

# BELHAVEN

TARTAN

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## “JUST” A FACULTY MEMBER

*Reflections of Roger Parrott  
President of the University*

**W**ynn Kenyon was “just a faculty member,” he would tell me with some frequency. “I don’t know how you do all you do,” he would often remark when he’d catch me on the steps of Preston Hall between classes.

While I appreciated his heartfelt complement, as president, I would always remind that gifted philosophy professor, “I only do what I do – so you can do what you do . . . you are the front line of Belhaven’s mission.”

Wynn was anything but “just” a faculty member – he was the lifeblood of Belhaven University – as are every one of our faculty members.

*(Continued on inside)*



Our mission is not achieved through the crafting of policy statements by the Board of Trustees, marketing materials prepared for prospective students, or speeches given by me and others. Rather, creating a top quality Christ-centered University is achieved through the effectiveness and integrity of the faculty.

Each faculty member makes or breaks our quest to achieve this remarkable mission “to prepare students academically and spiritually to serve Christ Jesus in their careers, in human relationships, and in the world of ideas.”

In February, we lost one of the great champions and embodiment of Belhaven’s mission in the sudden death of Dr. Wynn Kenyon. He was a remarkable teacher, thinker, philosopher, and disciple of Jesus.

I never saw Wynn have lunch on campus that wasn’t one-on-one with a student because he wanted to invest in their lives. For him every class session was a treasured opportunity to never be squandered. And each interruption was a ministry moment that would often open the door to deep probing discussions about the big questions of life, while the joy of everyday living were equally celebrated.

Wynn was a faculty member who wanted more time with students, not less time. He could never have enough office hours to talk with students who needed insight or a friend. And he found ways to teach an overload of courses each semester in order to use his gifts fully, and extend his conversations about ideas from early morning until late into the evening as students would also gather in the home of he and his gracious wife Ginny.

Dr. Wynn Kenyon is the first faculty member Belhaven has lost while actively teaching over the past 35 years. His sudden death left our campus in heartache, but with a deeper appreciation for the difference one faculty member makes in equipping a future generation to be prepared with the Truth of God.

Wynn was one faculty member who changed the world by equipping hundreds of students to develop a Christ-centered worldview that will stand up to the storms of life.

One faculty member living out the mission of Belhaven is the heart and soul of this University. And Wynn, along with his colleagues of marvelous faculty, do just that every single day on our campus.

Mark Hopkins was president of Williams College for 36 years, retiring at about the time Belhaven was founded in the late 1880s.

His influence was made famous in a quote from one of his former students, the 20th President of the United States, James Garfield, who commented on his administration’s education policy saying, “The ideal college is Mark Hopkins on one end of a log and a student on the other.”

Universities used to be fairly simple organizations, as depicted in black and white movies. But all that has changed. The complexity of rapidly shifting curriculum, delivery systems, financial structures, accrediting, and government regulations have taken all the simplicity out of running a campus.

But for our students, education is simple – it is the interaction that takes place between the student and the faculty member – Wynn Kenyon sitting at one end of the log and Nathan McNeill at the other end, as they discuss the big questions of life.

All of the statements, policies, slogans, and programs that administrators or trustees can envision will never rise above the quality of the faculty. The interaction between a faculty member and a student is where education takes place, and great faculty can overcome many other shortcomings of an institution, but the converse is not true.

God has brought together at Belhaven University a committed, talented, and spiritually mature faculty who are ministering through teaching, advising, research, and service. I’m amazed by their strengths.

Our faculty are not cloistered by their specialty from the rest of the educational process or the Church. We are blessed to be a Christian university where the liberal arts purists do not live in moral superiority to the vocational faculty, spiritual piety is not expressed through divisions over worship styles or peripheral issue litmus tests, administrators and trustees are not seen as a counterbalance to the priorities of the faculty, and grumbling and gossip never replaces the discussion of scholarly ideas.

A marvelous faculty assures that the university is Christ-centered to the core, even if in theory, all the “Christian requirements” were stripped away and all that was left was the student on one end of the log and the faculty member at the other end. The faculty of Belhaven makes this just such a place.

I have reported to our faculty on several occasions that attending meetings of other college presidents is always a spiritual confirming experience for me. Because in the hallways I hear my colleagues talk about their faculty – how difficult they are to get along with, how they live with adversarial tension between the administration and faculty, how faculty disrespect students, how faculty are selfish, lazy, and heartless, and how some faculty even attempt to tear down the spiritual growth of students rather than to build it up.

And I walk out of those discussions thanking God for Belhaven’s faculty. We don’t live in the muck and mire that has consumed higher education, and while most presidents bemoan their faculty, I could not be more proud and thankful for our faculty. One of my greatest joys is to work with this faculty, and I pray every day the Lord will give me ways to smooth the path that allows them to do what God’s called them to do.

I’m thankful that our faculty live out our mission with more richness than any mission statement could ever articulate.

I’m thankful that our faculty view teaching as a ministry.

I’m thankful that our faculty don’t build academic disciplinary silos.

I’m thankful that our faculty meetings are happy and collegial events.

I’m thankful that our faculty prays together and prays for students by name.

I’m thankful that our faculty is generous in their attendance at student athletic, chapel, and arts events.

I’m thankful that our faculty have found that careful balance with students between the law and grace, and tend to lean toward grace.

I’m thankful that our faculty make the personal financial sacrifice to be investors in students as their inheritance.

I’m thankful that our faculty are academically rigorous, but meet students at their point of need.

I’m thankful that our faculty don’t need traditional oversight committee structures that prove we trust each other.

I’m thankful that our faculty engage in the marketplace of ideas beyond our campus boundaries.

I’m thankful that our faculty have the courage to always be learning and teach in new ways.

I’m thankful that our faculty integrate faith into their discipline at a deeper level than nearly any other Christian College in America.

I’m thankful that our faculty respect the role of all the other employees on campus who don’t teach in the classroom.

I’m thankful that our faculty exceed in practice all the claims of our student recruitment brochures.

I’m thankful that our faculty love God, love the Bible, love students, love their colleagues, and love Belhaven University’s mission.

I’m thankful that the Standard is Christ for each faculty member.

Dr. Wynn Kenyon was “just a faculty member.” But I have this wonderful vision of what faculty members like Wynn experience when they get to heaven.

There, the Lord shows them a gigantic black screen, and then the screen begins to come to life as points of light appear to represent each student they have taught during their career. But branching from each of those students, are lights connecting them to spouses and children they have influenced, work associates they have reached with God’s Truth, communities they have strengthened, and Churches they have help build.

Finally, from a few points of lights in a classroom, the Lord shows that faculty member a screen that shines bright with dramatic interconnected influence of “just one faculty member.”

Wynn Kenyon can never be replaced. But as we remember him, we celebrate the significance and the quality of the 100 full time faculty teaching on our campus today, and the hundreds of part time faculty who teach for us across all six of our campus. They are Belhaven University.

Each one is anything but “just a faculty member.”



# WYNN KENYON

[ 1 9 4 8 - 2 0 1 2 ]

Wynn Kenyon (Feb 12, 1948-Feb 13, 2012) had a heart attack on Wednesday evening around 9:00 p.m. while working out at Belhaven's Fitness Center. He was found unconscious by a student. CPR was administered to him. Paramedics were able to get a heart beat when they worked on him. His blood pressure was erratic, and doctors had to work again to stabilize him at the hospital.

Over the next couple of days, the concern was over his brain function. No one knew exactly how long Wynn was without oxygen.

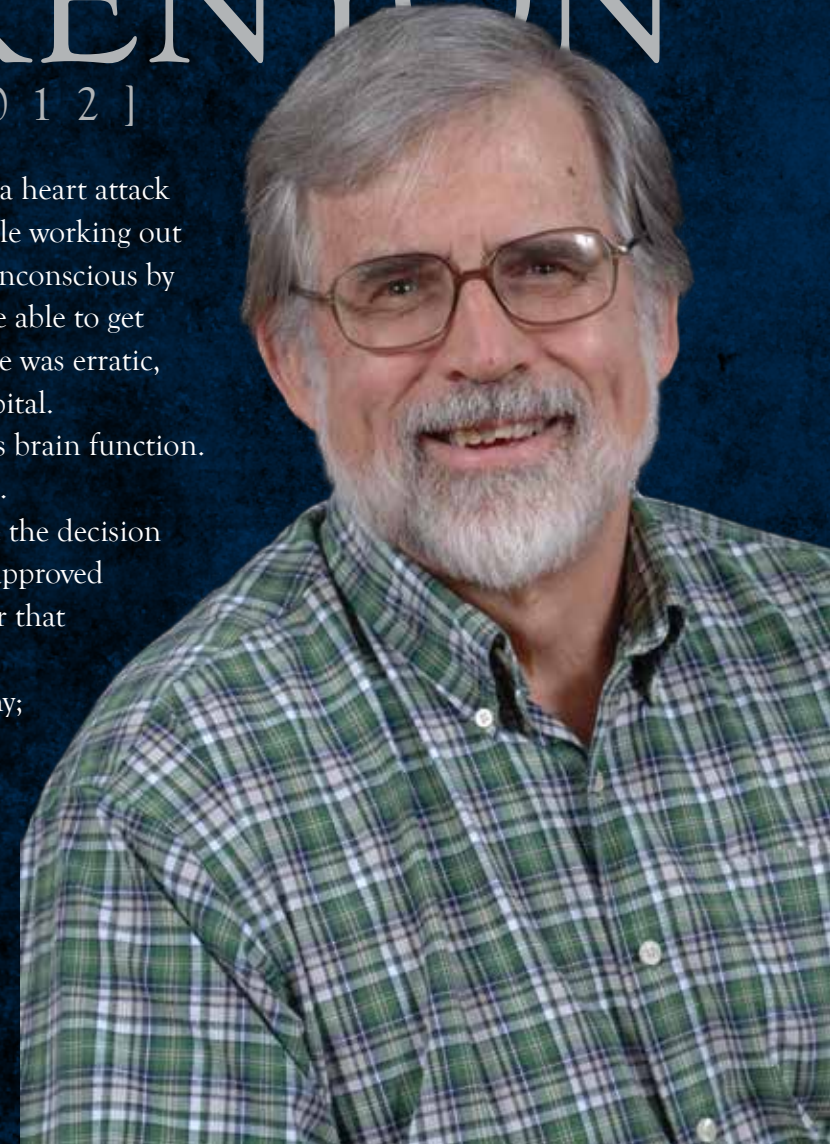
After a series of tests and procedures, the family made the decision on Monday morning that there was no hope for life and approved the removal of all medical assistance. He died shortly after that event with Ginny and the family at his side.

Wynn was Professor of Biblical Studies and Philosophy; Chair of the Philosophy Department and Division of Ministry and Human Services at Belhaven University. Dr. Kenyon received his B.A. from Marietta College, his M.Div., from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Miami.

