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Given that the old business models for print and broadcast news have largely collapsed, is quality, in-depth journalism a dying breed — or can it find a place within the new normal?

But that doesn’t necessarily mean we’re in some sort of golden media age. In the last decade, hundreds of newspapers have gone out of business. The old business models for print and broadcast news have largely collapsed. Fewer news outlets have the money or resources to do investigative journalism — the kind that uncovered Watergate or Abu Ghraib. There are thousands fewer reporters covering government and business, exposing corruption and negligence, and providing society with the information it needs to make informed decisions. The uncertain future of news should concern anyone who cares about democracy.

“There’s definitely an appetite for news, but how it’s going to be delivered and paid for is a big and open question,” says Lucia Moses, a senior editor at Mediaweek magazine. “The ad dollars that traditionally supported quality journalism outlets aren’t growing, and there is little evidence consumers will pay for online news as they abandon print publications. There are a few exceptions, for niche or specialized news like the Financial Times’ or Wall Street Journal’s, but it’s hard to see that model replicated on a widespread basis.” Moses says it’s difficult to imagine any scenario where traditional news sources aren’t dwindling.

Suffering from declining print readership, The New York Times is the latest outlet trying a new business model. Beginning in March, the paper implemented a metered system that allows anyone to read 20 articles per month for free on the Web or mobile devices. After that, readers are asked to buy a digital subscription. (Print subscribers continue to enjoy free unlimited access to everything online.)
Newspapers’ downward spiral

A newspaper readership decline, so does the system that has paid for much of modern journalism as we know it. Newspapers in America have long employed more journalists than television or radio. And TV and radio have historically gotten many of their story ideas from newspaper reports. So even if you prefer TV news over print, a lot of the stories you watch were originally generated in newspapers. Fewer papers with smaller staffs mean fewer important stories are being covered by all. It’s hard by Crayola (which captured newspapers’ cash cow — classified ads), changing reader habits, and several economic downturns, the newspaper industry has been in a downward spiral since the 1990s. In the last 20 years more than 200 daily newspapers went out of business and paid daily circulation slid 32 percent, from 62 million to 43 million. Newspaper editorial staffing peaked at 56,000 in 2000 before dropping to 41,000 today, says the American Society of News Editors. Online media companies like The Huffington Post and POLITICO have been hiring some of these unemployed journalists, but not at a pace to replace all the lost jobs. When the final figures for 2012 are in, online ad revenue is projected to surpass print newspaper ad revenue for the first time. “Online advertising overall grew 11.9 percent to $25.8 billion in 2010, according to data from eMarketer,” Pew reports. “A challenge for news organizations is that much of this online ad spending, 48 percent, is in search advertising, little of which finances news.”

In other words, a lot of these ad dollars aren’t going to news websites; they’re going to companies like Google. That’s why the Times and others are desperately searching for new sources of revenue. “It’s worth remembering that the old media model is itself fairly new — really, it only dates from the late 1940s, when television emerged as an advertising-supported medium and the professionalization of journalism began to reach its apex,” says Sid Holt, chief executive of the American Society of Magazine Editors. “Media executives still need information and still want storytelling,” Holt says, “which means context, analysis and, yes, entertainment, and people trained in the old media are still the best people to deliver that content. And just as importantly, marketers still need someplace to advertise their products. If anything, the advent of the iPad just undercuts the thesis for content. I would say what we’re going through is more like the dawn of movable type and the intellectual explosion that followed than it is a collapse into a media Dark Ages.”

Media may come to resemble our modern retail landscape, says Mark Gurman, media evangelist (yes, that’s his real title) at Tumblr, a popular blogging platform. He envisions a world with “a few huge brands that put out things of varying quality. Think: HuffingtonPost/ABC=Walmart, The New York Times=Target.”

At the other end of the spectrum, small local papers and niche blogs might fill a similar role to artisanal retailers (local butchers, coffee shops, etc.). But outlets of medium size (metropolitan newspapers and magazines) will have a harder time surviving, Gurman says, unless they operate on a smaller scale or can spread costs throughout a network of publications.

Hope for the future

The shakeup of the old order hasn’t been all bad, of course. Consider NBC News correspondent Mara Schiavocampo, who explained her job at a 2009 Newseum forum in Washington, D.C.: “When I started in television,” she said, “it was a $20,000 camera, and if you wanted to get a picture from some remote location, you needed to have a giant truck with a giant mast and somebody at a feed point and someone on a telephone.”

Today, Schiavocampo, all by herself, can file a video report from anywhere in the world with a dirt cheap camera and an Internet connection. “That’s all I need. And if we’re going somewhere where we don’t have an Internet connection, we take a satellite modem. If you can see the sky, you can get an Internet connection.” So in some sense, the media really can do more with less.

Citizen journalists are also helping to fill the gap. They blog, they report, they fact-check. Anyone who records what happens and tells other people about it is a type of journalist. Think of the role of ordinary citizens in bearing witness to 9/11, the 2009 uprising in Iran, or the tsunami in Japan. Or consider CNN iReports that capture tornados and explosions when professional reporters aren’t on the scene. On the accountability front, bloggers aggressively analyze the media and point out mistakes or perceived biases. “Think about some of the stories that media organizations have traditionally done,” Gurman at Tumblr. “Fascinating probes that are a favor to the boss’ hunting buddy, stories that neglect to mention significant conflicts of interest, opinion pieces that present facts that simply aren’t true. There’s lot more accountability now, which is good.”

But Sam Donaldson warns, “It’s a two-edged sword.” At a Newseum forum, the ABC News veteran said, “There’s a lot of junk there. There’s a lot of stuff there that’s not factual because the people who put it there have no interest in checking the facts or seeing if it’s really true or not.”

Others think consumers are smart enough to figure out which online sources are reliable and can be trusted. “The most successful new media organizations — POLITICO, The Huffington Post, ...
... A Journalist’s Roller-coaster Ride

DURING MY YEARS on The Paladin staff in the late 1990s, things were changing. And by “things,” I mean everything. We went from pasting up pages with that wax machine and X-Acts to designing everything on a computer and delivering each edition’s files to the printer on a Zip disk (remember those?). We went from developing rolls of film in a darkroom to handling all our photos digitally. When I graduated from Furman in 1999, the word was that newspapers were hiring. And they were as desperate for people that they were even hiring me, fresh out of college. Before I had my diploma in hand, I had three — three! — job offers from respectable daily newspapers.

Twelve years later . . . well, things have changed. In 2007 — after the invention of Facebook, YouTube and Craigslist — I’d climbed my way to the News & Observer in Raleigh, N.C., and was delightfully happy to have a job at a pretty big paper in a pretty big city where I was being challenged and growing professionally by leaps and bounds. After changing jobs every three years or so early in my career, I felt as though I’d found my professional home.

“Congratulations,” my boss said, and offered me the job. “I’d like to offer you one of the last jobs in newspapers.” He was kidding, but his words turned out to be all too true. Not even a year after I started working in Raleigh, the layoffs started coming. And coming. And coming.

Despite the parent company’s last-hired-first-fired approach, I managed to hang on for more than two years. Several times I was saved by last-minute miracles when colleagues decided to end their casuals worrying about volunteering for a buyout that could fund an early retirement or a transition to a more stable line of work. But eventually, being the perpetual new kid caught my own future ability to feed their families. When I graduated from Furman in 1999, the Internet was alive and well and — the most telling statistic of all — being used by my parents. But most of us were using the World Wide Web primarily for personal communications, e-mail or maybe chat rooms, or for research. Newspapers and television networks had Web presences, of course, but if you wanted to know what was going on in the world, you still bought a newspaper or turned on your television.

Several months after my layoff, I was offered some part-time work with the paper. (I know — feeding the hand that bit me.) I’ve also scraped up some freelance writing and editing work that helps pay the bills. I miss being in a newspaper, but the newsmere as I knew it was never sealed only in memory. In my newspaper and in others across the country, the empty desks are starting to outnumber the people, and those who are left are worn down. They’re exhausted from a workload once spread among five people, and they’re worried about the future of the industry as well as their own future ability to feed their families.

They got into this line of work to comfort the afflicted and affect the comfortable, as the saying goes. But now there’s no time for comfort, and the financial and manpower cost of the newspapers required for affecting just isn’t in the budget.

I don’t pretend to know how to save newspapers. I’d had that kind of business savvy, I probably wouldn’t have become a journalist in the first place. But I do know that the kind of in-depth journalism that newspapers offer is still important, whether it’s presented on dead trees or a touch screen.

The day I graduated from Furman, I didn’t know my journalism career would be such a roller coaster. But I’ve enjoyed the ride, and I’m trying my best to hold on tight so I can be a part of something heard by millions now. I’m happy to have a job at a pretty big paper in a pretty big city where I was being challenged and growing professionally by leaps and bounds.

It’s true, I thought. The career I’d fallen in love with during my Paladin years and that had taken me from Anderson, S.C., to Tokyo was over. My husband, who’d moved from town to town with me without complaint every time I changed jobs, was settled in a career of his own. We had a house and a dog, and it’s not like newspapers in other towns were hiring, anyway.

Plus, I was eight months pregnant, which is not exactly a good time to go on job interviews.

So that’s the end of that story, I thought.

That’s my hope for the future of news that professional journalists will always be around to blend the best tools in the newsroom and in others across the country, the empty desks are starting to outnumber the people, and those who are left are worn down. They’re exhausted from a workload once spread among five people, and they’re worried about the future of the industry as well as their own future ability to feed their families.

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THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA is one of the most studied — and celebrated — periods in U.S. history. To narrate the events of those decades is, after all, to tell a story of redemption. The story begins with the sins of slavery and Jim Crow, reaches a high point with groundbreaking court decisions and legislation, and concludes with the promise of never-ending progress. As Tomiko Brown-Nagin ’92 puts it, “It’s a narrative of black progress and uplift, and it makes us feel good.”

But is it accurate? And perhaps more important, does it help us respond to challenges we face today? In both instances, Brown-Nagin thinks not. In her new book from Oxford University Press, 

Courage to Dissent: Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement

this Furman graduate — now the Justice Thurgood Marshall Distinguished Research Professor of Law and Professor of History at the University of Virginia — tells a more complicated story about historic civil rights struggles and what they mean for us now. Challenging the standard narratives in both legal and social history, Brown-Nagin blends the two to provide a richer picture of the civil rights era in Atlanta. Rather than placing lawyers, the courts, and landmark legislation front and center, or focusing solely on the activists on the ground, Brown-Nagin’s “bottom-up” approach to legal history looks carefully at the important relationship between ordinary people and the law.

