J

January 2007 is a month that Don Orlando will never forget. His employer, St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa., issued a press release stating that the university had extended an invitation to President George W. Bush to speak at Commencement that spring. The announcement ignited debate and controversy at the small, Catholic-affiliated college of 1,900 students. About two dozen of the school’s 125 faculty members signed a letter protesting the invitation. Orlando, director of public relations, received letters from alumni who were both upset and elated. A student forum was held and broadcast on C-SPAN, and a group of nuns staged protests near the school. “For six months leading up to the event we did virtually nothing else but prepare for it,” he says. Similarly, the announcement that President Bush would speak at Furman’s Commencement May 31 sparked a flurry of protests from faculty, students and even alumni, a few of whom asked to be removed from the university’s mailing list. A strongly worded “petition of opposition” objecting to some policies of the Bush administration was posted on-line at www.furman.edu/bushvisit/ and signed by 222 of the university’s mailing list. Orlando will never forget.

“People are so emotionally connected to this that it’s hard sometimes to have civil discourse,” says Benson. “That’s when people stop listening to each other. I think this revealed a lot of anxiety and people are just surprised at the level of emotion.”

While the debate has been divisive, Benson hopes that a series of just-completed lectures on the Bush presidency helped to educate the campus, facilitate meaningful dialogue and “work through disagreements with the deliberation appropriate to a liberal arts institution.”

“There has been considerable polarization. There will be some wounds that will have to be healed,” he says. “Some are being taken care of now. For others, it will take longer.”

How long, he says, may be determined by what happens May 31. As for what happened at St. Vincent, Orlando says, “The (student) forum showed a healthy attitude for discussion and gave everyone a chance to speak both for and against. A lot of people just wanted to vent, and we gave them that chance.”

“The whole event went off beautifully, without any disturbance. Everyone showed good hospitality and behaved in a civil manner.”

Bush appearance at Commencement sparks campus debate, divide

INSIDE FURMAN

Spring 2008

Baseball Stadium –––––– 2
Place of Peace –––––– 2
Profiles: Guth and Vinson – 3
Kelly’s Korner –––––– 4
Eco Talk –––––– 5
Greek Orthodox Bible ––––– 5
Around Campus –––––– 6
News Briefs –––––– 7

“I think this revealed a lot of anxiety and people are just surprised at the level of emotion.” — Lloyd Benson, history professor
Building a “Place of Peace”

Most of Furman’s buildings follow the same exterior blueprint: Colonial brick exterior, classic white window and door framings and, of course, an occasional white column.

But a structure of far different description is taking shape on a hill near Lakeside Housing. Tucked away in the hardwood is a “Place of Peace,” a former Buddhist temple that was originally constructed in 1984 in Nagoya, Japan, and is currently being relocated to the university.

Intricately constructed of heavy, dense wood, the Place of Peace was donated by the Tsuzuki family. The late Kirohiro Tsuzuki moved to Greenville in the 1960s to grow a textile enterprise now called Wellstone Mills.

Kirohiro’s wife, Chigusa, who is also deceased, developed a friendship with David Shaner, a philosophy professor and world-renowned Aikido master and instructor. She studied ki development and Aikido with him nearly 25 years ago. After selling their property in Japan four years ago, the Tsuzuki family began looking for an appropriate place to relocate their family temple, a space traditionally used for worship and communion with nature.

Shaner said the university’s growing emphasis on Asian Studies, international education, the development of the whole person and environmental sustainability made Furman a good fit. The building will be used as a teaching space for Asian Studies. It will also be a spot for quiet reflection and meditation.

Japanese artisans began deconstructing the building in 2004 and packaged and shipped its 2,400 separate pieces to Gaffney, S.C., where they were stored in a temperature-controlled room at a Wellstone Mills facility for more than two years. Artisans began reassembling the temple on a hillside overlooking the Asia Garden in early April.

