Sound of the Times
A Richardson Turner Construction worker saws piping for Blye-Poteat Hall. Construction on the facility can be heard across campus, but no one is complaining about the noise.
Photo by Charles Key
Sound of the Times
The College’s campaign produces first academic building in more than two decades.

They Call Him ’Fessor
Lessons learned from Charles Jones still resonate.

Homecoming 2006 Preview
C-N prepares for this year’s gathering on a weekend themed “A Legacy of Service.”

What’s Good for the Soul... Faith and Healthcare
C-N partners with Knoxville medical center to present innovative conference.

The Road Home
Carl Torbush returns to the field as an Eagle.

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ON THE COVER
FCS Dean Kitty Coffey, center, is joined by C-N President James Netherton and Associate V.P. for Advancement Vickie (Burkhart) Butler, ’76, at the construction site of Blye-Poteat Hall. (Photo by Wade Payne)
From the President

Orientation for new faculty is an important part of our start-the-school-year calendar. This year I spoke at length to them about what a great heritage Carson-Newman enjoys from the many outstanding men and women who have served on the faculty. Within twenty-four hours of that discussion, word came that two of our beloved retired faculty had passed away. Dr. Albert Myers and Dr. Tom Cronan were each strong Christians and trained professionals who modeled the highest character and shared a passion for their academic disciplines. And each was loved by their students and respected by their colleagues.

The families of these men have established memorials at Carson-Newman to perpetuate their educational interests. For Dr. Myers, gifts have been directed to an academic scholarship in his name. Funds in memory of Dr. Cronan have been designated to establish a walking trail on campus. Each man was a blessing to the C-N community and their legacies will now be continued. Of course, the truest legacy of their time here is found in hearts of those who studied under them and worked beside them. And those touched by the lives of Albert Myers and Tom Cronan will continue to bless others for decades to come.

Throughout the years, God has called many wonderful people to serve on the Carson-Newman faculty, and it is truly a calling—vocatio. Alumni and current students alike talk fervently about the difference our faculty have made and continue to make in their lives. Every week there are new signs that show again that this institution and the folks who labor here are a special part of the Kingdom of God.

Ours is a great mission and a sacred trust. It is timeless and eternal because it is centered on the One who is unchanging. And yet, it is ever changing as the world we serve is constantly changing. The focus on each student as an important individual created in the image of God is the same now as it was ten, fifty and one hundred years ago. But the way that focus is carried out is dramatically different to meet the needs of 21st century consumers.

One area of change is publications. Ours have been redesigned to share our message with a fresh approach. Readers of our annual report noticed it back in the summer with Carson-Newman 360˚, which demonstrated the impact this institution is having on a global scale. That message has resonated with alumni and friends, but also with prospective students, other institutional leaders and philanthropic decision-makers. You are holding in your hand another example of our intentional approach to telling the Carson-Newman story. While the name Journey remains, the magazine has been redesigned with a contemporary look and a concerted effort to draw its readership into stories that convey the timelessness of this institution.

I hope you are pleased, and, as always, we request your prayers for the work that has been set before us.

For His glory,

James S. Netherton
Instrumental Beginnings

Dr. Marshall Forrester is fulfilling a dream.

The associate professor serves as C-N’s director of bands, chair of the Concert-Lecture Series, and is founding director of Summer Music Camp. He now has another role: conductor for the new Knoxville Wind Symphony. Forrester chuckles when asked why he would add something else to his plate.

“The chance to direct a professional wind symphony is something that every band director probably dreams about,” says Forrester. “I realized it would be a lot of work, but it’s worth it.”

The idea came while Forrester was working with Gatlinburg-Pittman High School’s band in 2003. Following a rehearsal, he was approached by the school’s band director, Mark Harrell, with the idea of starting a professional wind symphony in Knoxville. The notion seemed sound.

“Things finally came into line [last] fall,” says Forrester. “We seated the board members in November and had our first concert in March.”

Forrester is quick to praise the ability of the KWS members. “They are professionals through and through,” champions the conductor. Half of the 40 members also play for the established Knoxville Symphony Orchestra (KSO). Other players include professors and community members.

Forrester credits co-founder Harrell for his role in bringing the group together. “Mark has assembled such a fine roster of players. We knew they were outstanding players to begin with from hearing them perform time after time with the KSO.”

The ensemble was introduced to the public at Knoxville’s historic Tennessee Theater.

“I remember a feeling of uneasiness just because I wanted everything to go well for this group, but a feeling of excitement certainly eclipsed any apprehension,” he recalls.

In fact, it’s easy to label the first season a success. With the opening, followed by a May 8 concert, it seemed East Tennessee welcomed the group with a standing ovation.

“With the two performances, we had about 1,000 in attendance,” says Forrester, “Half of those were high school students.”

Reaching students is one of the objectives of the symphony. According to the Shelby, North Carolina native, there are about 1,000 string students in East Tennessee and approximately 12,000 band students.

“This allows young people to hear the same literature and composers they know in a professional performance.”

Forrester personally understands the impact of such an experience, recalling a defining moment while in high school. “Our band director loaded us up in a van and took us to hear the North Carolina Symphony in Raleigh. That was the first time that I ever heard a symphony. I caught the music bug right there,” he laughs.

Looking to the new concert year, early plans include performing in other Knoxville venues and possibly the Pigeon Forge/Gatlinburg area with hopes of ultimately offering a subscription season of four concerts a year.

But the newly installed KWS conductor can’t help but look at the big picture.

“We might just be a part of the next ensemble movement in this country,” he notes. “Maybe we’ll help the next generation catch the bug.”

-Charles Key
Kevin Gregg is the “go-to-guy” for all things related to www.cn.edu. The site unveiled new and improved in January, has yielded tremendous response. The number of visitors to the homepage alone is approaching the million mark, averaging over 100,000 hits monthly.

A background in game development for Sony’s PlayStation2 and Microsoft’s Xbox platforms took Gregg from Silicon Valley to Boulder, Colorado. He joined C-N in 2002.

“I wanted to come back home,” says the Cleveland native, who serves as Online Services director. “The position at Carson-Newman really fit my interest, plus I just liked the Christian atmosphere that I found here.”

In the months leading up to the new site, Gregg was busy tending to C-N’s temporary website, which he also designed, while devoting time to constructing the second and latest version.

“It was tough,” says Gregg of the hectic period. “I was maintaining one site while developing another, and trying to help people understand that the first site was only temporary.”

With the new site up and running, Gregg is able to narrow his focus and breathe a sigh of relief but only briefly.

“There are several updates that go live weekly,” he notes. “It’s a challenge, a balancing act really. There is a need to be responsive to requests, but there is also a need to maintain the site.”

To date, he has authored some 90,000 pages that compose the site. Many are never seen by the public as they form the infrastructure of the College’s web presence.

“People are finding out that websites full of information only, just don’t work anymore,” he asserts. “College and university sites are moving toward a more stylized and interactive design. We’re already there, which puts us well beyond the power curve.”

### Passings

Dr. Tom Cronan, 64, d. August 18, 2006, retired chair of Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department. A resident of Knoxville, he taught at C-N for 19 years before retiring in 2004. An avid athlete with a deep love for the outdoors, he was also a former educator at The Citadel, University of Tennessee and Maryville College. Last year he was featured on ABC’s *Good Morning America* for riding more than 6,600 miles cross country on a motorcycle to raise awareness about cancer and the networks that support its victims and survivors. He is survived by his wife Joan, and daughters, Kristi and Stacey.

Dr. Albert Myers, 90, d. August 17, 2006, retired professor of chemistry. A resident of Jefferson City, he grew up in Nashville. During the war years, he worked in Pennsylvania and Ohio before becoming one of the early residents of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The 1937 C-N alumnus spent much of his life devoted to teaching younger generations about chemistry. Along with 34 years of service at C-N, he taught in classrooms at Ouachita, Furman, and Houston Baptist. He is survived by his wife Katherine, as well as sons John, Bill and Jim.

Donald Bart Seals, 67, d. August 13, 2006, security officer. A resident of New Market and dairy farmer for some forty years, he served on staff at the College from 1997 to 2006. He also served as deacon at Flat Gap Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife Sally, daughters Vickie Kowalsky and Paula Ausmus, and son Bart “Buster” Seals.
The Reluctant Honoree

The presence of a companion keeps Jean-Ann Washam from giving into complete nausea. Her voice breaks as she tries to talk about what she has just seen, but what she would really like to do is pull to the side of the road and let go of the turmoil gripping her.

The metal-roofed shed she has just driven away from would pass for a workshop that should have been razed years ago, but it actually houses a family of eight. Encumbered by a seedy odor that is two parts dank and one part the acridity of urine, the place weighs heavy on her senses and emotions.