At Belhaven he developed and wrote the course materials and lectures for the introduction to Worldview classes at Belhaven University, as well as various other courses taught during his 25 years as a Professor at Belhaven University. Dr. Kenyon was always a favorite among the students and was repeatedly selected as Teacher of the Year. You would often see him around the campus engaged in intense discussion with students.

Wynn had a passion for teaching and helping his students understand and embrace the biblical worldview.

He and his wife, Ginny, home schooled their children up to the college level. Wynn grew up in a large family of eleven siblings and loved good healthy fun and sports of all kinds. They worshipped at Trinity Presbyterian Church, pastored by Mike Ross. When the Trinity congregation decided to buy property in a different part of the city, they left the older property for a new, multi-racial church to be formed called Redeemer Presbyterian. The Kenyon family was part of the group that remained behind to help start the new work.



## Truth is Capitalized

Death steals suddenly and unlooked for upon those we love, and like children startled from our playthings, we shrink to find that an adult and awful world has invaded our own and taken captives. We thought we could play forever on the fringes of absolutes, pushing little truths through the dust, only to discover in an instant that Truth will not be toyed with, but must be obeyed. It is not a plaything to be manipulated neither is it a force beyond comprehension, but a precious stone from which our lives and deaths and truths gain reference, a monolith of great wonder, too great for our field of vision and yet plainly seen.

This was the life and work of Wynn Kenyon; to help me and many, many others see that Truth is capitalized and is a thing of great wonder. In fact, he would say, Truth must be wondered at because it cannot be comprehended any other way. Either you start with wonder on your search for Truth or else you do not begin to search. Dr. Kenyon understood this. He understood it so well that he could teach it patiently, knowing that as Truth began its invasion into the mind of a child (no matter the child's age) it would break through not by what was added to the understanding but by what was unleashed. It would break through by the seed of understanding, the knowing of God, being broken and buried in the heart of a believer. And wonder grew in many hearts as Dr. Kenyon cultivated until it burst into the fruits of thought and prayer and deed. And so the wonder of Truth grew with its understanding, each facet of the great stone breaking open some new vision as stunning as the first.

Yet even as we stand in wonder at the stone of Truth, we almost stumble over it. For it is the scandal of a thousand ages that the living stone should also be the dying stone upon which the lives of our loved ones are slain. But as we weep and wait and pray we begin to see on the dawn of the third day yet one more wonder displayed: that within the stone death has been broken through to life... like the morning, like a trumpet, like a sunrise, like a loud laugh.

And in that moment we know that Dr. Kenyon's journey is over and his exploration just beginning. That all of the thoughts and questions and struggles that he carried as a burden so diligently for so many people for so many years may finally... be unpacked.

— NATHAN MCNEILL former philosophy student reflected on their journey of ideas together. He is co-founder of Bomgar, and serves as its Chief Strategy Officer. With fellow classmate Joel Bomgar and Patrick Norman they created one of the fastest growing tech companies in America.

# BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY

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## Editor's Note:

**I**t was November 2011 as we were about to print the winter edition of the Tartan that news of the severe structural issues of the east wing of Fitzhugh Hall became fully known and the decision to vacate the building was made. We sincerely hoped we would be able to “save” the history rich wing, but further shifts in the soil over the Christmas Holidays led us with no other option but to tear down the rapidly deteriorating wing. Our initial campaign to “save” Fitzhugh Hall quickly became an effort to “restore” Fitzhugh Hall to its rightful and significant place in the center of the Belhaven campus.

## Fitzhugh Hall: a storied past pointing to a promising future

For over 100 years, students have lived and learned in Fitzhugh Hall. Fitzhugh is not simply a place, but literally the heartbeat of campus. Over the years, Fitzhugh has housed residence hall rooms, academic classrooms, a swimming pool, a coffee shop, the home economics department, faculty and administrative offices, science and math labs, our technology equipment, and athletic offices. Fitzhugh Hall has had about as many uses as it has years! Emotionally, Fitzhugh holds a special place in the hearts of many of our alumni. We have reprinted a few of these stories on pages eight and nine. You can add your story to the Fitzhugh update page at [www.belhaven.edu](http://www.belhaven.edu).

On June 13, a crowd of nearly 200 faculty, staff, students, neighbors, and local media watched as the grand building was carefully and methodically deconstructed. It was indeed a bittersweet moment. While we were sad to see our old friend go, there was a sense of hope and excitement about what the new Fitzhugh would become. Currently, the debris has been removed and the space that remains is ready to begin the next journey of this revered ground.

The new east wing of Fitzhugh Hall will not only add to the long and eclectic uses of the building, but also serve as a bridge to the future and serve all of Belhaven's students more effectively. As Belhaven leaders prayed over the next steps concerning Fitzhugh, it became clear the overall footprint of the building's east wing would accommodate the much needed science and multi-disciplinary teaching space. Providentially, the estimated \$6.2 million cost for the restoration and conversion project is significantly less than our previously developed science building plan that was shelved due to hurricane Katrina in 2005. Working carefully with the architects, contractors, and the historic commission, the new Fitzhugh will honor the past and boldly prepare students to more actively engage in scientific and environmental issues that will impact their futures.

The new state-of-the-art learning facility will not only strengthen our science majors, but will also allow us to extend our worldview curriculum. It will also foster a cross-disciplinary approach to science instruction that will bring all Belhaven students in contact with the sciences in a meaningful and practical way. The new Fitzhugh will be equipped with seven laboratories to support the sciences and three large classrooms equipped with smart boards and the latest in





audio visual technology. Each new classroom will be designed for science and available for non-science class scheduling.

**Building on what we do best**  
 Belhaven University has long been known for our unique Worldview Curriculum which integrates the arts, literature, history, and philosophy into a seamless, chronological study. By teaching these subjects in the context of one another, the grand story of humanity and our place in it is better understood, thus helping students better see the “big picture.” This holistic approach to education stands in stark contrast to most colleges and universities today. The Belhaven Worldview Curriculum is indeed one of our greatest strengths.

We will leverage our experience in the development of our worldview curriculum to introduce science majors and non-majors alike to science as a critical means for environmental health, decision-making and problem-solving within the context of a Christian Worldview. We will strengthen Belhaven’s already well-established undergraduate worldview experience while also offering our science majors dramatically enhanced facilities that will complement our long-standing tradition of excellent science instruction that has consistently landed nearly all of our science and pre-med majors in the graduate school of their choice.

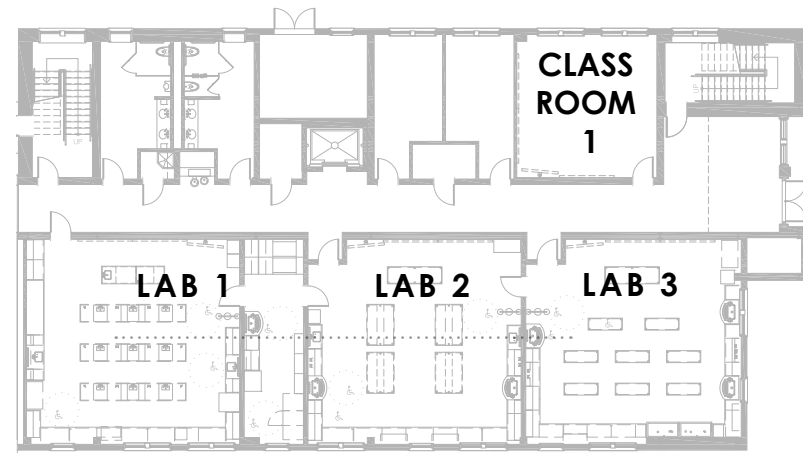
“We are ecstatic the Lord has led us to be able to replace facilities that are, in some cases, more than 40 years old. When you bring together new facilities with visionary, high quality, and experienced instruction in this way, it fosters a giant leap forward for all our students,” said Dr. Roger Parrott, President of the University.

printing, Belhaven has received \$1.7 million in gifts and insurance settlements, still leaving a sizeable gap that must be provided. Dr. Parrott, the Belhaven Board of Trustees and the University’s development staff have been aggressively trying to backfill the difference for this vital project. Parrott noted, “...for certain, this has not been a traditional capital campaign in any way, shape, or form, but we are excited about a project where we can trust fully in the Lord’s provision. Just because we are moving ahead with the project, does not mean we have reached our fundraising needs. We simply must have Fitzhugh back in full operation by the fall of 2013, so we are using the funds received to date to jump-start this initiative. We encourage all of our friends and alumni to prayerfully consider a gift to restore Fitzhugh.”

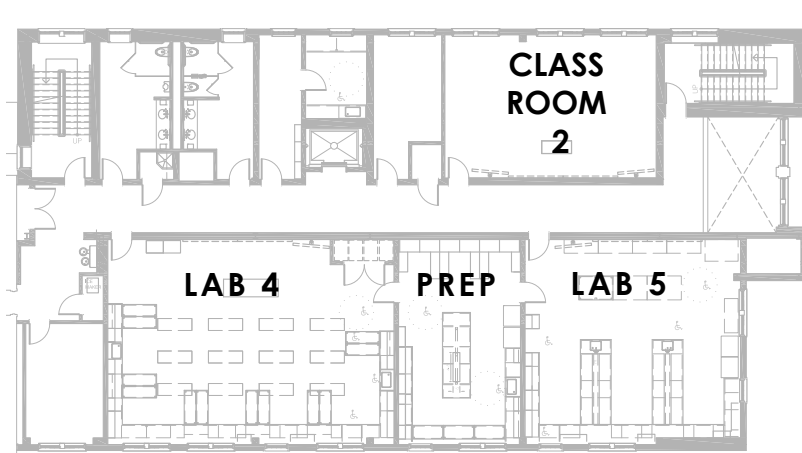
To facilitate the giving, we are asking alumni and friends to provide “seats of learning” for either classroom or laboratory that will allow us to educate Belhaven students for many years to come. All gifts can be made in a lump sum or pledged over a three-year period. Every donor that provides at least one seat will be included on a special Wall of Thanksgiving that will be prominently displayed in the new wing and dedicated at Homecoming of 2013. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference!

**Follow the progress!**  
 During this time of transition, the “Fitzhugh Hall Blog” was created to share news, photos and videos as construction continues. As we chronicle the restoration and rebuilding of this cherished building, we encourage you to follow the progress at [www.belhaven.edu](http://www.belhaven.edu). Simply click on the Fitzhugh Updates in the bottom left corner to follow each week’s progress. We hope that we can count on you for your prayers and support for this special project!

