The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.”
(Psalms 19:1-2).

Pluto’s recent downgrade to “dwarf planet” status directs us to consider the vast expanse between the profound magnificence of our Creator God—the One Who by His very word spoke the heavens and the earth into existence (Psalm 33:6)—and what we as mankind know about our universe. Remarkably, though, the Psalmist reminds us that we are ever in His mind, “What is man that You are mindful of him, the son of man that You care for him?”

During this academic year, a prominent theme we are seeing evidenced in many venues across our campus is the awesomeness of our God. We know that as we have faith our lives are in Him to carry out His purposes and to give Him glory. We can have absolute confidence in Him—the Creator of all things—for this life and for the world to come!

You will enjoy learning more in this Bryan Life issue about the important and unique work of our Center for Origins Research (CORE). Even as God has moved the founder of CORE, Dr. Kurt Wise, to another ministry, He has brought to us another outstanding creation biologist, Dr. Roger Sanders, to carry on origins research at Bryan. Dr. Sanders joins CORE’s director, Dr. Todd Wood, in providing creation biology studies for our students in addition to directing original research projects with them.

Our 77th academic year has opened with evidence of God’s blessing. A record enrollment of 920 students, a new MBA program, distance learning, a stellar freshman class academically and spiritually of 200 students, a new residence hall, and an exceptionally well-qualified faculty give us great cause for thanksgiving and promise of an exciting and productive year.

Critical Thought and Practice presented a symposium on “What is Man that Thou Art Mindful of Him?” in September as prelude to “Bioethics and the Meaning of Man,” scheduled for November. Leading scholars from across the nation will have much to say to challenge our thinking. I hope you will return to the campus for the symposium or to join with the Chorale as they sing “Messiah” before we break for the holidays in December.

“For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him.” (Psalm 103:11)

Dr. Stephen D. Livesay
Getting to the
CORE
of creation science:

Bryan’s Center for Origins Research begins a new chapter

Sharpening the focus might be the best way to describe Dr. Todd Wood’s vision as he takes over leadership of Bryan’s Center for Origins Research (CORE) this fall.

Dr. Wood, who holds a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Virginia, said that under the leadership of his predecessor, Dr. Kurt Wise, CORE’s efforts touched many of the sciences, reflecting both Dr. Wise’s wide-ranging interests and the need for leadership in the creation science field.

“I know there are other schools out there that want to do their own CORE-type program in a given area,” he said. “They are excited with the science. I’m a biologist, not an astronomer or geologist, so we’ll primarily focus on biology. I see this as our opportunity to carve out our own niche and do something that others are not.”

While Dr. Wise’s discipline was paleontology, Dr. Wood is joined by Dr. Roger Sanders, a botanist, giving CORE a preeminent position in the field of creationist biology.

“I plan to focus research in specific areas of biology, for example, design. How do we explain the levels of original design, similarities between organisms, odd structures in organisms? How do we explain natural evil, such as disease? How do we organize the vast array of living things? Where do species come from? Why do organisms live where they do?” Dr. Wood said.

Dr. Sanders brings extensive experience in classification, ecology, and biogeography, skills that Dr. Wood expects will contribute significantly to CORE’s new focus.

Underlying these plans for CORE’s development is Dr. Wood’s commitment to excellence in science faithful to the Scriptures. Simplistic answers to basic questions drove
him to strive for something better. For example, the argument that there must be a Creator since design in nature is so complex does not really identify the differences between creation and evolution science.

“The elegance of design is very nice, but that’s not something that’s going to make or break our differences with evolution,” he explained. “In the end, natural selection would predict a certain level of design. Because of that, I don’t see how focusing on that helps us move beyond where we are now, to grow in a creationist understanding of the world.

“The question of what’s wrong with the world is key, I believe. Evolution says there’s nothing wrong, that death and disease are natural results of evolution. Creationists say that there is something wrong; for example, disease. If creationists are right, the philosophy of how we treat disease might be different. What if we said that the original bacteria were supposed to be helpful and now something is wrong with the bacteria? Our way of treatment might change. Instead of killing the bacteria, we might try to heal the bacteria as well as the patient.”

While original research, more sharply focused, will remain CORE’s primary mission, Dr. Wood purposes to enhance the center’s role as a resource for creation science. “I’m committed to turning our library into the best library in the world for origins research,” he said. “That was Kurt’s vision in 1989 when he came to start CORE. We’re real close to that goal, and I believe we can attain that.”

Another goal is to increase awareness of CORE and origins research in general. “The issue of origins is important, because God made the world and everything in it as a revelation of Himself. If the creation is a revelation of God, I get to know Him better by studying it.”

From a scientific perspective, developing a credible creationist discipline, he believes, is the best way to win a hearing in the scientific world. “It has been the custom for creationists to go to the legal system when we see what are perceived to be injustices to creationism,” he explained. “That’s not how science works. If we want to ‘play’ in the science culture, we have to play by the rules: original research; crafting, testing, and refining hypotheses; proposing explanations; and explaining data in scientific fashion.”

Dr. Todd Wood

“If we want to ‘play’ in the science culture, we have to play by the rules: original research; crafting, testing, and refining hypotheses; proposing explanations; and explaining data in scientific fashion.

“Hebrews 12: 1 tells us to lay aside every weight and run the race. Hebrews 12: 2 tells us why we should ‘lay aside’ and ‘run with patience,’ because Jesus is the author and finisher. Jesus should be our goal, getting to know Him and helping others to know Him. My hope for CORE is that we lay aside evolution and focus on our Creator and Savior, Jesus Christ.”

For more information...