The Appalachian Outreach director is not burdened by the fact that a married couple chooses to inhabit the hovel. Rather, her heart is wracked by the thought of the children who also live there but don’t get a vote. This year, they are the least of these.

One might think Washam, C-N’s 2005-06 Community Service Awardee, would be immune to squalor. After all, the 1990 alumna has been on the front lines of poverty relief work for a solid decade. But, she is quick to point out, there are vast differences between poverty and filth. To her, the words only go together when the two conditions collide by human choice.

An area church has been trying to make life better for the six couple’s children but has maxed out its resources and needs AO’s help. In turn, Washam’s staff has called in “the cavalry,” a crew from Georgia that always reserves the last week of July for the toughest project AO finds each year.

Her trip to check the site a couple of days before the Georgians arrive is normal. In most cases, she makes two trips, one before the repair and one in the midst or near the end of a project to check on the homeowner.

Most of the time, she talks to the homeowner about what needs repair—in this case almost everything—and what the crew will actually be able to get done in four day’s time. She made three visits before approving this final mission of the eight-week summer season, praying after each that it would be a good use of time and money. On each visit she has dealt with the couple’s 11-year old son who, says Washam, “is the functional-parent of the situation.”

Dealing with the youngster sealed her heart and mind that it was the right thing to do.

“I’m sick at my stomach,” she admits as she drives a half-hour back to Jefferson City. “I mean, here’s a little freckle-faced boy who doesn’t see anything abnormal with the way his family is living. He deserves more than that, more than a bathroom that I could barely walk into. It’s just hard for me to accept that it’s okay because I don’t think that it is.”

Washam also wasn’t crazy about being officially honored with the Community Service Award. She says she is only doing what she was called to do.

“It’s not why I do it,” she said of the recognition. “I just thank God for the opportunity to serve Him for the last 10 years at AO.”

Washam and her husband, Shannon, ’91, were staffers for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children when Jim Wilson asked them about leading Samaritan House and AO respectively. The couple worked together until 2004 when Shannon was hired by the Knox County Association of Baptists to direct the group’s Western Heights Baptist Center.

Accomplishments made during her tenure include tutorial programs that help make clients employable, developing Coats for the Cold and school supplies distribution efforts, bringing more local churches into the work and adding adult teams to AO’s home repair work. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, she wrote a grant proposal for $10,000 that was awarded to Campus Ministries by the Bonner Foundation.

Washam stresses the fact that she only directs activities, saying, “It’s the people who volunteer their time and resources that really get this work done. I just coordinate people and try to make it work smoothly, but it would not happen if people didn’t have a willing spirit to participate.”
Touching History in Oxford

When does something become historic—when it happens or when it’s noticed?

As part of her Oxford Studies minor, Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award Winner and 2006 graduate Kara Blankenship wrote a paper that examined late-Victorian attitudes about the role women should play in the Baptist Church. Beyond receiving high marks for her work, Kara touched history by finding a forgotten document.

In 1876 British pastor John Clifford argued that women should be ordained into the ministry of the Gospel. His advocacy, included in the second installment of a series titled Where are the Men? was forgotten until Kara went to Oxford University last year.

Kara’s rediscovery and her scholarly abilities made an impression on her professor, noted historian Dr. John H.Y. Briggs, who hopes to include an abridgment of her article in the Baptist Quarterly, which he publishes.

“My recollections of Kara are of a very pleasant and willing student who worked hard at her project and made a great success of it,” says Briggs, who directs the Centre for Baptist History and Heritage at Regent’s Park College. “(S)he gleaned from a wide variety of articles, from obituaries to new items to sermonic material, a fine array of insightful quotations illustrating very nicely attitudes to women in the second half of the C19 (19th Century).”

A religion major, Kara was a member of the Mortar Board honor society who was named to the Dean’s List several times. Additionally, she was president of Baptist College Ministries (BCM), a SPOTS mission team leader, a BASIC (Brothers and Sisters in Christ) Team Chair, a Bible study leader and Welcome Week Committee member.

“Kara is a multitalented and deeply committed Christian whose list of accomplishments speaks for itself and her sincere discipleship,” praises Dr. Don Garner, chair of the Religion Department. “I remember her eagerness as a freshman, and I anticipate her future in ministry.”

She plans to take a year before graduate school and work in student ministry at First Baptist Church of Knoxville and at UT’s Baptist Collegiate Ministries Office. After that, she will attend Mercer University’s McAfee School of Theology, where she has been awarded the Josiah Penfield Scholarship.

The Gift of Giving Back

To demonstrate his appreciation for his education, Nick Cook, the male recipient of the 2006 Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award, wanted to be the first 2006 graduate to become a Carson-Newman donor.

To make it official, he came to graduation with a check in his pocket. As Nick’s classmates recessed from Roy Harmon Field, he met Annual Fund Director Chris Cates, ’99, near the podium and presented his gift.

“I want future students to have the opportunity to receive the gift of a Carson-Newman education like I have,” says Nick, who double-majored in philosophy and political science. “I want others to be able to have the kind of relationship with their professors that I have. We are blessed by having professors who love teaching and who open their hearts and homes. They care about students on a personal level. Their direction in the classroom and personal interest empowered me to think critically and effectively.”

“Nick was dynamite as a student,” says English Professor Dr. Shawn O’Hare. “He understands how to read texts on a number of different levels and he also writes very well. He has a strong ability to take something complex and talk about it in very basic terms.”

While his classroom experience fostered his appreciation for C-N, it was working within the College’s Advancement Division that showed him the value of financial support.

“As president of the Student Ambassadors, I saw the importance of giving back to the College that gave me so much,” says Nick. “It provides scholarships to students through the Annual Fund, helps build new facilities that keep us competitive among the top liberal arts schools in the nation, and it allows us to retain a premier faculty.”

Nick’s undergraduate success included being a regular on the Dean’s List, a SGA senator, and FLIGHT leader, as well as a member of the concert band, the marching band, jazz ensemble, Men’s Chorus and A Cappella Choir. After a summer spent working for U.S. Senate hopeful Bob Corker, he is attending UT Law School.
Brandon Burchfield is swift on a baseball diamond, but the Maryville native adopts a steadier pace in pursuing his college education. Brandon earned second-team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American honors in 2006 after earning a 4.0 grade point average in Business Administration.

“I was pretty surprised when I earned the award, but it’s a great honor,” Brandon said. “It’s hard to balance academics and athletics.”

Burchfield helped the Eagles win 35 games last season, batting .380 with five doubles, one triple, and 25 RBIs while leading the team and the South Atlantic Conference with 31 stolen bases. He credits Head Coach Tom Griffin for helping him set his sights high in the pre-season.

“Coach Griffin asked me before the season what my goals were as far as stolen bases and I said ‘30,’” noted the C-N senior. “We’re real aggressive on the base paths and a couple of us are green-light guys.”

“On the field, he is an outstanding player who was an All-Conference selection in the South Atlantic Conference,” championed Griffin, who begins his second year as head coach. “He has contributed a lot to our program both offensively and defensively.”

In the larger picture, Burchfield’s success runs deeper than athleticism. His work ethic on and off the field can be attributed to his mother, a high school English teacher at Maryville High School where Brandon graduated in 2003 and was a member of the Honors Society.

“My mom has a great work ethic,” he said. “She is constantly on me about my grades, and Coach Griffin keeps me and my teammates on our toes regarding grades.”

Players sometimes miss class due to away games and other scheduling factors. Because of this, Brandon has benefited from his coach’s encouragement of keeping an open dialogue with his professors.

“Brandon is the definition of a student-athlete,” proclaimed Griffin, who says the outfielder is a good example for younger players on the squad. “In the classroom he has never received a grade lower than an ‘A.’ Our athletes have to be responsible in making up missed assignments. Some of the work they do is on the bus or van during road trips finishing up homework or class projects,” explained the head coach. “Brandon has shown the maturity and work ethic to handle this responsibility.”

Brandon admits there are temptations to shift his focus, but his concentration and dedication to his academic pursuits help him persevere.

“My friends give me a hard time and tell me to hang out at their place once in a while,” Brandon said. “I just try to lead by example on and off the field. Coach Grif consistently reminds us why we’re here: academics first, baseball second.”

EAGLE SPOTLIGHT
Supporting Scholar-Athletes at Carson-Newman sponsored by the Eagle Club

BRANDON BURCHFIELD

Eagle Club
C-N Box 72009
Jefferson City, TN 37760
eagleclub@cn.edu
Sound of The Times

Story and photos by Charles Key
Autumn on campus is full with sound.

The success of C-N’s capital campaign, For Such A Time As This can be gauged in what is being heard: student laughter and conversation on Henderson Lawn; afternoon cheers rising from a new Burke-Tarr Stadium; and the hum of anticipation as the campaign moves forward.