Shaner said the building is being assembled using the same techniques practiced centuries ago. During a recent tour for area architects, he pointed out the temple’s finely-detailed features and interlocking beams.

Approximately 17 Japanese artisans specializing in wood, tile, and plaster will complete their work later this summer. The Place of Peace will be dedicated September 5.

Baseball stadium dedicated

During a ceremony May 3, the Furman baseball stadium was renamed John T. and Gloria Latham Baseball Stadium.

The first athletic venue completed on the new campus in 1956, the facility is named in memory of Greenville dermatologist John T. Latham, Sr., and his wife, Gloria Kirkland Latham, by their son Tom Latham ’70 and his wife, Gina.

Tom Latham was a three-year baseball letterman and member of Furman’s 1969 Southern Conference championship and NCAA Tournament team. He was named all-conference as an outfielder in 1970.

After graduating from Furman with a degree in biology, Tom went on to medical school at Vanderbilt University and today is president of Upstate Pathology in Greenville. A longtime member of Furman’s Advisory Council, he and Gina, in addition to the $1 million naming gift for Latham Stadium (which consists of current and deferred gifts), have supported Furman through baseball scholarships and other benefactions.
When political science professor Danielle Vinson began looking at her 2008 winter term course load last year, she asked department chair Brent Nielsen for permission to shift a class scheduled for the winter to the fall. Nielsen, recognizing that the two South Carolina presidential primaries loomed, was more than willing. He knew that Vinson and colleague Jim Guth would be spending almost every moment of their out-of-classroom time during January and February speaking with reporters.

While Guth and Vinson may not be as well known as Larry Sabato, they are among the most popular political pundits in higher education. In fact, a recent Nexus search of their names lists a variety of newspapers in which they have been quoted, among them The Christian Science Monitor, USA Today, Boston Globe, St. Louis Post Dispatch, St. Petersburg Times, and many, many more.

Vinson was even quoted by a French news service, Agence France Presse. "It is very rare for a school Furman’s size to have one professor who is quoted as often as Jim or Danielle," says Vince Moore, Furman’s longtime director of media relations. “But we have two. They are both very popular with the press. You can’t put a price tag on the attention they bring to Furman.”

"I get calls from reporters or editors who just want to get the lay of the land,” she says. “They want to know where to send reporters in South Carolina. They’re not from here so they don’t know.”

Of course, dealing with media has its moments. During the 1988 presidential primary Guth recalled a front-page subhead in USA Today that read “Guth: Robertson to get 20 percent of SC vote, but experts disagree.” Guth chuckled at the headline that day, and laughed louder the next when Robertson collected 19 percent of the vote.

"Seldom does a day go by during the election year when a reporter doesn’t call,” says Guth. “In other years I will get two to four calls a week.”

While Republicans have long courted church-goers, Guth says that Democratic candidates are discussing faith more and trying to reach out to religious moderates and liberals. At the same time, Guth says, he’s seen a rise of militant atheism, or those who oppose all forms of religion.

Vinson, a 1989 Furman grad who joined the faculty in 1995, cut her teeth as a media source during the 1998 South Carolina Senate race between Fritz Hollings and Bob Inglis. Her interests include Congress, statewide politics and media and politics.

In 2000, she participated in a roundtable discussion on spending in the presidential primaries at the National Press Club that put her on the radar screen of national media. Guth often refers reporters seeking insight into South Carolina politics to Vinson.

Her candid quotes and knowledge of the way the media works have made Vinson a top source, particularly among regional and local reporters.

"When I’m talking to radio or television I’m more conscious of getting in sound bites,” she says. “With print media you talk through things more.”

Many times, she says, an interview does not yield quotes or even a mention.

"I get calls from reporters or editors who just want to get the lay of the land,” she says. “They want to know where to send reporters in South Carolina. They’re not from here so they don’t know.”

While they're asking questions, I'm taking notes on what they ask me and how they ask it. I think there’s definitely a good article in there, if not a good book.”
From the editor

Thanks to those of you who completed our survey on internal communications (see article above).

