

Excellence

SPRING 2004

FOR ORAL UNIVERSITY AND FRIENDS



Homecoming 2004

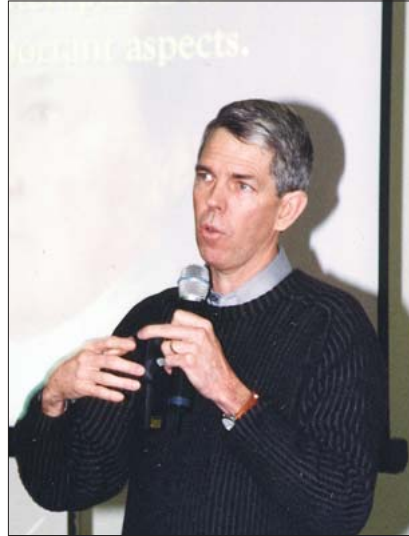
Ron Lamb, Suzanne Behr, and Myles Munroe
receive the Alumnus of the Year awards

Preparing for Revival

Each year, I speak to hundreds of diverse groups, including churches, legislatures, universities, and military bases. In recent years, I have heard both leaders and citizens speak of the need for a national revival: preachers preach about it, and even unexpected groups pray for it (everything from a recent city hall assembly in Little Rock to members of the U.S. Congress gathering at the Capitol).

It's easy to understand why. Within the church, doctrine and theology is weakening in ways that would shock previous generations. (A recent Barna poll found that among Christians, only seven percent of Protestants and one-half percent of Catholics agree that 1) absolute moral truths exist; 2) moral truth is defined by the Bible; 3) Jesus Christ lived a sinless life; 4) God is the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe and He still rules it today; 5) salvation is a gift from God and cannot be earned; 6) Satan is real; 7) a Christian has a responsibility to share their faith in Christ with other people; and 8) the Bible is accurate in all of its teachings. Imagine — only one in twenty Christians currently believe these basic truths!) Outside the church, Judeo-Christian moral standards that have existed for centuries are being overturned by judicial fiat in areas ranging from traditional marriage to the public acknowledgment of God. Understandably, there is a clamor for revival and even an emphasis on fasting that I cannot recall at any previous point in my lifetime.

Yet, how will we know when God answers our prayers for revival? Interestingly, precedent indicates that we may not recognize that we are in a revival until after it is over. This is because, historically speaking, revivals usually span decades. What one genera-



Barton's talks on faith and politics are always eye-opening.

tion prays for in the way of revival is often answered in and through the next generation.

Judges 13 provides an excellent example. Israel, oppressed by the Philistines, cried out to God for deliverance and a change in the condition of their nation. God heard their prayers and dispatched an angel to announce that fact. The angel sought out Manoah and told him how God would answer their prayers: Manoah's wife would become pregnant, and that child would grow up to become the national deliverer. What? That meant another twenty years! And this was God hearing their prayers? Yes — by raising up the answer in the next generation.

Based on this lesson, part of the task of *this* generation in preparing for revival must include training the *coming* generation to be the answered prayers of the nation. We must train a new generation of young spiritual leaders to be sound in doctrine and theology so that they can eventually teach the church-at-large to embrace pure and uncontaminated biblical positions. We must train

the next generation to become judges and elected officials who will fulfill the biblical mandates for leaders — judges who know the laws of God (Ezra 7:25) and leaders who will rule in the fear of God (Exodus 18:21).

However, we must also help the next generation understand what is required to become an answer to prayer. For example, to challenge them to become a judge, we must not only impart to them a vision of the importance of that position (see Isaiah 1:26), but also help them understand that they must spend four years in undergraduate education, an additional three years in legal education, and several years after that gathering actual legal experience. A similar price must be paid in many professions — education, business, medicine, and more. Are we preparing the next generation to understand their role and make the necessary sacrifices?

A paradigm shift will be required in both generations before this can occur. Each must center on what God wants and what the church and the culture need.

This is the significance of ORU in this generation: we understand this paradigm and are training the spiritual and civil leaders of the next generation. Of course, this requires a huge investment. Students must complete years of training while parents and the university must finance that training. (As you know, only about two-thirds of the cost of an ORU education is covered by parents and students; the other third is covered by the university itself, with help from alumni.) As ORU parents and alumni, we must “raise the bar” and now, more than ever, set higher expectations and impart greater vision to the next generation. ■

David Barton 76
Chairman, Alumni Board of Directors

**Alumni Relations Staff
Key Contacts**

George Fisher 76
President and Chairman
Alumni Foundation
Board of Directors
918/495-7312
gfisher@oru.edu

George Paul 69
Alumni Director
918/495-6588
gpaul@oru.edu

Kevin Bish 93, 02
Major Gifts Director
918/495-7436
kbish@oru.edu

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Bob Beard 88, 99
Annual Fund Director
918/495-7660
bbeard@oru.edu

Winnie Perdue
Alumni Events Coordinator
918/495-6627
wperdue@oru.edu

Publisher
ORU Alumni Foundation

Editor
Debbie Titus 77 George

Contributing Writers
David Barton 76, Jeremy Burton,
Jennifer Carter (Class of 2005), George
Fisher 76, Debbie Titus 77 George, Elissa
K. Harvill, Paula Thomas 77 Lee, Nance
Mitchell, Laura B. Raphael.

Photography
Kristen Carollo, Shari Chavers, Steve
Dykes, Dorothea Heit, Morris Kat
Photography, PartyPics, Darleen Rubin,
Don Wilson 77, ORU Missions Office.

Art and Production
Waller & Company
Public Relations

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Direct all inquiries to:
ORU Alumni Foundation
P.O. Box 702333
Tulsa, OK 74170
Phone: 918/495-6610
Fax: 918/495-6650
Web site: alumniweb.oru.edu
E-mail: alumni@oru.edu
Questions or comments?
Contact the editor at dqgeorge@oru.edu.

Excellence Magazine

Mission Statement
The purpose of Excellence magazine is threefold: to make alumni aware of what their former classmates are doing, to tell alumni what is happening today on the Oral Roberts University campus, and to share the good news about alumni accomplishments with faculty, staff, and friends of the University. Excellence magazine is proof positive that the mission of ORU is being carried out on a daily basis all over the globe — "in every person's world."

COVER PHOTO BY KRISTEN CAROLLO.

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Plenty of alumni dug out their Passport to the Past and joined us for a Journey to the Future.

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Denver Street School exists because Tom Tillapaugh decided to dream big.

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... we bring you the ORU and Alumni Foundation Annual Reports. See how they add up.



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ORU Prepares ‘Go Teams’

In the early years of her marriage, my mother used to joke about my father’s initials, which are G.O. (Granville Oral). They were appropriate, she said, since he was gone so often for healing crusades. She referred to him as “Go, Roberts!”

Is it any wonder that Oral Roberts University’s mission statement includes the phrase *to go* (where My light is seen dim, etc.)? When I address the incoming freshman class in August, I think I’ll tell them, “Don’t get too comfortable on this campus or in your dorm rooms. You didn’t come here to sit and rest; you came here to train for your place on a *go team!*”



Payas (left) and Cordray (right) provided dental and medical expertise.

We’re always looking for opportunities to send our students out into the world so they’ll be ready to go when their college days are behind them. One such opportunity came up recently.

Last year, the president and first lady of the Ivory Coast (“Cote D’Ivoire”) and more than 1,000 pastors invited me to come for a healing crusade and a medical/dental/business mission in their country. I was invited to minister

in Nigeria, Benin, and Ghana as well. So, I assembled a team of ORU alumni, students, and faculty members, and we set out for eight days of ministry (Jan. 27-Feb. 3) on the African continent.

At our first crusade service, about 7,000 people attended. As word spread about what God was doing, the crowd grew each night after that. On our last night, the crowds were in the neighborhood of 30,000 people. Of course, there were many, many miracles, and, by our count, more than 20,000 people came forward to receive Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

In addition, more than 1,000 showed up each day at the clinic for medical and dental help. The entire team worked tirelessly. I cannot say enough good things about the selfless efforts of Mark Babo, M.D. 79, 83, Doreen Babo, MBA, Dr.P.H. 81, 86, Scott Cordray, D.O. 83, Paula Sterns, R.N. 77, Glenda Payas, D.M.D. 86, and Dr. Kenda Jezek, the dean of the Anna Vaughn School of Nursing, and her students and faculty members. Dr. David Dyson 73, 78, dean of the School of Business, was also with us to conduct business seminars — how to build a business, how to grow a business, how to believe for prosperity, how to operate Bible principles in your business. Dr. Dean Helland 69, 90 of our modern languages department took the lead in organizing our meetings with pastors. Dr. Nancy Brainard 92, 02 also accompanied us as an educational liaison.

All of our efforts were extremely well-received by government officials. They saw that we were not just coming to preach a message and then leave the country; they saw that we wanted to leave something lasting behind. The

testimonies continue to come in of lives being touched and changed. I don’t think any of us will ever be the same again after this experience.

At the crusades, there were healings of deafness and blindness . . . people getting up out of wheelchairs and walking . . . people throwing down their crutches and canes . . . just some tremendous, tremendous miracles.



Mark Babo (second from right) questions a patient.

This trip was a great opportunity for students and alumni — including me — to fulfill the call of Oral Roberts University to “go into every person’s world.” That’s how I read Mark 16:15, which says, “. . . Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

In Africa, I saw what happens when ORU students and alumni come together with one purpose: to serve God by serving others. Your prayers, your support, *and your participation* are what we need if we’re going to keep responding to requests to bring healing teams — “go teams” — such as this one to nations that need us.

Remember, alumni, the ORU mission statement still applies to you. ■

Richard Roberts

Richard L. Roberts
President and CEO

Homecoming

WHAT A TRIP

2004

“Bring your passport to the past,” we said, “and we’ll take you on a journey to the future.” If you missed your flight, here are some postcards from home . . .

“The Psychological Implications of Returning to ORU” wasn’t the topic of the conference for mental health professionals, held on the Mabee Mezzanine all day Friday, but it would make a fascinating research paper, don’t you think?

Seriously . . . while the counselors were earning continuing education credits, other alumni were in Christ’s Chapel to hear **President Richard Roberts** preach. He’s known for saying, “Chapel isn’t like you remember it, alumni; it’s better,” and on this day, with so many alumni in attendance, it definitely was.

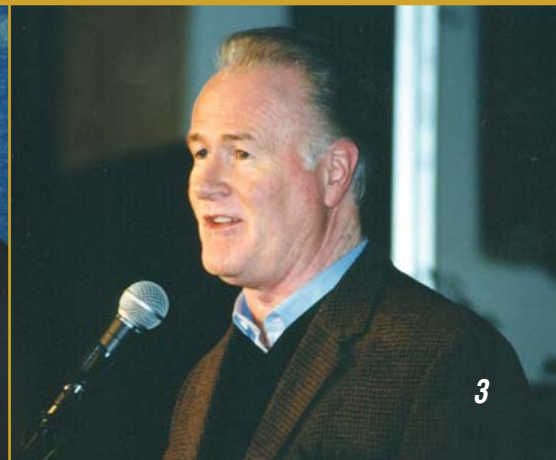
Alumni Board chairman **David Barton 76** was the speaker for the Golden Eagle Business Connection luncheon. After hearing Barton talk about the Founding Fathers and share statistics that outline the decline in this country’s moral values, listeners might feel compelled to take a closer look at



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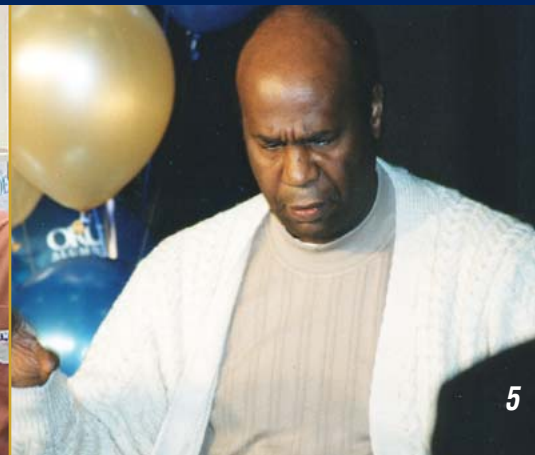


3

1. Raile discusses her ORU experience. • 2. Hans Kanold 76 with son Jason (an ORU freshman) and daughter Sharlene. • 3. Roberts: “Do something significant tonight to help make a difference in the lives of our students.” • 4. Dr. Walker with some of his former students. • 5. Ryan — so expressive. • 6. After-Game Reception.



4



5



6

their children's textbooks, or to become more involved in the political process. (Voter card, anyone?)

Friday afternoon was all about luncheons, receptions, open houses, teas, and alumni advisory board meetings. These events led up to moments of truth for three special groups of alumni: the reunion classes! After 30 years (Class of 1974), 20 years (Class of 1984), and 10 years (Class of 1994), it was time to reevaluate. *Am I doing what God called me to do? Should I have majored in something else? Should I send my children to ORU? What do I really want to do with the last 30 or 40 years of my life, if Jesus tarries? Will I ever get those college loans paid off?* Searching questions.

Live from ORU — it's Saturday morning! And not too early for those industrious music majors, who gathered in the oh-so-familiar Timko-Barton lobby (are those the original curtains?) to share brunch. Not too early for the athletes among us, either, who climbed that steep, steep hill (has it gotten steeper?) to the Aerobics Center to play basketball in the annual faculty/staff/alumni competition.

In the Homecoming tradition, Saturday afternoon was one of the best times to get reacquainted with faculty and old classmates. Graduate Theology alumni met for lunch in the Regents' Dining Room, while other alumni had more informal gatherings in their old department areas. Biology faculty took advantage of the day to meet with alumni who could give good advice that will improve ORU's curriculum.

