

Echoes

FALL/WINTER 2009



YOUNG
HARRIS
COLLEGE

On the Cover

Clockwise from top: Young Harris College alumnae Beth Yearwood Bernard, '81, and Trisha Yearwood, '84, with their mother Gwen Yearwood

PHOTOGRAPH MELANIE DUNEA

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Left: Young Harris College's newest residence hall, Enotah Hall, was completed over the summer and opened in August to students moving in this fall.

Above: Enotah Hall's third-floor balcony offers possibly the best view of campus and has quickly become a popular student hangout.

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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.

A SEASON OF Success and Gratitude

The holiday season always brings me around to a special sense of thankfulness—for my incredible family and friends, for the truly wonderful experiences I've had over the course of my life and for so many blessings.

This season, with so many positive things happening at Young Harris College, I am especially thankful for the bright, selfless, dedicated, fun and very hardworking folks who make this College such an amazing place! More than 200 employees and nearly 700 students add their individual imprints to our campus every day.

There are students like Brad Rutherford and Clint McNeal who jumped into a boat this fall and became our first competitive bass fishing team. They conquered the giants in the collegiate fishing world in winning their first tournament and qualified for the national championship next April in Knoxville.

*There are the giants of our theatre—students like Katie Marlowe, Marvin Hemphill, Jordan Fleming, Tyler Ogburn, Bekah Medford, Evan McLean, Sarin Rossi, Clair Brooks, Nicole Conrad, Monica Phelps, Ashley Ware, Daniel Forkner, Johnny Williamson, Cedric Epps and Adam Higgins—who made Glenn Auditorium come alive in November for almost 4,500 elementary school students and another 1,000 adults in **Schoolhouse Rock Live!** I'm still waking up to "Interplanet Janet" music in my head!*

Our new Bonner Leaders—students Matthew Kammerer, Josh Stroud, Amber Allen, Trystan Drummond, Victoria Sink, Jake Davis, Marissa Thomas, Cara Weldon and Ian Calhoun—have embraced the opportunity to learn about life through service in our community. They are representing YHC well while mentoring Towns County students, providing habitable homes for families in need in nearby North Carolina and serving as great role models for the campus.

There are our new juniors, like Meg Patterson and Grady Garner, who I don't see nearly often enough nowadays because—they tell me—they are serious students now and are working hard toward their academic and professional goals.

We are building some unbelievably great buildings on our gorgeous mountain campus. Our new residence hall is a showplace, and our recreation center and basketball arena will amaze you next summer. New tennis courts are underway, as is the final design of our Campus Center, with a new library, dining facilities and student center. I hope you will take some time to come visit us and see all of this!

More than anything, it is the people here that make this College a place that gets into your skin and your psyche. It is the friendships that last a lifetime, far beyond this campus. It is the faculty and staff who genuinely care about our students and pour out their compassion and intelligence in their efforts to provide the very best liberal arts education.

I am thankful for all of you that make up the YHC family: our faculty, staff, administrators, trustees, alumni, faithful friends and, especially, this great group of students who have chosen the YHC experience. You make it all worthwhile! Merry Christmas—and the happiest of new years to you all!

Warmly,



Cathy Cox
President



Cathy Cox
PRESIDENT

Echoes

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1, FALL/WINTER 2009

The Official Magazine of Young Harris College

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Echoes is published by the Office of College Relations and Marketing at Young Harris College. The views and opinions presented in this publication are not necessarily those of the editors or the official policies of the College.

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YOUNG
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COLLEGE

New Campus Minister

ANSWERS CALL TO SERVE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

On July 1, the Reverend Dr. Timothy S. Moore joined Young Harris College as campus minister, a role he is excited about and has been working toward for a long time.

A native of the southern Appalachians, Moore grew up in Cullowhee, a small college town in western North Carolina less than two hours from Young Harris.

He was very active in his hometown United Methodist Church from a young age.

"If the doors were open, the Moore family was present," he recalls. "As a child, I have no memory of missing a Sunday of church, even while on vacation. I am sure it happened, but it was incredibly rare."

This early dedication and commitment guided Moore's discovery of what would be his vocational calling in life. He graduated from Greensboro College with a degree in religion and philosophy, focusing on Christian ethics. After graduation, he married Amy Spivey, a fellow Greensboro College graduate. Both decided to then continue their studies at Duke University, completing master of divinity degrees and receiving ordination as Elders in the Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Following their time at Duke, Moore and his wife moved to St. Andrews, Scotland, where he furthered his postgraduate research studies as a Rotary International Scholar at St. Andrews University.

After returning to the U.S., Moore assumed charge of two rural United Methodist congregations in Surry County, N.C.

Early in his vocational exploration,

he identified a calling to minister specifically to college students and a college community. Soon after returning to North Carolina, he was appointed director of the Wesley Foundation United Methodist campus ministry at Western Carolina University in his hometown. Ministering as the director of the Wesley Foundation confirmed for Moore his desire to minister to college students.

He knew he was on the right track, but felt the call to find an opportunity where he could minister and reach out more comprehensively to the whole academic community. Moore began to dream of a time when he might not only minister on the periphery of a college campus as a Wesley Foundation director but to interact with the entire college community as the campus minister for a small United Methodist college.

While serving at WCU, Moore began his doctoral studies at Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, N.C. Upon completing his coursework at Hood, he, along with his wife and their young daughter, Laura-Clare, moved to southeast England to accept a year-long appointment with the British Methodist Church. While in England, Moore served as the lead pastor of five churches in the southwest section of the Reading-Silchester Circuit and completed his doctoral studies.

In 2009, Moore and his family moved back to the mountains, this time to north Georgia. His wife, Amy, currently serves as pastor of Reid's Chapel United Methodist Church in Hiwassee Dam, N.C. Moore spends his days, and most evenings, in the Susan B. Harris Chapel and all over campus, meeting with students, faculty and staff as he leads and grows the campus ministry programs and activities. He is also actively connecting with local congregations to enhance ministry opportunities at the College and throughout the local communities.

"Throughout the College's history, faith has been an important part of the Young Harris College story. I am excited to be part of a vibrant college community where I can work to connect students, the Church and the College more concretely with their faith and each other," he said.

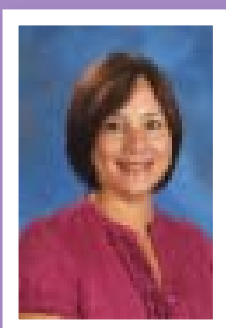


Reverend Dr. Timothy S. Moore



Dr. Nick Bowman

Dr. Nick Bowman is working to establish a four-year concentration in Media Communication in the Division of Humanities Department of Communications Studies, having conducted research, authored articles and book chapters and worked professionally in the subject area. He is currently finishing his dissertation work at Michigan State University on the effects of user demand in video games on mood repair and selective exposure behaviors.



Dr. Diana Santiago

Dr. Diana Santiago is chair of the Foreign Language Department in the Division of Humanities and serves as the director of study abroad at Young Harris College. Her teaching and research interests include 19th and 20th century Spanish and Latin American literature and culture, Caribbean women writers and Hispanic cinema and she has published numerous articles in these fields.



Ted Whisenhunt

Ted Whisenhunt serves as chair of the Art Department in the Division of Fine Arts and oversees the Campus Gate Art Gallery. The gallery hosts a variety of exhibits throughout the year and is open to the public free of charge. Each exhibit opens with an evening reception that offers the Young Harris College community and local art patrons the opportunity to mingle in the gallery and meet with the artist whose work is on display.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE WELCOMES New Faculty

Seventeen new full-time faculty members joined Young Harris College in August for the 2009-2010 academic year.

DIANE BAUMAN
Instructor of Mathematics

DR. JAMES BISHOP
Assistant Professor of English

DR. NICK BOWMAN
Assistant Professor of Communication Studies

DR. MARK BRUNNER
Assistant Professor of Education

ROBERT FULTON
Assistant Professor of Theatre

DR. JENNIFER GIANFALLA
Assistant Professor of English

DR. NATHAN GRAY
Assistant Professor of Business and Public Policy

DR. JENNIFER HUGHES
Assistant Professor of English

DR. LINDA JONES
Associate Professor of Biology

KEVIN MILLER
Instructor of Biology

DR. SARAH PALASCH
Assistant Professor of French and Spanish

BAISHALI RAY
Instructor of Computer Science

DR. ARUNAVA ROY
Assistant Professor of Physics

DR. DIANA SANTIAGO
Associate Professor of Spanish

DR. AMANDA SONG
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

DR. JAMIE WATSON
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

TED WHISENHUNT
Associate Professor of Art

Consular Corps of Georgia Visits YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

In April, the 23rd Annual International VIP Tour of the Consular Corps of Georgia visited Young Harris College as part of their three-day tour of northeast Georgia. Diplomatic and business officials from 20 countries, including Albania, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Nigeria, Philippines,



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE ACHIEVES

NASM Institutional Accreditation

Young Harris College received official notification from the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Commission on Accreditation on June 25 that it had been named an accredited institutional member of the Association, joining an elite group of music schools around the country who have been recognized for excellence in music education. In addition to granting institutional membership, NASM voted to grant plan approval for the School's new Bachelor of Arts in Music degree.

"Young Harris College has offered a first-rate music program for many decades. Earning the NASM stamp of approval on our new four-year bachelor's degree in music and achieving full institutional membership as a four-year college further solidifies our efforts to offer the very best liberal arts education to today's students," said Young Harris College President Cathy Cox.

NASM accreditation means that Young Harris College meets national educational standards established by member institutions of the prestigious organization. NASM standards address operational and curricular issues fundamental to educational quality. The process to achieve this recognition involves extensive self-study and critical review by peer institutions.

"For our music program at Young Harris College to be fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music is a great honor," said Benny Ferguson, Ph.D., dean of the Division of Fine Arts at the College.

"Everyone wins in the process," said Keith DeFoor, Ph.D., associate vice president for academic affairs, who coordinated the College's NASM accreditation efforts.

"Students are guaranteed high-quality programming, the faculty is

recognized for teaching excellence, and the college gains an important tool for recruiting new students."

In the Commission's Action Report, Young Harris College was commended for "a strong history of community involvement by music faculty and students, revisions to the Associate of Fine Arts degree programs that strengthen the curriculum to prepare students for transfer into four-year baccalaureate programs, and its commitment to and planning for the new baccalaureate degree in music," as well as for facility updates and enhancements. The commission also applauded the College for "the development of a baccalaureate curriculum that provides students with a strong education in both musicianship and performance."

The College became an associate member of NASM as a two-year college in 2003.



Slovenia, South Korea, Switzerland and Taipei, were welcomed to campus by Young Harris College President Cathy Cox. The dignitaries met with President Cox and learned about YHC's four-year transition and all of the campus projects in progress to accommodate the College's growth. The group visited the O.Wayne Rollins Planetarium, Duckworth Library, Campus Gate Art Gallery and the Predatory Beetle Lab and were entertained by several student musical ensembles.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE NAMES **Interim Provost/ Executive Vice President**

Young Harris College welcomed to campus Coastal Carolina University President Emeritus Ronald R. Ingle, Ph.D., on July 1 to serve as interim provost/executive vice president while the College continues to search for a full-time replacement for former Provost Dr. John Wells, who left following the Spring 2009 semester. Dr. Ingle brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Office of the Provost and the Office of Academic Affairs.

Prior to joining Young Harris College, Dr. Ingle served as the first president of Coastal Carolina University, located in Conway, S.C. He was named to the presidency on July 1, 1993, after the institution gained its status as an independent, public university, ending its 34-year affiliation with the University of South Carolina. He retired as the president in May 2007.

During his 14-year presidency, Dr. Ingle led the institution to unprecedented levels of growth and achievement with an enrollment growth of more than 60 percent to more than 8,000 students from 44 states and 32 countries in 2007. He was an avid supporter of the University's NCAA Division I athletic program that garnered national accolades for performances in the classroom and on the playing field.

Among the University's chief accomplishments during Dr. Ingle's tenure were national accreditation for the art, business, computer



Dr. Ronald R. Ingle

science, and education degree programs; academic partnerships with Winthrop University, Clemson University, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Charleston Southern University, and the Ansal Institute of Technology in India, and exchange agreements with universities in Australia, Austria, Costa Rica, Galapagos, Germany, Great Britain, Guatemala, Japan, Spain, and Sweden; economic development partnerships through the North Eastern Strategic Alliance (NESA) anchored by the University and Francis Marion University, with development agencies through the 10-counties surrounding the University; NCAA I-AA football playing in a newly-completed stadium; \$75 million of capital projects from public and private funds that added more than 30 percent more building space on the Conway campus; an increase in

gifts received from \$560,000 in 1993 to \$3 million in 2007; endowment increase from \$3.4 to \$10 million; and foundation assets increase from \$5.9 to \$16.6 million.

While at Coastal Carolina, Dr. Ingle served on a number of governing boards and committees, including Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). He was awarded the Grace Palmer Humanitarian Award by the Action Council for Cross Cultural Mental Health and Human Services, a statewide organization devoted to multicultural educational training and development.

Before moving to Coastal Carolina in 1988 as vice chancellor for academic affairs, Dr. Ingle held administrative and faculty positions at Kennesaw College, South Georgia College and Ohio State University. From 1978 to 1988, he served as associate dean of the College of Applied and Professional Sciences at the University of South Carolina.

Born and raised in Moncks Corner, S.C., Dr. Ingle earned a bachelor's degree in English from Wofford College in 1962 and a master's degree in higher education administration from Florida State University in 1963. After serving on active duty as a U.S. Army officer from 1964 to 1966, he earned a doctorate in psychology from Ohio State University in 1972.

He is married to Judy Ingle, and they have two children and three grandchildren.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

In addition to welcoming a new provost, Young Harris College President Cathy Cox reorganized some top administrative offices and positions to better align with the College's strategic plan. The changes went into effect at the beginning of the new fiscal year on July 1.

RON ROACH, Ph.D., has been named vice president for academic affairs. In this capacity, Dr. Roach oversees all day-to-day operations of the academic program of the College, including curriculum, personnel, academic facilities, planning and special initiatives. In addition, he serves as chair of the College's Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

(SACS) reaffirmation leadership team. Dr. Roach was appointed associate vice president for academic affairs in 2008 after serving as a faculty member in communication studies at Young Harris College since 2002.

KEITH DEFOOR, Ph.D., has been named associate vice president for academic affairs. In his new role, Dr. DeFoor oversees the Academic Advising Center and the Academic Success Center. He recently led the College through the process to achieve National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) institutional accreditation and also serves as an institutional evaluator for NASM and the Southern Association of College and Schools (SACS). Dr. DeFoor joined the Young Harris College faculty in 1998 and was named chair of the Division of Fine Arts in 2003.

ROSEMARY ROYSTON, '89, has been named vice president for planning and assessment and chief of staff. Royston previously served as vice president for planning, assessment and registration. In her new role, she will continue oversight for strategic planning, assessment of administrative outcomes, and for other research and reporting functions. Registration responsibilities

have been restructured under the Office of Academic Affairs. Additionally, Royston's new responsibilities as chief of staff include working with both internal and external constituents to facilitate communication, share information and provide assistance for the president of the College on executive projects.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE Developing QEP

In March 2009, Young Harris College adopted a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to improve written and oral communication skills across the curriculum. This student learning initiative is one component of Young Harris College's reaffirmation process by its accrediting agency, the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

According to SACS documents, the QEP is "a carefully designed course of action that addresses a well-defined and focused topic or issue related to the enhancement of student learning." The College is required to integrate the QEP into the College's overall planning and evaluation process.

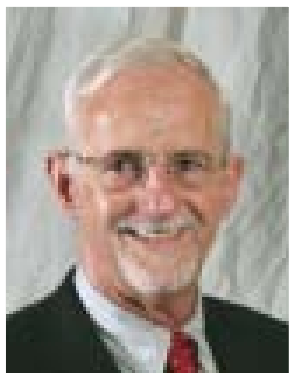
Faculty members serving on the QEP Development Committee are in the process of developing the plan further in preparation to submit the proposed QEP to SACS in the summer of 2010. Upon approval, the committee will guide implementation of the QEP throughout campus in Fall 2011.

The QEP Development Committee must narrow the broad QEP topic that the College has selected by determining specifically how the College will try to improve students' communication skills, and whether it takes place primarily through classroom instruction, through core or upper-level classes, or a combination of both, and through papers, presentations or another means to determine success and improvement. The committee must also determine how to encourage faculty participation and what specific student learning outcomes will be. Research will be conducted to identify best practices for improving written and oral communication. The research then will be used to guide the program development and finalize the specific actions that will be taken to improve students' communication skills.

New Trustees

ELECTED AT SPRING MEETING

Three new members were elected to the Young Harris College Board of Trustees at its semi-annual meeting on April 24, 2009.



ALVIN GIBSON is currently president and CEO of Gibson Dental Design in Gainesville. The Young Harris native is an active real estate and automobile investor and currently serves as director of Peach State Bank in Gainesville. Gibson has served as a member of the Young Harris College Properties Committee and the Property Acquisition Committee since 2007. He is married to Cheryl Taylor Gibson, '68.



WILLIAM "BILL" ROBERTS, '52, retired as director of the construction division at Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission. He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia and the Georgia Association of Marine Corps Lawyers. Roberts holds the rank of major in the United States Marine Corps. Following his days at Young Harris College as a member of the basketball team, Roberts has remained actively involved with his alma mater and is a member of the W. Harry and Harriet Hill Society for Planned Gifts. He lives in Fayetteville with his wife, Judy Roberts.



JULIE DAVIS SALISBURY is founding partner of the marketing and branding consulting firm The Bee Colony. She has applied her marketing and fundraising experience to the public service arena, having served on and chaired a number of boards and foundations over the past 10 years. Salisbury is an active member of Atlanta's Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, where she chaired a successful \$20 million capital campaign and currently sits on the Staff Parish Relations Committee. She has also served as chair of the administrative board for the 6,500-member church. She lives in Brookhaven with her husband, Randy Salisbury, and their three children.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE SIGNS Articulation Agreements TO MAKE PATH FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

With accreditation to grant bachelor's degrees in place, Young Harris College is now an attractive option for transfer students from other institutions seeking a strong liberal arts environment for completion of their bachelor's degrees. The College recently established agreements with two other Georgia institutions to facilitate a smooth transfer of students to Young Harris College.

Young Harris College President Cathy Cox signed an articulation agreement with

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE HOSTS North Georgia Guitar Summit

Young Harris College sophomore Seth Peters, of Loganville, performs during a masterclass with John Sutherland in the Susan B. Harris Chapel as part of the North Georgia Guitar Summit.



North Georgia Technical College President Steve Dougherty on May 27, which will allow North Georgia Technical College students to seamlessly transfer credits to Young Harris College.