Many contributed some great suggestions to improve Inside Furman and FNet. A continuing refrain was a request to include information about upcoming campus events or programs. On occasion we’ll offer tips on green living and reflect on environmental trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue. Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.

Because of popular demand, we will restore this feature in the next issue.

Also, you will notice another new feature in this issue: “Eco Talk,” a column by author “Eco Talk.” His column will no doubt devote a slice of each issue of Inside Furman to Cliff’s Cottage and the trends and news items.
I t's spring, an apt time to update everyone on the new Furman garden project. Our quarter-acre plot is adjacent to the Cliffs Cottage Southern Living Showcase Home (the future Center for Sustainability at Furman). It is on the reclaimed site of the old tennis courts behind the Bell Tower student residences.

Greenhouse seedlings, heirloom varieties

For the past few months we have been eagerly awaiting the time when we could get in the garden. A committed crew of students has nurtured the tiny plants in one of the beautiful greenhouses at White Oaks.

Earlier last month the formal borders of the garden were in place and the site's compact clay soil was loosened to a depth of two feet to allow good drainage. The next step was to screen, haul and spread composted topsoil and organic matter that had been moved from another project on campus. It was a great relief, and an example of sustainability, to use this existing on-campus resource. From our soil tests we learned that we have a great foundation for soil building.

Once the site was ready, we began building beds and incorporating natural soil amendments. We have been cutting and laying drip irrigation lines. One row of our summer cover crop of buckwheat and cowpeas has been sown, and on April 26 we put our first plants in the ground.

This summer I will join two student co-managers in tending the garden and growing more than 70 varieties of vegetables, herbs and flowers, many of them heirlooms. Heirlooms are open pollinated, regionally adapted varieties 50 years old whose seeds have been saved for generations and passed down, usually by families. Most have interesting stories that come with them, stories that connect us to the natural and cultural history of the South.

These are seeds that have been saved not because they travel well on a truck across the country or can sit on a supermarket shelf for weeks, but because they are productive, nutritious and taste great. Isn’t our food supposed to taste good? Equally important is that heirlooms preserve diversity in our food supply (genetically, nutritionally and flavorful) that is being lost in the industrialized homogenization of conventional agriculture.

Sustainability lab at Cliffs Cottage

In harmony with nature and Furman’s commitment to sustainability and Cliffs Cottage, our project aims to be an experiential venue where students, faculty and staff and those in the Upstate community can study sustainability, agriculture and food-related issues, and participate in small-scale food production.

Students start Organic Garden Club

I’m most excited to be working with one of Furman’s newest student organizations, the Organic Garden Club. We will get acquainted with the sun, soil and seasons, learning where our food comes from and experiencing firsthand an alternative to the conventional industrialized food system.

Fresh vegetables for sale

Stay tuned for more information on our weekday afternoon farm stand. We are in the process of organizing a harvest market on campus where we’ll be selling our produce alongside other producers in our community. Better yet, come by and help us harvest and take home fresh vegetables, herbs and flowers as a token of our appreciation. We will be eating well while sharing the harvest and all of our experiences with the Furman community and beyond.

Orthodox Bible takes unorthodox journey to Furman

O n a Friday afternoon in early spring, a small but enthusiastic group gathered on the second floor of the James B. Duke Library to celebrate a gift to Furman that, according to Special Collections director Debbiiede Landi, “defines category.”

The object of their affection: a Greek Orthodox Bible encased in an intricately crafted cover molded from gold, platinum and other precious metals. The front of the Bible casing depicts the crucifixion; the resurrection of Christ, surrounded by the apostles and angels, is hand-carved on the back side.

The cover is set against a velvety scarlet background. Like most great works of art, it’s a piece you can get lost in. “It could be classified as a religious artifact or religious art. It defines category,” says Landi. “Regardless, the Bible and cover (recently appraised at $19,800) represent the most significant donation to special collections in recent memory.”

