

Echoes

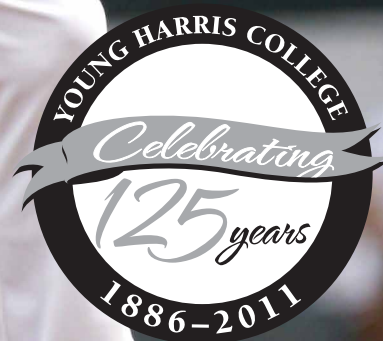
FALL/WINTER 2011

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Nick Markakis, '03
+ more young alumni
DARE TO succeed

YHC prepares
for first fall
HOMECOMING

We're in!
YHC moves to
NCAA Division II





On the Cover

Young Harris College Class of 2003 alumnus Nick Markakis just finished his sixth season playing baseball for the Baltimore Orioles. See story on page 16.

PHOTOGRAPH BILLIE WEISS/BALTIMORE ORIOLES

On this Page

In August, Young Harris College opened a new apartment-style residential community called The Village. Designed for upperclassmen, the new townhomes clustered along Maple Street provide much needed additional housing for the College's growing enrollment, now approximately 900 students. See story on page 5.

PHOTOGRAPHS

ABOVE: THOMAS WATKINS

RIGHT: SCOTT DEAN

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Young Harris College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate and baccalaureate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Young Harris College.



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Good Sports!

I am grateful that when the YHC Board of Trustees hired me four years ago, athletic ability was not part of the job description! I've never pretended to be an athlete—in fact, in my childhood days when my sister Karen and I took golf lessons together, I was so bad, and she was so good, that the instructor suggested I might just go on back to the clubhouse and read a book. In my adult years, I took up tennis and still love it, although I never got out of the “B” level leagues.

Today, I'll still never qualify as an athlete—but I am a huge fan of athletics and Young Harris College has some of the best athletic programs around!

Our athletic programs have a rich history. I hope you all know that 1951 alumnus Zell Miller was our baseball coach in the early 1960s, and of course our men's basketball program soared to national championship competition in the '50s and '60s under legendary coach and 1942 alumnus Luke Rushton. In recent years, both our baseball coach Rick Robinson and our softball coach Eric Geldart passed the 500-win mark in their careers. Women's soccer coach Kathy Brown was national coach of the year back in 2006.

So, in our move to NCAA Division II athletics, we are simply raising the bar for all of our athletic programs. We'll expect more from our student-athletes and our coaches, and the rewards will be even sweeter against tougher competition and larger colleges and universities.

But what I like best about our move to NCAA Division II is its emphasis on the **student-athlete**. Division II truly focuses on the graduation rates of student-athletes, minimizing missed class time, limiting the number of matches/games that teams can play in a season, and otherwise structuring competition so that academics get first priority. The competition is fierce, and yes, winning is very, very important. But in my view, assuring that student-athletes get a **balanced** college experience is what sets Division II apart from Division I athletics, and makes DII such a good fit for YHC.

I know you'll enjoy reading in this issue about one of our most distinguished student-athletes, 2003 alumnus Nick Markakis, who continues to make us proud. I hope you'll also take a look at the features inside on our new NCAA candidacy membership. And I especially hope you'll make a trip (or two or three) back to YHC soon to support our Mountain Lion teams (maybe even for the basketball home opener at our first fall Homecoming on Nov. 12). I guarantee you'll become a big fan, just like me! Go Mountain Lions!

With Purple Pride,


Cathy Cox
President



YHC President Cathy Cox and Director of Athletics Randy Dunn make the announcement that YHC is moving to NCAA Division II athletics. (See full story on page 36.)

Echoes

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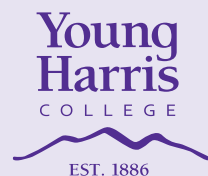
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YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

New Residential Village Opens

In August, Young Harris College opened its newest student housing option just in time for fall move-in day, an upperclassmen residential community dubbed “The Village.”

Constructed along Maple Street in the middle of campus, Phase I of The Village offers 148 beds clustered into eight three-story houses, each with several four-bedroom apartments. A second phase of five more houses offering 100 more beds will likely open in 2012.

“One of the biggest challenges we faced came from the site itself. We were charged with distributing 248 beds over multiple buildings across a site with limited area and steep, rolling terrain,” said project architect Jackson Kane of the design for both phases. “By taking advantage of the natural topography, we were able to minimize the scale of the buildings and arrange them as cottages clustered around a series of interconnected village greens.”

In addition to coveted private bedrooms, the apartments include a living room, kitchen and front and back porches. Each apartment is equipped with a washer and dryer, and residents can also enjoy areas designated for grilling, abundant green space and majestic views of the mountains.

“From the very earliest stages, the porches were a critical part of the

design,” Kane added. “In a way, they embody the core principles of the project: they promote social interaction among students; they help to establish the architectural identity of each building; and they help to protect east- and west-facing windows from direct sunlight.”

The entry stairway to The Village has a natural slope that leads to the Village Common building, which includes seminar rooms, gathering areas and support spaces, as well as residences on its upper floor.

“The Village is a great example of YHC’s proactive engagement of its students throughout the planning process,” said Chet Roach, project manager with Brailsford & Dunlavey. “The project aims to provide residents with an opportunity for enhanced personal development during their time on campus through a more independent living environment.”



Designed by Lord, Aeck & Sargent of Atlanta and constructed to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards, The Village is expected to earn LEED Gold certification within the next few months. It is the third new facility to be completed as part of Young Harris College’s strategic plan to make the transformation to four-year status and will be the third to earn LEED certification. Hardin Construction Company served as the contractor.

“What’s exciting about this project



from a sustainability perspective is that it demonstrates green design principles that are applicable to the kind of residential construction that makes up 70 percent of our built environment,” Kane said.

“This is yet another example of YHC’s sense of environmental responsibility and vision for sustainability during its time of tremendous growth,” Roach added. “YHC continues to be unwavering in its commitment to implementing LEED facilities on campus.”



ROLLINS PLANETARIUM Gets Upgrades

Over the summer, O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium underwent renovations to enhance and beautify the 40-foot-dome theater, acclaimed for its state-of-the-art GOTO Chronos Space Simulator star projector and Sky-Skan Definiti full-dome digital projection system.

A major highlight of the planetarium's transformation was the replacement of existing seating with 104 comfortable, cushioned Irwin seats that feature built-in lumbar support and vinyl headrests. According to Planetarium Director and Instructor of Astronomy Steve Morgan, the new chairs were upholstered in "YHC purple," which matches the color of the Chronos star projector located in the center of the room. The new seating configuration also offers improved access and maneuverability for wheelchairs and other mobility devices.

With an upgrade to Sky-Skan's new Cove EX LED lighting system, the planetarium has shed over 11,000 watts from its energy footprint. In addition to green-friendly low power and heat specifications, the Cove EX lighting system provides dramatic color effects that can simulate the extremes of noonday sunlight or the subtle hues of dusk.

"The O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium renovation dovetails nicely with our sustainability goals and other green initiatives on campus and also enhances

this great academic asset," YHC President Cathy Cox said.

Other cosmetic improvements to the facility include new high-quality, vinyl-backed carpet, a fresh coat of paint on the walls and the addition of 17 new framed prints, which feature Hubble Space Telescope images, lunar images taken at the Young Harris College Observatory and a star-trail image recently taken near the summit of Brasstown Bald.

In addition, the planetarium's sound system was upgraded to full 5.1 surround sound, and the protective enclosure for the base of the Chronos star projector was re-engineered.

In June, Rollins Planetarium hosted the 2011 Southeastern Planetarium Association (SEPA) Conference, making it only the third planetarium in Georgia to host the event since it began in 1970. Nearly 100 active planetarium professionals, exhibitors and vendors from 24 states attended the conference to share information, participate in paper sessions and discuss the latest trends in programming and education.

Young Harris College hosted the Southeastern Planetarium Association Conference in June 2011.



"The conference was a great success, and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to network with other planetarium professionals here on our beautiful campus," Morgan said. "The new look of the planetarium was a big hit. A number of the attendees had visited here several years ago, and they were very impressed with the upgrades."

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE Receives 10-Year Reaffirmation

In June, the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) officially reaffirmed Young Harris College's accreditation for the next 10 years, a process all educational institutions must routinely complete, as well as a five-year interim report, in order to maintain accreditation.

"A successful reaffirmation, such as ours, is crucial not only to the reputation and health of the College, but also in showing our peers, students and prospective students that Young Harris College meets established standards in higher education," said Vice President for Planning and Assessment and Chief of Staff Rosemary Royston, '89.





YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE Dedicates Recreation and Fitness Center

Young Harris College President Cathy Cox led trustees, students, faculty, staff and other guests in a dedication ceremony for the Recreation and Fitness Center on April 7, following the spring meeting of the Young Harris College Board of Trustees.

President Cox recognized project managers, architects, contractors and other workers involved in the building project and led those in attendance in a special litany to dedicate the new center to “serve as an enduring testament to Young Harris College’s mission to educate, inspire and empower current and future generations of students.” YHC trustee and alumnus Rev. David Haygood Sr., ’60, also led a prayer of dedication during the ceremony.

The LEED-certified Recreation and Fitness Center opened in August 2010 and houses a rock climbing wall, weight room and fitness center, juice bar and café, NCAA-regulation basketball court, locker rooms, classrooms, studio space and offices in a 57,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility.



YHC trustee Rev. David Haygood Sr., ’60, led a prayer of dedication for the Recreation and Fitness Center.

President Cox Honored

BY STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

Young Harris College President and former Georgia Secretary of State Cathy Cox was presented the 2011 Tradition of Excellence Award by the General Practice and Trial Section of the State Bar of Georgia during a special ceremony at the organization’s annual meeting held in Myrtle Beach, S.C., in June.

President Cox, a 25-year member of the State Bar of Georgia, has previously practiced law with the firms Hansell & Post in Atlanta, and Lambert, Floyd & Conger in Bainbridge, during which time she also served as a member of the Georgia General Assembly and the House Judiciary Committee.

Prior to coming to YHC, she also served as a faculty member at the University of Georgia’s School of Law.

South Georgia Circuit Chief Judge A. Wallace Cato introduced President Cox at the awards breakfast as “a credit to the profession” and “one of the most tenacious lawyers” he had

ever observed. “Cathy is never satisfied with the status quo; she is always looking for an opportunity to make a difference. I can think of no one more deserving of the award.”

The General Practice and Trial Section of the State Bar of Georgia has been presenting Tradition of Excellence awards for the past 25 years. Previous recipients include well-known Georgia lawyers Bobby Lee Cook

of Summerville and Denmark Groover of Macon, the late Speaker of the Georgia House Thomas B. Murphy, the late lawyer and former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell, former Georgia Attorney General Michael Bowers and distinguished Georgia Supreme Court jurist Hardy Gregory Jr.



YHC President Cathy Cox is presented the 2011 Tradition of Excellence Award by South Georgia Circuit Chief Judge A. Wallace Cato.

>> The Recreation and Fitness Center was recently recognized in *Athletic Business* magazine’s “Architectural Showcase 2011” as one of the top college/university facilities in the nation. Read the story in the June 2011 issue at athleticbusiness.com/digitalissue/0611



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE HOSTS Successful First Year of WinShape Camps

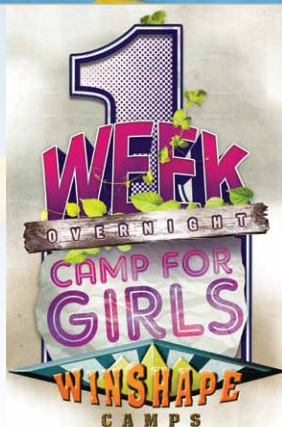
Last fall, Young Harris College announced a new partnership with Chick-fil-A's WinShape Foundation to host its newest WinShape Camps program, a One Week Overnight Camp for Girls, for female campers who have completed grades 1-6. This summer, nearly 300 campers took part in four one-week camps held in June, guided by a team of 43 staff members and counselors, including junior biology major Callie Holloway, of Hull, and YHC alumna Tory Gravitt, '11, of Cumming.



"Working for Winshape Camps provided an awesome opportunity to be able to minister to kids and grow in my faith personally," Holloway said. "It was also an opportunity to meet people who could help me grow spiritually and make friendships that will last a lifetime."

Holloway, who was known as "Catattack" at camp, served as a counselor for the Bumblin' Club and taught indoor rock climbing to campers each day in the Recreation and Fitness Center. Holloway is a member of the YHC softball team, Honors Program and Dorcas Society and regularly participates in Bible study at the College.

"Catattack has a gentle, loving



Above: YHC alumna Tory Gravitt, '11, with WinShape Camps Girls Director Trudy Cathy White at Lite Brite Nite

Left: YHC junior Callie Holloway with campers after the Ultimate Rec competition

spirit that enabled her to excel at counseling and interacting with her campers. She also added a strong dose of fun to everything she did," said WinShape's Camper Care Coordinator Mary Ann Rountree. "Callie and her fellow instructor encouraged and empowered the campers and fostered team spirit and the art of celebrating each other for our accomplishments."

According to Holloway, one of the



YHC Camps and Conferences Director Brett Beazley helps WinShape Camps Marketing Manager Adrienne Stavish and Camper Care Coordinator Mary Ann Rountree recruit summer staff on campus.

most memorable moments each week was "Lite Brite Nite" in Dobbs Theatre, in which all campers and staff members dressed in their brightest attire and enjoyed group activities including bracelet and crown making, nail painting, hula hooping and sing-alongs.

"Another special moment was the night we called 'Campfire Encounter,'" Holloway said. "The campers got a chance to talk individually with their counselor about their faith, the things they are struggling with and anything else they wanted to address. It was very special to be a part of someone's story."

In 2012, WinShape Camps will expand the One Week Overnight Camp for Girls to include eight weeks scheduled for June 3-8, June 10-15, June 17-22, June 24-29, July 1-6, July

"My daughter, Emma, had her first experience with WinShape Camps Day Camp last summer in Tyrone at Dogwood Church. She had such a blast! So, this summer when she showed interest, I signed her up for the One Week Overnight Camp for Girls at Young Harris College. I was nervous to drive my only daughter to Young Harris since my husband was unable to come with me. I felt better after meeting "Tutti-Fruitti" and seeing a Bible on her bed and verses scattered around the room. Although it was very difficult to leave her for the week, I knew she was in good hands. When I went to pick her up on Family Fun Day, I was anxious to find out how her week went. Her counselor said Emma was not homesick at all, and Emma said, 'I'm not ready to go home yet!' My prayer for Emma that week was that she would grow closer in her relationship with God, make friends and have a great time. In the weeks that followed, she recited a few verses and stories and described many fun events, girls she met and how much she loved the great counselors. Thank you so much WinShape Camps! Emma wants to go back to Young Harris next year. She's 9, but says she wants to go to college at Young Harris!"

A WinShape Camps parent

"In celebration of its 25th anniversary, WinShape Camps launched another camp opportunity for young girls on the campus of Young Harris College. It was an unforgettable experience

for parents, campers and our WinShape Camps staff. Our partnership with Young Harris allowed hundreds of campers to participate in a one-week overnight experience that included a variety of fun with recreation, sports, crafts, musical theatre and creative worship moments—all of which strengthened these campers spiritually, emotionally and physically. We look forward to returning to Young Harris next summer with even greater opportunity to impact the lives of young girls who have completed grades 1-7. With a gorgeous setting, excellent facilities, tremendous support from President Cox and the Young Harris College faculty and staff, we plan to make Young Harris College 'home' for WinShape Camps for many years to come."

Trudy Cathy White, Girls Director, WinShape Camps



WinShape Camps Girls Director Trudy Cathy White with her husband, John



WinShape Camps summer staff pose with the Cow on Chick-fil-A Friday Family Fun Day.

8-13, July 15-20 and July 22-27 for female campers who have completed grades 1-7. Children and grandchildren of YHC faculty, staff and alumni are eligible for a special

discount rate of \$499.

"We have been working on building this program for a year, and the dream came true this summer not only for YHC and WinShape, but for all the campers who had a wonderful, life-changing experience. Our College and WinShape will be in their hearts and memories forever," YHC Camps and Conferences Director Brett Beazley said. "We look forward to a long-term relationship with WinShape Camps."

>> Registration is now open for WinShape Camps at Young Harris in June and July 2012 for girls completed grades 1-7. For more information, visit www.winshapecamps.org.

Teacher Preparation

PROGRAM LAUNCHED THIS FALL

In August, Young Harris College introduced a full Teacher Preparation Program, offering multiple new degrees and teacher certifications.

Education degrees now offered include:

- bachelor of science in education (early childhood education)
- bachelor of science in education (middle grades education)
- bachelor of music education (with choral emphasis)
- bachelor of music education (with instrumental emphasis).

The degrees were approved earlier this year by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), along with the addition of a bachelor of science in mathematics.

The new degree programs, along with existing majors in English, history and biology, provide pathways for seven initial certification programs, which have been approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC):

- early childhood education (grades P-5)
- middle grades education (grades 4-8)
- music education (grades P-12)
- English education (grades 6-12)
- history education (grades 6-12)
- mathematics education (grades 6-12)
- broad field science education (grades 6-12).

In addition, the PSC also approved the YHC Teacher Preparation Program to offer post-baccalaureate programs in these seven initial certification areas for candidates who already hold a bachelor's degree or higher and wish to add teacher certification only.

"We are delighted to offer this Teacher Preparation Program to our students," Young Harris College President Cathy Cox said. "Whether our students want to obtain bachelor's degrees in education or receive teaching certifications to supplement their majors, our extensive program offerings will allow them to pursue many fulfilling career paths in the important field of education."

Professor of Education and Department of Education Chair Bill Brown, Ed.D., led the process for program approval. "The opening of the Teacher Preparation Program represents the culmination of three years of work and careful planning. I am grateful to everyone involved in bringing this about—especially the excellent arts and sciences faculty at Young Harris College and our wonderful public school colleagues," he said. "We expect that the new program will continue to build upon those standards of excellence that are trademark to the great academic and service traditions of YHC."

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Says Farewell to Retiring Faculty and Staff

Three members of the Young Harris College campus community retired over the summer after years of dedicated service to the College.

