

Jason Conner was officially introduced earlier this spring as Delta State University's 14th head men's basketball coach. He succeeds the celebrated Steve Rives who announced his retirement in April after 20 seasons at the helm of the Statesmen basketball program.

I stand before you today as an example dreams do come true, an obviously proud Conner offered. This is a tremendous opportunity for me and my family and I would like to thank Drs. John Hilpert and Brad Teague, the search committee and the Delta State University community for having the faith in me to lead

this program into the future. Conner recently completed his seventh season as the primary assistant coach for the Statesmen program and his 10th overall.

Prior to joining the Delta State coaching staff, the Lakeland, Fla., native served the 1998-99 season as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at the University of South Alabama. The 1999 Jaguar recruiting class ranked in the Top 10 nationally.

He spent the 1997-98 season at the University of Houston as the recruiting coordinator and assistant coach on the

Cougars staff. Before taking the position at the University of Houston, Conner was the head men's basketball and golf coach at his alma mater Belhaven College. During his stint as head coach of the Blazers, Conner guided Belhaven to the GCAC Tournament and a solid post-season finish.

Conner, then, traveled west for a spot on current Lady Statesmen head coach Sandra Rushing's University of Texas-El Paso staff. He would serve as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for the Lady Miners from 1990-93.

A 1987 Belhaven College graduate with a bachelor's degree in History and Political Science, Conner received a master's degree in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation from Delta State University in 1989.

Conner is married to the former Lauren Wilson of Jacksonville, Fla., a teacher at Presbyterian Day School. He is the son of Rev. Jerry and Norma Conner, also of Lakeland.

Conner era to begin with Ole Miss exhibition

Newly anointed head men's basketball coach Jason Conner recently announced the Statesmen's 2006-2007 schedule, and the first-year sideline boss wasted no time in delivering big names. Delta State University will open with its season, Monday, Nov. 6 with an exhibition at the University of Mississippi.

We're excited to have the schedule completed, said Conner. This year's team will face a lot of talented teams and we were excited to get Coach (Andy) Kennedy and Ole Miss to play us in the exhibition season.

The Delta State schedule features 27 games with 15 dates scheduled for inside Walter Sillers Coliseum. Additionally, the Statesmen will once again host the annual State Farm

Insurance Classic on November 17-18 at Walter Sillers Coliseum. The University of Southern Arkansas, Miles College and Clark-Atlanta University will compete in the two-day tournament.

It was very important for me to carry on the tradition of the State Farm Classic, said Conner. Coach (Steve) Rives worked hard to establish one of the top pre-conference NCAA Division II tournaments in the country and we were excited to schedule it again this year.

The Statesmen finished last season 30-2 en route to claiming the GSC title and the nation's top ranking. DSU would advance to the second round of the NCAA Tournament before falling to UA-Monticello.

two **Balius & Davis** Smart Cookies



Kristin Balius



Tripp Davis

Delta State University senior swimmers Kristin Balius and James Tripp Davis, III were among the 58 NCAA student-athletes awarded the prestigious NCAA postgraduate scholarships of \$7,500 each to 29 male student-athletes and 29 female student-athletes who participated in winter sports.

Kristin Balius is a senior biology major from Biloxi. She will graduate in May with a 3.91 GPA and plans to attend medical school in the fall. One of the most decorated swimmers in Lady Statesmen history, Balius is a three-time All-NSISC honoree. She is a four-time All-NSISC Academic Team selection and a two-time NCAA Academic All-American. In May, the Biloxi native was presented the Athletic Director's Hall of Fame Award, which is presented annually to the top student-athlete with the highest GPA.

James Tripp Davis, III is a senior accounting major from Madison. Davis ended his DSU career as one of the most decorated swimmers in the history of the Statesmen swimming and diving program. A four-year letterman for Ronnie Mayers and Brian Hein,

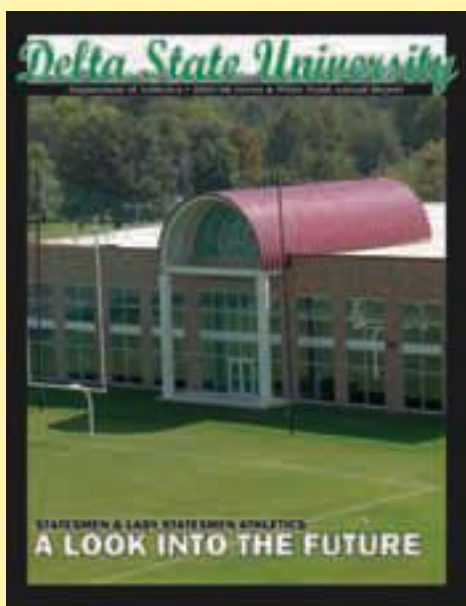
Davis is an 11-time NCAA All-American and a four-time All-NSISC selection. Davis is also a nine-time NSISC Champion. He has competed on four NCAA Championship squads for the Statesmen and currently ranks in the top 10 in numerous DSU events. He is also a four-time Team Workout Award winner and a three-time Scholar Athlete Award recipient.

