Alumni entrepreneurs are heartbeat of new economy
A PORTRAIT OF APPALACHIAN LEGACIES

One person’s decision to attend the university can influence generations.
2  CHANCELLOR’S MESSAGE
The economy and its impact on Appalachian.

3  ON THE MOUNTAIN
Campus news and accolades.

12  ENTREPRENEURS IMPACT
THE NEW ECONOMY
As traditional and time-tested businesses and industries decline, Appalachian alumni and students flex their entrepreneurial muscles.

19  FIRST YEAR SEMINAR
A popular course gets a makeover and keeps Appalachian ahead of the curve.

22  Q&A WITH PARENT AND FAMILY SERVICES’ TRACI ROYSTER
Appalachian creates a new position to better serve parents and families of enrolled students.

24  ASSEMBLING A WINNER
A photo essay of artist Trace O’Connor’s winning piece in the Rosen Outdoor Sculpture Competition and Exhibition.

34  ALUMNI NOTES
Check out the latest news from classmates.

40  AN APPALACHIAN LOVE STORY
The story of Mr. and Mrs. Yosef, Gerald and Julia Adams.

On the cover
Entrepreneurs Graham Bunn ’03 and Hal Kivette ’06 in New York. Find out more on page 12.

More feature stories:
www.today.appstate.edu

Daisy Austin Adams ’39 and her grandson Tommy Adams ’08 share Appalachian memories and an Appalachian legacy.
Seeing the light, despite a fiscal darkness

This fall, I began my sixth year as chancellor of Appalachian State University. Thanks to the hard work and vision of the faculty and staff, much has been accomplished during these past five years, including the improved academic quality of our incoming students, strengthened academic programs, and innovative research and outreach programs that better serve the local community and region. However, I am deeply concerned about North Carolina’s continued budget crisis and what it means for the UNC System and Appalachian.

I am certain, though, about one thing: Appalachian remains committed to its academic mission and continues to seek more efficient ways of doing business. Our administrative costs per student is one of the lowest in the UNC System: $544 compared to the system average of nearly $1,000. Two low-enrollment degree programs have been eliminated and the Appalachian Regional Development Institute has been closed to redirect the operating funds to academics. We also are looking at funding some faculty and staff positions through student fees instead of state-appropriated dollars. We are fortunate that this summer the N.C. General Assembly granted enrollment growth funding to Appalachian, which allowed us to better manage the budget crisis than other UNC System schools. However, much of that money will be given back as the state is asking for a 10.1 percent reduction in our operating budget (a 5.1 percent permanent cut and a 5 percent holdback required by the state). If the state budget crisis continues much longer, it may lead to increased class sizes, and in some cases delayed graduation. This, indeed, troubles me.

Despite budget uncertainties, many good things are happening. Construction of the new Reich College of Education building, funded by 2008-09 legislative appropriations, is under way and I’m excited about increased enrollment in our high-quality teacher preparation program to meet the state’s demand for more teachers. I’m also pleased with the following:

• Efforts in sustainability, including the student-led Renewable Energy Initiative for which Appalachian won a Leadership in Sustainability Award from the State Energy Office of North Carolina;
• The development of the College of Health Sciences and Allied Professions, which will expand our involvement in enhancing North Carolinians’ physical, emotional and social health;
• The Excellence in Leadership Center, a living-learning facility being designed to house the Heltzer Honors Program and other high-performing programs;
• Strengthened programs in international studies, which prepare our students to thrive in an ever-changing global community; and
• The Center for Entrepreneurship in the Walker College of Business that supports students in their desire to become leaders in the development of a new economy.

Appalachian has at least a thousand needs, but we need to focus on the most important ones in order to be successful. Private giving to these programs is more important than ever. Let’s turn our ever-present Appalachian pride into dollars, which make such a difference in the quality of our students’ experience.

This year, I welcome new leaders to our Board of Trustees (see page 8) and am excited about the appointment of former trustees John Blackburn and Jim Deal ’71 to the UNC Board of Governors, where they will serve the people of North Carolina in an exemplary manner. Yet, I also will say goodbye at the end of this academic year to three important leaders on this campus: Chief of Staff Lorin Baumhover and Dean of Students Susie Greene, who both plan to retire, and Provost Stan Aeschleman who has chosen to return to teaching. These are major administrative changes. While I will miss them greatly as colleagues, I also look forward to the infectious energy that new staff can bring.

With hope for a brighter economic future and an ever-stronger belief in Appalachian excellence, I thank you for your continued interest in and support of Appalachian State University.

With Appalachian pride,

Kenneth E. Peacock
Chancellor
New Web site links university with community

A new Web site has been designed to help members of the region learn about the educational, economic development, cultural and community service outreach programs available to them.

Appalachian has more than 80 programs, centers, institutes and initiatives that engage in community outreach and partnership activities.

“This Web site is an appropriate complement to our recent Carnegie Community Engagement classification and will help us respond to the increasing complexity and rate of public requests, especially during these difficult economic times,” said Stan Ascheleman, Appalachian’s provost and executive vice chancellor.

www.community.appstate.edu

U.S. News & World Report praises Appalachian

Appalachian has received praise in several categories from U.S. News & World Report’s 2010 America’s Best Colleges Guide.

The university rose to the No. 8 spot in the “Best Universities-Master’s in the South” category, tying with Mercer University. The university also rose to third place in the magazine’s rankings for the top public master-degree granting universities in the South.

Appalachian has placed among the top 15 southern universities since the rankings first appeared in 1986.

Once again, Appalachian was included in the magazine’s “Academic Programs to Look For” listing and in the “First-Year Experience” and “Learning Communities” categories.

Three new categories included Appalachian, as well. The university appears third on a list of 16 master’s degree granting public and private universities in the South listed as “Up-and-Coming Master’s Universities” and is included in the “Best Colleges: Undergraduate research/Creative projects” listing. Appalachian also is included in the magazine’s “Best Undergraduate Teaching” ranking. The university is listed sixth in the category that includes eight public and private master’s degree granting institutions in the South.

What’s in the air that we breathe?

An interdisciplinary team of Appalachian researchers is working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to monitor air quality and atmospheric conditions to learn their impact on the area’s ecosystems and climate.

The project called AppalAIR (Appalachian Atmospheric Interdisciplinary Research) consists of a monitoring station and a 30-meter tower located at the highest point on campus. It is the only monitoring site east of the Mississippi River invited to collaborate with NOAA’s global network of aerosol monitoring stations.

“There is a real need for an atmospheric research facility in northwest North Carolina capable of collecting the atmospheric data that are currently lacking,” said AppalAIR researcher Howard Neufeld, a biology professor who has studied the physiological effects of air pollution on native plant species for more than 20 years. “Appalachian’s location and mission make it the ideal place for doing this type of atmospheric research.”

www.today.appstate.edu/appalair

McCain wins first place award in broadcast competition

Allie E. McCain, an electronic media/broadcasting major, placed first in the audio division of the 2009 Broadcast Education Association’s National Festival of Media Arts last spring.

The 2009 graduate took first place in the audio PSA/Promo/Commercial category with her 60-second radio commercial titled “Gold Fish.” McCain received her award at the Broadcast Education Association’s 55rd Annual Convention, Exhibition and Festival of Media Arts held in Las Vegas.

McCain’s winning entry was a class project in an audio production course in the Department of Communication. The commercial depicts a child saying her first word, “fish,” because of her love for Goldfish® crackers.

www.today.appstate.edu

Across

What is the five letter North Carolina town that’s home to Appalachian State University?

“Boone” was the correct answer in the New York Times crossword puzzle that appeared Sunday, Aug. 16.
New partnership promotes international trade

The U.S. Commercial Service has partnered with Appalachian to establish a satellite office in Boone that will train and aid local businesses in international trade.

The U.S. Commercial Service (USCS) is a unit within the U.S. Department of Commerce and is part of a global network of offices in more than 100 major U.S. cities and 150 locations overseas. With an international network of trade specialists and commercial officers, USCS serves the needs of domestic exporters and helps them succeed in overseas markets by providing expert counseling and advocacy; producing research on overseas markets; promoting products and services in overseas markets; and finding international partners.

USCS representatives travel to Boone one Friday a month to offer workshops and one-on-one consultations with individuals interested in exporting. In conjunction with those meetings, Appalachian’s Walker College of Business will offer seminars and discussions of country-specific opportunities.

www.buyusa.gov/northcarolina/boone.html

REI receives leadership in sustainability award

Appalachian continues to be a leader in sustainability. The university’s student-run Renewable Energy Initiative, which recommends and coordinates student-funded renewable energy projects on campus, received a Leadership in Sustainability Award from the State Energy Office of North Carolina last spring.

Through a $5 per semester student fee, REI has funded a biodiesel tank, three solar electric projects, a 42-panel solar thermal system for Plemmons Student Union, and a 100-kilowatt wind turbine on campus.

To further Appalachian’s goal to be a world leader in sustainability, the university appointed Ged Moody ’08 MS in the new position of sustainability director. Moody is creating a campus sustainability plan, implementing new programs and communicating sustainable practices on campus.

Campbell receives APS research fellowship

Exercise science major Kristen Campbell of Charlotte was among 24 students in the nation to receive an undergraduate research fellowship from The American Physiological Society (APS).

The fellowship allowed Campbell to spend the summer working with Scott Collier, an assistant professor in Appalachian’s Department of Health, Leisure and Exercise Science and an APS member. She also received additional travel funds to present her research at the Experimental Biology 2010 meeting in Anaheim, Calif.

Campbell worked on two projects with Collier. She studied how exercise affects the kidney’s ability to regulate blood pressure in mice, and she studied the comparative effectiveness of exercise versus a common antihypertensive medication in decreasing blood pressure in humans.

Administrative changes

Three college dean positions have been filled at Appalachian. Anthony G. “Tony” Calamai has been appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences after serving as interim dean. Calamai previously chaired the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Glenda Treadaway, former chair of the Department of Communication, was named dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts after serving as interim dean. William L. Pelto was hired as dean of the Hayes School of Music. He had been associate dean of Ithaca College’s School of Music from 2000-09.

New department chairs include Michael Grady in the Department of Art. He previously was professor and chair of the Department of Arts and Consciousness at John F. Kennedy University in Berkeley, Calif. Lucinda McCray Beier, formerly a history professor at Illinois State University, is the new chair of the Department of History. Professor of Communication Janice Pope has been named chair of the Department of Communication after serving as interim chair. Jeff Tiller, professor of building science, has been named chair of the Department of Technology after serving as interim chair.

Susan B. Davies is the new associate vice chancellor for enrollment services overseeing the Office of Admissions, Office of the Registrar and the College Awareness program. She previously was director of admissions at Georgia Southern University.

Rose Reinhart has been appointed Appalachian’s new registrar. Previously at California University of Pennsylvania, she oversees Appalachian’s course scheduling and registration, student academic records, enrollment reports, transcripts and compliance with academic policies and FERPA regulations.

Other administrative changes include September’s retirement of Linda Robinson, associate vice chancellor in the Office of Equity, Diversity and Compliance and former women’s basketball coach. Chief of Staff Lorin Baumhover plans to retire in December. Susie Greene, dean of students and associate vice chancellor for student development, has announced plans to retire in June 2010 after 35 years of employment at Appalachian. Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Stan Aeschleman has announced plans to step down in June 2010 so he can return to teaching in the Department of Psychology.
Grad student researches shape note singing

Graduate student Meredith Doster Edgerton is a fourth-generation shape note singer. Her musical interest drew her to Appalachian and its graduate program in Appalachian studies, where she is writing a master’s thesis on the evolution of sacred music traditions in two rural Watauga County churches.

“There are not a lot of places in the country where you can see the seven-shape tradition actively practiced,” said Edgerton, who earned her bachelor’s degree in music from Columbia University in New York.

She is studying Mount Lebanon Baptist Church and Mountain Dale Baptist Church whose stories of sacred song and singing highlight not only musical evolution, but also the deep-seated ties between land, culture and religion in small, rural communities and the collective impact of those Appalachian qualities on worship practices. Edgerton’s research focuses on the conflicts between the four- and seven-shape traditions of the 19th century as one example of the tension created when traditions and their rituals change.

Edgerton spent part of her summer researching the topic through an Appalachian Sound Archives Fellowship at Berea College. She was the Cratis D. Williams Scholar for the 2008-09 academic year, the highest honor bestowed upon a student entering the Appalachian studies program.

CASE honors enrollment guide, fundraising efforts

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) presented national awards to Appalachian for its high-quality enrollment guide for new students and its superior fundraising efforts.

First Connections received a Silver Medal in the 2009 Circle of Excellence Awards Program. It was one of 14 medal winners from 175 entries submitted in the Individual Student Recruitment Publications category.