What would Homecoming be without the Women's RA Alumni Tea? Look out, though, ladies — the Men's RAs are gaining on you. They held their own reception in the new Internet Café.

Count on the women's basketball team to come through with a win. The women muzzled the Oakland Grizzlies, 70-63. Along the way, Leah Cannon tied **Nanette Ogden 89's** single-season assist record, which had stood since the 1987-88 season, with her 180th assist.

The English department had a bittersweet reception, a time to honor **Dr. Grady Walker**. Dr. Walker is reducing his workload after what seems like a lifetime of service at



7. Class of 1974. • 8. Ford hit a high note. • 9. Alumni Board members worship during chapel. • 10. Lamb says he sees ORU alumni "around the world, reaching the lost and excelling in what they do." • 11. After-Game Reception. • 12. Class of 1978.



ORU. (Do you know anyone who didn't have him for at least one English class?) No reflection on his teaching skills, but *we have no words* to describe our sadness at his near-departure.

The capstone of the weekend is always the President's Banquet. Where else can you find nearly 700 alumni in one place at one time?

Curiosity was satisfied when the 2004 Alumnus of the Year awards were handed out. In his acceptance speech, **Dr. Ron Lamb 69**, a missionary dentist whose award was for his service to the community, said, "I heard something recently: 'You may be only one person, but to one person you may be the world, because you have healed them, you have brought them hope, and you've introduced them to Jesus, and that's what it's all about.'"

Suzanne Behr 81, honored for her service to the alma mater, said that in serving ORU she was living out her life verse, Proverbs 3:27: "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due when it is in the power of your hands to do it." ORU has blessed me," she added. "Why shouldn't I want to

bless it back?

"When I look back, however, I just need to say one thing: I think I could have done more. I do want to challenge us all here tonight. I think many times, we can do more.

"The university needs you," Behr concluded. "Just follow your heart and do more."

Myles Munroe 78, who leads Bahamas Faith Ministries International, received his award for service to God. He said he believes success is not measured by what one has done compared to what others have done, but by what one has done compared to what he *knows* he can do. "To me," he said, "I have a lot more to do.

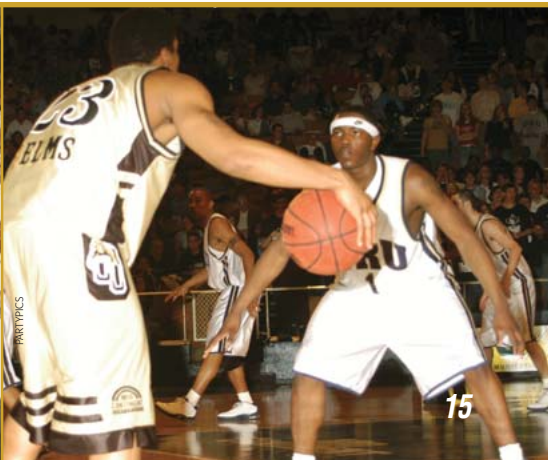
"As I grow older," he added, "ORU becomes more precious to me. I'm invited to speak to many schools in many nations, and I've not yet found one like ORU. I believe in ORU so much, I have given it my greatest investment: my son and my daughter." ORU, he said, "is an environment that gives them a passion for the world and a love for people and a strong foundation to follow God."



13



14



15

13. Class of 1982. • 14. And the Pep Band played on . . . • 15. Ken Tutt emerged as a leader on this year's team.
16. Bridget Necaise Burritt 98, 01 and Gene Gregg 80, 82 chat at Friday's GEBC luncheon. • 17. Class of 1984.



16



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Honors fellow **Aimee Raile** assured alumni that although “ORU may not look the same as it did when you were here, it’s still preparing students to be the Daniels, the Esthers, the Davids, the Pauls, and the ‘little Christs’ of their generation.”

Kelly Ford 86 and **Don Ryan 72** wowed the crowd with their rendition of *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*. President Richard Roberts gave the keynote talk, sharing his daughter Jordan’s decision last year to enroll at ORU. “It’s been a tremendous experience to become an ORU parent,” he said. Then he discussed disturbing trends in the nation, including magazines on witchcraft, the same-sex union debate, and sex magazines that are being published at major universities, including Harvard.

“ORU has not changed,” he emphasized. “And it’s time for alumni to do something to ensure it stays the way it is.

“If you know alumni who haven’t been back to campus, help rekindle the fire in them. Help them become a part of something great here on campus.”

David Barton wrapped up the banquet with another strong statement about ORU’s value.

“Don’t think ORU’s a place to hide from the world,” he said. “No, this is a place to have your kids come to prepare to go *change* the world. What we have at ORU is the next set of law professors, judges, scientists, political leaders. ORU is preparing the answer to the nation’s prayers for revival. We need to invest into keeping ORU healthy.”

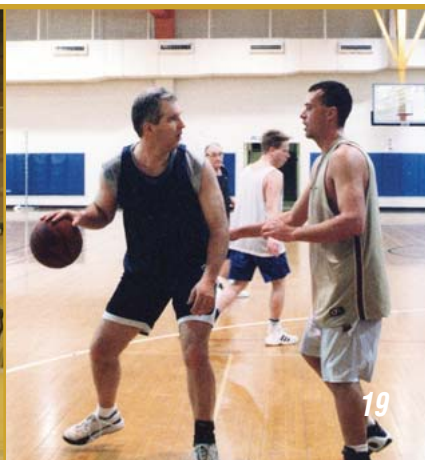
The men’s basketball team showed a healthy desire to win, becoming one of four teams tied for first place in the Mid-Continent Conference by beating Oakland, 84-75.

The only way to cap off such a victory — and such a satisfying weekend — was with the after-game reception. Cake, punch, good friends — who could ask for anything more?

Well, actually, we’d like to see more of *you* at Homecoming 2005. ■



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18. Class of 1994. • 19. Alumni came ready to play on Saturday morning. • 20. Behr says the ORU students she’s met since graduation have helped her fulfill her purpose in God’s kingdom. • 21. Class of 2003.



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Are You Mission Ready?

We need your help in selecting our 2005 “Alumnus of the Year” award winners.

Your mission is to reflect upon the alumni you know and ask yourself, “Who has done an outstanding job of carrying out the mission of ORU, through service to God, the community, or to ORU itself?”

Don’t think you have to reach for the stars. The AOY galaxy is composed of well-known and not-so-well-known alumni who all have one thing in common: going where His light is seen dim, His voice is heard small, and His power is not known.

Once you have some names in mind, completing your mission is easy. Go to alumniweb.oru.edu and click on “Click to Nominate an Alumnus” at the bottom of the page.

Deadline: July 1, 2004.

Details on the award categories can be found at the address above.



Behr Follows God's Heart

Sometimes our friends know what's best for us. Take **Diane Tomei 80 Zarlengo**, who insisted that her friend **Suzanne Behr 81** come to Oral Roberts University. That eventually led to Behr's appearance on the stage at the recent President's Homecoming Banquet, where she accepted the 2004 Alumnus of the Year award for distinguished service to the alma mater.

Another alumnus, former Alumni Director **Lynette Troyer 84**, kept Behr involved at ORU post-1981. She talked Behr into becoming a Wing Backer (supporter/mentor of a dormitory wing). That involvement led to a Bible study and a women's mentoring program. Then Troyer convinced Behr to run for a spot on the Alumni Board of Directors. Behr won the election and later served as chairman of the board — only the second woman to do so.

So, is Behr sorry she decided back in 1977 to "try ORU for a year," or sorry she agreed to stay involved after graduation? Not at all. ORU was more than she ever expected it to be.

"I loved the students," this Mt. Kisco, N.Y., native said. "You could tell that they were different, . . . that they wanted to make a difference in the world. And I loved the teachers . . . they really cared about you. They wanted you to succeed."

ORU also "opened me up more to the spiritual things," Behr said during an interview in the comfortable living room of her midtown Tulsa home. "I grew up in the Assemblies of God church. I loved the fact that at ORU you were surrounded by Methodists, Catholics, Lutherans, Baptists, Church of God.

"I loved chapel. I loved vespers — it's what changed my life. I can look back and see my spiritual growth coming from those meetings. It was just you and God."

By the time Behr became a Wing Backer, she was working for Amoco as an engineer. (She majored in math and chemistry at ORU and earned a master's from the University of Tulsa in 1985. Today, she is a director at WilTel Communications and has an MBA from Oklahoma State University.) "I was traveling a lot and had a lot of responsibility," she said. Still, she carved out time for her adopted wings. "The easiest way for me to get to know the girls was to play intramurals, so I played all the sports with them," she said. Her devotion, unfortunately, resulted in a knee injury during a football game, sending her into surgery and putting an end to her gridiron career.

The Bible studies began in 1993 when some girls from her adopted wing, who were staying in Tulsa for the summer,

agreed to meet. "When fall semester came along, they asked if we could continue during the school year," Behr said. "I was really surprised at that, because I was giving them homework!"

The Bible studies became year-round. "Some of the girls were freshmen, so I had them for four years," Behr said. They helped her launch the women's mentoring program.

One of Behr's favorite ORU projects is her scholarship fund, which she started in 1994. It was a dream she had carried inside her since the early 1980s.

"When I started making good money after graduate school," she said, "I knew that finally, it was time."



Troyer (left) got Behr involved in Wing Backers and the Alumni Board.

The program benefits junior and senior women. Anywhere from one to four students per year receive the awards. Behr has a scholarship committee that helps her evaluate the applications.

"I'm not looking for the 4.0 student," she said. "I'm really looking for their heart after God. Do they really want to serve Him in whatever capacity they might be in when they get out of school?"

That was Behr's desire when she left ORU. It has been fulfilled in part through her ministry to ORU students and alumni. Receiving an award for it, however, was not one of her goals.

When she heard about the award, Behr was "extremely humbled to the point of, are you sure? I certainly didn't think of any of these things when I was doing what the Lord placed on my heart to do."

Which is exactly the point of the Alumnus of the Year awards. ■



The Portable Dentist

By Elissa K. Harvill • Photo provided by Ron Lamb

High above the tree line at 12,300 feet, where lots of potatoes and llamas grow in the highlands of the Andes Mountains, **Dr. Ron Lamb 69** was recently providing much-needed dental care to a mud hut village of Quechua Indians in Peru. Dr. Lamb uses dentistry to get into these remote and often bathroomless locales where he does what Jesus did, albeit with some pretty cool equipment.

Peru is quite a contrast to Oklahoma, but it's Lamb's work in countries like this that led to his selection as 2004 Alumnus of the Year in the category of service to the community.



In Ecuador, Lamb works to put a smile back on the face of this child.

Lamb and his teams pack light for trips up the Amazon River, so they're free to just drop into the jungle, hike into the mountains, or set up on a remote island without electricity or running water. All things are possible for those who believe and travel with an Eight Pound Operatory. "Almost any dental procedure can be done with [it] — even root canals," said Lamb. Lamb has also designed and developed prototypes of other portable systems. His "Star Wars Unit" used a Volkswagen windshield washer tank as its water supply. For the adventurous dentist, Lamb has published *Portable Mission Dentistry*, which he uses to equip other missionary dentists through his ministry, World Dental Relief, Inc.

WDR has enjoyed remarkable success in its four-fold purpose to train, equip, supply, and send dentists to work in remote settings. Lamb estimates that about \$7 million in sup-

plies have been distributed through WDR since they acquired their first warehouse in 1985. The 300 teams that went out in 2003 alone took along more than \$800,000 in supplies.

Lamb has traveled to about 80 countries on more than 150 missions trips. "I like going to the more remote unreached people groups — going where no one else has gone," he said. While in Peru, the Quechua Indians informed him that he was the first American missionary to ever visit their village.

These are not occasional trips. Lamb has been doing this full-time since 1991 when he closed his private practice and launched WDR. Stationed in Broken Arrow, he and his wife, Pam, orchestrate distribution of portable equipment, supplies, and services for more than 300 short-term dental mission teams and clinics every year. Recently, doors have opened in previously "closed" countries such as Afghanistan, North Korea, and China. The people of these countries, Lamb said, have unbelievable physical needs and great spiritual needs.

Lamb's wife, Pam, fully supports her husband's adventures. "I have known from the beginning that Ron's desire was to serve the Lord and use the dental talents he has been given to promote the Gospel around the world." She has traveled with him at times, as have their three children: Ron Jr. (to Ecuador), Tina (to Peru), and Bobby (to the Amazon).

A missions trip to Mexico in 1968 confirmed Lamb's calling to missions. "I knew that I had a calling upon my life at age 12, and at 16 I knew that I wanted to get a 'profession' that I could use for missions," Lamb shared. "Dentistry was the clear choice by my senior year at ORU, but I did not understand then how that profession could be used for missions work."

Lamb says dental diseases affect more than 95 percent of the earth's population. Unfortunately, the people suffering the most live nowhere near a dentist, and even if they did, they couldn't afford the treatment. As Lamb explains, "governmental boundaries don't apply to us. There are usually long lines of people who are hurting and swollen. Once you touch them 'at the point of their need,' as Oral says, you have their complete attention for ministry. Whatever [religion] they are, they still believe in prayer.

"It is the words of so many individuals who have been touched with compassionate care that compels us to continue moving forward in His calling," Lamb added, "like the elderly gentleman in Ecuador who said, 'You have removed the pain from my mouth and you have removed the pain from my heart.'"

Lamb's message to fellow alumni is this: "Concentrate your time on things that will make the greatest amount of difference or have the greatest impact on people's lives." ■

For more information, visit www.dentalrelief.com.