President Cox signed a transfer contract with Georgia Perimeter College President Dr. Anthony Tricoli on Oct. 20, creating an official transfer agreement for Georgia Perimeter students who wish to continue their education at Young Harris College. The two-part contract includes an articulation agreement that facilitates a smooth transfer of students and credit hours between the two institutions and a transfer admission guarantee for Georgia Perimeter students who complete the required general education coursework and meet Young Harris College admissions requirements.



Pictured front row, from left, Georgia Perimeter College VP for Academic Affairs Virginia Michelich, GPC President Dr. Anthony Tricoli, YHC President Cathy Cox, YHC VP for Academic Affairs Dr. Ron Roach; second row, from left, YHC Provost Dr. Ron Ingle, YHC VP for Enrollment Management Clint Hobbs

Pictured front row, from left, YHC President Cathy Cox, North Georgia Technical College President Steve Dougherty; second row, from left, YHC VP for Enrollment Management Clint Hobbs, YHC VP for Academic Affairs Dr. Ron Roach, NGTC VP of Academic Affairs Vicki Nichols, NGTC Blairsville Campus Operations Director Larry Culpepper



Michael Collings, of Western Carolina University, receives instruction from John Sutherland during a masterclass in Young Harris College's Susan B. Harris Chapel as part of the North Georgia Guitar Summit.



Young Harris College hosted the second annual North Georgia Guitar Summit Nov. 13-14. The summit is an exciting educational workshop for students of high school and college-level music programs as well as an opportunity for guitar music fans to experience concerts and events led by outstanding artists. More than 100 participants from high schools and colleges, such as the University of

Georgia, Georgia State University, Western Carolina University, among others, joined Young Harris College guitar students for a weekend of guitar instruction and great music. All summit events were free and open to the public.

Events during the summit included a lecture-recital on the ancestors of the guitar, a recital by Athens-based Georgia Guitar Quartet and a masterclass by renowned classical guitar pedagogue John Sutherland. A student of José Tomas and legendary guitarist Andres Segovia, Sutherland entertained and inspired the

audience and class participants with discussion on technique, phrasing and the use of tone colors. Following the masterclass, Sutherland was presented with an award for his lifetime commitment to artistic excellence in the world of classical guitar education by Young Harris College Instructor of Guitar Richard Knepp, on behalf of the College, the North Georgia Guitar Summit and both former and current students of Sutherland.

PRESIDENT COX SPEAKS TO GROUPS AT **North and South Georgia** CONFERENCES

In June, Young Harris College President Cathy Cox addressed YHC alumni ministers and laity in Georgia at events during the annual meeting of the North and South Georgia Conferences of the United Methodist Church.

At two dinners hosted by the College, President Cox met with Young Harris College alumni serving as Methodist ministers as well as other alumni, friends and special guests attending the annual meetings of Georgia's two United Methodist conferences. At each event, President Cox gave attendees an update on the progress at Young Harris College as the school continues its transition to a baccalaureate degree-granting

college.

President Cox spoke at a dinner on June 9, during the annual meeting of the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church (SGCUMC), held June 7-10 in Columbus. Alumni in the Columbus area and surrounding communities were also invited to attend.

With Bishop James R. King Jr., presiding, the conference consists of 646 churches, 755 clergy and a current membership of more than 137,000 in the nine districts of Americus, Columbus, Dublin, Macon, Savannah, Statesboro, Thomasville, Valdosta and Waycross.

President Cox also spoke at a dinner on June 17, during the annual meeting of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church (NGCUMC), held June 16-18 in Athens. Alumni in the Athens area and surrounding communities were also in attendance.

Additionally, President Cox was invited to be the featured speaker at the North Georgia Conference's Board of Laity Luncheon on June 18. She spoke about the recent growth at Young Harris College and the spiritual journey that led her to Young Harris. Reflecting on her own walk



Young Harris College trustee William "Bill" Roberts, '52, and his wife, Judy, were among the attendees at the June 9 dinner during the South Georgia Conference's annual meeting, June 7-10 in Columbus.



Young Harris College President Cathy Cox welcomes attendees prior to addressing the entire group at the June 17 dinner during the North Georgia Conference's annual meeting, June 16-18 in Athens.

of faith, she urged those in attendance to answer the Lord's call for the laity of the church to minister to others and reach out to neighbors in need.

Headquartered in Norcross, the NGCUMC, with more than 1,000 churches, more than 1,500 clergy members, and more than 320,000 lay members, is the largest United Methodist Conference in the United States. Bishop Michael Watson currently serves as Episcopal leader.

To view a transcript of President Cox's remarks during the Laity Day Luncheon, visit www.ngmc.org/pages/detail/1068.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE MOURNS

Loss of Former President Sasser

Former Young Harris College President Dr. Douglas R. Sasser died on Nov. 10 in Lynchburg, Va., at the age of 79. A loyal and dedicated member of the Class of 1950, Dr. Sasser served as president of Young Harris College from 1966 to 1971.

In addition to his tenure at Young Harris College, Dr. Sasser's long and distinguished career in higher education included service as vice president of Kentucky Wesleyan College in Owensboro, Ky., as president of Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, N.C., and as president of Scarritt College in Nashville, Tenn. He was a member of Centenary United Methodist Church and was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, having served during the Korean Conflict.

A champion for higher education, he took an active leadership role in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the American College Association, the American Association of Junior Colleges and the National Association of Methodist Colleges and Universities. He chaired the continuation committee of the drama division of the National Council of Churches, served on the Regional Board of the Appalachian Adult Basic Education, and was elected to the

executive committee for the Georgia Council of Private Colleges and Universities. He was often invited as a guest lecturer on college and university campuses and authored the book *Urban University and the Arts*, published by the University of North Carolina Press.

He also earned degrees from Kentucky Wesleyan College and Columbia University.

Born Feb. 2, 1930, in Wadley, he was a son of the late Rufus Dempsey Sasser and the late Carrie Maude Brinson Sasser. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by five siblings.

He is survived by his wife, Young Harris College alumna Katherine Walker Sasser, '49, a son, Douglas Reid Sasser Jr., and his daughters, Julia Sasser Reid, Jennifer Sasser Hairston and Teresa Brinkley. He was preceded in death by his wife Latrelle Joyner in 1972.

Dr. and Mrs. Sasser most recently visited Young Harris College last summer and participated in many activities during Homecoming 2009.



A RECIPE FOR

Great Memories

BY DENISE COOK

All true Southerners recognize good home cooking when they taste it. Many a Southern home-cooked meal has been shared with family and friends resulting in the swapping of recipes between the hostess and her guests. A good, easy-to-follow recipe to share with family and friends is sometimes hard to find. A book full of good recipes—even harder.

Young Harris College alumna Trisha Yearwood, '84, knows a thing or two about Southern cooking.

The three-time Grammy winner has performed on some of the world's most famous stages, recorded nine number one songs and 20 top ten hits, and sold more than 10 million albums since breaking onto the Nashville music scene in 1991. She performed at the closing ceremonies of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, and the Country Music Association named her Female Vocalist of the Year in both 1997 and 1998.

When she's not on stage or in the studio, one of her favorite places to be is in the kitchen, preparing a meal for those she loves.

Trisha and her sister, Young Harris College alumna Beth Yearwood Bernard, '81, grew up in the small Georgia town of Monticello. Like most Southerners, they spent much of their time enjoying and learning to cook truly Southern food with their parents, Gwen and the late Jack Yearwood.

Both sisters still love to cook, and, along with their mother, recently took their passion for Southern food and turned it into a fun, family project.

"I was approached to do a biography, but I didn't want to do that," Trisha said. "They asked me what would I like to do, and I said 'Well, I cook. It's something I enjoy.'"

"We grew up on Southern food, grew up making it, and we had all of our recipes in shoeboxes," Trisha said. "We wanted them all in one place, and thought a cookbook would be a good way to do that. We didn't know if anyone would buy it!"

"We never dreamed it would do what it did—a *New York Times* bestseller!" Gwen said of their 2008 release *Georgia Cooking in an Oklahoma Kitchen*.

"We've had so much fun doing it together, finding recipes and sharing stories. It has worked because it's the truth," Trisha said. "We worked hard to stay authentic. Other cookbooks we've seen are too difficult, and we didn't want that."



Home Cooking with Trisha Yearwood, the second release from Trisha Yearwood, '84, her sister, Beth Yearwood Bernard, '81, and their mother, Gwen Yearwood, hits stores April 6, 2010, from Clarkson Potter/Publishers.

The book is much more than a collection of family recipes. It features warm photos of family gatherings and images of Yearwood family traditions. What makes it unique are the stories throughout the book, written by Trisha, recounting funny moments, special occasions and treasured family memories.

"We are actually doing another one," Trisha said. "This next

cookbook will be more of the same, a second volume in the series. It's simple, basic recipes you can follow and use."

"We had to branch out to more family, and dig up more recipes to try," Gwen added.

"We've been cooking a lot, testing recipes," Trisha said.

The new book, *Home Cooking with Trisha Yearwood*, will hit stores on April 6, 2010.

The Yearwood ladies have enjoyed the extra time together working on the cookbook project, but agree that they have always stayed close over the years.

"We keep up over email and telephone. We talk all the time," Beth said.

"We're together a good bit," Trisha added.

Gwen still lives in Monticello, where she is a member of Monticello First United Methodist Church, currently led by Beth's former YHC classmate the Reverend Dr. John Brown Jr., '81. She enjoys water aerobics, reading, and going to dinner and movies with friends, but is eager to drop everything when the family calls. "I'm ready at a moment's notice to travel and join either daughter to share in the fun of the moment!" she said.

Gwen Yearwood, Trisha Yearwood, '84, and Beth Yearwood Bernard, '81



Beth lives in Tifton with her husband, Dr. John Bernard, a professor of animal and dairy science at the University of Georgia's Tifton campus, and their three children, Ashley, a freshman at Mercer University in Macon, Kyle, a ninth grader at Tiftarea Academy in Tifton, and Bret, a fourth grader at Tiftarea.

She stays busy keeping up with her three children and their activities, but finds time to volunteer with Meals on Wheels and serve on the local YMCA board. Beth and her family are very active at their church, Tifton First United Methodist, where she teaches Sunday School and sings in the choir. "I am really focused on my family and friends," she said.

Trisha now lives in Oklahoma with her husband, country music star Garth Brooks, and his daughters, Taylor, 17, August, 15, and Allie, 13. "I love being a bonus mom!" she said. "I learn a little more about these girls every day, and I am honored to be in their lives."

She is excited about her husband's new weekend gig in Las Vegas. "Garth has said that the great thing

Trisha Yearwood returns to Georgia to give a private concert for her hometown crowd.

about this gig is that if it impacts our lives in any way other than a positive one, he can quit. You can't ask for more than that," she said. "I think it's going to be a lot of fun for him and me, and I'm hoping to join him in Vegas as much as possible."

Trisha still considers herself a Georgia girl and, like her mom and sister, makes family a top priority, returning to Georgia often to see them.

Both sisters hold memories of their time at Young Harris College close to their hearts.

Trisha originally had no intentions of following Beth off to college. "I was a beach girl, I wanted to go to college near the ocean," she remembered. "I didn't want to go where Beth went—it was just a sister thing."

After a little more thought, she changed her mind. "I decided that if I get accepted to Young Harris, I'll go there. I wasn't going to be on campus when my sister was there



SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

anyway, and it would be great to have someone who knew the ropes and could prepare me."

Gwen, however, knew early on that YHC would be a good fit for both of her daughters. "I first heard of Young Harris College from a preacher, deep in south Georgia," the Willacoochee native said.

When it came time for Beth to choose a college, it was an easy decision. "A recruiter came to our high school from Young Harris College. I had already visited the mountains, the Georgia Mountain Fair, and I had friends who had gone there. Plus our preacher took us by campus while we were up in the area on a youth retreat," she said. "I actually didn't apply anywhere else."

Beth planned to be an associate of arts major and wanted to go to

Gwen Yearwood, Trisha Yearwood and Beth Yearwood Bernard talk with Young Harris College President Cathy Cox about their new cookbooks and memories of Young Harris College.



law school. "I remember my biology professor telling me I needed to be a science major," she said. After graduating with an associate of arts degree, she continued at the University of Georgia.

Trisha always knew she wanted to be a singer, but her practical side won out when time came to choose a course of study. "Being a banker's daughter, I liked detail. I wanted to be practical and get a degree in something you could do," she said. "At Young Harris, I took all business classes, but I spent every free moment in the music department."

Trisha participated in musical ensembles, chorus, plays and operettas and spent her spring breaks traveling to sing in churches.

She wanted to be on the practical side of music and worked toward that goal. "I thought I could make it in country music," she said.

"Having a business background is very beneficial as an artist. I feel really lucky to have that. You get an idea of what it's really about," Trisha added.

When her two years at YHC were complete, she again followed a path similar to that of her sister. "All my friends at Young Harris went to UGA, so I followed them," she said. After a short time, she decided to go ahead and make the move to Nashville, where she earned her bachelor's degree in music business at Belmont University.

While at Young Harris, Trisha

trained under the legendary music professors Bill and Mary Ann Fox. "I learned my music foundation and fundamentals from the Foxes. The training that I got in chorus and ensemble classes, taught me things that I now do instinctively—like how to breathe."

The sisters were active in a variety of organizations and activities on campus.

"Because Young Harris is a small college, you can do many things," Beth said. "We were both very involved in college life."

Beth and Trisha were both members of the Dorcas Society, and they both served as president of the Susan B's (Sigma Beta Sigma).

"It's hard to explain to people who weren't there that, yes, I was in a sorority—but," Trisha said. "I know sororities often get a bad rep, but it was really a way to find your group, your friends, especially as a freshman. You get to know people and learn what you are capable of doing. The entire experience was very service-oriented."

The importance of service to others was something the two girls learned at an early age, and the spiritual foundations laid by their parents continued to be shaped at Young Harris.

"Some of the most lasting spiritual influences have been friends I met while at YHC," Beth said. "The faith that I had been taught as a child began to become my own as I met others whose faith experiences challenged and

*"I would have stayed
all four years,"
Trisha said.
Beth agreed, "Me too."*

broadened my faith."

"I think that how you're raised carries over into your young adult life more than you realize," Trisha added.

Beth and Trisha cherish the bond they share with each other and their friends because of their experiences at Young Harris College.

"I loved the campus community, the feeling and bond you have. I don't think you get that at every school," Trisha said. "Young Harris College is that for me. When you meet someone who went there—you just get it."

"My best friends today are girlfriends that I met at Young Harris College," she continued. "We try to see each other once a year. I think that says something about the school. I'm glad I chose Young Harris. It was a good transition after leaving home."

The two sisters and their mother were very excited when they heard that Young Harris College is now a four-year college.

"I would have stayed all four years," Trisha said. Beth agreed, "Me too."



YHC ALUMNI *Celebrate!* Homecoming 2009

More than 1,500 Young Harris College alumni, their families and friends made their way back to Young Harris last summer for what many alumni still refer to as the “best Homecoming ever.” Homecoming 2009, held Friday–Sunday, July 24–26, was a fun-filled weekend of reconnecting and reuniting with old friends, classmates and professors and a celebration of Young Harris College’s milestone transition to a four-year college. Alumni and their families enjoyed many activities and special events on and around the beautiful mountain campus.

Friday’s events included an open house at the new Office of Alumni Services, an ice cream social in the Myers Student Center and reunion dinners for the classes of 1935–1947 and classes celebrating their 50- and 60-year reunions.

The highlight of Friday evening and the big kick-off to the weekend was the Celebration Reunion Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony at Brasstown Valley Resort, just down the road from the College in Young Harris. Alumni from across all generations gathered to celebrate the college’s four-year status and a new, unified alumni organization, the Young Harris College Alumni Association. Young Harris College President Cathy Cox



addressed the crowd, bringing greetings from the College, and representatives from the alumni association presented the annual alumni awards.

“Tonight we have the opportunity to celebrate all Young Harris College alumni and to honor five outstanding alumni who have provided

exceptional service to Young Harris College and who have achieved great success, both personally and professionally,” said Young Harris College Alumni Association President Carol Chastain, ‘84.

The Young Alumni Achievement Award was presented to Reverend Catherine Boothe, ‘99, of Atlanta, for excelling in her career. The Susan B. Harris

Award was presented to Sally Boyd, ‘60, of Gainesville, for providing strong support for Young Harris College. The Iuventus Award was presented to the Reverend Dr. Donald Harp Jr., ‘61, of Atlanta, for rendering the greatest service to Young Harris College and furthering its alumni relations efforts. The Artemas Lester

(Continued on page 21)

Save the Date **Homecoming 2010 is Friday–Sunday, July 23–25**



Celebration Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony at Brasstown Valley Resort



Alumni and friends of Young Harris College gathered Friday night for an elegant evening at nearby Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris. All who attended enjoyed a formal dinner after hearing Young Harris College President Cathy Cox

bring greetings. After the meal, Young Harris College Alumni Association President Carol Chastain, '84, opened the awards

ceremony portion of the evening by welcoming alumni into a new, unified alumni association and encouraging them to be involved with the College more than ever before as it transitions into its four-year status. She thanked alumni for their loyalty and support and congratulated the award recipients for their achievements. The evening concluded with the presentation of five special alumni awards to deserving recipients.



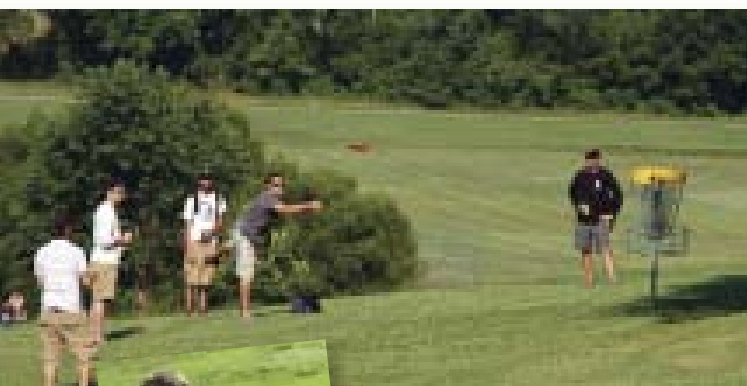
Tom Forkner, '37 (center), stands with his wife, Martha, and Young Harris College President Cathy Cox after receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Career Achievement.

Alumni across all generations gather for a photo during Saturday's Lunch on the Plaza.

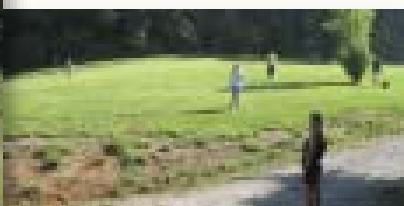


Visit www.yhc.edu/homecoming or find YHC on Facebook for updates!