Davis is a four-time NSISC Academic All-Conference selection, while capturing NCAA Academic All-American three times. He is also the 2006 recipient of the Charles S. Kerg Award and the Athletic Director's Hall of Fame Award. Davis was also nominated for the NCAA Man of the Year Award and CoSIDA Academic All-American honors.

To qualify for an NCAA postgraduate scholarship, a student-athlete must have an overall grade-point average of 3.200 (on a 4.000 scale) or its equivalent, and must have performed with distinction as a member of

the varsity team in the sport in which the student-athlete was nominated. The student-athlete must have behaved, both on and off the field, in a manner that has brought credit to the student-athlete, the institution and intercollegiate athletics. The student-athlete also must intend to continue academic work beyond the baccalaureate degree as a full-time or part-time graduate student.

Nomination information is sent to faculty athletics representatives for fall sports in September, for winter sports in late November, and for spring sports in January. Selections are made three times each academic year. The nomination must be submitted during the appropriate seasonal category for the sport to the appropriate regional committee chair. Candidates are screened by seven regional selection committees, and the award recipients are selected by the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.



Athletics to publish annual Green & White Fund report

Dr. Brad Teague, Director of Athletics, recently announced the Department of Athletics will publish its first Green & White Fund Annual Report. The publication will chronicle the year in athletics and serve as a guide for Green & White Fund donors.

The Green & White Fund continues to play a major role in our mission, said Teague. Our goal is to get as much information out as possible and to let our donors know how their contributions are being used. The publication will have the added bonus of updating our donors on the year in Delta State athletics.

Scheduled for a spring release, the report is tentatively slated to appear in the University's spring 2007 Alumni magazine. Published twice annually, the Delta State alumni magazine reaches 21,000 alumni, friends and donors.

The Green & White Fund Annual Report will be produced by the Department of Athletics Media Relations Office. For more information on the report or the Green & White Fund, please contact the Department of Athletics at (662) 846-4300 or email us at athletics@deltastate.edu.

WITH THE CLASSES

49 Dr. John C. Merrill, of Columbia, MO, professor emeritus at the Missouri School of Journalism, was elected to the University of Iowa School of Journalism Hall of Fame.

56 Ann Williams Day, of Gunnison, and husband, Albert Scott Day celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

58 Dr. Elbert Hilliard of Jackson, received the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Mississippi Heritage Trust.



Hilliard

61 Elizabeth Wynne Lewis, of Coldwater, was named board member of Northwest Mississippi Community College Foundation. She will serve on the Scholarship Selection Committee.

63 Dr. Levenia Maxwell-Barnes, of Moorhead, received the 2005-2006 College of Education Award for Outstanding Service at Delta State University.

65 Mary Jo Burton, of Killeen, TX, retired after 28 years of teaching.

66 Linda Floyd Collins, of Cleveland, accepted the Mississippi Heritage Trust's Award for Excellence in Downtown Revitalization on behalf of Team Cleveland's Main Street Committee of the Cleveland Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce.

68 Dale Dobbs, of Oak Ridge, TN, retired as assistant superintendent of Oak Ridge schools.

Tommy McKiernon, of Vancleave, is the director of human resources for Mississippi Phosphate on the Gulf Coast.

Sandra McKiernon, of Vancleave, is a 6th grade teacher at Trent Lott School on the Gulf Coast.

Phil "Orey" Sherman, of Charleston, branch sales manager of Regions Bank's Charleston location, was named to the 2005 Chairman's Club.

69 Joe Versen, of York, SC, was named Fund Raising Chair for United Way and Vice Chair of York County Visitors Bureau. He was also elected Board of Directors of the Winthrop University Eagle Club and is serving on the Board of Directors of York County Chamber of Commerce.

70 Mike Corbin, of Cleveland, was inducted into the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

Patsy Fortner Prewitt, of Greenville, is currently teaching a self-contained special education class at Greenville Weston High School.

Malcolm Kuykendall, of Belmont, was named superintendent of the Tishomingo County school system.

72 Dr. Wayne Blansett, of Cleveland, who has served Delta State 31 years, was honored by having the DSU 2006 yearbook dedicated in his honor.

73 J. Carroll Ashley, of Hazelhurst, was named Senior Vice President of Copiah Bank where he has worked since 1973.

Stephen Handley, of Jackson, is the new Superintendent of Hinds County School System.

Sandra Howell, of Grenada, was selected as one of the new assistant principals at the Grenada Middle School.

Ronnie Wise, of Cleveland, retired as director of Bolivar County Library System.

74 Paul Artman, of Greenville, was named principal of St. Joseph Catholic School in Greenville.

75 Dierdre Woodruff, of Greenville, is a teacher, interior decorator and was featured in Delta Profile of the *Delta Democratic Times*.

76 Brendy Sims, of Glenview, IL, was appointed as an agent for State Farm Insurance.

James Bounds, is the new principal at Quitman Lower Elementary School in Quitman.

77 Robbie Brawner Ouzts, of Smyrna, GA, is the Scholar Services coordinator for the State Doctoral Scholars program in Atlanta.

Donald L. Washington received his Doctorate of Theology degree from New Foundation Theological Seminary in Terry.