The 104-page guide contains timely and pertinent information related to enrollment planning, orientation, academic advising, finances, campus housing, student programs and other services available to students. First produced in 2007, the guide replaces the many brochures and publications sent to students from individual areas. It is a collaborative project involving University Communications, the Office of Academic Affairs, the Office of Business Affairs and the Office of Student Development.

Also, the division of University Advancement received two 2009 CASE-WealthEngine Awards for Educational Fundraising: one in the area of Overall Performance and a second in the area of Overall Improvement. In the past five years, University Advancement has raised $68 million to support the university and its programs.

Did you know?

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT HIGHLIGHTED THE REICH COLLEGE OF EDUCATION’S GRADUATE PROGRAMS for offering “excellent but affordable teacher education in convenient locations.”

RCOE was featured in the April article “Picking the Right School for an Education Grad Degree: Is it more important to go to a great school or a school near where you want to teach?”

The article stated that, “Appalachian State University’s Reich College of Education exemplifies the benefits of attending a high-quality program run out of a public institution.”

SALLY ATKINS, Department of Human Development and Psychological Counseling, received the Samuel T. Gladding Inspiration and Motivation Award from the Association for Creativity in Counseling (ACC). ACC is a division of the American Counseling Association.

HUNTER R. BOYLAN, Department of Leadership and Educational Studies/National Center for Developmental Education, received the first Service and Leadership Award from the Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations.

DAYTON COLE, university attorney, received two distinguished service awards in 2009: one from the National Association of College and University Attorneys and one from N.C. Bar Association’s Education Law Section.

LYNN SIEFFERMAN, Department of Biology, won the 2009 Achievement Award for New Scholars in the Life Sciences presented by the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools for her research into evolution of plumage color in the Eastern bluebird.

MARTHA MARKING, Department of Theatre and Dance, has been elected to the board of directors for USITT (United States Institute for Theatre Technology), the association of design, production and technology professionals in the performing arts and entertainment industry.

CATHY MCKINNEY, Hayes School of Music, has received a UNC Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching. She is founding director of the music therapy program.

JEANNE MERCER-BALLARD, Department of Technology, is co-chair of the Social Responsibility network for the Interior Design Educator’s Council (IDEC), a position she’s held since the international organization formed the network three years ago. Last year she co-chaired with Tim Dolan, also of Appalachian’s Department of Technology.

HOWARD S. NEUFELD, Department of Biology, has been appointed to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) Ozone Review Panel.

CHRIS THAXTON, Department of Physics and Astronomy, received the 2008 Alan Berman Research Publication Award from the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory for his research in coastal erosion modeling.
“It’s important for us to understand evolution and how the world works, because we’re part of it,” says behavioral ecologist Lynn Siefferman. An assistant professor in the Department of Biology, Siefferman studies the evolution of plumage color in the Eastern bluebird. She and her students have set up more than 200 nesting boxes in rural Watauga County to observe birds’ mating behaviors. They are determining how color intensity correlates with personality traits and choice of mate. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. Pictured holding a female bluebird, Siefferman has received the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools’ Achievement Award for New Scholars in the Life Sciences for her work.

Photo by Marie Freeman, University Photographer
Model dwelling tests energy efficiency

Students in Appalachian’s building science and appropriate technology programs are constructing a 500-square-foot house to test innovative technologies and building practices. The structure is called the ASU E3 House, which stands for environment, economy and ecology.

Construction of the model house is a joint project of the Department of Technology and the Energy Center at Appalachian. Representatives from Better Building Products LLC and Huber Engineered Woods have assisted with construction.

“The building will be off the grid and totally self-sustaining,” said graduate student Nick Hurst, project manager.

“The structure was initially envisioned as an alternative to trailers that were used for relief after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.”

The building’s energy-efficient features include use of structural insulated panels (SIPs) for the building’s exterior walls and roof. The panels have an insulation R-value of 30, compared to an R-19 in typical home construction. The building also will have solar panels, which will generate energy needs for the occupants, a system to collect rainwater from the roof, and low-flow plumbing fixtures.

N.C. Space Grant supports undergraduate research

Appalachian received another $94,000 from the NASA-sponsored N.C. Space Grant consortium to support research associated with aeronautics and space-related science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. This brings Appalachian’s four-year total award close to $400,000.

This year’s funds support the work of 12 Appalachian students, two of whom worked at NASA facilities this summer, and three faculty members.

During their research fellowships, students worked on projects that ranged from developing electrostatic screens to keep lunar dust from collecting on space vehicles, to leading science education activities for North Carolina youth and monitoring air quality in the Appalachian mountains.

www.today.appstate.edu/space-grant

Four new members join Board of Trustees

Four new people were recently appointed to four-year terms on Appalachian’s Board of Trustees.

They are Bradley T. Adcock ’76 of Cary, James M. Rose Sr. of Shelby, Matthew J. Szulik of Raleigh and Alice Roess of Blowing Rock.

Adcock is vice president of government affairs for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. Rose is CEO of Leasing Services. Szulik is retired CEO and president of Red Hat Inc., where he continues to serve as chairman of the company’s board of directors. Roess is a real estate/mortgage investor and active volunteer in Blowing Rock and St. Petersburg, Fla.

Want more news?
www.today.appstate.edu
In lean times, Appalachian Family pays it forward in support of scholarships

While the nation’s beleaguered economy continues to take a toll on universities across the country, the Appalachian community has come through with impressive support for its students.

A request for immediate assistance was launched last spring when it became clear that scholarships and programming campus wide were being negatively impacted by the economic downturn. Some endowed scholarships and activities could no longer be funded, or would be funded at much lower amounts than previous years.

The effort was highly successful. “It’s been a faith-restoring experience,” said Margaret McCoy, executive director of donor services at Appalachian.

“When people learned our students would suffer without this support everybody came forward — from donors and alumni, to faculty, staff and even students,” she said.

Professor Joel Williams in the Department of Theatre and Dance put out the call for help to departmental alumni on his Facebook page.

“I told them if everyone could contribute even $10 that would be enough to support three or four scholarships,” Williams said.

Within hours of Williams’ posting, Greg Langdon, then development officer for the College of Fine and Applied Arts, started receiving gifts from alumni across the country, as well as the department’s faculty and staff who wanted to help.

Thanks in part to gifts generated through Facebook, every theatre and dance scholarship will be awarded for the 2009-10 academic year. This includes the Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society scholarship, which will be awarded at a higher level for 2009-10 than what the endowment generated for 2008-09.

Go Abroad, Appalachian’s first travel abroad scholarship, was created by International Appalachian (INTAPP), a group of students who want to ensure their peers have access to travel and study abroad experiences. Additional funding is required for the scholarship to be awarded, so INTAPP members are working to solicit gifts from Appalachian alumni and friends.

Steven and Jane Hall, parents of alumna Rachel Hall ’08, responded to Appalachian’s call for help when they learned there would be no budget for the Hayes School of Music’s opera program in 2009-10. Their gift ensures “the show will go on.”

“The support for our students during this challenging time has been overwhelming,” said McCoy. “It’s a wonderful example of what people mean when they refer to ‘The Appalachian Family.’ This is not just something we say, it’s words we live by.”

Campus-wide siren installed

As part of its ongoing plan related to campus safety, Appalachian has installed warning sirens to alert students, faculty, staff and visitors on campus in the event of an emergency.

The sirens are located atop Farthing Auditorium and Sanford Hall, in Appalachian Panhellenic Hall and on poles at Appalachian Heights apartments and the State Farm intramural fields. They will emit audible tones and a verbal message during a high-risk, life-threatening emergency, such as an active shooter on or near campus or a major hazardous material spill on or near campus.

“The Campus Safety Committee has had an incredibly productive year in its focus on every aspect of safety for our Appalachian community,” said Cindy Wallace, vice chancellor for student development. “The siren system is one of those key elements that will give us a new means of informing our community should an emergency on our campus require its use.”

Appalachian uses multiple methods to notify and communicate emergency information to the campus community: emergency messages on cell phones through the APPSTATE-ALERT emergency messaging system, for which students, faculty and staff must register on the university’s emergency Web site, and crime alerts by campus e-mail.

In May, Appalachian successfully conducted a full-scale emergency drill involving on- and off-campus agencies. This fall, the campus hosted Safety Week Sept. 8-11 to highlight the importance of personal safety through a variety of programming, including the 29th annual Walk for Awareness.

Register at www.emergency.appstate.edu

---

student kudo

From left, students Molly Morgan, Seth Hall, Madison Pender and Sarah Weir with their national Pi Sigma Epsilon awards.

Business students earn top honors at PSE Convention

Four undergraduates from the Walker College of Business earned top honors during the Pi Sigma Epsilon (PSE) 2009 National Convention held in Norfolk, Va., last spring.

The group was awarded the President’s Award for Most Improved Chapter, took second place in Top Management Team and Top Sales Project Tier 1 categories, and received the Lloyd L. Antle Top Amethyst Chapter Award. The group also was a finalist in the Special Merit category.

Pi Sigma Epsilon is the only national, professional, coeducational fraternity in marketing, sales management and selling.

“This is an extraordinary accomplishment,” said club advisor Barbara Michel, a faculty member in the Department of Marketing. “There has been a definite resurgence in the enthusiasm of the group. At the beginning of the fall 2008 semester, they were ranked 36th nationally. Today they are ranked fourth. I am very proud of all the hard work that the membership has put in to accomplish this goal.”
Fletcher picked for NCAA leadership conference

Junior defensive lineman Jabari Fletcher from Atlanta, Ga., was among 600 student-athletes selected from 2,000 nominations nationwide to participate in the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference. The event was held at Disney World this summer.

There he learned about respect, public speaking and community service. “My experience at the NCAA Leadership Conference was a remarkable eye opener. I met so many other athletes who had the same views as me. It benefited me in such a way that I was able to bring some of the ideas back to our student-athletes and provide some great community service opportunities,” he said.

Fletcher has helped organize activities for Watauga County Special Olympics, an experience he calls “the best thing that happened to me... I was compelled to achieve through their positive attitudes.”

Fletcher is a recreation management major. He was named to the Southern Conference’s Academic All-Conference team in 2008-09.

Basketball teams introduce new coaching personnel

When the 2009-10 basketball season tips off, there will be a host of new faces leading their respective squads on the hardwood.

Buzz Peterson, who returns to the Mountaineers men’s team after head coaching stints at Tulsa, Tennessee and Coastal Carolina, will once again be pacing the sidelines at the Holmes Center after departing the program in 2000. Peterson served as head coach from 1996-2000, amassing a 79-39 record and leading the program to its second only NCAA tournament appearance in 2000. Most recently, Peterson served as director of player personnel for the NBA Charlotte Bobcats. Joining Peterson are assistant coaches Matt McMahon who enters his 10th year with the Black and Gold, and newcomers Jamie Kachmarik and Jason Capel. Among the early non-conference foes the Mountaineers face are Arkansas, Louisville, Winthrop and Dayton.

Head coach Darcie Vincent, beginning her second year at the helm of the women’s basketball team, welcomes a complete new staff of assistants on the sideline. Heather Kearney joins Vincent as associate head coach along with assistant coach Kiesha Mack and recruiting coordinator Andreagross.

Follow the black & gold: twitter.com/goasu

Kudos to Yosef

• Appalachian track and field standout Sean Soderman captured the silver medal in 3000m steeplechase of the 2009 Junior Pan Am Games which were held this summer in Port of Spain, Trinidad.
• Forty-four Mountaineer student-athletes were named to the Spring 2009 Southern Conference Honor Roll, a league high. Leading the way for the Apps were 14 women’s outdoor track and field athletes followed by nine baseball players, including a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA held by first baseman David Towarnicky.
• Katie Boyd, softball’s third baseman, helped lead the Mountaineers to second place in the Southern Conference, which marks the program’s best finish in program history. The sophomore standout led the SoCon in seven offensive categories and was named all-SoCon, all-Midcest Region and all-state.
• For the 29th time in 32 years, Appalachian captured the Southern Conference Commissioner’s Cup for the top all-around men’s sports program. This marks the fourth-straight title for the Mountaineers.
Fan Fest 2009

Appalachian football began the 2009 season with the team’s annual Fan Fest Aug. 22. Mountaineer faithful enjoyed inflatable rides, face painting by cheerleaders, and autograph signing with players and coaches.

NEW SEASON, NEW HOUSE

The Mountaineers enter the newly renovated and expanded Kidd Brewer Stadium for their home opener against McNeese State. The seven-story athletics center constructed behind the west stands features a locker room, a study hall, weight room and training areas. In addition it contains 18 luxury suites, 500 club seats and a new press box, bringing the stadium’s seating capacity to 21,650.
Entrepreneurs help shape the new economy

By Kate Cahow, Linda Coutant and Lynn Drury
“Entrepreneurialism has become cool,” declared a recent special report in The Economist. But folks at Appalachian State University didn’t need an international publication to tell them that.

