Bryan's foundation, mission constant in time of change

“The Lord has spoken! Who can but prophesy?” The words of Amos to the nation of Israel are as true for Bryan College as for Israel 2,800 years ago. From the college’s beginning in 1930 through the years of the Great Depression, through six presidents who have served their Lord through the ministry of this school, through the devastating fire of 2000, God has shown his faithfulness to Bryan. As we look to the future of Bryan College commencing officially with my inauguration as the seventh president, it is imperative that we continue to proclaim what the Lord has spoken. Our mission of “educating students to become servants of Christ to make a difference in today’s world” means that all that is done on this campus must have a biblical foundation.

The challenges that have rocked our nation in the past two years—whether terrorist attacks, business scandals, constitutional affronts, or scandal within the church—all bear out the necessity of our remaining faithful to the foundation of God’s Word as the guide for our lives. How we live our lives and to what purpose we give them must not be dictated either by our culture or by our own personal agendas. Rather, the immutable standards of God’s Word must speak to the issues of our time, even as we engage our culture with those truths, bringing forth fruit which our Lord would desire.

Christian liberal arts colleges such as Bryan have an incredible opportunity to educate a generation of young people from a biblical worldview, laying the foundation for a cultural awakening for our great nation. Since Jesus Christ is our Creator and all that exists was created by Him and for Him (Col. 1:16), the education at Bryan must begin and be sustained by our desire to know Him. Our lives will not be fully pleasing to our Lord until we bear fruit that God intended for each of us to produce. And that fruitfulness begins by increasing in the knowledge of God (Col. 1:10).

A cultural awakening for our country will transpire only as we exalt our Savior and His Word, increase in our knowledge of Him, and have our minds and lives transformed through His power and presence. God has used college campuses to spark great cultural awakenings in the past, and I believe He desires to do so again. One of my heroes whom God used to spark such an awakening in the late 18th century was Yale President Timothy Dwight, grandson of Jonathan Edwards, the great New England pastor and theologian.

Yale had been founded nearly a century before as a college for equipping students for service in the church and the state while maintaining purity in its doctrine; yet sadly, by the time Dwight came to Yale’s presidency, it had departed from its original mission and students openly questioned whether the Bible was indeed the Word of God. The freshman class of 1796 laid claim to only one professing Christian, and the sophomore class had none. Dwight set on a course to meet with students to discuss their reservations regarding the validity of Scripture. He confronted each argument head on, responding articulately and compassionately from the Word of God. One by one the students came to Christ until great revival broke out among the students, spread to other colleges, and God had enflamed the second Great Awakening in this country.

The Lord has indeed spoken, and my prayer for Bryan College is that we would never fail to “prophesy”—to teach biblical truth as the foundation for all of life and learning and that God would once again use a great college to lead our nation back to Him.

Stephen D. Livesay

On the cover - Bryan’s seventh president, Dr. Stephen D. Livesay, front, was joined by Bryan’s fifth president, Dr. Kenneth G. Hanna, left, and Bryan’s sixth president, Dr. William E. Brown, right, for his inauguration on Oct. 3.
he solemnities of a formal academic procession gave way to hymns of praise as Bryan College celebrated the inauguration of its seventh president, Dr. Stephen D. Livesay, on Oct. 3.

Surrounded by family members, trustees, faculty, staff, students, and friends, Dr. Livesay heard charges from students, faculty, alumni, and the trustees before trustee Chairman Glenn Stophel formally draped the presidential medallion around his neck.

For Dr. Livesay, it was a Livesay family event, as he was joined by his parents, brother, sisters, children, and in-laws. His brother, Dr. George B. Livesay, Jr., gave the Scripture reading from Isaiah 40.

It was a Bryan College family event as well, as Dr. Kenneth G. Hanna and Dr. William E. Brown, the fifth and sixth presidents, respectively, were witnesses to their successor’s inauguration. Mrs. Alice Mercer, widow of fourth President Dr. Theodore C. Mercer, and Mary Frances Rudd Carlson, daughter of Bryan’s third president, Dr. Judson A. Rudd, also attended.

It was a ceremony marked by rejoicing and thanksgiving to God: from the theme verse chosen by Dr. Livesay—“Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to the only God Who alone is wise, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen” (I Timothy 1:17)—to the final anthem by the Bryan Chorale—‘My Eternal King.’
It was an opportunity to pay tribute to the six previous presidents of the college. Dr. Livesay said they “have provided leadership and given guidance to thousands of students, and each of us standing on their shoulders owes a wonderful debt of gratitude. The admiration that we have for each of these presidents and our appreciation for them will be manifested in our desire to maintain the mission and purpose of the college.”

At the same time, it was a time of serious reflection, as Dr. Livesay formally received the charge to lead the college.

Joey Hamrick, president of the Student Government Association, challenged the new president to “direct every facet of Bryan College to the best of your ability for the glory of God. We ask that you command and lead our unique community, recognizing your stewardship of this place as not just a college, but also a place of preparation for exceptional men and women with a passion to make a difference in their world.”

Steve Stewart, president of the Bryan College Alumni Association and a member of the Class of 1985, urged Dr. Livesay to emulate William Jennings Bryan, the college’s namesake.

He said Bryan College will need a statesman who can “lead Bryan College in the public arena... who can speak proudly of what Bryan stands for and of what Bryan offers. In a culture gone mad with politically correct messages that ignore truth, Bryan must stand for its commitment to God’s truth.”

The president “must know and be known to faculty, students, staff, alumni, and friends of the college. Be faithful in this.”