Bonhomme

78 Lottie Baglan Bonhomme, of New

York, NY, is the owner of the Pascalou Bistro, a French Restaurant in New York City.

Stanley M. Partridge, of Long Beach, was named the "State Administrator of the Year" at the annual convention of the Mississippi State Association of Student Councils at Jones County Junior College. He also served on the advisory board for the MSASC.

Debra Floyd Atkinson ('78 &'02), of Oxford, completed the Doctor of Arts degree in Music Education with Choral Emphasis at Ole Miss. She also accepted the position as choral director at Mississippi University for Women.

79 Ann Bassi Minyard, of Flower Mound, TX, is global Commercial Manager of Technical Training for Abbott Diagnostics.

80 Judy Couey, of Clinton, was named Assistant Superintendent of Starkville Public Schools.

81 Judy Woodcock, of Greenwood, has retired after years of service at both Delta State and Mississippi Delta Community College libraries.

Frank Bradford Jr., Branch Sales Manager for Grenada Plaza Regions Bank, obtained Chairman's Club Status for his branch.

82 Ricky Hearn, of Millington, TN, was inducted into the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

Andrew Hughes, of Tupelo, is first Vice President, Manager Network and IS Security Services for BancorpSouth in Tupelo.

83 Vivian B. Simmons, of Tillatoba, was selected as Grenada Elementary School's new principal.

Phoebe Clark, of Grenada, North Mississippi Area Sales Manager of Regions Bank, for the Grenada Region, was named to the Chairman's Club.

84 Jimmie Adams III, of Madison, is President of Mississippi Real Estate Investors Association, LLC.

85 Audrey L. Morehead, of Cleveland, recently traveled to Benin, West Africa to help lead a retreat for young missionaries.



Morehead

Dr. Scott Nelson, of Cleveland, was elected Secretary of the National Association of Medical Communicators Board of Directors.



Nelson

88 Kim Voyles Watson, of Forrest City, AR, received her MSE degree from the University of Memphis in 1996 and certification in gifted and talented education from Arkansas State University in 2004.

Missy Hannah Kistemaker, of Mooresville, NC, was named Advanced Director of the Pampered Chef program and earned "Top Performance Cluster in Sales."



Kistemaker

89 Jason Conner, of Cleveland, was named head men's basketball coach at Delta State University, following Steve Rives who retired.

Don Skelton Jr., of Senatobia, was named assistant men's basketball coach at Lamar University in TX.

Captain John C. Thomas of the Starkville Police Department graduated from the FBI National Academy at Quantico, Virginia.

M. Kent Savage, of Greenwood, has been promoted to senior information systems officer at State Bank & Trust Co.

90 Eric Jolly, of Coldwater, recently joined IBM in Atlanta as an Associate Partner in IBM's Business Consulting Services Division.

M. Brad Kornegay, of Collierville, TN, is President of Colliers Management Services.

91 Dale Sorgen is the new Pastor of the First Baptist Church in Sultan, WA.

Dr. Michelle Roberts, of Cleveland, completed the Millennium Leadership Initiative in Washington, D.C., for senior level university administrators.

92 Emily Skillern Ballard, of Hernando, is principal of Hope Sullivan Elementary School in Southaven.

John H. Lamberson Jr., of Memphis, TN, is Senior Vice President of CB Richard Ellis Company.

Amy Carroll Hudspeth, of Grenada, was inducted into the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

93 Audrey Usery Pearson, of Cleveland, was named Director of the Bolivar County

Library System.

Chase Wright of Memphis has been admitted to the partnership of Deloitte and Touche LLP

94 Ray Morgigno, of Pearl, was named Pearl High School's new principal.

95 Dr. Clint Tibbs, of Cleveland, completed his doctorate at Catholic University in Washington D.C., and is teaching at Delta State University.

C. Daniel Prather, of Murfreesboro, TN, is currently an Associate Professor of Areospace at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN.

Scott Coopwood, of Cleveland, received the "Award for Excellence in Preservation Education and Media" from the Mississippi Heritage Trust.

Dr. Robert Neal Soares received his MD degree from St Matthew's University School of Medicine, and will begin his residency in family practice at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

Dr. Stanley K. Ellis, of Mound Bayou, graduated from Jackson State with a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership.

96 Jon Paul Davis, of Greenville, was inducted into the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

Katherine Keller Batenhorst, of St. Augustine, FL, was inducted into the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

Stacy McSpadden, of Southaven, was promoted to Manager of Interior Design Services at Chestnut Hall Interiors.

Jeff Grimsley is the Chief Financial Officer at Walton Regional Medical Center in Monroe, Georgia.

Jay Buckley has been promoted to Senior Vice President and Asset Manager of Parkway Realty Services and will manage a recently purchased property, "One Illinois Center" in Chicago.

Chrissy Keller LaMastus was inducted into the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

97 Richard Denton, of Horn Lake, received an award from Graphic Design USA.

Dr. Carl A. "Trey" Labella III was promoted to the rank of Major in the US Air Force serving as a dental surgeon.

Mary Zarella Burns ('97 & '98), of Columbus, is a Forensic Scientist for the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences.

