Alumni enjoyed one of the most event-filled Homecomings as some new gatherings and reunions debuted and the traditions abounded.

"Exclamation Points on Both Ends of Campus!"
That's how President Conn described the dedication of the new School of Religion and the progress of the new science and math complex.

$10 Million in Ten Years
The Grants Office at Lee has procured funds in the millions for faculty, staff, students and capital projects.

Asian Studies Program Comes of Age In One Year
A recent report reveals how the Asian Studies program has met with great success in study abroad, new programs and languages.
When Money is Tight

When money is tight, as tight as it is across the nation in late 2008, everyone feels the stress. Colleges are not exempt from the tough times—especially not private colleges, and that includes Lee University.

Higher education is facing severe challenges in this year of financial crisis. Institutions of all types are feeling the pressure: state university budgets are being cut because taxes are down; wealthy schools are facing endowment losses; and small private universities like Lee are working hard to keep our enrollments from shrinking. I haven't talked with a fellow college president in months who isn't concerned about the 2009 financial picture on his or her campus.

I am very happy to report that Lee University is financially sound, and so far we have not suffered the severe financial “meltdown” which some universities are reporting. Our small endowment fund is very conservatively invested, and that helps in a time such as this. The banks with which we do business are sound, and we have almost no exposure to variable rates in the way we manage our long-term debt. And in the capital fund-raising “Press Toward the Mark” Campaign, we are so far seeing no significant inability of our donors to make good on their pledges. There is much for us to be thankful for, as we near the end of the fall semester.

Still, we are approaching 2009 with lots of hard work and prayer, and a determination to do whatever we can to keep Lee’s financial picture bright. Here at Lee, financial health begins with attracting and retaining students. Many of our students’ families are feeling the pinch of the national recession, and we are trying to assure them that, even in tough economic times, the expense of a Lee University education is worth the extra sacrifice. Although much has been written in the media about problems with the student loan industry, we are happy that with very few exceptions, our financial aid office has been able to find student loans for our students.

In good times or bad, Lee University depends on the generosity and support of our alumni and friends. We have no “safety net,” no “bailout plan,” no “deep pockets.” We thrive only if our alumni believe in us and demonstrate their confidence in practical ways. In this holiday season, even though the national financial picture is such a dark one, we have a bright future because of you. All of us here at Lee wish for all of you a wonderful 2009, and are more grateful than we can express for your prayers, your confidence, and your continuing friendship and support.

Paul Conn
Glimpses from Homecoming 2008

Hundreds of alumni and friends “came home” to Lee University to connect with classmates and admire the stunning progress of their alma mater. The following pages capture the celebrations, contests and camaraderie of the weekend.
EVS Celebrates 40 – The Evangelistic Singers, better known as EVS, celebrated their 40th anniversary with a weekend of gatherings, rehearsals and concerts, including the highlight group of the annual music festival. Known as perhaps Lee’s most ethnically-diverse musical ensemble, EVS and their ministry has touched the lives of thousands over the last four decades.
**Hail to the Queen** – Morgan Van Norman was crowned Lee University’s Homecoming Queen. A senior history education major, Morgan is the daughter of Brent and Marsha Van Norman of Virginia Beach, Va. She is a resident assistant in Livingston Hall and involved in Omega Alpha Phi, Backyard Ministries and Alpha Chi Honor Society. She was escorted by Brandon Heitz of Atlanta.

**Seen and Heard at Homecoming 2008**

- Volley for A Cure benefit with Phil Stacey
- Drama production: Trojan Women
- Flames basketball wins over Temple and Montreat
- Lady Flames basketball vs. Morris and Milligan
- Young Alumni Torch Society reception
- Homecoming 5K Fun Run
- President’s Circle luncheon
- Gourmet brunch
- Alumni baseball, soccer games
- Alumni service projects
- DZT vs. Sigma
- Upsilon vs. Chi
- Lee Singers 45th anniversary
- Alpha Gamma Chi 45th anniversary
- Epsilon Lambda Phi 20th anniversary
- Student Leadership 10th anniversary
Jeff Conn Wins Distinguished Alumnus Award – Dr. P. Jeffrey Conn ’81 was presented Lee’s most prestigious alumni award for his exceptional research and teaching as Professor of Pharmacology at Vanderbilt University. Conn directs Vanderbilt University’s Pharmacology Department’s Program in Translational Neuropharmacology and the Vanderbilt Institute of Chemical Biology’s Program in Drug Discovery. During his distinguished career, he has made huge strides in the drug discovery field. He has also served as a professor at Emory University and worked as the head of the Department of Neuroscience at Merck and Company.

“There is perhaps no alumnus of Lee who has accomplished more, in the field of science and research, than Dr. Jeff Conn,” said Lee University President Paul Conn. “He provides such a wonderful model to Lee students of someone who combines a strong faith with a brilliant career in the laboratory. In this period when we are focusing on science and our science grads, Jeff is a perfect choice for the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.”

Upon accepting the award, Jeff said: “Ministry is about moving into various sectors of society. I am forever indebted to Lee for modeling and teaching this to me.” Jeff is married to Anita Ball Conn ’79 and they have three children: Jordan, Elizabeth and Nathan.

Crowley Named Honorary Alumnus – Dr. Raymond Crowley, a 14-year veteran of the Lee University Board of Directors, is a former general overseer of the Church of God (1986-90) and is retiring from the Lee board this year. Unable to attend the Homecoming presentation of his award, President Conn presented it in his absence saying, “Even before he was a member of our board, Dr. Crowley has been a reliable and vigorous supporter of education and Lee in general.”
ON JANUARY 1, 1918—90 years ago—Lee University began as Bible Training School (BTS) with 12 students and one teacher enrolled for a three-month term of ministerial training. On November 7, 2008, the Lee University School of Religion was officially dedicated with a celebration including a prayer, litany, ribbon-cutting, and tributes to those who made the $5 million building possible.

Lee’s evolution of ministerial, pastoral and religious training which began with BTS led to the establishment of Bible Training School and College twenty years later in 1938 when the school relocated to Sevierville, Tenn. Upon returning back to Cleveland to the current campus in 1947, BTS and College became simply Lee College. A Division of Religion was formed in 1968, while the establishment of the present day School of Religion became reality when Lee became a university in 1997. Commenting on Lee’s growth from 12 students in 1918 to over 4,100, President Conn stated at the ceremony, “even though much has changed, the heart of Lee remains the same.”

The November 7 dedication completed another chapter in the yet unfinished Press Toward the Mark capital campaign. Originally scheduled to raise $25 million, the goal was upped to $30 million earlier this year. So far, the campaign has funded a renovation of the Walker Arena, construction of a new health clinic and Leonard Center, scholarships, a campus-wide computer infrastructure upgrade, campus acquisitions such as the former Mayfield Elementary School and the construction of the School of Religion. On the opposite side of campus, construction is heavily underway on the capstone project, a new science and math complex (see article this issue, page 12).

Dr. John Nichols cuts the ceremonial ribbon at the dedication of the new School of Religion building with President Conn and his wife, Darlia. Behind is Board Chairman Darrell Rice.
Jerry Dixon Reading Room ▲
Jerry and Patricia Dixon live in Wilson, N.C. In a career of management and ownership in the restaurant business which began in 1970, Jerry has established himself as a talented and highly effective business leader. When Lee sought help for the new School of Religion building, the Dixons responded with warmth and generosity.