The Purpose-Driven Life of Myles Munroe

Myles Munroe 78 is a man of many talents. He sings, plays piano and guitar, sculpts, paints, writes books (more than 27 so far), and is a gifted speaker. With these abilities and with three degrees from ORU (fine arts, education, theology), he could have gone in a lot of different directions after graduation.

Growing up in the Bahamas, however, gave Munroe a different idea of how he should spend his life.

“I came to ORU with ministry on my mind,” Munroe said. He was talking to us last September while enjoying breakfast at a hotel in downtown Tulsa.

“I didn’t come to ORU to look for a wife or to get an education [in order] to get a job,” Munroe said. “I came to ORU because I already had a passion in my heart to make a difference in my country.” His success earned him the 2004 Alumnus of the Year award for distinguished service to God.

What motivated Munroe was the feeling that “most of the people in developing countries, like the one I’m from — about four billion people worldwide — were victims of oppression, and that oppressive impact has developed a mentality that is not conducive to the fulfillment and the maximization of their potential. Most people of color come out of that environment with their . . . self-esteem . . . damaged. So, my passion still is to restore [what was lost] from the impact that oppression has had on billions of people.”

To do that, Munroe felt that people needed to hear a good Word. “I was set free personally when I began to discover the original message of the Bible: what God had created man to do and to be,” he said. “That really motivated me to teach that to as many people as possible, to . . . help people discover their real purpose.”

After completing a master’s degree in administration at the University of Tulsa in 1980, Munroe returned home and started Bahamas Faith Ministries International, a Christian growth and resource center that now includes leadership

training institutes, a missions agency, a publishing company, a television network, radio and Web communications, and a church community. It’s a global work that has touched more than 80 countries, as Munroe conducts seminars and fulfills hundreds of speaking engagements each year.

“My vision,” Munroe continued, “is wrapped up in one statement: I exist to transform followers into leaders. My philosophy is, trapped in every follower is a leader. My belief is, if that person is placed in the right environment, the leader will manifest himself or herself. As I teach a seminar, I teach

the information that creates the stimuli — spiritually and academically — for them to tap into their ‘hidden leader.’”

The “unbelievable” response worldwide has given Munroe a vision for a “leadership incubator” — where, he said, “after you finish your academic studies, you come to me, I put you in this environment, and then you come out the other side as a leader.”

Munroe says his ultimate goal is to establish a world-class leadership institute that will attract members of Congress and Parliament, legislators, doctors, lawyers — “people who make decisions,” he said. “And the school would be built on biblical principles.”

After all, he said, “all true leadership training steals all of its information from the Bible.”

Munroe and his wife, Ruth, have been married for 24 years and have two children, Chairou and Charissa, who are both ORU students. Given what he gained at ORU, Munroe

couldn’t think of a better place for them.

“I would never exchange ORU and the experience I had there for anything in the world,” said the former missions director. “What I’m doing now, I can say that ORU had a significant role in preparing me [for it].

“ORU inculcated in us that you could be a strong believer in a very difficult environment and make a very positive impact.”

That’s a lesson Myles Munroe has taken to heart. ■



Munroe has received the highest award possible from the Bahamian government: the Silver Jubilee Award for providing outstanding service to the Bahamas in the category of Religion. In 1998, he became the youngest citizen of the Bahamas ever to receive the Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) — an award bestowed by the Queen of England.

takin' it to the STREET

Denver Street School exists because an ORU alumnus decided to dream big.

STORY BY LAURA B. RAPHAEL • PHOTOS BY STEVE DYKES

Tom Tillapaugh 76, 86 M.A.Ed. freely admits that during his first four years at ORU, he did not stand out in the crowd.

“I was just another guy on campus, an unremarkable student. I wasn’t up front in chapel, not at the top of my class,” Tillapaugh recalled. “But I listened and I learned. I wasn’t satisfied with little things. I was open to hearing God’s voice and letting it evolve.”

In particular, he took one classic ORU theme — Chancellor Oral Roberts’ “Make no little plans here” — to heart. The result has made him, if not stand *out*, then stand *up* for thousands of hurting children in the last 19 years.

This story begins in the summer of 1979 when Tillapaugh traveled to Denver to work for a homeless outreach his cousin had founded. “The Lord first gave me the vision to open the street school when I was there,” Tillapaugh said. “Here was this great home where people from the streets could come and be fed and clothed and led to the Lord. But there was a missing component of education. I went back to Oklahoma to teach, but God kept a kindle in my heart for the Street School.”

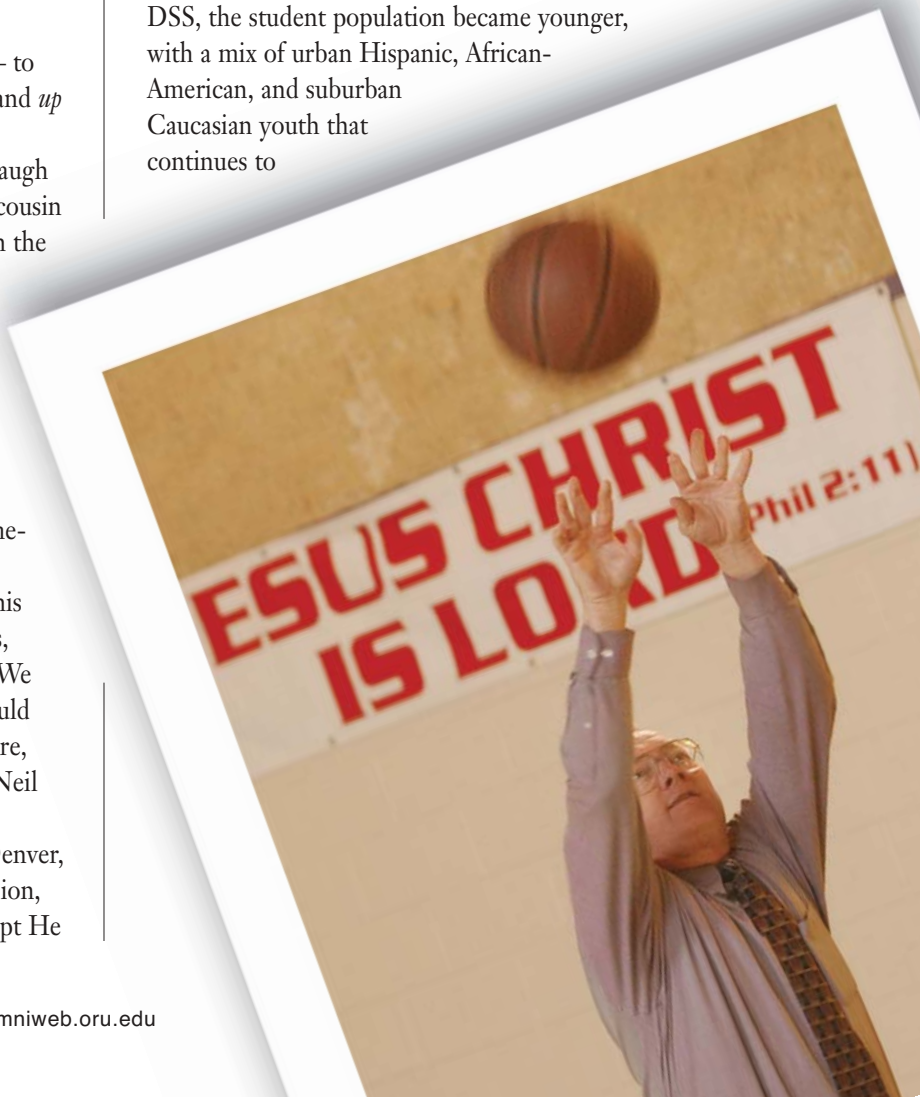
Despite a successful career as a Christian school teacher and principal, Tillapaugh knew God wanted something more from him. “You can’t put stipulations on the Lord’s vision. So when He told me it was time to start this ministry, we — my wife Yvonne and I and our daughters, Cherie and Rebecca — just loaded up the car and *went*. We had no money, no resources, no way of knowing if it would work out. We lived in subsidized housing, we took welfare, and then we just waited on the Lord.” (Sons Ricky and Neil were born in Denver.)

While working at different schools and churches in Denver, Tillapaugh told as many people as he could about his vision, praying that God would prompt someone to help. Prompt He

did; a wealthy businessman agreed to rent Tillapaugh a house near the inner city for the new school.

And so Denver Street School (DSS) began, under Tillapaugh’s direction, on May 13, 1985, in the dining room of the small rented house, with a table, five chairs, one teacher (Tom), and three homeless students.

In the beginning, DSS students were mostly adult “street people, young unwed moms, and runaway punkers,” as Tillapaugh describes them. As other public and private schools, hospitals, and treatment centers heard about DSS, the student population became younger, with a mix of urban Hispanic, African-American, and suburban Caucasian youth that continues to



this day. Their backgrounds, as disturbing as those of the original students, include gang activity, drug and alcohol abuse, and dysfunctional families.

Unlike other traditional Christian schools, DSS welcomes tough cases. “Most schools — Christian, private, or public — won’t take the kids we do,” Tillapaugh said. “In fact, I *want* those kids that nobody else does. We take failed and troubled kids and just love on them over time. We do everything we can to engage them, get them involved, and show them a different way to live.”

This attitude of radical love, based on the style of Jesus Christ, has led to countless miracles. Under the firm but loving direction of DSS teachers, students renounce their troubled pasts and choose new lives full of promise.

“I’ve seen hardcore crack addicts get clean and dedicate their lives to Christ. I’ve seen angry kids, unwed mothers, criminals, turn themselves around, graduate from college, and get accepted into law schools. I’ve seen suburban white kids into the worst kind of drug abuse you can imagine go from brazenly stealing to leading Bible studies.”

Now completing its 19th year, Denver Street School is accredited by the North Central Association. It has grown into two campuses with about 100 students (30 are adults in the night school program) and 10 teachers. Students participate in full athletic, music, and drama programs, attend weekly chapel services, and go on summer missions trips. In all, 150 students have graduated with full high school diplomas (not GEDs); many have gone on to college or trade school.

Although Tillapaugh credits much of the school’s success to the 10:1 student-teacher ratio, individualized attention, and an emphasis on keeping students occupied during the “danger” time of 3-6 p.m. in the afternoon, he acknowledges that, like ORU, DSS looks to God as its ultimate authority.

“We’re an evangelical school,” Tillapaugh explained. “We do not expect our students to come in as Christians, but we are unapologetic about wanting to lead them to the Lord once they are here.”

After being approached repeatedly for help in starting other street schools, Tillapaugh enlarged his dream. To help, he says, “the Lord sent me a wonderful partner, Wendy Piersee, whose gift is to turn visions into

Still earning aerobics points after all these years . . . Here, Tillapaugh tries his jump shot in the gym of Denver Street School.



Though not a star student at ORU, Tillapaugh says he took in the lessons of making no little plans and trusting God in all things.

reality. [With her help,] the National Association of Street Schools was born.”

NASS began in 1996, with Tillapaugh giving advice via phone, e-mail, and at an annual conference held in Denver. Then, in 1999, major gifts started to pour in, word started to spread, and membership grew. Today, there are 37 NASS member schools nationwide.

One more measure of Tillapaugh’s success: the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation’s recent three-year, \$1 million grant to NASS to improve 20 existing alternative schools and create 10 additional ones throughout the country. “To be recognized by a national, prestigious foundation as an association that has been effective in educating young people who need help — that says a lot about the credibility and value of the schools that make up NASS,” Tillapaugh said.

In reflecting on his life and career since leaving ORU, Tillapaugh is careful to attribute every accomplishment and triumph to God. “The Lord has been active in my life since I graduated in 1976,” Tillapaugh said. He’s also grateful to his alma mater. “I know that I would never have aspired to do any of this without the training and inspiration that I received at ORU. Oral Roberts and the ORU [faculty and administration] got us to believe that we could do ANYTHING with the Lord’s help.”

Indeed, to the students whose lives have been transformed at Denver Street School and its counterparts, Tom Tillapaugh’s ANYTHING has meant *everything*. ■

Tom’s contact information: 303/860-1702 (toll-free 877/981-7700) or ttillapaug@aol.com. For Denver Street School or National Association of Street Schools, visit www.denverstreetschool.com or www.streetschools.com.

Brains v. Jesus?

Aimee Raile proves that being a Christian intellectual holds up in court.

By Laura B. Raphael

The court of public opinion charges that Christians are anti-intellectual, that we rarely read books, carry on intelligent conversations, or think deeply about serious issues.

To combat this ridiculous notion (C.S. Lewis, anyone?), the defense couldn't do much better than calling ORU junior and honors fellow Aimee Raile to the stand as its first witness.

In her nearly three years at ORU, Raile (pronounced "Riley") has proved to be an intellectual dynamo — a lean, mean, learning machine who is as comfortable solving calculus equations as she is analyzing 18th-century poetry.



With a class load of 18 hours every semester, Raile spends a lot of time either rushing to or studying for classes. She enjoys an academic challenge, and is looking forward to the classes she'll take at Oxford University in England, where she plans to study this coming fall.

Already a double-major in math and philosophy, Raile will soon add a third major, English, to her repertoire — but truth be told, she says she would probably major in knowledge if she could. "I'm just passionate about learning, I guess," she says, laughing and calling her love of interdisciplinary learning "a little weird."