As traditional and time-tested businesses and industries decline, Appalachian alumni and students have been flexing their entrepreneurial muscles. Many young professionals are commercializing new ideas and enterprises that were sparked by their passions and personal interests, and supported by skills and knowledge they gained at Appalachian.

“Entrepreneurship is the lifeblood of our economy today, particularly in this region where home grown businesses have always played an important role,” said Bryan Toney, director of Appalachian’s Center for Entrepreneurship, which was created in 2006 to guide and support this growth. “No matter what career path a young person chooses, a strong entrepreneurial skill set is one of the keys to success in the 21st century.”

What does “cool” entrepreneurship look like? Six alumni and a current student share their stories of how they’ve applied their Appalachian education and entrepreneurial know-how to shape the world’s changing economy:

Reglan Brewer, shoe designer

Action sports enthusiast Reglan Brewer ’98 says environment is inspiration. Beautiful mountains and their recreational offerings have inspired him since his days growing up in Boone.

Once a member of Appalachian’s ski team, Brewer has turned his love of action sports into a career designing action sports footwear. He worked for an independent firm in New York for a year, then joined the Adidas Group. After seven years with Adidas in the U.S. and Europe, Brewer went into business for himself.

His RGB Design Solutions, based in Asheville, hits its five-year mark this fall. He’s designed footwear for Salomon, Timberland, Keen, Billabong and other companies.

“Being self employed has been my objective for a long time. It was a matter of getting in the right position to do that. Remembering the lessons of ‘timing and tenacity,’ I looked at starting my own business as a maturity of my experience, skills and business relationships,” he said.

Brewer designs footwear from the ground up, again considering the environment in which it will be worn as inspiration for its style, materials, color and weight.

“Manufacturers contact me with product briefs that define the product they want for a specific market segment. Their description can be as detailed as ‘it’s for runners age 25 to 30 with a BMW in the garage and an iPod in their pocket’ to very ambiguous direction where they want to explore new aesthetic directions. Some of my designs will only be marketed in Europe, where others may focus on the U.S. or internationally,” he said.

Brewer and fellow alumnus J.J. Catlett ’94 have launched a second business called Loyal Laces, which specializes in action sports shoelaces. “We want it to be a socially responsible company, so we use a manufacturer right here in North Carolina,” Brewer said. Priced at $2.99, the laces freshen up kids’ footwear while saving families the cost of new shoes. Loyal Laces are selling well in skateboard shops on the East Coast, with national sales growing quickly, Brewer said.

Brewer attributes his skills as artisan and business owner to his eclectic choice of coursework while in school. “Appalachian provided not only instructors that helped cultivate my design and marketing skills, but more importantly kept me in an environment that allowed me to be active in the sports that I love,” he said. Brewer majored in arts management with a minor in marketing, plus took a number of design courses in Appalachian’s Department of Technology. “That’s proven to be a good mix,” he said.

Brewer sees continued success in footwear. “There’s something sustainable about working with a commodity,” he said. “I don’t think wearing shoes will go out of style any time soon.”
Traci Whiteside, canine caregiver

After working for several years with terminally ill and dying patients through Caldwell County Hospice, Traci Whiteside ’95 left her career in social work and started her own dog and pony show. Literally.

“I loved the work I was doing with hospice. It helped me grow both personally and professionally. But I reached a point of burn out and had to leave the field,” said Whiteside, now the owner of Club Canine, a training, boarding, grooming and canine daycare facility in Granite Falls.

While taking time to think about what she wanted to do next, Whiteside hired a trainer to help her with the family dog. “He told me I was a natural with dogs and encouraged me to use this ability,” she said.

Whiteside opened Club Canine in the Hickory area in 2006. She credits her success as a business owner and entrepreneur in part to her Appalachian education.

“Our clients always comment on how professionally the business is run. And though I love dogs, you can’t run a business on the love of animals alone,” she said.

A self-professed “big fan” of education, Whiteside says the process of earning a degree helps a person develop mentally and enhances their ability to problem solve.

“In the social work program I learned how to formulate policies and procedures, and why it’s important to have these in place. I learned about planning in general, and how to set and achieve goals. I had no idea I would be applying my education to working with dogs, but these skills are essential for anyone who wants to own and operate a successful business,” she said.

“I feel the canine boarding and training industry can benefit greatly from people who have a formal education. I love to learn, and I continue to attend conferences on everything from management to handling dogs.

“As long as I enjoy the process of learning and the challenge of growing my business, I know I’m doing the right thing,” Whiteside said.

Learn more at www.myclubcanine.com
Take a pinch of all-natural ingredients, a dash of sustainable idealism, a heaping helping of entrepreneurial savvy and what do you get? Jay Parr’s Boone Barr—originally the Parr Barr—born and baked here in the High Country.

Parr combines the principles he’s learning about sustainable development and entrepreneurship at Appalachian to produce and market his line of energy bars.

A sustainable development major, he left Appalachian in 2003 to attend the culinary academy Le Cordon Bleu in Orlando, Fla. After graduating, he worked as a chef in both the United States and abroad for a while, but decided the restaurant business wasn’t for him. He returned to Appalachian in 2008 to complete his degree and launched Parr Foods LLC.

“I love to cook and to create with food,” said Parr, who learned how to cook with his stepfather when he was about 8 years old. He started making energy bars for himself and his hiking/biking friends. They encouraged him to go into production and sell the bars.

“I’ve always said I want to run my own business, and that’s absolutely the path I want to continue on. I’ve received lots of help and guidance from the professors in the entrepreneur program at Appalachian,” he said.

“In the program you learn that anybody can be an entrepreneur. There is no ‘right’ personality type. Like anything, in order to succeed you have to decide and commit to a goal then follow certain steps and guidelines.”

That includes doing your research to see if there’s a market for your product.

“When I started my business I was aware that the energy bar industry is saturated. But a lot of these products aren’t made with quality ingredients. We’re using that to our advantage, creating hand-made products with all natural ingredients while trying to remain true to our principles.”

Parr has found that’s not always easy to do. “Sometimes you have to compromise your ideals,” he said. “According to the principles of sustainability, if I go out of business I can’t support local farmers and I can’t pay people a living wage. It’s a balancing act and all the weight is on my shoulders. But I love what I’m doing. The rewards of being my own boss are well worth the effort.”

Parr and two friends also are partners in Patagonian Design, a collection of furniture imported from Argentina. They design, manufacture and import to the United States tables and chairs constructed of 300-year-old Patagonian cypress trees that have died naturally.

Learn more at www.parrbarrllc.vpweb.com and at www.patagoniadesign.com

“Since the program I’ve received lots of help and guidance from the professors in the entrepreneur program at Appalachian.”
Debi Golembieski and Christie Fredenburg, green shopkeepers

As new mothers, Debi Golembieski ’99 and Christie Fredenburg ’00 wanted to use naturally made products to ensure the good health of their babies. That required a lot of research and online shopping, something each found time consuming and frustrating.

When the young moms met through a playgroup, they shared their feelings and mused that “somebody” should open a store devoted to the quality products they longed for: sustainable, organic, non-toxic, recycled, global fair trade, and locally made merchandise.

“We’re not the types to sit around waiting for someone else to do it, so we did it ourselves,” said Golembieski, pictured far left, a mother of two children.

So in 2007, the High Country residents – along with business partner and fellow mom Meredith Anders – opened Green Mother Goods in Boone. Located on King Street, Green Mother Goods specializes in toys, clothing, gifts and home essentials that are eco-friendly and aren’t made in sweatshops.

The company motto is “Because what you buy makes a difference.” Business is strong, they said, as more and more consumers become aware of the ripple effect of their purchases.

“We wanted to start a for-profit business that could be an example of what a business can do for a community, the earth and the world. We look at the ‘triple bottom line.’ Is what we do successful in terms of environmental stewardship and social justice as well as profit?” said Golembieski, an interdisciplinary studies major who helped initiate Appalachian’s residence hall recycling program in the mid-1990s through the student group SAVE (Students Actively Volunteering for the Environment).

“We like being a community resource,” added Fredenburg, an English major who homeschooled her four children. “The store has become a place for other green businesses to network. People come in and ask, ‘Hey, do you know a green builder?’ and we can recommend someone.”

Among its wares, Green Mother Goods carries the work of nearly 200 regional artisans, several of them Appalachian alumni and students. The store also sells traditional crafts from other countries available through cooperatives that support women entrepreneurs.

The business owners credit Appalachian for teaching them how to juggle multiple responsibilities, network with their available resources and find practical solutions to community issues.

Entrepreneurship, they said, is important to the world right now. “Entrepreneurs create solutions,” Fredenburg said. “We’re changing the world and supporting the local community one purchase at a time,” added Golembieski.

Learn more at www.greenmothergoods.com
Hal Kivette and Graham Bunn, T-shirts for charity

“Much of our success is due to the excellent education Graham and I got in the Walker College of Business.”

Former Appalachian basketball players Hal Kivette ’06, pictured left, and Graham Bunn ’03 have reignited their Mountaineer camaraderie in the spirit of giving and social justice. Their business is 46NYC LLC.

Graduates of Appalachian’s Walker College of Business, the two are now New York City transplants. Their desire to “do for others” and create a business together sparked their “T-shirts for charity” venture.

“Through 46NYC we’re committed to giving ‘4’ the benefit of ‘6’ areas of need that impact children around the world: abuse, poverty, disease, birth defects, education and nutrition,” Bunn said, explaining the company’s goal and clever logo. John McGinn of Boone is the third partner in the business.

“We wanted to create something that would capture people’s interest right off the bat. 46NYC has done that. Selling a shirt with a sports theme on it isn’t hard. Attaching a charitable cause attracts even more attention. Outside of a products’ identity, concept marketing is what drives a business,” Bunn said.

Each shirt Bunn and Kivette create sports the number 46 and is designed with a specific charity in mind. After covering their costs, 100 percent of the profit goes to the charities they support.

“We work with groups whose goals are similar to ours, like the International Justice Mission, which works to secure justice for victims of human trafficking, sexual exploitation and violent oppression,” said Kivette.

“We’re currently partnering with a project called Wine to Water out of the Boone area. They bring well-drilling equipment into developing countries to supply safe drinking water to people in refugee camps, orphanages, schools and hospitals.”

Though Bunn and Kivette have kept their jobs managing bars in the city, their goal is to turn 46NYC into full-time employment. That may be sooner than later as their fledgling business continues to attract attention.

“We feel fortunate to have come up with a concept that has been so well received even during these difficult economic times. We’ve had great support from the very beginning,” said Kivette.

“We feel fortunate to have come up with a concept that has been so well received even during these difficult economic times. We’ve had great support from the very beginning,” said Kivette.

“Much of our success is due to the excellent education Graham and I got in the Walker College of Business,” Kivette said. “There’s a lot of entrepreneurial talent coming out of Appalachian these days, and that’s surely a result of the Center for Entrepreneurship and the college’s amazing faculty.”

Learn more at www.46nyc.com
Appalachian has the soul of an entrepreneur, says Bobby Martin ’92, who is a successful entrepreneur himself.

“I see Appalachian being innovative, creative and passionate,” he said, “with a unique brand and unique differentiating factors. When you look at the other UNC campuses and their personalities, Appalachian clearly is the entrepreneur.”

In 1998, Martin co-founded a company called First Research, which provides a research database for more than 50,000 sales professionals and 800 corporate users around the world. In 2007, Martin sold First Research to Dun & Bradstreet, one of the world’s largest business database companies, and continues as its president. In 2008, the Appalachian Alumni Association honored Martin with its Young Alumni Award.

Martin says the passion and energy he found as a student at Appalachian transferred directly to his passion and energy for First Research. He says that courses in the Walker College of Business that focused on entrepreneurship sparked his desire to be one.

“We did some very creative and very cool projects,” he recalls. “One of our projects was to look at something in the economy that had never been done before. I came up with the issuance of index bonds, which did not exist at the time. Five years later they were issued and I thought to myself that I could have been in front of that. That really fired my passion to be an entrepreneur.”

Martin believes that entrepreneurship is so important to the country’s economy that he made a significant gift to the Walker College of Business, which enabled the school to hire an assistant director for the Center for Entrepreneurship.

The Center for Entrepreneurship provides a firm launch pad for entrepreneurs through newly created courses, programs and symposiums and faculty mentors who bring real-world business experience to the classroom, according to Bryan Toney, the center’s director.

“I wanted to support the center for two reasons,” Martin said. “One is the wonderful opportunity that entrepreneurship offers young people. The other was the leadership that exists in the COB – Bryan Toney and Dean Randy Edwards had the savvy and experience to make it happen. They needed the seed money to hire an assistant director in order to have the bandwidth to pull off big projects. And they made a killer hire in Julia Rowland.”