To learn more about the Center for Origins Research, visit the CORE website, www.bryan.edu/core.html. CORE faculty are available to speak in churches and schools. If you would like to schedule a CORE speaker for your organization, contact Stephanie Mace at 423-775-7321 or info@bryancore.org.
Bryan welcomes
Dr. Roger Sanders

“How?” may be one of the most important questions Dr. Roger Sanders, new associate director of the Center for Origins Research, asks as he joins the Bryan College faculty this fall.

Dr. Sanders, who earned his Ph.D. in botany from the University of Texas at Austin, brings a strong background in taxonomy—the classification of organisms—ecology, and biogeography, credentials which will help sharpen CORE's focus on the biological sciences. “I know the techniques the evolutionists use in the field,” he said. “This will dovetail very nicely with Todd Wood’s work in molecular biology.”

In his new position, he will be assisting Dr. Wood with research, teaching, and directing research projects of his own, projects that fit CORE’s effort to help build a comprehensive model of creation science. “How?” in this case, is very important.

“This is not just coming up with a story line,” he explained, “it has to be a story line that fits with the scientific data so it can be presented to the secular scientific community. They may not agree with the underlying philosophy, but they can say, based on your philosophy, the presentation is internally consistent and stands up to scientific standards.

“Creationism and evolutionism are both presuppositional frameworks, and it is unlikely that creation scientists will ever find that key bit of evidence that will convince entrenched evolutionists that evolution is false. However, professionally executed research will construct a model of creation science that explains scientific data more effectively than does evolutionary theory.”

How this is done is critical, Dr. Sanders believes. “If we claim to be scientific, we have to stand up to the scrutiny of

Dr. Kurt Wise and the origins of CORE

From a dream that Dr. Ken Hanna had in the late 1980s for creating an origins resource center, the Center for Origins Research (CORE) has grown into a leading research and resource organization promoting rigorous science from a biblical perspective.

Turning that dream into a reality was the work of a new Ph.D. in paleontology, Dr. Kurt Wise, who now has turned the reins over to Dr. Todd Wood. From a one-man operation in 1989, CORE has grown to three full-time staff members plus student workers with a reach that extends far beyond Bryan’s campus.

When he was interviewed for the CORE position in 1989, “I shared my dream to build a creation model,” Dr. Wise said shortly before his move to Southern Baptist Theological Seminary this summer. “I told Dr. Hanna I could do what he wanted, but that his vision was too small. There could be more than a resource center; there could be a center for origins research worldwide.”

By the late 1990s, that was indeed the case. “By 1999 CORE was producing more (scientific) papers than any other creationist organization worldwide,” Dr. Wise said. We were involved with the Institute for Creation Research, with the International Conference on
science, at least the science before Darwin,” he said.
“Using the scientific method is science to me, but evolu-
tion has changed science. Today we see science being
described as the scientific method plus only naturalistic
causes. Now we’re start-
ing to see science drop
the scientific method
and simply accept natu-
ralistic causes only.”

Creationist research,
he believes, must build
on the foundation laid down by the pre-
Darwinian creation and secular scientists
to give a more complete scientific expla-
nation about the world around us.

For example, “We see great diversity in
organisms appearing in a short time. The
question is, how can we explain the
release of the genetic information to be
expressed in this great diversity in a short
time after the flood? How does genetics
and the expres-
sion of genetics allow for rapid speciation? How and why
did God make a pattern easily understood in
an evolutionary way?

“Another question is how did organisms get dispersed
across the world, over large bodies of water? Those were
large stumbling blocks to me for a long time before I
became a creationist.

“Then there is the question of natural evil, disease
organism, mostly bacteria.
Did God create them that
way or did they have a
benevolent function that
became corrupted?

“I feel I can contribute
to the research in these
areas,” he said.

As a discipline, creation science is still
working toward a comprehensive model,
a goal Dr. Sanders sees as a driving force
behind research projects at this stage. “It
is important to focus on research that
can help resolve major gaps in the
model,” he said.

“The christian walk is a
way of living out the
 narrators of creation.
What we see in the
bible is a story of
creation and
destruction.

“We’re far ahead of biology in geol-
ogy,” he said. “You have to start with a
classification system. I started looking
for someone to take that on because I
wanted to build the paleontology
model. It took a few years for me to
run into Todd and realize he has what it
takes to run with it. He has done an
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where I could never take it.”

“With the incorporation of BSG, it
has become the first discipline-specific
organization in any field in creation sci-
ence. It will set the standard for similar
discipline societies. Next will be geolo-
y, and astronomy will follow.”

Model-building, not evolution-bash-
ing, is critical to Dr. Wise’s efforts. He
said he is surprised that the creation
model has come as far as it has in the
continued on page 10
Dyanamic speakers help launch a new school year at Bryan

Two speakers offered perspectives on history and current events as the academic year opened in August.

Dr. Robert George, a member of the President's Council on Bioethics, gave the convocation address, focusing on “The Politics of Supreme Court Appointments,” and Congressman Zach Wamp, who represents the district which includes Bryan College, spoke in chapel about challenges the country faces.

During Dr. George’s visit on Aug. 23, Bryan President Dr. Stephen D. Livesay presented him an honorary Doctor of Civil Law degree. “Dr. George is “a leader who brings his convictions into the public square, tirelessly persuading and reasoning for timeless truth in a culture of moral relativism and spiritual chaos,” Dr. Livesay said.

Dr. George responded that the values he shares with Bryan College “makes it a privilege and a very great honor to be joining the ranks of the honorary alumni of this college. This is a degree of which I am unreservedly proud.”