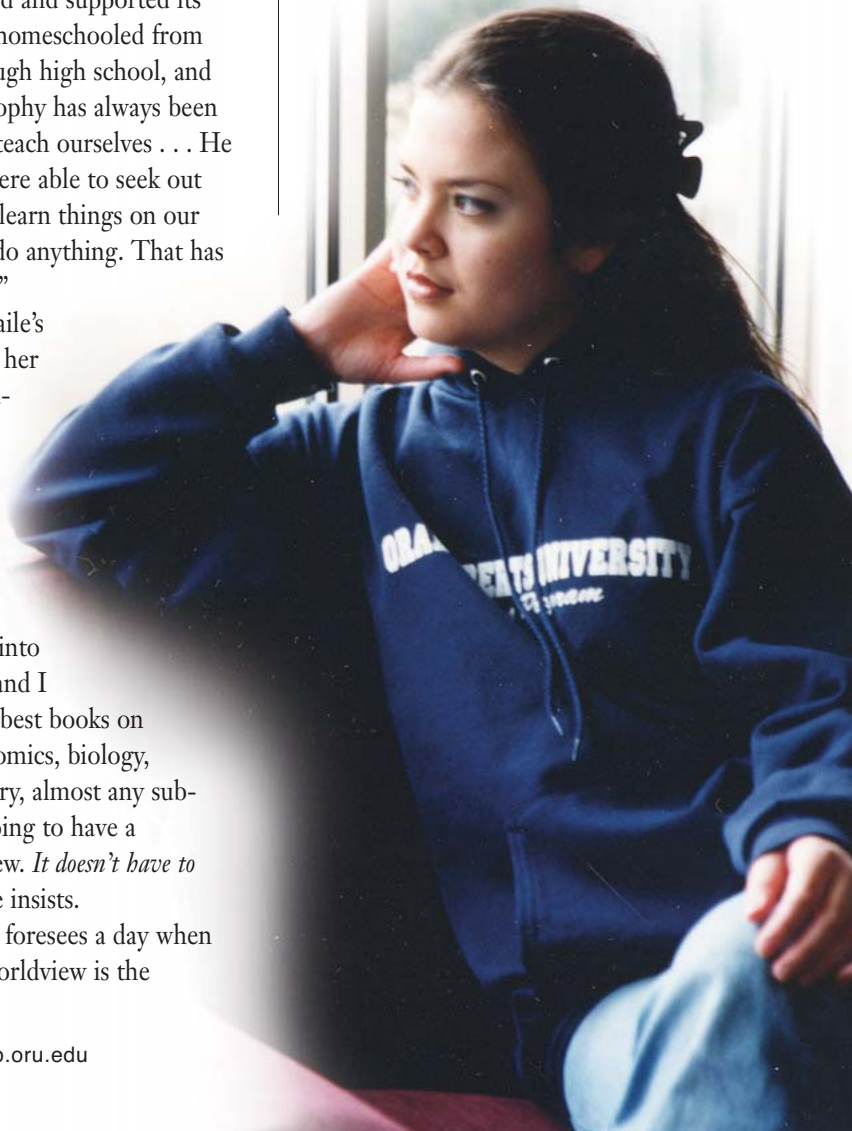
Weird or not, she comes by it naturally, from parents who encouraged her curious mind and supported its growth. "I was homeschooled from first grade through high school, and my dad's philosophy has always been that we should teach ourselves . . . He felt that if we were able to seek out knowledge and learn things on our own, we could do anything. That has stayed with me."

Informing Raile's learning — and her desire to eventually work in education, perhaps as a curriculum writer — is her belief in Christ. "If I go into a library today and I want to get the best books on sociology, economics, biology, chemistry, history, almost any subject, they are going to have a secular worldview. *It doesn't have to be that way,*" she insists.

In fact, Raile foresees a day when the Christian worldview is the

prominent one represented in most books, from history to psychology. "In the classes I've been taking here, I see how much the secular, postmodern worldview has infiltrated ours, but I think it can be the other way around. Education is powerful — Christians have the opportunity to change the world through what we can contribute to all arenas of knowledge. I think that's a lot of what ORU stands for: to be a Christian voice in education."

Of course, Raile does more than sit around and think, study, and read. (Though, with an average of 18 hours per semester, she does do plenty of that.) She is an accomplished pianist and a sports fan, especially of hockey, preferring teams from her home state of Colorado.





Despite the demands of school, Raile makes a point of socializing with friends and meeting new people.

She's heavily involved in various on-campus groups, serving as president of the Honors Student Council, treasurer of the English Honors Society, and secretary of the Philosophers Society. In her free time, she volunteers in the community, reading to low-income children at a local church.

Ultimately, however, she willingly takes on the "brainy" label — with pride. She loves learning, she loves God, and she believes the combination is a good one, for her and the world at large.

"ORU's mission is more important than ever," she says. "The world needs students who have a solid foundation in both academics and their faith. I see God doing amazing work here. ORU students are not content with just going along, not making an impact. They want to be people who do great things in the name of God."

Case closed. ■

Left: Raile relaxes in the lounge of her dormitory, the recently renovated Gabrielle Hall. As busy as she is, she doesn't get much of a chance for quiet reflection, but when she does, she appreciates it.

WANTED: *Seed-Faith Stories*

Not long ago in these pages, **Phyllis Shelton 76** shared her vision of creating a special devotional filled with testimonies of seed-faith miracles in the lives of other alumni. Dedicated to Chancellor Oral Roberts, *His Harvest* is designed, as Shelton wrote, "to show Chancellor Roberts that the Great Commission of his life has been fully carried out."

While we've received some wonderful stories from alumni so far, we still haven't heard from *you!* Please take a moment to think about a specific instance in your life where you experienced God's bountiful blessings through seed-faith giving. Then jot it down (500 words or less) and send it to Bob Beard — at bbeard@oru.edu, or in care of the ORU Alumni Foundation, P.O. Box 702333, Tulsa, OK 74170. Or, submit your story online; go to <http://alumniweb.oru.edu> and click on *His Harvest*.

The result, when published, will be a touching tribute to the man whose obedience to God is what made Oral Roberts University possible.

Sim Lab Expands

Last fall, the Helmerich Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Anna Vaughn School of Nursing for expansion of the nursing simulation lab. Currently, the sim lab is comprised of eight units for teaching eight to sixteen students in a class. The Helmerich Foundation grant will result in the addition of four more patient-care units. One of these units will be equipped as a critical care unit with capability for cardiac monitoring.

The nursing sim lab provides a progressive learning environment valued by faculty, students, and accrediting agencies. Integration of sim lab classes with theory classes and on-site clinical experiences results in significant measurable outcomes.



Michelle Bond (left) and Stephanie Pennie (right) administer intravenous drugs to one of the simulated arms in the lab.



Stephanie Landrum (left) and Elisabeth Pederson (right) care for “SimMan,” the centerpiece of the lab.

“[The expansion] is vitally important because the existing facility doesn’t cover the current students,” said Dr. Kenda Jezek, dean of the Anna Vaughn School of Nursing. “We want students to have practice with clinical skills before they go into a hospital setting, and the grant will help us provide that critical experience for our students.”

In the fall of 2002, ORU invested nearly \$180,000 to refurbish and double the size of the sim lab. (See Spring 2003 *Excellence*.) Using other grant monies received last year, the school purchased SimMan, a portable simulator that contains a pre-programmed library of heart, lung, bowel, and vocal sounds, facilitates blood pressure measurement, and more. ■

Get A Job? How? Ask CCGC

Some ORU students hear directly from God when it comes to what they should do with their lives, an unmistakable nudge that leaves little doubt about the path they should pursue. (See the Tom Tillapaugh story on page 12.)

And then there are those students who change their major five times in two years and start to panic in the middle of junior year (or even later) when they realize that they have *no idea* what they're to do.

It's the job of ORU's College and Career Guidance Center (CCGC) to help students at both extremes, and everyone in between, through a wide-ranging menu of career discovery and job placement services, including strengths assessment, résumé development, and on-campus career fairs.

Here's what some recent alumni have to say about how the CCGC helped them . . .



As an ORU student, Stacy Brown took advantage of the many résumé development workshops and job fairs, which helped land her a challenging business analyst position at WilTel in Tulsa.

Go Fish!

If the vast majority of job applicants can be compared to all sea life (including bottom-feeders and seaweed), Career Center director John Brown says the students and alumni at ORU represent a pond stocked with only the finest

salmon. That means that wherever you sink your pole in the ORU pool, you're going to catch something good. In fact, a 2002 survey of Tulsa-area employers commissioned by the Tulsa Metro Chamber of Commerce ranked ORU graduates #1 in employee quality, above every other major university, college, high school, and technical/technology center in northeast Oklahoma.

If you would like to hook enthusiastic, well-qualified, and highly ethical men and women to fill any open positions in your department or company, please contact the CCGC at 918/495-6912 or careers@oru.edu for more information. ■

My experience with the Career Center was wonderful. I feel that I was well-prepared to find a job and was given adequate opportunities to make connections with people hiring for my field. The Career Center staff members were very interested in my success and making sure I was prepared to compete with others interviewing and applying for the same jobs. It is because of them that I found both my internship at WilTel Communications and my current position at Ernst & Young. I think I would have had a much more difficult time making contacts in order to get an interview without the help of CCGC."

**AMIE LORSON 02, ACCOUNTING MAJOR
ACCOUNTANT, ERNST & YOUNG**

"By the time I graduated from ORU in December of 2001, I already had a job waiting for me, and that is a direct result of the help and support I received from the Career Center at ORU. Before I used the center, I was so worried about where I would go after graduation, who would want to hire me . . . but the center helped break down the entire process for me and made it so incredibly easy to find something in my field. First, they helped me develop my résumé to highlight my strengths and skills. Then they offered many opportunities, through career fairs and on-campus interviews with various companies, to get in front of potential employers. Not only that, but the help [they gave me] will help me find future career opportunities - I still have my folder with all of the great handouts and informational items, and I know I will use it again!"

**STACY BROWN 01, MANAGEMENT MAJOR
BUSINESS ANALYST, WILTEL**

The Future Is WOW! 2003 grads get on with it . . .

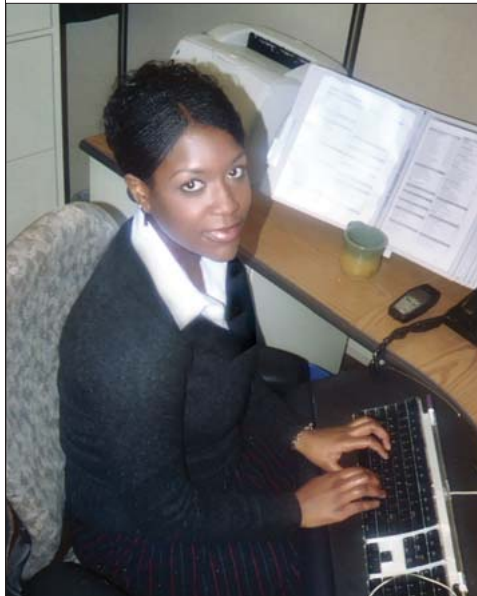
When we last checked in with our four rookies — the May 2003 graduates who agreed to let us follow them for their first year out of college — they were in various states of employment, happiness, and certainty about the future. Where are they now? And what does the great void known as “the rest of my life” hold for them?

Jessica Allen finally found that writing job she was looking for — and is refining her plans for graduate school. In late October, she became assistant editor in the marketing communications department at Wheaton College, where she edits (and writes for) the alumni magazine, coordinates external advertising for the Christian college, and fulfills various other marketing-related responsibilities.

It’s a familiar role for Allen, who spent time as a student writer for *Excellence* and the ORU alumni Web site. Now, however, she’s the one making assignments and having a direct hand in shepherding the entire publication into being — good experience for her future plans to edit her own magazine.

“The best part of this position is feeling like I’m in God’s will,” she says. “I know I’m in the right place. God has made my transition from college to the work world very smooth, and I’m so blessed and humbled by that. You know, ORU was like an incubator, where I learned and grew so much . . . and now I’m hatched!”

Part of what she’s learned since her “hatching” is that, for her, graduate school will happen — just not yet. “When I decided not to pursue graduate school immediately, I felt a lot of peace in my decision. The timing just



Jessica Allen has always had the “write stuff.” Now she’s proving it in her job as assistant editor in Wheaton College’s marketing communications department.

isn’t right. So now I’m just taking life as it comes and letting God massage the timing and bend my will to His. For now, I’m happy here, I’m getting great experience, and when I do go to graduate school I’ll be so much more focused and ready for it.”

Hey, **Valerie Hawkins**, you just graduated from ORU. What are you going to do now? “I’m going to Disney World!” Well, sort of. In January, Hawkins moved to Orlando, Fla., to begin a six-month internship in marine work at the Living Seas Aquarium-Epcot. With her marine science degree from ORU, it’s a nice fit, she says, and she’s learning a great

deal — though, in many cases, more about the creatures *above* water than below. “Since I have been here,” she writes, “I have learned a lot about different people and that not everyone believes in Jesus or is interested in knowing about Him.” Fear not, however! “I try to spread the name of Jesus whenever I can . . . I thank God for ORU, for it has prepared me for ‘the real world’ and I can face my challenges knowing that He is with me.”

And what about **Wes Pebsworth**? Oh, he’s not busy at all — just working around 60 to 70 hours a week at two different jobs, volunteering as a Big Brother, practicing his Spanish with native speakers, and socializing with friends. Although he’s still working part-time at the Bethesda Boys Home and loves it, he accepted a full-time position at Homeland Federal Mortgage in Tulsa in October as an assistant loan officer. He’s surrounded by ORU alumni at both places and gets back to campus frequently to visit friends who are still students. “I’ve really discovered just how incredibly blessed I am to have been at ORU,” he says. “I appreciate so much what I learned about myself and God, and the deep, lifelong friendships I made with other students. Talking to other people who went to different schools, I realize now how unusual that is.”