This approach reveals, as she writes in Courage to Dissent, how “local black community members acted as agents of change — law shapers, law interpreters, and even law makers.” The narrative brings into view less well-known but important figures and illuminates the diversity of often-conflicting responses to desegregation within the black community.

But why? Why would an accomplished professor at one of the most distinguished law schools in the country tell a story that takes the U.S. Supreme Court and the lawyers of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund out of the limelight? Why tell a narrative highlighting the role of local lawyers and other black leaders often labeled “Uncle Toms” for advocating a more cautious and gradual approach to ending segregation? Why bring into relief the intraracial conflict among black activists?

According to Brown-Nagin, “When we remember the past in a way that makes the activism of this wider collection of lawyers and activists visible, it makes a crucial difference in how we view both the past and the world today. It is the difference between seeing and not seeing possibilities, avenues, and tools for change.”

ORIGINALY FROM TROY, S.C., and among the first generation in her family to attend a desegregated high school, Brown-Nagin’s own keen ability to “see possibilities” proves central not only to the civil rights story she tells, but to her own. Her parents, Willie J. and Lillie C. Brown, grew up in poverty as a result of the disadvantages associated with Jim Crow, and attended segregated schools in South Carolina. Unable to pursue higher education themselves, Brown-Nagin’s parents “emphasized the importance of education” and the idea that “knowledge was power.”

It was a lesson that her daughter took to heart. After graduating at the top of her class from Greenwood High School, she attended Furman on a Lay Scholarship, the university’s highest academic award. While at Furman, she made the most of every opportunity presented to her. In addition to her full scholarship, she received a Truman Scholarship (a highly competitive national award for students planning careers in public service), graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa, won numerous history department awards, and received the Donaldson-Watkins Medal for General Excellence as the top woman graduate.

As professor emerita Judy Bainbridge says, “Even in the quite remarkable galaxy of seniors that constituted the Furman Class
successful 1962 battle to enroll beside her during Meredith's Nagin. Motley, a key NAACP attorney, of a forthcoming biography by Constance newfound love? Or should I continue along the path that I had always and just didn't know what I should do. Should I go along with this going to law school, but then I developed this interest in history and I desperately wanted her for a history major. "She was a smart and passionate. As one of the few women in the department, she stood out and made a positive impression upon me."

Brown-Nagin did declare a history major, but choosing whether to participate and do so meaningfully. All of the laws that were trans-

Indeed, one comes away from reading Courage to Dissent realizing that the only actors who are important are people who already have power and that average, everyday people are powerless. "I think that's just false."
On December 20, 2010, some 300 people paid $100 each to attend a “secession ball,” a celebration of South Carolina’s secession from the Union on the 150th anniversary of the event. Billed by the event’s sponsor, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, as “a joyous night of music, dancing, food and drink,” the party was held at Gaillard Auditorium in the heart of downtown Charleston, only blocks from the site of the original secession convention. Among the attendees were prominent business leaders, several state legislators, and a Charleston city councilman.

The gala, which included a theatrical re-enactment of the signing of the Ordinance of Secession, attracted extensive media attention. It also drew 150 protesters, white and black, including the Rev. Joseph Darby, vice president of the Charleston NAACP, who denounced the “celebration of a war which was fought for the right to maintain slavery.” But Mark Simpson, a commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, offered a different view of the event — and of secession: “It was not about slavery. . . . We honor the men who wore the gray. We can understand what animated them to defend their homes.”

The secession ball and accompanying protest symbolized the ongoing divisions about the Civil War — a contest that has never quite ended for Americans, and that certainly tends to rekindle passions when its major anniversaries arrive. These latter-day battles are not fought with bayonets and Dahlgren artillery but with arguments about secession and the larger meaning of the war.

The recent events in Charleston marked the start of the Civil War sesquicentennial, which was officially launched April 12 with a re-enactment of the firing on Fort Sumter. So prepare yourself for four years of public debate over the meaning of the war.

And as we prepare for the commemorations of Manassas and Shiloh, Gettysburg and Vicksburg, perhaps it makes sense to put these modern-day events — the ones at the Gaillard Auditorium and the ones to follow across the state and nation — into historical context by examining some of the ways that the memory and meaning of secession and the war have changed over the years.

By Steve O’Neill
Broader issues in the culture of South Carolina, the South and the nation have shaped how succeeding generations have viewed secession and the war, while opening wide gaps between the way that historians have explained events and the way the general public has remembered them.

The public memory of the war has responded to the hopes, needs and fears of the last 150 years as the events and evidence of the 1850s and 1860s, and academic historians have built a credible and tangential role in shaping what people “know” about secession and the causes of the war. Some of these truths are the fault of the academics, who too often have written for one another rather than for the general public, but a more powerful reason is that historical memories rooted in strong emotions tend to be overbalanced and inaccurate narratives.

Indeed, this has frequently been the case on the question of secession in South Carolina. The debate that pitted the secession ball celebrants in Charleston against the promoters is not mirrored in how historians have interpreted secession in the state. On the contrary, historians have been united and clear in their understanding that South Carolina’s leadership advocated secession.

To be sure, historians have been alert to complexities when writing about secession. And most all would agree that a host of other issues attached themselves to those of slavery and abolition in South Carolina, among them property as a defense of liberty, as a sense of manhood, and fear of a race war sparked by abolition. Many of today’s historians would disagree on the relative impact of these auxiliary issues, but none would omit slavery as the chief cause of South Carolina’s decision to secede in December 1860.

The primary evidence is overwhelming, starting with the words of the state’s leaders. They made their case in unambiguous language. As one South Carolina college professor put it, “Cotton is not our king — slavery is our king. Slavery is the chief cause of South Carolina’s decision to secede in December 1860.

Slavery & Secession

The theses for a constitutional defense were essentially practical. If the slave-owning class had faced dangerous opposition to slavery against which only the federal government could protect him, then he would have found abridgment of national sovereignty rather than state sovereignty. The constitutional argument was a mere lawyer’s plea claiming everything for his client. . . . The secessionists knew why they would defend slavery, and that the cause was sacred to them as a race. About secession in South Carolina, he wrote:

“The somber and steadfast tone of the first iteration of the Lost Cause in Charleston is mirrored in law the status of North and South, the legal and moral. The nation, as a whole, has agreed to the cause until the bitter end. Slaves and white women on the home front had remained loyal to the cause until the bitter end.

In the 1890s the South, with both the tacit and active endorsement of the federal government, eradicated the 14th and 15th amendments, which had been ratiﬁed by the general public to protect African-American civil and voting rights. In 1896, Plessy v. Ferguson upheld the South’s Jim Crow laws that discriminated against African Americans, and beginning in the 1890s Congress permitted conscription an anti-black lynching bill to defeat. The meaning of freedom for former slaves and their descendants was left for the defeative white South, not the victorious North, to decide.

The economic and political reasons of North and South that took place after 1877 was mirrored in a revision in perspectives on the war as both regimes. In the North, as a time of rising nationalism confirmed by the war of 1898, the meaning and memory of the Civil War shifted emphasis, from an effort to emancipate the slaves toward a quest to save the Union. Because this new theme downplayed slavery, it left the Lost Cause to be held up and toward both sides to celebrate the color of the troops in the field. In the process, the Northern memory of the war as an emancipation effort was for gotten by all but a few African-American leaders, such as W.E.B. Du Bois and Frederick Douglass.

Indeed, this “reconstruction” of North and South came about at the expense of blacks.

Regional Revisionism

Still, as the sequenential secession celebration in Charleston seems to confirm, some remain convinced that secession was fundamentally a quest for self-government and defense of liberty, and not concerned with defending slavery.

This has been the case from the frank admissions of the 1850s and 1860s to explanations that de-emphasize slavery. The transformation is rooted in specific events during and after the war.

The South suffered devastating losses on the battlefield — 262,000 soldiers, fathers, husbands and uncles. In South Carolina alone, 21,200 men, one-third of the white male population between 18 and 45, died. Nor was the civilian population spared, as Sherman burned a streak through the region.

In response, the white South and white Southerners deplored memories to justify their ignoble defeat and painful loss, on both a personal and social level. As one woman from Georgia put it, “In the shadow of defeat and humiliation, we needed to know that right and justice were ours.” They needed to believe that in acceding from the Union, they had acted legally and morally.

In the first generation after the war, Southerners wrote the past to try to heal what one novelist later termed the “Great Wound.” The specific way the defeated South recast its past to cope with its present came to be called the “Lost Cause.” The term is borrowed from the title of a book written by Edward Pollard in 1866. Pollard’s book was one of many in the 1860s and 70s that put forward four tenets about the war:

1. It had been a noble cause from the start.
2. Liberty, not slavery, was the reason for secession.
3. Confederate soldiers had fought bravely and lost only because of the overwhelming numbers and resources of the Yankees.
4. Slaves and white men on the home front had remained loyal to the cause until the bitter end.

For the war generation, rewriting the recent past proved helpful and many necessary on a psychological level. The idea of the Lost Cause helped lift the spirits of the South at a time when so much physical work was needed to rebuild the region. Former Civil War generals, such as Jubal Early, were particularly active in promoting the Lost Cause in memoirs and history books. Those with personal memories of the war were devoted toward Yankees, Republicans and the federal government, and were not inclined toward reconciliation.
Three groups stand out. The United Confederate Veterans, founded in 1889, were former soldiers who promoted the Lost Cause mostly at reunions that continued well into the 20th century. The United Daughters of the Confederacy, founded in 1894, and the Sons of Confederate Veterans, founded in 1896, were even more determined than the veterans themselves to make concrete and permanent the memory of the war and the sacrifice of their ancestors. Between 1894 and 1911 (the 50th anniversary of the start of the war), the UDC and the SCV sponsored pageants, parades and commemorations, and of the war), the UDC and the SCV sponsored pageants, parades and commemorations, and

The Lost Cause and its Northern counterpart, a sort for reconciliation, remained the predominant historical “memorials” into the middle of the 20th century. Although individual historians, such as David Duncan Wallace, took issue with some particulars of the Lost Cause, the broad trends in the interpretation and writing of academic history did little to challenge popular perceptions of the war. Nor were the dominant narratives challenged much by cultural and historical trends. African Americans remained second-class citizens at mid-century. However, both the memory of emancipation and the place of Blacks in contemporary American society were about to change.