Faculty Chair Dr. Ernie Ricketts, also a member of the Class of 1985, charged Dr. Livesay to provide the support necessary for Bryan to maintain and improve the excellence of its academic program, to build relationships with the faculty so “we can come to know you better and be able to support your efforts at Bryan College.” He called on the new president “in all that you strive to do, [to] remember our motto and keep it foremost in your thoughts: Christ Above All.”

T. Ramon Perdue, vice chairman of the board of trustees, told Dr. Livesay, “Our charge to you is that you stand firm in the calling to which you are today appointed, because, in the words of Scripture, ‘to this you were called so that you might inherit a blessing. Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good?’”

Dr. Livesay chose Amos 3:8, for the theme of his inaugural address: “A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?”

The new president said, “It is of enduring significance that the charter of Bryan College begins with the following statement of belief, ‘I believe that the Holy Bible, composed of the Old and New Testaments, is of final and supreme authority in faith and life, and, being inspired by God, is inerrant in the original writings.’”

“This Bible teaches that man is created in the
image of God and not that God is created in the image of man. And yet, how many institutions of higher learning violate the very first commandments: ‘You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image?’ How many today worship idols by fashioning gods according to their own dictates? Surely it is not a god of wood and stone, but it is an intellectual idol which refuses to bow in absolute submission to the teachings of the Word of God, by refusing to believe that His Word is the sole authority and foundation for all knowledge and learning.

“If God is the Living Word, then we must believe this same Word to be the foundation for every class taught and every discipline explored on our campuses. If He is the creator of all things, then every academic discipline and every pursuit of study was created so that in our study of it we know more of Him and recognize His glory as the all together lovely one, our Lord and our God.

“The prophet Amos did not say many gods of which we may pick and choose according to our own disposition, but rather because the Lord God has spoken—all of our education must acknowledge Him and lead us into a greater knowledge of Him.

“If God is the Living Word, then we must believe this same Word to be the foundation for every class taught.”

“Not only is He the God, but He is the Lord God who has spoken. This speaks of a personal relationship with our God as we have a wonderful opportunity to fulfill the purpose for which each of us has been created, for we are not the product of chance fashioned by an impersonal, purposeless mechanism destined but to serve our own desires.

“Every thought and every action, every pursuit must be brought into the obedience of our Lord God. For we are commanded to love the Lord God will all of our heart, soul and mind.

“The education received at Bryan College must recognize God as Lord of our lives, for it is not enough to study diligently and acquire great learning which a student surely receives at Bryan. Rather, what is the purpose of learning? Do we desire to know more of our God and love Him through our learning or is it to further our own interests to pursue our own gain? Are we becoming more like our Savior? Are we able to say that our God is Lord God?

“He has spoken to us through His written revelation, and He has spoken to us and revealed Himself through His creation. His creation portrays His nature and beckons us to explore and research that we may gain a greater understanding of who He is.

“It is this authority of the Word of God that for the past 73 years has instructed the curriculum and teaching of this college. We exist as a Christian liberal arts college not for our own sake nor our own reputation, but that we would make our Savior known, educating students to become servants of Christ to make a difference in today’s world—understanding, engaging, and redeeming our culture.

“The prophet Amos declared the word of the Lord to a people with ears that could not hear and
We all are familiar with the idea that, in giving, we receive more than we thought imaginable. Most of us experience the reality of this early in life – through the eyes of a child, the gratitude of a life changed, or through the joy of Christian stewardship. United States tax laws take this reality one step further and provide a tangible benefit for those who give, as well as for the recipients of charitable gifts. A Charitable Gift Annuity offers significant incentives for certain gifts which help support a Christian institution like Bryan College.

Your Charitable Gift Annuity provides an immediate tax deduction for you, a lifetime income of up to 11.3 percent with a significant portion of that monthly income tax free, and leaves a legacy for you at Bryan College. Your legacy will help students at Bryan, just as those who went before you helped you.

For more information about how a Charitable Gift Annuity can double or triple your income compared with rates for certificates of deposit, contact Jim Barth, director of development, at 423-775-7280; fax 423-775-7220; or email: barthji@bryan.edu.

eyes that could not see. Today, unfortunately, higher education has also become deaf and mute, willingly ignorant and willfully disobedient to the Word of the Lord by embracing a worldview that is not biblical. We have done this for the sake of reputation—for academic correctness—for acceptance among our peers in the field of higher education.

“My prayer for Bryan College and my charge for all of us who are engaged in this noble pursuit is that we will never have a famine of hearing and heeding the Word of God, that unto the King eternal, immortal, and invisible will be glory and honor forever, and that He would see fit to use this college to advance His kingdom.

“It has been Bryan’s history, our current posture, and our future vision as a higher form of higher education to live out our motto of Christ Above All. May God grant in an increasing measure that it will ever be so.

“Today as we give to our God gratitude for our heritage of godly presidents, trustees, faculty, staff, and students, and as we ponder afresh the vision which God has ordained for those assembled today, I close with the words of William Jennings Bryan. I have changed only from the singular to the plural to embrace not only myself but all of us at the college. May on the anvil of time this legacy for Bryan College have been fashioned: ‘You may dispute whether we have fought a good fight; You may dispute whether we have finished our course; But you cannot deny that we have kept the faith.’

“’A lion has roared, who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?’