In his convocation address, Dr. George traced the history of presidential appointments to the Supreme Court from George Washington to George W. Bush, and the development of the interaction of the Court with the other branches of government.

He said even the most careful choices by presidents can have unexpected outcomes because “history is replete with cases of justices surprising the president who appointed them.”

While political considerations enter into the selection process “this has never been considered scandalous so long as nominees are in possession of the talents and virtues needed to serve on the highest court. I believe this is why President Bush got into trouble with Harriet Miers,” because she was not perceived to be qualified.

Perhaps the most controversial Supreme Court decision in recent years was the 2000 ruling that settled that year's presidential election. “I suggest that the soundness of that decision will be debated as long as the Republic stands,” he said. “But I believe presidents will be even more careful with their appointees” as a result.

Five days later, Congressman Zach Wamp, who represents Tennessee’s Third District, challenged students to engage the critical issues confronting our nation. “The Lord didn’t say to hide until He comes. He said to go out, to be used. I want to see you being successful by helping others.”

During his visit Dr. Livesay presented the Congressman a copy of Bryan’s 75th anniversary Bible, pointing out that the Bible “is the ultimate policy manual.”

Rep. Wamp said meeting the challenges of energy, health care, and radical Islam will require heroic efforts from the coming generation of leaders.

America’s energy needs could be met simply by a market-driven switch to ethanol, he said. “The problem of energy is that we’re way too dependent on the rest of the
world for oil. The quickest way to become energy-independent is to follow the example of Brazil in their use of sugarcane to make ethanol. All you have to do is produce a market alternative.”

He suggested that a native North American plant, switchgrass, could play the same role in this process here that sugarcane does in Brazil.

He warned that “we don’t have a solution on the horizon” for the health care crisis confronting the nation because of the expected needs and limited resources. “One thing that would help is preventive health care—good nutrition, more exercise. But unless we change our lifestyles there is no way the health care system can take care of the people who will need it.”

As for terrorism, Mr. Wamp said that “radical Islam, manifested through jihadists, wants to wage war against the West. They are the extreme elements of Islam. If this were Christianity out there (encouraging violence to spread its influence), someone would be saying ‘This is not us.’ But where are the mullahs? Where are the (Islamic) leaders?”

Although these are grim challenges, he said, “All of these present opportunities for you to enter the marketplace and present solutions.”

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Ten freshmen have been awarded Presidential Scholarships for the 2006-07 academic year. Presidential Scholarships are competitive awards given on the basis of high school grades, test scores, an essay, and a personal interview. The grant, Bryan’s highest academic award, is renewable for four years.

New presidential scholars include:

**Allyson Adams**, daughter of Eric and Peggy Adams of Glendale, Ky., a biology major. Allyson is a home school graduate who participated in TeenPact, a ministry to educate students about government from a Christian perspective. She served as a staff member after attending as a student. She also served as a defense attorney in the Hardin County, Ky., Teen Court, and was a Kentucky Governor’s Scholar. She learned about Bryan from friends who are alumni and who have children attending. At Bryan she wants to be involved with one of the Practical Christian Involvement (PCI) ministries and the Student Government Association in addition to working through the college work-study program.

**Carolyn Candland**, daughter of Ben and Deborah Candland of Pembroke Pines, Fla., a psychology major. Carolyn is a home school graduate who is a National Merit Commended Scholar. She served as a teen advisor with a crisis pregnancy center’s abstinence education program while in high school. She learned about Bryan from a younger friend who was considering attending, then visited campus before her senior year in high school. “In the process of looking at other schools, God kept bringing me back to Bryan,” she said. “Now that I’m here, I have such peace that this is where God wants me. Carolyn hopes to be involved with Hilltop Players, a PCI ministry, and abstinence education programs in the community. After college, she plans to attend graduate school.

**Taryn Haught**, daughter of Brian and Kerrie Haught, missionaries in Belgium who consider LaGrange, Ga., their stateside home, a history major. Taryn is a home school graduate, who did an exchange program in a Belgian school for two months. She volunteered for the Red Cross at a local hospital, and worked as a math tutor and teacher for an English as a second language class in Belgium. Friends in the States told her family about Bryan. “I attended the Summit in Colorado and heard John Stonestreet speak,” she said. “He’s an excellent speaker, he really grabbed me. I wanted to come to Bryan where the professors would have a worldview like his.” At Bryan, she would like to be involved with a PCI ministry and work with the yearbook. After graduation, she plans to continue her education and would like to teach history.

**Hannah Hamrick**, daughter of Stewart and Peggy Hamrick of Callahan, Fla., who is majoring in English literature and political communication. Hanna, a home school graduate, played basketball and ran track for a public high school. She participated in international and stateside missions trips, volunteered with the elderly and disabled, and was a Bible school teacher. Her brother, Joey, ’04, and sister, Molly, ’06, preceded her at Bryan. She decided to come because of “all the people I’ve met, the things my brother and sister learned, and the way the professors are involved with students.” At Bryan, she plans to be involved in a PCI ministry, drama, and intramural sports. After graduating, she is considering missions service.

**David Hasty**, son of Randy and Jill Hasty of Dallas, Texas, a youth ministry major and considering a second major in communication studies. David, a home school graduate, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society for community college students, and the Spanish Honor Society. His mother knew about Jeff Myers and that he teaches at Bryan. “She suggested I look at the web site. I did, and I liked the spiritual emphasis I saw, so I called, and then visited the campus.” The visit helped seal his decision to attend. As a student, he wants to be involved with a PCI ministry or in a local church. Following graduation, he plans to work in youth ministry, possibly with missionary children overseas.
Millie Jones, daughter of Belson and Amy Jones of Abbeville, S.C., an English literature major. Millie, a graduate of Abbeville High School, was a member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, FCA leadership team, National FFA Organization secretary, participated in the Model United Nations and was listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students. She is a National Merit Commended Student. In 2004, she was a delegate to the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program. She first heard about Bryan from her aunt, Martha Jones Faires, '72. She received information from the college, attended an Illuminate visitation weekend “and loved it” she said. At Bryan, she hopes to be involved with the Worldview Teams and Student Government Association. Following graduation, she plans to continue her education so she can teach in college, and write for publication.