YHC ALUMNI
Celebrate!
Homecoming 2009



Zeta Pi alumnus Jonathan Smith stops at Hole 4 with one of the discs he helped to design for the 2009 Snoogene Shootout disc golf tournament.



**Tournament Raises Funds
for Memorial Scholarship**

On Saturday morning, July 25, alumni members of Zeta Pi fraternity hosted the first-ever Snoogene Shootout. Held on Young

Harris College's PDGA-regulation course, the disc golf tournament benefited a scholarship fund created in memory of former Young Harris College student Benjamin Eugene Anderson, a member of the Class of 1999. The new addition to Young Harris College's annual Homecoming festivities included an 18-hole round of disc golf as well as a presentation of awards and prizes at the conclusion of the tournament.

Save the Date Homecoming 2010 is Friday–Sunday, July 23–25

Alumni Gather for Lunch on the Plaza

Perhaps the most well-attended event of Homecoming weekend, the Lunch on the Plaza was the place to be on Saturday as generations of Young Harris College alumni turned out with friends and families in tow to enjoy a delicious barbecue lunch on the brick plaza that runs through the heart of campus. Live bluegrass music filled the air, along with laughter and joy as alumni reminisced about their unforgettable college days in the enchanted valley.



Award was presented to the Reverend Dr. Ernest Seckinger, '37, of Blairsville, for a lifetime dedicated to ministry and a commitment to Christian service. The Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Career Achievement was presented to Tom Forkner, '37, of Duluth, for great success in his career following a successful foundation laid by Young Harris College. Forkner is co-founder of Waffle House, Inc.

On Saturday morning, alumni enjoyed coffee with President Cox in the Campus Gate Gallery then gathered in Glenn Auditorium for President Cox's official college update. President Cox recognized members of the classes of 1958 and 1959 in celebration of their 50-year anniversary. The update presentation



1969 celebrated their 40-year reunion with members from the classes of 1968 and 1970 in the Campus Gate Gallery late Saturday afternoon.

Saturday evening culminated with an outdoor dinner at The Ridges Resort and Club in Hiawassee. Nearly 200 alumni from all

was followed by a special service in Susan B. Harris Chapel honoring Reverend Fred Whitley, '66, who retired in 2009 after serving as campus minister for 28 years.

Alumni mingled with family, friends and faculty during a lunch on the plaza and an afternoon at the Outdoor Education Center with live music and activities for all ages, such as Frisbee golf, wall climbing, and children's playgrounds. The Class of



YHC ALUMNI
Celebrate!
Homecoming 2009

classes and groups gathered to reconnect and mingle while enjoying live music on the shores of Lake Chatuge.

Throughout the day on both Friday and Saturday, alumni had the opportunity to attend planetarium shows in O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium, view the special Lance Signature Collection of Presidential signatures in Duckworth Library, and participate in campus tours, including a sneak peek of the new 200-bed residence hall, Enotah Hall, that later opened to students in August.

The weekend's festivities wrapped up Sunday morning with worship services at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church led by the new Young Harris College Campus Minister the Reverend Dr. Timothy Moore.

"Homecoming 2009 was a great success. Numerous alumni told me it was the very best Homecoming they had ever attended. They really enjoyed the wide variety of activities we offered and felt like there were more events than ever before," President Cox said. "As we look toward next year, we will review all of their feedback and ideas in an effort to make the next Homecoming even bigger and better."



The Class of 1969 celebrated their 40-year reunion with members of the classes of 1968 and 1970 at the Campus Gate Gallery.



Classes and Clubs Congregate at Ridges Resort

All classes and club organizations were welcomed to gather for a casual dinner Saturday evening at the Ridges Resort

and Club in Hiawassee. Many groups turned out in force with yearbooks in hand to rekindle friendships and enjoy a picturesque evening on Lake Chatuge. Live music kept the dance floor hopping into the night.

Save the Date Homecoming 2010 is Friday–Sunday, July 23–25



Class of '49



Class of '64



Class of '50

Classes of '78, '79 and '80 at the Ridges Resort



Class of '59



Class of '69

Visit www.yhc.edu/homecoming or find YHC on Facebook for updates!

The annual Alumni Awards Ceremony was held Friday, July 24, as part of the Celebration Dinner at Brasstown Valley Resort during Homecoming 2009. Following the meal, five alumni awards were presented by members of the alumni board on behalf of the Young Harris College Alumni Association.

YHC Alumni Association President Carol Chastain, '84, began the recognition ceremony by thanking those in attendance for their support and enthusiasm for the College. "It is because of alumni and friends like those gathered at this evening that Young Harris College will continue to educate, inspire, and empower our youth for generations to come," she said.

The **YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**, created to recognize an alumnus or alumna who has graduated from Young Harris College within the last 15 years and has excelled in his or her career, was presented to **REVEREND CATHERINE BOOTHE**, '99. While attending Young Harris College, she served as Wesley Fellowship President. She then completed her bachelor of science in education at Valdosta State University, where she served on the Wesley Foundation leadership team and as a discipleship group leader. Boothe followed her calling into ministry and received her master of divinity from Emory's Candler School of Theology, where she was awarded the United

Methodist First Career Award. She fulfilled her chaplaincy residency at the Care and Counseling Center of Georgia in Atlanta. Boothe currently serves as the Minister of Children, Disability and Accessibility at Atlanta's Northside United Methodist Church. In this role, she coordinates, develops, and implements children's ministry programs and special programs for persons with disabilities.

The **SUSAN B. HARRIS AWARD**, given to an outstanding alumna who has provided strong support for Young Harris College, was presented to **SALLY BOYD**, '60. Boyd's loyalty and enthusiasm for her alma mater, combined with her creativity, dedication to service, and unmatched ability to make new friends and remember old ones has

shaped her into an outstanding leader. For the past nine years, she served as executive director of the Young Harris Alumni Foundation. Prior to this role, Boyd accepted other challenges with her trademark enthusiasm. She completed her bachelor's degree at Huntington College and then taught school for two years in Dekalb County. She spent the majority of her career in education with the Department of Defense Overseas Dependents Schools where she taught students overseas, notably in England, until her retirement. Ever loyal, Boyd made it a priority to return to campus for



Sally Boyd, '60, is congratulated by Young Harris College President Cathy Cox after being presented the Susan B. Harris Award.

Homecoming during many of her years in England. She has continued to provide strong support for Young Harris College, most recently through her service as a consultant to the Office of Alumni Services.

The **IUVENTUS AWARD**, given to an alumnus or alumna who has rendered the greatest service to Young Harris College and furthered its alumni relations efforts, was presented to the **REVEREND DR. DONALD HARP JR.**, '61. Harp is a long-time ambassador for Young Harris College

Catherine Boothe, '99, is presented the Young Alumni Achievement Award by Young Harris College Alumni Association President Carol Chastain, '84.



Annual Alumni Awards



and has served on the College's Board of Trustees for 20 years. During his college days, Harp was very active in campus life. He played baseball under coach Zell Miller and served as student body president, among other activities. He completed his bachelor's degree at Huntington College then followed his calling into ministry and earned his master of divinity from Emory

The Reverend Dr. Donald Harp Jr., '61, is presented the Iuventus Award by Young Harris College Alumni Association board member Candler Ginn, '77.



University. He received the doctor of divinity degree at the McCormick Theological Seminary at the University of Chicago. He has served United Methodist churches throughout the North Georgia Conference, including First United Methodist Church in Gainesville and, most recently, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta. Upon his retirement in July 2008, Harp was named Minister Emeritus of Peachtree Road United Methodist Church and continues to maintain an office at the church.

Harp has also been active in the community, having led the prayer for the U.S. Senate twice and for the Georgia Legislature on many

occasions. He was named one of *Georgia Trend* magazine's most influential people and was appointed to the Atlanta Olympic Committee by then-governor Miller. Harp was integral in bringing together the Young Harris Alumni Foundation and the College to create a new, unified alumni organization. Over the years, he has inspired many youth and

has encouraged countless students within his congregations to continue their education at Young Harris College. Today, he still inspires those around him with his joy and generosity, and he continues to be an outstanding advocate for his alma mater.

The ARTEMAS LESTER AWARD,

created to recognize an alumnus or alumna for a lifetime dedicated to ministry and a commitment to Christian service, was presented to the **REVEREND DR. ERNEST SECKINGER**, '37. Prior to graduation from Young Harris College, Seckinger was chairman of student government, vice-president of the student body, captain of the baseball team, and president of the debating society, among other activities and honors. He attended Emory University and its Candler School of Theology, and he completed his doctor of ministry in 1984. He began preaching in 1939,

and over the years, has cherished his role as a minister of the Gospel and has displayed a deep commitment to church leadership within the United Methodist Church. He served pastorates in the South Georgia Conference in every district except Americus, and helped organize the First Methodist Church in Warner Robins. He has also been active in the community, serving on several civic boards and commissions. 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. Years later, his love affair with Young Harris College brought him back to the mountains of north Georgia with his family, and he resides in nearby Blairsville today. Seckinger has always encouraged others to

The Reverend Dr. Ernest Seckinger, '37, is congratulated by Young Harris College President Cathy Cox after being presented the Artemas Lester Award.



Tom Forkner, '37, is presented the Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Career Achievement by Young Harris College Alumni Association board member Rob Murray, '75.



consider Young Harris College for their education, and to his delight, has proudly watched three of his children attend Young Harris College, along with his younger brother, a nephew, and two grandchildren. Seckinger is dedicated to contributing to student scholarships, and many fellow alumni have purchased his jars of honey on campus in support of that cause. His family created the Ernest W. Seckinger Sr. and Jessie Vannerson Seckinger Endowed Scholarship Fund to honor their parents. Today, Seckinger is a member of the Mountain Christian Ashram, having served six years as director, and is active at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church in Young Harris. Recently, he was honored for 70 years of service in the United Methodist Church.

The **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR LIFETIME CAREER ACHIEVEMENT**, given to an alumnus or alumna who has demonstrated great success in their career following a successful foundation laid by Young Harris College, was presented to **TOM FORKNER**, '37. Following graduation from Young Harris

College, Forkner graduated from the Woodrow Wilson College of Law in Atlanta a few years later and began practicing law at age 23. He spent nearly five years as a military intelligence officer in the United States Army during World War II. After release from service, Forkner returned home to run his father's realty company. He served as president of the Dekalb Board of Realtors, during which time multi-listing was created. He, along with two other brokers, was appointed to appraise right-of-way and land acquisition for every interstate in Dekalb County.

While enjoying a successful career in real estate in the 1950s, Forkner became neighbors and friends with Joe Rogers after he sold a house to him. The concept of starting a business they could own and share some ownership with others seemed like a good idea to them. They wanted to create a restaurant that focused on the associates and the customers, while serving quality food at a great value. In 1955, they co-founded Waffle House, Inc., and Forkner became its first president. The first Waffle House restaurant opened its doors on Labor Day of that year in an Atlanta suburb, quickly establishing a reputation for the friendliest service in town. Customer loyalty developed and the business grew steadily. In 1957, they acquired a second restaurant and by 1961, four small restaurants were open for

business. As the company expanded, new units were built throughout Georgia and neighboring states. The "yellow sign" soon became a familiar landmark along city streets and interstate highways across the Southeast. More than 50 years later, their dream of a restaurant that focuses on people and their belief in shared ownership has grown into a Southern icon with more than 1,500 locations, holding the title as the world's leading server of waffles, omelets, T-bone steaks and more. In the 1960s, Forkner took up golf, and began competing as a senior amateur. He won the state senior championship four times and the international senior championship twice. For four years, *Golf Digest* ranked him in the top 10 nationally. He was the Atlanta Athletic Club's Seniors Champion for six years, and in 2007, he was admitted to the Georgia Golf Hall of Fame.

Today, Forkner remains involved with Young Harris College as a member of the Board of Trustees, where he has served for more than 20 years. He credits his experience at Young Harris College with instilling in him strength and character. In particular, his time on the court as a member of the Young Harris College basketball team and lessons learned from his coach, W. L. Dance, left a lasting impression and shaped him to be successful in life.

To nominate a Young Harris College alumnus or alumna for a 2010 alumni award, contact the Office of Alumni Services at (800) 241-3754, ext. 5334 or (706) 379-5334, or send an email to alumni@yhc.edu.

New Bonner Leaders Program

ENCOURAGES CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

BY ROB CAMPBELL

Eight freshmen joined the Young Harris College community this fall semester as the College's first cohort of Bonner Leaders. The students selected for the program are Amber Allen, of Hiawassee, Ian Calhoun, of Young Harris, Jake Davis, of Dalton, Trystan Drummond, of Hiawassee, Joshua Stroud, of Hiawassee, Victoria Sink, of Hoschton, Marissa Thomas, of Brunswick, and Cara Weldon, of Athens. In addition, junior, Matthew Kammerer, of Loganville, has been chosen to serve as the Bonner Leaders Program intern.

While many initiatives seeking to foster student civic engagement on a variety of levels have become the trend in higher education, the Bonner Leaders Program offers students a unique, intensive experience and requires a high level of commitment from participants. The program is designed to be a multi-year experience, and Bonner Leaders are asked to make at least a two-year commitment, with the

opportunity to remain in the program throughout all four years at Young Harris College. Bonner Leaders generally commit to 125 hours of work in the community per semester, plus 400 hours over two summers. Eighty percent of those hours must be spent in direct contact with persons at their work site, and up to 20 percent of those hours can be involved in development, enrichment and reflection activities. Additionally, the Bonner Leaders Program is developmental, as students not only focus on strengthening their campuses and communities but also foster their own unique gifts and skills.

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.

Bonner Leaders meet regularly with their peers, with campus staff and faculty and with community leaders to help deepen their

understanding of themselves as individuals, as Young Harris students, and as citizens of a larger community. Students also attend regional and national Bonner conferences throughout the



Young Harris College freshmen selected as the 2009-2010 Bonner Leaders are (front row, left to right) Amber Allen, Trystan Drummond, Josh Stroud, Victoria Sink, (back row, left to right) Ian Calhoun, Jake Davis, Marissa Thomas and Cara Weldon, with Bonner Leaders intern Matthew Kammerer (far right).



Jake Davis works on home improvements for a house in Hayesville N.C.

year, as well as partner with other Bonner programs at other institutions.

Young Harris College will name additional Bonner Leaders at the beginning of each fall semester, building the program enrollment to approximately 40 students working throughout the community during any given year.

STUDENTS ENJOY
FULL LINEUP OF
EVENTS FOR

Welcome Week 2009



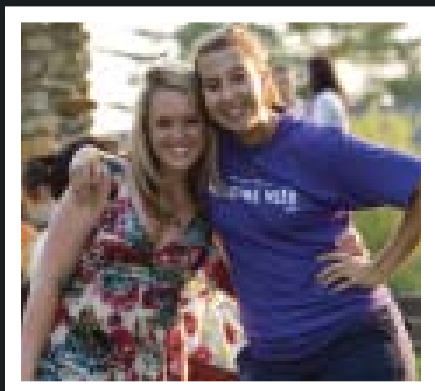
Young Harris College was buzzing with activity and excitement the weekend of August 15-16 as new and returning students arrived on campus to get ready for the beginning of fall semester on Monday, August 17.

Events continued throughout the first week of classes, making Welcome Week 2009 bigger and better than ever.

Sponsored by the Division of Student Development, the lineup of activities included a welcome

back carnival, live music on the lawn, outdoor games and activities, snack breaks, a hypnotist show, movie night, a comedian show and a barbecue on the plaza.

Welcome Week also included the annual Academic Convocation in Glenn Auditorium and a community service opportunity for students at Hinton Center in Hayesville, N.C., on the following Saturday morning, Aug. 22.



Family Weekend OFFERS GLIMPSE INTO STUDENT LIFE



Young Harris College hosted more than 600 family members and guests of students for a fun and memorable Family Weekend Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 24-25. Family members had the opportunity to experience a day in the life of their Young Harris College student and enjoy the beauty of the fall season in the north Georgia mountains.

Activities included a mock class schedule with an opportunity to meet professors and attend several athletics events. Families enjoyed

viewing the mixed media exhibit "Transient Spaces" by Michael Lent on display in the Campus Gate Art Gallery. The highlight of Saturday evening was a Fine Arts Showcase in Glenn Auditorium that featured performances by the College's award-winning a cappella vocal ensembles The Compulsive Lyres and Southern Harmony and the Young Harris College Jazz Ensemble. The production also included musical selections by current musical theatre students.

The weekend itinerary concluded with two morning worship services on Sunday at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church.

Young Harris College President Cathy Cox was the special guest speaker at both services.



Fine Arts

KEEPS FALL CAMPUS CALENDAR FULL

Young Harris College's Division of Fine Arts offered a full lineup of special events, performances and exhibits for the fall semester. For the first time ever, patrons had the opportunity to purchase season tickets for all shows presented in the 2009-2010 season of Theatre Young Harris.

Highlights include a record-setting season opener for Theatre Young Harris with the Depression-era classic play *You Can't Take It With You* running for four performances Oct. 1-4. The theatre company, directed by Theatre Department Chair Eddie Collins, followed up the success of its first show with the pop culture phenomenon *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* in November. The show was presented to approximately 4,500 elementary students from three states Nov. 3-6, about 1,000 more than last season's children's show. The show opened for its public run Nov. 19-22, with free admission for children 12 and under.

The Art Department, chaired by Ted Wisenhunt, hosted three diverse exhibits throughout the semester in the Campus Gate Art Gallery. "Guardingo" by Jason Bronner consisted of a series of charcoal drawings featuring images of dogs as a metaphor for ideas about politics and government. Michael Lent's mixed media installation "Transient Spaces" explored time-based and new media as a method of art making. Formal elements, such as line and shape as well as their influence across media characterized his exhibit. "Art Quilts" by Dr. Elizabeth Barton featured intricate and unique images of buildings, cityscapes and landscapes on quilts, exploring the beauty of everyday environments.

The Music Department chaired by Dr. Sandy Calloway, presented a variety of performances, including recitals by both faculty and guest artists and concerts by student ensembles. Guest artist duo Keith and Priscilla Jefcoat performed a classical program of piano duets that included works by Mozart, Dvorák, and Bizet. Guest artist Missie Kirkland, soprano, partnered with Staff Accompanist and Adjunct Instructor of Music Cynthia DeFoor, harpsichord, for "Baroque, Life, Love and Heartache," which featured works by Purcell and Handel. The Young Harris College Guitar Ensemble, directed by Instructor of Guitar Richard Knepp, performed in early November as a prelude to the North Georgia Guitar Summit, hosted at the College. The Young Harris College Choir, conducted by Director of Choral and Vocal Studies Jeff Bauman, closed out the semester with its annual Christmas concert in December.