More compelling than the gift, though, is the story of how it came to the university.

During a July 2006 trip to Santorini, Greece, to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary, Robert Schwartz, a Greenville physician, and his wife, Sheri, were window shopping when they discovered a jewelry store owned by Kostas Antoniou, a famed artist and jeweler.

Venturing into the store, the Schwartzes befriended Antoniou, who invited them to join him at his home for dinner. When they arrived they saw the Bible, which took Antoniou nearly two months to complete, on display.

“I was enamored by its sheer beauty,” says Schwartz. “It was encased in a glass box that was mounted on a clear pedestal, with an overhead light shining down on it. The display enhanced its brilliance. It took me less then a nano-second to tell myself, ‘I want that!’”

The Schwartzes, both art enthusiasts, returned home with the Bible. And while they enjoyed showing it to friends, they eventually became uneasy about showcasing it in their home. The Schwartzes are Jewish. Their oldest son, in fact, is studying to be a rabbi. Ultimately, they decided to donate the Bible to charity. But where? At the time their second son, Austin, was a senior at Greenville Tech Charter High School and was preparing to write his senior paper — an intense academic project required for graduation — on the topic of religion and science.

While searching the Internet, he happened upon the name of David Rutledge, chair of Furman’s Department of Religion and an authority on the subject. Austin sent an e-mail to Rutledge, and while many professors might ignore an unsolicited note from a high school student, Rutledge did not. He agreed to serve as Austin’s advisor for the paper. During the 2006-07 academic year, Austin and Rutledge attended several lectures together. Rutledge also introduced the young Schwartz, who is now a rising sophomore at Clemson University, to Nobel Laureate Charles Townes ’35. Austin eventually mentioned the Bible to Rutledge. The Furman professor, who speaks Greek and has traveled to Greece, arranged a meeting with Robert Schwartz to view the Bible. Later, he helped connect the doctor to Landi.

“We decided to donate it to Furman and have been deeply honored by the warm reception it has received ever since,” says Schwartz.

While the gift is currently in storage, Landi is planning an exhibition for early 2009 that will feature the Bible as its centerpiece.

“We decided to donate it to Furman and have been deeply honored by the warm reception it has received ever since.”

Robert Schwartz
Admissions
It has been an interesting year in Admissions, for many different reasons. We had a significant increase in applications—4,595, up 551 from last year. We visited more high schools, attended more college fairs, hosted more receptions and made more contacts than ever before.

In addition, we saw a higher yield of inquiries from students we met on the road. We concentrated more of our travel in the Northeast and hosted a record number of 93 high school counselors from that area on campus. Although the number of students visiting campus in the fall decreased, our spring numbers increased. To reach our desired enrollment of 2,630 students, we determined that we needed to accept 56 percent of our applicants.

We expect a total of 770 new students in the fall. This includes 738 freshmen, 25 transfer students and seven exchange students. The incoming class is 40 percent male. We had a 24 percent increase in the number of students from underrepresented ethnic groups who applied for admission. They now make up 15 percent of the enrolled new student group. There was an increase in applications from South Carolina, which can be largely attributed to the Hollingsworth Scholars program as well as extensive recruitment efforts within the state. We will have 248 students from South Carolina, 30.7 percent of the class.

The challenge continues to be to enrol a well-rounded student body. To prepare our students for the real world, we must enrol a student body that closely mirrors the diversity of the world in which we live. As we close the 2007-08 recruiting year, we look forward to welcoming another outstanding, academically talented and diverse group of students that we expect will help us assist more talented students in the years to come.