Philip Meznan, son of Dr. Martin and Linda (Ross) Meznan of Peoria, Ariz., a mathematics major. Philip, a graduate of Centennial High School in Peoria, was class valedictorian, a member of the National Honor Society, and is a National Merit Finalist. Both of his parents are Bryan graduates in the Class of 1982; his father’s parents, Leonard, ’51, and Dona (Blaine) Meznan, ’53x; and his mother’s father, Larry Ross, ’63x, attended Bryan; and his sister, Emily, is a Bryan senior, so Bryan is something of a family tradition. But it was his decision to come. “I visited several times and liked the Christ-centered atmosphere. It felt right,” he said. At Bryan, he hopes to be involved with student government and PCI ministries such as Pals or Students in Service. He is uncertain about what he will do after college.

Olivia Pool, daughter of Michael and Cathy Pool of Powell, Tenn., a business administration major. Olivia, a home school graduate, was active in her church drama and youth group. She volunteered at a summer camp and for Child Evangelism Fellowship. She learned about Bryan from alumni friends. “Bryan has a good reputation among students, and it’s spoken highly of by alumni,” she said. “God opened lots of doors, so I knew this was where He wanted me to come.” While at Bryan she hopes to be involved with the Pals ministry and with drama. After she graduates she hopes to open a chain of bookstores.

Andrew Sweeny, son of Pete and Gloria Sweeny of Chattanooga, Tenn., an exercise and health science major. Andrew, a home school graduate, was active in band, home school drama troupe, and mock trial team. He volunteered at a Christian radio station and played in the saxophone ensemble at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. He first learned about Bryan from his sister, Jennifer, a 2003 graduate, and learned more from friends who are current students. “I can’t say enough about the great atmosphere at Bryan, and I’m fairly certain that that particular factor was what drew me here. I’m so glad I’m here and can’t wait to see what happens in the next few years.” At Bryan, he plans to participate in PCI ministries, music, and intramural sports. After graduation he plans to become a physical therapist.

Daniel Zimmerman, son of Stephen and Peggy Zimmerman of Grandview, Tenn., an English/secondary education major. Daniel, a graduate of Rhea County High School in Evensville, Tenn., was class valedictorian, a member of the National Honor Society, an officer in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Commissioned, a Bible club. He also played baseball and ran cross country. He laughed when asked how he first learned about Bryan. “I’ve lived in Rhea County for 15 years, people in my church work at Bryan, my grandparents went to Bryan, and I’m friends with children of faculty members,” he said. He chose to come because “the Lord provided the funds, it has the major I wanted, I get to play baseball, and a lot of my friends are going here.” While at Bryan, he plans to play baseball and become involved with student government. After college, he hopes to teach high school English.
Bioethics and the Meaning of Man: A Biblical Vision
November 10-11, 2006

In its September seminar, the Bryan Center addressed the question “What is Man That Thou Art Mindful of Him? The Meaning of Man in the Old Testament.” The upcoming seminar, “Bioethics and the Meaning of Man: A Biblical Vision,” builds on the ideas developed in September to address a wide range of issues which fall under the rubric of Bioethics.

The word “ethic” comes from Greek, meaning “custom” or, more broadly, “doing the right things.” But what is the “right thing” when science now seems to be able to harvest cells from one life—ending that life, of course—for the purpose of maintaining another life? What is right about ending a life because the cost of sustaining it may be deemed excessive?

The four speakers for the November seminar have had wide experience in the new field of Bioethics. Dr. Carter Sneed is a professor of law at Notre Dame who specializes in bioethics. Dr. Harold Y. Vanderpool teaches ethics to medical students at the University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston. Dr. W. Gary Phillips is a pastor and consultant to the medical profession. Mr. Eric Cohen is a Fellow with the Ethics and Public Policy Center and is a widely published scholar in bioethics, particularly regarding the issue of stem cell research.

As nationally syndicated columnist Paul Greenberg, editorial page editor for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, says, “There’s always a right and wrong. You just have to find it...even if it takes time and effort. That’s ethics.”

The Nov. 10-11 seminar of the Bryan Center for Critical Thought and Practice aims to use time and effort to study these issues.

This program begins on Friday evening, continues through Saturday afternoon, and is open to the public at no charge.
Author donates books to alma mater

By Dr. Whit Jones
Professor of English

Isaac’s query on the way up Mount Moriah, “Where is the lamb for the burnt offering?” (Gen. 22:7), according to Dr. Jim Townsend, was as natural a question for the son of Abraham as a contemporary child’s asking, “Where are the tickets?” on the way to Disneyland. Abraham’s reply, “God Himself will provide the lamb,” according to Townsend, was an assertion of “emboldened, exclamatory faith” that looked forward to God’s providing His own Son as the final sacrifice for our sins. We should remember this amazing provision whenever we partake of the Lord’s Supper.

These thoughts inform just one of the approximately one hundred meditations included in 2-Minute Messages for Communion Celebrations, a 2003 book by Townsend, who graduated from Bryan in 1966. The meditations are drawn from the concept of communion itself and from Israel’s history, the Psalms and prophetic books, the Gospels, Romans, the Epistles, Hebrews, and Revelation.