Benny Ferguson, Ph.D., came to Young Harris College in 2008 as professor of music. He was named dean of the Division of Fine Arts in 2009 and has led the fine arts programs during YHC's ongoing growth as a four-year college. Dr. Ferguson also conducted and performed with several of the College's instrumental groups, including the Concert Band and the Jazz Ensemble. Prior to his role at YHC, he had served as director of visual and performing arts for Chatham County Schools, as music department chair at Adams State College and as dean of the School of Music at Winthrop University.

Ron Ingle, Ph.D., joined Young Harris College as executive vice president and provost in August 2009. Prior to coming to YHC, he served as president of Coastal Carolina University in South Carolina for 14 years. During his tenure, he guided the university through a historic transformation and period of growth, which included the addition of numerous academic programs, building projects and athletics programs. Dr. Ingle brought more than 30 years of valuable experience in higher education administration to his role at YHC, where he led many academic and administrative changes as part of YHC's move to four-year status.

Pat Strickland joined Young Harris College in June 1986 as secretary to YHC President Dr. Ray Farley. During her 25-year career, she has served in a number of important roles, including assistant to YHC President Dr. Clay Dotson, assistant registrar and, most notably, as registrar. Strickland was vital in successfully administering the significant influx of academic programs, courses and policies associated with the College's four-year transformation. She also served for many years in the roles of Baptist Student Union sponsor and *Enotah* yearbook advisor.



Dr. Benny P. Ferguson



Dr. Ron Ingle



Pat Strickland

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Welcomes New Faculty

Eight new full-time faculty members joined Young Harris College in August for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Theresa Crapanzano, visiting instructor of communication studies

Dr. Johnathan Davis, assistant professor of biology

Dr. William Hyndman, instructor of computer science

Kevin Marinelli, assistant professor of communication studies

Dr. Leigh Miller, assistant professor of music

Dr. Christopher Sass, assistant professor of mathematics

Dr. Charles Swor, assistant professor of chemistry

Dr. Joe Tiu, associate professor of psychology and chair of the department of psychology and sociology

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Welcomes Senior Vice President

David Leopard joined Young Harris College in June as senior vice president of finance and administration. Previously, he served for five years at Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) overseeing the business office and auxiliary operations for all campus locations. During his time at SCAD, he was involved in numerous expansion projects including three LEED-certified construction and rehabilitation projects, such as the SCAD Museum of Art which opened in 2011. Leopard also supported the creation and start-up of SCAD's campus operations in Atlanta and Hong Kong.

Prior to SCAD, he served for five years at the Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center in Atlanta to support the Center's \$172 million campus expansion project and to provide financial and operational leadership. The construction project, which was financed through tax-exempt bond offerings, significantly expanded the High Museum of Art exhibition and art conservation space, provided new student residential facilities and added studio space for established and emerging artists.

Leopard received his accounting degree from Georgia State University in 1983 and earned his CPA designation a year later. He and his wife, Beth, have five children.



David Leopard

New Trustees Elected

AT SPRING BOARD MEETING

Two new members were elected to the Young Harris College Board of Trustees at its semi-annual meeting on April 7.

Richard “Dick” Burrell, '47, is retired from 40 years of service at Household International, now HSBC. Prior to beginning his career there, he was a teacher and coach in the 1950s and also served two years in the U.S. Army. He has served on the board of directors of Eagle Bancshares, Tucker Federal Bank, Stone Mountain Memorial Association and Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Atlanta, now CredAbility. Following his retirement from Household International, Burrell served as a consultant to the Georgia Financial Services Association until 2003. Prior to retirement, he was also a member of the Commerce Club in Atlanta and the Atlanta Athletic Club. He currently lives in Lilburn with his wife, Nancy. They have three children and nine grandchildren.



Mickey Channell, '62, is currently serving in his 19th year in the Georgia House of Representatives, having held several committee leadership positions. He is the chairman of the Ways & Means Committee, and other assignments include Appropriations (Health), Health & Human Services, Human Relations & Aging, Rules, Transportation and co-chair of the Special Joint Committee on Georgia Revenue Structure. Channell studied political science and played baseball under Zell Miller, '51, while at Young Harris College. He has previously served on the board of directors of the Georgia Cities Foundation, which supports revitalization of small-town downtown areas, as a trustee of the Georgia College & State University Foundation, and as chairman of the Georgia Nonpublic Post Secondary Education Commission. He owns and operates Channell Enterprises, a real estate holding company he founded in the 1960s. A life-long resident of House District 116, he lives in Greensboro with his wife, Carolyn, where they are active members of First United Methodist Church of Greensboro. They have four children and nine grandchildren.



ALUMNUS, TRUSTEE Huckaby Named Chancellor

FOR UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

On May 6, Young Harris College alumnus and trustee Henry “Hank” Huckaby, '62, was officially named chancellor-designate of the University System of Georgia by the Board of Regents. He assumed his duties as the System's 12th chancellor on July 1, following the retirement of Erroll B. Davis Jr.

“As has been noted in numerous articles and editorials in the press statewide, clearly Hank Huckaby is seen as the person the System needs at this important time,” said Board of Regents Chair Willis Potts after the board's vote. “We feel he will serve the University System, the Board of Regents and the State well as we address the many and significant challenges of the present and prepare for the future.”

Huckaby said, “I pledge to the Board of Regents my total support and commitment as together we work to meet the challenges and opportunities for the University System. For me, this is the culmination of a lifetime of work for this University System and for the State of Georgia.”

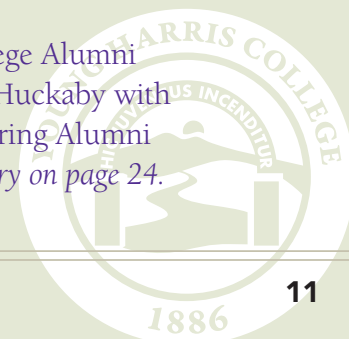
Previously, his career has focused on a long record of public service to the state of Georgia in many areas of government. Huckaby is also active in The United Methodist Church and has held numerous positions at both the conference and national level.



Hank Huckaby, '62

>> Check out a feature story about Huckaby and his new role in the September issue of *Georgia Trend* online:
georgiatrend.com/features-people/09_11_huckaby.shtml

The Young Harris College Alumni Association presented Huckaby with the *Iuventus Award* during Alumni Weekend 2011. See story on page 24.



Young Harris College Marks 125th Anniversary with Historic Commencement

This year's commencement was not a usual occasion for Young Harris College or the Class of 2011. Poignantly echoing its milestone 125th anniversary, the College conferred newly minted bachelor's degrees onto an enthusiastic class of 40 seniors, marking another momentous achievement in the College's long, rich history and the first time YHC had awarded bachelor's degrees in nearly a century.

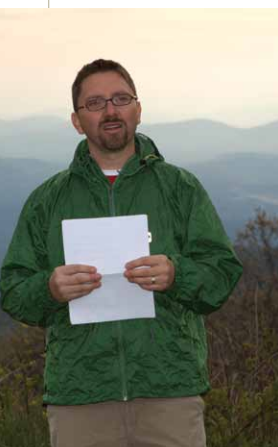
Vespers Sets the Tone

One of the key moments during the commencement celebration is the trek to the top of Brasstown Bald where graduates, their families and college personnel gather for the annual Vespers Service. Students are encouraged to participate in the seven-mile hike to Bald Mountain prior to the service.

After walking through many different ecosystems, crossing impromptu streams, hiking over rocks and logs and ascending more than 2,000 feet, the hike participants joined others from campus to share in a meal and worship.

Despite the unseasonably cold

weather, the convened congregation sang hymns warmly and read scripture against the backdrop of



Ryan Bender, of Braselton, Erena Hints, of Clarkston, Katie Dyer, of Blairsville, and Jacob Stone, of Woodstock, were members of the College's first class of graduating seniors in nearly a century.

a spectacular sunset over the Enchanted Valley.

Campus Minister and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Rev.

Dr. Tim Moore delivered an inspiring message about the journey to the "promised land"—graduation—that students have made at YHC.

Baccalaureate Service Honors Seniors

Forty baccalaureate-degree candidates, along with family, friends and members of the YHC community, gathered in Susan B. Harris Chapel on the eve of the 2011 commencement ceremony to share in worship during the College's new Baccalaureate Service.

"With YHC graduating its first class of bachelor's degree candidates in nearly 100 years, the College's introduction of this baccalaureate service tradition proved a suitable addition to our College community—a community emphasizing our commitment to the vital union of knowledge and faith," Dr. Moore said.

Dr. Fred B. Craddock, Bandy distinguished professor of preaching and New Testament, emeritus, at Emory University's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, addressed the students during the ceremony, and a special senior class prayer was offered by soon-to-be-

Top left: Campus Minister Rev. Dr. Tim Moore leads the group in worship.

Left: Graduates and their families and friends gather for the annual Vespers Service at Brasstown Bald.



>> Watch video highlights at youtube.com/youngharriscollege and browse through photos from the service at flickr.com/youngharriscollege

Graduates RECEIVE NEW AWARDS

graduates Brittany McKinnon of Murphy, N.C., and Kortney Shelley of Smyrna.

Each student chose a special mentor to share in worship during the service and present the candidate with a special purple stole, designating their senior status, that they would wear with their cap and gown the next day. As part of another new tradition at the College, the chapel bell was rung for each senior to signify their transition from students to alumni.

A Bible was presented to each senior as a reminder of Young Harris College's spiritual heritage and the importance of spiritual growth and faith while in college and throughout life. Printed with organic ink on recycled paper, the "green" Bibles spoke to the particular environmental sensibilities of the graduating class.

Right: Kyle Hatley, of Kennesaw, receives a special Bible that was presented to each senior as a reminder of YHC's spiritual heritage.



Left: YHC President Cathy Cox (right) presents Misty Barber of Nashville, Ga., with her graduation stole.

Below: Dr. Fred Craddock addresses the seniors at YHC's inaugural Baccalaureate Service.



President Cox awarded three new awards to graduating seniors during Young Harris College's 2011 Commencement ceremony.

The **Dr. Charles R. Clegg Outstanding Scholar Award** was presented to **Meg Patterson** of Toccoa, who had the overall highest grade point average in all courses completed at Young Harris College. Patterson will continue her education at Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) College of Dental Medicine. Formerly the Medical College of Georgia, GHSU accepts approximately 60 students each year to its dental school.

Matthew Kammerer of Loganville, was presented with the **Zell B. Miller Leadership Award** for significant contributions to campus life at Young Harris College as an outstanding leader and role model. Most notably, Kammerer served three terms as Student Government Association president during his YHC career. He recently accepted a position with BuySellAds.com, an online advertising company based in Boston, after previously serving as an intern.

Twins **Ja'lessa Morris** and **Janelle Morris** of Canton, received the **Young Harris Spirit Award** for demonstrating outstanding levels of personal integrity, friendliness and engagement with the campus community. Both women returned to campus this fall as new staff members—Ja'lessa as resident director of Enotah Hall and Janelle as an assistant in the Academic Advising Center.



YHC President Cathy Cox with Meg Patterson



YHC President Cathy Cox with Matthew Kammerer



Ja'lessa Morris and Janelle Morris



Former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell Miller, '51, addressed the graduates on the theme of perseverance and encouraged them to overcome adversity and challenges in their future endeavors during YHC's 2011 Commencement ceremony in the new Recreation and Fitness Center.

2011 Ceremony Makes History

Friends and families of the 124 degree candidates gathered in Young Harris College's Recreation and Fitness Center on the morning of Saturday, May 7, to take part in the historic occasion of commencement—not only historic for the College but also in the lives of each graduating student. In addition to the 40 seniors receiving bachelor's degrees in English, business and public policy, biology, music and musical theatre, 84 sophomores—most of them planning to



Above: Young Harris College President Cathy Cox presents Zell Miller, '51 with an honorary doctor of public service degree.

Left: YHC students and new graduates flock to the plaza seal to perform fraternity and sorority cheers.

return as juniors in the fall—eagerly awaited conferral of associate degrees in liberal arts, religious studies, art, music, theatre, science, allied health, recreation, business and education.

Young Harris College alumnus and former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell Miller, '51, addressed the graduates on the theme of perseverance and encouraged them to overcome adversity and challenges in their future endeavors by “rejecting rejections” and following the advice of Sir Winston Churchill to “never give up.”

The Class of 2011 with Young Harris College President Cathy Cox (front row, far right)



YHC President Cathy Cox awarded the College's highest honor, the Young Harris College Medallion, to alumnus and trustee Jimmy Tallent, '70, president and CEO of Blairsville-based United Community Banks, Inc., in recognition of Tallent and United Community Bank's strong history of support for YHC and their ongoing sponsorship of causes and events that help students succeed and strengthen and enrich the community.



Miller also reflected on his time as a student at Young Harris College, describing the institution as the place “where we discover ourselves, where we realize the value of work, the significance of God, the pursuit of excellence and the thrill that will stay with you always of having an exceptional teacher.”

He explained to the graduates that he seated his YHC English professor, Edna Herren, in the front row when he was sworn in as governor of Georgia. “I knew I would not be up there if it were not for her,” he said. “Burned in my brain are the letters: YHC IOU.”

Following Miller's speech, Young Harris College President Cathy Cox presented him with an honorary doctor of public service degree.

>> A copy of Miller's commencement speech is available online at yhc.edu or by contacting the Office of Alumni Services at (706) 379-5334.



Michelle Honaker, of Blairsville, Katie Marlowe, of Clermont, Ryan Bender, of Braselton, and Misty Barber, of Nashville, Ga., received bachelor's degrees in musical theatre.

YHC faculty and graduates line up outside the Recreation and Fitness Center in preparation for the ceremony processional.



SENIORS MOVE ON TO OUTSTANDING GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

Many members of the historic senior class have entered highly competitive graduate programs this fall:

Katie Dyer, of Blairsville, joins **Meg Patterson**, of Toccoa, at Georgia Health Sciences University's (GHSU) College of Dental Medicine, earning YHC two of the approximately 60 coveted spots.

Kyle Hatley, of Kennesaw, was accepted into eNorth Georgia College & State University's doctor of physical therapy program. During his time at Young Harris College, Hatley conducted a senior research project that involved helping the Georgia Department of Natural Resources improve bear population assessment protocols.

Christina Kelley, of Auburn, is attending graduate school at Belmont University to obtain a master's degree in church music.

Eri Pinto, of Sugar Hill, was accepted into Ohio State University's (OSU) doctor of English program with a concentration in folklore. She received the Distinguished University Fellowship from OSU—one of only two granted in the nation—that will provide her with a two-year stipend during her studies.

Sara Rodgers, of Young Harris, and **Jacob Stone**, of Woodstock, are attending graduate school at Miami University in Ohio to pursue master's degrees in environmental science.

Ashley McClure, of Blairsville, is attending law school at Emory University with a focus on prosecution in criminal law, after having earned her paralegal certificate this past summer.

Jessica Keaton, of Young Harris, entered the graduate program in English at San José State University.

DARE TO *play hard* .

BY CANDICE DYER

The leather lungs in the stands at Camden Yards serenade the home team's right fielder after every "Star Spangled Banner" in the hope that one day he might take a bow.

"Mar-ka-kis! Mar-ka-kis! Mar-ka-kis!" they chant, to no avail.

Arguably the most talented athlete ever to come out of Young Harris College, Nick Markakis, '03, in his sixth year with the Baltimore Orioles, is a throwback to a purer, more gentlemanly era in the history of Major League Baseball, when players sublimated their egos for the betterment of the team.

Even if he does not indulge the fans as much as they'd like, Markakis makes up for it with his prodigious skills. He has it all: a sweet swing, plenty of pop, a bazooka arm and springs in his legs. He patrols right field like a dynamic sentry, chasing down balls lined in the gap or spinning toward the foul pole.

"Reckless abandon!" is how YHC Baseball Head Coach Rick Robinson describes Markakis' approach on the field. "I remember how once he went

slamming into the right field fence and nearly killed himself."

A native of Farmingdale, Long Island, a crowded suburb of New York City, Markakis showed great promise as a hometown Little Leaguer. But the cold, dreary winters eventually uprooted the family. His father, a salesman with chronic arthritis, wanted Nick to be able to practice year round, and he also yearned for relief from crippling joint pain. So the Markakis clan moved to Woodstock as Nick was on the cusp of junior high school.

While tracing generations of his Greek-American and German forebears to New York, Markakis found Georgia so warm and receptive that he embraced the region.

"I like the South," Markakis said matter-of-factly by telephone from the Orioles' clubhouse moments before warming up for a key game with the Boston Red Sox. "People are very courteous and respectful, and they're a lot of fun to be around."

Markakis was originally drafted in 2001 by the Cincinnati Reds from

Woodstock High School, but decided to attend Young Harris College instead.

"There were so many nice people and hiking trails and beautiful spots in nature to explore, and I wanted a solid education," he said.

Under Coach Robinson, Markakis, a southpaw, pitched and hit, striking out 17 one game and banging 17 and 21 homeruns over two seasons.

"We never had to get on him for not playing hard," Robinson said. "We didn't coach him much, we just let him play."

Markakis thrived under Robinson's *laissez-faire* approach.

"I don't think you can teach anyone hitting," Robinson added. "You can teach the fundamentals, but you can't go out and instruct them how to make contact with the ball."

Markakis' exploits on the mound—a 94 to 96 mph heater, a late-moving breaking ball and a change-up—caught the attention of a Cincinnati Reds scout after his first year at Young Harris. In 2002, the club dangled a tempting \$250,000 to get Markakis to sign, but, again, he turned down the club to return

FOUR YOUNG ALUMNI boldly embrace the Young Harris College challenge to do more and to be more, answering the questions "what will you dare to become?" "where will you make a difference?" and "how do you define success?" with a youthful spirit of determination, combined with wisdom and maturity well beyond their years.



PHOTOS TODD OLSZEWSKI/BALTIMORE ORIOLES

PHOTOS TODD OLSZEWSKI/BALTIMORE ORIOLES

to the mountain campus.

"A guy from the Reds' front office called me and said, 'What's he thinking?'" Robinson recalled. "I met Nick for lunch, and I told him, 'If you come back to college, there's a chance you'll never get drafted again.' He said, 'Coach, if that's the case, I probably shouldn't have been drafted in the first place.'"

With a 12-0 win-loss record as a pitcher with one save and a 1.68 earned run average in 15 games, Markakis was twice named Georgia Junior College Player of the Year and was awarded *Baseball America's* 2002 National JUCO Player of the Year.