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Ten freshmen have been awarded Presidential Scholarships for the 2003-04 academic year. Presidential Scholars include:

**Catherine Bailes**, daughter of Steve and Ellen Bailes of Spartanburg, S.C., humanities.

Catherine is a home school graduate, was involved in drama club, choir, and church activities in high school. She won two piano scholarships to the preschool department at both the Presbyterian and was recognized for her abilities in piano auditions. She also took part in a home school program studying state government in Columbia, and has worked as a Child Evangelism Fellowship missionary. She learned about Bryan through a college fair in Charlotte, N.C., and looked closer when her father became interested in the school. She hopes to work in the communications field as a broadcast or print journalist after she graduates.

**Michelle Brenner**, daughter of Jon and Susan Brenner of Gilbert, Ariz., education/psychology.

Michelle is a home school graduate who was active in YMCA youth government, is listed in Who’s Who Among American High School Students, was a member of the Desert Thunder Aquatics Club, and had an internship with TeenPart bible leadership program. She learned about Bryan when attending the Summit in Colorado and was attracted because of the school’s “solid foundation, commitment to biblical integrity and integrity” and the accredited athletic training program. She plans to major in exercise science/athletic training and possibly become a doctor in history. She is considering becoming involved with student government and the Worldview Team. After graduation, Michelle hopes to travel with a sports ministry as their trainer.

**Charis Davidson**, daughter of Donna and Lon Davidson of Spring City, Tenn., Cinema Ware Presidential Scholarship, natural sciences.

Charis is a graduate of Rhea County High School where she was a member of the National Honor Society, Health Occupation Students of America, and the philosophy club. She was active in school and church drama programs. She learned about Bryan when she and her family moved to Rhea County several years ago, and was attracted to the school by the quality of education and Christian commitment. Charis is a biology/pro-med major and is considering a career as a missionary doctor.

**Ryan Gaber**, son of Randy and Sherry Gaber of Ooltewah, Tenn., Presidential Music Award.

Ryan is a graduate of Ooltewah High School where he was a member of the band, Fellowship of Christian Athletics, and the Omega Society. He was named to Who’s Who Among American High School Students all four years in high school. He also worked with the World Changes summer program. A friend told him about Bryan. “I visited the school and got hooked,” he said. Ryan plans to major in music, and is considering a career in missions after he graduates.

**Sarah Helton**, daughter of David and Mary Jane Helton of Nagano, Mich., biblical studies.

Sarah is a graduate of Nagano High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society, speech team, Math Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletics, and was listed in Who’s Who Among America’s High School Students. She was editor of the yearbook, a member of the basketball and track teams, and was in the Upper Peninsula Honor Choir. She learned about Bryan when she attended a break-out session at a Teen Missions conference in Florida. She was attracted to the college because of its excellence in the arts, and its involvement in missionary work both in the U.S. and abroad. She plans to major in music education, and is considering a career as a music educator after she graduates.

**Benjamin Meadows**, son of Daniel and Teresa Meadows of Orlando, Fla., humanities.

Benjamin is a home school graduate. He was a member of Phi Theta Kappa at Valencia Community College, has been a Florida State Senate page, captain of the NCAA College, and was recognized for her abilities in piano auditions. She also took part in a home school program studying state government in Columbia, and has worked as a Child Evangelism Fellowship missionary. She learned about Bryan through a college fair in Charlotte, N.C., and looked closer when her father became interested in the school. She hopes to work in the communications field as a broadcast or print journalist after she graduates.

**Emily Meinzer**, daughter of Martin and Linda Meinzer of Portia, Ariz., natural sciences.

Emily is a graduate of Central High School in Poulsbo, where she was active in choir, drama, the National Honor Society, Interact, and Science Club. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar. In her church, she was a Sunday school teacher, AWANA leader, and keyboard player on the worship team. She learned about Bryan from her parents, both 1982 graduates, and became interested when “this seems like where God wanted me to go.” After graduation, Emily hopes to be a high school biology teacher.

**Bethany Peneghehti**, daughter of Doug and Jackie Peneghehti of Kettering, Ohio, education.

Bethany is a home school graduate. She has been active in 4-H, a member of the Ohio State 4-H Fashion Board, taught piano and worked as a volunteer in her church and community. She recently received the AWANA citation award for her service to that organization, and is a certified counselor for Ohio Camp Counselors. She learned about Bryan from her mother, a 1982 graduate, and was attracted by the academic, spiritual, and family atmosphere. Bethany will be an elementary education major, and plans to seek licensure in Teaching English as a Second Language.

**Emily Yager**, daughter of Ken and Barbara Yager of Staunton, Va., business.

Kate is a graduate of Grace Christian School in Staunton, where she was treasurer for the senior class and the student government association. She played basketball and volleyball, and was a delegate to Virginia Girls State. She learned about Bryan through relatives and the Worldview Team, and was attracted by the worldliness of the college. Kate is on the Bryan volleyball team and hopes to participate in one of the Practical Christian involvement ministries.

**Bonnie-Marie Yager**, daughter of Ken and Malinda Yager of Harrison, Tenn., humanities.

Bonnie-Marie is a graduate of Hartman High School, where she was vice president of the Beta Club; president of her freshman, junior, and senior classes; president of the Science and Math Club; and received the top academic honors award for Hartman City Schools. She attended Volunteer Girls State and the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities, and played soccer. She learned about Bryan from her mother. She said she wanted to attend a small school with high academic and life standards, and was particularly impressed with the moral caliber of the school,” she said. Benjamin, a history major, plans to attend law school after graduation.