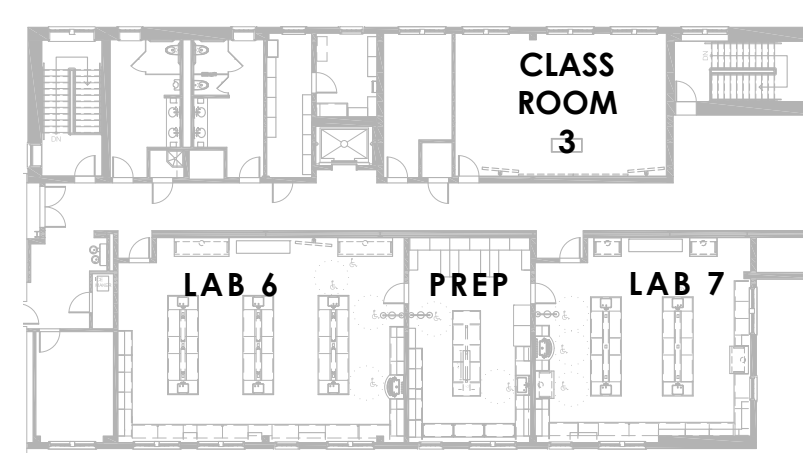
**FLOOR ONE- BIOLOGY**



**FLOOR TWO- INTERDISCIPLINARY SCIENCE**



**FLOOR THREE- PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY**



**Much work to do and many hands are needed**

The physical work on Fitzhugh Hall is only one part of the makeover that must occur. When the crippling erosion was discovered last fall, a new science wing was not on the fund-raising screen of the University. “Just like always, we are following the Lord’s lead and we will continue to trust that He will provide,” Dr. Parrott noted. At this

# SEATS OF LEARNING

**WE ARE ASKING** special friends like you to provide either classroom or laboratory seats of learning that will allow us to educate Belhaven students for many years to come. All gifts can be pledged over a three year period and every dollar that provides at least one seat will be included on our special Wall of Thanksgiving that will be located in the new wing. Will you prayerfully consider providing a seat of learning? **EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

**100 LABORATORY SEATS NEEDED**

	\$3000
	\$6000
	\$9000

**150 CLASSROOM SEATS NEEDED**

	\$1200
	\$2400
	\$3600

## CONTACT

**OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI**  
**601-968-5980 | ALUMNI@BELHAVEN.EDU**  
**WWW.BELHAVEN.EDU/FITZHUGH.HTM**

# Fitzhugh To Me

*Through the years, Fitzhugh Hall has been many different things to many different people and it has been the centerpiece to many personal stories. Students have lived and studied there, Belhaven faculty and staff have worked there. At times Fitzhugh has been the hub of student life and at other times a place of sanctuary from the craziness of college life. Husbands have met and proposed to their wives and life-long friendships were formed in its walls.*

*Whether Fitzhugh represents work or play, here is your chance to tell the world your memories in Fitzhugh and its significance.*

*You can now give Fitzhugh a voice and add your piece of history to Belhaven University. Follow the QR code and tell us your favorite memory.*



TO VIEW THE ALL OF THE POSTS ON THE FITZHUGH BLOG, VISIT YOUR CELL PHONE'S APP STORE ON THE WEB AND SEARCH FOR QR CODE READER, DOWNLOAD A QR CODE READER APP TO SCAN THIS CODE.

## **Carol Davis Thompson '69 says:**

Although I never lived in Fitzhugh, my first visit there was as a freshman in 1965 when we girls had to present ourselves to Miss Bess wearing hats and gloves before attending church. I also remember having art with Miss Moffat and home economics classes with Miss Beachamp and Mrs. Harmon in the Fitzhugh's basement. I loved that old building.

## **Kelli Albritton Irby '80 says:**

I met my now husband, Tim Irby, at Belhaven my Freshman year. We began dating soon after and when I moved over to Fitzhugh Hall, I lived on the second floor, corner room, facing the big magnolia tree. We had no bell system, like in Helen White, to call you when you had a visitor in the lobby, so when Tim came over, he pitched small rocks up to my window, calling me down. I knew there had to be a better system so I attached a bell to my blinds cord, cut one end, tied a knot and ran the excess out my window for Tim to grab and ring instead of throwing rocks at my window. It worked. For those three years, that is how my husband would call me down to meet him...I still have the bell.

## **Virginia Hill Johnson '67 says:**

My best memory and most significant happening was on the night of Belhaven Convocation. I had been under conviction all summer long, but all of that came to a head that night when I felt very discouraged and angry with myself for some stupid choices I had made my freshman year. My roommate was out that evening and as I lay in bed trying to go to sleep, sadness covered over me and I said in my heart and mind, "I don't want to keep living if I keep making such horrible decisions for my own life.

In a very real way, I sensed Jesus standing by my bed in the darkness and He said to me, "Why don't you give your life to me?" I handed over my life to him, and in 46 plus years I have never looked back. I have never had doubts of my real salvation in all those years. Jesus DID take my life, and in the way only He can, he made it new.

My poor roommate returned later to find me sobbing (in great relief and a sense of newness) wondering what on earth was going on. The next day I went to consult with Dr. Norm Harper who was on the Bible staff that year and he had the privilege of telling me that he believed I had been "born again." I had been a faithful church attender all my 19 years, but finally I understood the power of the concept of being born again.

The next year my roommate was elected President of Fitzhugh Dorm, and we had a huge room behind Miss Bess's living quarters in another cloister setting. That was my last year at Belhaven as I graduated that next summer. Most of my memories of Belhaven take place in that dear building. My husband and I are sending a donation to help with the rebuilding of what has become a holy place to me.

## **Judith Tremblay '01 says:**

I was a sophomore living in Fitzhugh in 1997-98, the last year it was a dorm before being converted to office space.

I remember going around taking pictures of all the artwork in other rooms, dating back to when girls could paint their rooms. There was the pink and purple room, and the Noah's Ark scene painted on the radiator. I wish there was a way to post pictures.

One thing I missed after my sophomore year was the coffee shop in the basement; it had been either remodeled or closed after the building was converted.

## **Joanne Toulan Youngblood '73 says:**

During the school year 1970-1971 Fitzhugh Hall was my sophomore dorm. My room was on the first floor of residences next to the stairwell, the pay phone and the fridge overlooking Helen White (my freshman dorm), the "circle" and the "bowl" which looked beautiful in the snow that year. Most of us on my wing used the back stairwell and hardly ever "signed out/in" because it was so convenient. I loved the hardwood floors, the high ceilings and even the weekly room "inspections."

Even though I loved living in Helen White my fondest memories are of living in Fitzhugh Hall. My first view of the Belhaven Campus as a prospective student was of the "lagoon" Preston Hall and Fitzhugh Hall. And when I saw Lancaster Hall, Helen White and the Fine Arts I decided that I wanted to go to Belhaven. At the time the student body was less than 700 students which appealed to me since I wanted to go to small school.

I could go on forever about my fondness for both Belhaven and Fitzhugh Hall but I cannot think of any one memory - there are so many. I shall keep and treasure them all.

# Fitzhugh

## A FACE TO THE NAME



Dr. Louis T. Fitzhugh (1841-1904) is Belhaven University's first president and founder. The man behind the name of Fitzhugh Hall is known for many firsts, like the naming of the college. More notably, he is remembered for his courageous leadership in keeping the vision and future of Belhaven alive. His unwavering faith in God and courageous leadership helped set the course for the small college for young ladies to grow into a thriving university.

Dr. Fitzhugh came to Jackson, Mississippi in 1894, following a successful career as president of Whitworth College in Brookhaven, Miss. He had previously been a member of the faculty at the University of Mississippi.

He launched Belhaven as a private school for girls and officially opened Belhaven College for Young Ladies in 1894. He picked Jackson because it was central and a city that was growing with ten thousand inhabitants. He found the ideal location for his private college on Boyd Street in Jackson, several blocks south from the present location, the present day intersection of North Jefferson and Boyd Street.

Dr. Fitzhugh decided to name the new school Belhaven from the old mansion purchased from Colonel Jones Hamilton. The house, called "Belhaven" was named in honor of the Hamilton's ancestral home in Scotland.

Fitzhugh and nine other teachers were the first educators at the college and ran the eleven different schools and departments. Dr. Fitzhugh taught several different subjects including Latin, Greek, logic, and political economy.

On February 7, 1895, tragedy struck Belhaven. A fire had started in the furnace room and enveloped the building in flames. Because of a hard winter freeze, the water pipes were frozen, so no water could be used to put out the blaze. Dr. Fitzhugh could only watch his dreams helplessly dwindled in the flames. After only seven months of operation, the newly opened Belhaven burned to the ground.

Even in the devastation and heartache of the fire, God was working and hope was alive. God's plan and provision was evident when the surrounding Jackson community and businesses began sending in donations. Other offers of physical and financial help poured in from around the state. After only two weeks since the fire, Dr. Fitzhugh took a courageous step of faith and decided to rebuild and reopen Belhaven.

Classes met in temporary quarters near the Governor's Mansion for the rest of the year until the new buildings on Boyd Street were ready. The college reopened in the fall of 1896 and from then on, the college began to steadily grow.

Since 1894 godly leadership has always marked Belhaven. Every Belhaven president after Dr. Fitzhugh has cultivated the dream and contributed to the purpose of what Belhaven is today.



# I AM THE 94%

The scholarship assistance that 94% of our students receive, makes all the difference in their family affording a Belhaven education.

They are willing to pay the difference to gain from our academic quality and faith commitment. But, without your gift to the Belhaven Fund, they could not be here. So, thank you for investing in the 94% and 1,050 remarkable students.

—THE—  
**BELHAVEN**  
*Fund*

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# changing green chemistry

Student chemists at Belhaven University are experiencing what only a handful of universities across the country ever encounter; a completely green chemistry program.



DR. REID BISHOP

Last year, Belhaven's new chemistry professor, Dr. Gary Reid Bishop stepped into his new role, ready to build upon a firm, 30 year foundation in the Belhaven chemistry department. He began to move the program toward becoming environmentally conscious and helping his students learn more about green chemistry.

Dr. Bishop, who came from Mississippi College after six years as Assistant Professor in the Chemistry Department, believes that social and environmental change begins in the classroom. "Organic chemists are indirectly responsible for the largest amounts of pollution in the world. You then realize that chemists and professors need to be the ones pushing the frontier of chemistry toward protecting the environment," Dr. Bishop said.

Great advances in chemistry such as plastics, gasoline, pesticides and paints are simultaneously filling our landfills, air and water with environmentally harmful chemicals that can take years to break down.

Belhaven University has the only chemistry department in Mississippi that has adopted a completely green perspective in every class and laboratory.

Dr. Bishop said, "The chemical reactions we study use materials that are safer for the environment and can easily breakdown. Our experiments use small amounts of materials, conserve energy and cut the use of heavy metals, solvents and acids." According to

Dr. Bishop, these green chemistry experiments yield the same scientific results one would get using regular and more harmful materials, but minimize the problems in a way that is safer for the environment.

For example, students in one organic chemistry class have learned how to start reactions without solvents. Student chemists placed their experiments in beakers on a window seal and waited for a little sunlight. This experiment showed the use of natural sunlight as a catalyst for a reaction.

These green methods are sometimes more technical and often require finesse. Students are challenged from a critical thinking perspective. David Spencer, a junior from Oregon, said, "It's been more of an interactive lab in the sense that it's less just going to a lab and following written out methods; we are motivated to think and understand each experiment, leaving out the environmentally harmful waste."