In the body and blood of Christ, God has let down a ladder to heaven for all of us, just as in Jacob’s vision. The Lord’s Supper looks back to the rich table discussed by David in Psalm 23 and the lovers’ banquet in Song of Solomon and forward to the marriage supper which we will share with Christ in heaven. Townsend encourages us to meditate more deeply on the meaning of Christ’s sacrifice by connecting it in incisive fashion with such biblical events, images, and ideas and by having us relate it to experiences from our own daily lives. The meditations usually end with an exhortation to the communicants to think deeply on, make application of, and rejoice in the truths on which the meditation focuses.

Townsend, a pastor and part-time professor at Judson College, is donating this book along with his 2005 Gold and Dross: A Christian Perspective on Fifteen World-Class Writers (two of the fourteen books he has written) to the Bryan College Library.

If Lions could ski, I would go.

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Jan. ’07 Feb. ’07

www.bryan.edu/ski
Soccer camp prepares Lions for play

When the men's soccer team takes the field this fall winning more than games will be on their minds thanks, in part, to a challenge they received in their pre-season camp with the Charlotte Eagles professional soccer team.

Coach Sandy Zensen took his squad to Charlotte, N.C., early in August for a pre-season camp, intending to take advantage of soccer lessons from professional players and desiring to help his athletes catch a vision for ministry through sports.

“A good portion of the camp included instruction in spiritual ministry,” Dr. Zensen said. “We spent about three hours a day in worship, group meetings, and small group meetings learning how to use soccer as a tool for advancing the Kingdom of God.”

The message was reinforced by the camp instructors, members of the Eagles team, including 2005 Bryan graduate Danny Harvey, who taught soccer on the field, then worked with the Bryan student-athletes in ministry training.

Sophomore goal keeper Mark Baker, from Knoxville, Tenn., said the camp was an excellent way to start the season.

“It was top-notch, having professional players give us individual attention. They cared about us,” he said. In the chapel sessions, “The speaker challenged us, spoke truth from the Word. He set the tone for the season for the team. I wouldn’t want to start the season any other way.”

David Villanueva, a sophomore defender from Siler City, N.C., said the camp offered “good, solid instruction,” but the biggest soccer benefit “was the way the team came out focused. Everyone was together.”

He said he appreciated the spiritual challenge for team members to make something of themselves. “The Eagles players showed us ways to view our gifts, to use them, to use soccer for something more than just having fun.”

The Eagles players also encouraged team members to be spiritual leaders on campus, Ben Whitley, a sophomore from Asheboro, N.C., added. “They talked about Paul’s allusions to sports and challenged us to play the game as Christ would.”

Dr. Zensen said the theme for the week was “Man Up and Get in the Game,” challenging the players to step up to the challenge of advancing the Kingdom of God through their athletic efforts.

His new assistant coach, Joey Johnson, is a former Charlotte Eagle, who said the emphasis on sports ministry is critical for Christian athletes. “I had played four or five years before I went to the Eagles, and won a couple of championships. But I had reached the point that if that was all there was, it was pretty unfulfilling. Having a purpose more fulfilling than playing for me or my teammates, a focus on eternally relevant things, made it more satisfying. Soccer became a tool for reaching people for Christ.”

While there obviously remains a goal of winning games and championships, Dr. Zensen said he is actively pursuing ministry outreaches for his team later this year. “I want our student-athletes to put into practice the things they learned in camp, to get first-hand experience in using soccer as a ministry.”
May graduate the granddaughter of WWII hero

By Dr. Jack W. Traylor
Professor of History

When Hayden McCoy of Southlake, Texas, received her diploma at graduation May 6, like her fellow graduates she took with her many special memories of her years at Bryan College. For Hayden, one memory may stand out as it relates to her grandfather, Dr. Giles McCoy, who served in the Marine Corps during World War II, and a course in United States History since 1877 she took from Dr. Jack W. Traylor, head of Bryan’s Department of History.

Each spring Dr. Traylor shows a documentary to the class, “Indianapolis: Ship of Doom,” to honor the memory of the approximately 800 sailors and Marines who died in the incident and to inform class members about what is considered the worst disaster in U.S. Navy history. The documentary focuses on the story of the torpedoing of the U.S.S. Indianapolis in the Philippine Sea, on July 30, 1945, and includes interviews with some of the survivors, one of which is Dr. McCoy, a retired chiropractor. After showing the film to Hayden’s class, Dr. Traylor asked her if she might know the former Marine since the two shared the same last name. Hayden replied, “I sure do—he’s my grandfather!”

Hayden’s response led Dr. Traylor to establish a correspondence with Dr. McCoy, who sent Dr. Traylor an autographed copy of Doug Stanton’s book about the disaster, In Harm’s Way: The Sinking of the USS Indianapolis and the Extraordinary Story of Its Survivors. Dr. McCoy’s role in caring for the survivors during their almost five-day ordeal in the open Pacific is a central theme of this book.

Just before its sinking, the Indianapolis had completed a secret mission, delivering the first atomic bomb to Tinian Island, for later use against Hiroshima. When torpedoes hit the Indianapolis, about 300 of the approximately 1,100 crew members were killed immediately, but well over 800 survived. Nearly five days passed before they were rescued, forgotten because no one knew their ship had been sunk. About 500 had died in the water during these days—most the victims of shark attacks. The documentary and the book tell of Pvt. McCoy’s efforts to save as many men as possible.