**Kathleen Quillen**, daughter of Kirk and Barbara Quillen of Staunton, Va., business.

Kathleen is a graduate of Grace Christian School in Staunton, where she was treasurer for the senior class and the student government association. She played basketball and volleyball, and was a delegate to Virginia Girls State. She learned about Bryan through relatives and the Worldview Team, and was attracted by the worldliness of the college. Kathleen will be an elementary education major, and plans to seek licensure in Teaching English as a Second Language.
Zensen Hoping for Strength in Numbers

Four starting seniors and a supporting cast of experienced underclassmen will carry the Lions’ soccer hopes this fall, Coach Jerri Morgan believes.

After dropping the first game in the season, the Lady Lions rebounded with a win over Tennessee Temple. “It was good to see them back in our style of play – a fast offense,” the coach said.

“I’m real pleased with where we are right now. The freshmen are doing a really good job fitting into the speed of college volleyball and the pace we want to run. Two freshmen are starting, and one is getting some playing time.”

Junior setter Randi Mellon is captain this year, running the offense and working to encourage her teammates.

Seniors Anna Busch, Faith Phaneuf, Alyssa Stoneberger, and Melissa Conner are providing crucial leadership for the team as well, Coach Morgan said. Alyssa moved this year to left hitter “and has taken her game up since last year.” Melissa has stepped up to right hitter. “She has a knowledge of setting, and that helps in that position,” the coach said.

The Lady Lions are working to improve on their 17-7 record from a year ago as they challenge for the conference lead.

Conference Freshman Player of the Year Craig Biddy will see considerable action “anywhere on the field,” the coach said. “He’s a solid all-around player, and that’s how I plan to use him.”

In the middle, senior Josh Ray and junior Danny Harvey offer a potent defense and offensive threat. “They really compliment each other. They read each other well and support each other on the field,” the coach said.

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He’s expecting strong efforts as well from Jorge Vallejo, Darren McCutchen, Corey Remillard, Tyler Oglesby, and Thago Goncalves.

While the coach is encouraged with the quality of his athletes, he pointed out that the Lions play in a very competitive conference. “They have to come to each game to play and play hard,” he said. “They have to keep the intensity up, desire to win, and refuse to lose. If we can stay healthy, we’ll be a force to be reckoned with.”

LIONS VOLLEYBALL

Speed, Effort Keys to Volleyball Success

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BRYAN COLLEGE SPORTS

Zensen Hoping for Strength in Numbers

Four starting seniors and a supporting cast of experienced underclassmen will carry the Lions’ soccer hopes this fall, Coach Sandy Zensen said as the 2003 season began.

Coming off a 12-6-1 record a year ago, Coach Zensen is counting on his seniors to motivate the team to again be competitive in the Appalachian Athletic Conference.

Josh Ray, a National Soccer Coaches Association All-American and NCCAA Mid-east Region Player of the Year, is hoping to build on his 26-goal output to lead the Lions’ offense.

Backing him up will be seniors Jamal Marshall in the defense or midfield, and defenders Henry Barrios and Russell Courtney. The coach calls Jamal “the fastest player I’ve ever coached. He can turn a game around.” Henry, he said, is “a great player.” Russell will anchor the defense and “will be a major factor this year if we can keep him healthy.”

The coach is counting on a significant contribution from defender Tim Franklin, who is back this season after knee surgery. “He’s a very experienced player who brings stability to our defense,” he said.

In the midfield, senior Josh Ray and junior Danny Harvey offer a potent defense and offensive threat. “They really compliment each other. They read each other well and support each other on the field,” the coach said.

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Lady Lions Rebuilding With Talent, Experience

Nine new players on a 16-member team have Lady Lions’ soccer Coach Marc Neddo in a rebuilding mode this season, but early results make him believe he has a good foundation.

At least six of the new players will be in the starting lineup, he said. “I need to find out how the new team identity will shape up, but, so far, I’m pleased with the development. Offensively, it looks like we should be able to score. The defense has surprised me in a good way.”

The offense is anchored by senior Abigail Snead and Anna Hanger at forward. Last year, Abigail led the NCCAA and the Appalachian Athletic Conference in scoring with 42 goals, but the coach is looking for her to increase her number of assists this season. “We need that to be a more balanced team.”

Abigail and Anna are joined by freshman Kat Hogan, a “quick and skilled” forward. “The defense can’t home in on Abigail or they will be hurt quickly,” he said. “All three can handle the ball under pressure.”

Michelle Ursacker has stepped up to head the defensive unit, supported by Aubre Mjolhus, new to the position after playing midfield a year ago. “Aubre is new to defense, but has a lot of abilities back there,” he said.

Coach Neddo is counting on his offense “to put enough pressure on the other team to give our defense time to grow into their own since three of the four defenders are new to their positions.”

“The key to our success this year will be keeping big mistakes to a minimum. With the number of young players on the team, we need to stick to fundamentals, do things right. If they do that, we’ll be all right. So far, they’ve done that. I’m impressed with their discipline.”

He is counting on freshman goalkeeper Heather Couch to play up to her ability as the last line of defense.

On the other end of the field, center-midfielder Renee Delmotte, a junior transfer, already has impressed him with her “telepathic connection” with Abigail. “She knows where Abigail wants the ball. They’re fun to watch. She has the skills, experience, and endurance to contribute.”

At the same time, he believes seniors Anna Hanger and Daven Petitte are going to have a good year. I think they will surprise themselves and the opposition.”

He expects Covenant to be the team to beat in the conference. “Covenant had a good, young team last year, and I think they’ll be strong again. Tennessee Wesleyan will be good; they were a strong, young team last year as well.”