In the current cultural climate 'going green' is seen as a buzzword or cliché, but Dr. Bishop adds, "It is an actual, realistic discipline that is practiced everyday in Belhaven's science labs." Every laboratory is designed around the 12 Green Chemistry Principles. These 12 principles provide student and faculty chemists a road map to implement green chemistry. Belhaven's chemistry curriculum has modeled its program from other institutions like the University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of Oregon.

"I believe that the stewardship of our planet is part of our responsibility as chemist no matter what your religious affiliation, but as Christians we are particularly charged to care for each other, this world and all the living things in this world."

The chemistry program's goal is to make better physicians, scientists, and leaders while educating students about the importance of chemistry in environmental quality.

Belhaven's student led and newly formed chapter of Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) is leading the charge to educate others about environmental responsibility in science.

Rachel Eason, chemistry major and president of Belhaven's chapter of the SAACS, said, "Unless other people get on the green bandwagon, then future generations are going to pay for their laziness and irresponsibility. Our chapter plans on bringing high school students and others to our campus to show them experiments and teach them

that green chemistry and science can be fun and environmentally good."

Dr. Bishop agrees that good stewardship of the environment is another form of loving your neighbor. "I believe that the stewardship of our planet is part of our responsibility as chemist no matter what your religious affiliation, but as Christians we are particularly charged to care for each other, this world and all the living things in this world."



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# AL CHESTNUT

Every inch and object of Dr. Al Chestnut's eclectic office can be pieced together to tell countless stories about students, friends and fellow professors at Belhaven University. Above his desk, thick

layers of overlapping photographs cover the wall, sent in from past students and their families.

"These are most of my former students through the years; the pictures just go on and on," said Dr. Chestnut. Pointing at one of the photos he says, "This guy is actually a student I had who is now a pharmacist in Montgomery and last time he was in Jackson, he took me and my wife out to dinner."

Dr. Chestnut remembers each and every student, and the impact Dr. Chestnut has had on those students is obvious. He is a prime example of what is most important to Belhaven's professors; being involved and invested in each student.

Starting in May, Dr. Chestnut started his year long sabbatical.

For over 32 years Dr. Chestnut has continued to be a fixture in the Biology Department at Belhaven University. Dr. Robert P. Waltzer, Professor of Biology, remembered his first introduction to Dr. Chestnut and said, "He made my transition to Belhaven very smooth. He welcomed me into his home and made me feel like a part of his family."

Dr. Chestnut came to Belhaven because he had a vision for Christian education and has helped make the Biology Department what it is today.

Dr. Waltzer adds, "I have known Dr. Al Chestnut for 19 years and his commitment to building the Biology Department through teaching, research, missions and outreach has never wavered the entire time I have known him. He believes in what he does with every fiber of his being, and I believe he has built a tremendous department that has borne abundant fruit throughout the years. He has been a vessel used by the Lord who will continue to do great things."

Students that go through the biology program later study or practice nursing, teaching, research and medicine. In Jackson alone, more than 50 physicians have been students of Dr. Chestnut.

Dr. Chestnut said, "I walked into the emergency room one night about three years ago. I was lying in back of the rooms and the curtain opened and to my surprise it was one of my former students. He popped his head in and told me he would take care of me."

Laughing he adds, "I am never worried about former students who care for me, because I know that they realize what they are doing. I would have never have sent them on if they didn't."

So, what does one do on sabbatical?

Dr. Chestnut will travel to Morehead City, N.C. and spend a year at the house he grew up in. He and his wife plan to take time reconnecting with friends, journaling and enjoying the quietness and beauty of God's creation right outside his back door.

"There is doing vs. being and I am well into the autumn of my life. I am usually a doer, always looking for the next project, but for this sabbatical I just want to be. I see God giving me time to study his word and I would love to write a devotional book for my children and grandchildren."

Dr. Chestnut realized the significance of this from his own life and experience. While he was away for college his dad wrote him hand written letters every day for four years.

Before he leaves for the beach, Dr. Chestnut plans to participate in a mission trip with First Presbyterian of Jackson in August. The mission trip will help a new church plant, called Free Grace Presbyterian Church, and the surrounding community in Lewiston, Maine.

Dr. Chestnut adds, "I better be careful when I say this, but I love teaching and I would pay them for the privilege of teaching here at Belhaven."



## Art Center of MS Hosts Senior Art Exhibit

For the first time, seniors studying visual art displayed their work in a gallery off campus. The art exhibition, called The Collective, featured 12 seniors and covered the second gallery floor of the Arts Center of Mississippi. The opening reception on April 8, which kicked off the three-week exhibition, saw one of the biggest crowds at a Belhaven gallery opening.

The art put together was a collective piece of work both unique and similar as a whole.

Julian Rankin, from the Mississippi Museum of Art, blogged about the event and said, "There is a certain rhythm. As you turn the corners of the exhibition, you encounter pieces from each artist's body of work spread throughout the gallery. It's like meeting scattered members of the same family. Each piece is individually striking, and collectively cohesive."

Belhaven's three-month practicum allows students to work in series and to promote the creative process while separating the student from the artist.

Bob Pennebaker, Chair of Visual Art explains, "Belhaven's practicum period is something no other school in the nation does. We stop all classroom work a month before the fall semester ends and for three months

all we do it make art. Students are unleashed to pursue their art in an unbridled creative fashion, focusing on honing their skills and building a body of work that allows them to truly immerse themselves in the activity of art making; less student, more artist."

## Belhaven Named College of Distinction

For a second year, Belhaven University was recognized and awarded for excellence in education by CollegesofDistinction.com, an online guide that highlights the best colleges and universities for students to learn, grow and succeed.

Colleges of Distinction honors colleges based on the opinions of guidance counselors, educators, and admissions professionals. Belhaven University demonstrated excellence in four distinct areas: engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities, and successful outcomes.

"Schools selected as Colleges of Distinction create well-rounded graduates and are among the very best in the country," reported Tyson Schritter, the Executive Editor of Colleges of Distinction. "While each school is one of a kind, they all share a common theme: they are all a great place to get an education."

Featured schools take a holistic approach to admissions, consistently excel in providing undergraduate education, and have a truly national reputation.

## MPA Students Finalist Presidential Management Fellowship

Belhaven's Stan Easterling and Poala Phillips were selected as finalist in the Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) Program for 2012. They are part of the 628 finalists who came from 9,100 applicants from around the United States.

Finalists in the PMF program move to the top of the federal government's list for administrative leadership positions in different agencies. It is a very selective and prestigious program pulling from many Ivy League universities.

Easterling and Phillips are Jackson ASPIRE students in the Masters of Public Administration (MPA) Program.

Dr. Ervin Paul Martin, Belhaven's MPA Program Director, said, "We are very pleased and proud of Stan and Poala, who are two wonderful representatives of the quality in Belhaven's MPA curriculum. "Our MPA

students and graduates hold their own and compete with the best in the nation in the public sector, especially in federal and state government."

Amos Ellis ('09) was Belhaven's first PMF finalist and now works as a PMF 2010 Project Manager at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The MPA program at Belhaven University equips graduates for increased leadership and management responsibilities within government agencies.

Belhaven's Adult Studies programs, like the MPA, are accelerated degree programs, meeting once a week and are designed for the working adult.

## Music Students are Winning Top Honors

Students in the Belhaven Music Department won top honors in competitions around the state this year. Nine Belhaven University Vocal Arts students competed successfully at the National Association of the Teachers of Singing Competition (NATS). This competition was held at the University of Mississippi on March 23 and 24, 2012.

The annual vocal competition hosted hundreds of student singers from every major university along with many high school singers.

Belhaven's John Mathieu, a junior, took first place, competing against all junior men in the Classical category. Ellie Wise, another Belhaven junior, took first place, competing against all junior and senior women in the Musical Theatre Category.

Andrew Craig, a junior, took third place, competing against all junior and senior men in the Musical Theatre Category.

Jeff Tarver, a Belhaven High Scholars student, took second place in the men's high school division.

In another competition on March 24 at Alcorn State University, Maggie McLinden placed third in the Fifth Annual National Piano Competition.

McLinden, a sophomore and music major with an emphasis in piano performance, previously placed third in both last year's competition and in the Mississippi Music Teachers Association Piano Competition held

earlier this spring at Jones County Junior College.

## Over 450 Students Participate in MLK Service Day

For over a decade Belhaven University students have participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day. This year, on January 16, 2012, over 400 Belhaven students volunteered at charitable organizations to serve the community.

From planting flowers and raking leaves to construction and serving food, students were spread out throughout Central Mississippi, representing Belhaven. Volunteer work ranges from cleaning, painting, raking and serving food to gardening, building and organizing.

Places like the Mustard Seed, Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, Stewpot, Goodwill and others have come to expect a helping hand from students, faculty and staff.

Jo Beth Petty, Director of Student Leadership, said, "The purpose of the campus-

wide Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day is to give our students a chance to serve and emulate the work and spirit of Dr. King. Serving is a valuable tool for life-change because it models what Christ did for us! The university's motto is 'to serve, not to be served' and this day is dedicated to living that out in the most tangible way."

The Belhaven Leadership Council (BLC) was the driving force behind this service project. Katie Rowan, Community Outreach Coordinator for the BLC, said, "As a Christian university, Belhaven should be ministering in our surrounding community. MLK Service Day is a great day when Belhaven can do just that."

Graduate Assistant tennis coach Jody Chance said, "It's not for us to pat ourselves on the back and say, 'Hey, we did good', but to remember a man who led millions of people to teach people to serve others and treat people equally."

Last year's MLK Service Day for Belhaven saw 360 students volunteering time at charitable organizations such as Stewpot, Goodwill, Gateway Rescue Mission and others.





## Communication Students Host Media Ethics Panel

One of the biggest panels of public relations, broadcast and media representatives in Mississippi met with Belhaven University students to discuss ethics in the media on March 28.

This rare gathering of media professionals, hosted by Belhaven University's Communication Department, drew in communication and journalism students from community colleges and high schools around the state.

Belhaven students from the Ethics in Mass Media class organized and promoted the conference as a final project for the course. The panel focused on public relations, broadcasting, and media management.

Dr. Elayne Hayes-Anthony, Professor & Chair of the Communication Department, said, "This conference gave our students the ability to speak with media professionals who represent the areas in which they desire to work. Students learned what it takes to become media professionals with ethical standards."

The Public Relations panel discussed "Maintaining your values when your client compromises theirs" and panelists were: **Mick Bullock**, Communications Director for Governor Phil Bryant; **Sherry Hilton**, Vice Treasurer and Director for Communications for Treasurer Lynn Fitch; **Shelia Skipper**, Public Relations Director for the Mississippi Manufacturers Association; **Iris Raeshaun**, Publisher of Our News Today, Hattiesburg, MS; **Pete Smith**, Public Relations Director, Mississippi Department of Education

The Broadcasting panel discussed "Truth, Values, and Beliefs: a standard to covering the news" and panelists were: **Dennis Smith**, News Director WLBT TV 3; **Rick Russell**, News Director WJTV TV 12; **Bruce Barkley**, News Director WAPT TV 16; **Stan Sanders**, News Director FOX 40; **Randy Bell**, News Director, Clear Channel Radio.