The events surrounding the 100th anniversary of the Civil War in 1961 illustrate the unpredictable relationship among popular memory, historical scholarship and contemporary culture. In 1960 and 1961, plans for a unifying and non-controversial national centennial commemoration were disrupted by sweeping changes in the South generated by the civil rights movement. The move for equality destabilized a new constellation of the Lost Cause and national reconciliation interpretations of the war.

In 1961, in the midst of the civil rights movement and at the height of the Cold War, Congress authorized a Civil War Centennial Commission, with 21 white appointees led by retired Gen. Ulysses Schuyler Grant, determined to follow Ike’s orders and to pull the Southern rm and united in the face of the communist threat. With the question of African-Americans’ freedom and citizenship height of the Cold War, Congress authorized a Civil War Centennial Commission, with 21 white appointees led by retired Gen. Ulysses Schuyler Grant, determined to follow Ike’s orders and to pull the Southern region and counter-hegemonic counter-narrative to the Lost Cause. In response, the Southern Committee for Peace and Understanding threatened a national commission, perhaps our current leaders are bowing to the present circumstances of local austerity. It is telling that both the Obama administration and Congress have refrained from funding or appointing a national commission, perhaps our current leaders are bowing to the present circumstances of local austerity.
When I was at Furman in 1968, one of my toughest courses was Madame Brown’s French class. The night before a test, my friend Nancy and I, having delayed studying until the last minute, would pull an all-nighter — it is possible that this may sound familiar to some of you — during the course of which we would gossip, play games, dance around the parlor, and do anything to put off studying a bit longer.

Although I have many fond memories of those long nights, little did I know how important French would someday become to me. Now that I live in France, I will say this: Mme. Brown, I wish I’d taken your class a little more seriously.

Thirty-five years after that class, my husband, Ron, and I decided to take an early retirement, and we began looking for an adventure that would take us out of our comfort zone. We were living in Charleston, S.C., where Ron was a commercial realtor and I was a regional editor for Better Homes & Gardens magazine. We started out looking for a summer home in France, but at some point we said, “Oh, why not?” And we sold our house in Charleston and took off for good.

So what if we didn’t really speak French? Off we went, in blissful but enthusiastic ignorance. Our adventures led us to a life in a 13th-century château. Here’s how it happened.

After trying unsuccessfully to buy the perfect farmhouse on various vacation trips to France, we befriended a Brit who suggested we rent an apartment she knew about in southern Burgundy. Mischievously, she offered no further information. When she drove us to a fairy-tale château in a charming village, our eyes popped. We said yes on the spot.

That wasn’t the best part, though. The château came complete with an amazing French couple who had the patience of angels. They were willing to help us get oriented, answer our questions, and even correct our bad French.

We had the whole top floor of the château, with fabulous views over the village and valley. The owners lived on a lower floor, just down the winding staircase of the tower. And even if it was 62 steps up to our front door, well, lugging the groceries up would keep us in shape.

A bit of info about our châtelains (the French term for lord and lady of the castle): Pierre inherited the château from his family, who bought it just after the French Revolution. When Pierre and Nicole married, the place was a wreck, without plumbing or electricity. While managing teaching careers, they’ve spent a lifetime making it wonderful, pouring every spare cent into the project. Thank your house renovation was difficult? It took 30 years just to replace every inch of roof on their four-story castle with the appropriate historic tiles. Little by little, though, they did it.

But like any old house, a château is never really finished. My husband, who loves to putter on building projects, was in handyman heaven. Most days he and Pierre could be found somewhere around the castle, scratching their heads and commiserating over the latest maintenance challenge. Pierre speaks no English and Ron spoke little French at first, so they sort of invented their own language, which only they can understand.

After a few years in the château, we finally found our perfect French farmhouse in a little village nearby, but we are still close to Nicole and Pierre, who have become our French family.

So now I will answer that question that has been put to us a billion times by friends back in the States: What do you DO all day? Since we live in Burgundy, the country’s food and wine capital, you might think a lot of our activities revolve around eating, drinking and wine-tasting. You would be absolutely
right — so much so that I’ve started a weekly subscription blog called Southern Fried French (www.southernfriedfrench.com). The blog is the story of our life at the château and features thoughts on French culture and customs, food, wine, and a bit of travelogue thrown in. Each week I include a recipe, usually a fusion of French cuisine and home-style cooking. You’ll are kindly invited to visit.

Our area of Burgundy, which is relatively close to the Swiss, Belgian, German and Italian borders and near the TGV (high-speed train) line to England, is chock full of expatriates from all those countries, which mean we have an international set of friends. This group is augmented by the French friends who are willing to include locating their lovely language spoken with a Southern drawl.

Many of the ex-pats take part in the Wednesday morning French conversation class led by Nicole at the château, which is also an excuse to drink espresso, eat croissants, and debate the latest in French politics.

On Saturdays, traîne le monde (everyone) goes to the market, where we spend the morning shopping for veggies, drinking at the café, listening to smooth music, and having a feast good time. Sunday is sacred — that’s meal day. Since most every French village holds one each year, it’s a great way to see the countryside. Afterwards is Sunday lunch, the food event of the week, which is typically at the bar restaurant we can find near the market day.

All ex-pats, and some of our French friends, seem to have a renovation project going, so Ron stays busy. He has also adopted the beloved French sport of cycling.

He has also adopted the beloved French sport of cycling. You. Y’all are kindly invited to visit.

Since my blog is about French food, customs and culture, here’s a brief primer on entertaining the French way.

Like a Southern Sunday supper, a French meal is long and slow, with lots of conversation and good wine. If you want to host a French meal for your friends, here’s the drill.

Start with apéritifs, typically champagne mixed with a splash of Cointreau or peach liqueur, and some olives and radishes. Then, if able, serve the entrée (main course), which can be a salad, soup, past, or any small dish. Then on to the plat, the main course, typically roasted meat or fish with a fabulous sauce, and a vegetable.

Next comes the really good part, even before dessert: The Cheese Course. No festive French meal would be complete without one.

I must tell you that serving this course to the French is the nightmare of every novice ex-pat. The French have more than 500 cheeses, they know them well, and they discuss their merits endlessly. And eventually you, the painfully educated American who was raised on Velveeta, must serve The Cheese Course to the French.

It’s not like I haven’t tried to skip it. Once I invited our château to a casual dinner party, and I asked Nicole what she thought about my serving an “American” dinner without a separate plateau de fromage. “Well,” she said, “you know the French guests will like to have a little cheese or a small cheese.” I knew I was toast.

Here’s the scary bit: the cheese side at the supermarket is the length of a soccer field, with enormous rounds of bleu in endless varieties, plump knobs of fresh goat cheeses (some covered in golden raisins or nuts), soft, fresh cow cheeses, and sheep cheeses from the Alps. There are Goudas

fragment with spices, and rich, creamy cheeses stuffed with walnuts. There are rows of blues and huge wheels of assorted pursuing. But don’t think you can choose this at your leisure. This is not a self-service operation. When it is your turn, Madame stands there impatiently, waddling her feet. Do I imagine she smirks slightly, amused of my ignorance and inadequately up bringing? This exercise is not for the faint of heart.

Of our departure I’ve developed a system for putting together a lovely plateau de fromage. So, I’m going for shallow beauty, not depth, but even the French can admire a sumptuous spread.

My first strategy is to pick a pretty tray, which I line with fresh and cover with a doily or fresh grape leaves. Then I take a generous handful of toasted pecans — my French friends seem to have a fondness for toasted nuts. And for the blue, a good Roquefort.

And for the white, a good ash cow, like Brillant-Savarin or a brie. “Old” is an aged cheese, usually hard — perhaps a gruyère. “New” is a fresh cheese, normally soft; it could be a goat cheese, or something creamy and wonderfully fattening, like Billon-Savarin or a brie. For the borrowed category, I steal from another country: some chunks of fresh goat cheese stuffed with walnuts.

On the plate I put some fresh fruit and roll the goat cheese (made daily by our neighbor down the road) in fresh herbs or nuts. 

Once I add a little pot of honey with walnuts stirred in, or some homemade jam. Then I take a generous handful of toasted pecans and toss it over everything. I serve it with crusty bread and a good red wine, and voilà! I look like a pro.

And the French aren’t far. No celebration meal (which, in France, is most usually should be served without a cheese course!)

Photos courtesy of the author, a member of the Class of ’72.
A clear affirmation that academics must continue to hold center stage, a desire to strengthen Furman’s overall student experience, and a more entrepreneurial approach to recruitment and curriculum are the threads tying together a preliminary strategic planning report issued in early April, the result of perhaps the most extensive conversation between Furman and its chief constituencies in the institution’s recent history.

“Over the course of the past several months, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee has come to believe that we have reached a crossroads of sorts,” the document states, “where one direction leads us to a path often chosen, and the other to rarer opportunities that may make all the difference.”

The 16-page document outlines potential strategic planning initiatives under two broad categories: “Culture and Identity” and “Finance, Facilities and Administration.”

In my conversations over the past year I began to sense that while people were clearly proud of their affiliation with Furman and its academic reputation, the university was somewhat uncertain, a little unsure of its identity and perhaps not wholly comfortable with its culture,” said President Rod Smolla, who chaired the 16-member steering committee composed of faculty, staff, parents and community members, and a research survey of those same groups and of 14,000 prospective students.

As the committee sifted through the findings and weighed impressions, the broad outlines of a plan emerged. Highlights include:

- A reaffirmation of Furman’s commitment to academic excellence, notably in the application of engaged learning.
- The encouragement of a more entrepreneurial, less centralized approach to planning and improvement among academic departments.
- The application of a holistic approach to the student experience to strengthen intellect, character and physical well-being, including the growth of mind and spirit, the encouragement of reflection and introspection, a commitment to advancing the human condition, and the establishment of habits of civil discourse.
- A commitment to remain a fully residential campus, and to the renovation and reconfiguration of academic spaces for new students.

With the help and advice of 80 groups affiliated with the university, Furman is designing a strategic framework for the future.