Richard Dancer has fallen off our radar. We’ve sent the two Mars rovers — aptly named Opportunity and Spirit — out to find him. ■

Tune in for our last installment of “New Grads Move On,” coming to you in the summer issue of Excellence.

Making Waves in the World

Last summer, ORU missions teams tilled the soil in 16 countries and reaped a harvest of 1,029 salvations, 385 rededications, and 74 healings. The 349 students who toiled for anywhere from one week to one month in places as diverse as the Czech Republic, Portugal, and Australia had the time of their lives introducing eternal life to thousands of people. Three of the teams — Mexico, Nigeria, and Ghana — were medical in nature.

church in the backyard of a house. I just kept praying that God’s words would come out of my mouth and not my own. When I gave the altar call to pray, the WHOLE church came up.”

An Italy team member witnessed an unusual act of salvation: “A team member was walking with an interpreter from England and they noticed an old woman who was crying, sitting with her two dogs. As the team member

approached, one of the dogs walked up to her. It was very sick. It sounds funny but, after they prayed for the woman and the dog, the dog was healed and revived. Two days later, the retired teacher gave her life to the Lord.”

“Missions allows ORU students to participate firsthand in the ministry of healing evangelism,” said Russell. And, “Miracles [on missions trips] are one of the greatest prerequisites for salvation.” ■

For more information or to lend support, go to <http://missions.oru.edu>.



Rebecca Jackson (second from left) and Jared Stepp (playing guitar) made music in Hungary.

According to Missions director Dennis Russell, interest in missions is at an all-time high. “If our numbers continue the way they are going, this summer (2004) will be the biggest participation in history,” he said, adding that several new countries are on the list for 2004, including Scotland, Singapore, Japan, Puerto Rico, and the Ivory Coast.

It’s not all about numbers, however. It’s about changed lives.

“My most memorable ministry experience was the night I preached,” said a Brazil II team member. “There were probably 50 people there in a small

Thanks for the memory . . .

The computer science/math department declares that “auld acquaintance” should not be forgot(ten). Who would want to forget dear friends who have become such a big part of your life?

At the first-ever Oct. 3 faculty reunion, Dr. Debbie Sowell, who is now the dean of Instruction at ORU, says that the group “threw out old memories and talked. Verbal Snook (original department chairman) kept saying, ‘We were the best.’ We had displays — pictures, samples of work, yearbooks. We had a fish fry on Saturday; it was an annual event in the early days. Doug (Foster) and Lavoy (Hatchett) caught the fish, and we went to Doug’s house and ate them.

“We were a close group,” Dr. Sowell said. “When we got back together, we picked up where we left off.” ■



The sum of all years. Front row, L to R: Verbal Snook, Debbie Sowell, Dollie Howell Pankey, Georganne Haney, Cindy Jackson, Lavoy Hatchett. Back row, L to R: Scott Carr, Jeff Jackson, Jacques LaFrance, Bob Sanders, Richard Thiessen, Russ Sowell, Doug Foster, Dave Eland.

The ORU Alumni Foundation Annual Report

This excerpt was derived from audited statements, which may be reviewed in the Alumni Office.

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

August 1, 2002 - July 31, 2003

	FY 2003	FY 2002
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 724,343	\$ 778,951
Pledges receivable	79,297	107,941
Note receivable	198,872	-
Other receivables	11,263	-
Investments	162,144	312,322
Other	43,783	38,590
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,219,702</u>	<u>\$ 1,237,804</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 6,738	\$ 23,763
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	80,243	199,354
Temporarily restricted	788,495	674,486
Permanently restricted	344,226	340,201
Total net assets	<u>1,212,964</u>	<u>1,214,041</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 1,219,702</u>	<u>\$ 1,237,804</u>

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	FY 2003 Total	FY 2002 Total
Revenues					
Contributions					
Cash	\$ 208,286	\$ 454,176	\$ 4,025	\$ 666,487	\$ 786,914
In-kind services from the Univ.	145,286	-	-	145,286	231,601
Interest and dividend income	15,355	-	-	15,355	12,367
Realized and unrealized investment (loss)	(19,330)	-	-	(19,330)	(41,535)
Other income	58,198	-	-	58,198	86,699
Net assets released from restrictions	340.167	(340,167)	-	-	-
Total revenues	<u>747,962</u>	<u>114,009</u>	<u>4,025</u>	<u>865,996</u>	<u>1,076,046</u>
Expenses					
Program services					
General University support	420,144	-	-	420,144	375,489
Publications and other	159,772	-	-	159,772	164,961
Management and general	182,694	-	-	182,694	366,043
Fundraising	104,463	-	-	104,463	106,374
Total expenses	<u>867,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>867,073</u>	<u>1,012,867</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(119,111)	114,009	4,025	(1,077)	63,179
Net assets, beginning of year	199,354	674,486	340,201	1,214,041	1,150,862
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 80,243</u>	<u>\$ 788,495</u>	<u>\$ 344,226</u>	<u>\$ 1,212,964</u>	<u>\$ 1,214,041</u>

Note: Alumni contributions made directly to the University are reflected in the Oral Roberts University financial statements on page 21.

ORU ALUMNI FOUNDATION

Financial Report Summary

For the year ended July 31, 2003

Since its inception in 1989, the ORU Alumni Foundation has been committed to supporting the university by raising financial support from alumni and friends of the university.

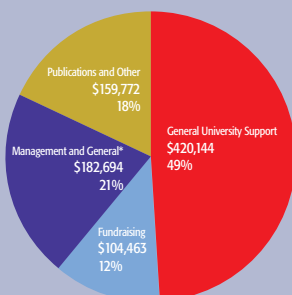
This year, the foundation raised a total of \$666,487. While that figure is down 15 percent from last year, Unrestricted contributions were down only 4 percent. Unrestricted contributions fund the Alumni Foundation's operating expenses and provide funds for the annual Faculty Retreat, gift Bibles for new graduates, and alumni events in various cities across the country. Temporarily Restricted contributions fund scholarships, the Student Center, the new bridge for the rerouting of Fred Creek, and various departmental needs.

Expenses of \$867,073 reflect a decrease from last year of 14 percent. The only area that experienced an increase was General University Support. This line represents expenditures from Temporarily Restricted contributions. These funds are expended as departments request them. Some of these expenditures over the past year included: an airplane project for the Engineering department that will result in a single-propeller craft, similar to a Cessna 182; a new production lab for the Communication Arts department; and scholarships for Music majors. A decline in Management and General Expenses was a result of major enhancements to both computer hardware and software during 2002. In 2003, the alumni Web site was improved by adding an online community. With the online community, alumni are able to register for Homecoming on the Web, identify who is coming to events, set up personal profiles that can be viewed by other alumni, and send e-mails to specific groups of alumni. The Alumni Office can now notify alumni in the Tulsa area of ORU's annual Family Christmas program, send reminders of class reunions for appropriate classes, and notify alumni when representatives of the Alumni Foundation are visiting a particular city. These notifications have decreased mailing costs and increased participation in these events. Significant savings have been realized by changing the provider for credit card transactions, resulting in lower transaction fees.

Looking ahead to a new fiscal year, the Alumni Office is focusing on the Annual Fund Campaign, which will generate more contributions toward Unrestricted funds. The campaign has been designed to give alumni air miles credit in exchange for their donations. The alumni logo has been redesigned to mimic the outline of the Learning Resources Center, where alumni spent countless hours as students, preparing to "go into every person's world."

How Your Money Was Spent

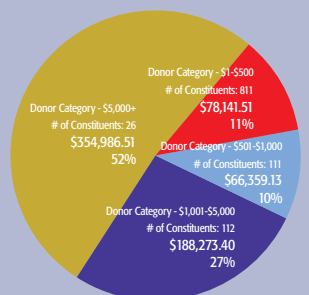
ORU Alumni Foundation
Fiscal Year 2002-03



*Includes \$145,286 of In-Kind Services from the University

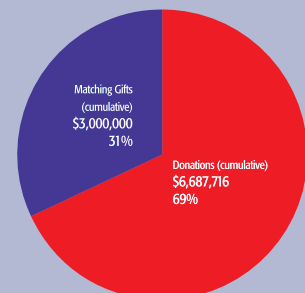
Donor Category Report

ORU Alumni Foundation
Fiscal Year 2002-03



Donation History

ORU Alumni Foundation
1991-2003 (Fiscal Years)
Total All Gifts: \$9,687,716



The Oral Roberts University Annual Report
These are condensed statements that are derived from the audited financials.
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

August 1, 2002 - July 31, 2003

	FY 2003	FY 2002
Assets		
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 4,106,524	\$ 4,715,410
Receivables, net of allowances for doubtful accounts	2,748,214	5,886,963
Prepaid expenses	713,821	1,529,791
Pledges receivable	3,209,644	-
Loans to students, net of reserve for loan losses	19,325,816	19,122,932
Beneficial interest in assets of Alumni Foundation	1,212,964	1,214,041
Long-term investments — at cost, or market value at date of gift		
Securities — at cost, which approximates market	5,947,777	5,760,224
Endowment trust, net of notes receivable	3,881,777	3,880,565
Real estate and buildings, net of accumulated depreciation	52,690,859	56,673,244
Land and other	135,314	135,314
Educational plant, net of accumulated depreciation	77,851,034	76,557,127
Rock, mineral and artifact collection value at date of gift	2,425,235	2,425,235
	<u>\$ 174,248,979</u>	<u>\$ 177,900,846</u>
Liabilities and net assets		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 10,114,244	\$ 9,051,858
Deferred revenue	5,027,363	5,685,775
Life loans	882,936	780,828
Reserve for gift annuities	865,798	861,370
Notes payable	46,963,923	40,017,136
Obligations under capital leases	3,168,871	4,517,843
Refundable federal student loans	15,260,418	14,537,059
Total liabilities	<u>82,283,553</u>	<u>75,451,869</u>
Net assets	91,965,426	102,448,977
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 174,248,979</u>	<u>\$ 177,900,846</u>

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

August 1, 2002 - July 31, 2003

	FY 2003	FY 2002
Revenues, gains and other support		
Tuition and fees	\$ 43,129,731	\$ 41,449,772
Sales and services of auxiliary services	15,710,095	15,491,010
Less scholarships and fellowships	(17,109,936)	(16,952,199)
Net tuition, fees and sales and services of Auxiliary Services	41,729,890	39,988,583
Contributions and bequests	7,115,687	9,106,721
Other revenue	8,004,145	14,545,983
Total revenues, gains and other support	<u>56,849,722</u>	<u>63,641,287</u>
Expenses and losses		
Education and general	45,712,189	43,323,995
Auxiliary expenses	11,344,618	11,715,821
Depreciation	3,266,939	3,147,794
Interest on indebtedness	2,177,481	2,559,172
Other expenses	4,832,046	6,282,535
Total expenses and losses	<u>67,333,273</u>	<u>67,029,317</u>
Change in net assets before accumulative accounting change	(10,483,551)	(3,388,030)
Cumulative effect of accounting change	-	-
Decrease in net assets	-	(3,388,030)
Net assets, beginning of year	102,448,977	105,837,007
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 91,965,426</u>	<u>\$ 102,448,977</u>

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
Financial Report Summary

For the year ended July 31, 2003

(To accompany the audited financial statements for the 2002-2003 fiscal year)

In an era of corporate scandals, political controversies, and adverse economic conditions, Oral Roberts University is raising the bar for students in preparation for life's challenges. An internationally acclaimed university at the crossroads of America, ORU is the best choice for an atmosphere that empowers students to become excellent — ethically and academically — in their field of interest. The 263-acre campus has 24 architecturally distinct buildings, within which ORU's 5,418 students embrace the university's mission to graduate individuals who are spiritually alive, intellectually alert, physically disciplined, and socially adept.

The university's strong academic emphasis is enhanced by the institution-wide service learning program, community outreach projects, and missions opportunities. More than 35 academic and special-interest clubs offer social and leadership development opportunities for all students, complementing the 64 majors leading to the bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree, 10 master's degrees in Business, Education and Theology, and two doctoral degrees in Education and Theology. ORU is an NCAA Division I school, competing as a member of the Mid-Continent Conference, and sponsors 16 sports — eight each for men and women.

For the year ending July 31, 2003, tuition and fee revenues were \$43,129,731, an increase of \$1,679,959, while contributions and bequests totaled \$7,115,687. As was experienced at most universities, endowment and investment income decreased as a result of the downturn in the economy. However, other revenue increased \$1,236,929 over the previous year, reaching a total of \$4,241,403. Total revenue decreased about \$6.8 million, due primarily to an extraordinary gain recorded in the previous year, which resulted from the settlement of a canceled lease. This year's scholarships and fellowships equaled \$17,109,936, allowing the university to award an additional \$157,737 to worthy students compared with the previous year. (This number includes SEOG and Pell government grants.)

The university limited expenditures to an increase of less than one-half percent during the year. A decrease in interest on indebtedness helped in this cause. However, due to the decrease in expected revenue, the university experienced a significant negative change in net assets. In a proactive response to the revenue challenge, President Richard Roberts announced a new "Personal Gatherings" initiative. These more-intimate gatherings with current and potential major donors are designed to further develop existing relationships, as well as cultivate new sources of donor support.

ORU has a reputation for producing outstanding graduates. According to a survey of Tulsa-area employers commissioned by the Tulsa Metro Chamber of Commerce, ORU ranks first in quality of graduates from area institutions. About 4,500 alumni live in the Tulsa metropolitan area, with another 33,000 around the world.

Hall Monitor

ORU Hall of Fame enrollment reaches twenty-three.

Could it be that the Golden Eagles are intimidated by the presence of legends like Richard Fuqua 74 when they play their annual Hall of Fame game?