The Media Managers panel discussed "Social Media and New Technology: Its impact on your marketing niche" and panelists



SHERRY HILTON FIELDING QUESTION

were: **Stuart Kellogg**, General Manager WAPT TV 16; **Don Loy**, Station Manager Fox 40; **Jimmie Cromwell**, General Manager WJTV TV 12; **Kenny Windham**, Clear Channel; **Brian Tolley**, Executive Editor Clarion Ledger; **Ronnie Agnew**, Executive Director Mississippi Public Broadcasting; **Phillip Shirley**, CEO Godwin Group.

Dr. Anthony added, "We hope that students took advantage of this conference to meet the media and ask those burning questions that they have always wanted and needed to know."

## 10th Annual Mississippi Guitar Festival Returns to Belhaven

The 10th Annual Mississippi Guitar Festival was held at Belhaven University this year and Belhaven's Adjunct Professor of Classical Guitar, Amy Houghton, was this year's festival coordinator.

"The Mississippi Guitar Festival was an enormous success and held something for everyone for both musicians and music lovers.

We had exceptional competitors this year and part of the fun was meeting new people and listening to great music. The climactic event of the festival was a concert given by the world-class artist, Isaac Bustos, who rocked the concert hall on nylon strings!"

It is the state's only collegiate conference on the art of classical guitar and attracted guitar students, professionals, hobbyists and enthusiasts statewide. It has been six years since the festival was held in Jackson.



AMY HOUGHTON

The guitar festival had a good turnout with several different colleges and universities in attendance such as University of Southern Mississippi, Hinds Community College and Florida State University. WLBT's news reporter, Bert Case, even got caught up in the festival and ended up trying his hand at the classical guitar.

Houghton added, "The classical guitar is a particularly beautiful instrument, one that you may not hear every day. Participants got

the opportunity to make new friends, expand their knowledge of music, and meet classical guitarists in Mississippi."

This free festival on February 9-10 included several events such as master classes, lectures, concerts, and competitions. Students tried to take first place and \$500 in the advanced guitar competition.

All of the participating faculty from the different universities including Belhaven performed together for a special concert on the first night of the festival.

Isaac Bustos, an internationally acclaimed classical guitarist, performed during the second night of special performances. Originally from Nicaragua, Bustos is an award winning guitar virtuoso and has performed around the world. He is head of the classical guitar department at Texas A&M.

Other artists from past festivals included Ricardo Cobo, Florian Larousse, William Kanengiser, Denis Azabagic, Adam Holzman, and Jason Vieaux

## Belhaven's "Choices" Ad Wins Telly Award

The Belhaven University commercial, titled "Choices," was created by the Cirlot Agency and won top honors at the 33rd Annual Telly Awards.

"The 'Choices' television ad is a great example of what creativity can do when coupled with keen strategic thinking," said Kevin Russell, Vice President for Advancement at Belhaven University. "The Cirlot Agency is great at helping their clients find dazzling solutions to difficult problems."

The Belhaven Ad competed with nearly 11,000 entries from all 50 states and numerous countries.

For the spot, The Cirlot Agency showed a high school student sitting in her bedroom,



LIZA CIRLOT LOOSER FOUNDER AND CEO OF THE CIRLOT AGENCY

surrounded by viewbooks from various universities, and she is visibly frustrated. She begins to rip pieces from each book, representing the different things she likes about each one. She tosses the ripped pages into the air, and they begin to swirl, twirl and come together, like magic. Beautiful golden trails follow the pages until they come together and form one book: the Belhaven University viewbook. The book falls into her hands, opens, and a glow emits from the pages onto her amazed and elated face. The voice over, in a British accent, speaks of finding "Your Place ... Your Purpose" at Belhaven University.



TO VIEW THE AWARD WINNING VIDEO, VISIT YOUR CELL PHONE'S APP STORE ON THE WEB AND SEARCH FOR QR CODE READER. DOWNLOAD A QR CODE READER APP TO SCAN THIS CODE.

## Alan Huffman Talked Politics and Writing With Students

Alan Huffman, published author, journalist, and political researcher, shared his new, co-authored book, *We're With Nobody* and talked with students about current politics and writing. Huffman visited Belhaven University before his flight to New York to be on the Daily Show with Jon Stewart.

Dr. Randall Smith, Director of Creative Writing, said, "At Belhaven, we try to get our students in touch with today's great writers and thinkers and Alan Huffman is no exception. Fiction writers and poets have walked through our doors, but it's not often we get to hear from an acclaimed journalist and creative non-fiction writer."

His latest book, about the world of political opposition research, opened up an insightful discussion between the author and students involved in Belhaven University's Political Science, Creative Writing, and History Departments.

Huffman explained his history as a writer and the development of each of his books. Many students joined in the conversation like Jacob Rowan, a Belhaven creative writing

student, who said, "He stressed the importance of credible sources and encouraged us to write true to life, whether that was by writing about actual events or creating characters fiction based on observing the world."

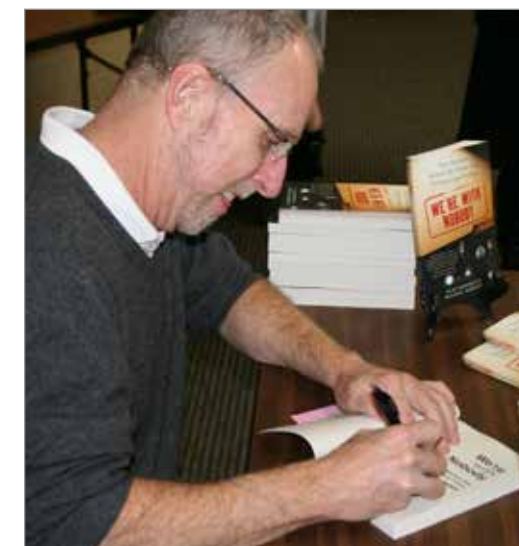
Huffman's other books include *Sultana: Surviving the Civil War, Prison, and the Worst Maritime Disaster in American History* and *Mississippi in Africa: The Saga of the Slaves of Prospect Hill Plantation and Their Legacy in Liberia Today*.

Rowan adds, "One of his strengths as a writer is his desire for solid research and all of his books came out of thorough study. It was cool to see a writer making a living, creatively by using the research skills he learned writing for a paper and managing to find time to publish books."

While discussing political research, Huffman told students that he wanted to make the election process very open and the candidates accountable. He is known for being partisan and fair-minded. Many times he is asked to conduct research on a political opponent and he always ends up researching the persons who hired him.

The creative writing department sponsored the event and all proceeds from book sales at the event went to the Save Fitzhugh Hall Fund.

The event took place at Belhaven's Student Center Theatre on February 17. Huffman is currently touring to promote his latest book.





### The School of Business Hosts the 4th Annual Career Boot Camp

Belhaven University's School of Business is helping its students get ahead in an unstable economy and competitive job market. The Fourth Annual Career Boot Camp on February 16 featured a panel of local business leaders who talked with students about writing résumés, interview etiquette and how to market oneself in the current job market.

The panel also gave Belhaven students an inside scoop on what employers are looking for when hiring.

The following panelist answered questions about how to navigate the job market and how to be successful in securing a job in the current economy: **Jonathan Lee**, President and CEO of Mississippi Products Inc.; **Danny Miller**, CPA, U.S. Federal Court; **Nycole Campbell-Lewis**, Special Projects Coordinator, Governor Phil Bryant; **Sherry Overby**, Human Resources Officer, Community Bank; **Barney Daly**, Trustmark National Bank, President of North Metro Region.

A networking reception gave Belhaven juniors and seniors a chance to mingle with possible future employers.

Dr. Kristena Gaylor, Associate Professor of Business, said, "The networking reception will afford students an opportunity to connect with bankers, lawyers, human resources executives, managers, financial analysts, and directors from the metro Jackson area who they may not have otherwise had a chance to meet."

Mock interviews with representatives from Bankplus, Jackson Chamber of Commerce, Trustmark, BASF, Ross & Yerger, CMMC, Nissan North America, Southern Farm Bureau, Pinnacle Trust, Comcast and St. Dominic Hospital provided much needed practice for the attendees.

Dr. William Penn, Professor of Economics and Business, said, "This Boot Camp is an opportunity to learn about yourself and to gain information on how to get from where you are to where you want to be."

### Dance, Music, and President Visit Korea

Over the summer Belhaven University students, staff and faculty traveled into the country of South Korea. Each trip had a separate mission, but together had the same goal of representing Belhaven and honoring God overseas.

Belhaven University's Dance Department sent a team of seven full time students, one recent graduate and three faculty members to Korea for two weeks.

The first portion of their trip was spent at Dong-Ah Institute of Media Arts (DIMA) a sister university located in Anseong, Korea. While at DIMA they taught dance workshops, performed, worked with DIMA students on their creative film projects. The dance team worked with DIMA's professional faculty and staff to create a dance for camera work that was filmed in a variety of locations on campus and in town.



In and around Seoul, the dance department offered dance presentations at Seoul Christian University's chapel, Geon Children's Home, Gajwa Gaja Jeil Presbyterian Church, Central Christian Academy, Hangyang University and Korean National Sports University.

Cynthia Newland, Associate Professor of Dance and Chair of the Dance Department, said, "We departed Jackson with the aims to encourage Korean Christians and introduce Christ to non-Christians through dance presentations, dance workshops and relationships. Returning to Jackson we were confirmed that our goals were met; we left the country encouraged and blessed, experiencing God's creation in unique cultural forms and these precious memories will last a lifetime."

Increased efforts to gain more of an international presence on campus led



Belhaven's President, Dr. Roger Parrott and the Director of International Relations, Cliff McCardle on a trip to South Korea. Their itinerary led them through 12 cities, where they spoke at high schools, colleges, seminaries, churches and communities.

Through speaking engagements and radio interviews on the Far East Broadcasting network, thousands across Korea learned about Belhaven University. McCardle, said "Before we returned to the U.S. the Belhaven Admission Department began receiving phone calls and e-mails."

By invitation, and through the influence of Dr. Billy Kim, Chairman of Far East Broadcasting-Korea, they were given opportunities to tell others about this small university in Jackson, Mississippi.



Professor of piano, Sylvia Hong who is originally from South Korea, ended up traveling to Busan, South Korea with her husband and pianist Michael Rector.

Together they performed a concerto with the Mokpo Symphony and gave two piano concerts. She also led master classes and her husband gave lecture-recitals. The concerts were sold-out and enthusiastically received. The Far Eastern Broadcasting Company (FEBC) broadcasted a radio interview with Hong and during the interview she had the opportunity to talk about Belhaven and the music programs.