Dr. Dawn Mitchell Bradford, of Amarillo, TX, was Board Certified in Family Medicine in 2005 and was named Texas Tech University's inaugural Women's Health Fellow 2005-2006.



Bradford

Jerry Williams was named assistant principal at Grenada High School in Grenada.

Mia Fioranelli, of Memphis, TN, is the director of rehab and a speech therapist at the Village of Germantown Retirement Community.

98 Heidi Ryals Barbian, of Clarksdale, was selected for the 10th edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers. She is currently a teacher at Pope School in the South Panola School District.

99 Amanda Leigh Gardner was named a Million Dollar Producer, at Century 21.

Christina Hawkins Willhite is in her fifth year as Computer Teacher at Olive Branch Middle School.

Cory D. Reynolds teaches Algebra and is the football and track coach at Petal High School.

Julie Simpson Hollingsworth, of Byhalia, senior marketing coordinator for Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, won the 2006 Marketing Professional Award of the Year, given by the Pyramid Advertising Awards Organization.



Hollingsworth

Heather Short, of Cleveland, is the Alumni Coordinator for Bayou Academy in Cleveland.

00 George Miller, of Olive Branch, accepted a position as development director of Junior Achievement in Memphis.

Joyce A. Hyde, DMD, is at the University of Mississippi Medical Center & GV Sonny Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson, practicing general dentistry.

Dwight J. Luckett was appointed superintendent of the Canton Public School District in Canton.

Louis Robert Grones, of Jackson, is a C-17 Pilot with the Mississippi Air National Guard in Jackson.

Carmen Denise Grones, of Jackson, is a freelance writer.

Dr. Hubert Dwaine Taylor, II received the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences.

Kelly Ryan Geiser, of Ocean Springs, is a speech therapist with Pascagoula School District.

Nicole Whittington, is the Advertising and Communications Manager for Sam's Town Casino in Tunica.

01 Amy Ross Woods graduated from University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine and has started her residency in Internal Medicine in Jackson.

Dr. Joe Anderson, of Rosedale, received his PhD. in mathematics from University of Mississippi in May.

Missy Pitts Walters was crowned Mrs. Mississippi 2005 and placed in the top ten at the Mrs. America Pageant, which was held in Palm Springs, CA. She was also voted Mrs. Congeniality.



Walters

Michelle Corbin, of Hernando, was named Teacher of the Year for DeSoto County School System for 2005-2006.

Jason Patterson is the new managing editor of the *Yazoo Herald* in Yazoo City.

02 Katie Alford Moore graduated from University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine and started her residency in Family Medicine in Birmingham, AL.

Ashley Burleson Pullen, of Canton, graduated from University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine and started her residency in Family Medicine in Jackson.

Jonathan Collins, of Flowood, graduated from University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine and started his residency in Internal Medicine/Pediatrics in Columbia, MO.

Graham Weaver graduated from University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine and started his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Jackson.

Justin Buford graduated from University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine and started his residency in Emergency Medicine in Jackson.

Jeanne Gant, of Sardis, is a 3rd grade teacher at East Tate Elementary School in Coldwater, and was nominated for "teacher of the year."

Elizabeth Riddell Phipps of Memphis completed the Country Music Marathon (26.2 miles) in Nashville, TN.

03 Heather Beeland, of Madison, is the new clinic administrator with MEA Medical Clinic in Jackson.

Chad White, of Hernando, was named Principal at DeSoto Central Middle School.

Amy Foote Dotson, of Ridgeland, is a Speech Language Therapist at Magnolia Speech School in Jackson.

Clifton Davis Sims is employed as a sales representative for BMI Industries in Enterprise, AL.

Morgan Geoghagan, of Ridgeland, an accountant with LeFoldt and Company recently passed the CPA exam.

Jay Hale, of Senatobia, recently passed the bar exam.

04 Laura Wallace Clark is teaching 8th grade algebra at Lake Cormorant Middle School.

David Ferriss is an intern with the Nashville Predators Hockey Team.



Ferriss

Laura Lee Griffin, of Cleveland, completed her Masters in Business Administration and took a job with BancorpSouth in Southaven, as a sales assistant in the investment department.

05 Will Crump, of Greenwood, is a staff assistant for special services for Senator Thad Cochran in Washington D.C.

Chris Williams is working with the Commercial Lending Division of Renasant Bank in Southaven.

David Mitchell, DeSoto County Sheriff's Commander, is the new Director of Metro Narcotics Unit in Southaven.

Mary Beth Luke from Highland Elementary School was selected as "Teacher of the Year."

Ethel L. Davis Brown, of Rolling Fork, received a key to the city and had a street named in her honor for her dedicated service to her students and community.

Ross Aven Jr., of Kosciusko, has joined M & F Bank as Vice President of Human Resources.

Robert Walker was named superintendent of Lumberton Schools.

Brindley "Lee" Kuiper has been promoted to assistant vice president at Trustmark Bank in Jackson.

Dr. Valerie Richardson Simpson was named Principal of Lockard Elementary School.

Carl Blaylock has accepted the position as

headmaster for Carroll Academy.