The show-stopping hit of the semester was perhaps the Fine Arts Showcase presented as part of Family Weekend in late October. A variety of student groups, including the College's award-winning a cappella vocal ensembles The Compulsive Lyres and Southern Harmony, performed classical and contemporary favorites to a full house of faculty, staff, students and their families.

Check www.yhc.edu or find Young Harris College on Facebook® for information about fine arts events in the spring semester.



Thousands of elementary school students visited Young Harris College in November to see *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*



Students, faculty, staff and local art patrons from the community enjoy the opening reception for "Art Quilts" in the Campus Gate Art Gallery on Nov. 5.



Get Backstage

WITH FRIENDS OF THE ARTS AT YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Play a leading role in the arts at Young Harris College by becoming a member of Friends of the Arts.

Your support enables the Division of Fine Arts at Young Harris College to continue offering quality programming that benefits student development and enhances the local cultural landscape. Students are offered creative and performing opportunities in Art, Music, Musical Theatre and Theatre. Your gift helps promote awareness of arts programming as well as the exploration of new endeavors and learning experiences. Most importantly, Friends of the Arts supports Young Harris College's goals to enable students to grow and learn in an environment of uncompromised artistic and academic freedom and integrity.

All members receive a welcome packet, annual newsletter, name recognition in event programs, and other level-specific benefits.

For more information or to join, contact Young Harris College's Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173 or make your gift online at www.yhc.edu.

Construction Update

As part of the Young Harris College Board of Trustees' aggressive strategic plan to move the College to a four-year institution, three major construction projects have been in progress throughout 2009. The first project is a new residence hall, which opened to students in August. The second project is a new student recreation and fitness center that is currently under construction. The third project is a new campus center, which is currently in design. The projects are part of an unprecedented building program on the historic campus.

In addition to these major buildings, construction began recently on a new tennis complex that will be home to the men's and women's tennis teams. The existing tennis courts were removed in the spring to accommodate storm water management areas next to Corn Creek. The space will ultimately be landscaped and converted into a beautiful, picturesque spot on campus. The new tennis facility will be located next to the Outdoor Education Center on Highway 76 and will feature 12 lighted tournament grade courts.

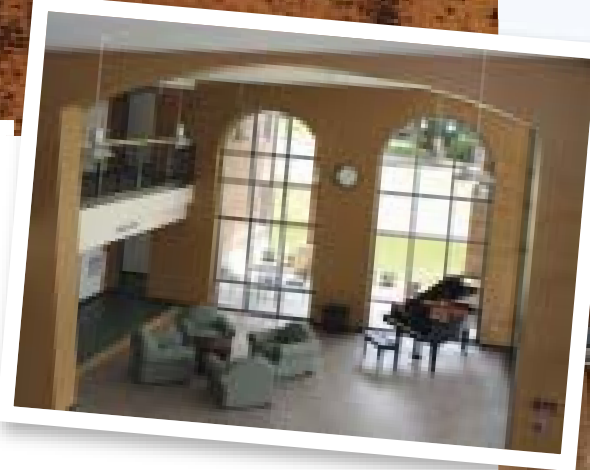
Young Harris College President Cathy Cox (far right) is joined by the YHC Board of Trustees at the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new student recreation and fitness center on April 24, 2009.

NEW RESIDENCE HALL BECOMES HOTTEST NEW SPOT ON CAMPUS

Affectionately nicknamed "New Hall," by students on campus, the newest residence hall at Young Harris College, Enotah Hall, opened to accolades for the Fall 2009 semester. The 200-bed, state-of-the-art facility offers wireless Internet connectivity, four sound-proof performance practice rooms, a grand piano in the lobby and an outdoor amphitheatre behind the wings designed for concerts, performances and classes.

The building is expected to receive LEED silver certification, making it the first in the northeast Georgia region to earn the designation. The LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Green Building Rating System is a third-party certification program and the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices and provides universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria. For more information about the LEED rating system, visit www.usgbc.org/leed.

In addition to the sustainability effort, more than \$3 million of



The main lobby in the new 200-bed residence hall, Enotah Hall, features large windows, a grand piano and spacious seating and gathering areas.

construction expenditures were pumped into the local economy, supporting the surrounding communities and local businesses near Young Harris College.

Stuart Miller, resident director of Enotah Hall, handles the day-to-day operations of the building, including reservations for the increasingly popular third floor conference room, with its tall windows and gorgeous view of campus, and the amphitheatre.

"Things are going great in the new hall. I have not heard one complaint from any of the students," Miller said. "The lobby on the first floor is definitely the place to be after a long day of classes. Whether studying or socializing, the students love the open space to hang out with their friends!"

Miller also advises two important student groups in the residence hall: a staff of 10 resident assistants and Young Harris College's first-ever Hall Council group.

The Hall Council President is Patrick Sanders, a freshman from Winder. "I don't know if Young Harris College can make a better building," Sanders said. "To be a freshman and live in a place this nice is amazing!"





Above: Students gather for activities on the lawn of Enotah Hall during Welcome Week 2009.

Left: The outdoor amphitheatre, located behind Enotah Hall, will host concerts, performances and classes.



NEW RECREATION AND FITNESS CENTER TO OPEN FOR FALL 2010

On April 24, Young Harris College broke ground on a new 57,000-square foot student recreation and fitness center. Trustees, faculty, staff, students and friends of the College were in attendance at the groundbreaking ceremony and returned on Dec. 3 for the topping-out ceremony.

The \$15 million facility will include a fully equipped weight room and fitness center, an elevated

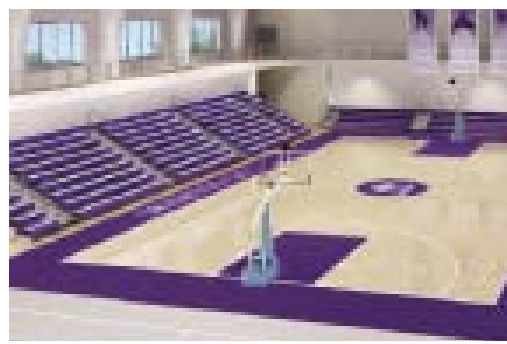
indoor jogging track, a foodservice area/juice bar, three intramural basketball courts and two multipurpose rooms that will be used for yoga, dance and aerobics. The center will feature a 1,000-seat arena with NCAA-regulation basketball and volleyball court, setting the stage for the return of intercollegiate men's and women's basketball in 2010. The facility also will

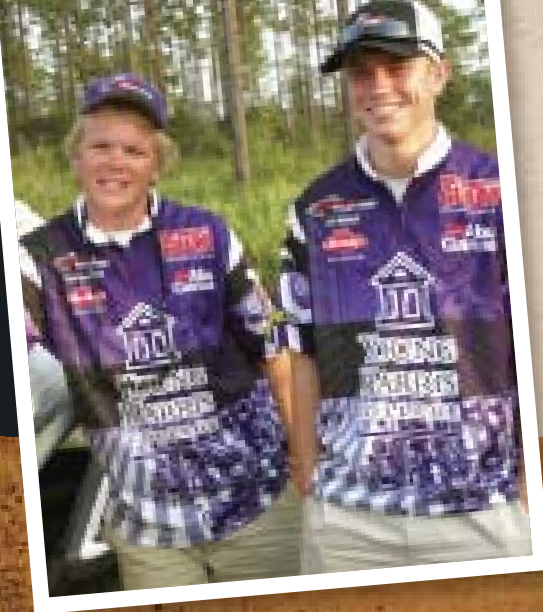
A rendering of the 1,000-seat arena in the new student recreation and fitness center

include locker rooms and office space. Construction is scheduled to be completed next summer in order to open for the Fall 2010 semester.



An aerial view of the new student recreation and fitness center





Young Harris College bass fishing team members Brad Rutherford and Clint McNeal at the National Guard FLW College Fishing Regional Championship on Lake Monroe in Sanford, Fla.

New Bass Fishing Team

TO COMPETE IN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

News of the club quickly spread throughout campus, and membership began to grow. The team currently has six members.

Danny Rubino, assistant softball coach at Young Harris College, serves as sponsor for the club. "We are in the process of restructuring the club right now to accommodate growing interest," he said. Rubino's role involves overseeing the club's operations, helping the team organize properly and securing and managing sponsorships. With 10 years of boat racing experience, he was eager to help the club get started when McNeal approached him last summer.

According to Rubino, the team members prepare for the tournaments by making an effort to fish "every day and all weekend" when possible.

McNeal and Rutherford next competed in the nationally televised National Guard FLW College Fishing Regional Championship on Lake Monroe in Sanford, Fla., Nov. 21–23, placing fifth overall and securing a spot in the National Guard FLW College Fishing National Championship, scheduled for April 10–12, 2010, in Knoxville, Tenn. The team started the tournament by placing fourth on day one with nine pounds, zero ounces and rose to third on day three with eight pounds, 14 ounces. McNeal caught a single bass weighing one pound, four ounces on

day three.

The National Championship is a three-day televised event hosting the top five teams from each regional event for a total of 25 teams. Teams will be provided shirts and wrapped Ranger boats towed by Chevrolet trucks for the competition. The prize for the championship ranges from \$25,000 cash and a Ranger 177TR with a 90-horsepower Evinrude or Yamaha outboard wrapped in school colors for the winning club and \$50,000 for the school they represent to \$15,000 for fifth, split between the club and college.

The winning team will be declared the National Guard FLW Collegiate National Champion and will qualify for the 2010 Forrest Wood Cup, the most prestigious tournament in all of bass fishing, to be held on Lake Lanier later in 2010. The winners will also receive use of a wrapped boat and Chevrolet truck for cup competition.

The FLW Outdoors College Fishing schedule is available at CollegeFishing.com along with rules, requirements and club information. FLW Outdoors is the largest fishing tournament organization in the world. For more information, visit FLWOutdoors.com.

Young Harris College's newest club sport is quickly making a name for itself well beyond campus, having formed only a few months ago at the beginning of the fall semester.

Bass fishing team members Clint McNeal, a sophomore from Woodstock, and Brad Rutherford, a freshman from Lavonia, are taking their favorite pastime and turning it into a serious competitive sport.

The team scored its first tournament win during its first tournament appearance on Oct. 10, when McNeal and Rutherford won the National Guard FLW College Fishing Southeast Division event on Lake Guntersville, Ala., with six bass weighing 19 pounds, eight ounces. The victory earned the team \$10,000 to be split evenly between the College and the bass fishing club.

The Young Harris College team beat out 39 other teams, including teams from University of Tennessee, Auburn University, University of Alabama, University of Georgia and Clemson University, among others.

On Oct. 16, sophomore Clint McNeal and freshman Brad Rutherford presented Young Harris College President Cathy Cox with half the new bass fishing team's first tournament winnings, a \$5,000 check from FLW Outdoors to Young Harris College, as part of the prize for finishing first place in the National Guard FLW College Fishing Southeast Division tournament on Alabama's Lake Guntersville.



Dr. Joseph Lowery

DELIVERS YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE'S ANNUAL RAGSDALE LECTURE

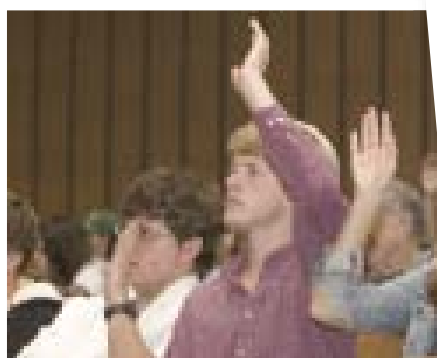
On Thursday evening, Sept. 17, the Reverend Dr. Joseph Lowery, civil rights leader and co-founder and president emeritus of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, spoke to an enthusiastic crowd at the annual Ragsdale Lecture at Young Harris College. The audience of students, faculty, staff and community members in Glenn Auditorium were inspired by Dr. Lowery's challenge to be "Chaplains of the Common Good."

Dr. Lowery spoke about current issues related to politics, government and Christianity and clarified that he was not a Democrat or Republican, but "a Methodist." He also addressed topics of pop culture with his signature sense of humor. He received multiple standing ovations from the crowd and entertained a variety of audience questions after his message, including one about his experience working side-by-side with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., during the American Civil Rights Movement. The lecture was followed by a meet-and-greet in the Myers Student Center.

Often called "the Dean of the Civil Rights Movement," Dr. Lowery began his advocacy in the 1950s in Mobile where he headed the Alabama Civic Affairs Association fighting for desegregation of public transportation and accommodations. In 1957, he was one of the co-founders, with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and from 1957 to 1998 served in many capacities for the organization,

including vice president, chairman of the board and president and chief executive officer.

Dr. Lowery has traveled across the globe working for peace and justice in Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Central America. As a minister in the United Methodist Church, Dr. Lowery served as pastor at churches in Mobile, Birmingham and Atlanta. He led the congregation at Central United Methodist



When asked by Dr. Joseph Lowery during the lecture, inspired Young Harris College students answered his challenge to become "chaplains of the common good."

Church in Atlanta for 18 years and later served as pastor of Cascade United Methodist Church from 1986 to 1992.

Even in retirement, Dr. Lowery continues to be in demand as a speaker. One of his more recent and memorable "speaking engagements" took place in January 2009 in Washington, D.C., when he delivered the benediction at the inauguration

ceremony of Barack Obama as the 44th president of the United States.

Dr. Lowery is one of 16 Americans who received the 2009 Presidential Medal of Freedom—America's highest civilian honor—



Pictured from left, H. D. "Dick" Parris, who established the annual Ragsdale Lecture series at YHC, speaks with Dr. Joseph Lowery and YHC President Cathy Cox following Dr. Lowery's address.

from President Obama.

He is married to Evelyn Gibson Lowery, and they are the parents of five children.

The Ragsdale Lecture Series brings national speakers to Young Harris College to discuss relevant governmental and political issues. It was established in 1983 by Mr. and Mrs. H.D. Paris to honor Mrs. Paris' cousin, Warner B. Ragsdale, a 1917 graduate of Young Harris College who achieved a long and distinguished career in journalism.

When Words Matter

BY PEGGY COZART

If we Americans are to have end-of-life conversations what will we say, and how will we say it? A Young Harris College professor is working diligently to answer that question and make every word count.

Assistant Professor of Communication Studies Joy Goldsmith, Ph.D., is a nationally renowned scholar in the emerging field of palliative care who is helping to develop and navigate communication in an area of medicine currently utilized by only three percent of the U.S. population.

Dr. Goldsmith notes the current medical standard is to administer invasive intervention. According to her, this method goes against what patients in that stage of life need and seek. They need pain management, emotional care and skilled communication from their physicians.

Palliative care is an umbrella term covering the area of medicine that seeks to bring an understanding of and a commitment to the comfort and care given to patients facing serious, chronic and terminal illnesses. Dr. Goldsmith is unique in approaching palliative care through the perspective of communication.

Currently serving as chair of the communication studies department, within the Division of Humanities, Dr. Goldsmith came to Young Harris College in 2004. She describes her typical day as a three-part amalgam of teaching, research and administration.

In her professorial role, Dr. Goldsmith teaches public speaking, a core course that allows her to guide students as they transition from, in her words, “thinking there is a certain way we should sound as a speaker to getting them to hear their own voice and own stories.”

Dr. Joy Goldsmith



This teaching role is one she values and looks to expand upon as the department begins to offer a four-year degree in the fall of 2010 with courses in areas including interpersonal communication, family communication and intercultural communication.

“These students are my reason for being here. They are my first call. They, in essence, enable my other work and inspire my other ventures—most especially the one that involves building a program for them. We help each other improve as people,” she said.

Dr. Goldsmith graduated from Bethel College, a small, liberal arts school in her home state of Kansas. Both of her parents taught at a small, liberal arts school as well, and she points to the liberal arts tradition of “attending to the whole person—how they are growing professionally, but most importantly, how they are growing,” as a central belief in her teaching.

As department chair, Dr. Goldsmith has a lead role in overseeing the faculty and creating the curriculum as the department expands to offer a bachelor of arts degree beginning next fall. With the school now a four-year institution, she looks forward to attending to the whole person in guiding her students and “taking the walk with them on their academic journey.” She adds that “increasing critical thinking” is her biggest goal for her students.

She believes being at Young Harris College is just right for her and that her role as a scholar has become clear in the five years she has been on campus. Dr. Goldsmith was working on her Ph.D. in communication at the University of Oklahoma in

2001, writing her dissertation on the subject of theater and directing, when her sister Janet was diagnosed with a stage IV cancer that would lead to her death nine months later. Dr. Goldsmith took time away from her studies to care for her sister and, in doing so, began to see the need for scholarly work in the area of health communication and palliative care. After her sister's death, she returned to school, completed her dissertation, and was ready for the next step in her life.

She undertook a geographic job search in order to accommodate the desire of her husband, a native of east Tennessee, to return to the mountains of the Southeast. That search led her to Young Harris College where, as a researcher, Dr. Goldsmith has focused on the role of communication in health care. She has published two books, several articles for medical publications and is beginning work on a chapter she has been asked to write for the *Handbook of Health Communication*.

Her books, *Communication as Comfort: Multiple Voices in Palliative Care* and *Dying with Comfort: Family Narratives and Early Palliative Care* were both co-authored with Elaine M. Wittenberg-Lyles, Ph.D., Sandra L. Ragan, Ph.D., and Sandra Sanchez-Reilly, M.D., and address the critical need to bring communication into the study of health care and medicine.

Dr. Goldsmith and her co-writers approach palliative care through a biopsychosocial, rather than biomedical, process and a desire to care for the whole person. In other words, her research suggests a combination of biological, psychological and social factors determine the health of an individual. This patient-centered approach involves caregivers, physicians, family and advocates who are

all caring for the physical, psychological, social and spiritual aspects of the patient's needs with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of the patient's life at a time when few are fully equipped to cope. Dr. Goldsmith's hope is to affect change in medical school training, providing physicians the tools needed to better communicate during conversations dealing with breaking bad news and during end-of-life discussions. Dr. Goldsmith points out that, essentially, "This conversation would improve the grief process for family and the care the loved one receives."

Others are taking notice. In November, the article "Communication a Terminal Prognosis in a Palliative Care Setting: Deficiencies in Current Communication Training Protocols," for which Dr. Goldsmith was second author, was awarded "Outstanding Article of the Year" by the Health Communication Division of the National Communication Association.

Dr. Goldsmith is certain that being at Young Harris College has provided her the needed support to carry out her research. She is thankful for the enormous support she receives in this role and for the balance she finds by being at the College.

"In my time at the College, I feel like the institution has made the choice to no longer be the best kept secret in the South, but rather to extend its wealth and resource of education beyond the borders of its first 100-plus years of existence. There are those beyond the local community and the Atlanta metroplex that need us, and vice versa."