To no one's surprise, he became the Orioles' first-round draft pick, seventh overall in

the 2003 Major League Baseball Draft. His fastball was clocked at 96 miles per hour, so he was viewed as a pitching prospect, but the team opted instead for his potential as a hitter.

Markakis, who has the dark curls and chiseled looks of an Olympian from the classical era, also helped Team Greece win a silver medal in the European National Championships, and he played with the Greek Olympic baseball team in the 2004 games in Athens.

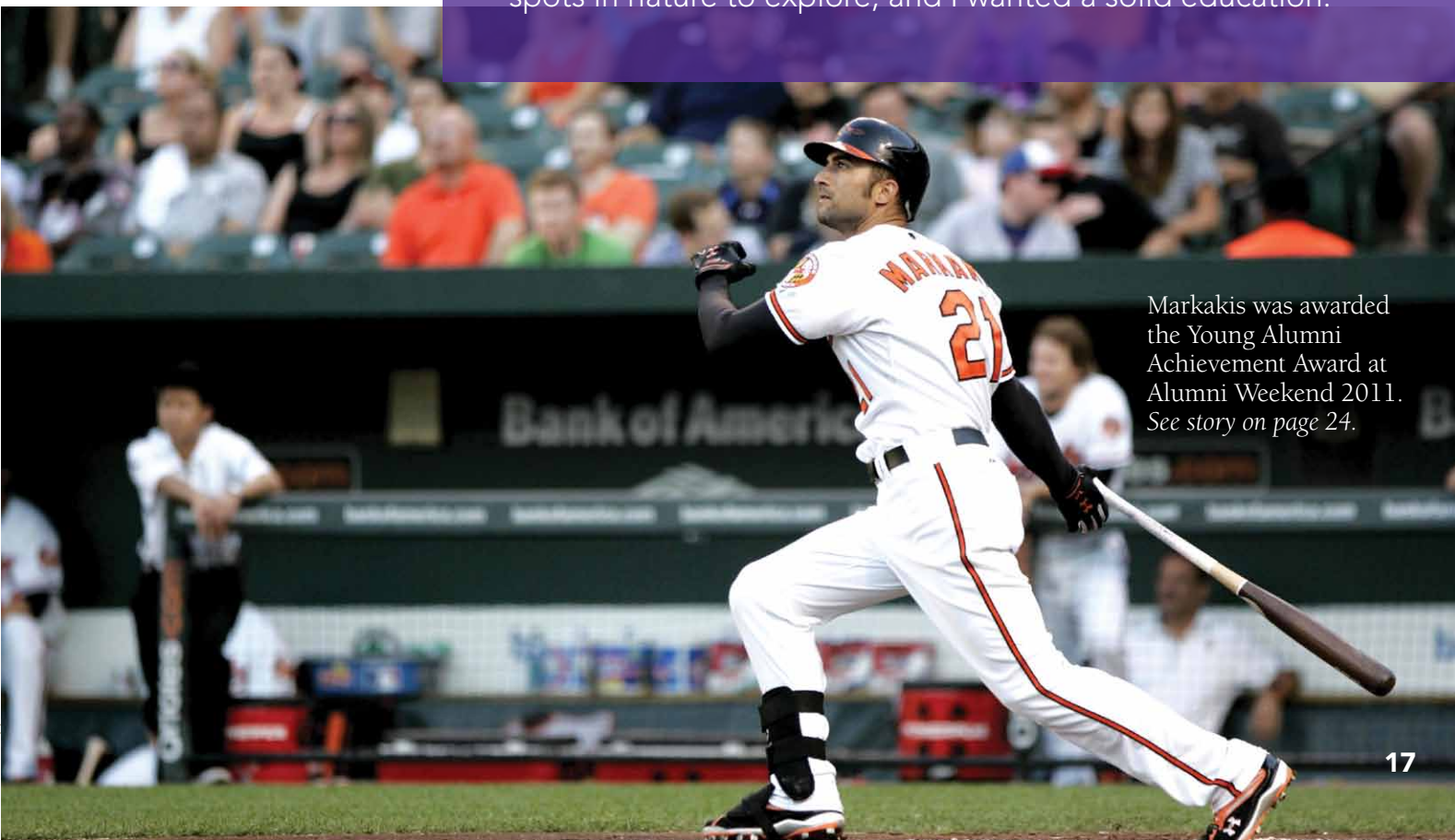
Every season, he donates \$75,000 to charities, including Going to Bat Against Breast Cancer and the Home Run Challenge. In 2009, he was presented

the Roberto Clemente Award, given to the MLB player who "best exemplifies the game of baseball, sportsmanship, community involvement, and the individual's contribution to his team."

In the off-season, Markakis, wife Christina and sons Taylor, 2, and Tucker, 1, spend most of their time in woodsy Monkton, Md., a landscape of "cow pastures, horse farms and farmland," as he describes his surroundings, reminiscent of his youth in rural Georgia.

"If I had to do it all over again, I'd go straight back to Young Harris," Markakis said. "I had a blast—and learned a lot."

"There were so many nice people and hiking trails and beautiful spots in nature to explore, and I wanted a solid education."



Markakis was awarded the Young Alumni Achievement Award at Alumni Weekend 2011. See story on page 24.

PHOTO BILLIE WEISS/BALTIMORE ORIOLES



BY EMILY SANE

the stage and has worked on more than 60 theatrical productions to date.

For leading and supporting roles, Carter has appeared on stage in the musicals *RENT*, *The Sound of Music*, *Oklahoma!*, *West Side Story*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Into the Woods*.

Her directing credits include *Godspell*, *Annie*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Cinderella* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, among others.

"Don't be afraid to chase your dreams," Carter advised. "That's where you find a place of peace. I am doing what I want to do with my life—creating life on stage."

As a student at YHC from 1997-1999, Carter was actively involved in the performing arts. She starred in college plays and musicals, served as a drama club officer and organized a Spring Fest production.

Carter was active off the stage as well. She served as vice president of the Student Government Association, and her leadership efforts resulted in bicycle racks being installed on campus. Each year, she traveled to Mexico for College-led mission trips during spring break.

Majoring in music/vocal performance, Carter maintained a 4.0 average in her classes, was awarded an Outstanding

Sophomore Award and received the Dean's Award for her on-campus achievements.

"Being successful at Young Harris College gave me the confidence to be successful in life," Carter said. "The two things at Young Harris that inspired me the most were the professors who saw the best in me and the mountains which filled me with a sense of things that are bigger than all of us."

After graduating from YHC, Carter went on to Berry College where she majored in religion and philosophy.

Following her time at Berry, she hiked the Appalachian Trail in 2002. She intends to share her experience from the hike on stage and is currently writing an original musical based on her journey.

After several years teaching high school and middle school drama in Georgia, all while continuing to work in community theatre, Carter moved to Colorado, then to Italy and eventually to China to teach English.

Carter grew fond of China and wanted to stay. The only thing missing in the rural city of Zunyi was a stage, so she moved to Beijing in 2007, where she acted and directed shows.

"I found my niche in China," Carter reflected. "I became a leader in the acting

When you feel at home on stage, you can live anywhere. The stage curtain opens like a front door to good friends. The stage lights shine like the bright sun through a bedroom window.

Young Harris College alumna Andi Carter, '99, now known professionally as Anna Grace Carter, has performed on several stages stretching from Georgia to China to New York. Each place has felt like home. Acting, directing and producing, she always finds her way to

DARE TO own the stage.





community there. I was at home.”

After briefly returning to the U.S., Carter remained in China until 2010. She was involved with more than a dozen shows in just two years and even started her own theatre company, becoming executive producer of the Beijing International Theatre Experience.

She also started the Annual Beijing International New Short Play Festival, for which she creates English-language plays—considered “in vogue” in China. Carter produced *Short Attention Span Theatre* for the first festival in 2009. She followed with *A Theatrical Triathlon* the next year. Even after moving back to the U.S. in February 2010, she returned to China for the festival’s third year and entertained audiences with *Fish Out of Water*.

After traveling many miles and living in many places, Carter landed in the Big Apple last year.

“It was the right time for me to move to New York City,” Carter said. “That’s where I always wanted to go. My experiences at Young Harris College gave me the confidence to go to China, and my experiences in China gave me confidence to go to New York.”

Since her arrival, she has produced and directed two shows: *Peking Roulette*, about an older American man and a

younger Chinese girl, and *Prom Night of the Living Dead*, about the traditional American teenage rite of passage—crashed by zombies.

Carter started an internship with Ken



Davenport, a well-noted Broadway and off-Broadway theater producer, earlier in 2011.

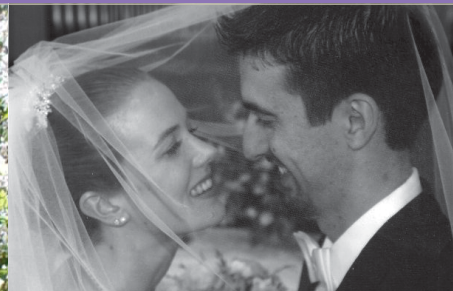
“It’s always been a dream of mine to be on Broadway,” Carter admitted. “I know

that within the next few years, I will be there.”

The world traveler may have her sights set on Broadway lights, but there’s at least one other stage that still calls to her. Carter hopes to one day return to the Enchanted Valley to premiere her original musical about the Appalachian Trail, at home, on stage at her alma mater.



“The two things at Young Harris that inspired me the most were the professors who saw the best in me and the mountains which filled me with a sense of things that are bigger than all of us.”



DARE TO *genuinely care*.

BY CANDICE DYER

Melissa Breedlove Adams, M.D., '00, was always a conscientious, quick-study student, who trotted alongside her father, Dr. David Breedlove, a beloved small-town physician, when he made house calls around Blairsville.

Her academic performance at Union County High School was so impeccable that she entered into a two-year joint enrollment with Young Harris College and completed the coursework for her entire senior year in 2000 at YHC, near her mother, Joy, who works as an administrative assistant at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church.

"So I grew up immersed in the life of the campus community, and it was idyllic and nurturing," Adams said.

Drawn to poetry and literature, Adams considered becoming a writer. (While technically still a high school student, she penned a thoughtful essay for the very first issue of this magazine, headlined "The Life of a Student," which her father still keeps handy in his office to show off.)

"I was a liberal arts kind of girl, planning to do my own thing, not become a doctor like my dad," Adams explained.

Then she went on YHC's "alternative spring break" mission trip to Juarez, Mexico.

"I saw such need, on a basic, physical level, more than I ever had in my life, so I started to think about other ways I could make a difference," Adams recalled.

She loaded up on science courses, and after leaving Young Harris, enrolled as a pre-med student at Davidson College, where she majored in biology with a minor in chemistry. Evidently, she was well-prepped for medical school at Emory University, where she was chief resident and voted "Resident of the Year" in July by her peers. Adams now serves as assistant program director for Emory University Pediatrics, overseeing 60 residents in the prestigious program.

"Pediatrics is the ultimate avenue in preventive medicine," Adams said. "What better place to start than with a child, who is a clean slate, who hasn't been, say, smoking for 40 years?"



She serves as an attending physician to a waiting room full of wide-eyed, fidgety patients—and their nervous, hand-wringing parents.

"The line I hear a lot is 'How do you deal with the parents?'" she said with a laugh, "but I consider it a huge honor to help parents through any process with a child, to know that I've given the best care possible to children and their families when they're at their most vulnerable. To be a name and a face during all of those important moments, happy and sad, in a family's life is a privilege."

And many of those experiences are full of wonder and discovery, she added.

"I love reassuring new parents who come in and say, 'Is this normal?' or 'She rolled over today!' or 'He took his first steps!'" she said. "I reply, 'That's so exciting!' Because it is exciting, to watch them grow and develop."

Adams lives in Midtown Atlanta, with her husband, Nathan, who is a computer engineer at Georgia Tech. Lately, she and her father often talk shop.

"I call her for a second opinion or feedback," Dr.

David Breedlove said, "and I like being able to do that."

"I saw such need, on a basic, physical level, more than I ever had in my life, so I started to think about other ways I could make a difference."

BY CANDICE DYER

David Thaddeus “Thad” Haygood Jr., '92, had stars in his eyes when he enrolled at Young Harris College in 1990.

“I wanted to be an actor,” he said, conceding that he always has been something of a ham, honing social skills that helped him adjust to frequent moves around south Georgia. His father, the Rev. David T. Haygood Sr., '60, was a “circuit-



Rev. Thad Haygood (center) with his father, YHC trustee Rev. David Haygood Sr., his mother, Harriette, his wife, Laura, and their daughters Ruthie, 6, and Gentry, 8

DARE TO *deliver the message.*

riding” United Methodist minister.

So Haygood joined the troupers at YHC and lent his baritone to a couple of Gilbert and Sullivan musicals, and then he went to the University of Georgia, where he majored in music.

“At Young Harris, I served as president of Wesley Fellowship, and I felt a tension within myself that I couldn’t explain,” said Haygood. “My friends and others kept telling me I would make a good pastor, but I really hadn’t planned on following in my dad’s footsteps.”

Rev. Fred Whitley, '66, now emeritus professor of religion and campus minister, recalls Haygood as a “natural for the ministry, in spirituality and temperament.”

“It was immediately clear to me that Thad was and is a ‘servant-leader,’” said Whitley, better known simply as “Rev.” “He has genuine humility while also being a very capable person who relates to all kinds of people in a nonjudgmental way, with a good sense of humor, which always helps.”

Plus, there is the reassuring timbre of Haygood’s voice, Whitley added, saying, “He definitely has that pastoral tone that

puts people at ease.”

Throughout college, Haygood worked as a Christian camp counselor at Epworth by the Sea on St. Simons Island.

“At the end of my last week there, during the altar call of the last service, I went to the altar and told the pastor there that I didn’t know what I was doing,” Haygood recalled. “He asked me what I wanted to do, and I said ‘act,’ but he told me—as so many already had—that he thought I’d make a great pastor. So I said, ‘Okay, God, I give you my life.’”

Since then, the younger Rev. Haygood has served in churches in Albany and Cuthbert and worked as chaplain of Andrew College. This past June, after four years at Crossroads United Methodist Church in Perry, he became senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Dublin—a congregation of 1,000 members in middle Georgia.

“It’s an established, strong, traditional downtown church, and I think they’re

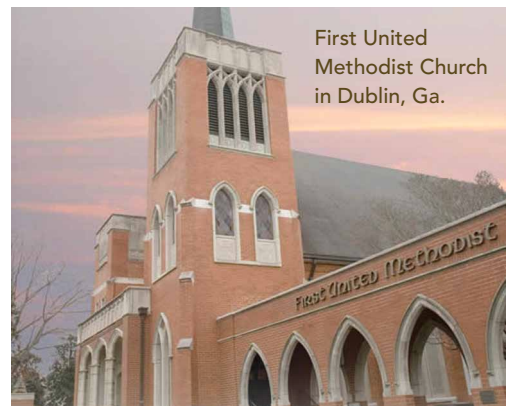
hungry to go in some new directions,” Haygood said. “What I hope to do is bring everybody together to think outside the box on what it means to be a ‘First’ church. What I’m challenging all of us to do is ask ourselves: What bold thing can we do for Christ in the community?”

The flock is ready, according to Henry King, minister of music for the nearly 160-year-old church. “Thad has brought a fresh, youthful outlook we needed and gets his message across in an engaging way. And I’ve been here for 23 years, so I’ve seen a lot of comings and goings.”

The pulpit, it turns out, and his resoundingly heartfelt sermons benefit from Haygood’s theatrical skills—elocution, stage presence, emoting in the right key of jubilation or solemnity. “I’m still ‘performing’ because I have to hold their attention,” he said. “It’s a part of the ministry that I enjoy.”

Haygood, meanwhile, still wishes upon a star, albeit a heavenly one.

“I would love for my call to the ministry to combine with my love for acting in other ways some day in the future, for those two loves to dovetail. I still pray about that.”



First United Methodist Church in Dublin, Ga.

“What I’m challenging all of us to do is ask ourselves: What bold thing can we do for Christ in the community?”



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE CELEBRATES

125

YEARS OF

Enchantment

AT ALUMNI WEEKEND 2011

Hundreds of Young Harris College alumni, their families and friends returned to campus this summer to salute “125 Years of Enchantment” at Alumni Weekend 2011, held Friday-Sunday, July 29-31. The fun-filled weekend featured many activities and special events in the Enchanted Valley, including the annual Celebration Reunion Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony, held Friday evening in YHC’s new Recreation and Fitness Center, and Saturday’s popular Lunch on the Lawn, which featured live music by bluegrass band Roots & Branches and several student bands.

Special guests of honor throughout the weekend were members of the Class of 1961 celebrating their 50th reunion.

Many other classes also enjoyed reunions and gatherings throughout the weekend both on and off campus, including the Class of 1949, Class of 1951, Class of 1971, Class of 1976 and Class of 2001.

Alumni also gathered in Glenn Auditorium on Saturday morning for the annual YHC Alumni Update. Young Harris College trustee Brantley Barrow, '74, brought greetings from the board, and YHC President Cathy Cox recognized the Class of 1961 and the 2011 alumni award recipients. YHC Alumni Association President Rufus Brown, '60, recognized the Alumni Board, Young Alumni Council, class coordinators, and emeriti and current faculty and staff, then gave an update from the Alumni Association and introduced new dates for future alumni events (*see page 27 for details*).

The weekend’s festivities wrapped up Sunday morning with worship services at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church led by Rev. Bob Bone, '57.



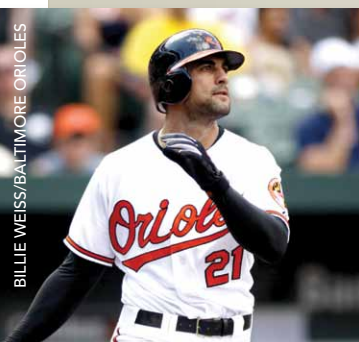


Generations of Young Harris College alumni enjoyed gathering on campus during Alumni Weekend for the class reunions, Greek gatherings and good fellowship.

2011 CELEBRATION REUNION DINNER AND

Alumni Awards CEREMONY

The highlight of Friday evening, July 29, was the Celebration Reunion Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony held at Young Harris College's Recreation and Fitness Center. Alumni from across all generations gathered to reminisce and honor a group of outstanding alumni. Members of the Class of 1961 were recognized as special guests of the evening in commemoration of their 50th reunion. Following a delicious dinner enjoyed with live music by the Ridges Trio, alumni association board members presented the annual alumni awards.