Martin, who is currently writing a book about “the heart of the entrepreneur,” says the nation as a whole benefits from entrepreneurship because it creates a high percentage of innovation. “It is a very productive part of our nation’s economy,” he said. “New businesses are never in a position to waste capital, so it’s efficient, and a huge job creator.”

He added that he is very excited about all that is happening for students and the community at Appalachian’s Center for Entrepreneurship.

“I am amazed how much of what they do impacts the community, who can take advantage of the center’s offerings as well as the students. It’s a great use of state money.”

Bobby Martin ’92

### Cornwell named 2009 Student Entrepreneur of the Year

A student who started a window tinting business and a graphics company while in school received Appalachian’s 2009 Student Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Eric Christianson Cornwell of Kilmarnock, Va., received the inaugural award from the Center for Entrepreneurship housed in the Walker College of Business. Cornwell is a sophomore management major with a concentration in entrepreneurship.

While a sophomore in high school, Cornwell started a window tinting business that now tints windows across the East Coast. He later founded the graphics company which produces billboards and other advertising. The $2,500 award was presented during the 2009 Young Entrepreneurs Symposium held on campus last spring. It is presented annually to students who have started businesses, on-campus programming, new clubs and organizations, or community service.

www.entrepreneurship.appstate.edu
First Year Seminar
A popular course gets a makeover and keeps Appalachian ahead of the curve

By Linda Coutant

Fall semester holds many “firsts” for new students: roommates, campus food, living away from home. This fall’s freshman class is a “first” itself – the first group to take the now-required First Year Seminar course that takes the best of its optional predecessor Freshman Seminar and adds a stronger, more integrated academic bent.

First Year Seminar is the introductory course in Appalachian State University’s new General Education program, which constitutes the core requirements of a degree from Appalachian. And just as Freshman Seminar made Appalachian a leader in easing students’ transition from high school to college, which prompted TIME magazine to name Appalachian a “College of the Year” in 2001, the innovative First Year Seminar is again keeping Appalachian ahead of other schools nationally.

“At the time, Freshman Seminar was very progressive and ahead of its time, but now students have evolved and need a greater challenge than before,” said Lynn Moss Sanders ’77 ’80, First Year Seminar’s faculty coordinator and a product of Appalachian’s initial cutting-edge programs, Honors and Watauga College (now called Watauga Global Community).

“I’m a big believer in integrated learning because of my experiences as an undergraduate here in the 1970s when some of Appalachian’s most unique and challenging academic programs were getting started,” said the English professor. The daughter of Appalachian’s late psychol-
First Year Seminar

Faculty members’ passion for a multi-perspective topic energizes the academic experience for students.

ogy professor Bill Moss, Sanders directed Appalachian’s Heltzer Honors Program from 2004-08 and for many years taught special sections of Freshman Seminar designed to meet the demands of honors students.

As Appalachian has increased the academic quality of all its students (the average freshman SAT is now 1158 with a 3.92 GPA), the university decided to raise the bar. “We realized that what had been designed for honors students a few years ago could now be required of all students,” Sanders said.

New course for a new type of student

Today’s Appalachian students are considered more academically prepared, socially connected and technically savvy than previous generations. The university sees them demanding more from their entire college experience, including what they gain from a college-introductory course. While students loved the old Freshman Seminar, which Appalachian first offered in 1987 to introduce new students to the university’s resources, develop study skills and make friends, the upperclassmen polled as part of Appalachian’s research of new options stated they wished the course had had more meat to it. The proposed First Year Seminar concept, they said, was really what they should have had to begin their Appalachian experience.

Freshman Seminar became a national model because it succeeded in helping new students master their first year of college, which inspired them to stay and finish their degree. In First Year Seminar, that transition-focused mindset remains, but it goes a step further.

First Year Seminar introduces students to the rigor of academic study at Appalachian. Classes are small, about 20 students, and are based on interdisciplinary topics. This year, students can choose among 95 sections with titles like “The Study of Games,” in which students will learn just as much about social issues as they will about art, math and science, and “Identity and Personal Choice,” an ecological approach to examining personal identity, interpersonal relationships, community interaction and psychological motivation. Other titles include “It’s All Geek to Me: Using Technology to Connect and Collaborate,” “Conscience and Consciousness: Ways of Knowing and Being” and “Exploring Appalachia at Appalachian.” There continue to be special First Year Seminar sections for students in the Heltzer Honors Program.

All First Year Seminar courses are taught by experienced faculty committed to helping freshmen succeed, and they do this through three primary methods: developing creative and critical thinking abilities, cultivating effective communication skills, and introducing students to a variety of research tools and methods.

“We introduce to them right away that knowledge is complex, and that to be a sophisticated learner they must pull from multiple disciplines to solve a problem,” said First Year Seminar instructor Nick Rudisill ’98 ‘04, who served as assistant director of the General Education program for the past two years and helped implement the university’s new course requirements. Now an academic advisor, he is teaching a First Year Seminar section called “From Maya to the Matrix,” which examines concepts of reality in different cultures around the world.

Sanders explained that faculty members’ passion for a multi-perspective topic energizes the academic experience for new students.

“The draw for faculty is that they get to teach a small class on a topic of special interest to them. The interest for students is getting

Getting a solid start

The First Year Seminar course, in part, connects students to key academic support services available to them throughout their time at Appalachian. These include:

Academic Advising
www.advising.appstate.edu

Academic advisors help students select appropriate classes, understand academic policies, and plan a course of study based on individual interests, skills and talents.

Learning Assistance Program
www.lap.appstate.edu

The Learning Assistance Program (LAP) provides tutoring in introductory level courses, supplemental instruction, and courses and consultations to enhance students learning skills. LAP also works with special populations of students – such as modest-income and/or first generation college students, and student-athletes – to maximize academic success.

University Writing Center
www.writingcenter.appstate.edu

The University Writing Center offers free services on a variety of projects: papers for academic courses; master’s and senior thesis chapters; personal essays for job, graduate school, and law school applications; and creative writing projects.
an understanding of the integrative approach to learning that will be required of them throughout their years at Appalachian,” she said. Sanders’ class is no exception. She is teaching a section titled “Folklore and Fairy Tales” based on her specialty of folklore – a combination of the humanities and a social science.

Like its predecessor, First Year Seminar still helps students make friends in a new environment and build community – but this time the community has broadened to include the local community through service-learning and the world at large through more international education. Each First Year Seminar section is also paired with a librarian in Belk Library and Information Commons to teach students how to glean the best, most useful information from among the massive amounts available to them. This prepares them for the continued emphasis on undergraduate research at Appalachian, which offers opportunities for students to work alongside their professors in meaningful work outside the classroom including presentations at professional conferences.

Appalachian introduced the revised focus as an optional course for the Fall 2008 freshman class, and student evaluations were immensely positive, Sanders said.

**General Education replaces old Core Curriculum**

To earn a degree from Appalachian, students must now complete 44 semester hours of General Education courses as well as a senior capstone and junior writing course in their major. General Education replaces the old Core Curriculum set of classes students were required to take in English, math, natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and physical activity/wellness.

Today, these disciplines are interwoven in four educational goals:

- Thinking critically and creatively
- Communicating effectively
- Making local to global connections
- Understanding responsibilities of community membership

“We developed this interdisciplinary approach in order to emphasize life-long learning, the ability to adapt to new environments and integrate knowledge from diverse sources. Today’s teaching and learning at Appalachian draws from national best practices as well as what employers demand from today’s graduates,” said Carter Hammett-McGarry ’73 ’85, director of General Education.

A total of 29 semester hours come from the program’s four integrated perspectives – Aesthetic, Historical and Social, Local to Global, and Science Inquiry – with rotating themes from which students select their courses. The program also includes writing courses at the freshman, sophomore and junior level; quantitative literacy courses to develop reasoning and numerical skills; and a wellness literacy requirement to enhance students’ knowledge and management of their personal health in all its dimensions. General Education culminates with a capstone experience in the student’s major, such as a research project.

The idea is that future Appalachian graduates will be more effective writers, independent as well as collaborative researchers, and can thrive in an increasingly complex world. That is what is required of a vibrant university according to Dave Haney, Appalachian’s vice provost for undergraduate education.

“The new First Year Seminar and the new General Education program show that Appalachian continues to be a national leader in innovative and successful ways to support and enhance student learning, as we meet our students’ need for an integrated, interdisciplinary education. This type of education is what gives them the transferable skills in demand in the 21st century,” Haney said.

The General Education program and First Year Seminar are part of University College, where all students at Appalachian begin their education before declaring a major.

www.general education.appstate.edu

---

**Awards encourage faculty excellence**

Each year, Appalachian presents three awards that celebrate great teaching and its impact on students. They are named for some of the university’s strongest supporters of undergraduate learning.

**Harvey R. Durham Outstanding Freshman Advocate Award**

This $1,000 cash award is presented annually to a university employee who has contributed significantly to improving the freshman experience on campus. The 2009 recipient was Lynn Moss Sanders. She has played an integral role in the lives of freshmen for 22 years by teaching freshman and upper level English courses, directing the Department of English’s honors program for seven years and the university’s Heltzer Honors Program for four years, and now serving as First Year Seminar faculty coordinator.

Previous winners were Jim Street, associate director of the Lee H. McCaskey Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, 2008; Micki R. Early, former director of orientation, 2007; Joseph T. Pollock, associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, 2006; and Joni Webb Potschauer, former director of Freshman Learning Communities, 2005.

**Rennie W. Brantz Award for Outstanding Teaching in First Year Seminar**

This $500 cash award is presented annually to a First Year Seminar (formerly Freshman Seminar) instructor who demonstrates exemplary teaching and makes an impact on student lives in this course. Jeff Goodman received the 2009 award. Previous recipients were Nick Rudisill, 2008; Beth Marsh, 2007; Debbie Marshall, 2006; and Debbie Poulos, 2005.

**Wayne D. Duncan Appalachian State University Faculty Enrichment and Teaching Fellowship**

This $1,700 award recognizes innovative and successful teaching in the General Education program. The 2009 winner was Paulette Marty of the Department of Theatre and Dance. Previous winners were Joseph Gonzalez, who teaches in the Department of History and the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, 2008; and Rick Klima of the Department of Mathematical Sciences, 2007. Retired banker Wayne D. Duncan ’65 is a past chairman of the Appalachian’s Board of Trustees and a current member of the Appalachian State University Foundation Board of Directors.
Q&A with Parent and Family Services’ Traci Royster

By Linda Coutant

In Spring 2009, Appalachian State University created a new position to better serve parents and families of enrolled students. Traci Royster ’00 ’03, a former academic advisor and internship/employment coordinator at Appalachian, was appointed Director of Parent and Family Services. Royster talks about the changing relationship among campus, parents and child.

For many years, Appalachian has had a strong Parent Orientation program and active Parents Association. Why is your position needed?

Appalachian has more and more parents now who want to be involved. They say they want to know more about the university and how they can stay connected while their child is here. It used to be that parents would bring their child to college, drop them at the door and call maybe every two weeks. But, this is a new generation. Parents are really maintaining a stronger connection with their child. They don’t just wait until there’s a problem before wanting to get involved. My colleagues on campus have worked really hard in making parents feel welcomed and involved with such things as the Parents Association and Parent Orientation, but they had other job responsibilities too. With so many parents wanting to be a part of their child’s college experience, Appalachian realized this needed to be a full-time position. Hopefully, I can be parents’ first contact to campus whenever they have questions or concerns. My job is to communicate with them so they can make healthy transitions to having a child away from home.

What are your goals for Parent and Family Services?

During Parent Orientation this summer, we heard that parents really want more communication and they want the university to be upfront about issues affecting Appalachian, like the state budget crisis. So, I’ve decided to increase the frequency of our newsletter, “Parent Connections,” to allow parents to feel more informed and updated with current issues. I’ve invited staff across campus to write articles on topics like safety, services offered by our counseling center, and health issues like the H1N1 virus. The newsletter is sent out electronically, so it’s my goal to get a usable e-mail address for every parent. We’re also looking into starting a Facebook account and blog for parents so they can communicate with each other and share helpful tips. I’m working with the Alumni Affairs office, which has 22 alumni chapters, to coordinate activities so parents can come to chapter events and network with other parents and alumni in their geographic area. I plan to hold focus groups around the state, as well, to find out more specifically what parents’ needs are.

How do parents’ needs today differ from 10 or 20 years ago?