### Doll, Graves Honored, Address Graduates

Friends and families gathered to celebrate the Graduating Class of 2011- 2012 at the Belhaven University Commencement that took place at Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson, Miss.

Because of the increase in graduating students and their families, two ceremonies honored the accomplishments of students from Belhaven's undergraduate, adult and graduate programs. The traditional student ceremony was at 9:30 A.M., then at 2:30 P.M. the adult and graduate students held their graduation activities.

Mr. Robert "Bob" Doll was the commencement speaker for the morning graduation ceremony. Doll was awarded an honorary degree by Belhaven University President, Dr. Roger Parrott. Doll is the Chief Equity Strategist and Senior Portfolio Manager at BlackRock, the world's largest asset management firm.

He is also the head of the U.S. Large Cap Series equity team and has primary portfolio management responsibilities for these products. Doll appears regularly in the national financial press discussing economic developments and markets.

Doll received a B.S. in accounting and a B.A. in economics from Lehigh University and an M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Bob and his wife Leslie live in Princeton, New Jersey and they have three children.

Judge James E. Graves, Jr. delivered the afternoon graduation ceremony. Judge Graves is a United States Circuit Judge in the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and was awarded an honorary degree before his address.

Judge Graves is the first black judge from Mississippi to serve on the Fifth Circuit and was appointed by President Barak Obama. Judge Graves returned to Mississippi and served as a circuit court judge for ten years before being appointed to the Supreme Court by then-Governor Ronnie Musgrove. He won election to the same position in 2004.

Judge Graves graduated from Millsaps College with a B.A. in sociology and went on to earn his law degree as well as a master's degree in public administration at Syracuse University. Judge Graves is married to Dr. Bettye Ramsey Graves and has three sons.



Graduating students were honored during the 2011-2012 Belhaven University Graduation on April 30, 2012. Top Right: Commencement speakers, Mr. Robert "Bob" Doll and (left) Judge James E. Graves, Jr., spoke to graduating students and were presented with honorary doctorate degrees.



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## Little, SSAC Athletic Director of the Year

Scott Little, Director of Athletics and VP for Student Affairs & Athletics, was named the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) Athletics Director of the Year at the annual SSAC Awards banquet.



SCOTT LITTLE

Little was selected for this year's award by the Athletics Directors in the SSAC.

"Since he took on the leadership of the athletic department, the University has taken quantum leaps forward in our level of professionalism,

efficiency and service, all while taking Belhaven athletics to our most competitive level ever," said Belhaven President Dr. Roger Parrott. "I know Scott well enough to predict he will give away all the credit to coaches and his staff, but he deserves this award, because it is his leadership that has inspired and equipped so many to build Belhaven athletics to compete well, honor Christ, and teach student athletes a pattern for success."

Little has served as Director of Athletics since 2007. Under his leadership has achieved success both on the field and in the classroom.

Notable department accomplishments during his tenure include: New conference affiliation as a member of the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC); the highest Athletics Department finish in the Learfield Sports Director's Cup Standings (59th in 2011); yearly designation as a Champions of Character institution; increased academic achievement among athletes as Academic Department award winners and 3.0 Club achievers; implementation of over \$600,000 in facility improvements for softball, football, men's and women's basketball, volleyball, men's and women's soccer, and men's and women's tennis; first-ever World Series (baseball) and National Tournament (softball, women's basketball) appearances in Belhaven history; returns to the National Tournament for men's soccer, men's basketball, and men's tennis; development of a new Athletics brand identity, and the launch of a new Athletics website.

"I am grateful for this honor from SSAC colleagues I respect and really enjoy working with," commented Little. "I also appreciate the support of our President, Dr. Roger Parrott, and the opportunity he has given me to serve as AD at Belhaven. We have a super group of student-athletes who are led by a solid team of coaches and staff, and it's exciting to see them each year compete for championships and mature as men and women."

## Lady Blazers Claim SSAC Title, Trip to National Tournament

The Belhaven Women's Basketball team claimed their first Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) West Division Championship this season defeating fifth-ranked Lee University.

"This game was a great team effort all the way around," said Belhaven head coach Billy Evans. "We played outstanding, intense defense and held off one of the best offenses in the country to just over 30 percent shooting from the field. Regena Jackson turned in another great performance and everyone made big plays and shots down the stretch. Johnson, Wakefield, Tucker, Carr and Barlow hit some key baskets in the second half that secured the game for us."

This victory was the second conference championship for the women's program and first since 1982 when the Blazers won the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference Championship.

The Lady Blazers put together another strong 2011-12 campaign, making its second appearance in the NAIA Division I National Championships. Unfortunately, the momentum from their SSAC victory didn't carry over to the NAIA National Championships as the Blazers fell in the opening round to Westminster College of Utah.

Regena Jackson, Belhaven's senior guard, put together one of the best seasons in school history. Jackson, who hails from Denham, La. was a First Team NAIA All-American, a WBCA NAIA All-American, and a finalist for the WBCA NAIA Player of the Year Award.



REGENA JACKSON

Jackson also earned SSAC All-Conference Honors, was the SSAC Player of the Year, and the SSAC Tournament MVP as she helped lead Belhaven to its first SSAC title.

Jackson helped to rewrite the school record books in her two seasons at Belhaven. Jackson set a new single season records for points per game, free throws, and free throw percentage. Jackson now ranks second in total points in a season and scored 42 points in a game twice, which was one point shy of the school record. Jackson ranks seventh in career scoring, amassing 1,141 points during her two-year career at Belhaven.

Joining Jackson on the All-Conference team is senior Kiara Johnson. Johnson, a guard from Wiggins, Miss., fired in 9.2 points per contest and was a tough defender with 82 steals. She was a defensive catalyst for Belhaven initiating numerous fast breaks off of steals leading to points on the other end of the floor.

Sarah Carr, a junior from New Orleans, La., was named to the SSAC All-Division team. Portia Tucker from Senatobia, Miss. and Jessica Barlow from Marrero, La., were also made the SSAC All-Division team this year.

Belhaven's other outstanding guard is Sarah Carr who was named to the SSAC All-Division team. Carr, a junior from New Orleans, La.

All the strong individual performances added up to some team records falling in 2011-12. This edition of the Blazers ranked fourth in school history in total field goals (849), broke the school record for triples in a year (156), was second in total free throws (481), second in total points (2,335), and set another record of 70.8 points per game. Belhaven ended the year sixth in the NAIA in turnover margin (6.2) and ninth in total steals (375). The Blazers averaged 11.4 steals per game which was good for 10th best in the nation.

Belhaven will now look ahead to the 2012-13 season and are excited about the talented returners and new recruits that will fill out the roster. That should make for another exciting year for Belhaven women's basketball.

## Mens Return to National Tournament and Receive NAIA Sportsmanship Award

The Belhaven men's basketball team recently wrapped a successful 2011-12 season that saw the team return to the 2012 NAIA National Championship tournament.

The Blazers got off to a slow start, but continued to work hard and improved over the course of the season. Belhaven kicked off an eight game winning streak by defeating Auburn-Montgomery 81-70 on January 12th, which proved to be a major factor in the Blazers making the conference tournament.

Belhaven lost in the SSAC Championship game to Shorter, but the team accomplished what it had set out to do and that was to make it back to Kansas City, Mo. for the NAIA National Championship.

Belhaven met up with second-ranked Oklahoma Baptist and gave the Bison all they could handle in the opening round, but it wasn't enough to keep the season going as the Blazers ended the campaign with an overall record of 16-17.

The team and Head Coach Tom Kelsey were honored by the NAIA with the Dr. James Naismith-Emil S. Liston Sportsmanship Award and the Charles A. Krigel Award following the 2012 Buffalo Funds NAIA National

Championships. Both awards recognized Belhaven's display of sportsmanship at this year's national tournament.

The Charles A. Krigel Award was given to Coach Kelsey and is reserved for the coach whose team best exhibits respect, civility, integrity and fair play, the qualities that define sportsmanship.

The Belhaven men's basketball team had six players who received SSAC honors. Headlining the list was senior forward Daryl Arnold who was named to the SSAC All-Conference Team. Britton Smith and Woodie Howard were placed on the All-Division team; Ryan Moody, Michael Halford, and Terence Stringfellow were All-Academic selections. In addition, Stringfellow was Belhaven's Musco Lighting Champion of Character award recipient.



CHRIS COEFIELD

Belhaven also has talented young players and new recruits who have the potential to step in next season. The Blazers will look to regroup and improve during the offseason in order to make a run for the SSAC title in 2012-2013 season.

## Basketball Programs Acquire New Coaches

Belhaven University is pleased to announce that Rusty Cram has been hired as the new head coach of the Blazers women's basketball program. Cram brings a wealth of coaching experience to Belhaven after spending 21 seasons at NCAA Division I Georgia Southern, with 16 of those seasons as the head coach.

Cram began his career in Statesboro in 1990 as an assistant coach.

Cram is the all time wins leader and longest tenured head coach in Georgia Southern

history. Cram guided the Lady Eagles to two Southern Conference regular season titles and was named the Southern Conference Coach of the Year twice during his career.

Belhaven Director of Athletics, Scott Little, said, "Our women's basketball team will enjoy his leadership and will immediately benefit from his expertise and experience."

In men's basketball news, John Aiken was hired as the new Head Coach of

the Blazers Men's Basketball program. Aiken has spent the last four seasons as Belhaven's assistant coach under Tom Kelsey who recently accepted a position at LSU as Director of Basketball Operations.

Aiken has played an integral role in Belhaven's success over the last four seasons in the areas of recruitment and on the floor coaching. During that span, the Blazers have made two trips to the Buffalo Funds NAIA Division I National Tournament in 2010 and 2012. The appearance in 2010 was the first for the program since the 1972 season.

Belhaven Director of Athletics Scott Little said, "Following a thorough national search process and interviews with a highly qualified group of finalists, it became clear Coach Aiken was the best fit to lead our men's basketball program forward."



JOHN AIKEN



RUSTY CRAM



## SEASON WRAP-UPS

### Tennis

The Belhaven Men's Tennis Team finished one of the most successful seasons in the programs history and were put back in the national spotlight for the first time in nearly 20 seasons.

Belhaven already owns one NAIA National Title in men's tennis, which came in 1983. This year the team made it all the way to the 2012 NAIA National Championships. After making it to round of 16 in the NAIA National Tournament, Belhaven ended the 2012 campaign at 16-4. The Blazers overtook Campbellsville University (KY) in the opening round before falling to Embry-Riddle University (FL) in the second round.

The Blazers were ranked 15th in the final regular season in the NAIA Coaches' Postseason Top 25 Poll.

"It was ninth best team we played all year and it took a while for us to adjust to the speed of the game. We fell behind 3-0 after the doubles competition making it tough for us to come back at that point. Despite the loss, I'm very proud of how well the team played this season and here at the national tournament. Our experience on the national stage this season will certainly be something we can build on as we look ahead to 2013," said head coach Levi Patton.