The Charles W. Conn Collection ▲
The Jerry Dixon Reading Room houses a unique collection of 3,000 books which has been named the Charles W. Conn Collection. The collection includes approximately 2,000 books from the personal libraries of church leaders, Lee board members and faculty members with space for future additions. The core of the collection is 1,000 books owned by the late Charles W. Conn, former Lee president and denominational leader. The Collection also includes 1,000 newly purchased volumes chosen by the Lee University faculty which emphasize scholarly and academic works, and were funded by gifts from Lee professor Donald N. Bowdle and the Central Church of God. There are also books authored by Lee University faculty, a Vindagua collection, and other volumes of special interest.

Dr. William Effler teaches in one of the technology enhanced classrooms
Charlotte Commons

The unique space which defines the entry of the building is a “dodecagon,” a twelve-sided figure. The area is a student lounge, computer station, entryway, and snack bar. In recognition and gratitude for the extraordinary support Lee University has received from the Central Church of God in Charlotte, N.C., the space will be known as the Charlotte Commons,” located as it is across the street from Livingston Hall, which is named for Central’s long-term pastor, Loran Livingston.

Jones Lecture Hall

Kenneth “Deacon” Jones has served on the Lee University Board of Directors. He and his wife, Faye, have generously supported Lee in many capital projects and special needs. The Deacon Jones Dining Hall, dedicated in 1996, honors one of their earlier commitments to the Lee campus. The Jones’ are from Smithville, N.C., where they work with their children in one of the most successful automobile dealerships in the state.
School of Religion Building
By the Numbers

Square feet: 35,000 on two floors
Total student capacity: 650 seats
- Jones Lecture Hall: 203
- Computer Center: 40
- Preaching Lab: 26
- Seven “technology enhanced” classrooms

Faculty Space
- Six administrative and faculty suites
- Total office space for 32 faculty
  (plus support staff)

General Space
- Two conference/seminar rooms
- Faculty workrooms, tech, and storage rooms
- 136 parking spaces

The Lee University School of Religion was designed and constructed by Tri-Con, Inc. Architect: Steve Carroll of Rardin & Carroll Architects.

Dr. Rick Moore, chair of the Bible and Theology department, works in his new office.

The computer lab is equipped with 40 work stations.
With construction complete on the School of Religion, full focus has now shifted to the massive science and math complex on the north side of campus.

**MOVING UP**

**With Science and Math**

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Progress on the new science and math building is moving at an astounding pace as crews work to complete the three-story east wing of the complex in time for classes in the fall of 2009.

Gigantic steel girders which will anchor the center commons area of the complex have been mounted literally a few feet away from the current Beach Science Building, underscoring the magnitude of finishing the east wing in time to allow the demolition of the old science building. Razing of the 40 year-old structure is slated for sometime next spring, but not likely until the completion of the spring 2009 semester.

By Homecoming weekend, all three floors of the east wing were in place and alumni were able to witness the wing nearly under roof as rafters were being steadied into place by a crane tall enough to be seen from miles away. Classrooms, faculty offices and laboratories were already being piped for ductwork.

The shape of a majestic structure is clearly in view and the anticipation of its impact on the campus landscape becomes clearer every day.
Business Gets Down to Business

Department gets initial accreditation from leading agency.

THE ASSOCIATION of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) announced Lee University has been awarded initial accreditation of their business school by the Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Board of Commissioners. Lee University officials were presented with their certificate of accreditation during the ACBSP annual conference in New Orleans this summer.

Douglas G. Viehland, executive director of the ACBSP, spoke of the accomplishment of this accreditation. “Lee University has shown their commitment to teaching excellence by participating in the accreditation process, achieving accreditation and continuing the process of quality improvement. This accreditation is evidence of Lee University’s commitment to quality business programs.”

"Gaining membership in the ACBSP is such an accomplishment for our Department of Business,” stated Lee President Dr. Paul Conn. “It puts us in a company of outstanding B-schools and similar programs all across the country. I think this is a very important indicator that Lee University’s business program is going from ‘good to great’, and we can count on more good news to come from that department in the next few years.”

The ratification of accreditation by the ACBSP covers a ten-year period during which time Lee University must continually reaffirm its quality through periodic reports.

Lee Student Elected to School Board

Nineteen year-old is the youngest elected school board member in Tennessee.

LEE SOPHOMORE Russ Swafford, who is triple-majoring in political science, business and accounting, was inspired to run for the school board in his home county of Polk, by his father who has held the same seat. Despite this legacy, Russ still faced obstacles. “A lot of people thought I wasn’t serious about the election, and they didn’t take me serious as a person at first. I knew I was going to be the underdog, but I knew I wasn’t going to lose on a lack of effort. I believe in the strength of education, and I understand it better than most anyone on the board by still being a student and having that connection with the younger generation.”

Though his studies will take him out of his home district, Swafford still feels that his Lee education is an important part a larger plan. “I want my faith to be an example to other people. You can be a leader and be a Christian, and I want to lead by that example. I love state politics, but my heart is more focused on a federal level where I would be able to help focus on everybody, not just Tennessee. I want to be able to help people.”
“IT’S FASCINATING when you learn about children with autism!” This from Dr. Laura Anderson, an associate professor of education at Lee. “So often we just focus on the external, but so much is going on inside their heads.”

Anderson and Professor of Education Dr. JoAnn Higginbotham have backgrounds in reading and elementary education, but neither had experience working with the Lee University Developmental Inclusion Classroom (LUDIC), which specializes in teaching children with autism. When they learned that reading comprehension was a common problem area for these children, the team decided to explore the roots and solutions.

Their research, titled *The Little Engine That Could: Literature Preferences of Children With Autism*, identified favored books of autistic children, the first step towards identifying strategies and techniques to improve reading comprehension.

“Research indicates that students with autism have the same needs and learning styles as other students,” said Higginbotham. “The greatest difference is requiring a more conscious consideration of approach in teaching and relating to the children.”

Twice a week for two months Anderson and Higginbotham read to four LUDIC students individually. The children chose one of five books selected at random by Anderson and Higginbotham from the International Reading Association’s “The Reading Teacher” which listed the choice books of typical children in 2006.

“A very important aspect of this research experience for me has been the realization that children with and without disabilities may be more similar than we thought.”

The children gravitated towards four books and after choosing it generally stayed with that book throughout that phase of the study.

“A very important aspect of this research experience for me has been the realization that children with and without disabilities may be more similar than we thought,” Anderson stated. Currently, there is little research in the area of reading comprehension among children with autism, but Anderson and Higginbotham hope to study different methods and techniques that can be implemented both in the classroom and at home.

“I hope this research will impact teachers by encouraging them to always be open to new ideas and strategies for teaching literacy skills to children with autism,” said Higginbotham. “For the parents of the children with autism, I hope it will reinforce their understanding of how special their children are and that outside practitioners (such as us) find them fun and engaging.” —Kelly Bridgeman
WHEN THE Lee University Office of Grants was founded in 1998, the mission was simple: to assist the university and its faculty in seeking and securing grant funds from private foundations and government funding agencies. The primary tasks include research of potential funding sources, project and budget development, proposal preparation, foundation relations and post-award grant management.

Led since its inception by Vanessa Hammond, over the last five years, Lee has enjoyed growth and diversification in its external grant funding. “The more experienced we become at Lee, the more effective we are in seeking and winning grants,” Hammond states. “Plus, it takes time to get the attention of foundation funders and to develop relationships with them; after ten years the effort is beginning to pay off.”