—Lindsey Walker

Athletics
We recently launched a new look for Furmanpaladins.com. We hope that you’ve had a chance to check it out. The third annual Blue Shoes Weekend April 11-12 was once again a hit. We welcomed several hundred alumni, track and field supporters and community members to campus for a three-day weekend. To kick things off on Friday evening, 1968 Olympic medalist Tommie Smith spoke on “My Stand, Your Challenge” at the Blue Shoes “Run for the Gold” Lecture Series Dinner. The highlights of the evening was the announcement from 1978 graduate Chris Borich and his wife Andrea of a $5 million gift to Blue Shoes, the track scholarship program the Borichs launched in 2006. The Blue Shoes endowment, which supports the men’s and women’s cross country and track and field athletes, now stands at $2.8 million.

The NCAA has honored six Furman teams with public recognition awards for their latest Academic Progress Rates (APR) scores. The APR is an academic rating that rewards eligibility, retention and graduation, and penalizes academically underperforming teams. It offers a snapshot of every team’s academic performance at a specific time. The six Furman teams cited were football, men’s golf, men’s indoor track and field, men’s outdoor track and field, women’s basketball, and women’s outdoor track and field. With six sports cited Furman placed all South Carolina institutions.

The Furman teams posted multi-year APR scores in the top 10 percent of all squads in their respective sports. A total of 712 teams from 192 Division I institutions received awards this year. High-performing teams receiving awards posted APR scores ranging from 965 to a perfect 1,000. The football team was one of only 25 NCAA Division I football programs to earn recognition.

Finally, congratulations to men’s and women’s tennis and women’s golf, all of whom captured Southern Conference tournament championships this spring. Paul Scarpa (men’s tennis), Debbie Southern (women’s tennis) and Jen Hanna (women’s golf) were named league coaches of the year.

—Rebekah Gregory

Camps and Conferences
Summer is almost upon us, and the Office of Camps and Conferences is busily getting things ready for more than 30,000 attendees. Our 2,630 students who will be on campus over a seven-week period. Summer 2008 brings a new challenge for our staff. How do you take a nine-week summer program of activities and mesh things into a seven-week period? We began preparing our guests last summer. We informed groups that generally had their camps and conferences in the first two weeks of August that Furman was introducing a new academic calendar, and thus all camps and conferences had to be over by July 27.

Our housing staff needed time to prepare our residence halls for Furman students who would start arriving in early August. We offered to give these groups earlier dates during the summer of 2008, whenever possible. Some took our offer and reserved dates in June and July, and others could not do so. We did lose two high school band camps, one very large camp, and a few smaller groups. We then set our sights on maximizing our bed spaces for June and July, marketing to larger adult groups, and seeking more weekend programs. We also added a week just for day camps. Our strategy seems to have worked, because we have 91 groups booked for this summer, which is the most we have ever had. This was all made possible by being informed early enough to implement new strategies and prepare our summer groups for these large changes.

We have 13 new groups coming to Furman this summer. Among these are the United Way Executives (300) from nine different states, and the prestigious Retail Banking School (350), which will bring bankers from across the United States and from some foreign countries to spend 10 days on campus.

—Marie Burgess

Financial Services
January is always exciting, but January 2008 was busier and more exciting than usual. Kim Rhodes, account coordinator, was at home settling in with a brand new daughter, Braelyn; and Willie Hillstock became a first-time dad to Matthew. Until a month before Matthew’s due date, the Hillstocks were told that they were having a pregnancy; they received their surprise! The Hillstocks showered Braelyn with many pink and purple outfits.

In addition to our new additions and regular duties, we checked and double-checked until everything was just right and then sent out 409 1099s, 2,750 W-2s and 4,192 1098Ts. And all forms were in the hands of recipients by the due date. Our thanks go to Debbie McNeely, Amy Bassett, Sandra Phillips and Sandra Silver. The three-month due diligence period for the purchase of the Vinitions began in mid-January. Financial Services was asked to analyze and review the Vinitions’ accounting records and financial statements. With that background plus information and estimates from housing, facilities services, administrative services, and others, Financial Services put together a five-year operating projection that became the one source of information the oversight committee used. The work was interesting and made short shrift of a normally long winter.