“Such a buzz would certainly not be possible without endowed student scholarships, generous donors and sup-

portive alumni,” says Vickie (Burkhart) Butler, ’76, associate vice president for Advancement. “It’s safe to say that the excitement this campaign is creating is contagious.”

Over the past several months, a new sound has arisen—this time on the western perimeter of campus.

Chiming in with the symphony of progress is the construction of Carson-Newman’s first academic building in 25 years. The roar of diesel trucks, accompanied by reverberant hammers and drills, is music to the ears of Dr. Kitty Coffey.

“This brings us into the 21st century,” says an excited Coffey, who serves as dean for the Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) division. “This new facility will increase our area’s accessibility and visibility.” Timing for the undertaking couldn’t be more perfect as the Division celebrates its centennial year at the College.

Named Blye-Poteat Hall after the late Gertrude Blye, a 1928 alumna, and Kingsport businessman John Poteat, the building will provide students and faculty with much needed space. The latest in classroom and lab technology will be housed throughout the 18,000 square-foot facility. Additionally, the project features a 6,000 square foot Child Development Lab that will be located in the former Jefferson Memorial Hospital building.

Dr. David Nowell, senior vice president for Advancement and Administration, notes that because FCS had outgrown its 1952 environs, there was a desire for improving academic space for the division while laying the framework for the campaign. “This has really been a long time coming,” says Nowell. “Since the very early planning stages of the project, there has been such an energy shared by everyone involved. Now, after a lot of hard work by key individuals, the College will soon reap the benefits of its first academic building in over two decades.”

News of the FCS expansion has already ignited an interest within the business community. A partnership has been established between the College and BSH Home Appliances Corporation, the makers of Thermador and BOSCH products and the world’s third largest appliance manufacturer. BSH will fully supply the foods and nutrition lab with premier equipment including ranges, dishwashers, refrigerators, ovens and pro hoods. The gift is estimated at $250,000.

Such a buzz would certainly not be possible without endowed student scholarships, generous donors and supportive alumni.

-Vickie Butler, ’76

Dr. Beverley Hammond, a consumer scientist with the BSH Corporation, says she’s excited about the possibilities of the recent announcement. “It really is a win-win situation for both of us,” notes Hammond. “We get to showcase our products to interior design students, dietetics students, and the community at large here at Carson-Newman and, of course, we hope to promote C-N as well.”

“It’s a wonderful fit,” agrees Coffey. “The partnering of academia with industry and business manufacturing opens up a whole new world for our foods, nutrition and dietetics program,” she says. “We are going to have a true state-of-the-art laboratory.”

As a BSH test site, the lab will be updated by the company as new appliances move toward the end user. Such updates are expected to take place every two to three years.
Coffey says such field testing will give students a valuable and unique opportunity.

“We are going to get the prototype in its final testing stage,” explains Coffey. “We will be recording data and sending it to design engineers. Our students and faculty are going to actually be involved in the final development stages of a product before it goes to market.”

The FCS dean believes students will find such hands-on learning beneficial as they enter the job market. “This experience will allow our students to learn what cutting-edge technology can provide. Our students will be valuable to retailers because they have had access to this kind of knowledge,” she proclaims. “That will give them a competitive edge.”

Butler says that donors are playing a significant role in the academic expansion, but that funding opportunities are still available. One way donors can help, notes Butler, is to pursue a naming opportunity. “I often recommend donors consider naming a classroom or another area in the facility. It is an excellent way to leave a legacy or pay tribute to a spouse or loved one.”

Coffey’s enthusiasm can be heard clearly – even over the sound of bulldozers.

“Events over the past few months have given our area a renewed energy,” she smiles. “It really is a renaissance moment for us.”

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**Duncan Hall Benefits from Barile Gift**

Pete and Sami Barile love Carson-Newman. The College’s Family and Consumer Sciences Division has reaped the benefits of the couple’s time and energy over the years. In July, the division was once again on the receiving end of the friendship.

In an afternoon ceremony, the division unveiled a new addition to Duncan Hall, an “outdoor room.” The gift was made possible through the Morristown couple’s enterprise, Barile Hardscape & Landscaping, which is overseen by the couple’s son, Breau. Located at the rear of the 1920s-era hall, the hardscape design features extensive stonework, an arbor and a fire-pit with outdoor seating. The area connects the driveway to the newly configured rear entrance, making Duncan Hall universally accessible to visitors and alumni.

“The Barile courtyard will enlarge the capacity and enhance the function of Duncan Hall,” says FCS Dean Dr. Kitty Coffey. “The required meal service and entertainment activities, which are a part of the Resident Management Lab curriculum, will certainly benefit from this gift. The extraordinary generosity of the Bariles helps to bring our dreams for Duncan to fruition.”

Pete, who retired from Morristown’s Shelby-Williams as executive vice president, also owns Daniel Paul Chairs. Pete, a former chair of the FCS Advisory Board, and Sami have supported the FCS Division since 1989.

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**C-N Recognizes Youngest Centurions**

In July, Clark Denton, a 1992 alumnus, and his wife Suzanne became the youngest Centurions of the College. Clark serves as a financial adviser with MetLife and runs Denton Financial Services in Knoxville and Oak Ridge. He has been consistently involved with his alma mater since graduating, serving as a member of the Alumni Board of Directors. In 1999-00, the Clinton native was presented the College’s Outstanding Young Alumnus Award.

Suzanne also devotes much of her time to advancing the College’s mission. The University of North Carolina at Greensboro alumna has served the last three years on the Nursing Advisory Board and is also on the group’s Scholarship Subcommittee.

Clark, who recalls giving his first gift to the College in 1994, says that he is forever grateful for the education he was afforded at C-N. “I quickly realized what an advantage it is to have a Christian, liberal arts education, and how much it helped me in adult life,” he says. “I wanted to be sure other students would have the same opportunity.”

The Knoxville resident adds that contributing to C-N over the years has given him a strong sense of connection. “At this stage of my life with young children, my wife and I are unable to be involved in mission work first-hand. I can, however, vicariously experience the Christian activity of the students my donations are supporting,” says Clark. “When I read about the impact the College is making, it makes me feel a part of the team.”
For Such A Time As This:
A Campaign for Carson-Newman

For 155 years Carson-Newman College has made the difference in the lives of others. Now there is an opportunity to make a difference in the life of Carson-Newman. To learn how you can play a role in this historic campaign, contact the Advancement Office at 865/471-3459.

Carson-Newman College
1646 Russell Ave. South
Jefferson City, TN 37760
www.cn.edu

You and I, today, are founding the college of the future. Let us be sure that it will stand upon rock.

- Dr. Carl Tabb Bahner
C-N Professor of Chemistry
1937-1973
(excerpt from 1965 Founders’ Day Address)
They Call Him
Thomas Wolfe opened *Look Homeward, Angel* with a theory of connectivity, arguing that a Mediterranean incident four millennia ago may well have crushed a Texas romance yesterday. "...(E)very moment is a window on all time," he surmised.

Consider a phone call made from Jefferson City to Williamsburg, Kentucky 60 years ago. There, Carson-Newman President Dr. James Warren found a young man who was visiting his mother shortly after his discharge from the Air Force following a four-year tour of duty during WWII.

Surely Warren could not have known that the window he opened by hiring the young teacher would generate a breeze of change that continues to blow across the scene of American arts and culture. Warren’s action resonates still, having recently flavored nationally televised programs, daily influencing the arts in a Midwestern state, facilitating performances across the country and factoring into corporate decision-making.

The C-N president hired a music teacher named Charles Jones, but, say a host of alumni, what they actually received was a 'Fessor.

Fond remembrances of Jones abound. From 1946 until 1983, save a two-year period when Uncle Sam recalled him to active duty in 1950, the Kentuckian built a legendary career as a teacher and mentor. Scores of former students credit the A Cappella director as being their major Carson-Newman influence and the central figure of myriad anecdotes. But, they say, what they learned from him transcends both musical instruction and humorous vignettes.

**A KEY CHANGE**

The irony of the Charles Jones era is that he was not hired to direct choral activities, but rather as a piano and voice teacher. He was a third of the three-member music department that taught classes and lessons in the long-since removed Henderson Dormitory for Young Ladies, located where Stephens-Burnett Library now sits. After a couple of years, the department moved to the administration building and then to Chambliss Fine Arts Building,

Though he was hired in 1946 to teach voice, piano and theory, being assigned the leadership of the A Cappella Choir changed Charles Jones’ life, and, subsequently, the lives of 40 years’ worth of alumni.

by Mark Brown

‘Fessor
which has since become the home of social sciences.