Nick Markakis, '03

Nick Markakis, '03, Monkton, Md. **Young Alumni Achievement Award**

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has graduated within the last 15 years and has excelled in his or her career

A native of Glen Cove, N.Y., Nick Markakis, '03, fell in love with the game of baseball at a very early age. He moved with his family to Woodstock in 1993, which allowed him to play the game in Georgia's warmer weather. Following a noteworthy high school career, he was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in 2001 but chose to play ball at Young Harris College instead. During his two seasons with head coach Rick Robinson's Mountain Lions, the left-handed pitcher was twice named Georgia Junior College Player of the Year, and in 2002, he was Baseball America's National JUCO Player of the Year. In 2003, he was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles and made his major-league debut in 2006. During his rookie season, he hit three home runs in a single game, the first Oriole since 1999 to do so. By 2007, he secured his spot as the team's everyday right fielder, and following the 2008 season, he signed a six-year contract extension.

Unable to attend the ceremony, Markakis sent a video acceptance of his award. (See feature story on page 16.)

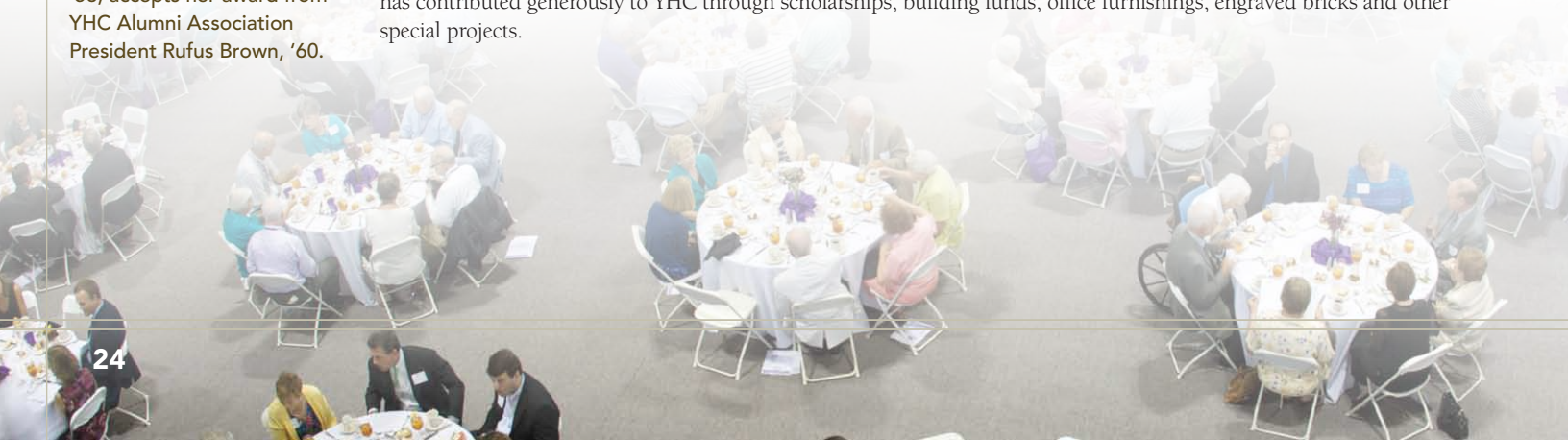


Dr. Sylvia McCoy Hutchinson, '58, accepts her award from YHC Alumni Association President Rufus Brown, '60.

Dr. Sylvia McCoy Hutchinson, '58, Athens, Ga. **Susan B. Harris Award**

Given to an outstanding alumna who has provided strong support for Young Harris College

During a distinguished 33-year career at the University of Georgia that began in 1978, Dr. Sylvia McCoy Hutchinson, '58, served as both professor and administrator for a number of important initiatives. She directed the Postdoctoral Teaching Fellows program at the Institute of Higher Education and College of Arts and Sciences and served as associate dean of the College of Education. Now a professor emerita of higher education and reading education at UGA, her research and writing has focused on basal reading texts and international award-winning books for children. About the same time she began her tenure at UGA, Hutchinson accepted an opportunity to serve on the Young Harris College Alumni Association Board, which began a second career of service helping to further the education of young people. For more than three decades now, she has served on various alumni boards at YHC, including a turn as president of the alumni association. She currently serves as second vice president of the board for the Young Harris College Alumni Association. She takes every opportunity to tell prospective students about the Young Harris experience and has contributed generously to YHC through scholarships, building funds, office furnishings, engraved bricks and other special projects.



Rev. David Haygood Sr., '60, Newnan, Ga. Artemas Lester Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna in recognition of a lifetime dedicated to ministry and a commitment to Christian service

In June 2003, Rev. David T. Haygood Sr., '60, retired from the position of senior pastor at Savannah's Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church, following 40 years of dedicated service in the South Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church. Six of those years were spent as an associate director of the South Georgia Conference Council on Ministries and seven years were spent as the district superintendent of the Savannah District. He also served several local churches. He was recalled to active service in September 2004 and retired again in June 2005. In addition to his lifetime of service in ministry, he has been a member of the Young Harris College Board of Trustees since 1985. He has also served as a trustee of the Methodist Home for Children and Youth. Haygood and his wife, Harriette, have a son, David Thaddeus "Thad" Haygood Jr., '92, who is the senior pastor of Dublin First United Methodist Church. (See feature story about Thad on page 21.)



Rev. David Haygood Sr., '60, accepts his award from Alumni Board member Linda Lee Boleyn Saye, '61.

Henry "Hank" Huckaby, '62, Watkinsville, Ga. Iuventus Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has made significant contributions to the education of our youth

Following his days at Young Harris College—where he met his wife, Amy, '62, and his now lifelong mentor and friend Zell Miller, '51—YHC alumnus and trustee Henry "Hank" Huckaby, '62, began a career that would influence many levels of state education in Georgia. He taught at the college level during the 1960s and 1970s then moved on to hold a number of key administrative positions within the University System of Georgia (USG). In 1973, he began a career of public service in Georgia when he joined the state's Office of Planning and Budget. In 1975, he organized and directed the Senate Research Office. He then served as the commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs and the executive director of the Georgia Residential Finance Authority. In 1990, Governor-Elect Miller tapped him for director of the Office of Planning and Budget. In this role, he was directly involved in the design and implementation of the Georgia Lottery—as well as the HOPE Scholarship program. Huckaby was sworn in this past January to represent Georgia House District 113 as a Republican but was soon elected by the Board of Regents to lead the USG and began his tenure on July 1 as the USG's 12th chancellor.



Henry "Hank" Huckaby, '62, accepts his award from Alumni Board member Candler Ginn, '77.

Hon. Edgar L. Jenkins, '51, Jasper, Ga. Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Career Achievement

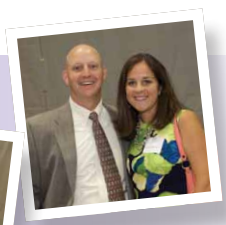
Given to an alumnus or alumna who has demonstrated great success in his or her career following a successful foundation laid by Young Harris College

Former U.S. Congressman and attorney Edgar L. "Ed" Jenkins, '51, has played a role in many pivotal events in America's political history. He was employed by the FBI prior to serving in the U.S. Coast Guard in the 1950s, and then as executive secretary for former Congressman Phillip Landrum from 1959 to 1962. After earning a law degree, he prosecuted federal criminal cases as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia then entered private law practice in 1965 in Jasper, where he now lives with his wife, Jo. The Young Harris native was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1977, where he stayed for 16 years, in an enviable post on the influential Ways and Means Committee. During that time, he also sat on its Trade Subcommittee, serving as a designated official advisor to U.S. delegations related to trade agreements. He investigated the Iran-Contra Affair, involving the unlawful sale of missiles to Iran, and trekked around Pakistan and Afghanistan on trade missions with Texas Congressman Charlie Wilson. He also helped reduce capital gains, estate and income taxes, lowering the rates from 70 percent to 39 percent. His vigilance on behalf of small business owners repeatedly earned him the National Federation of Independent Business "Guardian of Small Business" award. He received the Young Harris College Medallion at YHC's 1990 Commencement then delivered the commencement address in 1992. He joined the College's Board of Trustees in 1988 and became a trustee emeritus in 1999.



Amy Dotson, '88, with sons Drew and Sam, accepts the award on behalf of her father, Hon. Edgar "Ed" Jenkins, '51, from Alumni Board President-Elect Rob Murray, '75.

Alumni enjoy an evening with classmates and friends in the new Recreation and Fitness Center.





Lillie Mae Green accepts her award from Alumni Board member Shirley Miller, '54.

Lillie Mae Green and the Green Family, Gainesville, Ga.

Nancy Louise Haynes Stephens Sanderson Robertson Outstanding Friend Award

Given to a friend of Young Harris College who has dedicated his or her time, resources and energy to ensure a successful future for the College

The YHC Alumni Association honored Lillie Mae Green and the Green Family for their exceptional support of Young Harris College. From humble beginnings in 1950, husband and wife Frank and Lillie Mae owned and operated a local grocery store in their hometown of Gainesville that steadily grew to be known for excellent personal service and a wide variety of the best-quality food and unique products, repeatedly earning industry awards as well as customer loyalty. After completing his studies at YHC, the Greens' son, Ronnie, '65, never stopped learning as he studied business, law and real estate—all while continuing to work in the family store. Following his untimely death in 2001, Frank and Lillie Mae found opportunities to strengthen and support health and education causes in memory of their son and his extraordinary life dedicated to learning and helping others. Following Frank's death in 2008, Lillie Mae has continued to make gifts on behalf of the family, including one to Ronnie's beloved alma mater. Because of Lillie Mae's vision, the first-floor common area inside YHC's LEED Silver-certified residence hall, Enotah Hall, was named "The Green Family Lobby" as a lasting tribute to the family's inspiring story. In addition, she has made special provisions through her estate to further endow the Ronnie Green Endowed Scholarship at Young Harris College.

CLASS OF '51

CLASS OF '71

CLASS OF '49

CLASS OF '76

CLASS OF '61

NEW DATES ANNOUNCED

Homecoming 2011

NOVEMBER 11-12



During Alumni Weekend 2011, Young Harris College Alumni Association President Rufus Brown, '60, announced a new schedule for future alumni events at YHC, explaining that after much careful thought and discussion, the Alumni Board of the YHC Alumni Association voted this past year to adopt a new alumni

events schedule that will create two opportunities for alumni to return to campus to enjoy a special weekend with friends and former classmates.

"We have been very busy reviewing comments that we received and issues that were raised over the last several years related to the usual late-July date, and we believe that there is room for growth and enhancement that will effectively address the concerns shared with us," Brown explained.

Reasons for the change include:

- Returning the title of "Homecoming" to YHC students to establish a traditional fall event centered around YHC's revived intercollegiate basketball program
- Unbearably hot July weather
- Desire for more faculty, staff and student participation
- Need for more affordable and available area accommodations
- Opportunities to enjoy YHC athletic events and student arts and cultural programming
- Ability to engage a wider range of alumni through broader activities that will appeal to different interests.

The Young Harris College Alumni Association will now offer two major alumni events each year: Homecoming in the Fall and Alumni Weekend in the Spring.

"We hope our fellow alumni are as eager as the Alumni Board is to kick off this new schedule in November with our first fall Homecoming," Brown added. "Basketball is back at YHC, and we will rally around our men's and women's Mountain Lions as they open their second season at home!"

Alumni Weekend will follow in April with class reunions, the introduction of the new Half Century Club, the annual alumni awards, Lunch on the Lawn and a variety of arts and cultural activities.

SAVE THE DATE

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2012

APRIL 20-22

FRI., APRIL 20:

Half Century Club Dinner and Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony

All alumni invited! Help honor the Class of 1962 during their 50th reunion as well as all other alumni who have celebrated a 50th reunion. Special VIP tables available for 50th reunion class. The YHC Alumni Association will present the annual alumni awards.

SAT., APRIL 21:

Lunch on the Lawn

All alumni invited!

Milestone Class Reunions

(5th, 10th, 15th, etc.)



Homecoming

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

Student-led Pep Rally and Bonfire, Fri., 8 p.m.

Student-led Homecoming Parade, Sat., 10 a.m.

YHC Basketball is Back!

Pre-game Celebratory Lunch, Sat., 12 p.m.

Women vs. Reinhardt University, Sat., 2 p.m.

Men vs. Bryan College, Sat., 4 p.m.

\$20 ticket includes lunch and game
(\$10 for children under 12)

Plus additional campus activities throughout the weekend. See full schedule online at

www.yhc.edu/homecoming

Go Mountain Lions! Alumni Spirit Challenge

If your Greek or social group would like to compete for the Spirit Award during the games, contact the Office of Alumni Services for group seating.

Attention Former Basketball Players:

YHC will host a special reception for all former basketball alumni again this year. Please indicate if you are a former player when you register.

Register by Friday, Nov. 4

www.yhc.edu/homecoming

or contact

Office of Alumni Services

(706) 379-5334 | alumni@yhc.edu

DESTINATION:
Young Harris

PLUS:

Mountain Lions baseball games, annual student art exhibition and the Theatre Young Harris season finale Sweet Charity.

Contact the Office of Alumni Services to plan your class reunion.

A detailed events schedule and registration form will follow in early spring.

A **Passion** for Teaching

BY PEGGY COZART

In a symbiotic relationship both sides get and give what they need. In the case of Assistant Professor of Philosophy Jamie Watson, Ph.D., he appears as inspired by the students he teaches as they are by him.

“When the light goes on and students understand or have a question that’s particularly relevant, that’s the payoff. That’s my passion and my primary responsibility,” said Dr. Watson, who chairs the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Young Harris

College and teaches courses ranging from Introduction to Philosophy and Introduction to Ethics to Critical Thinking, Business Ethics and Philosophy of Religion.

Citing the advantages of being at a small liberal arts college he said, “You

develop this professional relationship in the classroom and that becomes a platform for interacting with students around campus. You are interacting with them as human beings. It’s a wonderful, genuine relationship. You see the full dimension of their lives.”

Dr. Watson joined the YHC faculty in 2009, just after earning his Ph.D. in philosophy from The Florida State University. Settling in the mountains of Young Harris was something like coming home for the Cleveland, Tenn., native, whose educational pursuits included stints in Illinois, Montana and Florida. He admits that he and his wife “would love to be here for the long haul. My parents couldn’t be happier. We love the place and have made a lot of good friendships already.”

In concert with the robust expansion at YHC, his growing department now offers a minor in religious studies with plans to offer it as a major beginning in Fall 2012. “Religious studies really supplement many areas of academic exploration. A science major has more opportunities to understand how political and religious ideas encouraged or discouraged scientific progress, and to ask the hard question of whether these ideas are appropriate or commendable,” he explained.

Additionally, plans are underway to offer a minor in philosophy with a long-term goal of offering it as a major as well. “We have a very passionate and knowledgeable faculty that students are drawn to,” he said. “I think we have some strong teachers in the department doing a great job eliciting our students’ curiosity.”

Dr. Watson also oversees the Ethics Across the Curriculum initiative at YHC. “The goal is to help students understand,

Dr. Jamie Watson



recognize and respond to moral questions in every field of academics,” he explained. Faculty members are asked to include an ethics component in their classes, and the program provides resources—including lectures, reading groups, a library fund that helps make books available and a spring Ethics Awareness Week—to help make ethical reflection a vital part of the ethos of Young Harris College.

As for his off-campus life, the youthful and energetic professor—who seems in constant, determined, forward motion—enjoys day hiking and running in the area and carves out time to play in the band Cornbread Ted and the Butterbeans. “Cornbread Ted” is art department chair Ted Whisenhunt, and the Butterbeans include Dr. Watson on resonator guitar and mandolin, his wife, Darlena, on washboard and spoons, and Whisenhunt’s wife, Adjunct Instructor of English Eloise Whisenhunt, Ph.D., on standup bass. The two-year-old group has performed its old-fashioned, irresistible style of “ruckus music” at local venues including the John C. Campbell Folk School, Vogel State Park and on the squares in Hayesville, N.C., and Hiawassee, as well as numerous occasions on campus.

A prolific writer as well, Dr. Watson has contributed scholarly essays to a



“When I think about teaching, I think about my days as an undergraduate and how empowering my classes seemed. I suddenly had new tools and strategies for answering important questions for myself. I try to let these memories inform my teaching.”

number of books and is the coauthor of three textbooks. Writing on subjects as diverse as Johnny Cash’s Christian worldview and the role of love in the animated *Transformers* series “is a way to take the popular culture icons and introduce through them philosophical ideas, concepts and dilemmas, along with strategies that can help people develop principles for living a better-informed life,” he said. His latest book is *What’s Good on TV? Understanding Ethics through Television*.

Though he only joined the YHC faculty in 2009, Dr. Watson is already earning noteworthy accolades from both the greater academic community as well as the YHC student body. For his “outstanding contributions to undergraduate education, student learning and campus life,” he was selected as the 2011 recipient of the

Vulcan Award for Teaching Excellence. Sponsored by the Vulcan Materials Company in cooperation with the Georgia Foundation of Independent Colleges, the award is presented annually to a YHC faculty member who exemplifies what it means to be a liberal arts college professor. He also received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the YHC Student Government Association during the 2011 Honors Ceremony, based on the faculty member’s enthusiasm and devotion to Young Harris College.

“When I think about teaching, I think about my days as an undergraduate and how empowering my classes seemed. I suddenly had new tools and strategies for answering important questions for myself. I try to let these memories inform my teaching.”

His students would agree that his passion is just what they need.



Dr. Jamie Watson performs as “Pinto” with Cornbread Ted and the Butterbeans.

The Life Academic

BY PEGGY COZART

When Associate Professor of English Mark Rollins, Ph.D., recently overheard one of his students telling another, “I love this class. I love classes like this where the professor lets you talk,” he took it as the highest compliment.

“It affirmed the teaching style I’ve honed over the years,” said Dr. Rollins, who prefers the interactive nature of discussion-based classes. “I want students to understand it and evaluate it and respond to it. I find that some are shy, but for the most part, they enjoy this.”

Dr. Rollins, who joined the Young Harris College faculty in 2004 and was tapped as Teacher of the Year in 2009, teaches classes ranging from freshman composition and literature survey courses to upper-level seminars. A native of Macon, he earned his bachelor of arts degree in English from Auburn University before enrolling at the University of Georgia, where he earned both his master’s and doctoral degrees.