Now that spring is here, our thoughts turn to the end of the 2007-08 academic year and the annual audit. It’s been a great year, and we wish everyone a safe and fun summer.

—Linda Sarratt

Marketing and P.R.
Our office has been frenetic with activity as we enter the home stretch of this academic year. Throughout, our events coordinator, and VP Greg Carroll have been in touch on a daily basis with the White House to coordinate President Bush’s appearance at Commencement May 31. News that the President will be speaking has also kept Vince Moore, our media relations liaison, on his toes. Greg and Nancy Spalter, director of creative services, co-authored an article for the May-June issue of CASE Currents magazine titled “It’s not easy being green.” Furman, of course, is liberally referenced in the article.

John Roberts, director of internal and electronic communication, has had a paper accepted for publication by the American Marketing Association (AMA) titled “Inside Baseball: Communicating effectively and efficiently with your internal audience.” Nancy and Greg’s paper “Going Green: A differentiator or a way of life?” was also accepted for publication by the AMA. These papers are mission, as is our work as well as our marketing practitioners, and submission of these papers is exceptionally important.

John Roberts, director of internal and electronic communication, has had a paper accepted for publication by the American Marketing Association (AMA) titled “Inside Baseball: Communicating effectively and efficiently with your internal audience.” Nancy and Greg’s paper “Going Green: A differentiator or a way of life?” was also accepted for publication by the AMA. These papers are mission, as is our work as well as our marketing practitioners, and submission of these papers is exceptionally important.

Greg, Nancy and John will travel to Chicago in November to present their work at the AMAS Symposium on Higher Education.

Also, we would be remiss in failing to mention the office’s many CASE (Council for the Advancement and Support of Education) awards. Jim Stewart, director of periodicals, and Jane Dorn, graphic designer, were recognized with two grand awards for their work on Furman Magazine from CASE District II. Others in our office receiving CASE awards were Roxanne Chase, Vince Moore, former photographer Charles Register, Roberts and Spalter.

—John Roberts
Furman’s health report card
Pressing health issues for Furman employees are diabetes, obesity and stress, according to a Workforce Health Profile completed by the Greenville Hospital System.

GHS completed the profile earlier this year using data from last fall’s health risk assessment examinations. Three hundred and sixty-seven employees participated in the program, which examined blood work, weight, blood pressure and several other health indicators.

The profile showed:
✓ The average age of the university’s workforce is 46.
✓ Only 8.2 percent of us smoke, compared with 17.5 percent nationally.
✓ The university closely mirrored the national average when measuring body mass index (BMI). Thirty-eight percent of those examined had a desirable BMI, compared to 34 percent nationally. Thirty-seven and 20 percent of us are overweight and obese, respectively, compared to 36 and 24 percent nationally.
✓ About 30 percent of Furman’s employees have been diagnosed with or are at risk for diabetes, compared to 15 percent nationally.
✓ As a collective group, 49 percent of us suffer from high blood pressure and 19 percent have hypertension. Those who fall in these categories are at a higher risk for cancer, heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke.

To register, contact Anne Chubb at extension 2155.

Student Activities & the University Center

As the year draws to a close, the Department of Student Activities & the University Center is actually heating up with amazing events and programs! The final Paladin Nites of the year, featuring comedian Dan Cummins, Airbrush Truckers Hats, the Ntones, an advance screening of the film “Forgetting Sarah Marshall,” and some very hot games of bingo, drew more than 1,200 students and guests, making it the biggest Paladin Nites of the year.

PUSAB sponsored several popular programs, with a full house in McAlister Auditorium for Ann Coulter’s lecture and Q&A, a huge crowd for the annual cookout in support of the baseball team, and a tremendous dance party featuring Girl Talk, a nationally acclaimed DJ.

The Mainstage student talent series this year has been an incredible success. And thanks to the help of Alumni Fellow CarrieBeth Wallace ’07 and Jon Umbdenstock, our intern from the Clemson Student Affairs Graduate Program, we introduced a well-received program called “Market Wednesday,” featuring vendors, food and fun.