The second and even grander irony of his tenure was that Jones had to learn how to lead a choir. While he had directed music for churches, he had never studied choir leadership and or taken a course in conducting.

"Choral music was just a sideline," he said in a 1995 interview recorded for C-N’s archives. "What little I knew about it I learned from the students here at Carson-Newman."

Using his summers to make up for what he did not know, Jones ventured to Princeton, New Jersey to examine the approach of Westminster Choir College, now part of Rider University. He also attended a couple of traveling clinics offered by Minnesota’s St. Olaf College.

"I was trying to find a common denominator in choral tone, but I didn’t like either one, so I tried to find some-thing in between," he said recently.

Assessing St. Olaf’s style as "too open, too nasal ... with not enough pharyngeal resonance," and, given that "Westminster overdid the pharyngeal resonance," the young director decided on a Goldilocks approach and sought the middle ground of the two models. Ultimately, he was looking to match the sound he carried in his head.

In between those early summers of clinics and study, he began each fall semester with auditions. He listened to as many as 100 singers competing for less than 50 slots. Fixed on the sound in his mind’s ear, he had to keep up with what voices matched other voices and how they might corporately produce the ideal tone he sought.

Imagine a cross between playing the game Concentration and putting together a jigsaw puzzle without seeing all of the pieces at once. If he ever fully understood how he was able to catalog vocal tones, comparing and contrasting each while knowing what he ultimately wanted, then the memory has been swamped by thousands of rehearsals, hundreds of performances and nine very full decades of living.

“I don’t remember how I went about it,” he allows after a brief pause.

To assist his memory he closes his eyes, then says, “I tried to work on resonance in the lift of the voice, which I got from Princeton (Westminster). There’s a place in there where the voice takes on upper resonant sounds, and I tried to classify voices according to where I heard the lift of the voice. I don’t know whether I knew what I was doing or not.”

While he may not have expected to become a choral director, he is charmed by the experience, which he says he liked from early on.

“Oh, I enjoyed it very much,” he smiles. “I liked the challenge that I had. I kept wanting to hear more of the sound I had in my head, and so I was challenged to do that ... and I was very happy about the enthusiasm of choir members. They were there 100 percent, and that’s a joy for any director, but I never was quite happy with what I heard at the end of a rehearsal. So I kept trying to make it better and better each day.”

By the time Carolyn Springer Harding came to C-N in 1948, just two years after Jones arrived, someone had already bestowed on Jones the moniker “Fessor.” It remains the name most alumni and Jefferson City friends use to refer to or address him.

Though she majored in English and minored in Bible, Springer Harding had long been interested in music. Inescapable joy flooded her when she was accepted into the A Cappella choir her freshman year.

“Music was just the most important thing in the world to me” she enthuses. “So I was very excited to have made it.”

She remembers the end of her first semester when word came that the director wasn’t happy. Something was tonally displeasing to him.

“He was afraid that it might be a problem of having too many voices,” she recalls. “So he had a second set of auditions for the spring semester.”

Nervous, she tried out for the second time and made the cut.

“Fessor taught us to strive for excellence in everything we did,” affirms Carolyn. “He just wasn’t pleased with anything less than that.”

TOURS DE FORCE

For their diligence, those who perservered were rewarded with a Jones’ innovation, Spring Tour.
"It was the first time the group had ever been out of the state regularly," he says. "They may have taken some trips here and there, but we started going out of state on spring holidays in the last part of the '40s," noting that spring tours lasted as long as 12 or 14 days.

"We had this little school bus, we called it a 'cracker box'," he notes while squinting his eyes for the visual memory. "It couldn't hold everybody, so each spring we called off a tour list, and we took those who had been in longer and had more experience."

Jones enlisted "Arkie," the caretaker of Blanc-Davis Hall—the men’s residence hall affectionately called "The Barn"—to drive the bus that seemed to break down as much as it ran.

"He never knew why we called him that, Arkie, but it was because he talked about how much he liked driving for the 'Ark-a-pella' Choir," laughs the Cincinnati Conservatory graduate who began his undergraduate career at Cumberland College.

"The cracker box didn’t last long," deadpans Jones. "It broke down so many times we finally had to get a Trailways bus."

While C-N officials granted permission for his idea of expanding the tour schedule, Jones said their support was mostly of the moral kind.

"The administration went along with us, but didn’t support us too much financially," he says with a grin.

Costs were kept to a minimum, thanks to church members who would put up choir members for a night. As the choir reassembled on the bus, he made sure each member had demonstrated gratitude to the family with whom they had stayed.

"The first thing every morning 'Fessor said, 'Write your thank you notes,'" chuckles Springer Harding, '52. "That was a good thing because it taught us good lessons."

Jones’ wife, Ann, a 1961 graduate and choir alumna, still laughs at the machinations of the thank-you notes. "You’d go through the house just hoping to find a magazine that had their address, and hoping you didn’t get caught trying to find it," she laughs heartily. "And then you’d get on the bus asking, 'How did you find your address?' It was all quite comical."

Beyond countless Sunday worship services around East Tennessee, spring tours alone accounted for more than 600 A Cappella performances during his 38-year tenure. In retrospect, the geographical spread reached from Florida to Pennsylvania and from Newport News, Virginia to Pineville, Louisiana. At the time of his retirement it was estimated that some 88,000 people had attended concerts he directed. The same article speculates that Jones-led tours amassed more than 83,000 miles of travel.

Interspersed with tour dates and area concerts, the choir made several special appearances. They included The Baptist Hour, a Southern Baptist Convention broadcast, televised concerts in Knoxville and for large stations in Nashville and Louisville and two appearances at the prestigious American Choral Directors’ Association. And, as America celebrated its bicentennial in 1976, the group brushed history.

"'Fessor and Ann told me they were coming up to tour and that they were having some problems getting responses from the, shall we say, appropriate government officials," recalls Susan Manola, '69, who has sung with The Choral Arts Society of Washington for some 25 years and was in chorus for the July 4 ABC broadcast, "An American Celebration at Ford’s Theatre."

To help the Joneses, the now retired public school teacher contacted a church friend from First Baptist-Alexandria, a Washington suburb. The friend made arrangements for the group to tour the U.S. Capitol Building and to perform in the Russell Senate Office Building Rotunda. He also invited members of Tennessee’s Congressional Delegation who were left wondering why on earth North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms was hosting one of their institutions.
“Hey!” laughs Manola, feigning mock defense, “You call who you know in this town!”

Since they were tightly scheduled—the tour followed by lunch in the Congressional cafeteria just prior to the concert—choir members wore costumes that fit the sense of history that was awash across the country that year. Their garb caught the eye of none other than Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-MN), the former vice president under Lyndon Johnson.

Rushing by the group on his way to the Senate chamber, the 1968 Democratic Presidential nominee nonetheless paused to ask members about their costumes. Told they were dressed for an afternoon concert in the Russell Building, he said he would try to attend.

“The Russell Building is a glorious place to sing; (it’s) high ceilings and lots of marble make for a great resonating chamber!” says Manola, who remembers that Jones opened with “When Jesus Wept,” by William Billings.

“His (Jones’) way of performing this simple but beautiful gem of early American music gave the chamber an aura of a shimmering crystal spinning without end,” praises the Washingtonian. “People walking through just stopped and stared, then sat and listened, mesmerized by the sound. And, sure enough, as if on cue, in the door came Senator Humphrey and his aides. He marched right up to the front row of seats, sat down—beaming—and waved at the choir to let them know he was there. He didn’t get to stay for the whole program, but he had promised those kids he would come, and he lived up to his word.”

Embarrassed at the thought they might have interrupted the Senator’s busy schedule, Jones was pleasantly shocked when he received a letter from the statesman. He still has the letter Humphrey sent congratulating him for the quality of the performance.

THREE-HALVES OF ADORATION

Dr. Eric Thorson, who joined the faculty in 1981 and followed Jones as director of choral activities in 1983, credits his predecessor with C-N’s rich musical tradition and for transcending music for music’s sake.

“Charles made us (A Cappella) a family,” praises Thorson. “He established the thought that this is a group that consistently aspires to be outstanding.”

With excellence as his baseline expectation, Jones was able to seamlessly instill in his choirs the importance of divinity.

“He saw to it that the choir was always worship-centered,” extols Thorson. “There are so many choirs now that sing sacred music but, when you get down to it, they really do not know what they are singing about. Thanks to Charles, it has always been about worship.”

Those who sang under Jones confirm Thorson’s assessment.

“There was never a question about why we were singing,” attests Manola. “We were singing for the Lord, and therefore it was expected that we would give it everything we had and continually strive for excellence. And we always knew that we were missionaries of Carson-Newman.”