### Baseball/Softball

Baseball kicked off the 2012 Southern States Athletic Conference Tournament as the defending SSAC champions. After playing hard in the championship the Blazers saw the 2012 season come to a close and ended the year with an overall record of 32-24.

Outfielder Anthony Doss headlined the postseason SSAC awards for Belhaven when the league named Doss First Team All-Conference for his efforts on the field this season. Josh Clarke, Jason Hicks, Mark Husband, and Tom Wertz were selected for the SSAC All-Academic Team.

Women's Softball was in search of its second consecutive SSAC title as the Blazers headed to the 2012 SSAC Tournament in Columbus, Ga. After two games in the tournament, the Belhaven softball team saw the 2012 season come to a close and ended

the season at 25-24. Three Belhaven softball players were honored by the SSAC. CeCee Austin and Courtney Fairley were named to the All-Conference Team while Lizzy Hess was an All-West Division selection.

### Soccer

The Belhaven men's soccer team recently wrapped up another very successful season, which saw the team make its second consecutive appearance in the NAIA National Championship Tournament. The Blazers logged an overall record of 16-5 and 9-3 in the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) and finished third in the overall SSAC standings. The Blazers were also ranked 9th in the final NAIA Postseason Coaches' Top 25 Poll and 12th in the final the NAIA Men's Soccer Modified Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) Poll.

"Getting to the national tournament last season was a great experience but our goal from the start of this year was to prove we were not a one-hit wonder," said head coach Steve DeCou. "Last year we were the underdog and caught people by surprise while this year we played the entire season with a bulls-eye on our back. The boys did a fantastic job and we battled adversity and injuries to get back to the national tournament and finish the year with a final ranking of ninth."

### Brian McMahon Named New Head Coach of Men's Soccer

The Blazers men's soccer team welcomed their new head coach, Brian McMahon, to Belhaven.



BRIAN MCMAHON

McMahon lead the Blazers into a new season with 11 years of experience from Greenville College in Illinois. While at Greenville, McMahon helped build successful programs for both men and

women's soccer.

"After a thorough national search, I am very glad to introduce Brian McMahon as the head men's soccer coach at Belhaven

University," said Scott Little, Vice President for Student Affairs and Athletics. "Brian will build upon our soccer tradition and spiritual heritage, and he embraces our commitment to create an environment where our student-athletes can compete for championships and mature as men and women created in the image of God. I'm excited to welcome Brian, his wife Jen, and their family to Belhaven."

### Cross Country

The Belhaven men's and women's cross country team finished the 2011 season with solid performances on the course and in the classroom. The Blazers opened their second year in the Southern States Athletic Conference after entering the conference the previous year in 2010.

This season the Blazers hosted the 2011 SSAC Championships in Clinton, Miss. On the women's side, Belhaven came in 9th out of 12 teams while the men placed 9th out of 11 teams. The Blazers performed well in the 2011 season and were able to maintain a great deal of academic success. The teams will look forward to the 2012 season where they will rely on experience from returning runners and new recruits coming into the program.

### Golf

The Belhaven men's golf team finished the 2011-12 season at the Southern States Athletic Conference Championships eighth out of 9 teams in the tournament field. The Blazers shot a 980 (+116) over the three day event.

Individually, Ian McAdams was the top finisher in ninth place for Belhaven turning in a score of 232 (+16) and Ian Lovett checked in at 24th with a score of 241 (+25), followed by Alex Grote at 32nd, Isaac Tipton at 40th and Brad Blakney in 43rd.

Blakney and Adams were both named to the SSAC All-Academic Team while Blakney was also Belhaven's Champions of Character Award winner.

# SUPPORT TEAM GREEN



## Your gift makes a difference!

**B**elhaven Athletics is stronger than ever before, and we want you to join "Team Green."

Team Green exists to allow individuals, families and businesses to financially enhance and support the student-athlete experience at Belhaven University. The goal of the Belhaven Athletics Department is to create an environment in which student-athletes can compete for championships and mature as men and women - academically, spiritually and relationally. Your financial support of Blazer Athletics can make a significant difference in the success of our sports programs and the growth of our Athletics Department.

Belhaven athletics is excelling both on the field and in the classroom. In academics, our

athletes have recently recorded a banner semester with 117 student-athletes inducted into the 3.0 Club. For the second consecutive year, Belhaven landed four teams in national tournaments for their respective sports in 2011-12. This in addition to two national scholar athlete teams and multiple student-athletes receiving Academic Department top student awards for the last school year. And, most importantly, our outstanding coaching staff is fully committed to setting a Christ-like example for our student-athletes.

Check out Team Green on the Blazers' webpage below or call for more information. Every gift counts!

Visit [blazers.belhaven.edu](http://blazers.belhaven.edu) or call 601-968-5956 and join Team Green today!



## Alum Featured on NBC Nightly News

Belhaven Alumna, Lois Valentine Hayes ('67), was recently featured on NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams. The series called "Making a Difference" highlights people around the country that are having a positive impact on others.



Hayes is a retired second grade teacher in West, Miss. who mails out over 400 birthday cards a year to her former elementary students. Students who were lucky enough to have had her as a teacher can expect a hand written card from her every year.

In this digital and fast paced world, she takes the time to meticulously

handwrite each birthday card, adding a special note.

She came up with the idea while teaching at East Holmes Academy and said, "I buy the cards by the box, and I keep the birthdays organized by month. I have always wanted my former students to

know that they are special and their birthday should also be special."

Hayes also believes it is a way of teaching life lessons beyond the classroom.

Thousands of miles away or around the globe the cards always reach their destination. With former students scattered everywhere, she has to do her homework to keep up with former students. Hayes uses Facebook to keep up with former students and their addresses.

"One of my former students is studying in England this year, while another boy just got back from Papua New Guinea."

Former student, Laura Shrock and her sisters all stay connected to Hayes and still receive cards, said, "she sends them to everybody, from the class pet to the class bully. She takes the time to sit down and write a personal message and it's very special."

For more than 20 years she has been sending cards and continues to teach her students lessons of love. Hayes said, "I plan to keep doing it, as long as the Lord provides for it. It truly is a joy," said Hayes.

<http://nbcnews.to/MYOxgQ>

**50's]** **Lucy Stonestreet Kennedy '52** works 10 months of the year at Mississippi State University, and enjoys traveling home to Taylorsville, Mississippi and other places throughout the year.

com and click on the Making a Difference tab to view the "Teacher's birthday ritual" video)

**Linda Wiggins Singletary '68** has been retired from teaching Spanish for 41 years and is thoroughly enjoying retirement.

**Mark Wilburn '69** came out of retirement in August 2011 to serve as Assistant to the Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Temple, Texas.

**70's]** **Jeff Davis '72** has retired after 39 years of service with the Internal Revenue Service. In March, at the age of 62, Jeff completed his first half-marathon.

**Kathy Griffin Stewart '75** and her husband, Jim, welcomed their first granddaughter, Avery Kathryn Harper, to the family on December 20, 2011. They also saw their youngest daughter, Carolyn, marry her sweetheart David on March 30. Additionally, Kathy and Jim will be traveling for vacation to Italy with their son and daughter-in-law, Griffin and Valerie.

**George Widerquist '75** recently moved from Texas to Oklahoma to continue working with Boeing following the close of the Space Shuttle program.

**Richard Burguet '77** and Anne Dodson Burguet '74 reside in Eustis, Florida. Richard is the Senior Pastor at New Hope Presbyterian Church (PCA) and serves on the board of directors of Doulos Resources, a ministry that publishes resources to assist believers grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. He is also co-author of The Covenant Disciples Workbook, a two-piece curricula designed to help children enter into meaningful church membership. Anne has recently transitioned from teaching 6th grade Language Arts to Writer and Editor for the Rafiki Foundation. She writes and edits Christian classical curriculum for schools run in orphanages and villages throughout ten African nations by the Rafiki Foundation.

**Shane Etter '78** is the author of a series of novels, "The Dwellers."

**80's]** **Michael Billings '82** has been named a strategic advisor for Butler Snow Advisory Services, specializing in strategic business development. Michael has years of experience serving in a business development, consulting and advisory capacity to a number of large companies in the Dallas, Texas area.



## Meet the work: Recollecting Disappearing by Stephanie Miracle

Stephanie Galpin ('04) is a dance instructor and choreographer at the Dance Exchange in Maryland.

Galpin's most recent work, *Recollecting Disappearing*, has received praise for its emotionally captivating portrayal of family and dementia.

Sarah Levitt, Resident Artist/ Communications Coordinator for the Dance Exchange, said, "Stephanie is one of my dance role models for her generosity and joy she brings to dancing, creating choreography, and teaching."

Galpin said, "The work began after learning that my aunt had been diagnosed with Fronto Temporal Dementia, a memory disease similar to Alzheimer's. The content speaks not only to issues of memory loss but issues of care-taking and family support networks. How do we deal with our loved ones who are suffering and what does it mean to remain close during these times of hardship?"

The performance, which premiered at the Roundhouse Theatre in Silver Spring, Md., created emotional landscapes of loss, love, doubt, fragility, loneliness and grace.

Galpin also researched dementia for the performance at Iona Senior Services in D.C., where she also did an informal artist residency where she taught dance workshops for the Day Center participants.

"I am interested in people's feelings and believe that our bodies often offer us more truthful responses than our words. This is one of the reasons why I dance and create choreography," adds Galpin.

**Jane Everly '85** was named 2012 Administrator of the Year for the Jackson Public School District. Jane is the principal of Davis Magnet School, an international baccalaureate school, rated as a star school by the Mississippi Department of Education.

**Dwain Miller '85** recently completed his first year of Special Education teaching at Big Springs Charter School in Leakey, Texas. His daughter, Victoria, graduated in May from Covenant Christian Academy in Conroe, Texas, and will be attending Mary Hardin Baylor University in the fall.

**90's]** **Kennon Lavergne '95** and Dallas Annette Drews were married on October 22, 2011 in Anna Maria, Florida. The couple is residing in Memphis, Tennessee.

**Matthew Nasekos '95** transferred from directing the Columbus campus of Palmer Home for Children to become Director of the Hernando Campus of Palmer Home in Hernando, Mississippi. Matt and his wife, Sheila, have six children: Karina (16), Harrison (12), Isaac (11), Noah (9), Storey Grace (7), and James (21 mos.)

**Nehemiah Flowers '97** has retired from the U.S. Justice Department and the U.S. Army as a Command Sergeant Major.

**Patrick Beasley '98** has been promoted to Director of the Consumer Protection Division in the Mississippi State Attorney General's Office. Patrick is a former narcotics agent, and also teaches as an adjunct professor for Belhaven.

**Jill Pelhan Day '99** was married to Brad Day, or Petal, Mississippi, on November 12, 2011. Jill is celebrating her 10th year directing the Laurel Ballet Academy.