Students and their parents are much more dependent on each other now, and I think a lot of that has to do with communication devices. Students can text, e-mail and talk on cell phones with their parents every day, several times a day. So, knowing that, we want to equip parents with the right resources just like we do with our students, so they can be successful in having a student here in college – to learn how to let go, how to allow room for their students to grow and make mistakes, when to give advice and when not. One thing we talk about in Parent Orientation is FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), which protects student information like grades. I’m considering setting up webinars on topics like FERPA to give parents more details than we have time to share in Orientation. Parents can’t access grades without their child’s permission, but they can develop a relationship in which their child is willing to share that information: “How are your classes?” “What are your professors like?” “Tell me how things are going.”

As a former student, what was your Appalachian experience like? And, does it hold true for today’s student?

My undergraduate experience was absolutely wonderful. After a month of being homesick – okay, two months! – my academic advisor took me under her wing and said, “You can do this.” She helped me set goals and showed me how to get involved on campus. I was a first-generation college student, so my parents and I, we were all scared. But on this campus, there
was never a stupid question. The people at this university made me feel so supported and made my parents feel they were a real part of campus. And I believe that’s still true. Today’s students get a wonderful amount of support from faculty, staff and the administration, and parents say they don’t feel like a number here either. That’s what Appalachian is about.

What are some specific ways parents can get involved with Appalachian?

Parents say they want to be involved, and I want to see them use their time, talent and treasures here. There are advisory boards they can join that match their interests, there are volunteer opportunities such as Family Weekend and Admissions Open House, as well as Freshman Move-In Day. This year, we had over 200 parents volunteering to help freshmen move into their residence halls. That’s the kind of desire we’re seeing among parents to be involved. Also, the university will embark on a fundraising campaign soon, and I want parents to be informed and involved in ways that are important to them and for them to give in any way they can.

You earned your bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Appalachian and have devoted much of your career to Appalachian. What keeps you here?

The people! I have a great, deep love for this place and it’s because of the wonderful students, staff, faculty and administrators we have here. This institution is open to change and that’s important. I truly love what I’m doing and feel I am exactly where I am supposed to be.

Learn more at www.parents.appstate.edu
To receive “Parent Connections” newsletter, go to www.parents.appstate.edu and click on “Join the Parents Association Mailing List.”

Traci Royster can be reached at 828-262-7398 or roystertd@appstate.edu
Assembling a Winner
Artist Trace O’Connor’s “Iscariot,” a mythological woman/octopus hybrid made from recycled steel, wins the 23rd Rosen Outdoor Sculpture Competition and Exhibition.

*Photo essay by Troy Tuttle*
Assembling a winner
“The scale and complexity of this visually animated form is powerful enough to suggest nightmares, yet gentle enough to be a simple sea creature moving through water and time,” competition juror Daniel E. Stetson said of O’Connor’s “Iscariot.” Last spring, the Greensboro artist and a crew of Appalachian students spent two days assembling his sculpture in the Wey Hall plaza. As the 2009 Rosen award winner, O’Connor, who says his work is inspired by nature, will hold a week-long residency in Appalachian’s Department of Art. It will include a public lecture, workshops and critiques of students’ work. Check www.rosensculpture.org for dates.
A portrait of Appalachian Legacies
Daisy Austin Adams ’39 was born and raised in the mountain community of Boone. She grew up surrounded by a large family, many of whom were community and business leaders. She walked the hills, fields and streets of the small town during the years of World War I, the Great Depression and beyond.

Daisy attended Appalachian State Teachers College from 1935 to 1939, her goal to be a teacher. She went on to teach in Watauga and Gaston counties, retiring in 1975.

Daisy wasn’t the first person in her family to get an Appalachian education, nor would she be the last. Her sisters, two of her brothers, and many aunts, uncles and cousins are Appalachian alumni.

On the Adams’ side of Daisy’s family her husband, Alfred Adams, was a close friend to the Dougherty brothers, Appalachian’s founders. Alfred’s father, Tarleton Pulaski Adams, a Civil War veteran, was a member of Watauga Academy’s first board of trustees.

“We have deep roots here,” said Daisy, who still lives in Boone. “My sons and three of my grandchildren also graduated from Appalachian. Their continued involvement with Appalachian is an honor to me and my love for this university.”

Like Daisy, Lula Browning Craig ’29 and Helen Melvin Caskey ’49 have woven a tapestry of family tradition around their Appalachian connections. Through the following remembrances, the families honor a legacy of continuity that spans generations.

Their voices, along with hundreds of thousands of other graduates, resound in these mountains, a testament to Appalachian’s enduring influence on countless lives.

Deep roots and family ties

When Daisy first started classes at Appalachian State Teachers College she walked from the family farm on Winkler’s Creek, about three miles each way.

“That was before my sister Ella had an apartment on campus. After that I lived there with her in a little place called the Dew Drop Inn,” she said.

Daisy recalls her professors at Appalachian as outstanding. “Like Amos Abrams, an English literature professor,” she said. “He inspired me to be a reader and to appreciate literature and books. I tried to pass that love on to the children I taught.”

According to her grand-
Appalachian Legacies

A glimpse into Appalachian’s past

A new resource of the Appalachian State University Archives opens a digital window to the university’s past for online browsers.

The Appalachian State University Historical Photographs Digitization Project is a comprehensive digital collection of images representing the history of Appalachian from 1903 to the present. More than 7,000 photos with accompanying descriptions depict the visual history of Appalachian’s physical, economic, social, administrative and academic growth, in addition to the university’s connection to the local community, state and region.

The project was supported by North Carolina ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) through funds from the Library Services and Technology Act and the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences.

Access the images at http://contentdm.library.appstate.edu/docapp/digit

daughter, Cheryl Adams Catoe ’93, Daisy’s influence as a teacher in the area was deeply felt.

“We couldn’t go anywhere without someone coming up to tell us how much Mama Daisy meant to them as a teacher. She was certainly my inspiration,” said Cheryl, who taught school before becoming a stay-at-home mom.

Tom Adams Sr. ’70, one of Daisy’s sons and Cheryl’s father, is the golf pro at Boone Golf Club. He and his brothers Sam Adams ’68 and Austin Adams ’65 played golf for Appalachian, and Sam and Austin are in the university’s Athletics Hall of Fame.

“The impact Appalachian has had on our family over the years has been tremendous,” he said. “Our connection to the university is something we’re all very proud of.”

Tom’s son, Tommy Adams Jr. ’08, was a Student Ambassador while at Appalachian. He continues to be an enthusiastic supporter of the university, and of his family’s deep ties to both Appalachian and Boone.

“I’m invested as an alumus in what the university does going into the future,” said Tommy, a business major who manages two fast-food restaurant franchises. “Every stride it makes is special
because I can look back and see how members of my family have impacted the school's history.

**Bridging the generations**

Helen Melvin Caskey '49 entered Appalachian State Teachers College in 1946, just as the region and the world were recovering from World War II.

"The atmosphere on campus was different because of this," said Helen, who married John Rockwell Caskey '49, a classmate who entered Appalachian on the GI Bill and a football scholarship.

"These young men were more serious than the rest of us, ready to put their education behind them and get on with their lives," she said.

Helen and John, now deceased, were both physical education majors. They met during their junior year. She recalls how dating and campus life back then were quite different from today.

"We weren't allowed to have cars on campus so we walked everywhere we went. We danced to juke box records, played table tennis, and visited with our beaus in the parlors of the girls' dorms under the watchful eyes of our housemothers," she said.

Although the campus has changed beyond recognition since Helen graduated 60 years ago, she says it still feels like home to her. The girls' dorms from that time are gone, "the music hall burned to the ground in 1946, and piece by piece the administration building we went to disappeared."

"It's a different campus, but when I come back up the mountain it still feels like I'm coming home," she said.

Helen's daughter Cathy Caskey Baker '76 and Baker's son Brian, who is enrolled as a senior, followed in her and John's footsteps, creating their own living legacy of Appalachian alumni.

"My parents had wonderful memories of Appalachian, so I heard a lot about it growing up. That had a big impact on my decision to go there," said Cathy, who was on the flag corps at Appalachian and followed her parents into teaching. She is a kindergarten teacher in Cabarrus County.

Brian describes his family's tenure with Appalachian as "bridging the generations."

"I can go up to the Athletics Hall of Fame and see my grandfather's name. And both he and my grandmother are on the Wall of Fame. It's really cool. It helps me actually see the evolution of campus," said the graphic design major.

**A legacy of family dreams**

Lula Browning Craig '29 came to Appalachian State Normal School thinking Boone was a "big city" because she didn't have to milk the cows like she did back home in Nebo.

"I started milking the cows when I was just a little girl," said Lula, who at age 103 is considered Appalachian's oldest living alumna.

"I've always worked. I'm working now, cutting off the corn to put up," she laughs, her sense of humor fully present.

Lula's lifelong work ethic and her desire to attend Appalachian are evident in her ownership of two high school diplomas. The first was refused by Appalachian because the school's curriculum was not accredited. She then attended Glen Alpine High School for three months to fulfill the necessary requirements.

"I always wanted to be a teacher. And I lived for the dream that I would get to attend Appalachian. I had a hard time getting there, but I did it," she said.

The teaching career Lula dreamed of lasted for more than 40 years. She taught in Burke and McDowell county elementary schools until she retired in 1971. Her days at Appalachian began a family legacy of alumni spanning three generations.

**Bridging the generations**

Helen Melvin Caskey '49 entered Appalachian State Teachers College in 1946, just as the region and the world were recovering from World War II.

"The atmosphere on campus was different because of this," said Helen, who married John Rockwell Caskey '49, a classmate who entered Appalachian on the GI Bill and a football scholarship.

"These young men were more serious than the rest of us, ready to put their education behind them and get on with their lives," she said.

Helen and John, now deceased, were both physical education majors. They met during their junior year. She recalls how dating and campus life back then were quite different from today.

"We weren’t allowed to have cars on campus so we walked everywhere we went. We danced to juke box records, played table tennis, and visited with our beaus in the parlors of the girls’ dorms under the watchful eyes of our housemothers," she said.

Although the campus has changed beyond recognition since Helen graduated 60 years ago, she says it still feels like home to her. The girls’ dorms from that time are gone, “the music hall burned to the ground in 1946, and piece by piece the administration building we went to disappeared.”

“It’s a different campus, but when I come back up the mountain it still feels like I’m coming home,” she said.

Helen’s daughter Cathy Caskey Baker ‘76 and Baker’s son Brian, who is enrolled as a senior, followed in her and John’s footsteps, creating their own living legacy of Appalachian alumni.

“My parents had wonderful memories of Appalachian, so I heard a lot about it growing up. That had a big impact on my decision to go there,” said Cathy, who was on the flag corps at Appalachian and followed her parents into teaching. She is a kindergarten teacher in Cabarrus County.

Brian describes his family’s tenure with Appalachian as “bridging the generations.”

“I can go up to the Athletics Hall of Fame and see my grandfather’s name. And both he and my grandmother are on the Wall of Fame. It’s really cool. It helps me actually see the evolution of campus,” said the graphic design major.

**A legacy of family dreams**

Lula Browning Craig ‘29 came to Appalachian State Normal School thinking Boone was a “big city” because she didn’t have to milk the cows like she did back home in Nebo.

“I started milking the cows when I was just a little girl,” said Lula, who at age 103 is considered Appalachian’s oldest living alumna.

“I’ve always worked. I’m working now, cutting off the corn to put up,” she laughs, her sense of humor fully present.

Lula’s lifelong work ethic and her desire to attend Appalachian are evident in her ownership of two high school diplomas. The first was refused by Appalachian because the school’s curriculum was not accredited. She then attended Glen Alpine High School for three months to fulfill the necessary requirements.

“I always wanted to be a teacher. And I lived for the dream that I would get to attend Appalachian. I had a hard time getting there, but I did it,” she said.

The teaching career Lula dreamed of lasted for more than 40 years. She taught in Burke and McDowell county elementary schools until she retired in 1971. Her days at Appalachian began a family legacy of alumni spanning three generations.

**Bridging the generations**

Helen Melvin Caskey ’49 entered Appalachian State Teachers College in 1946, just as the region and the world were recovering from World War II.

“The atmosphere on campus was different because of this,” said Helen, who married John Rockwell Caskey ’49, a classmate who entered Appalachian on the GI Bill and a football scholarship.

“These young men were more serious than the rest of us, ready to put their education behind them and get on with their lives,” she said.

Helen and John, now deceased, were both physical education majors. They met during their junior year. She recalls how dating and campus life back then were quite different from today.

“We weren’t allowed to have cars on campus so we walked everywhere we went. We danced to juke box records, played table tennis, and visited with our beaus in the parlors of the girls’ dorms under the watchful eyes of our housemothers,” she said.

Although the campus has changed beyond recognition since Helen graduated 60 years ago, she says it still feels like home to her. The girls’ dorms from that time are gone, “the music hall burned to the ground in 1946, and piece by piece the administration building we went to disappeared.”