They also knew that the bar Jones set for his charges was high. Whether they ever fully realized it or not, they were part of his quest to satisfy that ideal tone he tried to achieve for almost 40 years. It was his muse, the unattainable perfect. He never quite got there, he says, but it served as the musical holy grail for which he strove.

Having just celebrated his 91st birthday, the best days of hearing are well behind him now. Even so, the muse still dances to the perfect music.

“Yes,” he nods when asked about it. “I think I still have that ideal sound in my mind. I never got it, but I know it.”

It’s not so much that his choirs did not reach the pinnacle he sought. It may well be that even when it was the very best ever—even on the utmost summit of Mount Everest—the perfect remained beyond his grasp. That’s what makes it perfect.
“I absolutely understand that,” says pianist and New York City Opera Assistant Conductor Lynn Baker, ’76, who accompanied soloist Harolyn Blackwell during a June PBS-televised program that celebrated the Dance Theatre of Harlem. “Fessor was this complete conductor; he put together so beautifully the theatricality of the music... I just think that’s where he lives, so he was looking for the perfect tool.”

“Singing in ‘Fessor’s choir was an absolutely formative personal and musical experience for me,” she explains. “I thought he was eccentric, terrifying and warm all at the same time. He would sometimes conduct rehearsals seated at the piano, but rarely playing, and would suddenly leap up, almost overturning the bench... I understood that enthusiasm and intensity for what it was: real passion.”

Dr. Stanley Romanstein, ’76, clearly remembers his first A Cappella rehearsal, as he noted in a letter congratulating his prof on his 90th birthday last year. It began simply enough, with Jones snapping, “Miss notes! Miss words! But don’t miss rhythm!”

Just minutes later, the rules changed when Jones barked, “Miss words! Miss rhythm! But don’t miss notes!”

Romanstein tried to regroup, thinking, “Okay. It’s not rhythm I should focus on but notes. Notes, notes, notes. Get the notes right!”

Then like playing a game of Twister, except one where the colored spots spontaneously morph in mid-stretch; it happened.

“Just when I was digging into the notes,” wrote Romanstein, “he shouts out, with, his right index finger punctuating the air, “Miss rhythm! Miss notes! But how can you miss the words?!”

Exasperated, the novice thought to himself, “Who is this guy, and what does he want?!"

And there it is; that’s the Platonic ideal that has remained above the reach of the man who would have been a physician had his parents not suggested music. He wanted it all to happen, and all at the same time. Then maybe, just maybe, the muse would rest, if only for a minute or two.

Like Romanstein, her nearly-tormented classmate, Baker was captivated by the bundle of frenetic energy called ‘Fessor.

“Oh yeah,” she confirms. “I was half in fear of him, half in awe and, I think, half in love with him, if there can be three halves of something.”

LEADING MORE THAN MUSIC

The push Jones gave his students was not limited to musical direction or even to their time on C-N’s campus. Rather, according to consensus, it was more like a father who teaches his children to ride a bicycle. Everything is indeed interconnected because everything that follows that one final thrust into independence can be traced back to the earliest lessons of balance, coordination and faith in one’s own ability to pedal and navigate simultaneously.

“The impact ‘Fessor had on my life ... has helped to mold me into the musician that I have become,” champions Marilyn Webb Shadinger, an assistant elementary school principal in Middle Tennessee who in 1989 founded The Nashville Children’s Choir, which she still co-directs. “I can directly connect my love for conducting choirs back to (him).”

“(H)e didn’t just teach me about music,” intones Diane Fritsche who directs Enterprise Operations for Sabre, a Fort Worth corporation that owns Travelocity among several other companies. “Every principle that he applied to teaching music, I have applied to my life and career.”

As one of many examples, she cites the importance Jones placed on paying attention to the particulars.

“Details, details, details,” she recalls. “I never went a day without having some kind of ‘list’ from my sessions with ‘Fessor. My (Sabre) teams always hate my attention to detail and when they complain, I always get to tell another ‘Fessor story!”
“Singing under 'Fessor’s direction was a daily lesson in classic leadership,” says Romanstein, the president and CEO of the Minnesota Humanities Commission. Specifically, he says that Jones demonstrated what he expected by working harder “than anyone in the rehearsal room.”

“The goal was to match 'Fessor’s level of effort, his meticulous commitment to detail,” he stresses. “And, if and when you reached that goal, he upped the ante.”

Sprunger Harding says she was frightened the first time Jones interspersed male and female voices to employ a “quartet-style” approach during rehearsals since it removed her from her comfort zone. A half-century later, her professor remembers why he did it.

“That was to help them,” Jones replies when asked about it. “It was to make them better readers, make them more independent ... and to give them more leadership.”

While far removed from Jones’ rehearsal room or a tour stop in Florida, the cultural affairs administrator practices what he saw daily from Charles Jones.

“He set the standard – a consistently high standard – and challenged us to stretch beyond our past accomplishments, to do more and better than we thought we were capable of doing,” Romanstein summarizes. “He was always prepared, always came to rehearsal with a game plan for what we needed to accomplish that day. Isn’t that what leadership is?”

**CODA**

Perhaps the most confounding thing about the legacy of Charles Jones is the disconnect between his students’ impression of him and his view of himself. They love him, lionize him even, but he’s not sure why. They have celebrated his milestone birthdays, given him gifts and made financial contributions in his honor. Though deeply appreciative for all of it, he remains baffled by the attention. He is also emphatic that people not think he was ever trying to pass himself as something he’s not.

“I never had any choral training,” he stresses. “I had voice training, piano and theory at the Conservatory (Cincinnati) and at Eastman, but, as far as having choral training in classes, I never had that.”

Even if Charles Jones does not know why he still generates interest and inquiry about his well being, his academic progeny do, and they are sure he’s worthy of it.

“I owe a debt of gratitude to 'Fessor, my major professor at Carson-Newman from 1949-1953,” notes Mary Frances (Higdon) Jones Mooneyham from her home in Virginia.

**Singing under 'Fessor’s direction was a daily lesson in classic leadership.**

—Dr. Stanley Romanstein

“He was a master teacher, always inspiring and motivating you to do your best... He was the model teacher and Christian human being. I feel that 'Fessor had more influence on my life and teaching than anyone else besides my parents.”

Sprunger Harding seconds her classmate’s assessment: “When I think of Carson-Newman, I think of 'Fessor. To me he is Carson-Newman. Maybe that’s a lot to put on somebody's shoulders but that’s just how I feel about him.”

With the youngest of Jones’ students only mid-way through their careers, the window Dr. James Warren opened in 1946 is far from closing. And, if Wolfe’s theory holds, it never will. It will slip forward, passing into the future one generation at a time in the same way that his students are never more than one memory away from a performance or practice.

Sometimes, particularly on a fall afternoon when the wind is just right, Susan Manola feels a familiar longing in the breeze. The first time it happened, some 37 years ago now, she couldn’t figure out what it was or where it came from. One day it dawned on her.

“I realized that it was about the time we would have left rehearsal,” she says somberly. “And, after all these years, I still miss it.”

**Want to share your own 'Fessor story?**

A webpage has been developed for former students of Charles Jones at [http://www.cn.edu/journey/fessor.htm](http://www.cn.edu/journey/fessor.htm)

To include your story to the page, email them to: fessorstories@cn.edu

(Submissions may be edited for length or content)
Alumni and Friends,

Homecoming is the highlight of the year for the Carson-Newman family. This year’s event will offer numerous opportunities for you to visit with former faculty, reacquaint with former classmates, and discover new friends.

With the theme *A Legacy of Service*, Homecoming 2006 celebrates our strong commitment to Christian service. From local ministries to mission trips around the world, C-N has always been involved in service. Carson-Newman may have been the place that encouraged you to get involved in Christian ministry for the first time in your life, beginning your own legacy of service. Because of this, we want to celebrate the history of C-N’s commitment to outreach.

Let me encourage you to join us this year on October 7 for the festivities. Please feel free to contact the alumni relations office at 865/471-3415, cnalum@cn.edu, or online at www.cncybereagles.org

We look forward to seeing you!