The student managers at the UC this year have done an OUTSTANDING job in taking responsibility for the building in the absence of the professional staff. We salute Steven Weeks, Mitko Simidchiev, Will Forrest, Alissa Ricci, Becca Jacobs and Reid Bainger. If you see these folks on campus or in class, please give them a pat on the back!

Next year will bring some new programs and some new twists on old programs. Student Activities & the University Center is ON THE MOVE!!! Jump on board! — J. Scott Derrick

MILESTONES

5 years
Charmaine Moore...........June
Tom Kazee.....................July
Patti White....................July
Don Pierce....................July
Carolyn Thompson..........July
Vicki Kennedy...............July
Brenda Rex....................July
Dara Jenkins.................August
Kathy Everhart..............August
Vaughn CraveTipton-August
Sharon Hammond...........August
* Aramark employee

30 years
Donnie Gallamore..........May
Phil Lewis....................May
Nancy Cooper..............May
Bobby Byers..............August
Gailie Williams..........August

20 years
Mary Alice Bowen..........May
Donna Greene.............May
Jimmie Metcalfe..........May
Danielle Hernandez......May
Ben Yates..................May
Tony Daniels.............May
Greg Carroll.............June
Cassandra Phillips........June
Scott Munn................June
Gary E. Clark.............June
Nathan Dikworth.........July
Richard M. Jones..........July
Carroll Huff..............July
Rebecca Bumby...........July
Pam Atkins................July
George Hammond..........July
Lilli Anne Holf...........August
Amanda Murrrow..........August

35 years
Dorothy Young*...........May

25 years
Linda Campbell...........August
Gene Mullin..............August

Results!

GHS completed the profile earlier this year using data from last fall’s health risk assessment examinations. Three hundred and sixty-seven employees participated in the program, which examined blood work, weight, blood pressure and several other health indicators. The profile showed:

Financial planning, June 17
This seminar will cover mutual fund basics: what they are, why they are so popular and how to choose them.

Retirement planning, June 24
It is critical that we save for retirement, risk management—particularly disability insurance—is often overlooked.

Budgeting basics and financial planning
It’s the shaky economy and topsy-turvy stock market giving you the jitters? If so, enrolling in a summer seminar on financial planning might equi up your nerves and protect your pocketbook (or wallet).

Tom Smythe, an associate professor of business and accounting, will conduct five seminars throughout the summer that will explore budgeting, managing credit, mutual funds, retirement planning and risk management.

The presentations are sponsored by Human Resources and the Center for Corporate and Professional Development. They are free to members of the university community. All seminars will be held from 8 to 10:30 a.m. in the Younts Conference Center and will be preceded by a continental breakfast.

The classes and dates:

Budgeting, June 3
How do you plan for college education, vacations, vehicles and other big-ticket items? This session will help you live within your means and provides tips for tracking and identifying expenses.

Managing credit, June 10
While budgeting is the foundation of financial planning, understanding how to manage credit is the next step to financial security. This webinar will help you understand the cost of credit and outline ways to minimize debt.

MILESTONES

30 years
Kay Husbands.............June
Bob Miller..................August

25 years
Linda Campbell...........August
Gene Mullin..............August

20 years
Donnie Gallamore..........May
Phil Lewis....................May
Nancy Cooper.............May
Bobby Byers..............August
Gailie Williams..........August

10 years
Mary Alice Bowen..........May
Donna Greene.............May
Jimmie Metcalfe..........May
Danielle Hernandez......May
Ben Yates..................May
Tony Daniels.............May
Greg Carroll.............June
Cassandra Phillips........June
Scott Munn................June
Gary E. Clark.............June
Nathan Dikworth.........July
Richard M. Jones..........July
Carroll Huff..............July
Rebecca Bumby...........July
Pam Atkins................July
George Hammond..........July
Lilli Anne Holf...........August
Amanda Murrrow..........August