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By Mark Kelly

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Furman BECAUSE FURMAN MATTERS

New building to house lifelong learning programs

LIFELONG LEARNING, the process of gaining knowledge and skills throughout a person’s life, is alive and well at Furman. In fact, you could even say it’s thriving — and not just in undergraduate programs. Since 2000, the Division of Continuing Education has doubled the number of students served each year through its five core programs: Undergraduate Evening Studies (a liberal arts degree program and pre-MBA and pre-CPA courses for 200 working adults), Bridges to a Brighter Future (a pre-college academic enrichment program for 75 at-risk youths), the Other Lifelong Learning Institute (a wide-ranging selection of enrichment courses for 1,200 senior adults), Learning for You (creative educational programs for more than 1,500 children, youth and adults), and the Center for Professional Development (customized training for more than 100 employers).

To accommodate this growth, plans are under way to construct a new building dedicated solely to lifelong learning. The 24,000-square-foot building will be located near the Younts Conference Center and Timmons Arena on the south end of campus, and will house all lifelong learning programs under one roof. The building will feature multiple offices and classrooms, a craft room, teaching kitchen, computer lab, and other gathering areas.

The total cost of the 90-ve named structure is $46 million. Earlier this year an anonymous donor made a $1.8 million challenge gift for the project on the condition that the university raise $3 million by June 30. With that condition met, fundraising for the building is nearly complete.

It’s never too late to reconnect with alma mater

IT HAD BEEN A LIFETIME since his last visit. Robert T. Ayers, a 1939 Furman graduate, had stayed away from alma mater for 71 years because of an incident during his junior year involving the dismissal of his favorite professor, Herbert Gezork.

But after Ayers was introduced to a Furman mentor, a religion professor, and several other faculty members were asked to leave the university because of concerns among members of the board of trustees about supposedly “heretical” comments they had made in class. This quintessence of professors’ religious teachings had happened at Furman before; just two years earlier, Edwin McColl Fonton, one of the school’s former presidents who had returned to the faculty in 1914, faced similar attacks from influential South Carolina Baptists, who at the time elected the members of the board.

Young Ayers believed that the treatment of the professors was unjust. He says Gezork was known for “letting the students make proclamations. Instead of indoctrinating us with his ideas, he would pose a question back to us. He hardly ever told us what he thought. He wasn’t teaching us dogma, he was just teaching. He was a wonderful professor.”

Ayers protested the firings, to the point that he was threatened with expulsion if he didn’t stop. He says he didn’t stop, but he wasn’t expelled and was allowed to complete his degree. The incident left a sour taste, however, and he chose to stay away from Furman after his graduation.

He went on to Yale University Divinity School, earned a Master of Divinity degree, and became an ordained American Baptist minister. His ordination sermon was preached by H. Richard Niebuhr, the brother of noted theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, one of Ayers’ theological idols.

After a few years in full-time ministry, Ayers accepted a position as chair of the religion department at the University of Georgia, and invited to join the school’s religion faculty. Ayers accepted and soon became chair of the department. He went on to earn a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University, to chair both the religion and philosophy departments at Georgia, and to serve as the university’s chaplain. He remained at Georgia until 1990, when he retired as professor emeritus of religion and philosophy.

Still, even though he wound up living just 90 miles from Greenville and Furman, Ayers had never returned to the Furman campus. But after Furman magazine published a story about the Gezork incident in 2003, Ayers wrote a lengthy note that included vivid recollections about what he called the “dark days.”

The note also revealed that even though he had not been on campus since his graduation, he had always kept a watchful eye on alma mater. “I must say that I am pleased that for many years Furman has had excellent leadership and has fully recovered from those early dark days,” he wrote. “I am happy that it is independent, possesses such a superb faculty and student body, and enjoys such an outstanding reputation in the academic world.

Yet he continued to maintain his distance — until last year. In September, he received the religion department’s newsletter that included faculty and student updates, alumni news, and information on programs and endowments.

Suddenly he realized he wanted to see for himself how things had changed and progressed on campus.

He called Tom Triplitt, director of the Alumni Association, to say he wanted to attend President Smolla’s inauguration in October and to stick around for Homecoming. Triplitt and his staff made arrangements for Ayers to have his own golf cart to use on campus. In the end, Ayers was so impressed with what he saw and with the people he met that he decided it was time to forgive the university for its transgressions.

He did it in a generous way. He has donated $51,000 to endow a lecture series in philosophy and theology, which will be named for him and his late wife, Mary Frances Cecley Ayers ’43.

Talk to Robert Ayers today and you’ll never know he’s taken a 71-year break from Furman. Proudly sporting a Bell Tower lapel pin and displaying two Furman decals on the back of his car, the 93-year-old says he is happy to claim his well-earned status as a proud graduate of the “Harvard of the South.”

— STEPHEN SPOTTWOOD SCURLOCK

The author, a 2003 graduate, is a development officer at Furman.
ONE OF LINDSAY GERUEL’S first assignments as a volunteer tutor at Armstrong Elementary School was to teach the alphabet to Ernesto, a first-grade student who spoke little English or Spanish.

“Emilio started out not knowing five letters. So at her mother’s suggestion, Geruel says she began to teach him the alphabet song,” says Geruel, a rising senior.

Such needs earned professor Sofia Kearns and her students in Spanish 240 (Latin American Civilization) accolades from the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, which awarded the course’s instructors the Service Learning Award for 2009. They won for “Science Education and Wellness in Urban Greenville Schools,” a program to teach students of other disciplines. In all, more than 40 Furman students mentor about 50 middle schoolers each semester.

Chemistry professor John Wheeler, director of integrative research in the sciences and of the HHMI-Bridges project, says, “Students at the middle school level are often considered to be the most vulnerable with respect to the attitudes they develop toward education and their interactions with peers. In the STEM disciplines [science, technology, engineering, and math], this period is often treated as the most critical time when students form impressions.”

“Students often find in math and science at this time — even if they have tremendous natural ability — many more difficult to manage. They may never catch up. For students who may have little infrastructure and support at home, Furman mentors fill a very important gap,” says James Town, ’10, a chemistry major, on his mentorship experience. “Many of the children in the program don’t have the same support system I grew up with. It’s difficult for these kids to take school seriously, since they haven’t yet grasped how important it is. I wanted to help change that.” And he did — he reports that one student with whom he worked “made significant improvements in his standardized science scores, much higher than state requirements.”

Another chemistry major, Kariel Fmiante, ’12, reports similar results. “One of my students was struggling in math, so we worked on that a lot. By the end of the year, he’d managed to pull his grade up to an A, and the next year he didn’t need help with math at all.”

Compiled from reports by Erikah Haavie and Katie Levans ’07.

Furman shares in $16 million biomedical research grant

FURMAN IS AMONG 10 colleges and universities in South Carolina sharing a $16 million grant to support a network to develop biomedical research programs in areas such as regenerative medicine, biochemistry and molecular biology.

Part of the multiyear grant is $2 million, with the remainder going to the state’s three comprehensive research institutions (University of South Carolina, Clemson and the Medical University of South Carolina), Claflin University, College of Charleston, Francis Marion University, South Carolina State University, USC-Beaufort and Winthrop University.

Furman’s share of the grant is $2 million, or about $1,000 per student, which can be used by Furman to support research and travel expenses for faculty and graduate students as well as to purchase equipment to enhance biomedical research and increase competitiveness among researchers in the state. The grant represents a continuation of a $17 million grant received five years ago from the NIH.

Chemistry professor John Wheeler, Furman’s director of integrative research in the sciences, says the funding will support the research efforts of target faculty in the biology, chemistry and psychology departments. The grant will also benefit Furman undergraduates by providing funding for research and travel during the summer and the academic year.

A portion of the grant is earmarked for biomedical sciences instrumentation, such as equipment for spectroscopy, chemical separations, and tools supporting molecular biology. It will also augment outreach programs for middle and high school students and teachers in the Upstate.
Benny Soldano was gifted physicist

BENNY SOLDANO, who taught physics at Furman from 1971 to 1987, died January 8 in Greenville. He was 89.

A native of Utica, N.Y., Soldano was a graduate of Alfred University and an engineering officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After the war he enrolled at the University of Wisconsin, where he earned a Ph.D. in chemistry and the mathematics of physics and engineering.

He went on to work as a research fellow at Oak Ridge Nuclear Laboratory in Tennessee for 22 years before joining the Furman faculty. During his years at Furman he served twice as a research fellow at the Goddard Research Institute, where he worked with the NASA physics research program. He held a number of patents and published extensively on such subjects as ion exchange, solution chemistry, solvent extraction, nuclear safety and theoretical physics.

Stuart Patterson, former academic dean and chemistry professor emeritus, described Soldano as “a dear friend and professional colleague with whom I had the pleasure of collaborating for more than 50 years. His stature in physics is attested by the entry in Van Nostrand’s Encyclopedia of Physics titled ‘Mass and Inertia,’ which he was invited by the editor to contribute.

“Physics professor Bill Brantley said Soldano ‘gave himself to his students and friends in an extraordinary way. I had the privilege of team-teaching many courses with him during the time he was at Furman, which was a most beneficial experience for me because of his startling insights into physics and his gift of being able to explain complicated ideas in simple ways that were easily remembered. Among several hobbies he enjoyed, he was a gifted jigsaw puzzle and often entertained his friends.’”

Soldano was active in the American Physical Society, American Chemical Society and British Chemical Society. He is survived by four children — each of whom holds a doctorate in their chosen field — and six grandchildren.

Kicking in for a cause

THE FURMAN COMMUNITY turned out in force at Stone Soccer Stadium April 8 for a six-hour “friendly” soccer match to raise money for the victims of the recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Under the leadership of the Hiller Service Corps and men’s soccer coach Doug Allison, students, faculty and staff pitched in to play really bad soccer for a really good cause. A similar “friendly” was held last year for the survivors of the Haitian earthquake.

“Talking to a group of Furman students who had played in last year’s event, I was impressed by their commitment to our faculty advisor, Professor John Elliott, and the values that Furman holds dear,” Soldano said. “This year, I was happy to join the Furman community in support of the victims of Japan and our friends in South Carolina, who are themselves facing the effects of a natural disaster.”

Professors Hutson, O’Rourke named distinguished mentors

MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR KEVIN HUTSON and communication studies professor Sean O’Rourke have been named 2011 recipients of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Distinguished Mentor Award.