“It’s a different campus, but when I come back up the mountain it still feels like I’m coming home,” she said.

Helen’s daughter Cathy Caskey Baker ’76 and Baker’s son Brian, who is enrolled as a senior, followed in her and John’s footsteps, creating their own living legacy of Appalachian alumni.

“My parents had wonderful memories of Appalachian, so I heard a lot about it growing up. That had a big impact on my decision to go there,” said Cathy, who was on the flag corps at Appalachian and followed her parents into teaching. She is a kindergarten teacher in Cabarrus County.

Brian describes his family’s tenure with Appalachian as “bridging the generations.”

“I can go up to the Athletics Hall of Fame and see my grandfather’s name. And both he and my grandmother are on the Wall of Fame. It’s really cool. It helps me actually see the evolution of campus,” said the graphic design major.

**A legacy of family dreams**

Lula Browning Craig ’29 came to Appalachian State Normal School thinking Boone was a “big city” because she didn’t have to milk the cows like she did back home in Nebo.

“I started milking the cows when I was just a little girl,” said Lula, who at age 103 is considered Appalachian’s oldest living alumna.

“I’ve always worked. I’m working now, cutting off the corn to put up,” she laughs, her sense of humor fully present.

Lula’s lifelong work ethic and her desire to attend Appalachian are evident in her ownership of two high school diplomas. The first was refused by Appalachian because the school’s curriculum was not accredited. She then attended Glen Alpine High School for three months to fulfill the necessary requirements.

“I always wanted to be a teacher. And I lived for the dream that I would get to attend Appalachian. I had a hard time getting there, but I did it,” she said.

The teaching career Lula dreamed of lasted for more than 40 years. She taught in Burke and McDowell county elementary schools until she retired in 1971. Her days at Appalachian began a family legacy of alumni spanning three generations.
MARCHING MOUNTAINEERS TURN 75 What’s a football game without the band? This year, Appalachian’s Marching Mountaineers celebrate their 75th anniversary of entertaining gridiron crowds. What started as a 14-member group now exceeds 300 students. Dubbed “North Carolina’s Band of Distinction” in 1972 by its members, the Marching Mountaineers have performed before crowds at University of South Carolina, Clemson University, N.C. State, Louisiana State and Michigan University, and even traveled to London to march in the city’s 2006 New Year’s Day parade. In this 1955 homecoming photograph, the band plays on the old College Field where Edwin Duncan Hall, Rankin Science and a parking lot are now located. In the background are Smith-Wright Hall (left), which still stands, and the Administration Building, which was destroyed by fire in 1966.

Photo by John Alfred Pritchett (1925-2008)
Portions of alumni notes received from Jan. 1 to July 4, 2009.

**Awards & Recognition**

**2000s**

JEFF MCRAEY ’09 received a master of business administration degree from The College of William & Mary, May 2009.

EMILIE SCHAEFFER ’09 is teaching first grade at Thales Academy.

MATTHEW PRENTICE ’08 has been elected to a three-year term as a delegate to the National Association of Social Workers, North Carolina chapter.

JESSICA FOSTER ’08 and Jack Thomas of Mocksville were married June 20, 2008.

LAUREN (JONES) HOFFMAN ’08 and Greg Hoffman of Mount Holly were married Jan. 17, 2008.

MATTHEW PRENTICE ’08 and AMY (SALAHSHOUR) PRENTICE ’08 of Carborro were married May 29, 2008.

CLAYTON ROBERTS ’08 and Callison (Samuels) Roberts of Beaufort were married May 16, 2008.

JESSICA TUGMAN ’08 and JAMES GWYN ’07 were married Aug. 2, 2008.

LINDSEY COLE ROSE ’08 and Traver Wilson of Deep Gap were married Dec. 20, 2008.

MATTHEW PRENTICE ’08 received a master of social work degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 2009. He is working as a respite counselor at Easter Seals UCP NC in Durham.

TIMOTHY DAVIN ’08 is working with Iron Enterprises/Rich as a photographer for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, D.C. His site was selected as the “2008 Capital Area Site of the Year.”

JULIA HISTED ’08 accepted a position with the Peace Corps in Ginch, Ethiopia as a volunteer doing HIV/AIDS work.

BEN PARK ’08 is an assistant sound designer/sound recordist at Horizon Video Productions in Durham.

REBECCA REAVIS ’08 is working as a junior interior designer at Walter Robbs Callahan & Pierce in Winston-Salem.

JASON ZARAGOZA ’08 and REBECCA (MILLER) ZARAGOZA ’06 announce the birth of Ava, March 18.

KRISTAL STEWART ’07 received a master’s in higher education administration from Appalachian, May 2009.


AMY PENHOLLOW ’06 is a mental health technician/associate professional with Lawson Support Services in Wilkesboro.

KATHRYN SULLIVAN ’06 and CHRISTOPHER GRUBB ’06 of Bluffton, S.C., were married Oct. 11, 2008.

STACY (KING) DUNCAN ’06 and Steven Duncan announce the birth of Hudson Gray, on May 8.

KYLE SIGMON ’06 and ELISE (MILLER) SIGMON ’06 announce the birth of Jacob Bostic, Dec. 29, 2008.

STEFANI (GLESNER) WILMOTH ’06 and DORRIAN WILMOTH ’06 announce the birth of Kaelyn Leigh, Feb. 9.

MICHAEL WILFONG ’05, a real estate agent with Keller Williams Realty, received Charlotte’s Fire Star award for Best in Client Satisfaction, the 2009 ALC Board of Directors position, and 6th position in Union County’s Top Sales Associates.

WHITNEY (HARMER) BROOKS ’05 and GEOFFREY BROOKS ’05 of Greensboro were married Oct. 11, 2008.

CHRISTOPHER LAMBERT ’05 and ASHLEY (FARRINGTON) LAMBERT ’04 of Jefferson were married May 18.

WHITNEY (HARMER) BROOKS ’05 received a master of medical science in physician assistant studies from...
Wake Forest University School of Medicine, May 2009.

CHARLES McMILLAN JR. ’05 is an engineering technician at PowerComm Engineering Inc. in Raleigh.

MARK DOUGHERTY ’05 and Amanda Dougherty announce the birth of Madden Miller, March 6.

AMY (PANNELL) LANDIS ’05 and MARK LANDIS ’03 announce the birth of Emerson Kaye, Feb. 27.

BLAKE KIGHTLINGER ’04 received a doctorate in medicine with cum laude honors from Georgetown University, May 2009.

DOUGLAS CHEEK ’04 and Christie Cheek announce the birth of Sean Harrell and the birth of Maddox Shaw, April 2.


TRACIE (PARKS) WELCH ’04 and JIMMIE WELCH ’05 announce the birth of Natalie May, Jan. 3.

NICOLE SLAGLE ’04 and ROD SLAGLE ’05 announce the birth of Brody, Jan. 15.

BENJAMIN WARREN ’04 announces the birth of Benjamin Branley, April 11.

MEREDITH MCBURNEY ’03, a communication specialist in BB&T’s institutional services department in Raleigh, has been promoted to manager, financial improvement Team and Scholarship Committee, and planning special events. She also has served as assistant athletic director and varsity cheerleading coach. Her efforts to give back to Appalachian include serving on the Alumni Council, and acting as an honorary member of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees, the Appalachian State University Foundation Board of Directors, and the Yosef Advisory Board. She received the Outstanding Service Award from the Appalachian Alumni Association in 2001.

CARL L. Clarke ’52 ’77 of Kernersville has led a colorful career. He taught for 38 years in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school district, served as a coach and administrator, and engaged in stage acting and directing along the way. After his retirement from teaching in 1990, the school board named a street in his honor at Glenn High School, and a football field after him at East Forsyth High School. His stage career includes playing the lead in “Horn in the West,” performing in theatres in Salem, Va., Myrtle Beach, Charlotte and Winston-Salem, and a directing stint with the Charlotte Opera Association.

Cynthia M. Poe ’76 ’78 ’82 of Denver served the Lincoln County school system as both teacher and principal from 1976 to 2005, when she retired for the first time. Just six months into retirement Poe returned to help her former employer with interim positions as principal, assistant principal and teacher. In 1991 and 2001 she was honored as the Lincoln County Principal of the Year. She has served on the Appalachian Alumni Council since 1987, including a term as Alumni Council President from 1991-93, and is currently a member of the Reich College of Education Advancement Board.

The Rhododendron Society recognizes Appalachian graduates whose service as teachers, librarians, human service professionals and/or administrators reflect great credit on them, the field of education and the university.

To complete a nomination form, go to www.ced.appstate.edu/alumni/societies/rhododendron

Rhododendron Society Inductees

During the Black and Gold Reunion in July, three alumni who have made exemplary contributions to the teaching profession were inducted into the Reich College of Education’s Rhododendron Society:

Marie Furches ’80 of Winston-Salem is a dedicated teacher at North Forsyth High School. She teaches 9th and 11th grade English, and is involved in extracurricular activities, such as participating on the School Improvement Team and Scholarship Committee, and planning special events. She also has served as assistant athletic director and varsity cheerleading coach. Her efforts to give back to Appalachian include serving on the Alumni Council, and acting as an honorary member of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees, the Appalachian State University Foundation Board of Directors, and the Yosef Advisory Board. She received the Outstanding Service Award from the Appalachian Alumni Association in 2001.

Cynthia M. Poe ’76 ’78 ’82 of Denver served the Lincoln County school system as both teacher and principal from 1976 to 2005, when she retired for the first time. Just six months into retirement Poe returned to help her former employer with interim positions as principal, assistant principal and teacher. In 1991 and 2001 she was honored as the Lincoln County Principal of the Year. She has served on the Appalachian Alumni Council since 1987, including a term as Alumni Council President from 1991-93, and is currently a member of the Reich College of Education Advancement Board.

The Rhododendron Society recognizes Appalachian graduates whose service as teachers, librarians, human service professionals and/or administrators reflect great credit on them, the field of education and the university.

To complete a nomination form, go to www.ced.appstate.edu/alumni/societies/rhododendron

Henry, March 24.

REBECCA (MARKUSEN) GATTONI ’01 and BRIAN GATTONI ’01 announce the birth of Bianca Darlene, Jan. 13.

HEATHER (HAMILTON) LUNDGREN ’01 and Jeremy Lundgren announce the birth of Cameron Thomas, Feb. 3.

JAIMIE (EGGERS) MACK ’01 and Dennis Mack announce the birth of Lucy Claire, Dec. 27.

CAREY CAMPBELL ’00 is IT
Appalachian Today Fall 2009

Alumna sheds light on connection between God and job performance

Can individuals’ views of God influence their job performance? Amber Hardesty ’08 MA says yes, and her work on the topic is receiving national attention.

“Spiritual views can permeate all aspects of a person’s life, so why not the workplace, too?” said Jim Westerman, Appalachian’s Daggett Professor of Management in the Walker College of Business. He was Hardesty’s thesis advisor.

Her thesis, “Relating religious beliefs to workplace values: Meta-ethical development, locus of control and conscientiousness,” was selected for Best Paper Proceedings of the National Academy of Management’s 2009 annual meeting in August.

“It’s extremely rare for a master’s student’s work to be accepted for presentation at the academy, much less receive ‘Best Paper’ recognition,” said Jim Westerman, Appalachian’s Daggett Professor of Management in the Walker College of Business. He was Hardesty’s thesis advisor.

“In the business sector spirituality is increasing in prevalence, and has been linked to higher employee creativity, commitment and performance. Amber’s pioneering study uncovered a variety of important relationships for future study in this regard. Given the ethical challenges our major corporations seem to be facing, this is an area that needs a closer look,” Westerman said.

For her thesis, Hardesty polled 250 Appalachian students about their religious beliefs, values, level of control they believe they have over their lives and other beliefs. Among other things, her findings indicate that the more an individual views God as angry and highly engaged in their life, the less they are able to engage in higher levels of moral/ethical reasoning. She also found that such individuals have higher conscientiousness scores, tend to be more self-disciplined, and will strive for achievement.

Understanding people’s image of God may eventually allow supervisors and co-workers to better predict their workplace values, attitudes and behaviors, said Hardesty, who now works in human resources for Premier Inc. in Charlotte.

Gina Pepper ’00 and David Porter announce the birth of Erin Asley, March 9.

Jennifer (Marchione) Poindexter ’00 and Brad Poindexter ’00 announce the birth of Jacob Lewis, Dec. 18, 2008.

Kim (Squire) Kapella ’00 and Chuck Kapella announce the birth of Mason James, Oct. 23, 2008.

Melissa (Carmichael) York ’00 and Greg York announce the birth of Madyson Weaver, Nov. 24, 2007.

Brad F. Davis ’00 and Sarah Fisher of Hickory were married Dec. 6, 2008. Brad is national sales manager with Twin City Knitting.