He specializes in 19th-century British literature with an emphasis on the work of Thomas Hardy. “I’m interested in the way Hardy’s narratives challenge readers. He makes you work by building in gaps and multiple interpretive possibilities,” Dr. Rollins explained. “He also examines the role of women and questions of faith, skepticism and doubt—all in a very rural setting.”

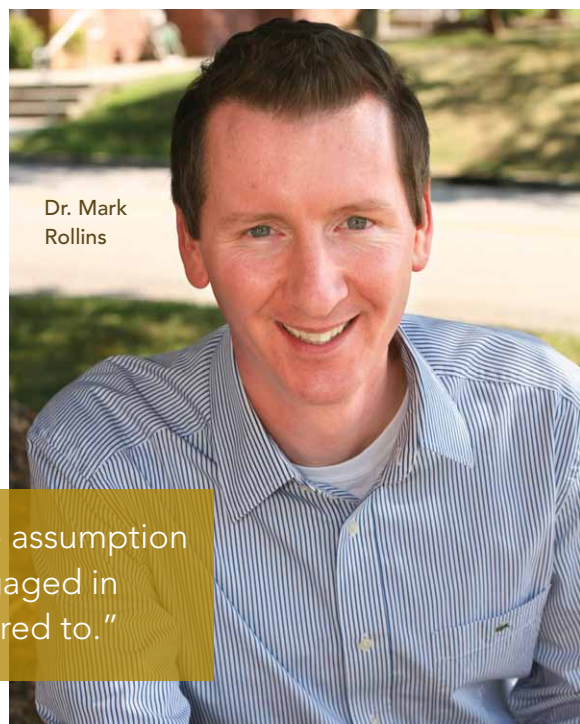
Though not as remote as 19th-century England, the mountains of Young Harris provide a perfect setting for the academic immersion and challenge that a liberal arts college offers and that Dr. Rollins finds invaluable. “It’s increasingly hard to

“I’ve always taught with the assumption that students like to be engaged in discussion rather than lectured to.”

find schools that affirm the notion that students learn best when they live on campus with their peers and dedicate themselves to classes first, and everything else second.”

To that end, Dr. Rollins oversees two important academic programs at YHC. He is director of the YHC Honors Program—through which students receive academic scholarships, textbook vouchers, priority registration for classes and special opportunities for travel. Most Honors students are admitted to the program as incoming freshmen; however, up to 15 students can apply to join once enrolled at the College, giving them the opportunity to earn their way in. “Oftentimes these are some of our best students. They’ve proven themselves academically in a college environment,” he said.

Dr. Rollins also directs Rhetorica: The Art of Writing and Speaking at Young Harris College. The program, which launched in Fall 2010, allows



Dr. Mark Rollins

students to enroll in specially designed courses throughout the curriculum that feature a rigorous writing and speaking component. Additionally, the Center for Writing and Speaking offers peer-to-peer tutoring to help evaluate and improve student performance.

The successful and popular program grew out of Dr. Rollins’ work as chair of the committee that produced a 100-page Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) as a component of YHC’s reaccreditation process, which all institutions of higher education must undergo every 10 years.

“I’ve always taught with the assumption that students like to be engaged in discussion rather than lectured to,” Dr. Rollins said. “This belief in the value of discussion-based courses is what excited me about the topic for our QEP, and partly, I think, is why I was asked to direct the Rhetorica program.”



BONNER LEADERS PROGRAM

Adds New Members and Adopts New Initiatives

The Bonner Leaders Program at Young Harris College doubled in membership this fall with 10 freshmen joining nine returning students. New students selected for the program include freshmen Sami Castleberry of Cumming, Lauren Morris of Canton, Mindy Moore of Stockbridge, Marcus Nash of Snellville, Grace Patterson of Blairsville, Jordyn Utley of Madison, sophomores Taylor Davis of Kennesaw, Brittany Starrett of Monroe, Jordan Wilkes of Cleveland, Ga., and junior Jeremy Mabe of Marietta.

The program recently expanded its

new partner site this year that will allow Bonners to mentor and tutor at-risk children.

"I love working with kids, and the Bonner Leaders gives me the opportunity to accomplish that goal," Mabe said.



"Being a Bonner has also helped me become aware of the greater good that I can do for the community. Being able to change a kid's life for the better gives me the best feeling in the world."

Established community partner sites include the Hinton Center for Rural Life, Hiawassee River Watershed Coalition, Support for Abusive Family Emergencies, Inc. (S.A.F.E.),

Mountain Shelter Humane Society, Ninth District Opportunities, U.M.A.R. (a Methodist organization serving adults with developmental disabilities), Towns County Family Connection at Towns County Schools, Regency Hospice Second Wind Dreams and the City of Young Harris/YHC Sustainability Partnership.

"Now that we have developed relationships with most of the viable community non-profit agencies in our area, our focus is to deepen and broaden the work we are doing with our current partners," said Rob Campbell, who serves as program coordinator for both the

Bonner Leaders program and academic service learning.

Some of the program's other goals for the year include increasing participation from other YHC students, faculty and staff at community partner sites, working with the College's S.E.R.V.E. (Service, Empowerment, Responsibility, Voice and Engagement) initiative to implement monthly community outreach events, and inviting faculty and staff to attend weekly meetings with Bonners centered on specific areas of expertise.

"I'm looking forward to building interpersonal relationships within the Bonner group as well as the community sites we will be working with," Starrett said. "It is a great feeling to know that I have made a difference in someone's life by helping in whatever way I can. The small acts can sometimes make all the difference."

The Bonner Leaders Program is sponsored by the Bonner Foundation, which was founded in the 1990s in partnership with approximately 80 colleges and universities nationwide. Its supported programs seek to engage students in civic outreach to strengthen their communities, to build mutually beneficial relationships between campuses and community partners and to clarify and develop personal, vocational and professional strengths for learning and leadership.

(From left to right) Sophomore Jordan Wilkes of Cleveland, Ga., sophomore Taylor Davis of Kennesaw, sophomore Brittany Starrett of Monroe, junior Jeremy Mabe of Marietta, freshman Jordyn Utley of Madison, freshman Lauren Morris of Canton, freshman Mindy Moore of Stockbridge, freshman Sami Castleberry of Cumming, freshman Grace Patterson of Blairsville and freshman Marcus Nash of Snellville

work opportunities as well, allowing Bonner Leaders to now work with 10 community partner sites that offer engaging opportunities for students to address critical social issues and make a positive impact in the local community. The Alternative Education Program for the Union County School System is a



Center for Appalachian Studies and Community Engagement

OPENS WITH CHESTNUT TREE PLANTING

Young Harris College has opened the new Center for Appalachian Studies and Community Engagement in a newly renovated space across from the main campus right on Highway 76. The building is also home to offices for the Academic Service Learning and Bonner Leaders programs, office and work space for student leaders, space for meetings and seminars and faculty offices for the philosophy and religious studies departments.

The Center will house rotating exhibits and displays in the future, including pieces from the Byron Herbert Reece Collection and Appalachian art from campus and community artists. The space may also be used to host Appalachian speakers, concerts, dances, community meetings and other special events.

The grounds surrounding the Center will provide an ideal setting for many of these gatherings, as several blight-resistant chestnut trees have been planted behind the facility as part of The American Chestnut Foundation's (TACF) program to help reintroduce the American chestnut tree to the north Georgia mountains. These trees will provide the centerpiece of a heritage

garden showcasing traditional Appalachian plants.

The seeds were obtained through the assistance of Donald Davis, Ph.D., professor of sociology at Dalton State College and a noted Appalachian scholar who served as the founding president of the Georgia Chapter of TACF, along with the current president of the Georgia Chapter of TACF and Young Harris College alumnus Rev. Joe Nicholson, '65.

"I am proud that YHC can be a part of the effort to restore the chestnut to its rightful place as the king of the Appalachian forests," said Paul Arnold, Ph.D., dean of the Division of Mathematics and Science and professor of biology at YHC.

The new Center for Appalachian Studies and Community Engagement

A group of YHC administrators, faculty and students gather after planting seeds for blight-resistant chestnut trees outside YHC's Center for Appalachian Studies and Community Engagement.



Above: YHC Professor Emeritus of English and former Poet Laureate of Georgia Bettie Sellers read the poem "The Village Blacksmith" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow during the ceremony.

Left: Center for Appalachian Studies and Community Engagement



YHC alumnus Matthew Kammerer, '11, Dean of the Division of Mathematics and Science and Professor of Biology Dr. Paul Arnold and senior Will Harris of Blairsville, plant one of three blight-resistant American chestnut trees in a protective tube.

focuses on making a positive impact in Appalachia by specializing in several specific initiatives, including service learning, Appalachian studies, community engagement, social justice and sustainability. As the Center develops, programs will be expanded in each of these areas.



Inaugural Chapters of Four-Year Societies

ESTABLISHED AT YHC

Fifteen Young Harris College students were inducted as charter members of the Georgia Xi chapter of the national honor society Alpha Chi, established on campus this past spring.

Membership in Alpha Chi is limited to no more than 10 percent of the junior and senior classes. The objectives of the honor society are to promote and recognize superior scholarship and those elements of character which make scholarship effective for service. Founded in 1922, Alpha Chi has more than 300 chapters throughout the United States. Membership is the highest academic honor on campus.

Additionally, nine students and two faculty members were inducted as charter members of the Zeta Kappa chapter of the international professional music fraternity Mu Phi Epsilon.

The international organization is composed of collegiate chapters, alumni chapters and allied members. Election to membership is based upon scholarship, musicianship and character. The professional fraternity's primary aims include the promotion of musicianship and scholarship, loyalty to the alma mater and the development of a true bond of friendship. Since its founding in 1903, Mu Phi Epsilon has installed more than 210 chapters throughout the world.

The installation of these new societies on campus reflects YHC's recent transformation to a four-year college, as all institutions seeking to establish a chapter must grant baccalaureate degrees.



Young Harris College junior business and public policy major Julie Kelley, of Blairsville, lights a candle during the national honor society Alpha Chi induction ceremony held in Susan B. Harris Chapel on April 27.



Charter members of the Georgia Xi chapter of national honor society Alpha Chi include (front row, left to right) junior Elizabeth Weissinger of Tucker, senior Allie Matulia of Fayetteville, senior Rachel Wilkes of Crawford, junior Emily Villas of Jupiter, Fla., Meg Patterson, '11, of Toccoa, senior Julie Kelley of Blairsville, senior Jordan Stanley of Epworth, (back row, left to right) Jill Tuttle, '11, of McCaysville, senior Jacob Connelly of Madison, senior Austin Freeman of Hartwell, senior Seth Peters of Loganville, junior Ian Calhoun of Young Harris, Ga., and Katie Dyer, '11, of Hiawassee



Junior English major Allie Matulia, of Fayetteville, signs her name on the official registry during the national honor society Alpha Chi induction ceremony.



The new student members of Mu Phi Epsilon are junior Melissa Murphy of Blairsville, sophomore Caitlin Davis of Baxley, senior Tara Shiver of Covington, junior JeRee Dukes of Agnes, sophomore Heather Poole of Young Harris, junior Paige Jenkins of Dallas, Ga., senior Raquel Jasso of Gainesville, sophomore Shelby Brown of Calhoun and sophomore Cody Killian of Murphy, N.C. The new faculty members are Assistant Professor of Music Dr. Richard Knepp and Associate Professor of Music, Music Department Chair and Musical Theatre Program Co-coordinator Dr. Sandy Calloway.

Picture Perfect

BY KRYSTIN DEAN

A mile-long drive across a bridge and under a gatehouse leads to the towering façade of Harlaxton Manor, a 153-room Victorian home in the English Midlands that was built in the 1830s, merging Gothic, Jacobethan and Baroque styles to breathtaking effect. The home was transformed into Harlaxton College in 1965, and today it is known as one of the finest study-abroad campuses in the world, hosting 1,000 students each summer who come to study and to marvel.



Alyssa Lowery



This expansive home of higher education proved to be an ideal setting for sophomore history major and religious studies minor Alyssa Lowery, a Conyers native who is quick to point out that she loves living in Georgia but has always desired to immerse herself in history while studying abroad.

"I always wanted to see more of the world than my own backyard, but I hadn't seriously considered studying abroad because I never thought I would be able to afford it," Lowery said.

All of that changed when Lowery found out she was the recipient of the Beverly Barrow Woodward, '53, Scholarship, established by Leonard and Beverly Woodward of Rome, Ga., and granted annually to one Young Harris College student to study abroad in England.

She embarked in mid-May on a six-week-long journey that included studying British literature at Harlaxton—

and marveling at sights she had previously only seen in pictures.

"I am so grateful to the Woodward. Had it not been for this scholarship, I seriously doubt that I would ever have been able to study abroad," Lowery said. "Having the opportunity to see places I'd only ever dreamed of visiting was unbelievable."

Lowery's spirit for adventure is coupled with a scholar's soul. When asked what her passions are, her response was simple: "Honestly, they are directly related to my schoolwork." While history and religion remain her two favorite subjects, she is also developing an interest in art and loves to write. She recently delved into the genre of creative non-fiction, and her work was published—and won an award—in the College's literary magazine, the *Corn Creek Review*.

Lowery also expresses her creative side at YHC by staying involved with Theatre Young Harris, the College's performing arts organization. In addition, she serves as the vice president of SIGHT (Seekers' Interfaith Group for Honoring Thought), a student group that discusses religion-based topics.

"I really enjoy doing research in religious studies and find that very fulfilling," Lowery said. "History is also a valuable discipline. I think that understanding people from the past helps us better understand the people in



our everyday lives.”

This desire for making personal connections is what led Lowery to Young Harris College, as she credits the close relationships students have with faculty and staff as the aspect of the College she values most.

“Another thing I really love is the opportunity you have to build things,” she said. “Since the College is in such a transitional phase of growth right now, there are so many places in which you can get involved to spread your interests and bring people together.”

The spirit of camaraderie Lowery has found at YHC was also palpable at Harlaxton, where she quickly made friends, and, together, took advantage of study breaks by planning day trips to neighboring towns in the East Midlands, including Lincoln and Nottingham, while also visiting larger cities like London and Cambridge.

“I wanted to see as many cities as possible, and I really tried to get a sense of the different types of British culture,”

said Lowery, who also ventured outside England on excursions to Edinburgh and Paris. “My goal was to see all of these iconic places you always hear about.”

According to Lowery, the most memorable moment of her journey occurred on her first day in France. As Lowery and her friends walked to Notre

“It was one of the most incredible and beautiful things I have ever seen in my life, and we were right in the middle of it,” Lowery said. “A French woman later explained to us that it’s called ‘The White Dinner’ and is basically a flash mob that only happens once a year. We were in the perfect place at just the right time to

see this spontaneous celebration, and I’ll remember it forever.”

After sharing these experiences with her classmates, it comes as no surprise that, when asked if there is anything she misses, her answer was “the friends I made.” Lowery also misses what she refers to as “the English way of life” that centers on spending quality time conversing with others.

Lowery hopes to return to Europe to continue gaining new

perspectives and ideas as she works towards her goals of continuing to study history in graduate school and becoming a museum curator.

“Being overseas really gave me an appreciation of the rest of the world. All your expectations and stereotypes are shattered when you meet real people from the countries you visit,” Lowery said. “Studying abroad helped me realize how little I know about the rest of the world, and it also taught me there’s really no better way to learn about it than through first-hand encounters.”



“The White Dinner” in France as captured by Alyssa Lowery

Dame, they noticed people dressed in white carrying chairs, folding tables and baskets of food, and thought perhaps it was a wedding party passing by.

After exploring the cathedral, they stepped outside into a sea of white, as hundreds of people on the surrounding plaza were busy setting up tables piled with every variety of cuisine imaginable. Everything in sight was white—clothing, tables, chairs, napkins, even floral arrangements.



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

On the Move to NCAA Division II

July ushered in a new era for Mountain Lion athletics when Young Harris College got the news that it had been formally accepted as a candidate for membership in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) at the Division II level.

"We are very excited to begin the formal process to full membership in NCAA at the Division II level," YHC President Cathy Cox said. "Our athletic department has worked diligently in leading this endeavor, and this achievement is a significant milestone in our on-going transformation to a four-year college. We know that NCAA membership will attract many talented student-athletes to Young Harris College."

"I am very pleased that the NCAA membership committee considered YHC a worthy institution for provisional membership," YHC Director of Athletics Randy Dunn said. "Obtaining full membership will be a three-year process, and if everything goes well, YHC should receive full NCAA membership in 2014-2015."

During the first year of candidacy, Young Harris College will bring itself completely in line with NCAA policies and procedures and develop Division II schedules for its 12 intercollegiate sports teams: baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's soccer, softball and men's and women's tennis.

Following the College's first year as a candidate for membership, the NCAA's membership committee will send representatives to campus to review and evaluate YHC's progress, and will then make a recommendation to move Young Harris College to the next level of the

membership process.

As a next step, the College immediately began work to complete the process for membership in the Peach Belt Conference (PBC).

"Young Harris College will be the only private college in Georgia in the esteemed Peach Belt Conference, one of the strongest and most prestigious Division II conferences in the country," said Dunn, who successfully transitioned North Georgia College & State University to NCAA Division II and PBC membership prior to arriving at YHC in 2010.

Current PBC members include Armstrong Atlantic State University, Augusta State University, Clayton State University, Columbus State University, Flagler College, Francis Marion University, Georgia College & State University, Georgia Southwestern State University, Lander University, University of Montevallo, North Georgia College & State University, University of North Carolina—Pembroke and University of South Carolina—Aiken.

PBC officials visited campus during September, and YHC will learn in the coming months if the College is admitted.

"Many individuals worked long and hard to make all of this happen, but President Cox should be the person most recognized for her vision, commitment and support during this process," Dunn added.

During the 2010-2011 season, YHC competed as an independent school against other four-year institutions. Prior to that transition, Young Harris College's athletic teams were among the finest in the National Junior College



YHC head coaches and athletics administrators gather with President Cathy Cox (back row, third from left) after she and Director of Athletics Randy Dunn (back row, fourth from left) announce that YHC has been accepted as a candidate for membership in NCAA Division II.

Athletic Association. The Mountain Lions claimed the 2006 NJCAA national championship in women's soccer, the same season head coach Kathy Brown was named national Coach of the Year. In 2007, head coach Rick Robinson led Young Harris College's baseball team to the Junior College World Series.