David Buchanan
Director, Alumni Relations

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**Schedule Highlights**

**Friday, October 6**

- **13th Annual Homecoming Golf Classic**
  - 8:00 a.m. Team Registration
  - 8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start
  - Patriot Hills Golf Club

- **5:00 p.m.**
  - Sunset Memorial Ceremony
  - Loving Prayer Garden (Behind Fite Admin. Building)

- **5:30 p.m. Reception, 6:00 p.m. Dinner**
  - Class of 1956 Reunion
  - Stokely, Private Dining Room

- **6:00 p.m.**
  - Family and Consumer Sciences Alumni Centennial Dinner
  - FBC Fellowship Hall

- **7:30 p.m.**
  - Lyric Theatre presents: Gilbert and Sullivan’s *HMS PINAFORE*
  - Henderson Hall, Gentry Auditorium

**Saturday, October 7**

- **8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**
  - Alumni Pancake Breakfast
  - Stokely Cafeteria

- **9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**
  - Departmental Open Houses
  - Maddox Student Activities Center, 3-gym area

- **10:00 a.m.**
  - Music Department Sampler
  - First Baptist Church

- **11:15 a.m.**
  - Founders’ Society Luncheon
  - Stokely, Private Dining Room

- **11:15 a.m.**
  - Reunion Luncheons
  - (Class years ending in 1 and 6 - 1961-2006)
  - Stokely, Main Dining Room

- **12:30 p.m.**
  - Reunion Gatherings
  - (Class years ending in 1 and 6 - 1961-2006)
  - Refer to Homecoming Brochure for locations

- **1:00 p.m. - 2 p.m.**
  - Alumni Awards Recipients Reception
  - Seaton House

- **2:00 p.m.**
  - Homecoming Parade

- **3:00 p.m.**
  - C-N vs. Mars Hill
  - Burke-Tarr Stadium
Dr. Greg Phelps remembers the hospital visit to see a close friend like it was yesterday.

“She asked if I would pray for her,” he recalls. “With uncertainty, I nodded and said I would add her to my prayer list.”

It was not the answer his friend wanted. She grabbed his hand, commanding, “No, not later–Now!”

Phelps, chief medical officer for St. Mary's Health Partners, says he has forgotten what he prayed aloud that day, but he clearly recalls his simultaneous unspoken supplication.

“My silent prayer was that I hoped to learn what to say in times just like that,” he says.

Since then, Phelps’ request has been answered, thanks to a three-year graduate degree program at Aquinas Institute of Theology, located in St. Louis, Missouri.

“The program, which involved online discussion of readings followed by an intensive weekend at the convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph, was just what I was looking for to feed my spiritual needs,” says the Episcopal layman who says he was raised as a “nominal Presbyterian.”

“I had long thought that the Gospels focused more on healing than anything else–except teaching,” says Phelps. “The Aquinas program helped me place my thoughts in context. It began with ‘Introduction to Theology,’ moved to ‘Old and New Testament,’ and then blazed into the territory where healthcare and mission reside together.”

Beyond applying what he learned about spirituality to his own practice, he seeks to share what he learned with fellow healthcare providers.

‘Man doesn’t have a soul, he is a soul.’

– Dr. Bill Blevins
It has taken the healthcare industry ages to figure out what Judaism always knew and Jesus always practiced, says Dr. Bill Blevins, who believes Phelps’ experience is a microcosm of contemporary medicine. “Man doesn’t have a soul, he is a soul,” says Blevins, C-N professor of counseling and director of behavioral health. “People are holistic beings, and you cannot deal with just one aspect of their lives, be it mental, physical, emotional or spiritual. You cannot divide people up and act like our components are not all interconnected.”

“In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word for soul is not a Greek-Western idea of soul,” he continues. “It’s *nephesh*, literally in Genesis *nephesh hayah*, a living being, an animated body. It is the fact that we are a whole being–God forms man out of the dust of the earth and breathes into his nostrils the breath of life.”

“The soul actually refers to the whole being, the life force, the body–and certainly the physical body,” he adds. “And that is why the Hebrew faith addresses the whole person. The guidelines, we call them laws, are for the way people are to live. It involves social relationships, relationship to God, their diet, what they eat, how they live, their health. It involves the total person. And Jesus addressed his ministry to the total person; he fed people as well as healed them, and he healed people as well as forgave their sins. I mean he addressed the whole person.”

A New Testament scholar who served for several years as chair of C-N’s religion department, Blevins says his entrée in graduate psychology in the early 1970s countered the idea of interconnectedness. “When I started doing my graduate work, the emphasis was not holistic,” he recalls. “We were told that if you have a client with a spiritual problem or anything like that you do not deal with it. You send them to their local pastor, rabbi or priest. At the time, they were using a medical model to separate these things out.”

He says it only took a few days in practical settings to realize that the academic notion did not jibe with what he saw. “There is no way that something that affects an individual doesn’t affect all of him or her,” he notes while shaking his head. “People, all of us, have various dimensions–physical, emotional, cognitive, social and spiritual–and what affects us in one area, affects us in all areas.”

Dr. Patty Kraft, dean of Nursing and Behavioral Health, agrees with her colleague, saying, “When people are faced with their own mortality it’s a wonderful time for ministry. I have met people who otherwise never thought about God or what they need to do before they die, or before a loved one dies. These situations provide an opportunity to expose them to your own faith.”

Like Phelps’ work at St. Mary’s, Blevins and Kraft have been able to integrate their faith into the way they teach at C-N, they say there is a real need among healthcare professionals who want to know how to deal with patients’ spiritual needs. They are therefore excited about what they say is a unique opportunity to reach out to physicians, nurses and other medical professionals with “Faith and Healthcare: Bridging the Disconnect,” a conference C-N will co-sponsor with Knoxville’s St. Mary’s Health System on November 10.

“We expect that this one-day seminar will be helpful to those who are made nervous by spiritual matters as well as Christian healthcare providers,” asserts Kraft. “It is so easy to get caught up in the tasks of day-to-day professional life, and as a result so many physicians and nurses are on the verge of burnout. We hope to provide them an opportunity to sort out many of these pressing issues.”

The conference will begin at 2 p.m. and will be held at St. Mary’s Medical Center in Knoxville. Registration includes a dinner and keynote address from Dr. John Tarpley of Vanderbilt Medical Center. Other program personalities include Blevins, Kraft and Phelps, as well as Becky Dodson, St. Mary’s vice president for Mission Services; orthopedic surgeon Dr. John McGraw, Dr. Candace Qualls and Maggie Tarpley. For more information, or to register, contact C-N’s Nursing and Behavioral Health Division at 865/471-3425.
Carl Torbush never forgot where home was. Throughout his career, he’s had the opportunity to coach in some of the nation’s premier athletic departments, utilizing ideals and principals he learned while a student at Carson-Newman. A phone call from C-N Head Coach Ken Sparks in the spring helped the 1974 alumnus realize it was time to return home.

After many years coaching at the Division IA level, Torbush joins the C-N squad as assistant head coach and linebackers coach. While a C-N student the Knoxville native earned first-team NAIA All-American Honors in both football and baseball. He still holds the career batting average record at .401.

“He could be anywhere doing anything,” Sparks noted during a press conference to announce his new hire. “He probably could be in 50 places right now with a whole lot bigger job in the eyes of the world.”

Torbush brings quite a resume back to campus. His early coaching career began at Knoxville’s Carter High School, and carried him to schools that included Baylor University, Louisiana Tech and Ole Miss. He earned his first head coaching job at Louisiana Tech in 1987.

Torbush accepted the defensive coordinator position at North Carolina in 1988. He established the Tar Heels as an ACC defensive powerhouse, and was recognized as 1996’s National Defensive Coordinator of the Year. After being named head coach in 1997, he led UNC to a victory over Virginia Tech in the 1998 Gator Bowl.

In 2001 Torbush became the defensive coordinator at the University of Alabama under Head Coach Dennis Franchione, and helped the Crimson Tide boast the third best defense in the country. He followed Franchione to Texas A&M in 2002, serving as defensive coordinator.

Then came the phone call, and the return trip to Jefferson City.

Despite experiencing Division IA success, Torbush says he never forgot what he learned while at Mossy Creek and that such lessons continue to pay dividends in his career.

“Martha Wilson was one of the best teachers I ever had,” recalls Torbush. “She gave you great knowledge and then put you in a position to have to teach it. That gave me confidence to teach,” he explains. “At C-N, we had to learn to teach, not just gain book knowledge.”

Torbush credits Sparks and former C-N coach Dal Shealy as positive influences that have benefited his coaching style.

“Coach Shealy got me started in coaching,” remembers Torbush. “He gave me my first graduate assistantship at Baylor. Coach Sparks really took me under his wing and helped me to be more comfortable with public speaking.”

Moving to Division II might not make sense to some, but for Torbush and the Eagles coaching staff, the logic couldn’t be more sound.

“Because I had the background at Carson-Newman and know what it stands for...I haven’t had any second thoughts about this decision,” says Torbush. “I’ve had the opportunity to meet goals in Division I, but [Division I football] is not what it was 25 years ago,” he notes. “I felt that this is where I needed to be. I love this school and this area. It just took 30 years to get back here.”
Every day Madison wandered up and down Main Street, smiled at us, all yellowed-toothed, said, Hidee
We said Good day, Madison
while strangers in town looked at his rumpled clothes, hair like scattered straw, and passed him with a frown.