The purpose of a grant proposal is to identify the needs of Lee University students (financial, academic, spiritual, physical or social), develop a program or project designed to meet one or more of those needs, and clearly present that opportunity to funders who are interested in meeting those specific student needs. “It has to be about the students,” Hammond continues. “For example, Lee doesn’t need money for a science building. Lee science students need to learn the latest laboratory techniques to become more effective doctors, high school teachers or scientists, but some of those valuable learning experiences are not possible in our current facility. A new building with more space and cutting-edge equipment will give our excellent faculty the tools to teach our science students what they need to learn. Money will help us provide that opportunity for Lee students.”

A SAMPLING OF GRANTS RECEIVED

New Grants for Scholarships
- Dr. Scholl Foundation – for students performing student teaching or other internships in inner-city Chicago. Total: $30,000
- Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation – for scholarships for women from the southeast U.S.A. Total: $634,000
- Tucker Foundation – to establish an endowed scholarship to be awarded annually to an outstanding senior in the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Total: $100,000

Grants for Major Programs
- U.S. Department of Education – Title III: Strengthening Institutions Program. Total: $1.84 million
- U.S. Department of Education – Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program (UISFL). Total: $170,000
- Lilly Endowment, Inc. – Theological Exploration of Vocation Sustainability Grant - Poema Project at Lee University. Total: $500,000. (Project originally funded in 2002 at $2 million from the Lilly Endowment, Inc.)

Large Grants for Capital Building Funds
- Anonymous Foundation – $1.5 million challenge grant in 2004 for the DeVos Center for the Humanities
- George R. Johnson Family Foundation – $300,000 in 2004 for the DeVos Center for the Humanities, George R. Johnson Lecture Hall
- George R. Johnson Family Foundation – $300,000 in 2007 for the Natural Sciences & Mathematics Building

Faculty-Directed Projects:
Total granted: $1.4 million
- Dr. Phebe Gray – Advancement of Literacy
- Dr. Paul DeLaLuz/Dr. Eddie Brown – Science
- Dr. Christie Kleinmann – Communications
- Dr. Kim Moffett/Dr. Trevor Milliron – Teaching
- Dr. Steven Lay/Dr. Blayne Carroll – Math
- Dr. Johnny Evans/Dr. Paul DeLaLuz – Math/Science
- Dr. Susan Harwood – Economics
- Dr. Lori West/Dr. Michael Freake – Biosciences
- Louis Morgan/Jean Cochran – Library
- Dr. Tammy Johnson – LUDIC program
Lee Students Sweep CAF Awards

Four receive scholarships from Chattanooga Advertising Federation

EVERY YEAR the Chattanooga Advertising Federation (CAF) awards four scholarships to deserving students in the field of communications-advertising. This year Lee University students swept all four awards.

CAF Scholarship committee member Keith Griffith said, “They each had unique talents and ambition, but I think overall it was overcoming their own individual challenges that impressed us most.”

The scholarship winners were Cedric Chalmers, a senior from Memphis, Tenn., majoring in public relations; Emily Steele, a junior from Camp Hill, Pa., majoring in communications with an advertising emphasis; Joshua Warlick, a senior from Warner Robins, Ga., majoring in communications with an advertising emphasis; and Femi Afelumo, a junior from Nigeria majoring in public relations. They were led by sponsor Dr. Megan Moe-Lunger, assistant professor of communications.

Skye Childers of the Chattanooga Times-Free Press said, “My experience with Lee University and its students has always been a positive one. Their work is both creative and current. When I have had the opportunity in the past to speak at Lee or work with its students, I have been impressed with their energy and enthusiasm.”

—Christina Mihai

FACULTY FACTS

Estes Gets NAACP Honor

Associate Professor of Education Bill Estes was recently honored by the Bradley County chapter of the NAACP with the John H. Peterson Award, an honorary award given by the local branch to a member who has made the greatest contribution to accomplishment of the strategic initiatives within the NAACP.

“In his position on the city council Bill Estes has created a direct line of contact with the branch officers and does all that is within his power to eradicate social injustice. He is to be commended for his work as a public servant and active member of the NAACP,” said Rasharon King, secretary of the Bradley County branch.

Simmons’ Book on New Testament Released

Professor of New Testament and Greek William Simmons’ book Peoples of the New Testament World: An Illustrated Guide was recently published by Hendrickson Publishers. The book examines classic Jewish groups such as scribes, tax collectors and the disciples of John the Baptist as well as Greek and Roman groups such as the Caesars, centurions and slaves. It is available at bookstores and Amazon.com.

“If we are ever going to understand the New Testament, we need to enter the world of Jesus and the early church,” said Simmons. “The task that lay before me each time that I sat at the keyboard was to transport the reader from his or her present context back into that ancient context that so beautifully informs the life and times of Jesus.”

Moodley Book Published in Monograph Series

Dr. Edley J. Moodley’s book titled Shembe, Ancestors, and Christ was recently published in the American Society of Missiology Monograph Series. An associate professor at Lee, Moodley is also the director of the Intercultural Studies Program.

The book explores the African Initiated Churches (AIC) and examines the indigenized Christianity and their rituals and worship, which are unique to the context of postcolonial Africa. It also attempts to inform the audience about the way in which these churches understand and interpret Christology.

The work is available at academic publishing houses in the U.S.A. and abroad with more information at http://wipfandstock.com.
Productive First Year for Asian Studies Program

Dirksen gives year one performance report to faculty

VICE PRESIDENT for Academics Dr. Carolyn Dirksen recently gave an extensive report on the success of an Asian Studies Program. The report included faculty enhancement trips to various Asian countries and the start of foreign language courses not previously offered on the Lee campus. The report also included the status of establishing an Asian Studies minor and increased opportunities to students to study in Asian countries.

The following is a summary of an incredibly active first year:

STUDY ABROAD AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

This summer, eighteen students were selected by Schering-Plough to complete a six-week internship program in international management at their Singapore facility. Students participated in approximately fifty “classroom” hours per week. It was reported that the management team at Schering-Plough interacted with the students on a professional and personal level and contributed greatly to the professional development of the students who participated.

INTERNATIONAL OR AREA STUDIES PROGRAMS CREATED OR ENHANCED

- Business Management in Asian Markets - intended to familiarize students with the factors that shape the Asian business markets by giving students the opportunity to apply and extend basic concepts from other Department of Business courses in an Asian context.
- Contemporary Chinese Culture and Society - explores changes in contemporary Chinese culture and society from 1949 to the present. It will employ anthropological development during the second year. U.S. and East Asia Relations was taught in Spring 2008. Five newly developed courses are scheduled to be taught during the 2008-2009 academic year.
- Eastern Religions and Philosophies - a study of the beliefs, practices, and historical developments of eastern religions and philosophies, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism, Islam, Daoism, and Shinto.
- U.S. and East Asian Relations - investigates the strategic, economic, political, and diplomatic relations among states in East Asia. The course provides an overview of the primary topics and perspectives for studying Asian international relations.

PROGRAMS CREATED OR ENHANCED

- Asian Studies Minor - Of eight new courses proposed for the minor, five have been completed and approved by the UCC and the other three are on schedule for development during the second year.
**LANGUAGE PROGRAMS CREATED OR ENHANCED**

**Chinese** - taught by Dr. Phebe Xu Gray, Assistant Professor of Chinese for the Asian Studies Program.
- *Elementary Chinese I* - This course is a proficiency-oriented course designed to provide a functional elementary foundation in the basic skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Chinese along with an integrated study of Chinese culture.
- *Elementary Chinese II* - A continuation of the proficiency-oriented elementary course.
- *Intermediate Chinese I* - A proficiency-oriented course designed to review essential structures in further detail and improve the student’s ability in speaking, listening, reading, and writing the Chinese language.
- *Language and Culture: Chinese for Business* - This course introduces students to the concept of the interaction between Chinese language and culture, specifically in the area of business. The course provides a basic and limited oral introduction to Chinese and its use in the international business context.