"These students are my reason for being here. They are my first call. They, in essence, enable my other work and inspire my other ventures—most especially the one that involves building a program for them. We help each other improve as people."



Dr. Joy Goldsmith, assistant professor of communication studies, discusses a class assignment with student Chase Hankla, a sophomore from Valdosta.

BASEBALL SUPERSTAR

Exemplifies Student-Athlete

BY MICKEY SEWARD



Bryson Smith, '09, in his new Florida Gators uniform

Bryson Smith, '09, has plenty of goals. Like many college ballplayers, the former Young Harris College infielder, who last season had one of the greatest single seasons in the history of Mountain Lions baseball, wants to see how far his bat and glove will take him in the national pastime. Of course, he also wants to win championships.

However, there is another goal that Smith is dedicated to beyond those that drive him on the diamond.

Smith wants to make an impact in the lives of people. His goal is to succeed at what he does so he can help those who have not yet seen the same kind of successes in their own lives.

"Whatever I do, I want to do it so I can give back to the community," Smith said. "That's something that is really big to me. What I really want to do in my life is be a part of others' lives and give back to those who aren't as fortunate."

The Watkinsville native says that when he is done with his baseball career, he wants to go to medical school. But don't look for him to try on a lab coat any time soon.

Last season, Smith hit a whopping .467 with 21 home runs and 90 runs batted in for a Mountain Lions team that finished 44-12 overall and was ranked as

high as No. 4 nationally. At the end of the season he was honored by the American Baseball Coaches Association as the National Junior College Athletic Association's National Player of the Year, becoming the second Young Harris player to earn the honor in the award's nine-year history. Current Baltimore Orioles outfielder Nick Markakis, '03, won the award in 2003.

Young Harris College is the only college to have two National Players of the Year at the NJCAA Division I level.

NCAA Division I coaches from all over the country pursued Smith, who eventually chose to continue his educational and athletic career at the University of Florida.

"Bryson had an amazing year," said Young Harris head coach Rick Robinson. "When you think about the things he's done, it's amazing. He tied Nick Markakis' (single season) home run record while playing in eight less games than Nick did when he set the record. From March through April, Bryson battled injuries that most kids wouldn't have attempted to play through. To continue to play through those

Bryson Smith receives congratulations from head coach Rick Robinson after hitting one of his school record-tying 21 home runs.

injuries, it's just a great example of the kind of person and competitor that he is."

Smith's new coach, Florida's Kevin O'Sullivan, agreed with Robinson, and was encouraged by Smith's maturity at the plate during his one season at Young Harris.

"Bryson had a terrific year offensively from the beginning of the season to the end," O'Sullivan said. "He was pitched to differently and handled it well. Bryson assumed the responsibility of being the leader in the lineup and performed all year long."

For Smith, being named the nation's best player was the culmination of a season of hard work by the entire team.

"Winning that award meant the world to me because we put in a lot of hard work as a team," Smith said. "It is a great award that showed that everything you did paid off. It was amazing to



have a season like that—individually and as a team—but, I never thought I'd earn that kind of award."

Smith was also chosen as the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association Player of the Year.

Hardware was hardly the only thing Smith gained during his stay at YHC, though. He said he made lifelong friends at Young Harris and took away a deep respect for Robinson.

"I'll always remember and be grateful to Rick for what he does and what he is all about," Smith said. "He deserves much of the credit for what the program has become, on the field and off."

The feeling is mutual.

"Not only is Bryson a great athlete and competitor, he's also a quality person who exemplifies the type of student-athlete that we

have here at Young Harris College," Robinson said.

The first half of the phrase "student-athlete" is not lost on Smith, who feels like he was well prepared for the rigors of classes at Florida after attending Young Harris College. A member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, he graduated from YHC in May 2009 with an associate of science degree.

"Young Harris is so strong academically," Smith said. "The class sizes are a lot different, when you compare Florida and Young Harris, but the work you have to put into academics is the same. The thing about Young Harris is I really loved my teachers there."

Smith was drafted in the 30th round by the Cleveland Indians in the Major League Baseball First Year Player draft, and would have undoubtedly gone much higher

had he not been so clear in his desire to play for the Gators in 2010. The possibility of a trip to the College World Series in Omaha, Neb., was too good to not pursue.

"I want to win the Southeastern Conference and then win the College World Series," Smith said. "That's one major reason I didn't go pro; I have a goal of playing in the College World Series. I believe we have a good shot at it."

If the Gators are going to go that far, Smith will likely have a lot to do with it, according to O'Sullivan.

"We are counting on Bryson being an important part of our team's success this year," O'Sullivan said. "Bryson has the tools and determination to have a very successful career at Florida and beyond."



Jennifer Stearsman

YHC HIRES FIRST Compliance Coordinator

Jennifer Stearsman joined the Young Harris College athletics department in July as the college's first-ever athletics compliance coordinator. She came to YHC after serving as assistant athletics director for compliance at Georgia Southwestern State University.

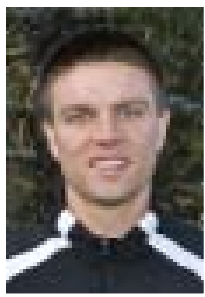
In her new role, Stearsman is charged with establishing procedures and policies that ensure that Young Harris College is in compliance with National Collegiate Athletic Association rules as they relate to recruiting, scholarships and eligibility; and then to monitor the athletics programs to make sure those policies are being followed.

With YHC transitioning from competing at the junior-college level to the four-year level and applying for membership in the NCAA, Stearsman is finding that much of her role this year revolves around making sure athletics staff are knowledgeable of NCAA rules and regulations and are prepared to work within them when the time comes.

"The primary difference in working at YHC right now or at an institution that is a current NCAA member is that, at this point, YHC is in more of an education period with the coaches and administrators," Stearsman said. "We are not currently bound by

the NCAA rules and regulations, but we are establishing those procedures to ensure—when it is time—that we have everything in place to move forward."

Stearsman, GSW's compliance officer from 2007–2009, served as the Lady Hurricanes' head women's basketball coach for four years. She attended Bethany College in Pennsylvania, where she was a member of the women's basketball team, and graduated as the school's all-time leader in three-point field goals. Her eight three-point field goals in one game still stands as Bethany's record.



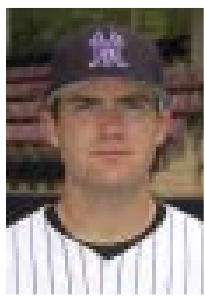
Bruce Sibley



Raul Martinez



Jeremy Plexico



Thomas Seay



Malcolm McLeod

New Coaches

JOIN ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

The Mountain Lions welcomed five new coaches to three athletic teams at Young Harris College.

BRUCE SIBLEY is the head men's tennis coach and strength and conditioning coordinator. Prior to joining Young Harris College in July, Sibley served as the director of tennis for the Hanahan Department of Recreation and the tennis coach at Charleston Charter School for Math and Science, both located in Charleston, S.C., since 2008. In both organizations, Sibley started the tennis programs, giving him valuable experience as he builds the resurrected Young Harris men's tennis program from the ground up. He played collegiately at LaSalle University before becoming one of the top-ranked players in his native New Jersey.

RAUL MARTINEZ just finished his first season as an assistant men's soccer coach, helping lead the Mountain Lions to a 14-5 overall record and an appearance in the NJCAA Region XVII championship match. As a student-athlete, Martinez was a member of the soccer team at Hannibal-LaGrange College for three years, helping lead the Trojans to a No. 14 national ranking in the final 2006 NAIA national poll.

JEREMY PLEXICO, THOMAS SEAY and **MALCOLM MCLEOD** were added to head coach Rick Robinson's baseball staff this last summer.

Pitching coach Plexico was the 2008 Northern League Pitcher of the Year, and spent the five years prior to that pitching in the Montreal Expos/Washington Nationals organization. While pitching for the Gary Southshore Railcats in 2008, Plexico was honored as the league's top pitcher and was named to Baseball America's All-Independent team following the season. An All-American pitcher at NCAA Division I Winthrop University, Plexico was also voted as the Big South Conference's Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year as a senior.

Seay has been an assistant coach in NCAA Divisions I and II, and also at the junior-college level. He comes to Young Harris College after spending the past two seasons as the top assistant and recruiting coordinator at Division II Slippery Rock, which he helped lead to a 36-15 overall record. While he was serving as the team's hitting instructor, Seay's Slippery Rock batters had the third best batting average in the nation. He serves as the Mountain Lions' recruiting coordinator, along with his on-field coaching responsibilities.

McLeod graduated from Lander University in 2009 and was a member of the baseball team from 2006 to 2008. He led the team in batting with a .335 average and hits with 69 as a senior. He played in a variety of roles, taking the field at first base, third base and left field, and also served as a designated hitter. McLeod was an All-State selection and the Region IV-AA Player of the Year as a high school senior. He also earned four All-Region and All-Columbia Area awards, while playing on back-to-back state championship teams in 2001 and 2002.

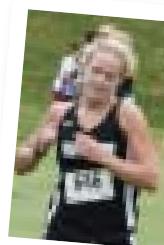
Fall Sports Recap

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Young Harris College's men's cross country team finished third in the NJCAA Region XVII Championships, with sophomore Parker Childree, of Valdosta, and sophomore Zach Tyler, of Cumming, leading the way, finishing second and fourth, respectively. Both Childree and Tyler earned All-Region honors for their performances in the meet. Childree would go on to compete in the national championship meet, where he finished 123rd of 259 competitors. Head coach Barry Brown's Mountain Lions finished in second place in three different meets during the fall, including its own YHC Invitational, in which Tyler took home first-place honors.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Young Harris College's women's cross country team finished second in the NJCAA Region XVII Championships. Four of the top 10 places in the regional championships went to Young Harris runners, with freshman Heather Richbourg, of Hayesville, N.C., finishing third, freshman Ellie Parton, of Hiawassee, finishing sixth, sophomore Rebecca Westbrooks, of Grayson, finishing eighth and sophomore Stacey Keahon, of Suwannee, finishing 10th. All four were named to the All-Region team. Led by head coach Barry Brown, the Mountain Lions successfully protected their



Rebecca Westbrooks

den, winning the YHC Invitational, a race in which Westbrook was the first individual to cross the finish line. The team also finished second in two other meets in the fall.

MEN'S SOCCER

Head coach Mark McKeever's team finished with a 14-5 overall record and was ranked as high as No. 8 nationally by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, the highest such ranking in McKeever's tenure at YHC. The Mountain Lions advanced to the championship match of the NJCAA Region XVII Tournament, and freshman Wesley Barnard, of South Africa, freshman Ashley Walker, of England, sophomore Ebai Ayuk, of Acworth, sophomore Adrian Klammer, of Austria, and freshman James Thorpe, of England, each earned All-Region accolades. In addition, Klammer was named the NJCAA National Player of the Week on October 28.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Young Harris College's women's soccer team finished the 2009 season with an 8-6-1 overall record, and were ranked as high as No. 6 nationally during the fall. Head coach Kathy Brown, who led her squad to a Region XVII

Northern Division title, was named the Region's Coach of the Year. In addition, sophomore Emily Villas, of Jupiter, Fla., sophomore Rachel Wilkes, of Crawford, sophomore Lauren Martin, of Acworth, freshman Kelsey Cunningham, of



Ashley Walker

Cumming, sophomore Jolie Kahn-Foss, of Colbert, and freshman Mica Lopes, of Portugal, each earned All-Region honors.

MEN'S GOLF

The fall men's golf season saw positive results from the Mountain Lions as they prepare for the spring season and the regional and national championship tournaments. The highlight of the season came at the rain-shortened Piedmont Invitational, which was limited to just one round. For the first time in team history, all five Young Harris College players shot in the 70s in the same round, as YHC finished in third place in a field dominated by four-year competition.

WOMEN'S GOLF

The women's golf team used the fall season to successfully merge its newcomers and returnees and prepare for the upcoming spring championship season. The Mountain Lions finished third in the rain-soaked Piedmont Invitational. Freshman Kelsey McEntyre, of Hiram, finished second overall in the tournament, firing a 78 in the one round of completion.

MEN'S TENNIS

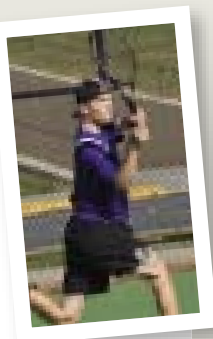
In its first year back on campus after a decade without a men's tennis program, head coach Bruce Sibley's squad gained a No. 17 national ranking in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's preseason poll. Freshman Laurenz Schraepen, of Canada, is ranked No. 20 among singles players and the doubles team

of Schraepen and freshman Jamie Childree, of Valdosta, is ranked 23rd nationally. Schraepen won the singles crown at the ITA Southeast Regional Championships and he and Childree claimed the doubles crown in the same tournament.

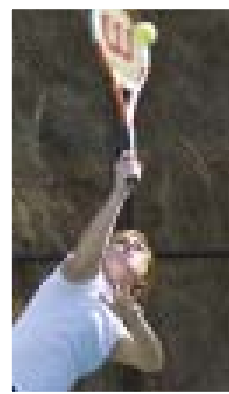
WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association ranked head coach Alli Hillman's Mountain Lions 21st in its preseason poll. Individually, three Mountain Lions are ranked among the top 100 singles players: freshman Kinsley Black, of Conyers, is ranked 51st, freshman Hillary Teasley, of Hartwell, is ranked 80th and freshman Brianna Brinkley, of Summerville, is ranked 82nd.

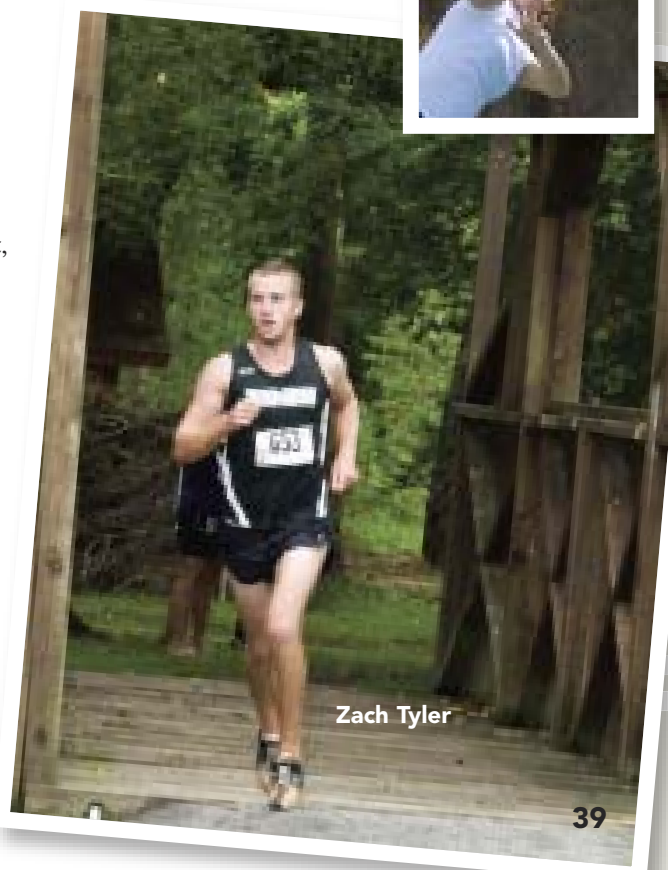
Brianna Brinkley



Laurenz Schraepen



Emily Villas



Zach Tyler

Basketball Hysteria

BEGINS AT YHC

The south end of the Young Harris College campus has turned into a construction site. Blueprints have been drawn up and the foundation has been laid. The infrastructure continues to grow.

By the way, a new student recreation center is going up, too. That is pretty big news in itself.

Bigger news for many is the return of Mountain Lions basketball to a Young Harris College campus that once had a strong tradition of excellence on the hardwood, only to see the sport discontinued on the competitive intercollegiate level four decades ago.

The new student recreation and fitness center will give the men's and women's basketball teams a beautiful new facility to call home when they play their first games in the 2010–11 season. And while YHC officials understand the importance of finding the right people to oversee construction of the building, they took finding the coaches who would serve as the architects of the new basketball program every bit as seriously.

After long, thoughtful searches that saw many strong coaching candidates emerge, the search committees found their builders.

Pete Herrmann, who was the head coach at the United States Naval Academy and led the University of Georgia's men's basketball as its interim head coach at the end of the 2009 season, was named head coach of the men's team in early September. Right after, Brenda Paul, who was last head coach at Elon University but has coached several quality teams at nearly every level of college basketball over the past three decades, was hired as head coach of the women's team.

After their hiring, Herrmann and Paul immediately put on their hard hats and went to work. Radio appearances, speaking engagements and recruiting players for the inaugural season litter the coaches' schedules. And, even without a team to suit up, they also made sure to tap into a fairly recent college basketball tradition that is a

highlight on campuses across the nation each October.

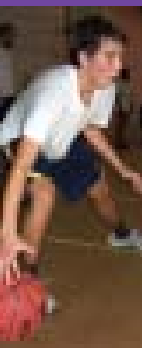
Midnight Madness tips off the college basketball season across the United States, the first time the NCAA allows teams to take

YHC students participate in Young Harris Hysteria on Oct. 16.

YHC students gather around men's and women's basketball head coaches Pete Herrmann and Brenda Paul after an exciting workout at Young Harris Hysteria on Oct. 16.

part in formal practices. Programs across the country began opening the practice to the public, often putting on glitzy shows to get fans excited about the upcoming basketball season. Most programs called the event Midnight Madness until the NCAA allowed teams to start their practices earlier in the evening so the occasion could become a more family-friendly event.

Herrmann and Paul had no players, and their new gym was still in the beginning stages of construction, but they were determined to hold their own event, which they dubbed Young Harris Hysteria. On the evening of Friday, Oct. 16, the coaches held tryouts for their respective squads and used the event to tell students about opportunities that exist with the program, from positions as student managers to office assistants to possibly a spot on the team itself. The bleachers at Dobbs-McEachern Recreation Center



Young Harris College hosted a Coaches Luncheon on Nov. 9 at The Ridges Resort in Hiawassee to formally introduce the College's new basketball coaches to local alumni and the community. Civic leaders, media representatives and former YHC basketball players had a chance to hear from men's basketball head coach Pete Herrmann and women's basketball head coach Brenda Paul and celebrate the return of basketball to Young Harris College.

Pictured with men's basketball head coach Pete Herrmann (third from right) are (from left) former YHC basketball players and alumni Charles White, '56, Jack Lance, '57, Vaughn Green, '59, Bob Short, '51, Terry McCollum, '56, Bill Roberts, '52, Phil Meadows, '62, and Ed Jenkins, '51.



what day I wanted to start the season on next year, and I asked, 'What day will allow the most students to attend the game?' So, we're looking at opening on a Monday night. How much fun is that going to be? Our first graduating class of seniors at Young

Harris will be able to cheer on their own basketball team for the first time."