Madison saw us at the Post Office mailing letters and packages to friends and family. He called us all by name.
His tall frame, too big for his small mind, roamed in and out of Shipe and Catlett’s Hardware Store where men sat around the pot-bellied stove, discussed work and weather.

In Cathy’s Clip and Curl ladies kept their noses stuck in True Romance magazines while beauticians combed and colored and Cathy gave Madison a bottle of Coca-Cola.
In Bell’s Café we ate and chatted with friends and neighbors about births and deaths while Madison leaned over the counter, hoping for a hamburger hand-out and another Coke.
He liked Coca-Colas in glass bottles, and occasionally we gave him fifty cents, no more.
He’d waste it, we said.

Madison drifted through the Baptist college campus, in and out of classes. Students teased him, asked if he were taking Christian Ethics 301 or Social Theory 405. He smiled and shook his head.

Madison meandered in and out of First Baptist Church, First Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church, up and down the aisles among the first in believers who sang Nearer, My God, to Thee.
Worshipers stared, mouths closed tight.
The preacher droned sermons of brotherly love and You will say, Lord when did we see you hungry?

At night Madison went home to an old mother who prayed she’d outlive him. She died at ninety-two.
We got the State to put him in a nursing home.
They said they couldn’t be responsible for Madison roaming around.
He died there a few years later, bent over, but still smiling, drinking Coca-Colas.
In Memory Of...

Classes of 1920-29
'22 Ellis M. Hodgson
'27 Louise (Cowan) Dixon

Classes of 1930-39
'30 Chester Hawk
'30 Julia (Cowan) Stewart
'31 Mildred (McPherson) Henderson
'34 Barbara Ruth (Nicholson) Sampson
'31 Mabel Alberta Coffey
'32 Lloyd E. Line, Jr.
'31 Lt. Col. Claude M. Terhune

Classes of 1940-49
'40 Daniel S. Hamilton
'40 Ernest Neal
'40 Lillie F. (Hunt) Fitzgerald
'49 Billy J. Litton
'49 Homer C. McElyea
'49 Thomas A. "Buddy" Sheppard

'48 Norma F. Myers
'47 Paul R. Guinn
'45 Aurelia (Crawford) Gregg
'43 Dr. James Earl Stallings
'43 Georgia (Anderson) Renfro
'43 Georgia (Anderson) Rertno

Classes of 1950-59
'50 Fuller G. Marshall
'50 Jean Carson
'55 Richard H. Hollifield
'55 John Inman Jolliffe
'55 H. David Smith
'57 Grace Y. Gold

Classes of 1960-69
'60 William Kenneth McNeill
'66 Hugh L. Myers
'67 Jeannie Kirby
'67 Catherine (Clark) Morgan

Classes of 1960-69
'60 Miriam Smith
'61 Lyman M. Keal
'62 Don E. Clays
'63 Kenneth E. Wright

Classes of 1970-79
'71 Robert H. Floyd
'71 Jere Loveday

Classes of 1970-79
'70 John Inman Jolliffe
'70 Richard H. Hollifield
'70 Mary E. Hamilton

Classes of 1980-89
'80 Grant Smith
'81 Elvis L. Presley
'85 Cynthia "Cindy" (Maxwell) Benfield
'87 Dorothy Nell Jernigan Fite

Classes of 1990-99
'91 Keith Wood

Classes of 2000-
'05 Wendy Cantrell (Harrison) Blalock

1940s
'45 Harry Davis was featured in an article published by the University of Texas Medical Branch newsletter Impact in which he reflects on 40 years with UTMB Psychiatry.

1950s

1960s
'60 Barbara Ann (Farmer) Hughes was honored as the 2005 Outstanding Nutrition Entrepreneur of the Year at the annual Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo in St. Louis, MO.

'62 David Creech retired from the U.S. Marines and has relocated to Morristown, TN District.

'65 Calvin F. Meyer was promoted to full professor and received tenure from Marshall University in South Charleston, WV. He and wife Shirley (Meadows) Meyer, '6x, reside in Scott Depot, WV.

'65 Nina (Spradlyn) Stephenson is the ministry coordinator for Hungary with Friendship International.

1970s

'73 Robert E. “Bob” Albritten became the senior minister of Vienna Baptist Church, Vienna, VA in June 2006.

'75 Diana Cornett's first United Methodist pastoral appointment will be the New Market Circuit, Morristown, TN District.

'78 Lynn (Sutter) Adler, professional singer/songwriter, is co-proprietor of Crossroads Coffeehouse & Music Co., an equal parts coffeehouse, music store and live music venue, in Winnboro, TX.

'78 Jeffery H. Conley is employed as an assistant principal in Gwinnett County Public Schools. He and wife Mindi reside in Duluth, GA with their three daughters, Cati, Cristi and Courtney.

'79 Charles Michael Gass has accepted a position as director of institutional research at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, GA. He is married to Beth Rushing, '81.

1980s
'80 Debbie (Beck) Edmondson joins Integrian, Inc. in Morrisville, NC as vice president of human relations. She is married to Preston Edmondson, '80.
'81 Robert J. Campbell has been a member of the U.S. Air Force since 1989, and is the chief of Behavioral Health Services and social work consultant to the Air Force Surgeon General. He and his family currently reside in Beavercreek, OH, where he is assigned to Headquarters, Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Robert has been married to Cindy (Edwards), ’79, for 20 years. They have two daughters, Rebecca and Emily.

'82 E. Lorraine Gray is employed by Vanderbilt University’s Our Kids Center, a Team Leader Facility for the medical-legal evaluation of childhood sexual abuse.

'82 Keith Travis has been named the director of Chaplaincy Evangelism with the North American Mission Board. Colonel Travis is in his 28th year with the U.S Army as a Chaplain on Active Duty and with the U.S. Army Reserves.

'83, ’85 Karen (Castle) Smith is the campus minister at the Baptist College of Health Sciences. Her husband C. Kerry Smith hand carves wildowl sculptures, featured on his website www.thebirdcarver.com. They live in Bartlett, TN with their two children, Jonathan and Allie.

'84 Lieutenant Colonel Maurice A. "Mo" Ottinger graduated from the U.S. Army War College Resident Course at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania on June 10, 2006, and earned the master’s degree in strategic studies. Mo now reports to the Office of the Joint Staff Comptroller at the Pentagon, his second assignment in the National Capital Region. Mo, his wife Lorie and his son Allan have been very active in the Protestant Chapel Community.

'84 Mike Ingram has been promoted to full professor and associate dean for faculty development at Whitworth College in Spokane, WA.

'85 Ronald F. Huber and wife Joyce have been married since 1987 and have three children, Kendra, Carson and Cole. They reside in Waukesha, WI.

'86 Melissa (Boring) Newsome graduated a second time from C-N in 2003 with a master’s in teaching and is now teaching 4th grade at Pigeon Forge Primary. She married Bo Newsome in 1991 and they have two kids, Dalton and Luke.

'87 Lisa (Davis) Whitfield has been newly appointed as an International Mission Board missionary.

1990s

'91 Kimberly (Tyler) Scruggs and husband Joey live in Mt. Pleasant, TN with their twin boys Seth Nicholas and Zachary Tyler, and daughter Mollie Katherine. Kimberly teaches at a home-school co-op.

'91 Kara E. Stooksbury joined the faculty of C-N in January 2006 as an assistant professor of political science.

'91, ’91 John Wells has been appointed Interim President of Young Harris College in Georgia, as well as serving in his position of academic dean of the college. Gayle (Maddox) Wells has accepted a faculty position at Western Carolina University.

'93 Elizabeth “Renée” (Goodner) Goins is employed with BlueCross/BlueShield of TN as a compliance project manager. She received her M.P.A. at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga in 2005. Elizabeth married Bobby Goins, Jr. in 1998 and they reside in Chattanooga.

'93 Alice (Coomer) Moon married Darin Moon in April 2003 and they have 2 children, a daughter and son. Alice received her M.S. in health policy and administration from Mercer University in 1997. The family resides in a suburb of Atlanta.

'93 Amy Whit-Bachman is a child protection services investigator with the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services. She and husband Deon reside in Blountville.

'94 Lee Collins has joined the team at Home Town Mortgage, Inc. in Alpharetta, GA as a mortgage loan officer. He and his wife Anna have two children.

'94, ’94 John Dorset is a physical therapist at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville. Amy (McMahon) Dorset is the rehab manager at Fort Loudon Medical Center.