**Thai** - taught by Dr. JoAnn Higginbotham, Professor of Education
- *Introduction to Language and Culture: Thai* - This course introduces students to the concept of the interaction of language and culture in Thailand.

**ENHANCEMENT OF FACULTY EXPERTISE**

- Dr. Murl Dirksen traveled to China to collect materials for a course titled “Contemporary Chinese Culture and Society” which was offered this fall.
- **Mr. Guy DeLoach** traveled to Singapore to make contact with officials of Schering-Plough and to make arrangements for his students to complete internships. Mr. DeLoach also co-wrote the course titled “Business Management in Asia.”
- **Dr. JoAnn Higginbotham** was in Thailand with a group of Lee students where ideas were explored to develop a study abroad trip for students. Dr. Higginbotham also teaches a course at Lee titled “Language and Culture: Thai.”
- **Dr. Arden Jensen** visited Japan and South Korea to meet with officials from Tohoku Gakuin University, Yamagata University, and Tokyo Christian University. The purpose of this trip was to confer with scholars regarding East Asian literature, to explore possible formal relationships with Japanese universities, and to find study and service opportunities in Japan for Lee University students. Dr. Jensen also collected materials for his new course titled “Survey of East Asian Literature.”
- **Dr. Jung-In Jo** traveled to South Korea in order to establish a relationship with Sookmyung University. She explored options for a future trip to Asia for Lee University students. As part of the Asian Studies Program, she has developed a course in Political Science for the Asian Studies Minor titled “U.S. and East Asian Relations.”
- **Dr. Jason Ward** will develop a course on the history of the Pacific Rim in 2008-2009. His visit to the Philippines helped him connect his knowledge of the Latin American colonial period with the events going on in the Pacific.
- **Mr. Xiaqing Yu** is developing a course covering various aspects of the music and poetry of China. Grant money allowed Mr. Yu to interview traditional Chinese musicians and to videotape the interviews as a teaching resource for his new course. He also plans to archive the materials in the Music Library at Lee.
- **Dr. Phebe Xu Gray** attended the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies in Atlanta. The conference is very productive for future development of the Asian Studies Program at Lee University, as it provided opportunities for networking with peers in Asian studies and course development.
FROM YOUR LIBERAL ARTS education at Lee you may remember the Hessians as a group of guns-for-hire that Frederick II sent over to aid the British in quelling a little rebellion in the colonies. Today at Lee University you would be more likely see or hear the term HESSE in referring to the Department of Health, Exercise Science, and Secondary Education; a unit within the Helen DeVos College of Education. Teacher education remains at the core of the College of Education and HESSE, but the department has expanded the offerings and activities available to both students and the broader learning community.

ATHLETIC TRAINING
As one of Lee University’s newest majors, Athletic Training quickly became an optimal choice for students seeking a career in a variety of healthcare fields. Program Director Dr. Kelly Lumpkin oversees the students’ educational program through the cohort system in which students obtain educational competencies and proficiencies in both the classroom and in the field. This is accomplished by rotating through placements with certified athletic trainers throughout each semester. These placements serve the university’s sports teams, local high school athletic teams, and physician groups in both orthopedics and physical therapy. This past summer the athletic training program took their education and abilities to Cuba as part of the Lee’s continued commitment to Global Perspectives.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES
This spring Wellness Steps of Bradley County received a $250,000 grant from the Tennessee Department of Health. As part of the application process, HESSE offered to aid in the initial screening and assessment of participants. As of October, Dr. Mike Iosia and Dr. Mark Wickam’s classes (Exercise Testing and Prescription, Kinesiology, and Personal and Consumer
Health) had tested over 300 adults in Bradley County to ascertain their initial fitness levels and health needs prior to structured interventions. Lee University students will continue in this relationship in assessment and longitudinal data collection over the next three years.

■ OUTDOOR RECREATION

Very few places in the United States offer the variety and quality of outdoor life as we have here in southeast Tennessee, north Georgia, and western North Carolina. Eric Eledge and Kevin Hudson have continued to provide hands-on instruction and numerous excursion opportunities in water-based recreation, backpacking, camping, and administration. The success of these courses and trips has led to expanded course offerings and summer school options. One of the new course offerings is Wilderness First Responder. WFR, and the certification that accompanies it, is a new three-hour recreation course designed to teach the skills and knowledge base for rescue and response in the outdoors. Alumni Ian Vance is the certified instructor of this course which is offered each semester.

■ TEACHER EDUCATION

The bulk of HESSE’s work remains in teacher education. As of this fall there are 46 Physical Education and Health Education majors, 150 secondary education majors (biology, business, chemistry, English, foreign languages, history, math, and psychology), and 115 music education majors. Cross-cultural student teaching opportunities across the country and the world are expanding. This year alone the DeVos College of Education hopes to place student teachers and interns in Ghana, Thailand, Ukraine, Greece, and Chicago. Observation placements are just as exciting yet too numerous and vast to mention here.

■ OTHER ODDS AND ENDS

In the fall of 2007 HESSE was joined by Dr. Mike Iosia. Coming from a post-doctorate fellowship at Baylor University, Dr. Iosia has his terminal degree in Exercise Physiology from the University of Alabama. Our core offering, Healthy and Effective Lifestyles, now contains an activity piece requiring twenty minutes of exercise at one’s target heart rate three times a week. As you can imagine, the campus looks much more active. Finally, as Lee grows in facilities, HESSE has re-established the Exercise Physiology Lab in the College of Education.

As we continue to grow, HESSE still wants to stay in touch with you. E-mail us at hesse@leeuniversity.edu and tell us what you are up to and where you are located.

Dr. Bill Estes is chair of the Department of Health, Exercise Science, and Secondary Education
NEVER BEFORE has a Lee athletic team been able to shout the words “NAIA National Champions!” Not until the group of Lady Flames would not be denied in the National Women’s Soccer Championship staged at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Fla. on Dec. 1-6, 2008.

The national title was predicted by several with athletic knowledge when Matt Yelton was hired as the Lee women’s soccer coach in 2002. His love for the game and his ability to bring top-notch talent to the Lee campus quickly made the Lady Flames a force to be reckoned with. The current Lee team is blessed with stars on the playing field, and seven of those were listed as NAIA Academic Scholars which requires a 3.5 GPA.

This year’s squad was a team that grew closer together under adversity. It was a group of young ladies who wore the maroon and white with pride and had the swagger of a national champion team, especially after early-season wins against California Baptist and Azusa Pacific.

But a tragic series of events rocked the Lady Flames. A key player went down with a broken leg in the Azusa win. Another player lost her mother to a battle with cancer. Finally, in the semi-final round of the national tournament, team leader and outstanding midfielder Jenna Achten suffered a knee injury.

Coach Yelton said his team’s motto all year had been “we do what we do and we do it well.” The Lady Flames made the entire community and the Southern States Athletic Conference proud. This team will always carry the honor of being the first Lee University team to bring home a NAIA National Championship banner.