In addition, Young Harris College student-athletes have gone on to earn individual acclaim. Six former YHC baseball players have made it to the major leagues, with three currently playing: Baltimore Orioles outfielder Nick Markakis, '03, Atlanta Braves right-handed pitcher Cory Gearrin, '06, and Colorado Rockies outfielder Charlie Blackmon, '06. Markakis and Bryson Smith, '09, a 2011 draft pick by the Cincinnati Reds, both earned the title of national junior college player of the year during their YHC careers. Many other former Mountain Lions have played professionally or have gone on to play at the highest collegiate levels in their respective sports.

VIEWPOINT

The Student-Athlete: YHC Academics Meets Division II Athletics

BY JENNIFER S. HALLETT, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of Communication Studies and Faculty Athletics Representative

This summer, the NCAA's Division II acceptance of Young Harris College's application to enter the membership process made history for the Mountain Lions. For coaches and student-athletes, it means greater competition and opportunity to showcase their talent and hard work. For administrators and the College, it means greater name recognition around the region and the country. But what does it mean for academics and the quality of education at Young Harris College? In my opinion, our membership in DII supports our mission as a private, United Methodist-affiliated liberal arts college so completely that it's almost as if they invented DII just for us.

My role as the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) at Young Harris College is to serve as a bridge over what is often seen as an ever-widening gap between athletics and academics. Happily, DII membership is itself a bridge over that clichéd gap. Perhaps this is why, as much as anyone on campus, I am so excited that our Mountain Lions are on their way to active NCAA DII membership.

You see, DII is special, just like dear YHC. Division II uses "Life in the Balance" as the defining statement of its strategic positioning platform, which highlights the emphasis on educating the *whole* student-athlete. Division II identifies six key attributes that should be sought by and provided to every student-athlete to live life in the balance: learning, service, balance, passion, resourcefulness and sportsmanship. I think you'll agree that each attribute

is clearly reflected in one or more of YHC's goals to "educate, inspire, empower" our students. For us, *education* refers to the *whole* person and requires a comprehensive program of experiences both in and out of the classroom. This is paralleled in the DII attributes of learning and resourcefulness. Both of these include varied experiences fostering versatile knowledge and skills.

YHC also seeks to *inspire* students, both through our affiliation with The United Methodist Church and our beautiful surroundings. Division II demands that students have passion: for their sport, for excellence and for service to campus and community. To inspire this same passion for service, YHC has instituted a service learning component in our academic program, in addition to our already thriving extracurricular service arsenal. Last year, more than a quarter of our students were involved in some sort of extracurricular or programmatic organization that requires students to engage in service to campus and/or our surrounding community. Our service and experiential-learning academic component continues to grow each year, and that is truly inspiring!

Finally, YHC is dedicated to *empowering* students to exercise independent moral judgment and discover and develop their own talents, skills and abilities. It is easy to see the connection here to the DII attributes of passion and sportsmanship, which is defined by fairness, courtesy and ethical conduct.

Jennifer S. Hallett, Ph.D., joined the Young Harris College faculty in 2008, and currently serves as assistant professor of communication studies and the faculty athletics representative. Dr. Hallett specializes in intergroup communication, language and social interaction. She has co-authored articles in *Human Communication Research*, *Communication Research* and *Health Communication* as well as book chapters in *The Dark Side of Interpersonal Relationships* and *The New Handbook of Language and Social Psychology*. Dr. Hallett combines her love of teaching with her love of sports in her role as the faculty athletics representative, representing the College to the NCAA and providing oversight for the academic success of all student-athletes at YHC.

As I said earlier, it's almost as if they invented DII just for us to join. From the beginning, President Cathy Cox's administration and our Department of Athletics sought membership in NCAA Division II, and I hope you see why we are so proud to have made it.

Finally, in addition to the perfect juxtaposition of YHC to DII, there is one more reason to celebrate: as we continue to cultivate the DII culture here on campus, that gap I mentioned earlier between athletics and academics will continue to shrink into nothingness. This truly is a match made in the Enchanted Valley.



Fall Sports Update

With the Young Harris College athletics programs transitioning to NCAA Division II, the 2011-2012 athletics seasons have gotten off to a rousing start. The following updates cover the first half of the fall sports season, as of Sept. 30, 2011.

Soccer

Men's soccer became the first Young Harris College team to be ranked—regionally or nationally—since the Mountain Lions began competing at the four-year level. The men's soccer team has been ranked as high as No. 6 in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America's NCAA Division II Southeast Region poll. Head Coach Mark McKeever's Mountain Lions, who only won two matches in 2010, started the 2011 season with five consecutive wins, including wins over nationally ranked teams Mars Hill



Ashley Walker



Haley Holderfield

College (1-0) and Lander University (2-1 in double overtime).

The women's soccer team has continued their winning ways in 2011. Head Coach Kathy Brown's Mountain Lions, who were one of two YHC teams last year to finish with a winning record, started the season by winning six of their first eight contests. Led by goalkeeper Kelsey Cunningham, a senior from Cumming, the team registered four shutouts in the first half of the season.

Cross Country

Young Harris College's men's cross country team had its best finish when

it came in sixth place at the Mercer RunFit Sports Invitational. Head Coach Barry Brown's Mountain Lions have been led by freshman Alex Bitok, of Kapsabet, Kenya, sophomore Trent Jones, of Lakeland, Fla., and freshman Harrison Myers, of Byron. Bitok has paced YHC with three top-20 efforts while Jones and Myers have each registered two top-20 finishes.



Ilija Ilic

Brown's women's cross country team also improved over its first three meets of the season. YHC had its best effort of the first half of the season when the Mountain Lions placed fifth at the Georgia Southwestern Remembrance Run. Erica Brooks, a sophomore from Watkinsville, has been the top finisher for the Mountain Lions as she has finished inside the top 20 in each race while Zeddy Jepkosgei, a freshman from Eldoret, Kenya, has had two top-20 efforts to date.

Tennis

Head coach Jacob Turner's men's tennis team split its opening matches of the season, as the men defeated Emmanuel College and were edged out by Anderson University. The Mountain Lions, who went winless in Spring 2011, also competed in the prestigious United States Tennis Association/Intercollegiate Tennis Association Regional Championship in Sumter, S.C., in September. YHC was able to compete against some of the top competition in the region.

Turner's women's team started the season by defeating Emmanuel and Anderson. The Mountain Lions, who went winless last season, have already made a splash regionally as YHC players competed at the USTA/ITA Regional



Charlotte Dawson

Championship in Sumter, S.C., in September. The singles and doubles "B" draws were an all-Mountain Lion affair. Freshman Jane Plevako, from Astana, Kazakhstan, captured the 64-player singles competition with a win over teammate Charlotte Dawson, a freshman from Odessa, Texas. Dawson and Plevako

teamed up to win the 32-team doubles draw with a win over the Young Harris tandem of freshman Stormy Dvorak, of Park City, Utah, and freshman Lina Parra Pava, of Cali, Colombia.

Golf

Head Coach Brett Beazley's men's golf team opened its season with a fourth-place finish at the Piedmont Fall Invitational. Junior Chase Hankla, of Valdosta, tied a career-low round of one-over par 73 in the final round to lead the team with a score of 151, good for a tie for sixth place. Junior Cameron Medina, of Bremen, established a new career-low 36-hole score of 156 to finish in a tie for 14th place after a score of 80. Junior Matthew Peeler, of Zebulon, finished in a tie for 22nd place at 160 after tallying a 79. Jesse Brock, a junior from Watkinsville, had an 81 and finished a tie for 26th place at 161 while Caleb Kelley, a senior from Blairsville, finished in 32nd place at 163 after an 80.

The women's golf team opened its season with a fourth-place finish at the Piedmont Fall Invitational. Beazley's Mountain Lions had three golfers card rounds in the 70s for the first time in college history. Sophomore Rachel Mason, of Ringgold, had the low round for Young Harris with a 74 and finished a two-day total of 164, good for 16th place. Senior Courtney Moore, of Powder Springs, contributed a career-low round of 78 and finished in 11th place overall at 160, also a career best. Junior Kelsey McEntyre, of Hiram, registered a 79 and came in 15th with a 163.



Jane Plevako

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All former Young Harris College students, tennis players and summer campers are invited to

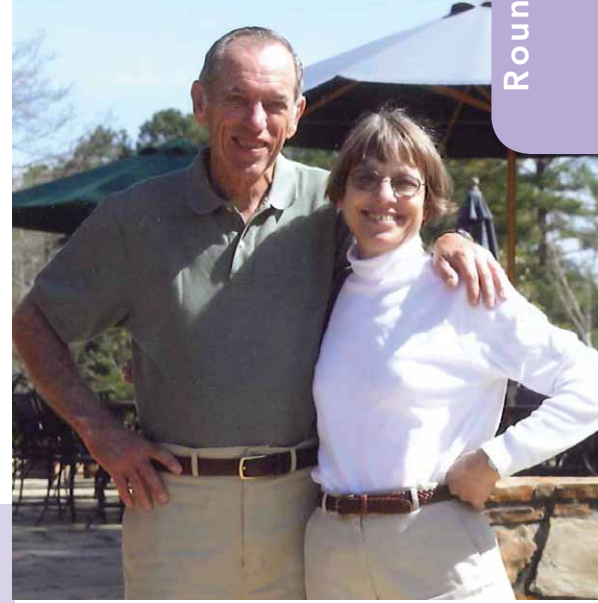
A Celebration for Bob and Gayle Nichols Saturday, April 28, 2012

YHC President Cathy Cox invites you back to campus to celebrate with former students of Dr. Bob Nichols and the tennis family, to honor Dr. Bob and Gayle Nichols for their distinguished service to YHC, and to dedicate the newly constructed tennis complex as the **Bob and Gayle Nichols Tennis Complex**.

Join us Saturday, April 28, 2012

A Celebration for Bob and Gayle Nichols

- 11:30 a.m. Lunch at the **Bob and Gayle Nichols Tennis Complex**
- 1 p.m. Dedication Ceremony
- 1:30 p.m. YHC Men's and Women's Tennis Showcase Match
- 3-5 p.m. Campus Tours / Opportunity for alumni and event attendees to try out the new courts
- 6 p.m. Reception and Dinner honoring Bob and Gayle Nichols
Program to follow emceed by Marlan Wilbanks, '81
YHC Recreation and Fitness Center



Many alumni and tennis players know Dr. Bob and Gayle Nichols as an integral part of their Young Harris College memories. Bob taught math, coached tennis and served as director of academic advising, while Gayle served as the senior college counselor, until retiring in 2009 after more than 30 years of service.



Reserve Your Spot *Today!*

\$10/person for dinner
Register online at yhc.edu/nicholsevent
or mail check to:
Young Harris College
Office of Advancement
P.O. Box 275
Young Harris, GA 30582

For more information contact Andrea Ferguson at (706) 379-5173 or amferguson@yhc.edu or
Visit yhc.edu/nicholsevent



2011-12 Men's Basketball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
October		
26	Purple-White Game	7 p.m.
30	Western Carolina (Scrimmage)	6 p.m.
2	Anderson (Scrimmage)	7 p.m.
November		
7	Covenant (Scrimmage)	6 p.m.
12	Bryan (HOMECOMING)	4 p.m.
15	Shorter	7 p.m.
18	Reinhardt	7:30 p.m.
22	Lander	7 p.m.
29	North Georgia	7 p.m.
December		
3	Bryan	4 p.m.
10	Reinhardt	4 p.m.
12	Lees-McRae	7 p.m.
UNITED COMMUNITY BANK CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT		
16	Lee vs. Virginia Intermont	5 p.m.
16	Point	7 p.m.
17	Consolation	2 p.m.
17	Championship	4 p.m.
31	Brevard	2 p.m.
January		
3	Southern Wesleyan	7:30 p.m.
10	North Greenville	7 p.m.
14	North Georgia	3 p.m.
21	Barber-Scotia	4 p.m.
23	Lander	7:30 p.m.
26	Tennessee Temple	7 p.m.
30	Brevard	7 p.m.
February		
1	Piedmont	7 p.m.
4	Lees-McRae	4 p.m.
11	Barber-Scotia	4 p.m.
13	Truett-McConnell	7 p.m.
16	Tennessee Temple	8 p.m.
18	Berry	4 p.m.
21	Southern Wesleyan	7 p.m.
23	North Greenville	7 p.m.

All times are local. Home games are purple.
Head Coach: Pete Herrmann

A Few Good Men

BY MICHAEL MACEACHERN

The 2011-2012 season tips off for the Young Harris College men's basketball team Saturday, Nov. 12, when YHC hosts Bryan College in a 4 p.m. Homecoming contest in the Recreation and Fitness Center.

Young Harris College reinstated the intercollegiate basketball program last season after a 40-year absence.

"No one knew what to expect going into last season," said sophomore Steve Viterbo. "Last year was a large learning process for me and the team. It was hard but it was a good experience that can only help us in the future."

Viterbo, a 6-foot-2-inch guard from Melbourne, Australia, is one of five returning players from last season's team that won five games. Viterbo led the Mountain Lions with 8.2 rebounds a contest as well as recording 63 steals. He was second on the team in scoring (16.9 per game) and in assists with 56.

Frank Adams, a 6-foot-4-inch sophomore guard from Stone Mountain, led the Mountain Lions as he averaged 21.7 points last season. He was second on the team in rebounding (6.2 per game), third in steals (44) and fourth in blocks (15).

Adams wasn't dismayed by last season.

"We lost nine games by five points or less last season with only a few players," Adams said. "That is going to help us along the way."

One player had a unique view of last season. Sophomore guard Vince Martin sat out the year as he was redshirting. He was able to practice with the team but the 6-foot-2-inch guard from Marietta wasn't able to don the Mountain Lion uniform.

"Last year I wasn't able to get out there and help the

guys," said Martin. "It was tough, but I learned a lot sitting on the bench. I was able to sit back and see everything from the coaches' perspective."

There is much optimism for the Mountain Lions as they enter this season.

"This year we have more size and depth," said Viterbo. "There is more unity within the team. We are a bunch of young guys ready to prove ourselves on the court as a team."

"I think we have a chance to be a solid team this season," added Martin. "We have some good additions to the team. We have good chemistry and work hard."

Adding to all of the excitement is the fact that the Mountain Lions are now in candidacy year one of NCAA Division II membership this season, and they are pursuing membership in the Peach Belt Conference.

"Joining a conference is really good," said Viterbo. "It will be something to make a name for the school. It will be something for us to play for."

"Guys want to be able to play for a championship," added Martin.

"We are hopefully going to the Peach Belt," Adams said. "It's going to be a competitive league. I'm looking forward to the challenge. It makes you want to work even harder."

The team is also getting excited for the newest tradition on campus, a fall Homecoming.

"I'm not sure what Homecoming is exactly since I'm from Australia," said Viterbo. "But I'm looking forward to it."

"Homecoming [in high school] was good," said Martin. "It was something like senior night. It was a good experience."

The guys all agree that it will be a great way to start off the second season of Mountain Lion basketball.



Vince Martin, Steve Viterbo and Frank Adams

What Women Want

BY MICHAEL MACEACHERN

Mountain Lions fans welcomed back the College's reinstated intercollegiate basketball program last season after a four-decade hiatus; it had actually been much longer than that for the women.

"It was kind of scary," said sophomore Breanna Gleeson. "We didn't have any preconceived ideas of what to expect."

Gleeson, a 5-foot-6-inch guard from Adelaide, South Australia, averaged 8.0 points and 2.5 rebounds a year ago as the Mountain Lions went 11-13 in their inaugural season. Gleeson is one of seven returnees this season for YHC.

"During the first year, we were going to go through some things as there were a lot of unknowns," said fellow sophomore Lauren Smith. "We went up against some good teams. We came together as a family. We wanted to win, but we needed to come together."

Smith, a 5-foot-4-inch guard from Colbert, was second on the Young Harris College team a year ago in scoring with 11.9 points per game and in rebounding with 5.5 boards a contest. She was also on top with 55 steals and averaged 3.7 assists. She set the college record with 30 points in a win over Reinhardt last season.

The women open the 2011-2012 campaign with a 2 p.m. matchup against Reinhardt University on Saturday, Nov. 12, in the Recreation and Fitness Center during the College's first fall Homecoming.

"I expect us to do big things this year," said Smith. "The freshmen are amazing. They are going to be good and help us out. The chemistry of the team is good. We should win 18 to 20 games. We were the underdogs last season. I'm really excited about this season."

The Mountain Lions have seven new players on the roster. Each one started on teams that finished in the sweet 16, two were named region most valuable players and a pair played on state championship teams.

"I see a lot of talented players on this year's team," said 5-foot-7-inch freshman guard Keta Robinette. "We are all freshmen and sophomores. With the chemistry we have, we are going to be tough competition for the opposition. The coaching staff knows the type of players they want to build the program, using it to put Young Harris on the map."

Robinette highlights the recruiting class as she was the all-time leading scorer—boys or girls—at Marion High School in Jasper, Tenn., with 2,210 points. She was a two-time All-State performer as well and was named the district and region Player of the Year twice.

The Mountain Lions are pumped about the College's first candidacy year in NCAA Division II and the potential for membership in the Peach Belt Conference.

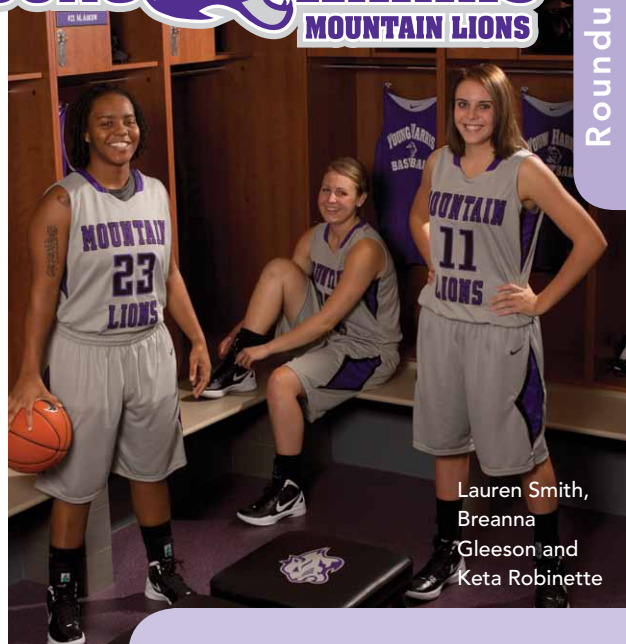
"The Peach Belt is a top Division II conference," said Smith. "I hope we get in so I can have two seasons playing against some of the top schools in the country."