But the coach is counting on discipline and good effort to make the Lady Lions a force to be considered as well.
My pastor at Key Biscayne Presbyterian Church in Miami was Steve Brown. Steve is an excellent communicator who uses some of the most colorful words found in the English dictionary. One of the words he used most often was “copasetic,” which translated for a man of ordinary intellect such as I, means “first-rate.”

The past couple of weeks our family has been hosting my 4-year-old granddaughter, Grace. Somehow in our conversation among the adults the word copasetic was used. A short time later, I turned over my bottle of Coke and Grace exclaimed, “Grandfather, that was not copasetic,” much to the amazement of everyone in our van.

As your new Director of Alumni Relations I am here to tell you that our new president, faculty, staff, students, and alumni are copasetic.

This time of year is always exciting with the return of students and faculty to the hill. Almost 180 freshmen and transfer students gathered for the annual orientation service in Rudd Chapel on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 23.

A tradition that began many years ago continued as students stood one by one and told the audience of classmates, parents, faculty, and staff their name, city they are from, intended major, and what they think they will be doing 10 years from now. You would have been most impressed and encouraged with their answers:

- “I will be serving God as a medical missionary.”
- “I will be a Christian teacher in the public school system.”
- “I will be a Christian attorney.”
- “I will be serving God in some type of youth ministry.”
- “I will be a Christian journalist.”
- “I will be serving God overseas as a teacher to missionary children.”
- “I will be fulfilling my call as a pastor.”
- “I will be serving God in international business.”

As I thought back to my years at Bryan and what my classmates expressed as their desires to serve God were, the list is very much the same. We have classmates now serving God in each of the above vocations and many more.

Bryan’s new advertising slogans further support our being copasetic:

- Bryan. A highly ranked, nationally competitive college that puts Christ above all.
- Bryan. A higher form of higher education.
- Bryan. A college for the intellectually curious Christian.

Yes, your alma mater is continuing the legacy that many of you began and are continuing to maintain. A favorite scripture verse that comes to mind is Galatians 6:9. “So don’t get tired of doing what is good. Don’t get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.”

Gaining the reputation of being first-rate is not nearly as exhausting as maintaining it. So, let’s don’t get tired of doing what is right. That’s the key to insuring Bryan’s continuing to be copasetic.
Spring 2003

30's

ED, '39, and JOYCE (HIRSCHY), '40, DEROSSET write from their home in Evans City, Pa., that they are keeping up with friends from their mission field days in Peru, continuing their ministry through prayer support and encouragement. Joyce recently was diagnosed with macular degeneration and is suffering a loss of vision as a result of the disease.

NELL PEARSON, '49, continues working at Rio Grande Bible Institute, but spent part of the summer at the Wycliffe Center in Dallas, Texas. She is recovering well from a bout with Lyme disease.

40's

AL and JOYCE (COOPER) LEVENGOOD, both '52, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 1, in Dayton, Tenn.

RUTH JOY (SELTENRIGHT), '52, and JOYCE (COOPER), '52, writes from Waxahachie, Texas, that they are keeping up with their friends from home in Evans City, Pa.

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50's

LION TRACKS

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RON, '64, and DIANE (PECK), '64, MORGEN of Waxahachie, Texas, continue their affiliation with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Ron is a veteran cross-cultural worker who trains and equips new, younger workers. In addition to teaching Ron has had the opportunity of co-leading two one-week language workshops: one for colleagues translating Native American languages and one for colleagues in Peru. Another trip was planned for the summer to return to the Caribbean Island of San Andres, where Ron and Diane spent the 1999 summer term through a Fulbright grant to assist the local Christian university to implement a multilingual education program for the island’s elementary schools and train teachers. Now the island’s Christian university and the secretary of education are requesting another two-week workshop for teachers.

Dick and NITA (KARGES), '68, PAPWORTH celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary with a trip to the Grand Canyon in March, and the arrival of their second granddaughter in February. They continue their work with Radio Voice of Christ, broadcasting the Gospel into Iran.

STEVE, '69, and MADGE (AKINS), '68, FITZGERALD live in the Tampa, Fla., area, where Steve works as a Defense Intelligence Agency representative to the U.S. Central Command. He served as the DIA representative at the Central Command’s forward-deployed headquarters in Qatar earlier this year. Madge is a kindergarten teacher in Hillsborough County, Fla.

70's

John and JOYCE (BUICE), '78, LARRABEE report that they began a kindergarten this past year, with 24 students, and are hoping to add first grade next year. They serve as missionaries in Uruquichita, Brazil. Dr. and LYNN STEVENS, '73, HARPER who are working with Operation Mobilization in Honduras, find that life has been extra challenging with part-time studies and weekly classes for the degree in Missions at the University of Birmingham, England. Lynne’s son, Sean, is a delight for her to attend concerts, and meet other FEBC directors and staff members from other countries. Back in the U.S. she attended the annual conference for Korean Students Abroad, where over 1,000 university students met for worship and ministry. Pearl also attended the wedding in Dallas, Texas, of Joanna Rathsun, daughter of JOHN, ’54, and JOYCE (JOHNSON), ’54, RATHBUN. Pearl was glad for the couple to have son JOHN, MARK, ’54, and his wife, DEBORAH (HENDRY), ’80, of Fairbanks, Alaska, and son JOEL, ’80s, off of Fotsos, Mo.

LEROY, ’73, and BECKIE (CONRAD), ’72, NICHOLSON report that their TEAM Christian bookstore in Emmangaro, South Africa, continues to provide solid Christian literature for area residents, and a new bookstore in Muhataba is operating. The Harpers’ son, RICK, is married and his daughter, Anne, their 18-month-old grandson, DEREK, in April.