The Lady Flames walked away with several individual national tournament honors. Chris Christensen was named the Most Valuable Player; Jamie Achten was named the tourney’s Top Offensive Player while Kristine Tuck, Jenna Achten and Linn Christensen earned spots on the All-Tournament Team.

Before the championship final began, the NAIA All-American Teams were named. Lee placed Christiane Christensen and Jamie Achten on the first team. Linn Christensen was named second team and Jenna Achten was listed as an honorable mention All-American.

“To have been so close to winning it our freshman year and to be able to go out on top makes the last few years worth it all,” said senior forward/defender Kristina Chase.

An emotional coach Yelton poured his heart out to the team: “I know right now it hasn’t really sunk in what we achieved but all I can say is that I am so fortunate to coach at a place like Lee and to get to coach the type of players I get to work with. This team was amazing from start to finish and although we have several very talented individuals—this championship was won as a family.”
Janaina Novaes Jersey Retired

Lady Flames standout is only the second women’s soccer player to be honored

JANAINA NOVAES became the second Lee women’s soccer player, joining Rachel Tuck from 2006, to have her jersey retired in the history of the sport at Lee University. The ceremony took place in front of the Homecoming crowd on November 8.

“I truly count it as an honor to have been able to coach an athlete as gifted as Jana proved to be in her four-year career at Lee,” said Lee coach Matt Yelton. However, I believe that the most remarkable thing about her was not her ability on the field, but the caliber of individual character that she brought to our program. Jana is arguably the best athlete to ever wear a Lee uniform, but in ten-years time, I won’t be thinking about the goals she scored or the championships she helped us win. Instead I will think of the sacrifices she made for our team and the hard work she put in on and off the field.”

Congratulations to Janaina Novaes on this prestigious honor.

Gathered for the jersey retiring are (from left) Coach Matt Yelton, Luana Novaes (sister), Janaina Novaes, Orion Willoughy (friend) and Lee Athletic Director Larry Carpenter.

Janaina Novaes: Career Highlights

Career Leading Goal Scorer: 118

2004
NAIA Honorable Mention All-American
NAIA Region XIII First Team
NAIA National Tournament All-Tournament Team
NAIA SSAC Player of the Year
NAIA SSAC Newcomer of the Year
NAIA SSAC First Team All-Conference

2005
NAIA First Team All-American
NAIA SSAC Female Athlete of the Year
NAIA National Tournament Offensive MVP
NAIA Region XIII Player of the Year
NAIA Region XIII First Team
NAIA SSAC Player of the Year
NAIA SSAC First Team All-Conference

2006
NAIA First Team All-American
NAIA National Tournament All-Tournament Team
NAIA Region XIII Player of the Year
NAIA Region XIII First Team
NAIA SSAC Player of the Year
NAIA SSAC First Team All-Conference

2007
NAIA First Team All-American
NAIA SSAC Female Athlete of the Year
NAIA National Tournament All-Tournament Team
NAIA Region XIII Player of the Year
NAIA Region XIII First Team
NAIA SSAC Player of the Year
NAIA SSAC First Team All-Conference

Team Record of 81-14-2 during her career with national rankings of #11 (2004), #5 (2005), #6 (2006), and #1 (2007)
LU Athletics in Brief

Volleyball

Lady Flames Finish Strong

The Lee University Women’s volleyball team has been a perennial powerhouse in the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC), but this year finished a disappointing second in the regular season. Undaunted by their record, the Lady Flames re-started their season at the SSAC tournament rattling off four straight wins to earn a spot in the NAIA nationals, held this year in Canton, Ohio. In the opening round the Lady Flames dropped the match 3-1, losing to Walsh University, but walked away proud of once again advancing to the nationals.

The Lady Flames finished their regular and tournament season with a combined record of 29-10. Named Most Valuable Player in the SSAC tournament was Lady Flame Milica Krsmanovic.

Jackeline Toruno goes up for a block in Lee’s Volley for the Cure match against Southern Wesleyan University.

Cross Country

Lee Places Five In Nationals

The Lee University men’s cross country team had three representatives, and the women two, in the NAIA nationals on November 22 at Kenosha, Wis. All five were named to the All-SSAC (Southern States Athletic Conference) during regional competition.

Will Jayroe (pictured, right), the son of Lee cross country coach Don Jayroe, made his father proud by running his fastest time of the season 25:50.38 and placing sixth in the individual competition. Chad Dean came across the finish line right behind Jayroe and placed seventh in the race with a time of 25:59.64. Veteran runner Johnny Clemons earned the third spot in the nationals by posting a 26:17.11 and finishing 10th overall.

For the Lee women Erin Wasserfall and Maggie Opelt earned spots in the national event. Opelt had never run cross country before coming to Lee this fall. Wasserfall finished a strong third with a time of 18:52.01, while Opelt was right behind placing fourth with a 19:03.93 in the 5K event.

National Recognition

Coaches, AD get Top Honors

It has probably happened at other university programs across the nation, but Lee University athletics scored another first when former baseball coach David Altopp was selected to enter the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame; current baseball coach Mark Brew was named the NAIA College Baseball Coach of the Year; and Lee’s Larry Carpenter was pegged as the NAIA Athletic Director of the Year.

Being presented three huge national honors in one year is no accident. All three honorees have given their hearts and souls to their profession. It is ironic that Altopp and Brew, who coached together at Trevecca and Lee for several years, will be saluted at the same time. They will travel to the San Diego, Calif., for the ABCA National Convention on January 2-5.

Carpenter will be recognized at the NAIA Annual Convention in Kansas City on April 17-21. NAIA President and CEO Jim Carr said the Lee AD is being honored for, “his leadership, impeccable integrity, and boundless energy for college athletics.”
**Women’s Golf**

**Newest Sport Wins First Trophy**

It didn’t take the first Lee women’s golf program long to make history. Coach John Maupin took three of his ladies to four tournaments during the fall season and senior Rachel Ingram captured the first trophy to go in the women’s golf case.

Ingram, who transferred to Lee from UT-Knoxville to complete her golfing career and receive her college degree, took first-place honors in the Lady Trojan Classic, hosted by Trevecca University in Nashville. Ingram also had a second-place finish in two other tournaments.

Joining Maupin and Ingram in getting ready for the spring season are Jessica Hodge and Aidra Ruckman.

**Men’s Soccer**

**Rebuilding Flames Redeem Season**

In a rebuilding year, the Lee Flames soccer team took a squad of new, young recruits and worked toward a respectable season. Heading into the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) tournament with a losing record, the Flames surprised everyone with three straight upsets to win the SSAC Championship. At the tourney, held in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, the Flames lost to the hosts in the first round 2-0.

The Flames overcame their slow start to finish 9-10-2. Lee’s Luidgi Beauzile captured the Most Valuable Player honor during the SSAC tournament.

**Mens & Women’s Basketball**

**Both teams ranked high at season’s start**

The Flames and Lady Flames are picked to win the SSAC titles once again. The Lee men are listed No. 4 nationally in the pre-season NAIA poll, while the Lady Flames own a lofty seventh spot in the national rankings.

Coach Brown’s team finished the 2007-08 season with an impressive 33-2 record and an excellent recruiting year. His club primed to challenge for another Southern States Athletic Conference title and a fourth-straight trip to the NAIA National Tournament. The Flames advanced to the Elite Eight last season before falling to the national champions, Oklahoma City.