The award recognizes faculty who have made outstanding contributions toward engaging undergraduates outside the classroom in collaborative scholarship and research. It was developed in partnership with Furman’s Undergraduate Science Education Award from the Hughes Medical Institute in 2009.

Since then, six Furman professors from six departments have received the award. Each honoree is granted $10,000 to support undergraduate research and scholarship activities.

Hutson, associate professor of mathematics, has mentored 13 research students at Furman and at his former institution, Denison University, including 10 in the last five years. Thanks in large part to his efforts, the number of mathematics students at Furman conducting summer research in recent years grew from a scarce few to an average of more than seven per summer. In addition to co-authoring professional publications with Furman students, Hutson has participated as both an invited lecturer and panelist on national disciplinary forums about inquiry-based learning and advising undergraduate research.

O’Rourke, associate professor of communication studies, has directed scholarly writing and research projects for more than 45 students during the academic year and for nine Furman Advantage and South Carolina independent-college summer research undergraduates. Since 2000 he has served in primary mentor for 19 student publications and, in 2009–10, for 12 new submissions. He is also known for his work as faculty advising editor and associate editor for multiple undergraduate publications, including Young Scholars in Writing, a peer-reviewed journal.

Five new members elected to board of university’s trustees


Freeman and McKinney have previously served on the board, and McKinney is a former chair of the trustees.

Christman is founder of Research for Action, Inc., a nonprofit engaged in research and evaluation in urban school districts. She is a graduate of Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, where she is past chair of the board, and holds a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Pennsylvania, where she has been an associate faculty member since 1992.

Freeman is executive vice president and chief corporate banking executive for BankAtlantic. He has been president of Bank of America’s Consumer Finance Group and was chair and CEO of NetBank. With Malone, he is co-chair of the $400 million Because Furman Matters fundraising campaign. Malone chairs the board of Genplus Health Services and served as its chief executive officer from 2002 through 2008.

Maddrey is president of Maddrey & Associates, an investment management firm. He co-founded Della Woodside Industries and was its CEO from 1981 to 2000. He serves on the boards of a number of educational and civic groups in Greenville.

McKinney, an attorney with Haynsworth Sinkelder Boyd, P.A., was recently appointed an independent director by the FHLBanks Office of Finance. A graduate of the University of South Carolina Law School, she is immediate past president of the National Association of Bond Lawyers.

Five trustees completed their terms this spring: Alfred G. Childers ’80, Aubrey C. Daniels ’57, C. Dan Joyner ’79, Patrick W. McKinney and Leighann Roberts Rinker.
ASHLEY KELLEY THABA ’09
Conquering the Grit (2010). The author, a missionary in Botswana, self-published this book after her son, who became of medical Negligence during his birth in America, was left with massive brain damage. Her family’s quick decision to explore for an emergency at the University of Botswana led her to the proposition of what she did. She tells how Caleb has been fostered the boils and lived a life, and what she has learned during the journey. Visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=VN0LiuaQZw4 to see a video about Caleb. To purchase the book, e-mail ashleythaba@gmail.com. Also visit http://web.mac.com/ashleythaba.

MELINDA BROWN LONG ’92

JIM MATHEWS ’78, Retired Yourself?
The Simple Steps to Dominate Your Market (Jenifer James Publishing, 2011). The publisher says, “Retirement yourself’s about how to adjust successfully to a world of higher expectations and constant change. It is about how companies and individuals are rediscovering the roots and repositioning themselves for this new world of business.” The author, who lives in Canton, Ga., is a consultant, speaker and founder of the Mathis Group. He is the author of Rising Beyond Excellence and the forthcoming Zones vs. Leaders: The Indispensable Truths to Market Leadership.

SAM HODGES ’77, Editor, For the Love of Alabama: Journalism by Ron Casey and Ashley Thomas (University of Alabama Press, 2011). Hodges says, “Casey led the Birmingham News to a Pulitzer Prize for editorial on the Alabama tax system. Thomas was a Pulitzer finalist for the Mobile Press-Register. Both were Alabama natives and graduates of the University of Alabama, and both used deeply and write superbly about the state. And both died in midlife of heart attacks. The book collects many of the best pieces about Alabama, touching on the state constitution, education, child welfare generally, race and religion.” Hodges, author of the toll book, “is a veteran journalist with stories in both Mobile and Birmingham and most recently, as religion editor of the Dallas Morning News.” This spring he began the management of the United Methodist Reporter.

LINDA HEATLOVE JACOBS ’71, Jackson Hole Journey (Books in Motion, 2010). The story of a native to Jackson, Wyoming. Blackstone Journey is an audio novel. It is a coming-of-age story about a young man whose longstanding love comes to a head when a beautiful Italian immigrant arrives. The book spans the time between the earthquake-activated Gise Vaughan Leads the Way, June 21, 1925, and May 17, 1927, when the dammed-up waters behind the slide

FROM FACULTY

DAVID SHANKER, The Seven Arts of Change: Leading Business Transformation That Lasts (Shaker Square Press, 2010). Shanker, who has taught at Furman since 1982 and is the Heritage Professor of Philosophy and Ethics, demonstrates how combining Eastern philosophy with Western business savvy can foster lasting organizational change. The book draws from his four decades of Alcoa training and 20-year consulting career and examines the principles of preparation, relaxation and compassion to demonstrate how individual adjustments from the CEO down can transform a company and change corporate culture in new and unconventional ways. Richard W. Wilc, chair of Furman’s board of trustees, calls the book “clear, compelling and appealing...a thought provoking and interesting techniques for real change.”

ROGER A. SNEED, Representations of Homosexuality: Black Liberation Theology and Cultural Critique (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010). Sneed, who joined the faculty in 2007, challenges black religious and cultural critics to rethink theological and ethical approaches to homosexuality. He shows how liberation theology’s often characterized homosexuality as a problem to be addressed and offers a different way for black religious scholars to approach black experiences. Drawing on a range of black gay writers from Essex Hemphill to J.L. King, Sneed identifies black gay men’s literature as a rich scene for theological and ethical reflection and points black religious scholarship toward an ethic of openness. Stephen G. Ray, Jr., of Garret-Evangelical Theological Seminary says, “this book will add significantly to conversations about the future of black and Womanist theologies.”
Faculty approves new major in sustainability science

IN KEEPING WITH the university’s emphasis on sustainability, the Furman faculty has approved the establishment of a major in the emerging field of sustainability science, making Furman one of the few institutions in the United States that offers a Bachelor of Science degree in sustainability science.

The major will feature a core group of five courses: Principles of Sustainability Science, Environmental Science, Human Systems, Social Systems, and Dynamic Systems Modeling. They are designed to enable students to understand the interaction of varying systems and how they affect environmental, human, and social quality.

Major will also complete five sustainability-related elective courses chosen from 13 departments, and will complete a senior thesis. Based on current listings with the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, Kent University in New Jersey is the only other institution in the United States that offers a Bachelor of Science degree in sustainability science.

The addition of the major gives Furman an even broader array of curricular options in the field of sustainability. Since the implementation of the university’s new curriculum in 2008, students have been required to complete at least one course that focuses on the relationship between humans and the natural environment.

Furman pushes sustainability efforts

Furman faculty will help lead the program and provide ongoing support for projects implemented by participating businesses. The participants will be supported by a dedicated Web portal providing access to additional content, tools and techniques. Stacy Brandon, Greenville president of Bank of America, said, “As a global company committed to addressing climate change, the bank is pleased to continue our support of Furman’s sustainability efforts by helping educate local businesses on how to create sustainable business models that are essential to prosper in the 21st century.”

Visit the website at www.2useful.com.

The city of Vancouver, British Columbia, has been eagerly awaiting this spring’s promotion of the Vancouver Whitecaps FC to Major League Soccer. The franchise has long been targeted by MLS to build on the success of the Seattle Sounders FC with the goal of making the Pacific Northwest the premier region for soccer in North America. Among the players in line to help lead the Whitecaps’ efforts are two members of Furman’s Class of 2008, Shea Salinas and Jonathan Leathers, both of whom were selected by the club in November’s expansion draft.

After completing their college eligibility, Salinas (left photo) and Leathers (heading ball, right) became the first Paladins to be drafted into MLS since Clint Dempsey in 2004. Salinas, a midfielder, was selected by the San Jose Earthquakes, with whom he played two seasons before joining the Philadelphia Union in 2010. Leathers, a defender, was taken by the Kansas City Wizards (now Sporting Kansas City), where he spent the last three seasons.

The two hope that their knowledge of each other’s games, built during their Furman years, will translate to success on the pitch in Vancouver. “Sometimes it’s so easy versus everybody out there,” Leathers said during a break in training camp. “It adds to camaraderie during training.” Salinas added, “We’re the only two players in MLS that went to Furman, so the odds of us being on the same team aren’t very good. It’s nice to know each other’s tendencies already.”

While their college camaraderie may ease the transition to a new team, they are also adjusting to life in Vancouver. Leathers says he has been impressed by the area’s emphasis on outdoor activities, and Salinas, a native of Grapevine, Texas, says he and his wife, Julia Swinson (right), have been adapting to the climate and cost of living.

“I thought San Jose was really expensive, but this is a step above that,” he says. “Going from San Jose to Philadelphia to Vancouver, it’s tough to build a savings account in those three cities. And we share the sun yesterday for the first time. But it’s not really that cold; it’s more of a temperate climate. It’s just wet. I think soccer is a better sport when things are wet — the ball moves faster, you can slide tackle better, and your defender slips.”

The Whitecaps entered MLS play this spring with the Portland Timbers, and both expansion franchises are eager to challenge Seattle’s status as one of the league’s most successful clubs. To help emphasize regional ties, the three teams met for a series of preseason matches hosted by the Sounders in early March. Fans of each team stood, sang and chanted throughout the contests, despite the chilly Northwest weather. “It’s nice to think in the league seem to more from fans than they do players,” Salinas says.

Leathers, from Athens, Ga., senses that the enthusiasm for soccer in the Northwest is indicative of burgeoning interest in the sport in general. “The culture in America is all about success,” he says, “and as we continue to get better and compete worldwide, I think soccer will grow in popularity and more people will want to take up the sport.”

Although fans and the league alike may have high expectations for the Whitecaps, Leathers and Salinas are cautious about living up to the hype.

“I don’t really get too far ahead of myself,” Leathers says. “I just want to focus on the day-to-day and be the best I can possibly be.”