"I'm pretty excited about the possibility of playing in the Peach Belt," added Robinette. "It's only going to make us better."

Another motivator for the Mountain Lions will be the introduction of Homecoming this fall.

"I'm excited because Homecoming draws in a large crowd and gets everyone looking forward to basketball season," said Robinette. "I'm looking forward to seeing how many people we can pack in the arena."

"Homecoming is going to be an awesome tradition," said Smith. "We had a packed house for our first home game last year, and I expect the same this year. The loyal YHC alumni and the dedicated people in the community all have been very supportive of the team."



Lauren Smith,
Breanna
Gleeson and
Keta Robinette

Roundup

2011-12 Women's Basketball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
November		
9	Georgia State (Exhibition)	7 p.m.
12	Reinhardt (HOMECOMING)	2 p.m.
16	Converse	6:30 p.m.
WINGATE BY WYNDHAM LADY PIRATE CLASSIC		
18	Armstrong Atlantic State	7 p.m.
19	Flagler	1:30 p.m.
December		
22	Truett-McConnell	6 p.m.
30	Southern Wesleyan	7 p.m.
3	Limestone	2 p.m.
9	Southern Wesleyan	Noon
12	Brenau	6 p.m.
15	Converse	6 p.m.
17	North Georgia	2 p.m.
31	Reinhardt	2 p.m.
4	Truett-McConnell	6:30 p.m.
January		
7	Berry	2 p.m.
12	Brevard	6 p.m.
14	North Georgia	2 p.m.
16	Voorhees	1 p.m.
21	Barber-Scotia	2 p.m.
26	Tennessee Temple	5 p.m.
28	Trinity (D.C.)	2 p.m.
February		
4	Brenau	2 p.m.
11	Barber-Scotia	2 p.m.
16	Tennessee Temple	6 p.m.
18	Berry	2 p.m.
23	Puerto Rico-Bayamon	5 p.m.
24	Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras	5 p.m.

All times are local. Home games are purple.
Head Coach: Brenda Paul

COLLEGE CHOIR

Completes First European Tour

Czech Republic's capital city by enjoying a dinner cruise on the Vltava River. While in Prague, the group performed at three churches, including St. Vitus Cathedral, the city's most distinctive landmark located within the 9th-century Prague Castle.

Before heading for the Austrian

enormous with beautiful architecture," said senior music major Tara Shiver of Covington. "When we sang, it sounded like we were singing for God himself."

"It was one of the most beautiful places I've ever seen, and the wealth of knowledge and the past events of the place are still palpable today," added Austin Freeman, a senior musical theatre major from Hartwell. "The entire tour was amazing because it was one of those once-in-a-lifetime experiences with some of my best friends."

In May 2011, members of the Young Harris College Choir, led by YHC Professor of Music and Director of Choral and Vocal Activities Jeff Bauman, traveled on

a sightseeing and performance tour of Europe—the first ever of its kind for the group. During the 10-day excursion, they explored the Czech Republic, Austria and Germany, immersing themselves in the art, history and music of Europe's cultural hubs while performing in historic European venues.

"Because of the support the choir received through Friends of the Arts and other individuals, 46 people had the opportunity not only to sightsee, but also to perform in some of the most prestigious and historically significant venues in all of Europe," Bauman said.

The group kicked off their time in the



border, the group enjoyed the views of the Czech countryside while traveling to Brno, the Czech Republic's second largest city, where they held an informal "flash mob"-style concert at the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Paul.

Students held another impromptu concert at Melk Abbey, one of the world's most famous monastic sites.

"Melk Abbey had the biggest library I have ever seen, and the space was



Top left: Students pose in front of the fountain at the Vienna Opera House. Above: Members of the Young Harris College Choir gather in front of Melk Abbey in Austria.

Below: St. Stephens Cathedral in Vienna



Funding the Arts

BY PEGGY COZART

Part of the gifts received through the 2010-2011 Friends of the Arts fund this past year were used to support the Young Harris College Choir's first-ever European tour this past May.

When YHC Board of Trustees member Richard McGinnis heard about the European tour the choir was planning, he thought it sounded like the trip of a lifetime. Knowing fundraising would be key to making it happen, McGinnis, a twice-retired advertising executive and longtime supporter of the performing arts at YHC, offered his support to the choir's director, Jeff Bauman.

"I told him I would help with the trip if he came up a little short," McGinnis said. And he did. McGinnis made a significant gift to the Friends of the Arts fund in support of the trip.

"It tickles me to death that I can help in that way," he said.

"I love the performing arts. I think it's in my genes. My mother played piano, and mom and dad sang together. Music was in the family." However, when asked about his own musical talents, he replied, "I just play the radio."

With a history of attending performing arts events at Young Harris College for the past 35 years—since he and his family began coming to the cabin he built and still owns in nearby Union County—McGinnis sees the performing arts as a vital part of YHC's past and future. "The College has long been noted for the performing arts in north Georgia," he said. "I am sure YHC will continue to appeal to young folks who aspire to make it in the music and voice world. The skill level of our performing students is very high—and getting better every year."

Get Backstage

WITH FRIENDS OF THE ARTS AT YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Visit www.yhc.edu/fota or contact YHC's Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173 to learn more.



YHC trustee Richard McGinnis with wife Shirley



The YHC group gathers on the waterfront in Prague.

After the group performed at a 12th-century church in the small town of Krems, residents presented the choir members with appreciation gifts of chocolate and small mementos before treating them to a meal featuring local fare.

In Vienna, the choir performed at St. Stephen's Cathedral, which receives thousands of visitors daily. While visiting Austria's capital city, students also explored gorgeous parks, checked out shops along the famous Kaerntner Strasse and took in a performance at the Vienna State Opera.

The group then headed to Salzburg, the Baroque city of music associated with Mozart, to perform in the 17th-century Salzburg Cathedral that is world renowned for its 4,000-pipe organ.

"Our concert in Salzburg at the cathedral where Mozart served the archbishop may have been the most musically satisfying," Bauman said. "The reverberation of our final chord lasted eight seconds."

The tour came to a close in Munich with a final a cappella performance at the Frauenkirche. On their last day in Europe, students climbed to the top of the tower at the Rathaus, or town hall, to enjoy a memorable view of the city center before attending a traditional Bavarian music and dance show at the world-famous Hofbräuhaus.



Stadtpark in Vienna



"The trip to Europe will always be a unique experience that I remember when I look back on my time at YHC," said junior musical theatre major Rebekah Medford of Powder Springs. "I was with close friends who share a love of music, and together we got to share that with cultures whose backgrounds are full of music."



Salzburg Cathedral



It Began with a Letter: A Family's Legacy of Giving

BY JUDY LUNSFORD

Young Harris College has a rich tradition of families establishing an endowed fund with support spanning generations. The impact of multi-generational giving can be significant, especially when those funds are designated for scholarships.

The Ben G. and Coley M. Adams family created an enduring legacy through a scholarship fund that began with a letter and a gift of common stock. Without any direct connection to YHC, the Adams family's devotion to the College grew from their commitment to Christian higher education and their strong United Methodist roots. For the past three and a half decades, their generosity has touched and influenced the lives of hundreds of Young Harris College students like Avram Allen, who, in 2007, wrote:

Thank you so much for the scholarship assistance. Your help has meant the world to me. Without this scholarship, I wouldn't have been able to come to Young Harris College. I have really learned a lot here and grown as a person. Your willingness to help young people like me is awesome! My family couldn't have sent me to the college of my choice without your help.

Sincerely,
Avram Allen

The Adams family's great legacy began on May 26, 1976, when James M. "Jim" Adams wrote to Young Harris College President Dr. Ray Farley:

Just recently, I have discussed with my mother, Mrs. Coley M. Adams, plans for establishing a scholarship fund at Young Harris College.

It is her wish for a fund to be set up in the name of Ben G. and Coley M. Adams. The income from this fund is to be used for worthy, but needy students.

As of this date an initial gift of 500 shares of John H. Harland Company Common Stock is to establish this fund. An additional gift will be made from Mrs. Adams' estate, and gifts will probably be made by other members of the family.

Geraldine "Jerry" Adams Patrick wearing her Young Harris College Medallion in 2005



On June 4 of that year, President Farley responded to Mr. Adams.

Young Harris College is so grateful to you for establishing the Ben G. and Coley M. Adams Scholarship Fund. Young Harris College is so fortunate in having so many friends who believe in Christian higher education. May we always be worthy of the trust and confidence [that] you have placed in us. Thank you for thinking of Young Harris and for making it possible for some worthy but needy young persons to receive an education.

Ben and Coley's three children—James "Jim" Adams, Rebecca "Becky" Adams Jester, and Geraldine "Jerry" Adams Patrick—followed their parents' lead in supporting the scholarship. During the 2005 Commencement ceremony, the College honored Geraldine Adams Patrick and the entire family by presenting her the Young Harris College Medallion.

"The Ben G. and Coley M. Adams Scholarship Fund has grown into one of the College's most well-endowed funds," said then-President Stephen Gunter. "The importance of this fund for many students who have benefited from the Adams family's generosity cannot be overstated. It is with deepest gratitude for your love and devotion to Christian higher education through your generous funding of the Ben G. and Coley M. Adams Scholarship Fund that I present the Adams family with this Medallion, the highest honor bestowed by Young Harris College."

Considering the scholarship an important commitment, family members included the fund in their estate plans. A letter to Young Harris College from Joseph E. Patrick Jr. and Dorothea Patrick Smith dated April 23, 2009, reads:

On February 23, 2009, Rebecca Adams Jester passed away. Our "Aunt Becky" lived a long and full life. She would have been 99 years old this May. She was preceded in death by Jamie, her husband of 40 years. Jamie's career in the pipeline business took them to all corners of the globe. Becky loved the travel and made many friends in the far-flung places they lived. Becky and Jamie had no children, but loved so many as if their own. As the children of Becky's younger sister, Jerry, we have known her love and loved her in return all of our lives. We are honored that she wanted us to be the Trustees of The Rebecca Adams Jester Charitable Remainder Unitrust, which she established in 1999.

Through the trust, Becky, the oldest of Ben and Coley's children, designated a portion of her estate to the endowed scholarship fund established by her parents.

Over the years, the fund grew from gifts and interest. A letter to Young Harris College from Joseph E. Patrick Jr. dated May 12, 2010, said:

It has been almost exactly five years since my mother, Jerry Patrick, and I were at Young Harris for graduation ceremonies, which included recognition of her for the Ben G. and Coley M. Adams Scholarship. It was our first visit to your beautiful campus.

When my mother was contacted...we were quite surprised to learn how significant the Adams scholarship had become....Our family benefited greatly from our multi-generation relationship with the John H. Harland Company, Atlanta-based check printing company. That largesse coupled with the Adams family's Methodist roots, led to the formation and continued support of the scholarship fund. We are all very proud of what my grandparents started.

Geraldine "Jerry" Adams Patrick with son Joseph E. Patrick Jr. at Young Harris College in 2005 prior to the Commencement ceremony



A letter to Young Harris College from Joseph E. Patrick Jr. and Dorothea Patrick Smith dated Sept. 1, 2011, reads:

On July 20, 2011, our mother, Geraldine A. Patrick passed away. "Jerry" lived a long and full life, celebrating her 96th birthday in March. She was preceded in death in 1992 by Joe, her husband of 52 years. She will be missed by all.

Throughout her life Jerry was generous with many churches, schools and organizations [that] were important to her and her family. That generosity extends beyond her life through planned charitable gifts she designated through The Geraldine A. Patrick Charitable Remainder Unitrust, which she established in 1998, to be distributed following her death.

The Trust designated a specifically allocated portion of her estate's residue to be given to YHC for the scholarship fund in memory of her parents and siblings.

The Ben G. and Coley M. Adams Scholarship Fund now has a principal of more than \$1.2 million, and YHC awards an average of 10 scholarships annually in excess of \$5,000 per student.

Current students Lauren Smith and Heather Richbourg are two of the recipients of the scholarship, making them part of the Adams family's legacy.

Smith grew up in Madison County, the youngest of three children. She chose YHC because of its friendly atmosphere and the commitment the faculty and staff have to each student's success. With plans for a career in health care, the women's basketball team member says she has grown personally as well as academically in the Enchanted Valley.

"I am honored to have received the Adams scholarship," the sophomore biology major said. "Receiving this scholarship makes my future even brighter than I had already imagined."

For Richbourg, the scholarship enabled her to attend college full time. Third in her class at nearby Hayesville High School just inside North Carolina, the junior continues to excel

academically at Young Harris College in her studies of biology and mathematics.

"Scholarships open doors," said Richbourg, who is on the College's women's cross country team. "I would not have been able to attend Young Harris without financial support. This scholarship means everything to me."

The oldest of three children, she says the scholarships she has received are encouraging her siblings to excel. "They now know that scholarships can make college possible."



2011-2012 Board of Associates

Angie Kelley, Chair
Piedmont Heart Institute
Blairsville, GA and
Murphy, NC

Donnie Parker
Parker's Clothing
Blue Ridge, GA

Matthew Akins
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Blairsville, GA

Charles Jenkins
Civic Leader
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Holly Tiger
Anderson's Store and
Tiger's of Hayesville
Hiawassee, GA and
Hayesville, NC

Kim Johnson
First Citizens Bank
Murphy, NC

Jane Wilson, '95
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Rob Kaser
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Blue Ridge, GA

Britt McAfee, '91
J. Britt McAfee Law Firm,
LLC
Blairsville, GA

W.C. Nelson, '63
Nelson Tractor Company
Blairsville, GA

Local Leaders Make a Difference for Local Students

The members of the 2010-2011 Young Harris College Board of Associates wrapped up their annual Local Scholarship Campaign in June, exceeding the campaign goal and raising more than \$135,000 in scholarships for local students from their own communities enrolled at YHC.

Established in 1991, the Board of Associates is a group of local business and civic leaders who act as ambassadors for the College and serve as a sounding board for the community. They are the driving force behind the Local Scholarship Campaign. Every fall, the Board launches this annual campaign in an effort to assist the College in providing scholarship aid to local students.

The past year's campaign was highlighted by the introduction of a new event that allowed more local citizens to support the campaign, called the Big Dance. Held on May 21 in the College's new Recreation and Fitness Center, the Big Dance was a fun-filled evening of good food and fellowship with live music provided by the Swingin' Medallions and the Tams. Patrons purchased tables or individual tickets to attend. The event was a huge success, and plans are already underway for the next one—to be held March 10, 2012.

In September, the 23-member, 2011-2012 board kicked off the 2011-2012 Local Scholarship Campaign to raise scholarship funding for more than 200 local students enrolled at YHC this year from Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens, Towns and Union counties in Georgia and Cherokee and Clay counties in North Carolina.

During this academic year, more than \$2.6 million in scholarship dollars will be awarded to local students, reflecting a commitment by the College and the community to these students. Gifts from local communities to this campaign make much of this scholarship assistance possible.

Students like Austin Arrowood, a sophomore business and public policy major from Towns County, and Caroline Dern, a freshman biology major from Gilmer County, benefit from the scholarship money raised. "The local scholarships I received did more than just help me financially, they pushed me to do better," said Arrowood. "College is an investment, maybe even a gamble. When you start gambling with other people's money, it drives you to never sit down and to always push forward."

Dern added, "I was able to come to YHC due entirely to the scholarship I received.

Thanks to that scholarship, I have the opportunity to experience the college life I've always dreamed of and worked toward. I am incredibly thankful for my local scholarship dollars."

For more information or to contribute to the 2011-2012 Local Scholarship Campaign, contact Jennifer McAfee in the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5318 or visit www.yhc.edu.

The Swingin' Medallions kept the crowd on their feet at the Big Dance.



Austin Arrowood



Caroline Dern



A Scramble for Scholarships

The 2011 Clay Dotson Open golf tournament to benefit student scholarships at Young Harris College was held May 16 at Brasstown Valley Resort. Approximately 150 players enjoyed morning and afternoon flights followed by an awards ceremony. The annual tournament is the College's premier scholarship fundraiser and brought in \$52,000 this past spring.

Prize categories included overall winners for each flight as well as second and third place for each flight, longest drive, closest to the pin and closest putt. The tournament also featured an Alumni Team Challenge in which a special prize was awarded to the team of four YHC alumni with the lowest score.

Prizes were awarded as follows:

Morning Flight:

Flight 1 Winner: Buck Lane, Gene Washington, Adam Cohen, Scott Lane

Flight 2 Winner: Michael Woody, Brian Mashburn, Erik Brinke, Dale Anderson

Flight 1 Second Place: Tony Wade, Scott Nelson, Gene Clopton, Andrew Bateman

Flight 2 Second Place: Mark Stringer, Brandon Baker, Donnie Kendall, Don Kendall

Flight 1 Third Place: Ron Christopher, Scott Christopher, Carl Williams, Wade Benson

Flight 2 Third Place: Greg Delaney, Joe Greco, Marvin McArthur, John Hann

Closest to the Pin: Vaughn Green

Longest Drive: Adam Cohen

Afternoon Flight:

Flight 1 Winner: Jim Stewart, Arron George, Tim Holcomb

Flight 2 Winner: Larry Kimsey, Jimmy Stewart, Jerome Burch, Michael Kimsey

Flight 1 Second Place: Chris Robbins, Jimmy Nichols, Danny Hemphill, Greg Young

Flight 2 Second Place: Jim Davis, Levi Nunnally, Jay Brown, Rick Robinson

Flight 1 Third Place: Jeffery Gay, Mark Williams, Zach Williams, Jeff Gay

Flight 2 Third Place: Scott Rich, Matthew Mashburn, Rick Davenport, Reid Dyer

Closest to the Pin: Bob Rogers

Longest Drive: Danny Hemphill

Putting Contest Winner: Will Smith

Alumni Challenge Winner: Larry Kimsey, Jimmy Stewart, Jerome Burch, Michael Kimsey



Morning Flight 1 Winner



Morning Flight 2 Winner



Afternoon Flight 1 Winner



Afternoon Flight 2 and Alumni Challenge Winner

Join YHC for the
2012 Clay Dotson Open
Friday, May 18
at Brasstown Valley Resort!
Visit yhc.edu/claydotsonopen
for details.