After a strong recruiting year, Lady Flames Coach Marty Rowe feels good about the new season. Union University (Tenn.) is once again the favorite in the 2008-09 NAIA Division I Women’s Basketball Coaches’ Top 25 Preseason Poll followed by Vanguard (Calif.), Freed-Hardeman (Tenn.), and Trevecca Nazarene (Tenn.). Lewis-Clark State (Idaho) came in at No. 5, Azusa Pacific (Calif.), Lee, Carroll (Mont.), Lambuth (Tenn.), and Oklahoma Baptist rounded out the top-10.

**Athletic Hall of Fame**

**Four Inducted at Homecoming**

Kari Angelbeck Lorenzen (women’s soccer, 1996-1999), Katrina Chatfield Jenkins (volleyball, 1995-1998), Lorenzo Withrite (men’s basketball, 2001-2004), and Paul Duncan (meritorious award) were inducted into the Lee University Athletic Hall of Fame on November 7 during Homecoming 2008.

Angelbeck Lorenzen scored 58 goals and collected 33 assists in her four-year career at Lee. She was an NCCAA All-American and also an NCCAA and NAIA All-American Scholar Athlete. Chatfield Jenkins was an NCCAA and NAIA All-American and helped direct the Lady Flames to their first appearance in the NAIA National Tournament. Withrite scored over 1,000 points in his two-year playing career at Lee. He was an NAIA All-American at both Lipscomb University and Lee. Duncan, who served as Dean of Students while at Lee, was also instrumental in the startup of varsity tennis and helped coach the first team.

For more complete sports coverage, visit the Lee Web site at www.leeuniversity.edu and click the “Athletics” link.
THE RISE OF RUGBY

Men’s rugby is just one of several club sports that have captivated the student body… and the NCAA.

BY CAMERON FISHER
Photographs by Andrew Millar

OPTIONS FOR STUDENT ATHLETIC involvement at Lee University come in three ways: Varsity, Club and Intramural. Club sports are a step up from traditional intramural programming. Rather than competing against the guys or girls across the hall or the dorm across the street, the student athletes participating in club sports compete against colleges and universities from all over the country, which for Lee University includes some of the big name athletic schools like the University of Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida among others. Club athletes have traveled from Washington D.C. to Washington state to compete.

Club sport programs are typically managed by campus recreation departments and the teams themselves are generally student led. Some institutions fund their programs with both scholarship and operational funds while at others the students are responsible for the entire funding of their team/club. Some will have hired coaches and rigorous practice schedules while others have volunteers or player coaches and practice a once a week. Lee fits somewhere in the middle with all of these decisions.

“Our club sports here are very involved on campus with faculty sponsors and student leaders,” stated Kevin Hudson, director of Campus Recreation at Lee. “They get some funding, but you can see them all over campus working to raise money for their programs.”

Hudson explained that the club sport scene has been around awhile, beginning about fifteen years ago with a men’s volleyball club. They maintained an active roster and attended the NIRSA (National Intramural & Recreational Sports Association) National Championships for five consecutive years. NIRSA is the governing body for most club and intramural programs and most institutions have some affiliation with them. “The national championships they sponsor are generally open events with minimal qualifications, which makes it different from varsity athletics where attending a national championship as a participant is usually a very difficult process,” Hudson said.
While men’s volleyball faded and has now made a comeback, men’s rugby is the most popular and successful club sport. Men’s wrestling has qualified four wrestlers for the National Collegiate Wrestling Association Championships, while women’s rugby has a deep roster of about 30 women. Racquetball, ultimate frisbee and table tennis are getting established.

“These students are passionate about the games they play,” Hudson concluded, “and we’re excited about the way they represent Lee University when they compete against these other institutions.”

The following is the first in a series of personal accounts from students who have made club sports an integral part of their Lee University experience.

A BROTHERHOOD OF BELIEVERS

By Jared McElhaney

AS AN INCOMING LEE FRESHMAN, I was sad, yet excited by the fact that my life was changing, yet worried about the prospect of having to form new friendships. I was discouraged because for the first time in my life, I wouldn’t be part of an organized sports team.

Being part of a team had always been my escape from the stresses of life. Sports allowed me to forget about life’s obligations and truly enjoy something. My teammates were always there with me on the field and coaches were always approachable. Though I wouldn’t be close to the best player in any sport, intramurals didn’t seem to offer a worthy challenge to work for. Nevertheless, I found myself content to settling—at least I would still have sports, even if it was only just for fun.

As I came to the final process for registration and intramural sign-ups, something caught my eye. At a separate table was an upper-classman with a sheet of paper and an odd-looking ball in front of him. The sign on for the table listed “Lee Rugby Club Sign-Up.” I had never seen a game, yet from what I saw I felt drawn.

Rugby 101

Rugby is a contact sport consisting of fifteen players to a side, with two forty-minute halves. Like soccer, the time continues throughout the match, stopping only for penalties and other stops in play. Like football, the game is based on and progressing the game-ball down field and into the scoring area. Unlike football, rugby players wear limited protection. The difference here is that in rugby, the tackler must wrap-up the ball carrier; opposed to the dangerous collisions found in football. The two key differences between the two are blocking and off-sides. In rugby, no one is allowed to block a defender from or be situated in front of the ball, on the field. There are also no forward passes allowed in rugby, allowing for a fast-pace and reasonably safe contact sport.

Foundations of Lee Rugby

Lee University Rugby Football Club was established under the hard-work of two students from New England in 2002, Matt Rabine and Kevin Rodriguez. Through the effort of the founding members and faculty sponsor, Dr. Michael Freake, the club played its first match in April
2002, picking up its first official win a year later. In August 2003, the club joined the Mid-South Rugby Union and the arrival of Coach Eddie Roberts. Roberts’ experience of the sport’s characteristics, both in-game and dealing with the requirements for the Union, proved invaluable as the club exploded in membership, popularity and success. Though he had never played the game himself, Lee Business Professor Guy DeLoach took a keen interest in the club’s foundation and growth, along with the sport itself. In fall of last year, DeLoach took over as head coach. Even through its first coaching change, the club continued developing—even seeing Lee get its first ‘home-game’ on Lee University’s Jack Souther Field in August 2007. Just last year, the club captured its first conference championship—making it as far as the Sweet-16 in the Division III National Championship. The sport is always open for new players, regardless of previous experience and currently consists of 35 dedicated members. Lee Rugby draws remarkable crowds of up to 400 at home games, and includes students, faculty, alumni and residents of Cleveland.

**A Christian Rugby Club?**

Lee Rugby finds itself in a position unique to any other group on campus. Instead of the traditional conferences our varsity programs are in, the union that the club is a part of consists of state, military and secular private schools. As such, they are able to be Christ-like examples to those who are likely unexposed to the Word of God. After matches, it is customary for the home team to take the visiting team for a few rounds at the closest bar. When teams come to play Lee, they are still given a social to talk about the game and the sport of rugby, but over pizza instead of alcohol. Sometimes other teams give flack for it, but Coach DeLoach instructs the players that they are Christians first, athletes second. As such, members of the team are to be witnesses through their attitudes on and off the field. Through the sport, the team is first to honor God. Second, they must honor their brothers on the team. Finally, they must honor themselves. They are to approach the game as believers in Christ, put every ounce of their being into every game, and remain humble through the good and the bad.

*Jared McElhaney is a senior history major at Lee.*
William R. McCall ’49 and his late wife, Frances ’44, served as missionaries to Central America and Jamaica for 35 years. William is now retired and living in Cleveland, TN.