Dr. Traylor had hoped that Dr. McCoy could attend Hayden’s graduation so the two could meet. However, health problems prevented him from doing so. Still, as Hayden crossed the stage, Dr. Traylor silently saluted Pvt. McCoy, the men of the Indianapolis, and all Americans who experienced the Herculean struggle of the Second World War.

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Do you get it?

In addition to Bryan Life, Bryan College communicates with its alumni and friends in several print and electronic ways, at no cost.

**Illumine**

*Illumine* is a publication of the Bryan Center for Critical Thought and Practice, offering serious commentary on current issues by leading scholars. To receive *Illumine*, send your name and address to The Bryan Center for Critical Thought and Practice, P.O. Box 7000, Dayton, TN 37321, or fill out the on-line form at bryancenter.bryan.edu.

**E-Lumine**

*E-Lumine* is Bryan’s electronic newsletter, emailed monthly to those requesting this update. If you would like to receive *E-Lumine*, fill out the on-line form at www.bryan.edu/newsletterPrefs.

**Planned Giving**

*Planned Giving* is a weekly e-newsletter offering current information and illustrations of how to preserve assets and support ministries like Bryan College through thoughtful planning and management. To receive *Planned Giving*, fill out the on-line form at www.bryan.edu/newsletterPrefs.
ROY, ’51, and Gloria CLARK were surprised by 25 children and grandchildren with a dinner to recognize his 50 years in the ministry. Roy is associate director of church ministries for Radio Bible Class.

CARRIE (HENDERSON) PRICE, ’53x, reports that she has been accepted as a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, tracing her family to a soldier who fought in the war for independence. Carrie lives in Evensville, Tenn.

DR. RICHARD CORNELIUS, ’55, is author of an article on William Jennings Bryan, published in the new Encyclopedia of American Conservatism.

DR. MICHAEL JORDAN, ’77, chairman of the English Department at Hillsdale College, also has articles in the Encyclopedia on M.E. Bradford, Donald G. Davidson, and Marion H. Montgomery.

JIM REESE, ’56, has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree by McMaster Divinity College in recognition of his “50 years of devotion to Jesus Christ and the spread of the gospel.” Jim is pastor emeritus of Benton Street Baptist Church in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, where he served for 25 years. He and his wife, Adrienne, live there.

GERALD SMITH, ’59, who has served with Biblical Ministries Worldwide since 1980, is the organization’s director of church relations. He also is serving a four-year term as president of the board of directors of IFCA International.

DANIEL WRIGHT, ’74, and Cynthia Eaton were married July 29, in Chattanooga, Tenn.

JUDY (LINDQUIST) WOODFORD, ’74, writes from her home in Norwich, Ontario, Canada, that the third of her five children was married this summer. She and her husband, Bruce, are enjoying two grandchildren.

REBECCA RAMSEY, ’74, has retired after teaching 31 years in Kingsport, Tenn. She spent January through March this year in Chiva, Japan, teaching English and Bible studies to Japanese adults with Mission to the World of the Presbyterian Church in America.

DEBBIE (BAKER) KOCHER, ’74x, recently relocated to Oak Ridge, N.C., where her son, QUINTON KOCHER, ’97, and his wife, Kristin, reside. Quinton is an implantable medical device sales rep with Medtronic Corporation in the area of neurological therapies.
JUDY LEE, ’75, has retired after 30 years teaching math in public school. She is planning to return to school to study accounting this fall.

KATIE (BURTZ) CALDWELL, ’79; DEBBIE (MARTINEZ) DONOVAN, ’79; DARLENE (RAGLAND) LAPLUE, ’81; and PAMELA (HENRY) ROWE, ’81, met at the Women of Faith Conference in Atlanta, Ga., in June, for their own reunion. Even though they were blessed by the conference, they agreed that the rest part of the weekend was the fellowship together. They thank the Lord for the impact Bryan College had on their lives.

where Bruce is dean of students at Bryan and Jerri is a mostly stay-at-home mom who works part-time as Bryan’s director of intramural athletics.

BRIAN, ’86x, and ANNE (GORDON), ’87, KEAY announce the birth of their fourth son, Justin Alexander, on May 2. Justin weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz. He joins big brothers Nathaniel, 11; Ian, 9; and Christopher, 6. Brian spent part of this past fall in New Orleans with the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team as a chaplain ministering to hurricane Katrina victims.

1980s

NANCY (ADDLETON) WHITE, ’81, was elected to the Macon, Ga., city council in July. She won a three-way race in special election to fill a vacated seat on the council.

BRUCE, ’82, and JERRI (BECK), ’92, MORGAN announce the birth of their son, Andrew JaMarcus, on May 4. He weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz. Andrew joins big sister Rose, 2. The Morgan family lives in Dayton, Tenn.,

in the U.S. Army serving a year’s deployment in Iraq, where he is training Iraqi soldiers. His wife, MARGARET (JOHNSON), ’88x, is at home in Richmond, Va., with their eight children, Mitchell, 12; Braxton, 11; Everett, 9; Keaghan, 7; Grayson, 6; Caroline, 5; Suzannah, 2; and Margaret-Anne, 18 months.

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1990s

PAUL KUCK, ’90, and his wife, Sherri, send greetings to their friends from their home in Neosho, Wisc. Paul and Sherri have three daughters, Samantha, 12; Sarah, 8; and Susannah, 6.

JENNIFER (REYNOLDS) KINSEY, ’91, has resumed teaching elementary music at Indian Rocks Christian School in Largo, Fla., after a 10-year break. During her years away from the classroom she and her husband, Vernon, had two children, McKayla, 10, and Jameson, 8. She also worked as music director at her church. The Kinsey family lives in Seminole, Fla.