Salinas says, “We’ve looked at it as an adventure. Julie mentioned the other day that we would have never imagined living in the North, or in California, and I probably would have never visited Vancouver. And now I’ve lived in all of these cities. It’s been a cool adventure.”

To follow the Furman duo’s efforts this season, visit http://whitecapsfc.com.

— BLAINE UHLMAN
The author, a 2009 graduate, is pursuing a master’s degree in sport administration and leadership at Seattle University.
WE’RE NOT SAYING GOODBYE, JUST SO LONG FOR NOW

AT THE SPRING MEETING of the Alumni Association Board of Directors in early March, we said goodbye to our outstanding president of two years, Clare Foley Morris ’83. Clare served as president of the Alumni Association at President Smolla’s inauguration last October.

Clare was already a member of the Alumni Board when we came to Furman in 2002. Her son, Roe, also graduated from Furman this year, was in middle school when she joined the Board. Furman is indebted to her for her loyalty and extended service.

Although we will miss Clare’s leadership, we won’t miss a beat as we welcome Chris Brown ’80 as the new Alumni Association president. Chris is a real estate agent in Greenville and is well known on campus for his tireless work with the Sigma Chi fraternity.

The board also elected two other members to its executive committee: Leslie Smith ’91 as president-elect and Nabiha Ramzan ’89 as vice president.

Leslie lives in Jacksonville, Fla., and works for RailAmerica, a short-line railroad company. She is originally from New Jersey and came to Furman to play on the golf team. She reconnected with the university a few years back when she attended an alumni retreat sponsored by the Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection.

Ramzan has been on the Alumni Board since 2006 and received the Alumni Service Award in 2005. She works for World Vision, a Christian relief, development and advocacy organization that helps children, families and communities overcome poverty and injustice. She is preparing to move from Florida to southern California. We’re glad she’s coming back to the state of the Palmetto.

In addition, the board bid farewell to five members who completed their five-year terms: Yates Johnson ’78, Sue Mason ’78, Elton Smith ’79, Cindy Black Spiks ’80 and Bill Turrentine ’84. They were presented a gift in appreciation for their work on behalf of alma mater.

We accept nominations for the Alumni Board throughout the year. If you know someone who would be a good board member, please send the name and supporting information to tom.triplitt@furman.edu.

YOU MAY THINK that I work only with alumni, but I’d love to give a shout-out to some of our best volunteers: Furman parents. We have amazing support from parents and grandparents, a number of whom are, not surprisingly, alumni. In addition to their financial support for the university, they are especially helpful in the admission process by hosting events and being great ambassadors for Furman.

We hope all alumni will consider themselves ambassadors for Furman. We had an excellent applicant pool this year, but Furman could still use your help. Take every chance you can to tell college-bound students and their parents about the university, and consider becoming a part of the Furman Admission Network (FAN), a volunteer group that works closely with the university to locate and recruit strong prospective students.

I did five FAN interviews this spring and enjoyed it immensely. I met some amazing young people and got to “sell” Furman to them.

REUNION UPDATES: It’s never too early to begin planning for Homecoming 2011, scheduled for October 21-23. The opponent for the football game will be Southern Conference foe Samford, a school that is quickly becoming a formidable rival. We will have special reunion events for classes ending in 1 and 6, and of course there’ll be plenty of fun for folks of all class years.

While you’re here, take advantage of the wonders of downtown Greenville. If you haven’t been to the arena in a while, you won’t believe how downtown has evolved. And for cycling enthusiasts, Greenville is becoming quite the destination. So get on your bike and have some fun.

During the recent 17th Furman Singers Reunion is set for June 17–19 under the direction of Bing Vigg and Hugh Floyd, the past and current conductors. Rehearsals will begin Friday night, and the weekend will culminate in a Sunday morning performance at Greenville’s First Baptist Church.

Registrations are being accepted through May 31. Visit http://alumni.furman.edu to learn more.

— TOM TRIPLI TT

CLASS NOTES, SPRING 2011

Joe Roberts, former assistant to the president at Furman, was named the Swain Heister Male Athlete of the Year by the United States Tennis Association Southern Region, which covers a nine-state area. Joe won a Division I national championship and three Southern championships in 2010 while competing in the 60 division.

62 Ginger Kelley McKenzie, associate professor of education at Xavier University in Cincinnati, is a member of the American Mentors Society Board of Directors. She served on the Xavier faculty Committee from 2002 to 2007 and was co-chair during 2009–10.

63 Claude W. Hicks, Jr., has retired after 24 years as the first United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Georgia, which covers 70 of the state’s 150 counties. He lives in Macon.

73 Fran Ligier is completing a two-year term as chair of the bioengineering section of the National Academy of Engineering. She is the Navy’s senior scientist for biosensors and biotechnologies at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. Former Furman president David Shi quoted Ligier as a Resident Associate Fellow at the National Academy in 2011. He worked on a forthcoming book about alienation in modern American culture. The National Humanities Center, which hosts Fellows from across the world each year, is a private, non-profit institution for advanced study in the humanities.

74 Bruce Kleinschmidt has been named president of the Catholic high school in Pennsylvania, effective July 1. The, James H. Hannum Professor of Chemistry, has been on the faculty of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Swarthmore since 1985.

79 Michael Guest was named a prestigious fellow in 2011. Dr. Guest is a fellow in the fellowship in research for 24 years before retiring in December 2007. Mark Weston, a colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, recently returned to the States from a nine-month deployment to Islamabad, Pakistan, where he worked at the U.S. Embassy for the Office of the Defense Representation Pakistan. He is currently working with the Reserve in the Washington, D.C., area as an emergency preparations liaison officer for inter-agency coordination in support of the Defense Support to Civil Authorities mission. He has also returned to his civilian job as an air force major.

80 Sharon Crowley Bramlett, a professor at the University of Illinois in Columbia, S.C., has been appointed chair of the Board of the Council on Consumer Affairs. The council provides advice to the administration of the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs and promotes compliance with the South Carolina Consumer Protection Code.

MARRIAGES: Emily Roberts and Jeff Wilson, May 22, 2010. They live in Richmond, Va., where the latter is in community relations at Capital One.

Births: Mark and Camelia Battick, a daughter, Chris Alixa, November 12, Monroe, Ga.

Thomas and Amy Stout Cullin, a son, Richard, September 20. They live in Roanoke, Va., where Thomas is deputy criminal chief in the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

Births: Mark and Amanda Gomak, a son, Jean Corred, July 30. Lebanon, Ky.

Michael ‘91 and Christine Powell Kellett, a daughter, Marilen, January 3. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Alana Bigger was scheduled to graduate from the University of Illinois-Chicago College of Medicine in May with a Doctor of Medicine degree. Richard Benton Bridges III of Joneill, S.C., recently earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Winthrop University.

David Keyse has been made a member of the Wyche Burgess Ferguson & Furman law firm in Greenville. He practices business litigation and corporate law.

Edward Waller is company commander of the 123rd 1st Engineer Clearance Company currently deployed in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.


Births: Jason and Carmella Batlick, a daughter, Chris Alixa, November 12, Monroe, Ga.

Thomas and Amy Stout Cullin, a son, Richard, September 20. They live in Roanoke, Va., where Thomas is deputy criminal chief in the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

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Good issue

I AM A 1984 FURMAN GRADUATE and just read the winter Furman magazine cover to cover. Every article was so fascinating and informative. I work at an elementary school and we are working on our magazine now, so I know how much work goes into writing, proofing and printing a magazine. Thank you for your outstanding work. The magazine makes me an even happier Furman alumnus.

— JULIE KRUG DILWORTH ’84

Nashville, Tenn.
BIRTHS:

Jeff and Joy Hansberger Clark, a daughter, Hurley Victoria, March 20, 2010, 33 West. Joy was born part-time account manager at Mission St. Louis. Beau and Holly Eldred Seagraves, a daughter, Abigail Elizabeth, February 10, 2010, Athens, Ga. Holly is a nuclear pharmacist at Emory with Thad Isopetsis, and Beau is assistant director of student conduct at the University of Georgia.

Monica Bell joined the staff of the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia last September in an Arthur Lurin fellowship. The fellowship program supports graduates of Yale Law School interested in providing a year of public interest legal services. Monica is focusing on policy advocacy and public law reform. Jennifer Sell was awarded a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Washington State University and is now completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salem, Va., specializing in the treatment of trauma-related disorders.

MARRIAGES:

Matt Davidson ’04 and Natalie The, December 11, Matt is a professional golfer performing on the Nationwide Tour. Natalie recently completed a doctoral degree in public health at the University of North Carolina. Justin Fischer and Marcuz Rahaman, October 2, They are in Table Rock Falls, Fla., Where Justin is studying in a Ph.D. program in computational biology at Florida State University. And Kristen is a senior account executive with a Selton company. Lauren Harrell-Tullman was chosen as the 2010-2011 Warren T. Jackson Elementary School Teacher of the Year and Elementary Teacher of the Year for Atlanta Public Schools. A fourth-grade teacher, she is pursuing a master’s degree in reading, language arts and literature, with an ESOL endorsement, at Georgia State University. Christina Berger, a daughter, Brian Hunt, August 7. They are in Birmingham, Ala. Chris is a assistant director of the genetic counseling training program with Harvard Medical School, Boston College, and Kristen is a attorney. Stephanie Nicholson and Anthony Deffne, July 31. Anthony is director of pharmacy programs from Mercer University and Kristen is a associate professor at Georgia State University.

KYLE and Amanda Royal Strike, a son, Hudson Campbell Strike, September 13, Greenville. Amanda is an occupational therapist with Stopping Storms Therapeutics, LLC.

Eric Cain has become program director for the Lily Center for Vocational Reflection at Furman. He has been a pastoral resident at Northside Drive Baptist Church in Atlanta. He has worked with the Lily Center’s Summer Connections program for entering freshmen.

Braithwaite and Kristen Mullins ‘10, Devine live in Brooklyn, N.Y. Braith is a undertaking manager for the New York and New York region of an environmental insurance firm, and Kristen is a senior account executive with a Selton company.

Aline Martin Barbier of Charlottetown, N.B., recently earned a Master of Education degree from Winthrop University.