▲ Grace Phillips Day ’54 is a full-time evangelist and lives in Adel, GA, with her husband, Charles. They have two grown sons who are songwriters, as is Grace, who has been preaching for 58 years.

William Shell ’55 is retired after 62 years of full-time ministry and is now living on a small farm near Cleburne, TX. He has produced a CD titled “When My Feet Touch the Streets of Gold.” William is married to Naomi.

Bill Ward ’59 is senior pastor of Charleston Worship Center in Charleston, SC.

Terry Fletcher ’73 lives in Berea, KY, and is in his fortieth year of full-time ministry. He is the pastor of two country churches in Berea and Mount Vernon. He also has a radio broadcast titled “Worshipping on Wood and Wire.” His Web site is terryfletcher.org. Terry says, “I owe a great debt to Don Bowdle and Jerome Boone; their teaching changed my life.”

▲ Dan ’77 and Judith Nichols Moore ’77 live in Knoxville where Dan is CEO of Moore Freight Service and Judy is director of the Church of God Widow’s Ministry Center in Sevierville, TN. Moore Freight was recently recognized by Inc. 5000 as one of the fastest-growing private companies in the U.S.A.

Denise Womack Pusifull ’80 is active in volunteer work, riding motorcycles and outdoor activities. She lives in Cranberry, PA, and “would love to hear from some of you I went to school with. Send me an e-mail (denisewuspifull@yahoo.com) or look me up on Facebook.”

Otto Zuckschwerdt ’80 lives in Nampa, ID, with his wife, Vickey. Otto is pastor of Evangel Family Worship Center and director of New Hope Community Health Services, a recovery program.

Tammy Pounders Highfield ’81 was in real estate for 23 yrs and recently retired to help run a family business. Tammy has two sons and one grandson. She lives in Muscle Shoals, AL.

Dean Strong ’81 lives in Sadieville, KY, where he is team leader for Toyota Manufacturing. He has two children and holds A.A., B.S., M.A. and Litt. D. degrees.

Perry Keyt ’85 passed away on November 26, 2008 following a battle with lung cancer. He was senior pastor of the Callaway Park Church of God in LaGrange, GA, and is survived by his wife, Mellisa Ray Keyt ’84, son Matthew (a sophomore at Lee) and daughter, Tiffany.

Roger ’88 and Loretta Lowery Morrison ’87 pastor Real Life Church of

TORCH TRAVELS
Send us a photo of you and/or a fellow alumnus or alumna reading Torch at an exotic or noteworthy destination. Tell us where you were and what was the occasion. Send prints to the Lee University Alumni Office, 1120 North Ocoee Street, Cleveland, TN 37311, ATTN: Torch Travels. High resolution digital photos can be e-mailed to torch@leeuniversity.edu.

Blake and Sheila Eichmann ’07 read Torch in Estreno, a village in the Peruvian Amazon where they live and teach English and agriculture. ▼

▲ Terry O’Bannon ’87 recently traveled to Shanghai with Torch to compare his father’s photo on a recent cover with other “historic towers.”
Carlson Attends Harvard Business Program

Matt Carlson ‘93, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Cleveland, Tenn., was one of eight Habitat executive directors selected from 1,400 affiliates around the United States to attend an executive leadership program at Harvard University.

Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management is a flagship executive education leadership program offered each year at Harvard Business School designed for CEOs and executive directors of nonprofit organizations. Taught by a team of faculty members from HBS and other graduate schools within Harvard University, the program features management cases and materials drawn from a wide variety of social enterprises. Participants have the opportunity to connect with a wide 140 nonprofit leaders from a broad range of sectors and geographies.

Participants develop a strategic outlook to improve the effectiveness of their organizations by understanding core management concepts; applying these concepts strategically; and learning how to implement change within the organization.

“I was honored to be selected by the leadership at Habitat for Humanity International to attend Harvard for leadership training,” commented Carlson. “The program was incredible, very challenging and I’ve already started to implement some of what I learned through this experience at the local level.”

Angela Rowell Mock ‘94 and her husband, Guy, live in Lancaster, PA with their 7-year-old son. Angela, for the past 14 years, has worked in the human resources field and is a regional human resource manager for a nationwide retailer. Angela says, “As it is with everyone, life is busy juggling everything! I look forward to hearing from some of my dear alumni friends!”

Alline Ingle ‘95 works at the Mary Ellen Locher Breast Center at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga, TN, where she is a Grant Outreach assistant. She attends Christ Church Episcopal, and says, “God has blessed me so much with wonderful people in my life, and a job and church that I love.”

Roby Walker ‘83 took Torch to Mumbai, India, where he and Torch stopped in front of the “Gateway to India” in Old Bombay.

God in Columbus, GA. Loretta teaches physical education in Muscogee County. Their daughter, Brittany, is currently a freshman at Lee majoring in psychology. They also have a son who is a high school junior. Their contacts are Roger: reallifepastor@hotmail.com and Loretta: praisinhim07@hotmail.com.

Fredda Richmond Johnson ‘91 has been married to Jerry Johnson for 13 years and they live in Plant City, FL, with three dogs and a cat. Fredda was appointed principal of Randall Middle School. She is in her 20th year of teaching in Hillsborough County where the first 13 she taught physical education followed by six years as an assistant principal.

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Roby Walker ‘83 took Torch to Mumbai, India, where he and Torch stopped in front of the “Gateway to India” in Old Bombay.
Alumni News Wire

Michael W. Harden '93 was named chief financial officer of The Savannah Bancorp. Harden has been with the company since 2005 as vice president of Accounting. In June 2008, he became interim chief financial officer. He received his BA degree in Business Administration from Lee University and his MBA degree from the University of Georgia. Harden is a CPA and is active in the Institute of Management Accountants, the CFO Council and Coastal Cathedral Church of God. —from GlobeNewswire

Glennda Griffin McGuire '64 of Asheville, NC, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, November 15, 2008. She worked as a secretary/bookkeeper for 24 years. She was a member and Sunday school teacher at the West Asheville Church of God. Her family includes her two sons and two grandsons. Memorials may be made to the Family Life Center Building Fund of West Asheville Church of God, 60 State Street, Asheville, NC 28806. —from Asheville Citizen-Times.com

James Wickes '99, an English teacher at Dalton (GA) High School, has been named a 2008 Coca-Cola Educator of Distinction by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Wickes is one of 250 educators across the country chosen to receive this award which recognizes outstanding teachers dedicated to providing education with an enhanced purpose. Wickes receives a commemorative crystal gift from the Foundation and a plaque inscribed with a personal dedication written by Jose Trejo, a 2008 Coca-Cola Scholar and a senior from Dalton High School, who nominated Wickes. —from Dalton Daily Citizen.

Kris Gilbert '96 is living in Cincinnati, OH where he teaches middle school grades at Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy. Kris was chosen to lead a presentation at the 88th National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Annual Conference in Houston, TX, in November. The conference proposal, created by Kris and a colleague, was selected from among over 850 submissions sent in from across the country.

John Riter '96 is serving as a USAF chaplain. He is married to Bonnie and they have two sons and live at Barksdale AFB in Shreveport, LA.

Karrie Wessel Miller '97 spent two years working with international missions in England and Africa managing community development projects. For the last three years Karrie has been director of a women and children's homeless shelter and also teaches life skills classes in prisons in and around Rapid City, SD. Karrie says, “My training in business has helped me immensely in the areas of finance and public speaking.”

Sherrie Hiett '99 is the worship and creative arts pastor at The Summit Church in Albertville, AL.