The hysteria continues to grow. Basketball is back at Young Harris College. Just don't expect Pete Herrmann and Brenda Paul to quit building any time soon.

were packed once again as Herrmann and Paul put the men and women through the workout.

Attendance was solid at the event, with spectators from campus and the community filling the bleachers and spilling over onto the floor. The coaches were thrilled with the number of prospective players who turned out, too.

"This is a much larger group of women here than I thought would turn out," Paul said. "This is just tremendous. I've coached at the Division I and Division II levels and have had many tryouts like this, and I've never had this many players come out."

The coaches stressed the importance of student participation in the program, telling them that there is a place for everyone with

the team.

"We need you to be involved with this basketball program," Herrmann said. "Whether it's as a student manager, an office assistant or an athletic trainer; maybe you have an interest in coaching and would like to be a student assistant; or as a fan cheering for your team, we need you."

"Students are what this program is all about," he continued. "I was asked

YHC head coaches Brenda Paul and Pete Herrmann check out the progress on the student recreation and fitness center, future home to their women's and men's basketball teams.



Paul Chosen

TO LEAD WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Brenda Paul, a member of the Northeast Georgia Sports Hall of Fame with three decades of head coaching experience at several levels of college basketball, has been selected as the new women's basketball coach. Young Harris College President Cathy Cox and Athletics Director Eric Geldart announced on Sept. 15.

"We are excited to announce that Coach Brenda Paul will be leading our women's basketball program, and her engaging personality will surely be an asset as she recruits young women to play for Young Harris College," President Cox said. "Our search committee was doubly impressed by her commitment to assuring that her players are good student-athletes by putting a strong emphasis on academics as well as athletics."

Geldart said Paul's experience will be an asset to the new program.

"Coach Paul brings extensive experience to the basketball position at Young Harris College," Geldart said. "Her Southeast recruiting background will give us a great start with our program. She has coached at all levels and recognizes the talent level needed to build a competitive program."

Working with leaders such as President Cox and Geldart was one of the reasons Paul pursued the position. Another was the opportunity to start the women's basketball program from the ground up.

"I am so impressed with the

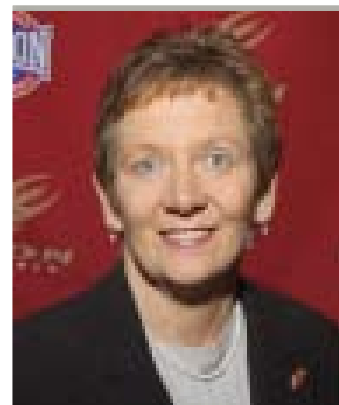
dynamic leadership at Young Harris College," Paul said. "President Cox is very motivated, and her energy is felt all over campus. The college is moving forward with an aggressive agenda that includes constructing state-of-the-art buildings and new degree programs, and I am excited to be a part of that. It's an honor to join the faculty and staff at Young Harris during this historic period of growth at the college."

"Building a new program from the beginning is exciting because we are laying the groundwork. This first team will be the one that starts the tradition that future teams will build upon."

The tradition of women's basketball in the area is already well known throughout the state, a definite advantage for YHC's program, according to Paul.

"This is a great area to build a women's basketball program, and I want to start building right here in northeast Georgia," Paul said. "I'll be knocking on doors of coaches in the surrounding counties, and I really want them to be a part of what we are doing."

Paul has kept that promise, spending much of her time since joining Young Harris College on the road recruiting and building relationships with local coaches. She has also displayed her energy during speaking engagements and in interviews with different media outlets. She even had President Cox join her on a radio program based out of Charleston, S.C., broadening name recognition for both the College and Paul's team.



Bobby Cremins, the head men's basketball coach at the College of Charleston who is the winningest coach in Georgia Tech history and led the Yellow Jackets to the 1990 Final Four, believes YHC picked a winner when it selected Paul to take charge of the women's basketball program.

"I got to know Brenda personally when she would bring her Elon teams to play the College of Charleston," Cremins said. "I always enjoyed watching Brenda's teams play, and I admire her enthusiasm. I'm glad she's back in coaching."

Randy Dunn, athletics director at North Georgia College and State University, agreed with Cremins.

"I have known Brenda Paul for almost 35 years, and she is not only a great coach, but she is a great person," Dunn said. "Her positive attitude, dedication to the coaching profession, tremendous work ethic and commitment to the student-athletes are second to none. Brenda will be a tremendous asset to both the College and community."

Paul, a Flowery Branch native, will enter her first season as Young Harris College's coach needing just nine victories to reach the 450 mark for her career, which dates back to the 1978-79 season, her first of two seasons at Tennessee Wesleyan College.

Paul's most previous coaching stint came at Elon University, where she was the head coach from 1994–2008, guiding the Phoenix from NCAA Division II to Division I. Her 14 years at the helm of the Elon program makes her the longest-tenured coach in the school's women's basketball history. While there, Elon played in three different conferences, moving from the Division II South Atlantic Conference to the Division I Big South and on to another Division I league, the Southern Conference.

While Paul's Elon teams found success on the court, reaching tournament championship games in both the South Atlantic and Big South conferences, they were just as successful in the classroom. Under Paul's guidance, every senior that completed her eligibility at Elon earned a degree.

Paul came to Elon after coaching at Georgia State University from 1989–94 and, before that, at Mississippi State University from 1985–89. While at MSU, she took a Lady Bulldogs team that went 8–20 her first year

and turned it into one with a 19–13 mark in 1987–88, the best single-season record in the program's history. That season, MSU reached the postseason for the first time and Paul was the runner-up for the Southeastern Conference's Coach of the Year award.

Prior to taking over the Mississippi State program, Paul coached one of the nation's top small-college programs at Berry College. From 1980–85, her Lady Vikings squads put together a combined 139–28 record and won the district championship every year. While on the Rome, Ga., campus, Paul led her team to three top-eight NAIA National Tournament finishes, including semifinal appearances in both 1982 and 1984. Eight of her Berry players earned All-American honors.

Paul began her college coaching career in 1978, leading Tennessee Wesleyan to a two-year record of 28–21.

In 2004, she was inducted

into the inaugural class of the Northeast Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

Paul is a 1977 graduate of North Georgia College (now North Georgia College and State University).



ATHLETICS ADDS

Sports Information Director

Mickey Seward joined Young Harris College in July as the College's first-ever sports information director. He is responsible for distributing information to the media, the YHC community, and the public for Young Harris College's 12 intercollegiate athletics teams. Seward manages the athletics department's Web site, www.yhc.edu/yhcathletics, and other online presences, including the new YHC Athletics Fan Page on Facebook®: “**Young Harris College Athletics.**” He also leads the department's publications efforts.

Seward has been the director of sports information

and promotions at Berry College in Rome, Ga., as well as the sports information director at the University of Texas at Arlington, and served as assistant SID at UT-Arlington and Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, Calif. In 2000, Seward was the press officer for USA Baseball's National Team. He has been honored for his writing by the College Sports Information Directors of America and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.



Mickey Seward

Herrmann Selected

TO LEAD MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Pete Herrmann, who coached a United States Naval Academy team led by David Robinson into the NCAA Tournament and took over as interim head coach at the University of Georgia for the final 12 games last season, has been selected to lead the new men's basketball program. Young Harris College President Cathy Cox and Director of Athletics Eric Geldart announced on September 8.

Herrmann and the Mountain Lions will tip off their first season in four decades in 2010-11.

"We are extremely pleased to have Coach Pete Herrmann join us to lead our new men's basketball program," President Cox said. "Coach Herrmann brings a wealth of experience, and it is a coup for Young Harris College to attract someone of his caliber to bring back the success of Young Harris' nationally recognized program of decades past."

Geldart echoed President Cox's thoughts.

"We are very fortunate to be able to add to our athletics staff a basketball coach that brings to Young Harris College the experience, knowledge and recruiting capabilities as those of Coach Pete Herrmann," Geldart said. "I strongly feel that he is the right person to lead our basketball program."

For Herrmann, the opportunity to build a new program from the ground floor was too exciting to pass up.

"It's going to be exciting to go into homes when I'm recruiting and tell student-athletes and their parents, 'You're going to build this with me,'" Herrmann said. "It will be fun to meet with faculty, staff and students, as well as alumni, community members and business leaders and tell them the same thing. I'm looking forward to getting the best players and people we can for Young Harris College. I believe winning comes from strong character and work ethic."

"I'm really excited about the challenge and the opportunity to work with a great group of people that starts at the top with President Cox and Coach Geldart," Herrmann said. "Everybody I've met is committed to making this a terrific program at a terrific institution."

Since his hiring, Herrmann has tirelessly promoted Young Harris College and the basketball program, speaking at events and appearing on radio interviews. He's also spent a large chunk of his time on the recruiting trail. Herrmann also spent a few days with the Charlotte Bobcats of the National Basketball Association as they prepared for the season, and again before the Bobcats played the Atlanta Hawks. Herrmann and Bobcats coach Larry Brown have been friends for years.

Herrmann spent the past six seasons as the associate head coach at Georgia, and finished his tenure there as the Bulldogs' interim



head coach. UGA advanced to the NCAA Tournament in 2008 after winning the Southeastern Conference Tournament, claiming three victories in a span of 30 hours, including wins over SEC powers Kentucky and Mississippi State on the same day. In 2009, Herrmann guided a young UGA team to victories over Kentucky, Florida and Vanderbilt during his brief term as interim head coach.

Damon Evans, Georgia's athletics director, said Herrmann brings several intangible qualities that, combined with his coaching ability, will be beneficial to Young Harris.

"Pete brings a lot of experience and knowledge to this position," Evans said. "More importantly, he understands how to develop young men both academically and athletically."

"He is the perfect choice to re-establish men's basketball at Young Harris. He has devoted his professional life to serving higher education and the young men entrusted to him at those institutions at which he coached. I am confident that the students, faculty, staff, and alumni will quickly embrace him and support him in this endeavor."

Herrmann was the head coach at Navy from 1986-92, taking

over the ship prior to Robinson's senior season.

His first squad went on to win the Colonial Athletic Association championship and advance to the NCAA Tournament, and Robinson was the consensus National Player of the Year. Herrmann joined Robinson in Springfield, Mass., on Sept. 11 for Robinson's induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame alongside Michael Jordan and John Stockton.

"Pete was one of my earliest coaches," Robinson said. "I only played one year of high school ball and wasn't very experienced. Pete and Paul Evans, our head coach my first three years at the Academy, were great as far as teaching me the basics, and helping me understand the game and my role as a leader.

"Pete brings a lot of experience on the national stage to the program there," he continued. "He definitely knows how to put together a team in a positive way. When you are starting a new program, even more important than wins and losses is building a team that will make the college proud. Pete will do that."

Herrmann joined the Navy staff in 1980, serving as an assistant until he was promoted to head coach in 1986.

In between his time at Navy and Georgia, Herrmann was an

assistant at Kansas State from 1992-94; an assistant at Virginia from 1994-96 and an assistant at Western Kentucky from 1998-2003.

In all, he has been on the bench as either a head coach or an assistant in nine NCAA Tournaments, including in 1986 with Navy and 1995 with Virginia, which each reached the Elite Eight. The 1994 Kansas State squad reached the NIT Final Four.

Prior to his 29 years as a coach on the NCAA Division I level, Herrmann spent 10 years coaching at the high school and Division III levels.

Herrmann graduated from the State University of New York at Geneseo in 1970. As a student-

athlete, he was a member of the baseball and basketball teams, twice earning team Most Valuable Player honors on the diamond. Herrmann was inducted into the school's athletics hall of fame in 1990.

Herrmann will be the first men's basketball coach at Young Harris since Luke Rushton, a YHC legend who led the Mountain Lions from 1948 until the sport was discontinued in 1969. Rushton's teams won six state championships and made two National Junior College Tournament appearances. The 1962 team was the nation's top-ranked team for much of the year.

Herrmann flashed his trademark sense of humor when told he would be the school's first coach in four decades.

"I was just starting my career in basketball when Young Harris was ending basketball," he said, chuckling.

"Hopefully, I've learned enough over that 40 year span that will help us build something special again at Young Harris College."



Mark Your Calendars!

The Young Harris College men's and women's basketball teams will play their first home games in the new student recreation and fitness center on Monday, Nov. 15, vs. North Georgia College and State University.

New Faculty Athletics Rep

COMBINES PASSION FOR ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS

BY MICKEY SEWARD

With Young Harris College in the application process for NCAA Division II status, Young Harris College President Cathy Cox appointed the College's first faculty athletics representative last spring. The position is being filled by Jennifer S. Hallett, Ph.D., an assistant professor of communication studies who joined YHC in 2008.

In her new role, Dr. Hallett provides oversight and advice in the administration of Young Harris College's athletics department. She will also be involved in the assurance of the academic integrity of the athletics department and the well-being of YHC's student-athletes.

"Basically, the faculty athletics rep has several roles, each very different depending on the population she serves," Dr. Hallett said. "For student-athletes, it means that I pay attention to their scheduling, grades and attendance for individual classes, and overall academic success.

"For coaches and faculty, I serve as a liaison to communicate athletics and academic scheduling information to both parties, and to negotiate conflicts when they occur.

"For the campus, I serve as a representative to the NCAA, and to the president and athletics director I serve as an advisor about policy related to academics and athletics."

Dr. Hallett began her association

with college athletics as a volunteer tutor and mentor when she was a professor at the University of South Florida. Eventually, she became an academic advisor for the volleyball and baseball teams at USF, serving in that role for just over a year.

That experience gave her an opportunity to combine two passions.

"I learned all about compliance and academics in the NCAA, and that information, combined with my role as a professor, gave me a strong working knowledge of the juxtaposition of academics and athletics," she said. "Traveling with the baseball team gave me added insight into the unique challenges faced by student-athletes in their dual roles.

"My love of sports and love of learning were formally joined for the first time."

After coming to Young Harris College, she immediately showed an interest in becoming part of the college's NCAA transition team, and was added to the group as a faculty representative in 2008.

"When our research revealed that the faculty athletics representative position was required for NCAA membership, I was one of several people considered, primarily because of my previous experience as an academic working in athletics," Dr. Hallett said.

Dr. Hallett's own experience as an athlete dates back to her days as

Dr. Jennifer Hallett



an eight-year-old playing youth softball, and then later, soccer. She continued playing soccer through high school, but says she never knew she could pursue both athletic and academic endeavors as a college student.

Not content to just sit on the sidelines, Dr. Hallett resumed her athletic career, albeit in a less-than-conventional sport for adults. She played in a kickball league in Atlanta. While she had a lot of fun, she was also introduced to a dark side of athletics: injuries.

"That experience gave me my first serious sports injury: a sprained MCL and torn ACL for which I had surgery and am currently in recovery," she said.

Despite the difficulties of traversing the College's hilly terrain with crutches, Dr. Hallett is exactly where she wants to be.

"The ability to be associated with YHC as we have transitioned from a two-year to a four-year college, and during our transition from the NJCAA to the NCAA, is something about which I am incredibly enthusiastic," she said. "There is no better way to create well-rounded young men and women than by marrying the demands of a college education and intercollegiate athletics. That I can be part of that on both sides of the fence is a dream come true."

SIX FORMER MOUNTAIN LIONS

Selected in MLB Draft; Three Sign Contracts

Former Young Harris College infielders Derrick Lowery, '09, and Matt Sanders, '07, and pitcher Will Harvil, '07, who each signed professional contracts following the college season, were among six former YHC players selected in the 2009 Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft in June.

Lowery, who played for Young Harris College in 2008 and 2009, signed with the Cincinnati Reds after he was selected in the 24th round by the organization. As a sophomore with the Mountain Lions, Lowery hit .431 with 17 home runs and 87 runs batted in (RBIs), helping lead the team to a 44-12 overall record. After signing with the Reds, he played one game for the Billings (Mont.) Mustangs of the Class A short season Pioneer League and 15 games with the Reds' rookie-level team in the Gulf Coast League.

Sanders, a Mountain Lion during the 2006 and 2007 seasons, was chosen by the Colorado Rockies in the 41st round. He transferred to Clemson University from YHC, hitting .295 with three home runs and 20 RBIs as a senior this past spring. Sanders was assigned to the Tri-City Dust Devils of the Class A short season Northwest League, where he played 18 games.

Harvil was a YHC teammate of Sanders in 2006 and 2007 before transferring to the University of Georgia, and joined Sanders on YHC's 2007 Junior College World Series team. The right hander was selected in the 32nd round by the Arizona Diamondbacks after going 4-3 with a 3.54 earned run average (ERA) as a senior in 2009. Harvil, who helped UGA to the championship series of the College World Series in 2008, was assigned to the Yakima Bears of the Northwest League, putting together a 2-2 record with one save and a 3.34 ERA in 21 appearances.

Also selected by big league teams but choosing instead to transfer to NCAA Division I schools were 2009 Mountain Lions Eric Swegman, '09, Bryson Smith, '09, and Kenny Swab, '09. Swegman was drafted in the 28th round by the Atlanta Braves after going 7-2 with a 4.59 ERA for YHC this past spring, but elected to honor his scholarship commitment to Georgia. Smith was the national junior college Player of the Year in 2009, hitting .467 with 21 home runs and 90 RBIs. A 30th-round draft pick of the Cleveland Indians, Smith is now playing third base at the University of Florida. Swab hit .342 with six home runs and 59 RBIs and was drafted by the Reds in the 48th round. He elected to continue his college career at the University of Virginia.

With Lowery, Sanders and Harvil moving on to pro ball, Young Harris College has now seen 34 of its former players sign professional contracts since 1997. Nick Markakis, '03, Billy Buckner, '03, and Callix Crabbe, '02, have all reached the Major Leagues.



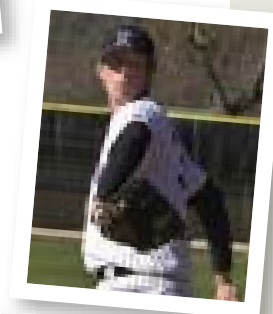
Derrick Lowery, '09



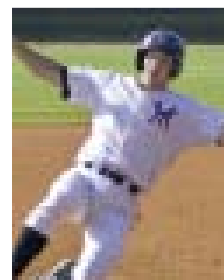
Matt Sanders, '07



Will Harvil, '07



Eric Swegman, '09



Bryson Smith, '09



Kenny Swab, '09

2009 Clay Dotson Open a Success!



Golfers participating in the Young Harris College Clay Dotson Open Golf Tournament enjoyed cool weather on Monday, May 11, when they gathered at Brasstown Valley Resort for some friendly competition in a united effort to raise scholarship funds for students

at Young Harris College. Morning and afternoon flights were well attended, with approximately 170 golfers turning out for the annual event. Prizes were awarded to competitors for low net and low gross categories in each flight. New for 2009, the tournament included

an Alumni Team Challenge with a special prize for the alumni team with the lowest score. Nearly \$50,000 was raised to benefit student scholarships.