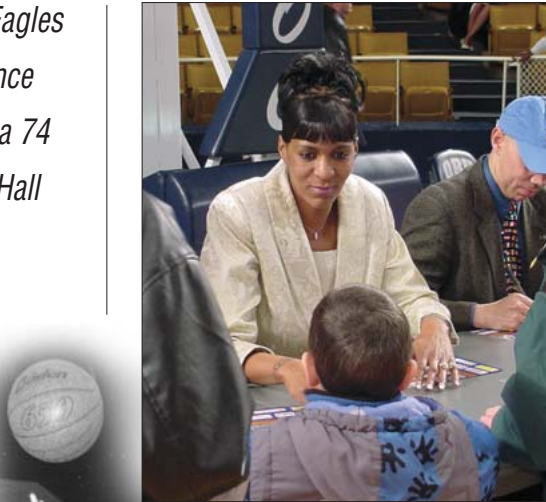
Not likely — although, given Fuqua’s exploits as a Titan, perhaps they should be! It just so happens that ORU has played the University of Missouri-Kansas City on Hall of Fame night two years in a row, and the Kangaroos seem to like the Mabee Center. This year, ORU lost 77-71. No matter. January 31 belonged to two athletes who, despite spending only two years at ORU, were simply *too much*.

Kisa Bradley: Center of Attention

The dress code almost stopped Kisa Bradley (A) from enrolling at Oral Roberts University. Fortunately, she overcame her aversion to wearing dresses and became a Golden Eagle basketball player.

On Jan. 31, nearly seven years after playing her last game — a 77-59 win over Alcorn State — at the Mabee Center, Bradley returned to the scene of her prime for induction into the Athletics Hall of Fame.

Kisa Bradley



Bradley listens to a question from an autograph-seeker.



“My mom called me and said, ‘ORU’s been looking for you,’” Bradley said. “They want to put you in the Hall of Fame.’ I was so shocked, so excited. I had butterflies. I said I couldn’t miss this for the world.”

Bradley, a native of Detroit, Mich., started playing basketball at the age of 6. Years later, in 1995, her talent caught ORU second-year coach Rick Napier’s eye and brought her to Tulsa. The 6’4” center proved her value to the team over the next two years. She set a school career-blocked-shots record (213) and averaged 22.3 points and 10 rebounds per season. She is the only women’s player in ORU history to average a double-double (minimum of 10 points/10

rebounds per game) for her career.

“I visited the campus and I liked it.” Bradley described her initial impressions of ORU during a pre-game luncheon interview at Charleston’s Restaurant in Tulsa. As a student, she found that “the coach was very good. Everybody on the team got along good. It was a great experience in my life.”

Great for ORU, too. In 1995-96, Bradley was tops in the nation with 4.4 blocks per game, earning honorable mention All-America honors from *Basketball Times*. For new head coach Jerry Finkbeiner in the 1996-97 season, Bradley led the team in scoring 24 out of 27 games.

“Kisa’s value to the team in 1996-97 was unquestioned,” Finkbeiner said. “If we needed points, go to Kisa. If we needed a big rebound, Kisa, you’ve got to get it for us! A player like Kisa comes around once every 10-15 years.”

After that second and final year, Bradley added third-team All-American (from Adidas/Blue Ribbon) to her list of accolades. She was drafted in the fourth round by the San Jose Lasers of the year-old American Basketball League. (The league suspended operations in 1998.)

After one year in the ABL, an experience she describes as “fun,” Bradley played ball in Italy. A knee injury drove her into retirement, and into a new career as a preschool teacher in Memphis, Tenn.

“I’ve gotten so attached to the little kids,” she said. The best experience of her life, she said, has been working with them, perhaps because she does not yet have children of her own. That could be changing in the near future. Bradley just moved into a new house, and she’s making plans to get married later this year.

Her days as a player might be over, but Bradley doesn’t seem to be through

with basketball. “I want to coach,” she said. There’s another dream on her mind, too. “I want to come back and finish my degree at ORU.”

Given the upbeat nature of this interview, Bradley appears to be a glass-is-half-full kind of person. “Life has been great so far,” she said. “So many things have happened in 29 years.”

Like her well-deserved induction into the Hall of Fame.

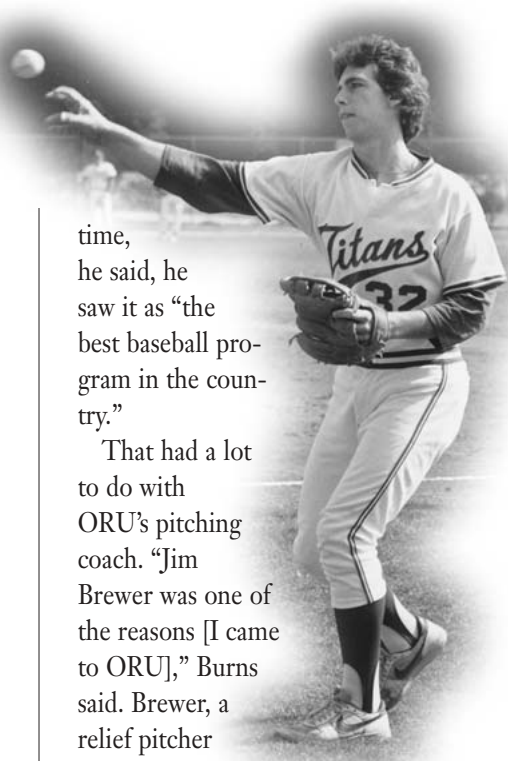
Todd Burns: What A Relief (Pitcher)

As an eight-year-old, Todd Burns (A) discovered that the sport of baseball fit him like a glove. By the age of eleven, he had found his true comfort zone on the pitcher’s mound. “My dad saw that I had a talent,” he said, and in no time Burns was enrolled at the Ron Lefebvre Pitching School in his native California. It was the beginning of a road trip that would eventually take him to the World Series.



Burns signs autographs for young fans.

Before that happy day arrived, however, there was plenty of work to do. Burns turned down offers from several schools and chose to play college ball at Oral Roberts University. At the



Todd Burns

time, he said, he saw it as “the best baseball program in the country.”

That had a lot to do with ORU’s pitching coach. “Jim Brewer was one of the reasons [I came to ORU],” Burns said. Brewer, a relief pitcher who spent most of his 17-year career with the Los Angeles Dodgers, had become something of a legend.

The high point of Burns’ ORU career came in 1983, his first season. The Titans, as the team was then known, won the prestigious Riverside Tournament and earned a ranking of No. 1 in the nation. “We were not really aware of how good we were,” Burns confessed. “It was just, go out and play. Just do it. I carried that attitude through my major league career. I never looked at my accomplishments until it was all over with.”

When it came to life after ORU — where he had a 15-5 career record and 23 career saves (second best in ORU history), and earned first-team All-America honors from *Collegiate Baseball* — Burns again didn’t stress out. “I didn’t really look that far ahead,” he said. “Until the end of my sophomore year, or the beginning of my junior year, I didn’t think I had the potential to play professionally.”

That’s not how others saw him. He was selected in the seventh round of the 1984 major league draft by the Oakland Athletics and moved up to

the parent club in 1988. What followed were three consecutive trips to the World Series; Oakland won in 1989. That year, Burns went 6-5, racked up eight saves, and played a key role in games three and four of the Series.

In 1986, Burns made a mistake that he would never make again: he didn’t work out during the winter months. When the season began, he tore a small muscle in his deltoid, an injury that wasn’t discovered until 1995. The key to his ability to play on? “I had such good mechanics,” he said. Which leads us to what Todd Burns is doing today . . .

Huntsville, Ala., is known more for football than baseball, but Burns is on his way to changing all that. In 1995, he created the Todd Burns School of Baseball. It’s a coed school for ages 9 through college. “We’re the only game in town,” Burns said. And the school focuses on mechanics.

Burns had hoped to play in the majors for ten years, but by 1996, he said, he had “lost the fire to play” and was ready to move on.

“This is what I wanted to do,” he said of his new career. And seeing as how Huntsville has “a long way to go on their baseball,” Burns is happy to work toward making his sport his new hometown’s favorite pastime.

At the Hall of Fame luncheon on Jan. 31, Burns described his reaction to his upcoming induction as “a shock, a surprise, an honor.” He had not been back to Tulsa since he played his last game at J.L. Johnson Stadium in 1984.

With 190 students enrolled at his school and a second marriage in his future, you could say that this former ORU pitcher has plenty on his plate. ■

'I come from a land down under...'

Luke Spencer-Gardner, a senior guard who hails from Melbourne, Australia, has the distinction of being the first ORU athlete immortalized as a bobblehead. This popular promotional piece was handed out at an ORU home game this season.

Ironically, Spencer-Gardner did not suit up for a single regular-season game in 2003-04, thanks to an injury he suffered during the Golden Eagles' second exhibition game on Nov. 15 against — more irony — the Australia-based Raiders Select, who are coached by Spencer-Gardner's former coach, Damian Cotter.

As Spencer-Gardner redshirted, his teammates — to borrow a Luke-ism — said, "No worries," and proceeded to have themselves an amazing year (17-10), which included an eight-game winning streak.

Freshmen Ken Tutt (Garland, Tex.) and Caleb Green (Tulsa) hit the fast-forward button and displayed talent and maturity beyond their years. At season's end, CollegeInsider.Com picked Tutt as the NCAA Division I Mid-Major Freshman of the Year. Tutt

also earned Mid-Continent Conference Newcomer of the Year, and with Green, was named to the league's first-team all-conference team — an achievement that marked the first time two true freshmen had been so honored. Green led the Mid-Con in rebounds (9.9) and shooting percentage (.598).

The men lost to University of Missouri-Kansas City in the first round of the Mid-Con Tournament on March 7 by an 86-73 score, but their female counterparts were not so easily put away.

The women had taken their 15-12 record into the tournament on March 6 and defied the odds by beating Oakland, 57-49. Coming back two days later, Leah Cannon (Adelaide, Australia) and Elisha Turek (Council Bluffs, Ia.) put together 49 points and led the ladies to another miracle win, as ORU eliminated top-seeded Western Illinois in overtime, 72-70.

On March 9, playing in the title game for the third time in six years, ORU hung tough until the final second, losing to Valparaiso, 64-63, when a jump shot by Katie Langford (Arthurton, South Australia) rolled out. Cannon's undeniable contributions earned her the tournament's MVP award.

Despite the loss, eighth-year head coach Jerry Finkbeiner—the winningest coach in ORU women's basketball history — and his team had plenty to celebrate in 2003-04. Sophomore guard Cannon broke the Mid-Con's single-season assists record, with 210, and was named to the Mid-Con's second team. At the end of the regular season, Cannon ranked second in the nation in assists per game (8.4)



Nodding off? Not #5.
Luke Spencer-Gardner will be ready for action when the 2004-05 season begins in November.

and third in total assists.

Freshman forward Turek won two Mid-Con honors: she was named to the first team, and selected Newcomer of the Year. She led ORU in scoring (14.5) and rebounding (9.0).

The Tulsa community obviously has caught on to the fact that something good is happening in ORU basketball. Home attendance for the men this year averaged 5,575 for a total of 72,481 — highest in 21 years. The women averaged 853 per game.

With such stability in the coaching staffs (men's head coach Scott Sutton just completed his fifth season and is the second winningest men's coach in ORU history), it's not surprising that the folks in Athletics are high on these teams.

"I'm extremely proud of Scott Sutton and Jerry Finkbeiner and their programs," said Mike Carter, who is in his tenth year as director of Athletics. "Both coaches fought through significant player losses and injuries to complete successful seasons. And, with all the young players [on board], we look forward to better years ahead." ■

Ron Bertovich, commissioner of the Mid-Continent Conference, has announced that both the 2005 and 2006 Mid-Con postseason basketball tournaments will be held in Tulsa, Okla. Games will be played at the new Union Multipurpose Activity Center, which holds 5,600.

Olympics Boost Alumni Careers

By Jennifer Joy Carter, Class of 2005

According to **Jay Shennum 87**, ORU telecommunications graduate and winner of two National Emmy Awards for Technical Achievement, his accomplishments are directly rooted in his experience at ORU. “I could look back nearly 20 years and attribute my entire career to my education in TV at ORU,” said Shennum. “The only job I ever got from my résumé was my first job at ABC Network in New York.”

NBC awarded Shennum’s second Emmy to him and his co-workers in early September 2003 in the category of “Technical Team-Remote,” referring to jobs conducted “on location.” The team’s “location” was coverage of the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games’ opening and closing ceremonies and downhill skiing events.

The first Emmy Shennum received was for services he provided to ESPN’s X-Games at the 1996 Summer



JAY SHENNUM

Olympics. As a former general manager of a technology-based company in Los Angeles, Shennum supplied new and innovative “point of view” (POV) camera angles and the technology to pro-

vide those angles without the use of cables and wires.

“These new processes, such as Skydiver Cam, Land Luge Cam,

BRETT LANGEFELS

Extreme Air Motorcycle Cam, and so on, contributed to the ESPN team’s ability to cover sporting events in new and interesting ways,” said Shennum.

Until recently, Shennum ran his own company, Shennum Communications Group, Inc., in Charlotte, N.C. Now he’s the manager of MediaComm Mobile, a TV production facility in Charlotte. The job is “a God thing” and “an answer to prayer,” he said, because it allows him to bring “nearly 20 years of secular TV experience back to what is essentially a ministry-owned operation.”

Education and experience laid the foundation for Shennum’s success, but he reveres his spiritual roots as well. “From an educational perspective,” he said, “ORU prepared me well, but I would have to say that the spiritual grounding I received there has helped me the most through the years.”