Nathan '98 and Kristi McHugh Lane '98 are living in West Palm Beach, FL, where Kristi works from home while staying with her two sons. Nathan graduated with his Ph.D. from Baylor University in 2007 and is now an assistant professor of Biblical Studies at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Caleb Gillette '99 is a Sergeant for the Fort Pierce Police Department in Fort Pierce, FL. He supervises the road patrol division and is assistant team leader for the department’s SWAT team.
Caleb is also co-owner of Praetorian Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, an affiliate of the world renowned Brazilian Top Team. He teaches mixed Martial Arts and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and he recently competed in the Florida State Police and Fire Games, receiving a silver medal.

Keri Speed Marshall ’99 is married to Tony and live in Seaford, DE, and have four children. Keri has been teaching high school special education for the last 10 years and “loves every minute of it.”

Travis ’00 and Stephanie Towne welcome the birth of their daughter, Alexis Lynn Towne, born on September 25, 2008. They live in Phoenix, AZ.

Joel Watts ’00 and his family recently moved to Ocean Springs, MS, following Joel’s completion of residency in Internal Medicine in Birmingham, AL. He has taken a job as a hospitalist working with the Singing River Hospital System. He and his wife, Lindsay, have three children.

Chris ‘01 and Christa Hurst Ondrovich ’98 live in Frederick, MD. They have two children and serve as youth pastors at Maranatha Community Church of God.

Amanda Gibson Hayes ’01 is married to Matthew Hayes and they have one son. Amanda is a fifth grade teacher in Grayson County, VA.

Alicia Mather-Ryman ’01 has two daughters and is working toward a Certified Chaplain status in the city of Seattle. She aspires to work with either the police department or one of the hospitals.

Caron Francis Norton ’02 lives in Rock Hill, SC, with her husband and three children. Caron says, “I am enjoying the madness of being a stay-at-home mom!”

Chris ’01 and Christa Hurst Ondrovich ’98 live in Frederick, MD. They have two children and serve as youth pastors at Maranatha Community Church of God.

The Jungs

The Speelmans

Crystal Machacek Jung ’02 recently married and the happy couple resides in Charlotte, NC.

John Crumley ’03, ’07M married Crystal Shire ’03, ’05M on July 12, 2008. John is working with the LUDIC program at Lee and is also a music minister at Shiloh Baptist Church in Ocoee, TN.

Jennifer Mathura ’03 and Edward Bailey ’03 were married in December 2007, and are now living in Cumming, GA, where Jennifer is in education and Edward is in graphic design.

The Speelmans

Derece Williams ’05, surprised by a visit from comedian Jeff Foxworthy, talked him into a pose with Torch at her place of employment, Bowen Family Homes.

Rebecca “Ann” Horton Williams ’73 and Torch at the International Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, NM.

Lauren Thir ’03 married Gary Speelman on May 17, 2008. The couple lives in Reno, NV, where Lauren is college pastor at Harvest Fellowship Church of God and an environmental consultant for a local company.

Urania Edwards ’05 married Dwayne Davis on May 31, 2008. The couple lives in Lawrenceville, GA, where Urania is pursuing her master’s degree in Biomedical Science. The couple are small group leaders at Victory World Church.

33
TORCH • Winter 2008
Craig ’04 and Jessica Long ’05 currently live in Benton, TN. Craig is a science teacher at Tennessee Christian Prep School, and Jessica is a reading teacher at Ocoee Middle School. Both plan to graduate in December 2008 with masters degrees in education. They welcomed their first child, Sydney Elise, in August 2008.

Kristin Michovich ’05 and Jorge Michovich ’05M recently welcomed their new baby boy, Alejandro. The couple resides in Savannah, GA, where they are both teachers.

Adam Cava ’06 completed a master’s in public administration in May of this year and is now living in Phoenix, AZ, where he is an administrative director of a social services business.

Jennifer Morris ’05 married Edward Mikkal Matthew Davis on June 29, 2008, in Chattanooga, TN. The couple now lives in California where Jennifer is pursuing a masters degree at Fuller Theological Seminary. Lee alumni in their wedding included Sarah Hockett McKinney ’05, Ashley Weeks McCoy ’05 and Jenna Back ’08.

Lindsey Meadows ’06 married Devin Jones in June 2008. They live in Tampa, FL, where Lindsey teaches music at an elementary school. They are actively involved at Riverhills Church of God.

Rachel Peterson ’06 married Lee Gates on February 9, 2008, and they are living in Chattanooga, TN, where Rachel is assistant director of Communications at McCallie School in Chattanooga.

Jason ’06 and Kimberly Wheble ’06 are living in Freehold, NJ, where Jason is youth pastor at Abundant Life Church of God and Kimberly teaches middle school science at Cornerstone Christian.

Lauren Sprayberry ’07 and Patrick Amato ’07 were married in November 2007. Lauren is working at Brookwood Medical Center in Birmingham, AL, while Patrick is employed at the corporate office of Regions Bank.

Matthew Hill ’07 and Lydia Hill ’05, ’07M, recently moved to the St. Louis, MO, area to accept positions teaching Alternative High School. Matt
teaches English and serves as an assistant marching band director, while Lydia teaches Music Appreciation and Social Studies and keeps a studio of voice students. They are both pursuing graduate degrees in Education and are active in the music ministry at First Baptist Church of Arnold, MO.

Kevin Angell ’08 is a youth pastor in Statesville, NC.

Jamie Lazar ’08 married Joshua G. Moss ’07 on August 30, 2008. Josh works at First Tennessee as a financial service representative, and Jamie is secretary to the director of the Lee University Alumni Office.

We Want to Hear From You!

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City ___________________________ State ________________ Zip ________________
Last Year at Lee ___________
Phone (H) ________________________ Phone (W) ________________________
E-mail Address _________________________________________
Family (spouse, children, etc.) ________________________________
Occupation ________________________________________________
Brief notes of interest __________________________________________

THREE WAYS TO SEND US YOUR UPDATE

- E-mail: torch@leeuniversity.edu. High resolution digital photos are welcome. Please include all the information requested above.
- Mail: Send this completed form to the Lee University Alumni Office, P.O. Box 3450, Cleveland, TN 37320-3450.

Hugh Carver ’72, Douglas LeRoy ’65 and Kevin Brooks ’90 took Torch along to celebrate the dedication of the Tyler H. Carver Home for Children in Georgetown, Guyana.

Brandon Brown ’07 (back row), Amanda Griffey ’06, Diana Pugh ’06, Melissa Lopez ’07 and Ruth Tipei ’06 take a class photo with Torch and their students at Global Vision Christian School in Eumseong, South Korea.
DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Thank you for giving to the 2008 Annual Alumni Fund! We appreciate your faithful support of Lee University and I have some exciting news regarding this year’s fund. We are on pace to set a new giving record!

Lee’s administrative offices will close on December 19th for the Christmas holidays and we would like to have all pledges in by that time. You may fulfill your pledge by phone (1.800.LEE.9930, option 6), or the Lee University website: www.leeuniversity.edu/info/forms/donate.asp

Or mail contributions to:
Lee University
Alumni Relations
P.O. Box 3450
Cleveland, TN 37320-3450

If you have not pledged to the 2008 fund, please consider in the next few days what you can give. We need your help now to reach this year’s goal of $400,000! Your tax deductible gift to the Alumni Fund may be designated for the new School of Religion Building, new Science Building, or student scholarships.

Thank you again for your support and have a blessed Christmas season!

Anita Ray ’81
Director of Alumni Relations