ERIC, ’94, and Allison ALBRIGHT announce the birth of their daughter, Gianna Elias, on July 17. Gianna weighed 8 lbs., 5 oz., and was 21 inches long. She joins big brother Jared, 3.
DAVID and DIANA (FORBES) HOLCOMB, both '94, announce the births of their daughters, Isabella Nicole, on Aug. 5, 2004; and Anastasia Elise, on June 23, 2005. David is a market analyst with Bullnhead investment company and Diana resigned from her position with Forest Pharmaceuticals to stay home with the girls. The Holcombs live in Hazelwood, Mo., where they also own a karate studio.

KATHY (BROWN), '95, and Kevin GOUNAUD announce the birth of their son, Joshua Michael, on July 12. Joshua weighed 6 lbs., 13 oz., and was 19 inches long. The Gounaud family lives in Knoxville, Tenn.

RICKY and HILARY (DAVIS) SMITH, both '96, announce the birth of their second daughter, Moreland Rebecca, on Jan. 30. Moreland joins big sister Tennyson, 2½. The Smiths live in Fortson, Ga., where Ricky is youth and music minister at Piney Grove Baptist Church.

JEREMY, '98, and Neyled CHEON announce the birth of their son, Dylan Andres, on May 25. Dylan weighed 8 lbs., 11 oz. and was 19 inches long. The Cheon family lives in Pembroke Pines, Fla.

MITCHELL, '96s, and ANGELA (BOWERS), '96, PRICE announce the birth of their son, Wyatt Joseph, on May 24. The Price family lives in Chesapeake, Va.

HEATHER (ARWE), '98, and Brandon ALVERSON have moved to Loveland, Colo., where Brandon is a general manager for Chick-fil-A in Fort Collins. Heather is a homemaker and home schools their son, Gabe, 5. The Alversons also have twin girls, Emma and Danae, who are almost 2.

MELODY (OWENS), '98, and Josh SIMMONS announce the birth of their first child, Sarah Kaelyn, on June 23, 2005. The Simmonses are preparing for work in missionary aviation now that Josh has left the Navy. He will start an 18-month training program, then will begin deputation. The Simmonses live in Norfolk, Va., where they work with their church youth group with WHITNEY (MCCHRISTIAN), '04x, and her husband, Jonathan POINTEVINT.

JULIA DENINA, '99, has joined Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, L.L.P., one of the largest regional accounting and consulting firms headquartered in the Southeast, as audit manager in the health care and medical sciences group. In addition to her degree from Bryan, Julia earned a MBA degree from Georgia State University.

AMY (NANCE) GERHART, '99, received the Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, Pa., in May. She is a resident at Mercy Suburban Hospital in Norristown, Pa. While in school, Amy traveled with a medical missions group to Panama and published two articles in the journal of Christian Pharmacist Fellowship International. She and her husband, DAVE, '99, live in North Wales, Pa.

BEN, '01, and ELIZABETH (YOUNG), '98, CARDEN announce the birth of their daughter, Emily Elizabeth, on Aug. 1. The Cardens live in Soddy-Daisy, Tenn.
MARINA (CRUZ), '99, and Kevin KRESS announce the birth of their son, Matthew William, on March 13. Matthew weighed 6 lbs., 11 oz., and was 20 inches long. The Kress family lives in Chattanooga, Tenn., where Kevin works at CIGNA as a financial underwriter and Marina is at home with Matthew.

JAMES, '02, and VALERIE (BRAKEBILL), '01, WOLFE announce the birth of their second daughter, Rachel Elizabeth. Rachel was born June 28 and weighed 6 lbs, 8 oz. She joins big sister Laura, 18 months.

JONATHAN and ANNA (NEFF) URQUHART, both '02, announce the birth of their daughter, Afton Recy, on March 29. Afton weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz. In May, the Urquharts visited Bryan when KATIE NEFF, Anna’s sister, graduated.

S. Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, Pa., in July. RACHEL MIZELL, '01, attended the graduation ceremony.

BRIAN EISENBACK, '02, and Ashley Dietz were married in Richmond, Va., on April 4. Bryan friends at the wedding included groomsmen JUSTIN EISENBACK, '05x, his brother; TYLER MCWILLIAMS, '02; DAVID MANN, '02; DAVID MITCHELL, '02x; JOHN JARVIS, '02x; and PHIL DOUGLAS, '02; Brian's aunts ELLEN (HAWKINS) SCHENCK, '72; JEAN (HAWKINS) EBEL, '78; and JAN HAWKINS '78. Bryan is the son of JON, '74, and MARI-LYN (HAWKINS) EISENBACK, '75. Brian and Ashley live in Blacksburg, Va., attending Virginia Tech, where Brian is pursuing his Ph.D. in forest entomology and Ashley is studying at the veterinary school.

JONATHAN MOBLEY, '02, has earned his Master's degree from Geneva College, and has accepted a position as resident director at Covenant College.

DEBRA SMITH, '03, is beginning her second year of teaching English with Oasis International School in Kabul, Afghanistan. She works with third- to sixth-graders and plans to
begin an English as a second language program for parents this fall.

BENJAMIN JOHNSTON, ’03x, has graduated from the U.S. Military Academy and has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. At West Point, Ben concentrated his studies in Arabic.

MATTHEW CORRELL, ’03, and Renee Michaulik were married May 20, in Pittsburgh, Pa. Bryan friends in the wedding included JONATHAN MOBLEY, ’02, and CHARLIE PHILLIPS, ’03.