Kristi L. England received the Ph.D in chemistry from the University of North Carolina and is now a postdoctoral research associate at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

Benemerit Alleged Sokag graduated from Eastern Michigan University in December with her second bachelor’s degree in music therapy. She is a board-certified music therapist and is pursuing a music therapy program at the Eisenhower Center, a residential facility in Ann Arbor, Mich., for individuals who have suffered brain injuries.

MARRIAGES: Brian Brattion and Ashley Brooke Shackleford, January 15. She is employed by Redwood World Outreach Center in Greer, S.C. is a wife a returnee for the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League. Erin McCormick and Jeremy D. Timlin, January 15. They live in Fountain Inn, S.C. Jeremy works at C&G Wholesale and is a sergeant with the Army National Guard.

This year is reunion mARRiages:

KATHERINE Hutchinson and Bernard Freo Michelon 13. They live in Columbia, S.C. Walker Simmons and Kate DeClerck, April 10. They live in Dallas, Texas.

Bennett establishes furman-to-l.a. pipeline

After graduating from Furman in 2005, Chad Bennett took his degree in communication studies, packed his car, left his hometown of Charleston, S.C., and drove across the country to Los Angeles to enter one of the fiercest job markets in the world. He knew one person in the City of Angels: his sister.

“I set out on that journey not knowing where it would lead me,” says Bennett. “But when you leave Furman you have no doubt that you will get a great job and be successful. I left with the confidence that I was armed to do anything.”

As a student Bennett worked for two years in Furman’s career services office, where he saw the learned firsthand the value of networking in landing a job: So he applied the skills he’d acquired to his own: A job search and soon was hired for a position with Reveille, a production and development company for reality television shows. “I’m so thankful for my time at Reveille,” she says. “I got my job at Reveille because I was hired for a position with Reveille, a production and development company for reality television shows.”

Working primarily with Susan Zeijer, internship director at Furman, Bennett has helped place 10 Furman students in internships with Reveille, including three this summer. Three of the internships have gone on to take full-time positions with the company. “Out of the many interns that we have this year, only three of them have gone on to take full-time positions,” says Zeijer. “The ones who have gotten hired are those from Furman.”

Which speaks well for Furman students, since the entertainment business is highly competitive. John Barker, director of career services, says, “There are so many people that want to get into that field that employers know they can select the best, and Furman students are often the best.”

Furman has publicly recognized Bennett’s efforts. During Homecoming last fall, the university presented him the Wayne and Ruby Reid Award for his contributions to the career development of students. But as Bennett says, the students aren’t the only ones who benefit from the internships. “Internship programs offer a company’s workforce and also groom people to become employees as the company grows,” says Zeijer. “You know the trouble people have to put in to make that dream come true.”

Bennett understands the value of on-the-job training for students and opened the door for them to demonstrate their abilities. As he wrote in Furman magazine in 2004, “You can trust the Furman network to help you pursue your career and that you have always dreamed of.”

— katie levans

Adapted from an entry in Volume 7, No. 1 of Engage magazine, a publication of the Office of Admission. The author, a 2007 graduate, is studying for a master’s degree in human nutrition at Winthrop University. Read her blog at www.sweettaterblog.com.

Chad Bennett (second from left) with members of the Furman-L.A. network, from left: Elisa Lineberger ’10, Briana DaRosa ’10, Katy Wynne ’03, Anouchka Holt ’09 and Randi Gourley ’04.
LOVEL EMBRACES CNI TRIATHLON CHALLENGE

WHEN NINA BARNETT LOVEL ’74 decided for the CNI 2011 fit Nation Triathlon Challenge, she invited the program’s producers and said, “I’m just a plain baby-boomer, circa 1952, ‘raised-right,’ nurtured in the genteel South, loved and educated by fabulous parents who taught me to cross my leg at the ankle, chew with my mouth closed, and keep my elbows off the table.”

She followed that descriptive, light-hearted note with an audition video, in which she informed the world that “Fifty-eight is the new twenty-eight, so we better get busy.”

Today she’s in the midst of a six-month training regimen that will culminate August 7 at the New York City Triathlon, where she and her fellow trainees will swim 1.500 meters in the Hudson River, bike about 25 miles along Manhattan’s West Side highway, and finish with a 10K run through Central Park. All recorded, of course, for posterity.

And she’s ready to go. “The goal is to set examples for viewers around the world that normal, everyday people are capable of adopting a healthy lifestyle, getting in shape and accomplishing goals,” she says. “I want to prove that my generation can get off the couch, move around and feel better.”

Lovel, who lives in Rome, Ga., coordinates research and information management at Georgia Northwestern Technical College. She’s also the senior member of the “Six-Pack,” as she and her fellow triathletes have dubbed it.

They compete in New York alongside Sayri Gupta, chief medical correspondent for CNN and host of “Medical News.” Lovel is also working with Francis Lageman-Roth, a dietitian and senior nutrition editor for Health Magazine, and Laura Cocks, athletic director of the fit Nation Triathlon Challenge.

CNN provides each participant with a six-month gym membership, nutritionist, uniform, wetsuit, and expenses during the New York event. While they train, they’re taping and blogging about their efforts, and making occasional appearances on the network to discuss their progress. They’ve also come together twice for five-day boot camps.

Lovel, who majored in biology at Furman, is not entering the challenge off a sedentary lifestyle. She’s a longtime recreational swimmer and an avid runner, and last summer she ran her first 5K race. She has run four more.

But she believes the Triathlon Challenge will propel her to a new level of fitness. “I consider myself just plain lucky to be chosen,” she says. “I hope to set an example for others, gain self accomplishment, and be healthier than ever.”

“My children are very proud already. I have a two-year-old granddaughter, and I hope when she gets older, she will be proud of me too.”

Visit www.cnn.com/ONLINE for details on how to keep up with Lovel’s progress.

Adapted from an article provided by Georgia Northwestern Technical College. Photos by John Nissel/CNN.

07
Monica Handa graduated from the University of North Carolina School of Law and passed the Virginia Bar exam. She is an attorney, specializing in litigation, with Patrick Henry (L ’86) in Fairfax, Va.

Helene Herbert completed a master’s degree in obsteetric performance from the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music. She is currently enrolled in a double master’s program at the university, working toward a master’s degree in arts administration and a Master of Business Administration degree.

Jessica Taylor of Arlington, Va., has been named editor of the National Journal’s “House Race Insider,” a comprehensive survey of news, polls and public data on all 435 Congressional races. She also writes a twice-monthly House-related column for National Journal Daily. She was previously an assistant editor at POLITICO. Jessica returned to Furman in March to participate in a May Institute program on “Politics and Media: Politicking in the Age of Instant News.”

Rachel Whittem, a recruiting coordinator with A Christian Ministry, a Denver, Colo.-based organization, she previously was associated with Young Life, was a case manager for the Coalition for the Homeless in the Denver area, and worked at Hope House, a residential facility for teenage moms. MARRIAGES: John William Castlebury and Emily Hardy August 7. They live in Cumming, Ga.


Stephanie Smith is teaching and working for joy to the World Ministries in Mumbai, India, through August. She chronicles her work at http://stephaniesmith1106.blogspot.com.

DEATHS
Lucius Delli ’33, December 18, Greenville. He was a manager in the textile industry and, after retiring from textiles, was administrator of First Presbyterian Church in Greenville, S.C., for 15 years. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and retired from the Army Reserve in 1954 as a lieutenant colonel.

William Boms Benfrow ’33, December 12, Oberlin, Ohio. After earning his Ph.D. in organic chemistry at Duke University, he taught at Florida State for a short time before becoming a researcher at the University of Pennsylvania. In Philadelphia, Pa., he conducted work in organic chemistry before returning to his university in 1940, and in 1949, he began teaching at Occidental College near Los Angeles. He joined the faculty at Oberlin College in 1944 and remained there until his retirement in 1978. He continued to do research and served several terms on the Committee on Professional Training of the American Chemical Society. He was also an avid tennis player.

L. Berry Woods, Sr., March 14, 1931, Fountain Inn, S.C. He owned and operated Berry Woods Food from 1956 to 1981.

Leslie Lancaster Brandson ’37, January 24, Spartanburg, S.C. She was a retired registered nurse and was active in the Wildwood Garden Club and in service to cancer patients.

Dorothy C. Kelly Collier ’37, December 25, Richmond, Ky. She was active in her church and an angel bridge player.

John Randolph Bettis ’38, December 20, Orangeburg, S.C. He was a veteran in the Army Air Corps in England. After the war he returned to Charleston Water Works and remained there for 45 years, retiring as general manager and chief engineer. He was national director of the American Water Works Association and president of its Southeastern Section. The organization presented him its highest honor, the Fuller Award and the Waterman Award. He was also director of the Water Pollution Control Board and president of the state association. A member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board for Charleston for 45 years, he received the Paul Harris Award from the Charleston Rotary Club.

Elizabeth Thomson Cuberton ’38, February 18, Greenville. She was a teacher in Greenville County school for 37 years and was a member of the Alpha Delta Kappa teacher society.

Sarah Frances Tedder Waldrop ’38, February 14, Leaven, S.C.

Bertha Louise Cain ’38, January 12, Mount Pleasant, S.C. She taught at Berkeley High School, where she and another husband coached a state-champion girls’ basketball team. She also taught and earned a degree at Mouton High School and then at Wando High. She co-authored a history of the North Charleston High School and then went on to become a teacher at Wando High.

Robert E. Castlebury ’39, December 18, Orangeburg, S.C. He was a teacher in and active in community organizations, including the Orangeburg YMCA. Virginia Nora Fordyce ’39, December 26, Orangeburg, S.C. She was a teacher and active in community organizations, including the Orangeburg Arts and Cultural Society. She was active in the World War II veterans in the Army Air Corps in England.

William Burton Rusher ’39, November 1, Fountain Inn, S.C. He was a pilot in World War II and retired in 1980 as a chief of the Airway Facilities Division of the Southern Region.
Robert Sydimond Cooper, 35, December 31, Spartanburg, S.C. Active in ministry for more than 75 years, he was pastor of churches in Kentucky, South Carolina and Washington, D.C. He was pastor of First Baptist Church of Sault Ste. Marie for 27 years and was named pastor emeritus. After his retirement, he served several churches as interim pastor and became a chaplain at Martha Francis Baptist Retirement Center in Laurens.

nelson Lee Phillips, 65, February 18, Pelion, S.C. He spent four years in the U.S. Marine Corps, then graduated from John Hopkins University in 1981. He was active in his community and was a member of the Alpha Kappa Delta Fraternity. He became a woodcarver and artist, and many of his graphics drawings and paintings appear in gallery showings. He was a member of the Antique Auto Club of South Carolina and was a member of Masonic Lodge #111 in Rock Hill, S.C.