06 P.J. Waldrop is a staff assistant with the US Senate Agriculture Committee in Washington D. C.

Merry Claire Ballard has been accepted to Physical Therapy school in Jackson.

No Class Year

Bradley Faircloth, a Marine who lost his life in Iraq, had a Bronze Panther statue dedicated in his memory at Murphy High School in Mobile, AL.

Mary Beth Luke, of Madison, was named Highland Elementary School's Teacher of the Year.

Beverly C. Culley was named superintendent of the Benoit School District.

K. G. Sims writes short stories and poetry and recently published his first novel, "Northwest Train: Enjoy the Ride."

Pvt. Nekelah S. Howard recently earned her battalion's highest award by being named "Soldier of the Cycle."

Gary "Bubba" Dixon was inducted into the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

Send us
your news!

alumni@deltastate.edu

Wedding Bells

Susie Campbell to Tommy Poirier '89 on April 9, 2005.

Kelly Anne Ryan '00 to Nicholaus Geiser on June 4, 2005.

Karie Sue McCarty '05 to Roy Reed MCCaleb, Jr. on June 11, 2005.

Laurel Anjanette Pennington '03 to Robbie Shane Powers '03 on July 2, 2005.

Jennifer Leigh Musgrove to William Michael "Mich" McAdory '01 on August 20, 2005.

Dixie Christina Hamett '05 to Davis Barnet Chiz on November 12, 2005.

LeAnn Griggs '04 to John Brooke Henderson '01 on November 19, 2005.

Leigh Bailey '00 to Ben Edwards on November 19, 2005.

Elizabeth Ann Shirey '05 to Adam Alford Sykes '05 to December 17, 2005

Crystal Yvonne Bentley '01 to Brandon Sims on January 21, 2006.

Emily Jewel McMaster to Christopher Poole '98 on February 4, 2006.

Erin Elisabeth Houston '05 to Timothy Dillard on February 4, 2006.



Porter

Tracey Ann Odom '02 to Gregory Rush Smith '02 on February 25, 2006.

Mary Porter '05 to Jonathan Watts '03 & '05 on February 25, 2006.

Laurie Addie Sellers '01 to Torrey Frederick Simon on March 1, 2006.

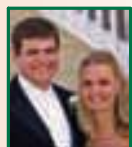
Katy Jackson '96 to David Smith on March 4, 2006.

Rivers Lillian Gist '06 to James Russell Gain-spoletti '04 on March 10, 2006.

Amy Foote '03 to Kelly Dotson on March 11, 2006.

Megan Allison Little '04 to Joshua Kyle Cun-ningham on March 11, 2006.

Heather Renee Williams to Howard Wilson Sledge, Jr. '01 on March 11, 2006



Bonner

Becky Bonner '98 to Davis Car-penter on March 11, 2006.

Angela Michelle Bullock '94 to Ronald Allen Butler on March 11, 2006.

Eunika Stevula '94 to Scott Rogers on March 16, 2006.

Kathy Nicole Goldman to Matthew Lyons Safley '05 on March 25, 2006.

Alison Michelle Ingram '01 to Thomas Bart Loper '02 on March 25, 2006.

Ericka Kenyada Robinson '94 to Bruce Davis on April 22, 2006.

Candace Ann Burroughs '03 to Paul Joseph Flowers on April 29, 2006.

Ashley Dianne Moses to Morgan Lamar Ge-oghagan '03 on May 20, 2006.

Kristin Dunaway '06 to James Richardson '04 on May 20, 2006.

April Hays '00 to Kenneth Barry on May 20, 2006.

Lisa Kathryn Fioranelli '00 to Joshua Paul Robin on May 20, 2006.

Jenny Ann Gladden '05 to Joseph Nick Brackin on May 20, 2006.

Lesli Lauren Bacon '04 to Eric Adams McCully on May 27, 2006.

Heather Ann Houston '03 to Tommie Gregory Williams, Jr. on June 3, 2006.

Linsay Gail James to Justin Parker Bu-ford '02 on June 2, 2006.

Emily Jean Moore to Dennis Rule Burke, III '02 on June 3, 2006.

Scarlett Ann Barnes '01 to Christopher Massey Cook on June 17, 2006.

Lisa LaFontaine '02 to Nathan Byrum on June 24, 2006.

Ann Elizabeth "Beth" Bailey '89 to Matthew Vanderloo on July 10, 2006.

Bette Caren to Carl Wayne Cyr '06 on July 15, 2006.

Kimberly Nicole Cobb '06 to David Lee Ward-low '06 on July 29, 2006.



Gladden



Houston



LaFontaine

In Memoriam

All deaths are in 2006 unless otherwise indicated.