JOHN ANDERSON, ’73, HARRY, ’57, PARK, ’67, and NANCY, ’60, GOERRING, are keeping up with friends from home in Evans City, Pa., that they are keeping up with friends from their minister field days in Peru, continuing their ministry through prayer support and encouragement. Joyce recently was diagnosed with macular degeneration and is suffering a loss of vision as a result of the disease.

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Broken Arrow, Northeastern State President Dr. Larry Williams said award recipients are “the best of the best.” Other awards are made for service and research. John, professor of English, has taught at NSU—Broken Arrow for 19 years, and is awaiting the release of his first book, *The Civilization of Shakespear in the 18th Century*, which he co-edited with a fellow English scholar.

JAMES ANDERSON, ’75, with his wife, Paulette, and their children, Rachel Lynn and Isaac James, lives about two miles from the center of Jerusalem. James is pursuing graduate studies at the Jerusalem University, specializing in the geography of Israel. He has been involved in archaeological digs and the family has traveled to most of the country. They plan to return to the U.S. in early 2004.

VICKY BENTLEY, ’76, SMITH was singled out as a favorite teacher of three of the valedictorians at LaVergne High School in LaVergne, Tenn., this spring. GEORGE, ’54, and JOAN HARRINGTON, ’56, SHELTON were active in missions and educational help for ministry to missionaries in New Hebrides, in the South Pacific, August. They are planning to move with Wycliffe Bible Translators in August. They have completed translating about half of the New Testament into the Naskapi language.

Mark and Daniela (Branson) Parker, Beth Wood, and MARGARET (ENGLISH), ’76, MCEWEN and her husband, Peter, live in Norfolk, Va., where Peter is pastor of Ingleside Baptist Church. Margaret sings with the Virginia Symphony Chorus and the Virginia Opera Chorus and teaches piano and voice. Their family has been active in missions and educational travel and has participated in outreach projects in Israel, Chile, and Guatemala. The Mcewens have five children and one grandchild.

MIKE WOOD, ’78, of Chattanooga, Tenn., was named Boy’s Track Coach of the Year by the Chattanooga Times Free Press. Mike coaches the McCallie School track team, which finished second in the Division II state track meet.

**80’s**

MARK, ’80, and CANDY GARETT and their family have returned to Senegal after home assignment in the States. The war in Iraq has presented many opportunities to direct discussion toward the second coming of Christ and the truly righteous rule He will implement.

SHEILA BARBER, ’80, received her Master of Religious Education degree from the Luther Rice Seminary on May 16. Following graduation she went to Brasilia, Brazil, on a mission trip where she was a part of a team that built a church, did door-to-door evangelism, and taught health classes.

SCOTT, ’81, and MARGARET (KOEHN), ’84, SMITH returned to the States this summer after three years in Equatorial Guinea, where they serve with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They will be traveling to Cameroon for linguistics courses before returning to Equatorial Guinea in October.

JON and LINDA (MENEES) TURBIS; both ’81, traveled from their home in Knoxville, Tenn., to the Chicago area this summer to visit DON LARSON, ’91, and his wife, Dr. Cathy Johnson. While there, the four took in a Cub-Astros game at Wrigley Field.

**20’s**

John and KATHY (ROSE), ’92, WAGNER provided the day camp chapel services for Bancroft Bible Camp in Kingsport, Tenn., and worked in support roles for the other camp weeks this summer.

MICHAEL ROBIN, ’94, received the Master of Divinity degree in Christian Education from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., in May.

ERIC, ’94, and Alicee, ALBRIGHT announce the birth of their son, Jared Gabriel, on July 10. Jared weighed 7 lbs., 13 oz., and was 20 inches long. The Albrights live in Waxhaw, N.C.

**90’s**

ALLAN, ’85, and KATHY (KINDRIGE), ’82, COURBREIT are rejoicing in Kathy’s improving health, after several years of struggling with chronic fatigue syndrome. Allan continues his work with the Charlotte Eagles professional soccer team. The team spent two weeks this spring in Southeast Asia, encouraging tent-making missionaries in Laos and sharing the Gospel as situations allowed.

Bill and NORMA JEAN (KENNEY), ’82, JANCEWICZ have moved from Quebec to Colorado for their daughter, Elizabeth, to enroll as a senior in a high school there. They have completed translating about half of the New Testament into the Naskapi language.

RICK and KIM (FORD) PARKER, both ’83, have returned to Greensboro, N.C., where they will be based during their furlough from ministry in Brazil. They will enroll their eldest son, Matthews, in college and seek to raise funds for a boat to serve in missionary work in civic communities in Brazil.

TITUS, ’85, and ANYA HANHAM will spend the coming year in the States on furlough from Russia. They will be based in Minneapolis, Minn., working with the Navigators’ collegiate ministry at the University of Minnesota.

GARY, ’85, and DEANNA (FLORES), ’86, ELLISON, with their seven children, continue their ministry in Mexico City. This spring they coordinated a home school conference that had 549 in attendance from 15 states and three countries.

FRED, ’87, and JUANITA (TUCKER), ’84, DUONG with their family of four daughters and one son are stationed in Thailand with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Fred serves as associate director for support services for the group in Mainland Southeast Asia, including teachers and administrators at Grace International School, computer personnel, office staff, and graduate students. Juanita has been writing curriculum for the nursing students in English course which she teaches two mornings a week. She has a Thai tutor for her own lessons and for their three older children two hours a week.