PRIZES WERE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

MORNING FLIGHT:

Overall Gross: Greg Young, Chris Robbins, Danny Hemphill, Bo Wright (United Community Bank Team)

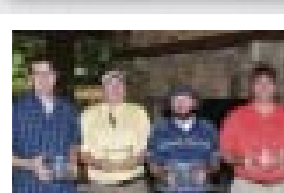
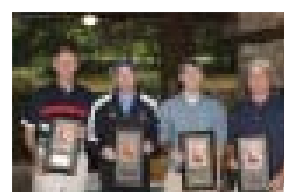
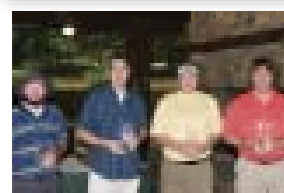
Overall Net: Greg Chitwood, Dwayne Long, Jeff Kiser, Charlie West (KOR Systems Team)

Flight 1 Champion: Richard York, Chris Jabaley, J.D. McGuirt, Eddie Alexander (Bank of Hiawassee, Blairsville and Blue Ridge Team)

Flight 2 Champion: Ron Christopher, Jo Stone, Wade Benson, Hugh Torbit (Benefit Support/CMA Agency Team)

Closest to the pin: Lawrence McNabb

Longest drive: Cary Cox



AFTERNOON FLIGHT:

Overall Gross: Mark Williams, Dave Pittman, Marvin Davenport, Dale Rentz (Cork-Howard Construction Team)

Overall Net: Matthew Mashburn, Reid Dyer, Scott Rich, Micky Youngblood

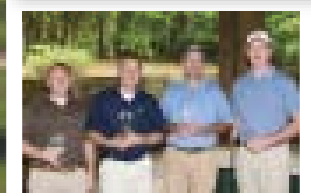
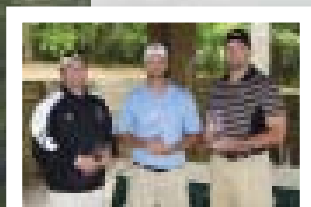
Flight 1 Champion: Geoff Elliott, Jeff Tapley, Mark Martin, Ricky Harbison (Metalite Team)

Flight 2 Champion: Clint Hobbs, Marvin McArthur, Jeff Kelley, Colton Payne

Closest to the pin: Bud Akins (Brasstown Snappers Team)

Longest drive: Marvin Davenport (Cork-Howard Construction Team)

Alumni Challenge Winners: Matthew Mashburn, Reid Dyer, Scott Rich, Micky Youngblood



2009 CLAY DOTSON OPEN SPONSORS:

A&A Auto Rental
 Appalachian Community Bank
 Aramark
 ArtBytes, Inc.
 Bank of Hiawassee
 Benefit Support, Inc./CMA
 Agency
 BKR Metcalf Davis
 Blue Ridge Mountain EMC
 Brailsford & Dunlavey
 Brasstown Valley Resort
 Carl Patterson Carpet Sales
 Cisco
 Cork-Howard
 Cornerstone Management, Inc.
 Cox & Son Roofing, Inc.
 Custom Home Painting
 Duplicating Products, Inc.
 ECK Supply
 Furby Tree Service
 G. Ben Turnipseed Engineers
 GA FL United Methodist FCU
 Gainesville Janitor Supply, Inc.
 Hardin Construction
 Hayes, James & Associates
 Blue Ridge, Georgia

Henry and Amy
 Huckaby
 Heritage Propane
 KOR Systems
 Kurt Momand '77
 and Heather
 Momand '08
 Mann Mechanical
 Company, Inc.
 Nantahala Bank,
 Hayesville
 Nelnex Business
 Solutions, Inc.
 Perkins + Will
 Prime, Buchholz &
 Associates
 Roswell Drywall
 Southern Highlands
 Mortgage
 State Street Global Advisors
 The Oconee Group
 Towns County Lions Club
 Tri-State Utility Products,
 Inc.
 United Community Bank
 Ware Chevrolet
 Wolf Creek Broadcasting



Dr. Clay Dotson and Young Harris College President Cathy Cox welcome tournament participants prior to the shotgun start.



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN

Supports Local Students

More than 155 students from the surrounding counties of Towns, Union, Fannin and Gilmer in Georgia and Cherokee and Clay in North Carolina are currently enrolled at Young Harris College. During the 2009–2010 academic year, more than \$1.3 million will be awarded by the College to local students from these counties.

Reflecting a commitment by the College and the local community to these students, the Local Scholarship Campaign was established to raise funds to support the educational goals of local students at Young Harris College.

The Young Harris College Board of Associates, a 29-member group of local business and civic leaders who serve as ambassadors for the College as

well as a sounding board for the community, leads this effort. Each fall the Board of Associates launches the annual Local Scholarship Campaign in an effort to assist in providing aid to the students coming to Young Harris College from these six communities. Led by board chair Rick Davenport of Rick's Rental in Blairsville, the board set a goal of \$70,000 to be raised by June 2010.

Students like Julie Kelley, a sophomore allied health major from Union County, benefit from the scholarship money raised. “By receiving support from the Local Scholarship program, I have been able to stay close to home to attend college. I was not ready to move somewhere else for college, and I don’t think

Sophomore Julie Kelley



Sophomore
Kendric McDonald



I would have achieved as much if I had moved away to a bigger school. This is home for me,” she said.

Sophomore Kendric McDonald, an education major from Cherokee County, N.C., said, “My scholarship has meant a lot to both me and my parents. When deciding which college to attend, cost was a determining factor. Thanks to the Local Scholarship Campaign, I was able to attend the college of my choice and play baseball at Young Harris College.”

If you would like to contribute to the 2009–2010 Local Scholarship Campaign, contact the Young Harris College Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173 or make a gift online at www.yhc.edu.



2009-2010 BOARD OF ASSOCIATES



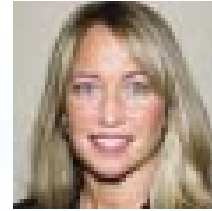
Rick Davenport, Chair
Rick's Rental
Blairsville, GA



Matthew Akins
Blue Ridge Mountain EMC
Young Harris, GA



P.J. Bair
Sunflower Antiques & Interiors
Hiawassee, GA



Jennifer Bell
United Community Bank
Murphy, NC



Keith Caudell
Bank of Hiawassee
Blairsville, GA



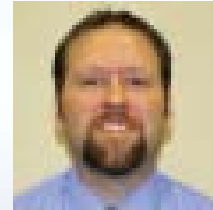
Mary Colwell
Civic Leader
Blairsville, GA



Nita Elliott
Cadence Bank
Blairsville, GA



Robert "Bob" Head '59
Head Westgate Corporation
Blairsville, GA



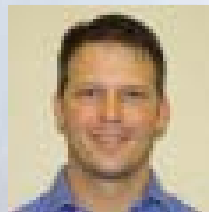
Jeremy Henderson
Branch Banking and Trust
Blue Ridge, GA and Murphy, NC



Charles Jenkins
Civic Leader
Blairsville, GA



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



Phillip Ledford
Nantahala Bank & Trust
Murphy, NC



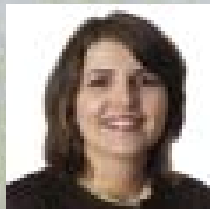
Kuy Lim
Asiano
Hiawassee, GA



Jennifer Dyer Ludlum '91
Union County High School
Blairsville, GA



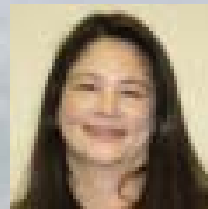
Mikellah Davis Makepeace '97
Wolf Creek Broadcasting
Young Harris, GA



Marla Kephart Mashburn
United Community Bank
Hayesville, NC



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



Stephanie W. McConnell '92
Stephanie W. McConnell, PC
Hiawassee, GA



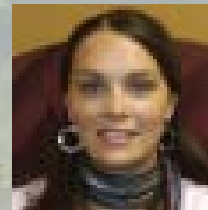
Brian Mundy
Mundy's Heating & Air Conditioning
Murphy, NC



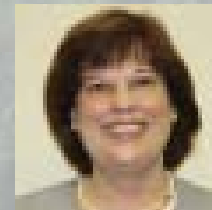
W.C. Nelson '63
Nelson Tractor Company
Blairsville, GA



Greg Owenby
North Georgia Stone
Blairsville, GA



McKenzie Davis Payne '00
Patterson & Hansford Law Firm
Hiawassee, GA



Elizabeth Pedine
Cadence Bank
Blairsville, GA

NOT PICTURED:

Mary Ackerly
Civic Leader
Hayesville, NC

Kenya L. Patton '94
Kenya L. Patton, PC
Blairsville, GA

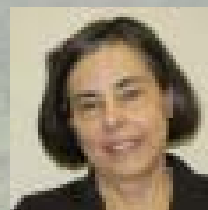
Tony Stewart
Walmart
Blairsville, GA



Toby Swartz
Re/Max Around the Mountains
Blairsville, GA



Jamie Tallent
United Community Bank
Ellijay, GA



Holly Tiger
Anderson's and Tiger's stores
Hiawassee, GA and Hayesville, NC

Remembering Grace

GRACE CRUM ROLLINS | SEPTEMBER 22, 1910 - AUGUST 8, 2009

BY MARY BOOTH THOMAS

Grace Crum Rollins was a quiet, unassuming woman. She loved to garden and paint. She was a philanthropist who believed in the value of education, and with her husband O. Wayne Rollins, generously supported Young Harris College and other institutions of higher education throughout the South.

Mrs. Rollins passed away in August at age 98. She was preceded in death by her husband who was a member of the Young Harris Board of Trustees from 1970 until his death in 1991.

"She was a great example of the saying that the clocks that tick the loudest don't always keep the best time. She was a quiet woman who never called much attention to herself and lived by what she believed in. Family, children, and education were very important to her," said the Reverend Dr. Donald Harp Jr., '61, her friend and minister emeritus at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta, where Grace and her husband were members.

Although she was married for more than 60 years to one of the most successful businessmen in the country, the Tennessee native never forgot her roots and often remarked that she was 'just a woman who was born in the mountains,' Dr. Harp recalled.

When asked to describe her life, Mrs. Rollins said her roles as wife



"She was devoted to her family, a strong believer in education, and she gave generously"

and mother were her most important achievements.

"She was devoted to her family, a strong believer in education, and she gave generously," he added.

The name Rollins is a familiar one on the Young Harris College campus.

Wayne and Grace Rollins were generous donors to the College for many years, and their support continues today through the Rollins family and the Rollins Foundation.

Wayne Rollins was a long-time supporter of Young Harris College where his uncle Frank Rollins studied for the ministry. Even before the couple moved to the Atlanta

area in 1965, Wayne set up a scholarship program at YHC and appointed his uncle to manage it, to select the recipients and monitor their performance.

When he joined the Young Harris College Board of Trustees in 1970, he looked for ways to boost enrollment at YHC and hit on the idea of a planetarium, according to his biography by Margaret O. Kirk, "to make the college a little more outstanding, to make it attract people and contribute to the area around it."

In 1976, Mr. and Mrs. Rollins pledged money to build the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium and set up a fund to maintain the planetarium, as well as the Maxwell Science Center where it is housed, in perpetuity.

When it opened in 1979, O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium was equipped with state-of-the-art technology and was the only planetarium located in north Georgia. In 2008, the Rollins Foundation made a major gift to upgrade the planetarium with the latest in digital video technology.

The couple pledged funds to construct the Rollins Residence Hall in 1985 and to renovate the Grace Rollins Dining Hall in 1989.

Wayne received the President's Medallion, Young Harris College's highest honor, in 1984 in recognition of his generous contributions and his work on



Left: Grace Rollins Dining Hall
Above: O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium

behalf of YHC. Grace was awarded the President's Medallion in 1993 for her continuing support of the College.

Grace often accompanied her husband to YHC board meetings and other events and enjoyed activities on campus with the other spouses.

After Wayne died, she kept up with her contacts at YHC, and the Rollins Foundation continued its generous support of the College.

Her family continues to be involved at Young Harris College, and granddaughter Pam Rollins Henritze serves on the Young Harris College Board of Trustees.

Grace met Wayne in church, and the couple married during the Great Depression. They settled in Chattanooga, Tenn., then moved to Delaware, where Wayne joined his brother John in business. He soon purchased a radio station in Virginia and founded Rollins Broadcasting, which later became Rollins, Inc.

Wayne Rollins, whom *Forbes* magazine named one of the nation's greatest businessmen, attributed his business successes to his wife's unwavering support.

When the couple moved to

Atlanta, they became major supporters of Emory University, contributing funds for the O. Wayne Rollins Research Center and the 10-story Grace Crum Rollins Public Health Building, home of the Rollins School of Public Health.

The couple also supported Berry College in Rome, Ga., and gave generously to Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, where

Grace and her husband remained dedicated, active members.

"Her caretaker would always bring her to church if her family was out of town as long as her health allowed it. The last couple of years, she wasn't able to get out," Dr. Harp said.

Her survivors include two sons, Randall Rollins and Gary Rollins, 10 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.



YOUNG HARRIS ANNUAL FUND

Building a Strong Foundation



Young Harris College is on possibly the most ambitious journey in its 123-year history. As your beloved alma mater continues to grow and inspire a new generation as a baccalaureate degree-granting college, facility and programming improvements must continue to be made at an accelerated rate.

Your contribution to the Young Harris Annual Fund provides the critical resources that are necessary to attract the best and brightest students who otherwise may not be able to choose Young Harris College without scholarship assistance. Gifts from alumni, parents and friends go directly toward student scholarships, technology upgrades, facility improvements and programming enhancements so that Young Harris College can continue to educate, inspire and empower tomorrow's leaders.

Please use the enclosed envelope to designate your contribution to the Young Harris Annual Fund or make a gift online today at www.yhc.edu.

Unified Alumni Organization Named

Following the signing of a formal agreement on Nov. 24, 2008, between the Young Harris College Board of Trustees and the Young Harris Alumni Foundation, representatives from both organizations began important work to merge the two organizations into one, including merging countless files and records.

The new alumni organization was officially introduced to crowds of enthusiastic alumni as the **Young Harris College Alumni Association** at Homecoming in July.

In addition, a Board of Directors was named for the new alumni organization to govern the organization going forward. The Board of Directors is made up of 20 alumni of Young Harris College. The Board has been at work, having already met several times since their appointment, on issues important to alumni.

Young Harris College Alumni Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carol Chastain, '84, President Young Harris, Ga.	Candler Ginn, '77 Cartersville, Ga.	Rob Murray, '75 Young Harris, Ga.
Lita Tipton Barnette, '85 Clarkesville, Ga.	Sylvia McCoy Hutchinson, '58 Athens, Ga.	Ed Nichols, '60 Clarkesville, Ga.
Rufus Brown, '60 Gainesville, Ga.	Ceil Jarrett, '75 Berkeley Lake, Ga.	Linda Lee Boleyn Saye, '61 Atlanta, Ga.
Richard Burrell, '47 Lilburn, Ga.	Brian Johnson, '94 Atlanta, Ga.	Michele Turner, '95 Athens, Ga.
Bud Clegg, '55 Dahlonega, Ga.	Bill Johnston, '75 Atlanta, Ga.	Jessamy Brown Vining, '95 Gainesville, Ga.
Jared Downs, '96 Savannah, Ga.	Jan Biggers Keith, '69 Atlanta, Ga.	Barbara Marshall Williford, '87 Marietta, Ga.
Ron Hinson, '76 Atlanta, Ga.	Shirley Carver Miller, '54 Young Harris, Ga.	

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 • or alumni@yhc.edu

1940s

U. S. CONGRESSMAN JACK THOMAS BRINKLEY, '49, represented Young Harris College at the inauguration of Dr. Tim Mescon as president of Columbus State University on Aug. 16, 2009.

JUDGE DAN WINN, '40, a retired Senior Judge of the Superior Courts of Georgia has co-authored *D-Day Japan* with Gen. Raymond Davis, Medal of Honor recipient, and past assistant commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. The book documents the 30 million Chinese and Southeast Asian civilians killed by the Japanese prior to and after the Japanese surrender. It is a comprehensive analysis of how the Nov. 1, 1945, invasion of Japan would have been different had the atomic bomb (V-J Day) not occurred.

1950s

DR. JOHN W. KAY, '56, represented Young Harris College at the presidential inauguration of Timothy C. Tennent, Ph.D., '79, at Asbury Theological Seminary on Nov. 9, 2009.

1960s

CHARLES W. CLOWDIS JR., '64, of HIS Global Insight, Inc.'s Commerce & Transport Advisory Services was a featured speaker at two important transport conferences this fall. He spoke at the Southeast Freight Conference in Charlotte, N.C., Sept. 28-30. Clowdis was a member of a four-person panel discussion moderated by FOX News' Stuart Varney at the 2009 Management Conference and Exhibition of the American Trucking Association, in Las Vegas, Oct. 2-7, 2009. He was also a featured speaker at HIS Global Insight's distinguished annual World Economic Outlook Conference in Boston in Oct. He currently resides in Monteagle, Tenn., and Boston, Mass.

MARGARET GREER DAVIS, '66, is married and lives in Auburn, Ala. She has two adult children. She is a special education teacher at Auburn Junior High and an academic aide with the Auburn University Athletic Department.

DAVID MULLINS, '61, and **MARGARET OWENBY MULLINS**, '60, long-time owners of The Little Store, enjoyed a trip out west in Oct. 2009.

1970s

RON H. RABUN, '74, who has served as a city and county manager for more than 25 years in Georgia, Florida, the Carolinas and the Pacific Northwest, has been serving since 2007 as a part of the civilian surge in Iraq as a legal/governance advisor, working with Iraqi civilians, government officials and embedded U.S. military units to complete reconstruction projects and to improve governance at various levels. He is a former member of the U.S. military and is presently serving as a contractor with the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development.

1980s

G. ANDREW PAGE, '85, received his Ph.D. in education with an emphasis on instructional technology and research methods from the University of Georgia in 2004, then accepted a position as an assistant professor at the University of Alaska-Anchorage, where he has been teaching for approximately six years. His research interests include the diffusion of

emerging and assistive technologies and their effective use in an educational context. He co-wrote a National Science Foundation grant in 2008 to link classrooms in Alaska with their counterparts in Tasmania and took 12 Alaska educators to Tasmania for workshops on information and communication technologies and the construction of knowledge through cross-hemispheric collaboration. He is working on a conceptual model so that any classroom could transcend the boundaries of time, space and language to communicate with other similar classrooms from around the world to construct and collaborate learning together. He is married to Sharon Wood-Page and has two daughters, Morgan and Lauren.