5 years
Charmaine Moore...........June
Tom Kazee.....................July
Patti White....................July
Don Pierce....................July
Carolyn Thompson..........July
Vicki Kennedy...............July
Brenda Rex....................July
Dara Jenkins.................August
Kathy Everhart..............August
Vaughn CraveTipton-August
Sharon Hammond...........August
* Aramark employee

NEWS BRIEFS

N E W S B R I E F S

Budgeting basics and financial planning
It’s the shaky economy and topsy-turvy stock market giving you the jitters? If so, enrolling in a summer seminar on financial planning might equi up your nerves and protect your pocketbook (or wallet).

Tom Smythe, an associate professor of business and accounting, will conduct five seminars throughout the summer that will explore budgeting, managing credit, mutual funds, retirement planning and risk management.

The presentations are sponsored by Human Resources and the Center for Corporate and Professional Development. They are free to members of the university community. All seminars will be held from 8 to 10:30 a.m. in the Younts Conference Center and will be preceded by a continental breakfast.

The classes and dates:

Budgeting, June 3
How do you plan for college education, vacations, vehicles and other big-ticket items? This session will help you live within your means and provides tips for tracking and identifying expenses.

Managing credit, June 10
While budgeting is the foundation of financial planning, understanding how to manage credit is the next step to financial security. This webinar will help you understand the cost of credit and outline ways to minimize debt.

Mutual funds, June 17
This seminar will cover mutual fund basics: what they are, why they are so popular and how to choose them.

Retirement planning, June 24
It is critical that we save for retirement, risk management—particularly disability insurance—is often overlooked.
What do you think about President Bush speaking at Commencement?

““It will be an honor for Furman University to host the President of the United States. I hope the controversy over President Bush’s policies will challenge us to critically evaluate our political views and teach us to appropriately engage in intellectual discussion and expression.”
—Michael Clemens ’08 neuroscience major

“I think it’s a wonderful opportunity for our university faculty, staff and students to hear him.”
—Lila Ann Full, assistant professor of biology

“I never go to graduation for the speaker. I go for the graduates, and this year is no exception. It is my pleasure to be there with them.”
—Joel Prather ’08 political science major

““It’s an honor to have him speak at Furman. And it’s good for the school to have someone of his position here.”
—Sandra Phillips, financial services

““As a graduating senior, I think the university made a poor decision in selecting Mr. Bush to be the Commencement speaker. Instead of promoting a healthy political dialogue, the many reactions to this decision have largely been marked by a breakdown of civil political discourse across campus.”
—Eli V. Hestermann, assistant professor of biology

“It will be an honor for Furman University to host the President of the United States. I hope the controversy over President Bush’s policies will challenge us to critically evaluate our political views and teach us to appropriately engage in intellectual discussion and expression.”
—Michael Clemens ’08 neuroscience major

Trustee Emeriti honored

Furman Trustees Emeriti were honored during a special ceremony at the home of Dan and Emily Sanders May 16. In 1997, the Board of Trustees approved the title of trustee emeritus to recognize board members whose devotion, length of service and leadership have been extraordinary. Trustee Leighan Rinker organized the tribute, which included short talks by President David Shi and Trustee Chair Carl Kohrt. Trustees Emeriti are special ambassadors and liaisons for Furman and have a profound influence on the university. Tom Hartness, who served as trustee for four decades, was the first to be elected Trustee Emeritus. Minor Mickel, who served as the first female board chair and held the position during the separation from the South Carolina Baptist Convention, Furman’s Pro-Am founder Bill Timmons, and Alester G. Furman III, the great-great-great grandson of the university founder Richard Furman, are past Trustees Emeriti. The seven current Trustees Emeriti pictured above are (left to right): back row—Thomas S. Hartness, Lloyd E. Batson, Ralph S. Hendricks and Elizabeth Peace Stall; front row—Mary Peace Sterling, Max M. Heller and Sarah Belk Gambrell.