JUANITA BALLARD FITE '40, of W. Memphis, AR, on Nov. 15, 2005
 JACKIE FAULKNER (attended DSU), of Cleveland
 RICKY AINSWORTH '80, of Jackson
 LEE BAKER (attended DSU), of Jackson
 BILLY D. BOWMAN '62, of Grenada, on January 12
 HELEN M. SIZEMORE '34, of Boyle, on January 26
 RHETTA J. SIVILS '88, of White Hall, AR, on February 15
 GERTRUDE S. WELLS '71, Jackson, TN, on February 21
 MARY A. TOLER (attended DSU), of Cleveland, on February 21
 WALTER G. DIFFEY '70, of Anguilla, on March 3
 ROBERT SHANNON "SHAN" WHITESIDE '94, of Southaven, on March 6
 CALVIN A PIERCE, SR. (attended DSU), of Starkville, on March 6
 NORMAN R. BROX '84, of Greenville, on March 9
 ALLEN L. BURRELL '73, of Port Gibson, on March 17
 TOMAS N. SPIGHT '51, of Madison, on March 18
 RAYMOND W. WRIGHT '55, of Bainbridge, FL, on March 23
 GEORGE H. ARENDALE '61, of Indianola, on March 24
 RAYMOND JORDAN '81, of Clarksdale, on April 10
 NORMAN T. PARISH, JR. '74, of Boyle, on April 12

MICHAEL ANTHONY EDDINS (attended DSU), of Cleveland, on April 19
 IZELLA A. CRANSTON '61, of Nashville, TN, on April 19
 WALTER S. HELENIK '62, of Dunellen, NJ, on April 20
 LEE OTIS WATSON '51, of Wesson on May 3
 DONALD K. CRAWLEY '81, of Vicksburg, on May 27
 ELOISE GOYNE AYLWARD '68, of Cleveland, on June 6
 GENE E CRICK '60, of Greenwood, on June 6
 JOHN S SUTPHEN, JR. (attended DSU), of Greenwood, on June 18
 CAROLE LAMB BRENT '77, of Greenville, TN, on June 19
 MARY A. CROOK '71, of Ruleville, on June 23
 WILLIAM EMMETT FARR III (attended DSU), of Gulfport, on June 26
 RONNIE SELLERS '80, of Grenada, on July 1
 ROBERT C. WARREN '68, of Belzoni, on July 2
 EUGENE W FIORANELLI '63, of Gulfport, on July 12
 MAY RINGOLD WHITTINGTON '92, of Schlater, on July 12
 CLERFET J. VICKNAIR '57, of Litcher, LA, on July 17
 CLYDE "JIM" LEWIS '86, of Brandon, on July 19
 HELEN CALDWELL '38, of Hattiesburg, on July 27
 PAULINE LUCILLE WATSON '41, of Shelby, on August 12

Baby Statesmen



Anna Grace to Mr. & Mrs. Brian Campbell '96 (Jo Ann Smith) on May 16, 2005.

Spencer Harrison to Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Lynn Hardin '93 (Angel Feduccia '94) on June 21, 2005.

Haley Alicen to Mr. & Mrs. Barefoot (Janet Lea Nokes '01) on July 8, 2005.

Phillip David Redden III to Dr.& Mrs. Phillip David Redden '93 (Nicole Dillard) on August 11, 2005.

Morgan Michele to Mr.& Mrs. Chad Walberg (DeAnne Perkins '94) on September 1, 2005.

Ella Campbell to Mr.& Mrs. Matthew Shamblin (Kris Cummings '97) on September 9, 2005.

Matthew Thomas to Mr.& Mrs. Joey Magee (Bettye Gordon '96) on September 22, 2005.

Laura Michelle to Mr. & Mrs. Keith Burkett (Kimberly Stotts '99) on October 5, 2005.

Mary Addison to Mr. & Mrs. John Mathis (Stacy Borger '96) on October 19, 2005.

Anna Stephens to Mr.& Mrs. Alley Stephen Ballard III (Emily Skillern '92) on October 27, 2005.


Adam Luis to Mr.& Mrs. Luis Natal (Marcia Abide '93) on October 31, 2005.

Samuel Douglas to Mr. & Mrs. John M. Smithhart (Erin Hammett '96) on November 1, 2005.

Meredith Kasen to Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Dean Seeley '96 (Kristi Powell '99) on November 11, 2005.

John Banks to Mr. & Mrs. Ed Egger (Stephanie Smith '95) on November 15, 2005.

Sophia Patricia to Mr.& Mrs. Wilson Santucci (Kelly Housley '97) on December 1, 2005.

 Carter Macall to Mr. & Mrs. Clint Newsom '02 (Carla Sewell '01) on December 2, 2005.

Jacob Shane to Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Rodgers '03 (Leigh Graham '04) on December 7, 2005.

Newsome Gracie Day to Mr. & Mrs. Brian Bishop '99 (Leslie Steele '04) on December 12, 2005.

John Banks to Mr. & Mrs. Ed Egger (Stephanie Smith '95) on November 15, 2005.

Tyler Flynn to Mr.& Mrs. Thomas Peede (Kristi Hamilton '94) on January 10, 2006.


Timothy Evan to Mr.& Mrs. Brian Comish '84 (Kathryn Comish) on January 16, 2006.

Amanda Nicole to Mr.& Mrs. Jay Mahaffey (Jill Fletcher '96) on January 16, 2006.

Anna Austin to Mr. & Mrs. Jamie Williamson (Andrea Evans '91) on January 29, 2006.

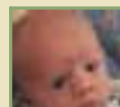
Kennedy MaRae to Mr. & Mrs. Michael Joe (Lylla Cooper '00) on February 2, 2006.