1990s

REVEREND D. THAD HAYGOOD JR., '92, of Perry, Ga., represented Young Harris College at the inauguration of Dr. W. Michael Stoy as president of Middle Georgia College on Nov. 9, 2009.

STEVEN LANCE LEDBETTER, '96, received a Grammy Award in Feb. 2009 as producer of the Historical Album of the Year for *Art of Field Recording Volume I*. The four-CD

(Continued on page 57)

CARTER ELECTED TO STATE SENATE

Young Harris College Trustee and State Representative Earl "Buddy" Carter, '77, was elected to the Georgia State Senate in a Nov. 4 special election to fill the seat vacated by Eric Johnson, who is running for governor.

He was elected to the Young Harris College Board of Trustees in 2001.

Carter, a resident of Pooler, had been a member of the Georgia House of Representatives since 2004, representing District 159, and served five terms as mayor of Pooler from 1996 to 2004. He previously was mayor pro tem of Pooler and served on the Pooler planning commission.

In the Georgia House of Representatives, Carter was secretary of the Health and Human Services Committee and a member

of the Appropriations, Economic Development and Industrial Relations committees. He was appointed to the special committee on Certificate of Need by Speaker of the House Glenn Richardson.

When he takes office in January, Carter will be the only practicing pharmacist in the Georgia Senate.

A native of the Savannah area, Carter received his associate of science degree from Young Harris College and went on to study pharmacy at the University of Georgia, graduating in 1980.

While he was at Young Harris College, Carter met his wife, the former Amy Coppage, '76, of Waycross, a registered physical therapist and graduate of Medical College of Georgia.

The couple have three children, Barrett, Joel and Travis.

Alumnus Elected Seminary President

BY MARY BOOTH THOMAS

Timothy Craig Tennent, Ph.D., '79, was inaugurated as the eighth president of Asbury Theological Seminary on Nov. 9.

He credits his years at Young Harris College with having a strong influence on the course of his life.

"My years at Young Harris College were among the most formative years of my life. There, nestled in the mountains of north Georgia, I discovered high academic standards, a committed faculty and a wonderful Christian community.

"It was everything one could hope for in an undergraduate education. I would not be where I am today if not for the mentoring I received at Young Harris College," he said.

ALUMNI SERVICES CREATES YOUNG ALUMNI COUNCIL

Today, young alumni make up 25 percent of Young Harris College's overall alumni body. The importance of accepting, encouraging and developing the talents and resources of this young alumni demographic will be key to continued success in promoting Young Harris College and connecting Young Harris alumni with one another.

The Office of Alumni Services hopes to produce more great activities and communication pieces specifically targeted at young alumni.

The Young Alumni Council will serve Young Harris College by planning young alumni gatherings and programs and always creating opportunities to encourage alumni to stay connected and involved with Young Harris College.

Nominations and applications for membership on the Council are currently being accepted. All interested alumni are encouraged to apply. The first meeting will take place on campus in January 2010.

On July 1, Dr. Tennent took office as president of Asbury Theological Seminary, a private graduate school with an enrollment of more than 1,600 students on three campuses.

Dr. Tennent was previously professor of world missions and Indian studies at Gordon-Conwell Seminary in South Hamilton, Mass., where he had served for 11 years.

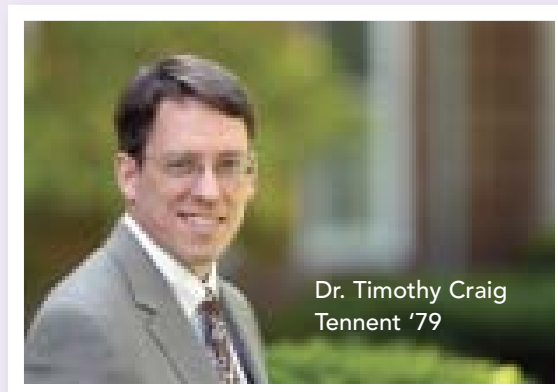
"Dr. Tennent is a scholar's scholar, a professor's professor. He is a Christian with a world vision who will take Asbury Seminary into wonderful new arenas," said Dr. Dan Johnson, chairman of the Asbury Seminary Board of Trustees, when announcing the appointment.

Born in Atlanta, Dr. Tennent became interested in the ministry at Grace United Methodist Church after being inspired by the sermons of Dr. Sam Coker, '47.

After graduating from Young Harris College with an associate of science degree in education, Dr. Tennent embarked on a course of study and ministry that took him around the world.

He attended Oral Roberts University where he majored in history and minored in theology. He then attended Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary where he earned a master of divinity degree in Biblical Studies in 1984.

He received his master of theology in World Religions/Ecumenics from Princeton Theological Seminary, completed graduate work in linguistics (TESL) at the University of Georgia and earned his Ph.D. in non-western Christianity from The University of Edinburgh in Scotland.



Dr. Timothy Craig
Tennent '79

He was one of four graduates of a new leadership development program funded by the Lilly Endowment and developed by the Lexington Seminar.

Dr. Tennent served as assistant professor of world missions at Toccoa Falls College in Georgia where he was named teacher of the year in 1995. He teaches annually at the Luther W. New Jr. Theological College of Dehra Dun, India, where he serves as visiting professor of Indian Christian Theology.

He plans to teach one class each semester at Asbury Seminary beginning in the spring.

"I see teaching as central to the role of the president. Students are changing a lot, and I think it's important for the president to keep in touch with that," he said.

An ordained United Methodist minister, he has been a pastor at several churches in the North Georgia Conference.

His wife, Julie, is also a graduate of Gordon-Conwell and is a church organist. They have two children, Jonathan, 24, an editor at Whitaker Publishing Company in New Kensington, Pa., and Bethany, 22, who will graduate from Houghton College in New York in May and plans to join the Africa Inland Mission's Training in Ministry Outreach program.

1990s (CONT.)

box set was produced with recently retired University of Georgia art professor Art Rosenbaum, who, along with audio engineer Mike Graves, was also awarded a Grammy for work on the project. A video and more information are available at <http://dust-digital.com/about.htm>.

DR. BRYSON PAYNE, '91, chief information officer (CIO) at North Georgia College and State University in Dahlonega, has been named chair-elect of the Board of Regents' Administrative Committee on Information Technology, the professional advisory group for University System of Georgia CIOs and information technology directors. Dr. Payne has served as CIO at North Georgia College and State University since 2006. Prior to this position, he served as an assistant professor of computer science and information systems at North Georgia College and State University and Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville. He and his wife, Beverly, live in Dahlonega with their one-year-old son, Alex.

2000s

PAIGE BROCK, '02, graduated with her doctorate in physical therapy on May 2, 2009, from North Georgia College and State University in Dahlonega. She currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., where she is a pediatric physical therapist for Feltz Therapy Services, LLC.

CHARLES (LUKE) FOSTER, '02, recently self-published the Christian fiction novel *The Scepter and the Blood-Stained Sword: Heart of a Hero*. More information is available at www.thescepterandthebloodstainedsword.com.

JULIE SIBLEY, '80, recently showed her exhibit "The Fruits of The Land," at Michael's Fine Art & Framing in Dalton, owned by Mike Thacker, '73. The exhibit opened with a reception on Oct. 2 and was on display in the gallery through Oct. It was also shown in the display windows through Nov. The show continued a theme begun last year in a show at Young Harris College's Campus Gate Art Gallery about natural resources from soil, air, water and light providing the necessities of life both physically and spiritually. Her artwork focuses specifically on food resources and how the land nourishes us. On every level, the molecules interact in the soil to sustain fruits and vegetables, which, in turn, perform a similar function within our bodies.

ENGAGEMENTS

JENNIFER MCRAE, '04, is engaged to Brian Mosley. The wedding is scheduled for October 2010.

MATTHEW PINO, '03, is engaged to **REBECCA HARDY**, '02. The wedding is scheduled for April 3, 2010, at Young Harris College.

MARRIAGES

SARAH HOWARD CROFT, '02, married Jonathan Croft in October 2008.

ZACHREY FITZPATRICK, '05, married **STEPHANIE DEAN**, '05, in June 2009 at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church in Young Harris.

BRITTANY FUSIA LARSEN, '02, married **GEORGE LARSEN**, '02, on June 28, 2008 in the Day Chapel at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens.

BIRTHS

ULMER Z. "ZEKE" BRIDGES III, '97, and Grace Bolles Bridges announce the birth of their daughter Gabriella "Ella" Francesca Bridges, July 16, 2009, at 5:40 p.m. She weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz. and was 19 1/4 inches long.

SARAH HOWARD CROFT, '02, and her husband Jonathan Croft, of Monroe, announce the birth of their first child Ellyn Joanna Croft, Aug. 13, 2009.

HEATHER CHRISTIAN DODD, '95, and her husband Jason announce the birth of their first child Ansley Grace, Nov. 3, 2009. She weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz. and was 19 inches long.

AMY STAVELY DUDICH, '99, and Todd Dudich announce the birth of their first child Lorelei Marie, April 3, 2009.

BRITT MCAFEE, '91, and his wife Jennifer McAfee announce the birth of their daughter Jemma Alexandra McAfee, Nov. 9, 2009. She weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 18 inches long. Jennifer is the director of development and planned giving in Young Harris College's Office of Advancement.

HOLLY GUNTER ROYSTON, '01, and her husband Keith announce the birth of their son Grant Keith Royston, April 18, 2009, at Northside Hospital. The Roystons live in Atlanta.

AMBER PATTERSON SPARKS, '04 and Jason Sparks, announce the birth of their child Morgan Taylor Sparks, June 30, 2009, at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens, Ga. Morgan weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz.

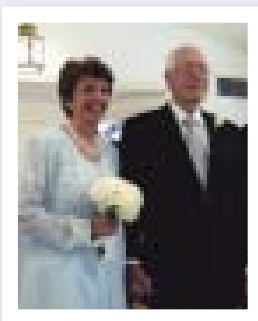
MELANIE KOUTRAS THOMPSON, '95, and **DAVID THOMPSON**, '95, announce the birth of their third child, Charles Scott Thompson, Nov. 1, 2009, at 4:59 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. and was 20 inches long.

IN MEMORIAM

ANNIE LANCE CHAPMAN, '41
Nov. 23, 2009

MARIE JOHNSON CONNOLLY, '59
July 11, 2009

(Continued on page 58)

EMERITUS TRUSTEE BRINKLEY
ANNOUNCES MARRIAGE

U. S. Congressman Jack Thomas Brinkley, '49, recently wed Sally Geiger Posey.

The couple was married May 25 in the historic Hopewell United Methodist Church in Bettstown, with the Reverend Donna Sue Waller Roberts officiating.

Cynthia Leigh Action, daughter of the bride, was matron of honor, and the new Mrs. Brinkley's seven granddaughters were bridesmaids. Best men were Jack Brinkley Jr. and Fred Brinkley II, sons of the groom, with David Mack Brinkley, brother of the groom, serving as groomsman.

After a reception at the historic Franklin Baptist Church, the couple left for a honeymoon at Wakulla Springs, Fla., and Panama City, Fla. Mr. and Mrs. Brinkley live in Columbus, Ga.

He was elected to the Young Harris College Board of Trustees in 1990 and became an emeritus trustee in 1998.

In 1983, he established and endowed the Jack Brinkley Sr. Congressional Scholarship.

A Tribute to Dr. Gordon G. Thompson, 1918–2009

FORMER TRUSTEE SHARED FAITH THROUGH PREACHING, TEACHING AND WRITING

BY E M I L Y S A N E

When Emeritus Trustee Dr. Gordon G. Thompson, '40, visited the Young Harris College campus in April 2004, he brought copies of his latest book, *Living the Easter Faith: The Power of the Resurrection in the Modern World*, to give to the current members of the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Thompson's ministry was not shared just from a pulpit; he shared it through teaching and writing.

Dr. Thompson, a native of Athens, Ga., started his path to ministry as a student at Young Harris College in the late 1930s. After graduating from Young Harris in 1940, he returned home to Athens, where he attended and graduated from the University of Georgia.

Continuing his education, Dr. Thompson again left Athens and enrolled in Emory University's Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, one of 13 seminaries of the United Methodist Church. He graduated in 1946, earning a master's degree.

Dr. Thompson started preaching in 1942. He served as pastor of the Walton Circuit of the North Georgia United Methodist Conference. He also served Dallas Church, Allen Memorial Church and the First United Methodist Church of Marietta.

From 1963 to 1965, while preaching, Dr. Thompson was the district superintendent of the Atlanta-Emory District.

While preaching at the First United Methodist Church of Marietta, he was offered a teaching position at Candler School of Theology. He was asked to join the faculty and to teach homiletics, the art of preaching.

Dr. Thompson's art of preaching included messages centered on the love of God.

The decision to accept the offer was not an easy choice. If he accepted the teaching position, he would not be able to continue preaching from the pulpit.

Dr. Thompson decided to accept the position. He knew the opportunity would allow him to continue to minister, not from the pulpit but in the classroom.

While at Emory University, Dr. Thompson taught Bible at Emory's Oxford College and homiletics at the Candler School of Theology.

After teaching for 22 years, he retired in 1987. He did not, however, retire from continuing to spread his faith.

In his retirement, Dr. Thompson returned to preaching. He served as pastor of Elizabeth Methodist Church in Marietta until 1992. He also served as a Kennestone Hospital chaplain.

Dr. Thompson later returned to First United Methodist Church of Marietta as a pastoral counselor.

Dr. Thompson died on August 21 at age 91. He is survived by three daughters, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by wife, Alice Marie Richardson Thompson.

IN MEMORIAM (CONT.)

LILA SKINNER ERWIN, '45
Sept. 26, 2009

RICHARD A. HALEY, '62
July 23, 2009

NAOMI ALISON HAYNES, '42
July 21, 2009

JOHN W. HOOD JR., '35
Sept. 23, 2009

A. WARREN JONES JR., '43
Sept. 14, 2009

LOUISE CANADY JONES, '44
May 9, 2009

STEPHEN LACKLEY JR., '59
June 8, 2009

JAMES EARL MATHIS, '43
July 12, 2009

PATRICK MURPHY, '66
May 10, 2009

MARVIN S. NORMAN, '47
Aug. 13, 2009

MARY MOORE NUNNALLY, '38
Aug. 31, 2009

ANDREW T. PARKER JR., '62
Sept. 9, 2009

WILLIE GRACE HUNT PAYNE, '33
Oct. 27, 2009

LAWRENCE D. PHILLIPS, '53
June 1, 2009

GRACE CRUM ROLLINS
Dedicated friend of YHC
Aug. 8, 2009

DOUGLAS REID SASSER, '50
Nov. 10, 2009

GORDON G. THOMPSON JR., '40
Aug. 21, 2009

NINA WILSON TIPTON, '57
Oct. 7, 2009

JULIA DENMAN WIGGINS, '44
July 6, 2009

COY M. WILLIAMS SR., '54
Oct. 17, 2009

MARY MCCORD WINN, '40
July 11, 2009



Former Trustee Leaves a Legacy of Service with Passion

BY EMILY SANE

James Earl Mathis Sr., '43, left Hall County in 1941, and ventured to the north Georgia mountains in Towns County to attend Young Harris College. While at YHC, Mathis developed a passion for supporting education and for preserving the environment, as well as a passion for his future wife, Frances Miller, '43.

Mathis and Miller graduated from Young Harris College in 1943. They became engaged, but the couple delayed their wedding for Mathis to serve in the United States Army during World War II. The war took Mathis from the north Georgia mountains to Europe, where he was active in Germany.

After returning from World War II, Mathis married Miller in 1946. The couple settled in Gainesville, Ga., in Hall County, and started a family. Their family includes three sons, James Mathis Jr., Phillip Mathis and Gregory Mathis.

In Hall County, Mathis became a leader in the banking industry. He founded the Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, which became a bank and eventually merged with the bank now known as SunTrust.

Not confining his services within the walls of his bank, Mathis served his community and alma mater. He actively pursued his passion for education and the environment. Mathis did not just formulate ideas; he shared them, executed them and inspired others with them.

Mathis was instrumental in the founding of Gainesville Junior College, now Gainesville State College, in 1966. The college is located in Oakwood, in Hall County. He dedicated hours to directing the



construction of the college.

Named in his honor, the Dunlap-Mathis Building on campus houses classrooms, offices and a testing center.

Mathis also worked at the Northeast Georgia History Center, located on the Brenau University campus in Hall County, and donated exhibition pieces to the center.

Young Harris College remained a passion for Mathis long after his graduation. In 1972, Mathis began 20 years of service as a member of the Young Harris College Board of Trustees.

In addition to history and education, Mathis enjoyed nature and the environment. He was active in the formation of the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve in Hall County.

Mathis enjoyed the outdoors, and his enjoyment led him to experience it. He explored the Appalachian Trail and rafted on rivers throughout North America. He wanted to preserve the environment that surrounded him.

Earning a Silver Beaver award, Mathis served as a Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 26.

His volunteer efforts provided him with an opportunity to travel to the White House in Washington, D.C. During President Jimmy Carter's term, he was invited to a dinner reception to receive the United States Volunteer award from the United States Forest Service.

Mathis' passion for family, education and the environment was only exceeded by his love for God. He was an active member of Gainesville First Baptist Church, where he served on the building committee.

The selfless steps of service taken by Mathis touched numerous lives in the north Georgia mountains. His steps can be seen and followed from Young Harris College in Towns County to the growing student population at Gainesville State College and the expanding 2,500-acre Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve in Hall County.

Mathis died on July 12 at age 84. He is survived by his wife, Frances; three sons, James, Phillip and Gregory; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

CLASS COORDINATORS ARE BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER

Consider becoming a Class Coordinator for your graduating class, and reconnect with old classmates and help them stay connected with Young Harris College. Class Coordinators are kept up-to-date about alumni news and events and informed about happenings and other news at the College so that they can share the information with classmates.

For more information or to volunteer as a Class Coordinator, contact:

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STUDENT RECREATION AND FITNESS CENTER TO OPEN FALL 2010

Pictured above in an architectural rendering, Young Harris College's new student recreation and fitness center will be completed next summer, opening to students in Fall 2010.

The 57,000-square foot, state-of-the-art facility will include a weight room and fitness center, elevated jogging track, rock-climbing wall, classrooms for yoga, aerobics and dance, locker rooms, office spaces and healthy food/juice bar. Featuring a 1,000-seat arena with NCAA-regulation basketball court, it will be home to YHC's new men's and women's intercollegiate basketball teams.



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