Tim and BETH (BRAUN), ’97, WOOD helped distribute 10 tons of corn flour to families in three churches in Mozambique in response to needs created by a drought and famine. They also helped print two sections of the book Following Jesus in Cindau. They traveled to England then to the States this summer. Recently, Beth’s brother, Robert Brannon, ROBERT, ’93, and KARIS (WHITE), ’90, KOEHN visited the Woods at their home in Mozambique.

Steve and DAWN (STACY), ’97, HONECKER were to begin orientation for a new assignment with Wycliffe Bible Translators in August. They are planning to move to Vanuatu, formerly known as the New Hebrides, in the South Pacific, where Steve will be finance and business manager and Dawn will be a home school mom and music person for other team members.

PATRICK RUDY, ’89, has been promoted to evening librarian at Carol Grotnes Belk Library at Elon University, Elon, N.C. The library houses more than 200,000 volumes and 150 computers. Patrick is continuing graduate work at North Carolina Central University.

Keith and JACQUELINE (LEE), ’89, ROBINSON announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Grace, on Feb. 14. She weighed 5 lbs., 2 oz., and was 19 inches long. The Robinsons serve with Wycliffe Bible Translators at Wycliffe Canada’s office in Calgary, Alberta.

BYRON, ’90, and Natalie TALBOT have joined the Southern Baptist International Mission Board to serve as missionaries to students in Moscow, Russia.

Julie and Jared Albright

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at Rippavilla Plantation in Spring Hill, Tenn. Traci teaches middle school language arts and coaches girls basketball in Nashville, and Paul is a recovery specialist with Ford Financial. The couple lives in Nashville.

Mike and SHERRY (HILL) ’95. WELLER announce the birth of Olivia Blair on July 16, in Chattanooga, Tenn. Olivia weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz. Mike is director of athletic training at Bryan College and Sherry is a guidance counselor at Rhea County High School.

Jeff and JOANNE (HUCKLE) ’96. MILLER recently moved from Colorado to Richmond, Va., where Joanne is studying biblical counseling. Jeff and Joanne have two daughters, Jessica Dilyn, 3, and Alana, 0.

JEREMY, ’97, and ALANA (YEDERLINEC) ’98. TOLIVER live in Dayton, Tenn., where Jeremy owns a construction company which does remodeling. He is working on their home and helping his father-in-law build his home. Jeremy and Alana work with high schoolers in a multisite church. In April they visited Jeremy’s parents, Ralph and Marilyn Toliver, in Peru to introduce their son, Nathan, who was born Dec. 10, 2002.

REBECCA BUXBAUM, ’98, and Daniel Schumacher were married March 1, in Selving, Fla. The Schumachers live in Austin, Texas, where Rebecca is an intensive care nurse and Daniel is a software engineer with IBM. LEAH (WILSON), ’99, OURS was one of Rebecca’s bridesmaids. 

Robert and RACHEL (DIAZ), ’99s, KARHNAK announce the birth of their first child, Paul Diaz Karhanka, on April 19. Paul weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. He was baptized May 31 at St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church. The Karhanka family lives in Centreville, Va., near Washington, D.C.

BETHANY TOLIVER, ’99, continues at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Md., studying toward her nursing degree. She enjoys working with the high schoolers at her church. 

WILLIS JONES, ’48, died June 30 in Winchester, Ill. He was a long-time employee of International Harvester. He is survived by his wife, CAROL RUSSELL, ”52, and two children.

JESSICA HENDRIX, ’99, and Scott McKechnie were married June 21, in Highlands, N.C. They live in Orlando, Fla., where Mindy teaches middle school and Peter is a minister.

MICA was 8 lbs., 4 oz. and 20 inches long. She was baptized May 24, in Beckley, W.Va. Thomas Henderson, on Aug. 1, Thomas weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz., and was 21 inches long. The Henderson family lives in Flintstone, Ga.

MICAH and JUDI (TOLIVER) ODOR, both ’91, have moved into their new home at 3753 Tissimi Court in Las Vegas, NV 89129. Micah works at Bechtel in Las Vegas, and Judi is employed as office manager for a counseling firm and has begun taking courses through the Fuller Seminary extension at Las Vegas, working toward her master’s in New Testament.

ANGELA PERSINGER, ’02, and Benjamin Knoebel were married May 24, in Beckley, W.V. They live in Petersburg, Va.

GEORGE (IV) SMITH, ’02, and KATIE BUTTRAM, ’99, were married May 17, on Dayton Mountain near Dayton, Tenn.

QUENTIN MCCUiston and JENNIFER HENDERSON, both ’90s. were married May 31 in Dayton, Tenn. Quentin is the son of TONY, ’74, and DEBBY, ’77, MCCUiston of Dayton.

BROOKE WILSON, ’03, has accepted a position as exercise physiologist at the YMCA Wellness and Fitness Center in Oviedo, Fla. She ran her first basketball camp in June at The Master’s Academy in Oviedo.

CHRISS WESSON and RACHEL PIERCE, both ’03, were married July 26, in Dayton, Tenn. The couple is living in Dayton.

SANDE RAY, ’91, and Timothy Fort were married July 12, in Dayton, Tenn. The couple is living in Milford, Mich.

BRANDON PRUDHOMME, ’93, and Kimberly Dyer were married Aug. 2, in Dayton, Tenn. Kimberly is a senior at Bryan. The Prudhomme lives in Dayton.

With the Lord

00’s

CARA DULANEY, ’00, who lives in Evansville, Tenn., played on the Chattanooga, Tenn., Locomotion, a women’s professional football team. Cara, who played basketball for the Lady Lions, was a safety for the Locomotion.