Taylor Lynn to Mr. & Mrs. Richard Denton '97 on February 7, 2006.

 John Thomas to Mr. & Mrs. John Caldwell (Gina Garrison '00) on February 8, 2006.

Cathryn Keeley to Mr.& Mrs. Chris Wilson '95 (Celeste Embry '97) on February 13, 2006.

Caldwell Marjorie Elizabeth to Dr. & Mrs. Doty Farmer '92 (Vontese Russell '93) on February 22, 2006.

 Walker Ryan to Mr. & Mrs. William Wixon Jr. '98 (Amanda Foster '99) on February 24, 2006.

Wixon Abigail Kirsten to Mr. & Mrs. Billy Dorgan '01 (Rebekah Haire '00) on February 27, 2006.


Joseph Anthony "Seph" to Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Anthony Correro III (Roianna Hawkins) on February 28, 2006.

Reece Christopher to Mr. & Mrs. Shannon Cobb '00 (Dana Stanton '00) on March 9, 2006.

Ashley Marie to Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Weeks (Dena Barfield '04) on March 10, 2006.


Holt David to Mr.& Mrs. Jonathan Fortner '03 (Sayward Ely '04) on March 20, 2006.

Casey Stone to Mr. & Mrs. Casey Myrick '99 on March 24, 2006.

 Matthew David to Mr.& Mrs. David Morrow Cummings '92 (Betty Ann Davis '94) on March 26, 2006.

Molly Elizabeth to Mr. & Mrs. Joey Tompkins (Betsy Reed '99) on March 27, 2006.

Cummings Bailey Ann Rager to Mr. & Mrs. Beau Garverick '93 on April 2, 2006.

 Avery Ann to Mr. & Mrs. John Bret Hornback '99 (Amy Hornback) on April 5, 2006.

Hornback Ava Catherine Burns to Mr. & Mrs. Robert "Buck" Burns '98 on April 7, 2006.

Katelyn Elizabeth to Mr. & Mrs. Rob Stuard (Amy Norris '00) on April 10, 2006.

Holden Jude to Mr. & Mrs. Trey Cooke (Daty Hardy '98) on April 14, 2006.



Dorgan



Cobb



Garverick



Stuard



Cooke

Jackson Leevy to Mr. & Mrs. Steven Ham '97 (Faithe Freeze '97) on April 17, 2006.



Ham

Mollie Neal to Mr. & Mrs. Paul Townsend IV '97 (Valerie Trussell '00) on June 9, 2006.



de la Chappelle



Jenna Banks to Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery Sean Cannon '98 (Julia Gaston '00) on April 26, 2006.

Cannon

Beau Reagan to Mr. & Mrs. Henri de la Chapelle (Shane Flautt '88) on June 14, 2006.

Jack Hayden to Mr. & Mrs. Dale Sorgen '91 on June 25, 2006.



James Herchial to Mr & Mrs. Lane Forbes (Ruthie Baker '89) on May 3, 2006.

Forbes



Giger

William Edward to Dr. & Mrs. Steven G. Clark '92 (Kathy Roberts) of Cleveland in 2006.

Connor James Cochran born to James Cooper Cochran, Jr. (Jimmy) (1998) and Abby Cochran on July 22, 2006 in Columbus, OH.



Cochran

Macy Catherine to Mr. & Mrs. George Ellis '02 (Kelly Jennings '02) on May 4, 2006.

Robin Christopher to Mr. & Mrs. Shea Skeen (Brandyn Halat '00) on May 16, 2006.

Charlotte Rose to Mr. & Mrs. Cory Donnelly '98 (Valerie Kendricks '95) on May 23, 2006.



Donnelly



Evan Daniel to Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Turner '01 (Leslie Evans '01) on May 26, 2006.

Turner

Tyler to Mr. & Mrs. Mike Bloomgren (Laura Bloomgren) on May 26, 2006.

Mia Isabella to Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Luciano '95 (Ruth Ann Lopez '02) on May 30, 2006.

To announce your newborn, wedding, job change or other significant event in your life, send an email to alumni@deltastate.edu.

Or mail to Box 3104, Cleveland, MS 38733.

Please include a photo and detailed information.

Complete the form below to become an active member of the DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!

Class of or years attended _____

Name: _____

Nickname: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Employer: _____

Job Title: _____

Email: _____

Phone (H): _____ (W): _____ (C): _____

For our tax records, please use your full legal name.

Please check the type membership that best suits your needs:

1 year (\$20 single, \$30 joint) Life (\$300 single, \$400 joint)

I would also like to join the following alumni groups:

Accounting (\$10) Aviation (\$5) Music (\$5)

Art (\$5) Black (\$5) Nursing (\$5)

Athletic (\$10) Family & Consumer Science (H. Ec.) (\$5)

Total amount enclosed: _____

Check VISA Mastercard

Card #: _____

Name: (exactly as it appears on card) _____

Signature: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Life dues can be paid in installments of \$50 each year.

Make Checks payable to: DSU Alumni Association
Mail to: Box 3104, Cleveland, MS 38733



SHOW YOUR PRIDE IN DSU Purchase a logo car tag!