Just down the coast from Shennum is ORU film alumnus **Brett Langefels 91**. This Marietta, Ga., resident received the Individual National Sports Emmy for Outstanding Editing for his concluding credits bit of “Remember the Titans” for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. He accepted the Emmy from presenter Donald Trump on April 21, 2003, during a ceremony in New York.

The postproduction duo of Langefels and Craig Barry, creative director for Turner Sports and producer of the project, is accountable for editing all opens and teases for sports broadcasts on TNT and TBS.

While pursuing a film degree at ORU, Langefels’ responsibilities included running live camera and producing, shooting, and editing segments for the daily “Richard Roberts Live” program. He also edited the 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. regional newscasts for Tulsa’s CBS affiliate while attending classes full-time. “The talents and skills required to edit were certainly cultivated at ORU,” said Langefels. “However, I edited every day at ORTV and CBS. So, my involvements went well beyond the curriculum at ORU.”

After graduation, Langefels started his own company, Fini Non-Linear Post Production, Inc. He eventually sold it and turned to freelance editing. Then came the new gig with Turner Sports.

At Turner Studios, Langefels and Barry quickly raised the bar for the studio’s underdeveloped sports editing. Their hard work paid off when NBC asked them to do the “Prime Time Close” for the 2002 Olympic Games.

Langefels’ interests extend to movie-editing and assisting nonprofit causes. “Unlike many of my contemporaries, God chose to put me to work in ‘secular’ endeavors,” said Langefels. “So, I have to look for opportunities to use my skills for God.” ■

Notes From Alumni

1970s

Tim 72 and Annamae (A) Cameron work at Metro Christian Academy, a college preparatory academy in Tulsa. Tim is in his sixth year as headmaster after being a 6-A principal in the Tulsa area, and Annamae is a K-4 teacher assistant. They have five children: Joe, 30, a writer; Tina, 28, an RN; Liz, 23, a 3rd-year nursing student; Rachael, 18, a freshman at Seattle Pacific University; and Steve, 16, a student at MCA.

Bob Armstrong 73 reports that hundreds of pastors were trained again last year in Nicaragua. This year will be the 15th anniversary of his conference. He spends most of his time as chairman of the board of Freedom Solutions International, Inc., in promoting financial centers around the country, to help people get out (and stay out) of debt. He and wife Kim have one daughter, Brittany, who is almost 12.

Rosemary Nachtigall-Friesen 73 tells *Excellence*, "Being part of ORU and the outreach [as a World Action Singer] and learning to know Evelyn and Oral Roberts was a treasure." After years of teaching, Rosemary has retired to the gardens that she and husband T.D. Friesen established in 1984. The Squaw Valley Herb Gardens is located near Kings Canyon and Sequoia national parks. Here they present

Garden Theater Tours to groups. Rosemary explains, "It's a little of being an artist, musician, teacher, chef, and farm girl sharing simple ways to use herbs. It's a fascinating weave of botany, cultural anthropology, and history." Rosemary lectures at the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show. Recently, she and T.D. were featured on a PBS special on California Agriculture. Web site: www.squawvalleyherbgardens.com.

Brothers Wayne 75 and Clay 78 Jacobsen have written a new book together. *Authentic Relationships: Discover the Lost Art of "One Anothering"* was released in August 2003. This book examines and illustrates the incredible joy and freedom that results from Jesus-centered friendships. Web site: www.lifestream.org.

Randy 75 and Janet McAllister (A) Sterns adopted their first daughter, Tasha, in 1978 and their second daughter, Anjuli, in 1982 — both from the same orphanage in India. Janet gave birth to Tyler in 1987 and to their youngest child, Paige, in 1995. In 1991, they adopted five-year-old Chad from an overcrowded Cambodian orphanage. Randy is a partner at the Tampa law firm, Bush, Ross, Gardner, Warren, & Rudy, and Janet is a homemaker.

George Elswick 76 participated in the Oklahoma City 2003 Senior Games, taking gold medals in tennis, table tennis, javelin and discus, a silver medal in shot put, bronze medals for long jump and

100-meter run, and a fourth-place ribbon for racquetball. "I'm glad I came back to ORU in the fall of 1975 to finish my degree, after attending from 1967 to 1971," he says. "The Aerobics Center had been added to the campus, and watching Oral and Evelyn Roberts faithfully going around the track every week helped me understand that physical activity should be a lifelong endeavor." George is the mail-room supervisor at the Oklahoma United Methodist Conference Ministry Center and has been there ten years. He has two sons: Charles, 18, and Jim, 16.

Thomas Santo 77 is the principal of Zane North School in Collingswood, N.J. In October 2003, he received a Character Education Partnership Citation for innovation in working with students.

Mark 78, 80 MBA and Paula McGregor 77 Sterns and sons Tyler, a junior in high school, and Matthew, a sophomore at ORU, enjoyed trips to Scotland, England, Montreal, and Japan last year. Mark operates Higher Power Aviation and loves being with pilots from all over the U.S. and the world. Paula is PTSA president for the second year and is involved in civic affairs for the Arlington School District.

Ken White 79 is director of the health administration pro-

gram that was ranked #5 in the U.S. by *U.S. News and World Report*. More recently, he was elected to serve a three-year term on the American College of Healthcare Executives Board of Governors, a professional association with more than 32,000 members. He writes, "I love my work and our students and feel privileged to have had a good education at ORU." He is the author of *The Well-Managed Healthcare Organization*, 5th edition and *Thinking Forward: Six Strategies for Highly Successful Organizations*, both published by Health Administration Press, Chicago.

1980s

Dave Burrows 80 co-authored a book with former Bahamian government cabinet minister Zhivargo Laing. *College, Career, & Money* was released in September 2003. It provides a wealth of information to help prepare teens for the post-high school years by addressing critical choices they have to make, from choosing a college to deciding on a career. www.bfmmm.com or www.youthalive1.com

The **Stephen Mansfield 81** book, *The Faith of George W. Bush*, has hit *The New York Times* bestseller list. Stephen is the author of numerous books on history and leadership, including *Never Give In: The Extraordinary Character of Winston Churchill*. www.mansfieldgroup.com.



CAMERON 72



ARMSTRONG 73



NACHTIGALL-FRIESEN 73



W. JACOBSEN 75



STERNs 75

Ed Fortenberry 83 married Norma Vieira in her hometown of Belo Horizonte, Brazil, on Oct. 18.

Kevin 85 and Karen Dee (A) Hardin have three children: Michael, 8, Holly, 5, and Joshua, 3. They have been ministering in China for the past 14 years through China Call, Inc., a ministry that they founded together. Kevin tells *Excellence*, "In the past year-and-a-half, God has opened the door for us to bring character-building seminars into the Chinese public schools where we have been able to share life-changing testimonies with more than 20,000 students. Each outreach, we are joined by a performance-based ministry such as sports, drama, or worship teams. If you are interested in joining one of our outreaches to China, please contact us at chcall@gorilla.net. We would love to hear from you." Karen has written a book, *Seasons of Life: Reflections to Celebrate the Heart of a Woman*, which was released in March. It shares stories, scriptural resources, and insights from various women including First Lady Laura Bush, Stormie Omartian, Denise Jones (Point of Grace), and many others. **Dr. Robert Blair 86** was awarded the 2003 Outstanding Career and Technical Educator of the Year award from the Tennessee Association for Career and Technical Education in July. He is an assistant professor of business education and director

of the Center for Economic Education in the Jennings and Rebecca Jones College of Business at Middle Tennessee State University.

Denise Crosswhite Hader 87, former congressional aide, announced her candidacy for Oklahoma State Senate in September. She says that this decision came after much thought, prayer, and discussions with family and friends. "I believe I can offer the residents of Senate District 47 a unique blend of experiences, as well as the commitment to always place their interests first while in the legislature." The primary will take place in July, with the general election in November.

Lisa Nutt 87 Harper tells *Excellence*, "On Oct. 5, 2003, I finished the Detroit Free Press Marathon (26.2 miles) in three hours and 47 minutes . . . without walking once!" God put this adventure on her heart to raise money for missions. Some of the missionaries who received funds were ORU alumni: **Randy 86** and **Becky Thatcher 86 Coates** and **Barry 87** and **Karen Thiesen 87 Keagy**. Lisa raised about \$3,000 for them. Husband of 18 years **Scott 85** is a senior pastor at First Assembly of God in Dearborn Heights, Mich.

Bill Boylan 87 M.A.Th., 88 M.A.Ed. has recently pub-

lished his second book. *LIFE Giving* is a systematic approach about giving to God based upon seed-faith principles learned from Oral Roberts. It revitalized giving for numerous Christians and is being used as a stewardship study guide in many churches and adult classes. Bill and wife Anne live on a beautiful island paradise off the southern coast of Alabama. Bill also maintains a popular ministry Web site at www.leservices.org.

Paul 88 and Heather Bates 88 Farah became foster parents in 1997 and have had nine children come through their home. They recently moved to a bigger house and are in the process of adopting five former foster children who all have the same mother. In January, they celebrated 16 years of marriage. They would love to hear from anyone who remembers or roomed with them.

Vincent Donaldson 88 teaches at Madison Middle School (Tulsa Public Schools) and is working on his Ph.D. He also has a goal of becoming a school principal and is very active in politics. Recently, he was sent to Afghanistan for about a year with the Oklahoma National Guard, Task Force Phoenix Mission.

Bonnie Libby 89 earned a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro on

May 16, 2003. Her dissertation was titled *A Language of Incarnation: The Gospel Parables in Piers Plowman*.

1990s

Robert Brown 90 released his autobiography in August 2002. In 1992, he was diagnosed with Acute Myelogenous Leukemia, but he's been cancer-free for 10 years. He writes, "As a result of my struggle with cancer, God has revealed things to me about the depths of His character, the purpose of suffering, and the mystery of divine healing that have transformed my life. It's those insights and experiences that I share in my book." *Coming to Terms with the Potter* "chronicles my struggles to reconcile God's purposes with my own as I made the long road back from the brink of death. I almost died several times, and the doctors and nurses in charge of my care still refer to me as a modern miracle." He is a licensed professional counselor at McLean Bible Church (Vienna, Va.) where he specializes in treating individuals and families struggling with issues of sex addiction and relational brokenness. The president of his publisher (Xulon Press) is **Thomas Freiling 88**. Tom's younger brother, **Bob 92**, was on Rob's wing.



ELSWICK 76



WHITE 79



BURROWS 80



MANSFIELD 81



HARDIN 85

Notes From Alumni

Julie Williams 90 Dees has relocated to the Oklahoma City area because her husband is attending the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine. She is homeschooling their two young children. She would love to hear from old friends.

Derek 90 and Tammy Farias (A) Leupen, married for 11 years, have been blessed with four children: Kristen, Charles, Dennis, and Megan. Five years ago, Derek started an advertising company in Dallas, and in 2002, they opened a branch office in Houston. He writes, "God has been faithful. We would love to hear from anyone we know."

Johnie Hampton 91 and his wife, Krystal, announce the arrival of Zane Hollis, born Aug. 9 weighing six pounds, 11 ounces. (He is five months old in this photo.)

David Michael 91 released a book last August. *The Indie Game Development Survival Guide* is a computer game development book. The book is listed on Amazon.com. He and his wife, **Susan Sparks (A)**, have two children, Davis, 10, and Serene, 2. Susan is homeschooling their children and facilitating writing groups and workshops for the Tulsa Arts and Humanities Council.

Kenneth Aldous, Esq. 92 was awarded a postgraduate diploma in European community law (with "merit" honors) from King's College London in July 2003. He is an associate attorney in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution department in the Manhattan office of Proskauer Rose LLP.

Joel Arnold 92 has been living in Sydney, Australia, for nearly five years with his wife, Nirusha, and their daughter, Hannah, who is almost two. He's a technology manager for Telecom NZ, providing IT&T solutions to large corporate customers. Nirusha is an endocrinologist at a local hospital. He tells *Excellence*, "I enjoy living 'down under' in sunny Sydney, but do miss ORU and all the friends I made while I was there."

Becky Williamson 92 Ussery and husband Mike are pleased to announce the birth of their twin girls, Haily and Paige, born Oct. 20, 2002. They join siblings Tucker, 5, and Tatum, 3.

Tiana Londoff 93 is the founder, producer, and advisor of askTiana.com, one of the few not-for-profit Web sites offering immediate advice. It's an interactive site contributing three areas of help: *Just askT*, a forum to vent problems and discuss issues, *Life's Rules*, a sounding board for being assertive and speaking one's mind,

and *Court Room*, a moral assembly for settling bets or exposing bad business transactions.

Jeff 93 and Heidi Larson (A) Ross and their two young children, Bailee and Parker, have moved to Little Rock, Ark. Their company, Jescro, Inc., recently purchased the franchise "Showhomes of America" for the central Arkansas region (www.arshowhomes.com). Jeff, an insurance adjuster, and Heidi, an RN, work together in their new business of staging and decorating vacant houses. Jeff also serves on the ORU Alumni Board for Segment V (1991-94). He writes, "Both Bailee and Parker are excited that they live closer to Tulsa. They attended their first ORU basketball game last season"; two new Golden Eagle fans-in-training!

Joseph "Arlie" 93 and Wendy Pruet 92, 97 MBA Whitlow moved to Gainesville, Va., to plant a new church, Victory's Crossing. They had more than 100 people at their first service on Sept. 14. Arlie writes, "Wendy plays incredible host and has been able to make our new church members feel like family. Moriah and Emily [our two young daughters] love to sing and dance, and are going to be great additions to the worship team." Web site: www.victoryscrossing.com **Kimberly Cearley 94** is still in Germany, serving as a missionary with Wycliffe Bible

Translators. She teaches music at the Black Forest Academy and will complete her assignment at the end of this school year. In the photo, Kimberly is participating in a German tradition in which the cows come down the mountain for the winter, and they have a big festival with food and lots of fun.