JASON SCOTT, ’00, and Rebekah Howell were married July 26, in Chattanooga, Tenn. The Scotts live in Mebane, N.C.

CHRISTOPHER BEELE, ’00, received the Master of Music degree in Church Music from New Orleans, La., Baptist Theological Seminary in May. Christopher is minister of music and senior adults at East Ridge Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tenn.

MINDY BAKER, ’00, and Peter McKechnie were married June 21, 2002, in Highlands, N.C. They live in Orlando, Fla., where Mindy teaches middle school and Peter is a minister.
Bryan welcomed the Class of 2007 in August, a group of freshmen bringing one of the strongest academic records in recent years. The new class boasted an average ACT score of 25 (of a possible 36), two points higher than last year’s class, and above the national average of 20.8.

Admissions Director Mark Cruver reported the incoming class also had a high school grade average of 3.6, up from last year’s 3.48. President Dr. Stephen D. Livesay said, “This year’s freshman class possesses great leadership potential as they are a strong class spiritually and well-prepared academically to glean the best from our outstanding faculty. These freshmen as a class and individually will distinguish themselves as those who make a significant contribution to kingdom work as leaders in many vocations. At Bryan our claim of ‘a higher form of higher education’ is exemplified by these students who are committed to excellence in all facets of their lives.”

School opened with the Spiritual Life Conference, featuring messages by the Rev. Ashoke Bachu, president of Trinidad and Tobago Urban Ministries, and music by the Trinidad Steel Pan Band. Speaking from the lives of Jacob (Gen. 28), Abdon (Judges 12), and Elijah and Elisha (II Kings), Rev. Bachu encouraged students to seek God’s blessing, in God’s way, in God’s timing in their lives. He challenged them to “dream big. Let it be said of you that you aimed high.” He warned them that, to be great rather than simply good, “if we’re going to be where God wants us to be to make an impact on this world, we’re going to have to stop making easy decisions. Any dead fish can float down the river; it takes a live fish to swim upstream.”

During convocation, the formal opening of the academic year, Dr. J. Budziszewski, professor of government and philosophy at the University of Texas-Austin, used the theme of “bad commencement addresses” to challenge students to yield themselves to Christ and allow Him to transform them.

A “bad half-Christian” address would encourage students to make time in their lives for God. “That’s false, because it leaves you still in charge. It’s all about you, fitting Jesus Christ into your plans, your life. Jesus Christ doesn’t want you to give Him a place; He wants to fit you into His plans. Some fear that will mean they are called to be a missionary. He may want you to become a missionary – or a dog catcher. If you catch dogs, catch them as if they are His. They are. “He wants to dust you off, clean you up, melt you down, and make you a gleaming mirror of His glory. You’re a mirror with scratches, smudges, and cracks. He intends to melt all your glass to a white heat, pour it out again, grind you to a perfect finish, bond silver to the other side, buff the finish ‘till the image of Him in you is almost too much for the angels to bear. Be ready. If you submit to Him, He’s going to mess with you.”

Bryan College has been listed among the Top Tier of “comprehensive colleges – bachelor’s” in the south for the ninth consecutive year by US News & World Report. “It is encouraging to know that Bryan College compares favorably with other outstanding institutions in this annual review,” Bryan President Dr. Stephen D. Livesay said. “We believe that Bryan’s Christian foundation, coupled with our rigorous academic program, enhances the total college experience for students. We appreciate once again receiving the recognition.” Bryan reported that 83 percent of its freshmen returned for their second year, the highest percentage among colleges in the region – a mark shared by Ashbury College in Kentucky – and had one of the highest graduation rates for the 27 schools in the Top Tier ranking in the South.
Bryan College honored its Presidential Scholars during convocation as the school year began in August. President Dr. Stephen D. Livesay and convocation speaker Dr. J. Budziszewski, center, and other administrators are pictured with the Presidential Scholars in the lobby of Rudd Auditorium.

Dr. Jeff Myers, professor of communication arts, discusses a point with Dr. J. Budziszewski, the convocation speaker, during a reception at the opening of school.

Lauren Hoyt, ’51, helped bring his granddaughter, Dana Perry, to Bryan this fall. While Dana got settled into her residence hall, her grandfather enjoyed reminiscing about his days on the hill.

This school year is off to a great start.

Members of the Trinidad Steel Pan Band led worship during the Spiritual Life Conference which opened the school year. The group’s island beat gave a new energy to hymns and praise and worship songs that opened the services.

Memory and Honor Gifts

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<td>Laura R. Cathey</td>
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<td>Clyde and Dana Armstrong</td>
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<td>Rev. and Mrs. Frank B. Cook</td>
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<td>Barbara, David, and Nancy Masoner</td>
<td>Dr. William E. Brown</td>
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<td>Tom and Susan Davis</td>
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<td>Steven and Connie Prettymann</td>
<td>Vern and Helen Archer</td>
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<td>Gary and June Burcham</td>
<td>Christopher E. Burcham</td>
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<td>Lowell and Rebecca Peck Hoyt</td>
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<td>Thomas and Elizabeth Sullivan</td>
<td>Daniel C. Boedeker</td>
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Do you believe in the ability to think critically and act Biblically? As a highly ranked, nationally competitive college that puts Christ above all, we do.

Are you an intellectually curious Christian? If so, then there’s no better place than Bryan’s 110-acre hilltop campus in Dayton, Tennessee. On average, Bryan students hold a 3.59 GPA. And our curriculum (rooted in a Biblical worldview) will challenge you to ask questions and expand your own view of the world.

If you’re ready to tackle those great questions, then just give us a call.

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