Deaths


1990s


Ian Adams ’99 and Brigitte Adams announce the birth of Bailey Armand, March 5.

Cristy (Smith) Smart ’99 and Kenneth Smart announce the birth of Calley Blaine, March 9.


Norman Staines ’98 received a master of business administration degree from Gardner-Webb University, May 2008.


Sally (Choate) Friedman ’98 and Dan Friedman ’96 announce the birth of Calla Ruth, Aug. 8, 2008.


Kathryn Goforth ’97 and Brian Turner of Carrboro were married in November 2007. Kathryn is associate director for advising at UNC-Chapel Hill Study Abroad.


Kelly Holleman ’97 and Jody

Alumni Notes

Infrastructure program/project manager for equities, future and options businesses with J.P. Morgan Investment Bank, New York, N.Y.


Tara Pierce ’00 is director of Rockingham County Youth Services in Wentworth.


Deaths


Ian Adams ’99 and Brigitte Adams announce the birth of Bailey Armand, March 5.

Cristy (Smith) Smart ’99 and Kenneth Smart announce the birth of Calley Blaine, March 9.


Norman Staines ’98 received a master of business administration degree from Gardner-Webb University, May 2008.


Sally (Choate) Friedman ’98 and Dan Friedman ’96 announce the birth of Calla Ruth, Aug. 8, 2008.


Kathryn Goforth ’97 and Brian Turner of Carrboro were married in November 2007. Kathryn is associate director for advising at UNC-Chapel Hill Study Abroad.


Kelly Holleman ’97 and Jody
During the Spring Alumni Weekend in April, four people were recognized for their distinguished careers and outstanding service to Appalachian. Pictured above with Chancellor Kenneth Peacock are from left, Bradley T. Adcock, Brig. Gen. Gill Beck, Jeff Reid and John Blackburn.

Bradley T. Adcock ’76 of Cary received the Outstanding Service Award. He is vice president for government affairs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina and is the company’s spokesperson on matters of health care reform. He served as a member of the UNC Board of Governors from 1997-2009 and now serves on Appalachian’s Board of Trustees.

Brig. Gen. Gill Beck ’78 of Greensboro received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He has led a career of distinction as both a civilian and soldier. He has been an assistant U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of North Carolina since 1992, and has served with the U.S. Army Reserve in a variety of positions. In 2008 he was promoted to brigadier general with the reserves.

Jeff Reid ’93 of Washington, D.C. received the Young Alumnus Award. He has achieved success in the public and private sectors promoting, supporting and growing entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial efforts of business clients. He was founding executive director of UNC Chapel Hill’s Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, and is currently director of entrepreneurship and real estate initiatives, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

John Blackburn of Linville was named an honorary alumnus. He is president of Linville Resorts Inc. This summer he relinquished his position as chair of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees to begin a four-year term on the UNC Board of Governors. During his tenure with Appalachian, Blackburn led efforts to establish scholarships for students from underrepresented populations and low-income families, and helped with the Athletics Facilities Enhancement Campaign.

Learn more about the alumni award program and nomination process at www.alumni.appstate.edu.awards.

2009 Alumni Award Winners

Jeff Reid ’93 of Washington, D.C. received the Young Alumnus Award. He has achieved success in the public and private sectors promoting, supporting and growing entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial efforts of business clients. He was founding executive director of UNC Chapel Hill’s Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, and is currently director of entrepreneurship and real estate initiatives, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

John Blackburn of Linville was named an honorary alumnus. He is president of Linville Resorts Inc. This summer he relinquished his position as chair of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees to begin a four-year term on the UNC Board of Governors. During his tenure with Appalachian, Blackburn led efforts to establish scholarships for students from underrepresented populations and low-income families, and helped with the Athletics Facilities Enhancement Campaign.

Learn more about the alumni award program and nomination process at www.alumni.appstate.edu.awards.

2009 Alumni Award Winners

During the Spring Alumni Weekend in April, four people were recognized for their distinguished careers and outstanding service to Appalachian. Pictured above with Chancellor Kenneth Peacock are from left, Bradley T. Adcock, Brig. Gen. Gill Beck, Jeff Reid and John Blackburn.

Bradley T. Adcock ’76 of Cary received the Outstanding Service Award. He is vice president for government affairs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina and is the company’s spokesperson on matters of health care reform. He served as a member of the UNC Board of Governors from 1997-2009 and now serves on Appalachian’s Board of Trustees.

Brig. Gen. Gill Beck ’78 of Greensboro received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He has led a career of distinction as both a civilian and soldier. He has been an assistant U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of North Carolina since 1992, and has served with the U.S. Army Reserve in a variety of positions. In 2008 he was promoted to brigadier general with the reserves.

Jeff Reid ’93 of Washington, D.C. received the Young Alumnus Award. He has achieved success in the public and private sectors promoting, supporting and growing entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial efforts of business clients. He was founding executive director of UNC Chapel Hill’s Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, and is currently director of entrepreneurship and real estate initiatives, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

John Blackburn of Linville was named an honorary alumnus. He is president of Linville Resorts Inc. This summer he relinquished his position as chair of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees to begin a four-year term on the UNC Board of Governors. During his tenure with Appalachian, Blackburn led efforts to establish scholarships for students from underrepresented populations and low-income families, and helped with the Athletics Facilities Enhancement Campaign.

Learn more about the alumni award program and nomination process at www.alumni.appstate.edu.awards.

2009 Alumni Award Winners

During the Spring Alumni Weekend in April, four people were recognized for their distinguished careers and outstanding service to Appalachian. Pictured above with Chancellor Kenneth Peacock are from left, Bradley T. Adcock, Brig. Gen. Gill Beck, Jeff Reid and John Blackburn.

Bradley T. Adcock ’76 of Cary received the Outstanding Service Award. He is vice president for government affairs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina and is the company’s spokesperson on matters of health care reform. He served as a member of the UNC Board of Governors from 1997-2009 and now serves on Appalachian’s Board of Trustees.

Brig. Gen. Gill Beck ’78 of Greensboro received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He has led a career of distinction as both a civilian and soldier. He has been an assistant U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of North Carolina since 1992, and has served with the U.S. Army Reserve in a variety of positions. In 2008 he was promoted to brigadier general with the reserves.

Jeff Reid ’93 of Washington, D.C. received the Young Alumnus Award. He has achieved success in the public and private sectors promoting, supporting and growing entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial efforts of business clients. He was founding executive director of UNC Chapel Hill’s Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, and is currently director of entrepreneurship and real estate initiatives, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

John Blackburn of Linville was named an honorary alumnus. He is president of Linville Resorts Inc. This summer he relinquished his position as chair of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees to begin a four-year term on the UNC Board of Governors. During his tenure with Appalachian, Blackburn led efforts to establish scholarships for students from underrepresented populations and low-income families, and helped with the Athletics Facilities Enhancement Campaign.

Learn more about the alumni award program and nomination process at www.alumni.appstate.edu.awards.

2009 Alumni Award Winners

During the Spring Alumni Weekend in April, four people were recognized for their distinguished careers and outstanding service to Appalachian. Pictured above with Chancellor Kenneth Peacock are from left, Bradley T. Adcock, Brig. Gen. Gill Beck, Jeff Reid and John Blackburn.

Bradley T. Adcock ’76 of Cary received the Outstanding Service Award. He is vice president for government affairs with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina and is the company’s spokesperson on matters of health care reform. He served as a member of the UNC Board of Governors from 1997-2009 and now serves on Appalachian’s Board of Trustees.

Brig. Gen. Gill Beck ’78 of Greensboro received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He has led a career of distinction as both a civilian and soldier. He has been an assistant U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of North Carolina since 1992, and has served with the U.S. Army Reserve in a variety of positions. In 2008 he was promoted to brigadier general with the reserves.

Jeff Reid ’93 of Washington, D.C. received the Young Alumnus Award. He has achieved success in the public and private sectors promoting, supporting and growing entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial efforts of business clients. He was founding executive director of UNC Chapel Hill’s Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, and is currently director of entrepreneurship and real estate initiatives, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

John Blackburn of Linville was named an honorary alumnus. He is president of Linville Resorts Inc. This summer he relinquished his position as chair of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees to begin a four-year term on the UNC Board of Governors. During his tenure with Appalachian, Blackburn led efforts to establish scholarships for students from underrepresented populations and low-income families, and helped with the Athletics Facilities Enhancement Campaign.

Learn more about the alumni award program and nomination process at www.alumni.appstate.edu.awards.
alumni notes

KIMBERLY (HUBBARD) STURDIVANT ’91 received a master of arts in community counseling from Appalachian, Dec. 21, 2008. This spring she received certification as a Board Eligible Licensed Professional Counselor and a National Certified Counselor.

MICHAEL SCALES ’91 has been promoted to associate vice president for student affairs at Temple University in Philadelphia.

ROBIN (RACKLEY) THORNTON ’91 is director of human resources at Great Wolf Lodge in Concord.

NANCY NORRIS ’90 received the Outstanding Staff Award at Western Piedmont Community College in August 2008.

MARK SANDS ’90 has been promoted to supervisor of the activations team for Clearpoint Financial Services.

MIKE WRIGHT ’90 recently purchased a franchise from Ameriprise Financial. He serves as an independent financial advisor in Salisbury. He is also Yosef Club president for 2009.

RONALD NANNEY ’90 received a doctorate in curriculum and teaching from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, May 2008. He is now dean of basic skills at Cleveland Community College in Shelby.

SUSAN NASSIF ’90 received a master of science degree from East Carolina University, May 2009.

ROBERT COUCH ’90 and Kimberly Couch announce the birth of Adam Coy, Jan. 11, 2008.

Academic and staff deaths

RUBY DONALD DANIEL, longtime friend and supporter of Appalachian, died May 13 at age 89. As a young woman, she taught and coached at the Demonstration Elementary School in Boone. From 1979-87 she served on Appalachian’s Board of Trustees and in 1985 served on the Appalachian State University Foundation Board of Directors. From 2004-07 she served on the advisory committee of Appalachian’s first National Endowment for Humanities challenge grant. She was married to HUGH S. DANIEL JR. ’43, a 1975 Appalachian Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

THOMAS ADRIAN DEDGE, coordinator of Appalachian’s Educational Media Services, died Sept. 13. He was 39. Dedge had worked at the university for more than 10 years, first as a student assistant. He earned his bachelor’s degree in graphic arts and imaging technology from Appalachian in 2007.

MELVIN HENRY GRUENSFELDER, an Appalachian professor emeritus, died May 21. He was 89. Gruensfelder served in the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean Conflict. He joined Appalachian’s Department of Health Education, Physical Education and Recreation in 1969 and retired in 1985.

DR. ERIC JORDAN HATCH, 66, a professor in the Department of Psychology from 1979-2009, died in a motor vehicle accident Aug. 29. Hatch was the founding coordinator of the School Psychology Graduate Program. In addition to his responsibilities at the university, Hatch maintained a private practice in Watauga County. Memorials may be made to the Eric Hatch Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o ASU Box 32014, Boone, N.C. 28608.

PEYTON ALBERT HUGUES, a member of Appalachian’s faculty for 30 years, died Jan. 23 in the Lesser Antilles while guest lecturing with the Silversea Cruise Line. He was 71. During his tenure at Appalachian, he was a faculty member in the Department of Sociology, conducted the Institute on Constitutional Democracy for public school teachers, and created both the Center for Community Education and The Center for the Study of Private Enterprise. He retired as professor emeritus in 1998.

ERNEST LEWIS JONES, director of Appalachian’s Computer Center from 1979-95, died July 23. He was 82. Under his leadership, the campus grew significantly with newer technologies, including personal computers, computer networks, the first e-mail, and services to support academic computing. In 1981, he received the national Frank Martin award for exemplary service to the college and university information technology community.

1980s

SHELLEY KAEBR ’89 has published her book “Kiss at Blarney Castle” under the name Leah Leonard. It is available through Amazon.com.

AMY (HERMAN) FREEMAN ’89 and Alex Freeman announce the birth of Victoria Ann, Dec. 8, 2008.

DAVID BARRINGER ’88, a producer with Raycom Sports, won three Regional Emmys from the Nashville/Midsouth Chapter of The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

TERRY WORRELL ’88 has been named regional superintendent for Guilford County Schools.

JOHN EVANS ’88 and Carolyn Evans announce the birth of Addison Joyce, Nov. 20, 2008.

COACH T.R. ROBINSON ’87 was inducted into East Burke High School’s Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2008. In May, Robinson received a master of arts in educational media from Appalachian.

MELISSA (CAMPBELL) CLINE ’87 and Steven Cline announce the birth of Ana Elizabeth, Oct. 5, 2007.