**Collin Brack '99 and Amanda Whittenburg Brack '99** welcomed their newest addition to Team Brack, Eloise McKee, on April 23. She joins older siblings Luke, Liz, and Cate.

# In this case, it's what's on the outside that matters.



Mail one of your business cards to:  
**Belhaven University  
Alumni Office  
1500 Peachtree Street, Box 158  
Jackson, MS 39202**  
and you will receive two Belhaven Blazer luggage tags.

## Just Takes Onesie!

(4 easy steps)



**Step 1- Have a child**  
(can take up to 10 months)

**Step 2- Send Belhaven a Picture of Your Child.**  
[alumni@belhaven.edu](mailto:alumni@belhaven.edu)

**Step 3- Belhaven Sends You a Free Onesie.**

**Step 4- Take a picture of your child in the Onesie where ever you go and e-mail to [alumni@belhaven.edu](mailto:alumni@belhaven.edu) to post to the Belhaven Alumni Facebook page.**

UPDATE ALSO MAYBE SUBMITTED TO:  
<http://www.belhaven.edu/alumni/directory.htm>



## Education Spotlight

### Everly, Named JPS Administrator of the Year

Dr. Jane Everly ('85), principal of Davis Magnet Elementary, was named the Jackson Public Schools' Administrator of the Year. Everly graduated from Belhaven University with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education.



Under her leadership, her school achieved a Star School rating from

the Mississippi Department of Education and was designated a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School in 2008.

Dr. Jayne B. Sargent, interim superintendent of Jackson Public Schools, said, "You can walk into Davis Magnet Elementary anytime and see that Dr. Everly is dedicated to her students and parents. She is certainly deserving of this honor, and we are very proud of her."

Everly is a former gifted education teacher and coordinator for JPS and was an assistant principal at Woodville Heights Elementary from 2004 to 2007. Everly said, "Real learning is about making connections to prior knowledge and across traditional subject lines. It is being able to apply skills, solve problems, create, and innovate." This philosophy was instrumental in her leading the school in the development of an arts integration focus through a partnership with Ask4More Arts.

Dr. Everly has had innovative ideas to get students involved and interested in learning. Recently, the school began collaborating with the University of Mississippi Medical Center; medical professionals will come to the school to work with students in using scientific inquiry to solve problems.

"Both the UMMC and Davis team members are thrilled about the opportunity to develop and sustain an interest in scientific inquiry and an early pipeline to medical school," she said.

### Ard Earns Teacher of the Year for Clinton District

Belhaven University Alumna, Jennifer Arthur Ard ('10), was named Clinton's District Teacher of the Year for the 2011-2012 school year. This award is a step toward becoming the State's Teacher of the Year.



Ard is an Algebra teacher for Sumner Hill Junior High in Clinton, one of the highest performing schools in Mississippi. She has taught at Sumner Hill since 2007. Prior to coming to Clinton, she taught Algebra II at Nettleton High School.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from Mississippi State University. Ard continued her education at Belhaven University where she received her Master of Education in secondary education.

"Her passion for teaching is evident in every aspect of her work here at Sumner Hill," said Sumner Hill Principal Austin Brown. "Inside the classroom, her devotion, creativity and care for each individual student enables her to reach students at various levels and move them to where they need to be in order to achieve at the highest possible levels."

District Superintendent Phil Burchfield said, "With a Quality of Distribution Index score of 257, Sumner Hill is easily at the top of the rankings of Mississippi's public schools. Students in the ninth-grade far outpaced their peers statewide on the Algebra subject area test, largely due to the high quality of Sumner Hill's teachers. We are proud of Mrs. Ard and her students, and honored to have such an outstanding Teacher of the Year."

**00's]** Josip Debeljuh '00 and Kelly Entreklin Debeljuh '98 are currently serving as missionaries in Zagreb, Croatia. Josip works with young athletes in Croatia, while Kelly teaches painting workshops for women. They welcomed their fifth child, Abigail Elizabeth, to the family on November 4, 2011.

**Joseph Kellum '02** recently returned from a 10-month deployment in support of Operation New Dawn in Iraq. He served as a battle captain in the 6th Squadron of the 17th Cavalry regiment while in Iraq. He plans to attend the Chemical Captain's Career Course in early 2013 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and pursue a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering at The Missouri University of Science and Technology.

**Matt Weaver '03 and Jill Kille Weaver '03** welcomed their second son, Evan James, into the world on April 2. Big brother, Dawson (4), is enjoying his new baby brother!

**Lea Freeny Browne '01 and David Browne '04** welcomed their little boy, and first child, Cedar Kingsbury to the family on February 22.

**Bobby Ladner '04** was named Head Football Coach at Anderson University in Indiana, becoming the 12th head coach in the program's history.

**Jeremy Nelson '04** and his wife Katie welcomed their son, Gavin Miles, to their family on May 6.

**Brad Shaw '04** was the recent recipient of the Mississippi Chapter of the Federal Bar - Robert E. Hauberg Award, given to the student with the highest average in Constitutional Law, during the Mississippi College School of Law's annual Law Day ceremony.

**Kate Morgan '07** was the recent recipient of the Litigation Section of the Mississippi Bar Award, presented to two students who have excelled academically and show promise in the area of litigation, during the Mississippi College School of Law's annual Law Day ceremony.

**Jesse Wukasch '07** served as a Graduate Assistant Coach with the University of

Southern Mississippi men's basketball program for the 2011-12 season. He was on staff as the Video Coordinator and was in charge of advanced scouting.

**Perrye Turner '08** has been named special agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Louisville (KY) Division. Perrye was most recently a deputy assistant director of the Information Technology Engineering Division at FBI Headquarters.

**Christina Miles Gustin '09** will be graduating from Vermont College of Fine Arts with a Masters of Fine Arts in Writing.

**10's]** Andrew Carcich '10 and Mallory Hammack Carcich '11 were married on November 12, 2011.

**Amanda Reeves '10** was recently promoted to Per Diem Quality Engineer for Delphi Packard Electric Systems' Brookhaven, Mississippi division. She is responsible for customer and supplier quality issues.

**Thomas Shoffner '10** is currently pursuing his Master's of Marriage and Family Counseling at Mississippi College.

**Puntwida L. Trezvant, M.Ed. '10** is a recent graduate who took her degree from Belhaven and rocketed into her career. She is the Founder, President and CEO of Reach & Teach Association and has authored several popular books, including *Before the Bell Rings* and *When the Sky is Blue*. Her latest book, *When the Sky is Blue*, "provides individuals with insight on how to get along in the workplace."

## IN MEMORIAM

**Katherine Wasson Baggett '36** passed away May 1 in Boulder, Colorado.

**Elizabeth Gillespie Haynes '38** passed away March 9 in St. Augustine, Florida.

**Daisy Stevens Thoms '41** passed away April 9 in Laurel, Mississippi.

**Jean Johnston Littlefield '50** passed away March 11 in Middlebury, Vermont.



## Remembering Linda Assistant Vice President for University Advancement

On Thursday, May 31, 2012, Linda Goldie Phillips (1946-2012) died at the age of 66 in her home due to complications of ovarian cancer.

Dr. Roger Parrott, President of Belhaven University said, "Our dear friend and colleague, Linda Phillips finished the race well and has moved on to heaven. Linda was a special gift of God

to Belhaven University, and while we are hurting as a campus to see her life on earth come to an end, we are filled with thanksgiving for all the good she did during her 20 years at Belhaven. We rejoice in her life well lived. Please be praying for her husband Tom and their family, as well for those who worked closest with her at Belhaven."

Born in Fresno, California, Linda was the first of seven children. Most of her childhood was spent in the Nigerian mission field watching after and running around with her siblings, learning good hospitality for wayward missionary travelers, and reading books in the limbs of a mango tree while her parents, the now deceased missionaries Dr. Robert F. and Edna Muhlbacker Goldie, were tending to the medical and spiritual needs of the surrounding area. She is survived by one sister and five brothers. She is also survived by her loving husband, William Thomas Phillips; their three children, Anita Phillips Atwood, Jeanette Phillips Morgan, and Scott Phillips; four grandchildren, Mariah, Curtis, Adia and Miles; and her sister-in-law, Vicki Phillips.

After rearing their young children, Linda and Tom moved the family back to Mississippi in 1980 in order to complete her graduate studies at Mississippi College, eventually becoming employed at Belhaven University as Assistant Financial Aid Director for the college which introduced her to a career in the field of financial aid for higher education.

For the last 20 years, she played a major role in the success of Belhaven University's Financial Aid and Student Services Department by recognizing the diverse needs of its constituency and the need to always remain mindfully proactive. Her caring enthusiasm and commitment towards the university helped create a positive environment for growth for all of its students and faculty.

Linda was a devoted member of Beulah Baptist Church in Brownsville. She and Tom were previous members of First Baptist Church, Jackson, before changing residence to the Brownsville area. She enjoyed spending time with her family, tending to flowers in the yard, mowing the beautiful 22 acres of her home, baking her specialty lasagna dish for friends and family and unselfishly making sure the needs of others were consistently met before her own. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to the Fitzhugh Building Fund at Belhaven University, Jackson, MS.

"So don't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow too. Live one day at a time." Matthew 6:34.

**Mary Ellen Bullock Lewis '50** passed away March 29 in Rosedale, Mississippi.

**Maribeth Wall Lewis '58** passed away February 9 in Amory, Mississippi.

**Sandra Aeschliman '62** passed away January 3 in Stone Mountain, Georgia.

**Harold Halstead '67** passed away March 2 in London, England.

**Emsley Ingram '72** passed away May 1 in Cheraw, South Carolina.

**Marylee Lowry Smith '81** passed away February 15 in Canton, Mississippi.

**Emily Adams Quinn '84** passed away May 11 in Madison, Mississippi.

**Sue Weissinger '93** passed away April 3 in Ridgeland, Mississippi.





## In Bridgewater, my room

In Bridgewater, my room  
was set in the front of the house,  
overlooking the yard.  
The hillside fell gently to the road below  
and to the Beaver River that  
slipped easily between the hills.

One night my father in a whisper, sang—  
swing low, sweet chariot, coming for  
to carry me home.

And afterwards, I stood at the window and stared  
down the lights casting long glares  
into the river. I pushed  
the sash up, the night air breathing  
on my face, I squinted my eyes.

The beams stretched into stars—  
long tails of light cut through the darkness,  
joined together, and snaked in the sky.

And I listened for the train,  
lumbering down the tracks behind my house,  
the whistle first, both deep and shrill,  
and then the rattle of metal. I stood,  
lingered in its sound. With its passing,

I hummed the last of the song—  
a band of angels coming after me,  
coming for to carry me home.

The train carried on and crossed the river,  
moved off to shake the bones of other homes.  
The engine light blazed in the water and the whistle  
hung in the air, reached out to the city's edge  
where my mother slept alone—  
the hospital floors heavy above her head  
and her sleep slow in coming.

---

by Adie Smith ('11)

1st place winner 2011 Janet B. McCabe Poetry Prize