2011 Clay Dotson Open Sponsors

A&A Auto Rental of Blairsville
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ArtBytes, Inc.
AT&T
Atlantic Capital Bank
Bank of Hiawassee,
Blairsville, and Blue Ridge
Benefit Support, Inc./
CMA Agency
Blue Moon Printing
Blue Ridge Mountain EMC
Brailsford & Dunlavy
Brasstown Valley Resort
Bruce L. Ferguson, PC
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Heather Momand
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Prime, Buchholz & Associates
Raymond James
RBC Bank
Rock Sports Academy
Royal Cleaners
Sodexo
Southeast Water Production
State Street Global Advisors
The Lambert Co.
Towns County Lions Club
Tri-State Utility Products, Inc.
Union County Sheriff's Office
(Sheriff Scott Stephens)
United Community Bank

Class Notes

Share your news with other Young Harris College alumni and friends.
Send achievements, announcements and photos to: Young Harris College Class Notes
Office of Alumni Services • P.O. Box 275 Young Harris, GA 30582 • alumni@yhcc.edu

ACHIEVEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1950s

Bill Tomlin, '52, and his wife, Patricia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 25 in Manchester, Ga.

1960s

YHC Trustee **Doug Mitchell**, '61, owner/founder of Pathway Communities, was named to the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* 2011 list of "Who's Who in Atlanta's Housing Industry," which includes the "movers and shakers" in residential real estate throughout metro Atlanta "who are leading Atlanta's housing industry into the future."

1970s

Neal Clark, '72, graduated from Georgia Southern University in 1974 and went on to graduate school in Indianapolis and further vocal study in Cincinnati. He performed full time in the Midwest for many years, later returning to Georgia then settling in his current home of Camden, S.C. He occasionally comes out of vocal retirement to appear at a benefit or perform locally, most recently having headlined the benefit concert "Neal Clark & More Friends: A Gala Evening of Song" on Oct. 15 in Camden.

YHC trustee **Brantley Barrow**, '74, was recently recognized as the 2011 Beta Alpha Psi Outstanding Alumnus by the University of Georgia's J.M. Tull School of Accounting. He graduated from UGA in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He has also been named to the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* "Who's Who in Commercial Real Estate" for 2011, making it his second consecutive appearance on the annual list. Barrow serves as chairman of Atlanta-based Hardin Construction Company and has more than 30 years of construction and real estate experience. He also serves as chair of the YHC Board of Trustees Finance Committee.

YHC trustee **Murphy Miller**, '74, who serves as Enotah Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judge, was named to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council in August by Georgia Speaker of the House David Ralston, '74. The council oversees the statewide delivery of adequate, effective, timely and ethical legal representation, consistent with the constitutions of Georgia and of the United States, and the mandates of the Georgia Indigent Defense Act of 2003. He has been a member of the State Bar of Georgia since 1980 and is recognized for his expertise in criminal justice issues.

Harriet Haulbrook, '75, retired from University Hospital in Augusta, Ga., in October 2010, following 25 years of service. She is now living in Thomson, Ga., to care for her father, who has Alzheimer's disease.

Georgia senator and YHC trustee **Buddy Carter**, '77, was recently presented the "Legislator of the Year" award by the Georgia Rural Health Association for his

"wisdom and foresight in dealing with rural health issues, understanding of rural health, and exemplary leadership in addressing the needs of rural areas and resolution of their health problems." He was also recently chosen by Senate leaders to chair the Senate Higher Education Committee next year, which reviews measures involving institutions in the University System of Georgia, post-secondary education and student financial aid.

Charles "Chuck" Vaughn, '77, lives in Pensacola, Fla., where he works in the substance abuse and mental health field.

1980s

Charles Akins, '84, a professional illustrator and designer in Columbia, S.C., recently completed illustrations and cover design for the Boutique of Quality Books published title *The Lonely Parrot* by Lisa Kelley. More information about the book is available at www.thelonelyparrot.net, and it is for sale through www.boutiqueofqualitybooks.com, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble and booksellers across the country. He also recently completed cover illustration and interior feature illustrations for *Mad* magazine #511. He was an art major while at YHC and was active in the theatre as well.

Julie Johnston Tepp, '87, founder of the Atlanta Arts Festival, which was held Sept. 17-18, 2011, in Atlanta's Piedmont Park, was named to the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* 2011 list of "Who's Who in Atlanta's Hospitality Industry." Her arts festival is now ranked No. 16 in the top 200 artist shows in the country.

1990s

Natalie Heard Shelton, '90, and her husband, Wayne, moved back to Georgia in late 2010 after living in Sweden, Texas, Missouri and Tennessee for Wayne's job. They are currently living in LaGrange with their two daughters, Emma Kate, 12, and Caroline, 8. Natalie is the associate editor of the *LaGrange Daily News*.

New President Leads Alumni Board

In July, Rufus Brown, '60, of Gainesville, officially took over the reigns as 2011-2012 president of the Young Harris College Alumni Association. He will serve a two-year term in this role, after having previously served on the board as president-elect.



2011-2012 YHC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

Rufus Brown, '60
President
Gainesville, Ga.

Rob Murray, '75
President-Elect
Young Harris, Ga.

Lita Tipton Barnette, '85
Clarkesville, Ga.

Bobby Bolton, '76
Ellenwood, Ga.

Sally Boyd, '60
Gainesville, Ga.

Carol Chastain, '84
Young Harris, Ga.

Bud Clegg, '55
Dahlonega, Ga.

Steve Davenport, '85
Newnan, Ga.

Jared Downs, '96
Savannah, Ga.

Ramona Fricks, '71
Rome, Ga.

Oscar Garrison, '90
Hoschton, Ga.

Candler Ginn, '77
Cartersville, Ga.

Ron Hinson, '76
Atlanta, Ga.

Sylvia McCoy Hutchinson, '58
Athens, Ga.

Ceil Jarrett, '75
Berkeley Lake, Ga.

Brian Johnson, '94
Atlanta, Ga.

Jan Biggers Keith, '69
Atlanta, Ga.

Charlotte Sparks McCloskey, '64
Big Canoe, Ga.

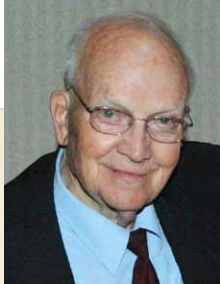
Ed Nichols, '60
Clarkesville, Ga.

Linda Lee Boleyn Saye, '61
Atlanta, Ga.

Michele Turner, '95
Athens, Ga.

Todd Turner, '81
Hiawassee, Ga.

Barbara Marshall Williford, '87
Marietta, Ga.



Rev. Dr. Ernest Seckinger Sr., '37 1917–2011

Retired United Methodist minister and Young Harris College alumnus Rev. Dr.

Ernest W. Seckinger Sr., '37, died Aug. 22, 2011, in Blairsville. Born in Clio, in his beloved Effingham County, on May 20, 1917, to Frank Bernard and Gertrude Exley Seckinger, he honored his Salzburger ancestry throughout his life as a life member of the Georgia Salzburger Society.

He received degrees from Young Harris College, Emory University, and Candler School of Theology and attended Yale Divinity School.

He began preaching in 1939, and his lifelong passions were to further civil rights for all and pastoral care. He served as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy in the latter part of World War II and served pastorates in the South Georgia Conference in every district except Americus. He coached Little League and was a Scoutmaster and Troop sponsor for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in most of the churches he served. He was chairman of the South Georgia Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History, served on the Bicentennial Committee, was vice president and secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History, and was secretary of the Board of Managers of the Georgia Pastors' School, among other appointments.

His love affair with Young Harris College brought him back to the

mountains of north Georgia and led him to purchase a small tract of land near the College sometime around 1950, where he and his late wife, Jessie Vannerson Seckinger, retired in 1986. Sometime after Jessie's death he moved to Stonehenge Assisted Living in Blairsville.

During retirement he stayed active in beekeeping, dailyly show judging with Jessie, the Christian Ashram movement and in historical societies of The United Methodist Church. Active at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church in Young Harris prior to his death, he had been recently honored by the church for 70 years of service in The United Methodist Church.

He proudly watched three of his children attend YHC, along with his younger brother, a nephew and two grandchildren. In 2009, he received the Artemas Lester Award at YHC's Homecoming weekend, in recognition of a lifetime dedicated to ministry and a commitment to Christian service. He was a dedicated contributor to student scholarships, selling his beloved jars of honey to fellow alumni and friends in support of the cause.

To make a gift to the Ernest W. Seckinger Sr. and Jessie Vannerson Seckinger Endowed Scholarship or another fund at Young Harris College in memory of Dr. Seckinger, contact the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173.



Bert Wesley Huffman, MPA, CFRE, '97, was recently named Director of Development for The Atlanta Opera where he will oversee the development team and execute the overall strategy for the development effort, which raises in excess of \$3.4 million annually. He will also play a leading role

in expanding major donor fundraising by managing a portfolio of major gift prospects and contributors. He began his new position on Aug. 29 and is excited to assist in furthering the organization's mission. He looks forward to continuing the quality tradition of opera in the metro Atlanta area.

Tyrie J. Smith, Ph.D., '97, was promoted to Director of New Program Development at Georgia Perimeter College. Previously, Smith served as Assistant Professor of Humanities at GPC.

2000s

Brandon Butler, '00, the son of **Frank**, '76, and **Norma**, '79, **Butler** of Macon, Ga., has recently completed his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia and accepted a position as Associate Professor, Social Studies Teacher Education at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. Prior to this, he completed his undergraduate degree in history and his M.A. degree in teaching at Georgia College & State University in Milledgeville, Ga. He was a social studies teacher in Gwinnett County for

four years before returning to complete his doctoral studies at UGA. **Butler** and his new bride, **Kristen Lathem** of Gainesville, Ga., also an educator, relocated to Norfolk this past August.

Michelle Lord Grasso, '04, received her doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine on May 7, 2011, in Athens, Ga. Prior to this, she completed her bachelor of science in 2006 from Shorter College (now Shorter University) in Rome, Ga.

Kelsey L. Meiring, '07, graduated with a master's degree in speech-language pathology from Indiana University in May 2011, and is currently a Speech-Language Pathologist at Mt. Bethel Elementary School for Cobb County School District.

Anna Houser, '09, has been hired as the Northwest District Director for the State YMCA of Georgia. She lives in Chatsworth and will oversee a variety of programs offered to high school students through the State YMCA in northwest Georgia.

ENGAGEMENTS, MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS

1970s

Janene Lemley Finley, '71, married **Charles Edward Finley** on Jan. 29, 2010.

1990s

Julie Penland Fullbright, '95, and **Lee Fullbright** are blessed to announce the birth of their two sons **Levi Olen** and **Walter James (WJ.)** and daughter **Janie Louise** on Dec. 2, 2010.



Marcus Bolton, '96, and **Amanda Phillips Bolton**, '98, would like to announce the birth of their baby boy, **Christian Lee**, on May 24, 2011. He weighed 8 pounds,

11 ounces and was 20 inches long. He was welcomed home by big brother, **Caden**.

Mary Ellen Coggins, '96, married **Jason Baker** in July 2011. The ceremony was held at Driftwood Beach on Jekyll Island.

Sandy Allen Sosensky, '99, and husband, **Brett**, welcomed their first child, **Lillyanne Ophelia Sosensky**, on July 31, 2011.



2000s

Scott W. Lowe, '08, married **Hayley Suzan McNash** on May 14, 2011, in East Point, Ga. They currently reside in Dawsonville, Ga.

Class Notes

IN MEMORIAM

Betty Brown, '51
July 1, 2011

William Michael Caskey, '96
July 5, 2011

Connie Dehler
Friend of YHC
Aug. 15, 2011

N.B. Duncan, '40
July 29, 2011

Betty Farnell, '41
Sept. 11, 2011

John Boyd Gibson, '51
Aug. 30, 2011

Virginia R. Gile, '88
May 6, 2011

Bucky Hancock
Former longtime staff member
Sept. 6, 2011

Kansie Lee Haynes, '50
June 23, 2011

Harold D. Helms, '48
June 24, 2011

Eunice T. Hogan, '42
Aug. 2, 2011

Myrtle J. Jones, '41
July 20, 2011

Harold O. Kelley Jr., '56
July 29, 2011

Dorothy Lee, '39
July 10, 2011

Krista A. Mattocks, '90
June 18, 2011

Geraldine Adams Patrick*
Friend of YHC
July 20, 2011

Hattie D. Pilgrim, '31
Aug. 20, 2011

Jimmy G. Russell, '58
June 26, 2011

Dr. Ernest W. Seckinger Sr., '37
Aug. 22, 2011

Elizabeth Ray Smith, '42
May 22, 2011

Perry O. Styles Jr., '57
June 30, 2011

David H. Sulzbacher, '81
June 14, 2011

Waldemar S. Tilly†
Friend of YHC
Sept. 1, 2011

June C. Veatch, '53
June 16, 2011

*The Ben G. and Coley M. Adams Endowed Scholarship at Young Harris College was established in 1976 by Mrs. Geraldine "Jerry" Adams Patrick's mother, Mrs. Coley M. Adams, to benefit "worthy" students in need of financial assistance at Young Harris College. The fund has grown to become one of the largest at the College. To make a gift to this scholarship or another fund in memory of Mrs. Jerry Adams Patrick, contact the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173. *See story on page 44.*

† The Waldemar S. and Doris L. Tilly Scholarship at Young Harris College was established in 2000 by Waldemar "Wally" and Doris Tilly, members of YHC's Institute for Continuing Learning, active members of Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church and residents of Towns County. The scholarship was created to benefit local students from Towns or Union counties. To make a gift to this scholarship or another fund in memory of Mr. Waldemar "Wally" Tilly, contact the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173.

2011-2012 YHC YOUNG ALUMNI COUNCIL

Created in 2010, the Young Alumni Council plans young alumni gatherings and programs and creates opportunities to encourage young alumni to stay connected and involved with Young Harris College.

Matthew P. Anderson, '03
President
Atlanta, Ga.

Holly Gunter Royston, '01
Vice President
Atlanta, Ga.

Catherine A. Boothe, '99
Atlanta, Ga.

Heather Moody Breeden, '99
Sandy Springs, Ga.

Ralph D. "Skip" Breeden, '99
Sandy Springs, Ga.

Stephanie L. Cannon, '02
Sandy Springs, Ga.

Jessie B. Collins, '05
Hull, Ga.

Jodie Ivester Crome, '03
Savannah, Ga.

Alex I. Fairchild, '07
Cartersville, Ga.

Alexander J. Ginn, '09
Royston, Ga.

Julie C. Keyes, '97
Marietta, Ga.

Elizabeth A. Lobello, '02
Douglasville, Ga.

Matthew C. Lund, '00
Athens, Ga.

Kimberly A. Lynch, '08
Lawrenceville, Ga.

Marc W. McAfee, '07
Panama City, Fla.

Amanda L. Nichols, '98
Lilburn, Ga.

Beth Haggerty Odum, '96
Smyrna, Ga.

Cynthia Robinson, '01
Marietta, Ga.

Carrie E. Trotter, '98
Alto, Ga.

Zachery N. Tyler, '10
Cumming, Ga.

CONNECT
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Young Harris
College
from your
smartphone at
m.yhc.edu



YHC's new mobile website features instant access to event calendars, social media links, news, a campus map, directions and more. The site links you to the most popular features on the College's main website, www.yhc.edu, with fewer graphics and a fast page load of the site on mobile devices like iPhone, Droid and BlackBerry, among others.

Let's Face It!

On the first day of the fall semester, we posed a simple question to Young Harris College's 3,800+ Facebook fans:

What advice would you give to our NEW STUDENTS to make sure they have the best YHC experience possible?

Here are a few highlights.

Join the conversation at www.facebook.com/youngharriscollege and share your thoughts!

No matter how technical you get... TAKE NOTES. Those that want to take prayer out of school have never been to YHC. As long as there are tests, there will be prayers.

—ROB MURRAY, '75

Don't even think about transferring anywhere else!

—RON DUNDORE, '69

1. Study hard. Believe it or not, it'll pay off. 2. Have fun. If the CAB doesn't have anything planned, make up your own fun, even if it's just hanging out on the Center patio with friends. 3. Learn your YHC history. No, not history class, but the history of your school. You'll have a much greater appreciation for the place and the traditions. 4. Have fun. You are in college, right? Find the right balance between study and fun and you'll have a great YHC experience.

—STEVE DAVENPORT, '85

Study (I wish I'd done that more) and spend time making friends, too, because the good ones will last the rest of your life!

—JANIS WALKER FOWLER, '81

Meet as many people as you can! Visit Cupid Falls at least once a week. Don't go home every weekend. Weekends are great at YHC. Oh, don't forget to study. There is a great education waiting for you at YHC!

—PHIL THOMAS, '67

Don't be a hamster; become and remain extroverted. I met tons of friends and my wife at Young Harris.

—RYAN DULANEY, '01

Take literature from Dr. Harvey - he is the best!


—BETH CARNEY SMITH

Don't be afraid (or too snotty) to talk to people you wouldn't usually talk to; believe it or not, some of the best friends you'll ever make will be with people you never would think you had anything in common with. Also, keep your eyes open at pledge parties, you might just meet the person you're going to marry. I did!

—JAMIE BROWN, '94

1. Never schedule a class before 10 a.m.
2. Be sure to locate all the restrooms closest to the dining hall
3. Ask an upperclassman about "the wall," "the well house," and "the hill"... you'll want to get directions
4. Never go to Cupid's at night without a flashlight
5. Never underestimate the fun you can have with a little bit of snow and the hood of a Volkswagen Beetle

—TYRIE SMITH, '97



You already love YHC, now we need you to "like" YHC!

Join the YHC online community on Facebook and connect with alumni, faculty, staff, current students, future students and friends. Stay even more connected to what's happening with the YHC family around campus and across the world.

Check out news and events, watch cool videos and participate in active conversations, polls, competitions and more!

www.facebook.com/youngharriscollege



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yhc.edu/homecoming

Pack your bags and join
the Mountain Lions in the
“Valley of Doom” at YHC’s
first fall Homecoming!



You don't have to wait for the next issue of *Echoes*...

Check out *Today@YHC*, a monthly online newsletter for Young Harris College alumni that includes news from the College, spotlights on alumni, interviews with emeriti faculty and more. Subscribe to *Today@YHC* now by visiting www.yhc.edu/alumni.

Today@YHC