Alumni Update

What better way to let your classmates know where you are and what you are doing than through the "Alumni Updates"?

Tell us about yourself: Recently married? Taken a new job? Been promoted? Changed addresses? Welcomed new children?

Name _____

Maiden Name _____

Address _____

Phone(s): (H): _____ (W): _____ (C): _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Graduation Year or Year attended: _____

Date of Birth _____ E-mail address _____

Here's my update: _____

Mail to: Alumni Office, Box 3104,
DSU, Cleveland, Mississippi 38733
or Fax to (662) 846-4713 or e-mail to alumni@deltastate.edu



Dr. David Abney, '76, (second from left) recently hosted President John Hilpert, Dr. Billy Moore, Dean of the College of Business, and Keith Fulcher, Executive Director of the Alumni-Foundation, at the UPS corporate office in Atlanta. Abney is President of UPS International.



David Lindh (r), '52, of Gulfport returned to campus to visit with his former football teammate Hugh Ellis Walker (l), '48, and with Jim Hunter McCaleb, '55, also a star football player for Delta State.



The "Ole DSU Alumni" gather each August at J. P. Coleman State Park in luka for a weekend of fellowship that includes boating, dancing, card playing, and reminiscing about their days at Delta State. Returning from a boat trip are Tommy Givens, '59, of Oxford, Barbara Elliott Watson, '57, of Holcomb, Clyde Jones, '54, of Booneville, and Willie Fred Watson, '57, of Holcomb.



The Gulf Coast Alumni Chapter met in August at the home of Dr. Johnny Mallet and was attended by 65 alumni and friends. Mrs. Harriet Bachman Rutledge (second from right), class of 1933, was honored with a "legacy award" for being one of the oldest alumni of the University.



For ticket information contact 662.846.4626

CECE WINANS
Sunday, September 24 — 7:30

**THE PROMISE OF THE
BLUES/PEAVINE AWARDS**
Featuring Diunna Greenleaf and Eden Brent
Wednesday, October 11 — 7:30

CAMELOT
Saturday, October 28 — 7:30
Sunday, October 29 — 3:00

**OH, MR. FAULKNER,
DO YOU WRITE?**
Monday, November 20 — 7:30

A CHILD'S DREAM
Saturday, December 2 — 7:30

MAN OF LA MANCHA
Sunday, January 21 — 2:00
Sunday, January 21 — 7:30
Monday, January 22 — 7:30

DELTA REVIEW
Sunday, February 18 — 2:00

KODO DRUMMERS
Thursday, March 1 — 7:30

WILLY WONKA
Tuesday, March 27 — 7:30

TRICIA WALKER
Tuesday, April 3 — 7:30

KATHY MATTEA
Thursday, April 26 — 7:30

voted the

BEST PERFORMING ARTS VENUE

in mississippi

MISSISSIPPI MAGAZINE'S BEST OF MISSISSIPPI FOR 2006

Proudly We Hail

2006 HOMECOMING

HONORING VETERANS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

“Delta State and the War Years,” Capps Archives and Museum
“Alumni Art Exhibit,” Wright Art Gallery

Downtown Merchant Window Displays, Downtown Cleveland

- 3:00 p.m. School of Nursing advisory council reception, open house and tour
- 4:00 p.m. Homecoming Parade through campus and downtown
- 6:00 (Social) and 7:00 P.M. Induction and Dinner of Class of '56
- 6:00 (Social) and reunion of Golden Circle (classes 1928-1955)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Jimmy R. Williams Bookstore open until 2p.m. H.L. Nowell Union
(10% off for dues paying members of Alumni Association)

“Delta State and the War Years,” Capps Archives and Museum
“Alumni Art Exhibit,” Wright Art Gallery

Downtown Merchant Window Displays, Downtown Cleveland

- 8:30-11:00 a.m. Homecoming Registration, 1st Floor H.L. Nowell Union
- 9:30-11:00 a.m. Alumni Brunch, H.L. Nowell Union State Room
- 11:00 a.m. Organizations and Constituent Group Meetings
- 11:00 a.m. FCS Ada Swindle Mitchell Food Lab Open House and Tour
- 11:00 a.m. Open Houses (Department and Greek Organizations)
(visit www.deltastate.edu, click on “Alumni and Guests” and “Alumni Events”)
- 1:00 p.m. Roberts-LaForge Library Open House and Tour
- 2:30 p.m. Computing Technology Fair, Lane Sorgen, speaker - Broom 115
- 7:00 p.m. Pan-Hellenic Council Greek Step Show: Bologna Performing Arts Center

SHUMATE PARK HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES

- Noon Tailgating, Tent Parties, and Activities
- 12:45 p.m. Football Team “Walk Through” and Pep Rally
- 1:00 p.m. Renaissance Music Ensemble Performance
- 1:00-3:00 p.m. Reunions, open houses, tents at Shumate Park
- 4:00 p.m. Football Game DSU vs. North Alabama



For schedule updates visit www.deltastate.edu, click on “Alumni and Guests” and “Alumni Events.”



Box 3141
Cleveland, MS 38733

PRSRT
NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Mailed From
Zip Code 39564
Permit #4