Genevieve Taylor Poe, 93, January 15, Greenwood, S.C. She served on numerous boards and committees in her church and was a member of the Lady Garden Club and the Millstone Club.

Betty Claire Devon, 44, January 11, Loris, S.C. She was a laboratory technician and supervisor at several Atlanta area hospitals. After Congress passed the Hill-Burton Act to improve hospitals, she traveled around Georgia in the 1950s to help train medical technicians. In 1963 she opened the Georgia Health Care Institute.

Robert Edward Proctor, 42, February 14, Mount Pleasant, S.C. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1962 and completed flight training and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1964. He was an educational coordinator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 1969. He also was a member of National Education Association and was a member of the Air Force Reserve until 1993, at which time he returned to active duty as a flight instructor in Florida and an operations officer in Korea. He then retired to the States and was a photo intelligence officer in Texas on Air Force Reserve assignments. Other duty assignments took him to Alaska, Idaho and California, and his last assignment was as a faculty and museum curator for Air Force Rescue and Survival in California. He received many military honors, among them the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal and one bronze star. After retiring in 1978 as a lieutenant colonel, he became a woodcarver and artist, and many of his graphics drawings and paintings appear in gallery showings.

He was a member of the Antique Auto Club of South Carolina and was a member of Masonic Lodge #111 in Rock Hill, S.C.

Geraldinewald Bishop Cline, 80, December 19, Greenville, S.C. She was head housekeeper for 25 years. She later worked in Durbin, W.Va., until she retired in 2002. She was a member of the Columbia Presbyterian Nursing Alumnae Association. Paul Clifton Cline, Jr., 48, December 10, Bremond, W.Va. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and was a retired certified public accountant, having served Furman for 41 years.

Calvin S. Stepp, 68, January 12, California, S.C. He was a retired pastor of the Furman Company for 14 years.

For other administrative offices, call the main number.


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Furman University has announced the creation of the Purple Pounders Scholarship, a new fund designed to support students who play sports at Furman University. The scholarship was established in honor of Clyde Talley Porter, the former head football coach at Furman, who passed away in 2008.

The Purple Pounders Scholarship will be awarded to students who have shown leadership qualities on and off the athletic field. The scholarship is named in honor of the Purple Pounders, a student organization that was founded in 1955 and disbanded in 1962.

The initial goal for the Purple Pounders Scholarship is to raise $250,000, and it is anticipated that the endowment will grow to $500,000 over time. The scholarship will be awarded to students who have demonstrated their commitment to Furman University and have shown leadership qualities on and off the athletic field.

The Purple Pounders Scholarship will be administered by the Furman University Foundation, and it is anticipated that the first scholarships will be awarded in 2011. The scholarship will be available to both undergraduate and graduate students.

The Purple Pounders Scholarship will be a significant addition to the athletics program at Furman University. The university has a long and proud history of athletics, and the Purple Pounders Scholarship will help ensure that Furman University continues to attract and retain the best student-athletes from across the country.

The Purple Pounders Scholarship will be a testament to the legacy of Clyde Talley Porter and the Purple Pounders organization. The scholarship will provide opportunities for students to achieve their academic and athletic goals and will help ensure that Furman University remains a strong competitor in the Southern Conference.

The Furman University Foundation is currently seeking donations to support the Purple Pounders Scholarship. Contributions can be made online at www.furman.edu/purplepounders or by contacting the Furman University Foundation at 864-294-0008.

The Purple Pounders Scholarship is a significant addition to the athletics program at Furman University, and it will help ensure that the university remains a strong competitor in the Southern Conference. The scholarship will provide opportunities for students to achieve their academic and athletic goals and will help ensure that Furman University remains a strong competitor in the Southern Conference.
Following the war he served as air base and also the invasion of southern France. Force veteran, he was attached to the Baltimore, Md. For 27 years he was an electrical contractor and a golfer and played in senior tournaments.

He was a U.S. Army veteran, he performed in Norfolk, Va., and performed in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army. While working in Norfolk, Va., he served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army. While working in Norfolk, Va., he served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army.

Furman receives for the magazine's class notes section and the time needed and clippings with both classes. In other cases it goes under the earliest graduation date. It is not listed in different years is included under the graduation date of the submitter.

Clifford Guy Archibald, Jr.
January 16, Glendale, Ariz. After service in January 16, Glendale, Ariz. After service in

David Otis Tomlinson
May 27, Marietta, Ga. He was a Methodist

Melvin Edward Calvert
December 71, 1968, October

Furman ALUMNI NEWS

WHAT WOULD YOU DO? SAFELL'S SCENARIO AIRWAYS

CLIFFORD GUY ARCHIBALD, JR.
January 16, Glendale, Ariz. After service in 1962 to 1964 and went on to become an Olympic coach and the first executive director of what is now the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. In 1963 he returned to the Southern Conference Indore and outdoor championships. Following his tenure at Furman, he coached at Florida from 1964 to 1974. He was an assistant coach with the men's 1978 Olympic team and was named head coach of the 1980 team that boycotted the Moscow Olympics.

It was gratifying to know the producers of “What Would You Do?” on how her story has been gratifying, Saffell says. People with disabilities can be capable and independent. She’s a perfect example (she lives alone, drives her own car, and works in sales and marketing for EMI, a Christian record label near Nashville, Tenn).

Saffell said the show helps to increase the public’s understanding of how individuals with disabilities can be capable and independent. She’s a perfect example (she lives alone, drives her own car, and works in sales and marketing for EMI, a Christian record label near Nashville, Tenn).

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Saffell watched the filming of her story from a back room as an actress in a wheelchair was greeted cheerfully by another actress playing a naive and overzealous “Samaritan.”

“What is your name?” the woman asked brightly.

“Yes, it is. One incident Saffell recalls was a woman in an airport who insisted on pushing her wheelchair and carrying her groceries for her.

“You are thinking that I’m far less capable than I really am,” Saffell wrote in a piece for a ABC. She thought of what she could help to people in wheelchairs want and do not want — to be treated, and thought a feature bringing those issues to light would be good for “What Would You Do?”

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BAC agreed. After receiving Saffell’s submission in November, they asked her in her early February and invited her to New York for the taping of her segment, which aired February 22. Saffell told her mother of Amy Saffell ‘04.

“I’m really is. But she says she faced few problems during her Furman years. As manager for the men’s basketball team, she says she felt very much accepted, and recalls a time when her basketball opponent and encouragement to ask her to carry three basketballs. Needing two hands to wheel her chair, it was difficult, but she did it, and was glad that the players just assumed she could.

Amy Saffell (left) and actress Sharon Spinner’s show ideas in preparation for the show. Jo Quiñones, recently held a contest for “What Would You Do?”

Sometimes they do.

“Responses to the show have often highlight the producers of “What Would You Do?” on how her story has been gratifying, Saffell says. People with disabilities can be capable and independent. She’s a perfect example (she lives alone, drives her own car, and works in sales and marketing for EMI, a Christian record label near Nashville, Tenn).

Saffell, who was born with spina bifida and has used a wheelchair her entire life, suggested a scenario in which a young woman in a wheelchair is harassed in a grocery store by a well-meaning but condescending fellow shopper. Such treatment is one of the many frustrations Saffell has encountered, but as a regular viewer of the show she says that the only applin a blind individual with a wheelchair issue was about handicap parking.

“Not a week goes by when I don’t experience someone thinking that I’m far less capable than I really am,” Saffell wrote in a piece for a ABC. She thought of what she could help to people in wheelchairs want and do not want — to be treated, and thought a feature bringing those issues to light would be good for “What Would You Do?”

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“I’m really is. But she says she faced few problems during her Furman years. As manager for the men’s basketball team, she says she felt very much accepted, and recalls a time when her basketball opponent and encouragement to ask her to carry three basketballs. Needing two hands to wheel her chair, it was difficult, but she did it, and was glad that the players just assumed she could.

Amy Saffell (left) and actress Sharon Spinner’s show ideas in preparation for the show. Jo Quiñones, recently held a contest for “What Would You Do?”

Saffell watched the filming of her story from a back room as an actress in a wheelchair was greeted cheerfully by another actress playing a naive and overzealous “Samaritan.”

“What is your name?” the woman asked brightly.

“Yes, it is. One incident Saffell recalls was a woman in an airport who insisted on pushing her wheelchair and carrying her groceries for her.

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FRED WARING was known as “The Man Who Taught America How to Sing.”
With his chorus, the Pennsylvanians, Waring wrote and performed patriotic songs for any foe that we meet
when we turn on the heat for Furman U.
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Hail to men of Furman,
Hail to her fighting crew;
Let every man determine
to carry the battle through.
The Purple Hurricane of Furman
is dauntless and brave and true;
So get in there and fight
fight with all of your might
for the Purple and White of Furman U.
Give a shout, give a yell, give a cheer,
Give a cheer for the team of the year.
Furman will stop the assaulter,
her men are firm as Gibraltar!
See them run, see them fight, see them go
to the fore as they score on the foe.
Furman men will ring the bell,
Furman men will give ‘em hell!
Give a cheer for the team of the year.

Further research uncovered the March 1942 issue of The Furman Bulletin, which noted the song’s
“Pleasure Time” debut in eight blurbs scattered throughout the publication. Tracked one, “Fred Waring’s ‘Pleasure Time’ will be more pleasant on Friday night, March 20, because Furman’s song will be a feature of the program. Hear it!” Another said, “Purple and White — ‘Christo et Doctrinae’ — The Tolling of the Bell in the Tower — all will have a part in Fred Waring’s song written especially for Furman and broadcast over the N.B.C. network on Friday night, March 20, 7 o’clock.”

The March 20 Greenville News also included a short announcement, saying that the song “was written by Mr. Waring in response to a petition signed by students of the university.” The brief added, “Waring wrote the song to student specifications, familiarizing himself with traditions of the university.” At the time Furman was all-male, and the football team was called the Hurricane.) The paper reported that about 40 students and alumni were to attend the premiere.

Perhaps, almost 70 years later, a repeat performance is in order. The snappy lyrics are on the right.

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