JOE, ’03, and AMBER (LANE), ’02, DELPH announce the birth of their daughter, Hayley Brooke, on Dec. 19, 2005. Hayley weighed 6 lbs., 7 oz. Joe received his Master of Arts degree from Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., in December 2004, and serves as minister of youth and education at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tenn.

TIM SHOREY and BROOKE WILSON, both ’03, were married May 13, in Toms River, N.J. Bryan friends at the ceremony included best man AARON GROEN, ’04; maid of honor CARRIE LEE, ’03; COLIN, ’04, and ALEXIS (LASSETER), ’05, JAEGER; BEN NORQUIST, ’04; KATHERINE HALVORSON, ’05; AMY HOBBS, ’05; and MELISSA MYERS, ’04, who sang several songs. Tim and Brooke live in Ocean Grove, N.J.

TOM SOLOMON, ’03, has been named city recorder for the City of Dayton, Tenn. Tom had worked for the Dayton Police Department for 15 years, and was assistant police chief at the time of his appointment as recorder.

KRISTY LAWSON, ’03, has enrolled in a Master of Arts degree program in Worship Studies at Liberty University this fall. She will be part of LU Praise, a new choir at Liberty.

BETHANY HAWKINS, ’03, and Travis Goccia were married April 8, in Chattanooga, Tenn. EMILY (RIDDLE) FOWLER, ’04x, was a bridesmaid. Bethany works for an investment management firm, and Travis is in sales for a heating and air conditioning company.

AMANDA SHELTON, ’04, earned a Master’s degree in professional counseling from Psychological Studies Institute, specializing in children and adolescent counseling. She has joined Crossroads Resource Center in Dayton, Tenn., as a counselor.

DAVID, ’04, and Tara STARBUCK have moved to Massachusetts, where David is enrolled at Gordon-Conwell Seminary and Tara works at the Gordon College athletic and recreation facility.

SHANNA (NIEZWAAG), ’04, and B.J. BECHTEL announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail, on July 5. The Bechtel family lives in Chicago, Ill.

CHRIS, ’04, and ANNA (MCSPADDEN), ’02, HAWKINS announce the birth of their son, Elijah Christopher, on March 8, the birthday of his great-grandfather, CHARLES ROBINSON, ’83 Honorary. CHARLOTTE (ROBIN-SON) MCSPAD- DEN, ’70, is the proud grandmother. The Hawkins family lives in Dayton, Tenn., where Chris is student minister at New Union Baptist Church.

TIFFANY MANZ, ’04, and Steve Christian, a current student, were married April 22. Bryan friends in the wedding party were KATIE LOTT,
enrolled at Temple University, and made the football team as a walk-on. He played extensively in the spring football game and earned a spot on the team. His father, TERRY HILL, '71, is Multi-Area Director of the Philadelphia Fellowship of Christian Athletes and is also chaplain for the Temple Owls. He travels with them to all games to perform chapel services and serve as the team's spiritual advisor. Temple U. plays at Vanderbilt and Clemson this fall and Big T and LT look forward to seeing Bryan friends there.

VICTORIA FLOWERS, '05, has returned to the States after working as a missionary intern with United World Mission in Estonia. She was a mentor and teacher for four missionary children, assisted in church planting efforts, and senior citizen visitation projects.

DANIEL GLEASON, '05, and KATHLEEN FISCHER, '03, were married July 1, in Chattanooga, Tenn. Bryan friends in the wedding party included KATHRYN HALQUIST, '03; MARY (GLEASON) PELLUM, '06; and Class of 2005 members JEREMY PELLUM, DANIEL HARVEY, JOSEPH RABOIN, ANDREW SEWELL, DAVID SHIFRON, BARTON STONE, and PETER SCHOTTLEUTNER.

NATHAN DEWHURST, '05x, and Katie Anne Arnold were married June 3, in Franklin N.C.

TIFFANY KERLEY, '05, and James Soyster, Jr., a Bryan student, were married May 7 in Dayton, Tenn. The Soysters live in Dayton.

With the Lord
FRANCES (MOORE) JACKSON, '36x, of Chattanooga, Tenn., died June 10.

ALICE (NORTHROP) BIRCH, '45, of Chattanooga, Tenn., died May 19. She is survived by her husband, REV. GEORGE BIRCH, '48; daughter NANCY BIRCH, '70; and son John Birch.

VIVIAN (MCBRIDE) WALLATNE, '48, of Osseo, Minn., died June 15. She is survived by her husband, Ervin Walvatne, and five children.

IOLA BAKER, '50x, of Spring City, Tenn., died April 15. She is survived by a sister.

RANDALL MILLER, '70, of Mechanicsburg, Pa., died Feb. 14. He is survived by his wife, JUDITH (RINCK) MILLER, '70, two children and six grandchildren.

CAROLE (JAMES) FORTE, '82, of Bloomfield, Ky., died May 19. She is survived by her husband, GENE FORTE, '82.

JOHN SPRACKLIN, '95, of Stone Mountain, Ga., died Sept. 5. He is survived by his wife, Jenny Spracklin.

NICK SENTER, '02 Honorary, of Lookout Mountain, Tenn., a longtime friend and benefactor of the college, died Aug. 2.
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<td>David A. Wright</td>
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Everett and Onalee Garmon
Joseph and Rachel Decosimo
Anonymous
Miriam Levensgood
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Phillip and Darlene Lestmann
Trudy Perdue

in honor of
Dr. Fred Donehoo
Dennis Miller
Dr. Robert Spooede
Margie Legg
Tom Davis
Paul and Margaret Roodzant, 70th Anniversary
Mrs. Emmett Clinkscales,
dearly loved aunt of Trudy Perdue

“Let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”
Matthew 5:16

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