Alumni Board member **Natasha Washington 94** is a features copy editor and staff writer for *The Oklahoman*. In September, she received the Black Liberated Arts Center (BLAC), Inc. Media Award for her coverage of the Charlie Christian International Jazz Festival in Oklahoma City last June. This annual award is given in recognition of outstanding media coverage. She tells *Excellence*, "The award was surprising because I worked so hard on the stories involving the organization that gave it to me. The most pleasant experience was meeting Branford Marsalis and Isaac Hayes, who headlined the Jazz Festival. Mr. Hayes, especially, was fun and down-to-earth. It's a blessing to come across those opportunities." She also won a "Best of Month" for her work on the festival.

Hayley Malone 96 married Max Crocker "in a rustic mountain chapel" in Mentone, Ala., on Aug. 30. They both sell television advertising and are involved with



BLAIR 86



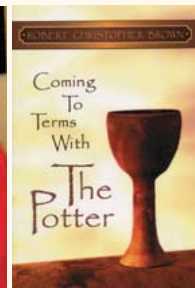
CROSSWHITE 87



HARPER 87



BOYLAN 87



BROWN 90

the media team at their church in Chattanooga.

Wendy Beasley 96 Ratcliff gave birth to a baby boy, Joshua Logan, on Sept. 4. He weighed seven pounds, two ounces. Wendy writes, "Big sister Alexis is sooo happy and excited to have him around." Wendy and family also moved from Houston to El Paso, where she was born and raised.

Christy Foster 97 married Thaddeus "Thad" Andrews on June 7. In 1999, Christy earned a master's in music performance at Texas Tech. She is an adjunct clarinet instructor at ORU and a regular member of the Signature Symphony, and performs with the Tulsa Clarinet Quartet. She also teaches private clarinet and saxophone lessons and master classes in the Tulsa area. Her Web site: www.clarinetsax.com. Thad is an applications engineer at Baker Oil Tools in Broken Arrow. He also leads worship for Harvest Time Prayer School and plays keyboard for Believers Church. They met as nine-year-olds at piano recitals. Then they attended the same high school for a couple of years, but they weren't reunited until three years ago. Christy writes, "I knew those piano lessons would come in handy someday!"

Blake Fite 98 and wife Laura have lived in Virginia for five years. She is a part-time marriage and family counselor for

Christian Psychotherapy Services and the guidance counselor for Oakridge Christian Academy. Blake is director of sales for the nonprofit division at EFT Corporation where he helps nonprofits start electronic monthly giving programs. He writes, "I would love to hear from some of my old friends!"

Ryan 99 and **Katie Statler 00 Bangert** welcomed the birth of their daughter, Hailey Grace, on June 12.

2000s

Debra Williams 00 has been teaching kindergarten in Florida for four years, and each summer she's traveled around the world on missions trips. She writes, "Hey to all my friends I had at ORU. God is so good, and I am blessed!! I love you and miss you!! Can't wait to hear from you!"

Liv Bandlien 01 moved to Norway in July 2001 to work in ministry with Living Word Church in Bergen. She's a cell group leader, street ministry leader, and co-leader of a Christian café to reach out to the young adults of Bergen. More recently, she's been an assistant teacher to a brain-damaged nine-year-old girl. She writes, "God is good! And Bergen, Norway, is

It's What's on Site That Counts

So your days at Oral Roberts University are done. Dorm life, thankfully, is a distant memory. But there are times when you want to touch base with an old roommate, check basketball scores, or see if ORU has won any awards lately for its architecture. What do you do?

The Alumni Association has the perfect answer for you. Just log on to <http://alumniweb.oru.edu> and see how easy it is to become the ultimate insider.

Our new online community gives you all-new options for staying in touch with classmates and the campus. Fill out your **User Profile** form and encourage your friends to do the same. (Post your photo, too.) Send and receive privacy-protected e-mail. Go to **Affinity Groups** to read — and report — all kinds of updates on your fellow wingmates, or RAs, or chaplains. (Who has given birth to triplets? Who is preparing for a three-month missions tour of China? Who has perfected her golf swing?) Check out **Event Registration** to sign up for events like Homecoming, or to see if any of your friends have registered.

There's a lot more on the site. Check it out!

Trust us: this is one "click" you'll want to join.

Test Drive this Purpose

Driven to make your life purposeful? Start with something small but powerful: simply open your mouth and tell young people in your life about ORU. Or pick up a phone and let ORU Admissions know about promising students we should contact. The number is 1-800-678-8876.



LEUPEN 90



HAMPTON 91



MICHAEL 91



ALDOUS 92



ARNOLD 92



USSERY 92

Notes From Alumni

beautiful." livlouise@hotmail.com
Charm Shockley 01 and **S.W. (A) Winrich** are doing great at Church on the Rock in Las Cruces where S.W. is an associate pastor and youth minister. He is also teaching K-6 music at a nearby elementary school. Charm is busy in graduate school and teaching 7th and 8th grade choir/music theory. Charm writes, "Life is good and we feel so blessed to be a part of the alumni of ORU. If you know us, let us know how you are and what God is doing in your lives. Love from New Mexico!"

Jessica Wiggins 02 married Nate Anderson on Sept. 21. They moved to Fort Worth and were offered a "God opportunity" to be the executive directors of a new charitable organization in Nate's late mother's name. The Lana Ondrey Foundation's main goal is to advance the lives of women and children around the world by providing homes, orphanages, and restoration programs to single women and abandoned children. It's involved with orphanages in South Africa and Romania. They've purchased a home for a single mother and her two children in Fort Worth and are in the process of helping her become self-sufficient through their restoration program. Jessica writes, "Our next big project is to purchase a large five-bedroom home that will house four single women with their children and

the house father and mother. In our 'spare time,' Nate and I serve as associate pastors in our local church. God is faithful and has proven to my husband and me that He will use whomever is willing to go and do!"

Joseph Brettell 03 has taken a job with the political consulting firm McNally, Temple and Associates, Inc., in California. Most recently, he was the campaign director for a Riverside County supervisor candidate — and may be the chief of staff if they were successful in the March election.

Associates

Bryan Davenport is living in Vancouver, Wash. He and wife Laura are associate pastors at the church they planted there (Peoples Church). He is finishing a master of divinity and will begin Ph.D. studies in renewal theology at Regent University soon. He writes, "I still believe ORU offers some of the best education anywhere."

E. Mark Huebner writes, "Look for my new book, *Sports Bloopers*, on Amazon.com . . . No matter how bad you screw something up, you will be consoled that others have done a lot worse in front of cameras and huge crowds. Send me your best shots. Advance orders for *Sports Bloopers* are so strong that 'Sports

Bloopers 2' is in the works." *Sports Bloopers* made the 2004 "Quick Pick" award list by the Young Adult Library Services Association of the American Library Association. Mark is an advertising copywriter living in Toronto with his wife, Stephanie, and their children, Mason, 11, and Veronica, 9.

Kingsley Keys is the band director at a magnet middle school in Springfield, Ill. He's also in the insurance biz as an independent broker for life and health coverage and annuities. He has mixed his insurance business with an Internet café coffee shop that he and his brother own; check it out at www.coffeewiththeinstein.com.

Jack Lombardo and wife Angel celebrated their second anniversary. Their daughter, Charisma-Joy, is one. He writes, "God is really changing the persona of this town (Salem, Mass.) from Witch City to City of Peace. We recently opened a Christian youth center along with two other area churches. We are growing rapidly and looking for a new facility in the near future. We are still praying for timing and location to launch Family of God International Church here in Salem. Keep us in your prayers. I'd love to hear from anyone that knew me at ORU, or alumni in the area."

Nathan Seaman is a chaplain assistant in the Army, serving in Afghanistan. His primary job in a combat zone is to provide security for the chaplain, who does not carry a weapon. They average about 50 people for services on weekends. Most recently, they did a study of sexual purity and spiritual integrity. Several men have been baptized, accepted Jesus as Lord, and rededicated their lives to Christ. "God's protecting hand has been upon us," Nathan writes. "My unit has had no major casualties and no major injuries. We have been here [since October] and most of our battles have been won without firing any shots."

Obituaries

Scott Bauer 95 D.Min., 49, died Oct. 24, 2003, after suffering an aneurysm hemorrhage at the conclusion of a church service two days earlier. Bauer was the senior pastor of The Church on the Way in Van Nuys, Calif., a Foursquare congregation founded by Jack Hayford, his father-in-law. He became senior pastor in 1999 after serving alongside Hayford for nearly 15 years. Scott is survived by his wife, Rebecca, children Brian, Kyle, and Lindsey, and his parents.

Rodd Bryson, born Oct. 27, 1966, died in 1990.

MORRIS KAT PHOTOGRAPHY



ROSS 93



WHITLOW 93



CEARLEY 94



WASHINGTON 94



MALONE 96

William Scott Carter, Esq. 92, born April 18, 1964, died on Jan. 15, 2004.

Tom Letko 89 went to be with his Lord Jesus unexpectedly at the age of 46 on Sept. 5, 2003. He earned a business degree at ORU and a master's in school business administration from the University of Wisconsin-Superior in 1993. At the time of his death, he was one of two election specialists for the State of Wisconsin's Election Board. His wife, **Amber Huber 89**, says, "He enjoyed his work and was very much appreciated for his knowledge, sincerity, and humor." Tom was active in Toastmasters International, most recently in the role of area governor. He was also active in his church and in the Christian schools that his children attend. "He was a loving and attentive husband and father and is greatly missed," says Amber. He is survived by Amber and their six children: Jonathan, Josiah, Charity, Faith, Hope, and Patience.

Shane Lyman, born July 6, 1978, died on Sept. 5, 2002. He attended ORU from 1997 to 2000.

Rev. Allen McColloch, born Jan. 25, 1947, died on Dec. 31, 2003. He was ordained in 1972. He is survived by his wife, Linda, and six children. Allen attended ORU from 1965 to 1969.

Inalegwu Omakwu 88 M.Div. died in February 2003. **Mike Yoakum 78** wrote, "Ina worked for me at ORU, was an outstanding student, won the Larry Lacour preaching award, went on to get another degree at CBN/Regent, and then went home to Nigeria where he and his wife, Sarah, planted a church in the capital city of Abuja. They have built a \$10 million sanctuary (with mostly Nigerian money). Ina had brain cancer but battled valiantly and managed to continue preaching multiple services a day for a couple of years before passing away earlier this year at the UCLA Medical Center. This is truly one of the FINEST ORU alumni on the planet." "His heart," says **Karen Robinson 74**, "was to reach the Muslims through communication (TV and radio)." He is survived by his wife, daughters Blessing and Favor, and adopted son Worthy.

Lois M. Rogers, who attended ORU from 1973 to 1975, died on Sept. 7, 2003.

Marcia Gaber Yard 82 died on Sept. 15, 2003. She is survived by her husband, Allen.

POSITION OPEN

The ORU Office of Development and Estate Planning Services is looking for a new Regional Director. Go to the ORU Web site (www.oru.edu/university/departments/personel/) for a job description. For more information, or to apply, please call Linda Brown in Human Resources at 918/495-7163.

The Votes Are In!

Meet your new Alumni Board representatives



Coussens

The ORU Alumni Association has announced the results of last fall's Alumni Board of Directors election. New directors are listed below.

Brent Coussens 83, who lives in Tulsa, was elected to represent *Segment III* (1983-86). Contact him at bcjcs5@cox.net.

Segment IV (1987-90)'s newest representative is **Tammy Denton 87** of Broken Arrow. Contact her at tammydenton@peopleschurchtulsa.com.



Denton

Jeremy Baker 01 and **Angel Faulk 00** are the new directors for *Segment VII* (2000-03). Baker, who lives in Fairfax, Va., can be contacted at jeremy.baker@ey.com. Reach Faulk, a Tulsan, at findangel@hotmail.com.



Faulk

For the *At-Large* segment (all class years), alumni elected **Reggie Goodin 96** of Duluth, Ga. Contact him at Reggie_Goodin@yahoo.com.

Greg Ford 80 won his re-election bid to serve *Segment II* (1979-82). He lives in Tulsa. His e-mail address is greg@gregford.org.



Goodin

For a complete list and photos of the entire Alumni Association Board of Directors, as well as contact information, go to <http://alumniweb.oru.edu> and follow the "Services" link. All alumni are encouraged to contact their representatives and share any questions, concerns, or suggestions they may have regarding the Alumni Association's programs, services, and events. *Remember, it's your association!*



FOSTER 97



FITE 98



BANGERT 99



BANDLIEN 01



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- 10% discount at Hertz, Alamo, and Avis Car Rental
- discounts at Sea World, Sesame Place, Universal Studios Theme Parks, Wet 'N Wild (Orlando), and San Diego Zoo
- discount tickets to Frontier City and White Water Bay in Oklahoma City
- 10% discount at Men's Wearhouse
- no-annual-fee, low-introductory-APR MasterCard credit card
- discounts in Tulsa (Hilton Southern Hills, Airport All Covered Parking, Sonic Drive-In at 81st and Lewis, Discoveryland, Wendy's at 71st and Riverside, ORU campus bookstore, Kinko's at 71st and Riverside, the new Subway at 71st and Riverside)

Why spend when you can save? Go to alumniweb.oru.edu and click on Alumni Discounts. There's nothing fishy about it.

Attention

Quit trolling landlocked bookstores for great deals. You'll find everything you need at the NEW online Alumni Book Source, a veritable ocean of Christian books, music, and movies, all at a discount! Drop anchor at alumniweb.oru.edu.