ANGELA WILSON ’86 has been promoted to senior buyer at Aunt Samantha’s Trunk in Sugar Grove.

JEFFERY WOODARD ’86 received an ACRA/CCLA in Insurance Claims Law from American Educational Institute, September 2008. He is a regional claims manager with First Acceptance Services in Nashville.

BRIAN HOAGLAND ’85, owner of Hoaglandscape, received the designation of Certified Aquascape Contractor. Hoagland is the first CAC in Gaston County.

DANIEL LOFTIS ’84 received a master of arts in instructional technology from Appalachian, December 2008.

RANDY FULP ’83, director of photography at WTVI Charlotte, received a Regional Emmy Award during the 23rd Annual Nashville/Midsouth Regional Emmy Awards ceremony for his work lighting television and documentary projects.

DAVID WEINBERG ’81, a sports writer with The Press of Atlantic City, received third place in the Pro Football Writers Association’s annual national contest.

WAYNE C. MATTHEWS ’80 received an educational specialist in higher education degree from Appalachian, December 2008.

Deaths

LINDA BRIDGES ’88, March 25.

BENJAMIN MIKEL ’88, Jan. 22.


EARL WILBERT LOCKLEAR JR. ’86, Aug. 7.

STEVEN MOLLACH ’84, Dec. 9, 2007.

1970s

KAY (SLOPPY) COUCH ’78 received the EM Dudley Award and the Great Teacher Award from Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute, where she is director of the music program.

RAN WHITLEY ’77, chair of the Division of Fine Arts and the Alma Dark Howard Chair of Music at Campbell University, was promoted to full professor Oct. 2008. In 2008 he also published his fourth book of Off orchestrations with Macie Publishing, Rockaway, N.J.

DEBORAH HAM ’77 and John Vittal of Albuquerque, N.M. were married June 13.

TIMOTHY BURLESON ’77 has been promoted to coordinator of ministry to motorcycle roadracing at Motor Racing Outreach in Concord.

ELIZABETH (BOWEN) ASHY ’76 received a doctor of ministry degree from Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, May 2009.

ROBBIE SHARRETT ’74 won seven gold medals in track and field at his first High Country Senior Games in 2009.

MICHAEL F. SAUNDERS ’74 retired after 52 years of service to Philip Morris USA on March 1.


GEORGE BLANCHARD ’72, a civil servant and military veteran, retired Feb. 28 from the U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge, Tenn.

HANK HAMMOND ’72 was inducted into the York County Sports Hall of Fame on May 5.

WAYNE SWISHER ’72, an environmental, safety and health engineer with Lockheed Martin in Houston, Texas, helps build and design cargo the Space Shuttle takes to the International Space Station.

WILLIAM VIGER ’72 is assistant boys soccer coach at Blessed Trinity Catholic High School,
Roswell, Ga.

DELMAL (WILLIAMS) HARRIS '71 has retired after 20 years of service to Rutherford and McDowell County schools, and N.C. Department of Corrections, Division of Prisons.

NANCY (HIPPI) WUDSPETH '71 has retired after 35 years of teaching in North Carolina.

deaths

GEORGE POPE '78, July 1, 2008.
SUSAN KEEVER '77, May 23.
ETHEL SHIVER '76, March 13.
GARY B. MONEY '75, March 25, 2008.
KEITH DUDLEY '75, Jan. 14.
ROBERT LEAK '75, March 14.
BARBARA (PINSON) MORROW '74, July 6, 2007.
ELDRIDGE COGGS '73, Aug. 28, 2008.
CATHERINE FELLERS '72, April 23, 2007.
JANE HAWKINS '72, July 30, 2008.

1960s

DONNA (MECHAM) TALLY '69 was named North Carolina Health Science Teacher of the Year for 2008, the same year she retired from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg public school system.

JAMES JOINES '69 received an honorary doctorate from Wake Forest University, May 2009.

SHEILA (SNIPES) SMITH '69 retired from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg public school system on Oct. 1, 2068, after 35 years of service.

WALT JENNETTE '68 has started First Colony Asset Management, LLC, an independent registered investment advisor in Raleigh.

deaths

DAVID GRYDER '67, April 16.
RANDALL GENE '67, Feb. 15.
JACK HAWLEY '66, June 10.
THOMAS MOSER '65, Sept. 8, 2008.
LAURA MAST '60, Jan. 4.

1950s

MITCHELL DAVIS '58 is pastor of Forbush Baptist Church, Yadkinville.

deaths

JESS "TAL" HARMON '57, June 15, 2008.
WILLIAM LOVE '57, Feb. 6.
ERNEST HAMILTON '55, April 18.
JAMES MCBEE '55, Jan. 22.
JOHN COULTER '54, July 19, 2008.

CLIFTON CALLOWAY '53, March 15.
JOSEPH BRAY '52, April 3.
DANIEL HAMRICK '52, July 7, 2008.
NORMAN RICHARDS '52, May 14, 2008.
JAMES HAWKE '51, May 28.
ROBERT HUNTER '50, Nov. 18, 2008.

1940s

deaths

FLOE BINGHAM '48, March 5.
OBED DAY '47, Feb. 17.

1930s

deaths

RENA GRAYBEAL '39, May 14.
MYRTLE SUTHERLAND '38, Jan. 30.
LOIS TOLBERT '38, March 31, 2008.
ELAINE GREER '37, Jan. 2.

Social network with the Appalachian Alumni Association

www.alumni.appstate.edu
Gerald and Julia Adams became friends at Appalachian State Teachers College in the 1950s. He played football, she was a cheerleader. After graduation, they went their separate ways, each embarking on a successful career in education and starting a family. Life moved on.

But the Appalachian spirit has a funny way of bringing people back together. At a Black & Gold Reunion in 1993, they reconnected. Each had lost their spouse years before and was single again. Gerald ’54 had recently started a second career as fundraiser for Appalachian’s Yosef Club, and Julia ’56 was nearing retirement as supervisor of health education in Florida’s Duval County.

“I was sitting there at the reunion and Gerald came over and asked me to dance,” recalled Julia.

The couple – known as Mr. and Ms. Yosef because of their commitment to Appalachian athletics and affinity for dressing in black and gold – married three years later. The university’s beloved Yosef mascot was a member of their wedding party.

Their love for each other, and Appalachian, shines bright. In lieu of wedding gifts, they asked guests to consider donating to an athletic scholarship endowment at the university. Thousands of dollars were raised, forming a new scholarship that gives a deserving student-athlete the opportunity to pursue a college education.

Gerald and Julia have founded or supported many scholarships for student-athletes and cheerleaders. Their generosity also has supported academic scholarships, the ACCESS scholarship for North Carolina’s lowest-income families, An Appalachian Summer Festival, the Alumni Association, Athletics Facilities Enhancement Campaign, the annual Diversity Celebration, and the Appalachian Fund. Whenever someone they know passes away, they make a financial contribution in that person’s memory. Their most recent financial contribution to Appalachian has been a charitable gift annuity.

“If you think about the difference Appalachian has made in our lives and the potential it gave us to have successful careers and families, helping a young person have that same experience gives us such great joy,” Julia said. “We feel honored and blessed to be able to give back to Appalachian because this great university has certainly brought a lot of happiness to our lives.”

“Seeing these kids graduate and be successful in life is our main reason for giving,” said Gerald. “We have some students here who without a scholarship may have ended up on drugs or something. If you can give them a chance, it makes them a better citizen and builds better communities and better places to live.”

“We hope that by our example younger alumni will see how they can give back, too,” said Julia.

The couple emphasize that the amount of a person’s gift doesn’t matter as much as their involvement.

“We have nearly 95,000 living alumni. If every graduate gave just $10, the university would have nearly $1 million,” Gerald said. “That’s the cost of just four cups of coffee. What are you willing to give up to give to Appalachian?”

They also give generously of their time, serving on scholarship selection committees and with the Appalachian Alumni Association. Each has served as president of the alumni association and received the association’s Outstanding Service Award.

Gerald and Julia each have three children from their previous marriages. Together they have 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Their granddaughter Barbara Adams is a junior at Appalachian.

Make a gift to Appalachian at www.givenow.appstate.edu

Gerald and Julia Adams: An Appalachian love story

By Linda Coutant

Gerald and Julia Adams became friends at Appalachian State Teachers College in the 1950s. He played football, she was a cheerleader. After graduation, they went their separate ways, each embarking on a successful career in education and starting a family. Life moved on.

But the Appalachian spirit has a funny way of bringing people back together. At a Black & Gold Reunion in 1993, they reconnected. Each had lost their spouse years before and was single again. Gerald ’54 had recently started a second career as fundraiser for Appalachian’s Yosef Club, and Julia ’56 was nearing retirement as supervisor of health education in Florida’s Duval County.

“I was sitting there at the reunion and Gerald came over and asked me to dance,” recalled Julia.

The couple – known as Mr. and Ms. Yosef because of their commitment to Appalachian athletics and affinity for dressing in black and gold – married three years later. The university’s beloved Yosef mascot was a member of their wedding party.

Their love for each other, and Appalachian, shines bright. In lieu of wedding gifts, they asked guests to consider donating to an athletic scholarship endowment at the university. Thousands of dollars were raised, forming a new scholarship that gives a deserving student-athlete the opportunity to pursue a college education.

Gerald and Julia have founded or supported many scholarships for student-athletes and cheerleaders. Their generosity also has supported academic scholarships, the ACCESS scholarship for North Carolina’s lowest-income families, An Appalachian Summer Festival, the Alumni Association, Athletics Facilities Enhancement Campaign, the annual Diversity Celebration, and the Appalachian Fund. Whenever someone they know passes away, they make a financial contribution in that person’s memory. Their most recent financial contribution to Appalachian has been a charitable gift annuity.

“If you think about the difference Appalachian has made in our lives and the potential it gave us to have successful careers and families, helping a young person have that same experience gives us such great joy,” Julia said. “We feel honored and blessed to be able to give back to Appalachian because this great university has certainly brought a lot of happiness to our lives.”

“Seeing these kids graduate and be successful in life is our main reason for giving,” said Gerald. “We have some students here who without a scholarship may have ended up on drugs or something. If you can give them a chance, it makes them a better citizen and builds better communities and better places to live.”

“We hope that by our example younger alumni will see how they can give back, too,” said Julia.

The couple emphasize that the amount of a person’s gift doesn’t matter as much as their involvement.

“We have nearly 95,000 living alumni. If every graduate gave just $10, the university would have nearly $1 million,” Gerald said. “That’s the cost of just four cups of coffee. What are you willing to give up to give to Appalachian?”

They also give generously of their time, serving on scholarship selection committees and with the Appalachian Alumni Association. Each has served as president of the alumni association and received the association’s Outstanding Service Award.

Gerald and Julia each have three children from their previous marriages. Together they have 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Their granddaughter Barbara Adams is a junior at Appalachian.

Make a gift to Appalachian at www.givenow.appstate.edu

Gerald and Julia Adams: An Appalachian love story

By Linda Coutant
For a complete listing of events on campus, visit www.today.appstate.edu

Nov. 4
Poet Paula Meehan
Visiting Writers Series, 7:30 p.m. Belk Library 114

Sept. 11 – Jan. 16, 2010
Fall Exhibition Celebration
7 p.m., Turchin Center for the Visual Arts

Antonio Alvarez Morán, Tres vedettes, versión rítmica (Lisa de Liz, Zulma Fauud e Iris Cristal), 2008. Oil on canvas.

Nov. 12 – 14
North Carolina Dance Festival
Department of Theatre and Dance, 7 p.m. Valborg Theatre

Nov. 19
MOMIX
 Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Oct. 22
Martha Graham Dance Company
Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Oct. 28 – Nov. 1
"Still Life with Iris"
Department of Theatre and Dance, 7 p.m. Valborg Theatre with 2 p.m. matinee Nov. 1

Jan. 22, 2010
NY Gilbert & Sullivan Players: The Pirates of Penzance
Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Feb. 20, 2010
Lily Tomlin: An Evening of Classic Lily Tomlin
Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Feb. 24 – 28, 2010
"Prelude to a Kiss"
Department of Theatre and Dance, 7 p.m. Valborg Theatre with 2 p.m. matinee Feb. 28

Dec. 13
Commencement ceremonies
Holmes Convocation Center
10 a.m. - Arts and Sciences, Education, University College
2 p.m. - Business, Fine and Applied Arts, Music
Win a mountain getaway vacation
- or -
a new Dell Laptop
by joining the Gold Book online community!

All registered members of the Gold Book online alumni community will be entered to win either a new Dell Latitude E5400 from the Computer Central University Bookstore or a seven-night stay at Boone’s exclusive Inn at Crestwood!

To be entered, sign up for the Gold Book by December 31, 2009 at

www.alumni.appstate.edu/goldbook