'95, is doing what she loves. As instructor of art at Erskine College in South Carolina, she achieved her goal of becoming a professor in her chosen field. She instructs students with diverse exposures to the arts and a variety of majors, and says that every class is a different experience. "It’s not a stereotypical set-up," she explains. “For example, when we study Jackson Pollock, we don our old clothes and go sling paint onto bed sheets.” She credits C-N for inspiring her to pursue her classroom career. “I can’t say enough about the talent and dedication to teaching that is present in C-N’s Art Department,” says Walker, “That’s the reason I’m teaching today.” Jan and her husband, Bart, former C-N assistant director of admissions, reside in Due West, South Carolina with their two children, Kate and Cal.

'95 Gretchen (Crute) Best plays 1st violin in the Heartstrings Quartet and Gaston String Orchestra. She and husband Jerry reside in Gastonia, NC with their two children, Nicole Emaline and Samuel Whittington.

'95 Johnathan L. Childs works in New York as a founding partner and vice president for corporate sales of Victory Pharmaceuticals, based in San Diego. His wife, Claudine M. Rippa works in New York as a senior vice president for human resources in the capital markets division of Bank of America.

'95 Patrick Leland is a doctoral candidate in philosophy at John Hopkins University. He is one of six students from the University who was awarded the opportunity to study abroad during the 2006-2007 academic year, and one of five students named as a Fulbright scholar. He holds two master’s degrees in philosophy from Northern Illinois
Michelle law in 2006. She and husband Ken live in Cincinnati, OH with their son Bryson.

'98 Joy Fouts has been named dean of students in a Greenwich Village middle school in New York.

'99 Erin Burnette has earned a M.Div. degree and is working for a non-profit agency in Richmond, VA doing philanthropic work.

'99 Shu-Fen Cheng continues to teach in a bilingual elementary/middle school in Taiwan where she has taught for the past six years.

'99 Michelle (Robish) Estes completed her pediatric residency in June 2005. She is in residency at East Carolina University Hospital.

'99 Michelle (Robish) Estes completed her pediatric residency in June 2006 and will be joining First Choice Pediatrics in Johnson City, TN. She resides in Johnson City with husband Rob and their daughter Hannah Grace.

'99 Adam Hammond and wife Jennifer were newly appointed as International Mission Board missionaries. Following a two-year International Service Corps term in the Dominican Republic, they will serve as career missionaries in the Caribbean.

'99, '00 Christy (Cobb) Leadingham has earned her M.Div. degree with languages in 2006. She and husband, Jason Leadingham, reside in Fayetteville, NC.

'00 Clarie (Lane) Santuane and husband Chris moved their home from Bangkok and are now living in Florida, where Claire is a stay at home mom with their children, Mark and Mary Glen.

'01 Brian M. Bogle is employed as a financial planner with Mass Mutual in Eastley, SC. He and his wife Jill have two daughters, Macaila and Savannah, and make their home in Simpsonville, SC.

'01, '01 Jonathan and Heather (Hogan) Bundon have relocated to Kings Mountain, NC where Jonathan has accepted the position of minister of music and worship at First Baptist Church and Heather is employed in human resources at Regions Bank.

'02 Mark Raedisch is an ESL teacher with the Hamilton, Tennessee department of education. He and his wife Marie recently moved to Chattanooga. They have one daughter, Hannah Emily, who was born in October 2005.

'02 Yi-Chen Tsai “Nicole” received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from C-N, and received a masters degree from New York University. She has worked at SUNY-New Paltz and Marist College as well as ABC Language Exchange & China Institute in Manhattan. She presently works for China Airlines and plans to pursue her Ph.D.

'05, has joined the Tennessee Valley Vipers, an arena football farm team in Huntsville, Alabama. The team returned to Huntsville after a brief stint as the Rockville Raptors of the United Indoor League. Assigned a defensive specialist role, Bolden has already made an impact on the team. In his first game out, Bolden was on the receiving end of a 15-yard touchdown reception. He also scored 4 touchdowns in the 3 games he played for the Vipers. The two-time Division II All-American played in 48 games at C-N and recorded 127 tackles, 38 pass break ups and 18 interceptions from 2002-2005. He was named to All-SAC and All-Region teams.

University and Johns Hopkins University.

'95 W. Brian Shockley has accepted a position with PIPS Technology in Knoxville as director of marketing. Brian and wife Laura reside in Knoxville and have three children, Kelsey, Anna and Ainsley.

'96 Chad Holt was named assistant vice president of enrollment management and dean of admissions at Chowan College in Murfreesboro, NC.

'97 John M. Bowman graduated in 1998 from University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a master's in accounting and earned both CPA and CMA designations. After graduating from Caterpillar's Central Region corporate management training program, he assumed the role of treasurer of the Cooperative Association of Tractor Dealers, Inc. (CATD), a financial cooperative serving Caterpillar dealerships. He currently resides in Memphis, TN with wife, Brenda and their children.

'97 Man Li (Wei Wei) is an instructional analyst for Sungard Higher Education. She also works as the Start-up Academic Technology director for new clients.

'98 Natasha (Winegar) Bice is continuing to teach school in Hawkins County, TN. She and her husband, Rob, have two children, Emma Grace and Maggie Hope.

'98 Monica (Janzen) Dunham is a bereavement counselor for Tidewell Hospice & Palliative Care in Sarasota, FL. She and husband Brent now reside in Sarasota, where he works as an estimator for Taylor Woodrow Homes in Riverview.

'98 Allison E. Erwin received the juris doctor degree from the University of Memphis School of Law in 2006.

'99 Michelle (Robish) Estes completed her pediatric residency in June 2005 and will be joining First Choice Pediatrics in Johnson City, TN. She resides in Johnson City with husband Rob and their daughter Hannah Grace.

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'98 Alice Louise (Bruckmann) Fitzgerald received her master’s in elementary education from Northern Kentucky University in May 2005. She and husband Ken live in Cincinnati, OH with their son Bryson.
'03 Ben A. Burnette lives in Knoxville and teaches music in the Knox County school system. He also serves as worship leader for Sharon Baptist Church.

'04 Hsiao-Chuan Chiu "Daphne" returned to teaching in Taiwan. Her sons, Kevin and William are with her.

'04 Matthew Cram-Smith is spending a year in practical training at C-N’s Center for Global Education.

'04 Charlotte N. Taylor is currently teaching 8th grade language arts at Maury Middle School in Dandridge.

'04 Mindy Taylor is an admissions counselor at Brevard College in NC.

'04 Qingzheng Wang is spending a year in the US in practical training.

'05 Joaquin Goni is in practical training with Clayton Homes in their insurance department.

'05 Machiko Watanabe "Mitilda" returned to Japan after graduation and has a new job that focuses on English education.

'06 Holly Clark participated in the first Journalism Institute at North Carolina’s Campbell University in June 2006.

'06 Lindsay L. McLaughlin and Kevin D. Lester 6/24/06

Marriages

'83 Karen Willis and Juergen Moegerle 5/21/05

'89 Kathy Kuberek and Danny Jackson 8/6/2005

'93 Amy Whitt and Deon Bachman 12/31/05

'95 Jonathan L. Childs and Claudine M. Rippa 5/13/06

'98 Alice Louise Bruckmann and Ken Fitzgerald 7/31/04

'99 Jennie M. McLeer and William M. Raines, Jr. 3/5/06

'01 Brian M. Bogle and Jill 1/4/03

'02 Melissa Mask and Craig Parrish 12/18/04

'04, '06 Thomas Wayne Carter and Noelle E. Snapp 5/20/06

'04 Hannah Guess and Drew Campbell 11/1/04

'04, '04 Joshua Stone and Melissa "Missy" Houg 5/28/05

'04 Amanda Turner and Cody R. Cornett 7/8/04

'05, '06 HongRi Lian “William” and Yanzhu Wu “Diana” 5/14/05

'06 Lindsey L. McLaughlin and Kevin D. Lester 6/24/06

Births—New Arrivals

'87 Bonnie (Barnard) Metcalf and husband Lance
Jonathan Dowling on 4/17/06

'89 Amy (Sisson) Byers and husband Stephen
Hannah Cho 2/21/05

'94 Lee Collins and wife Anna
Chesni and Leejay 12/4/01

'94, '94 John and Amy (McMahon) Dorset
Charlie Easton on 12/7/04

'95 Gretchen (Crute) Best and husband Jerry
Samuel Whittington on 3/2/06

'95 W. Brian Shockley and wife Laura
Ainsley Danielle, on 12/14/05

'96 James Robert Paul (Robb) Cates and wife Sharon
Jamin Michael 3/7/06

Lindsey Powers

'06 went to Mexico last September and came home with a mission.
As a volunteer with a team of International Mission Board missionaries in Guadalajara, she helped lead small-group Bible studies and assisted in the coordination of community outreach events for a week. Based in a section of the city known as Canal 58, the task force led activities for children living in the poverty-stricken area.

A Spanish major, Lindsey was able to communicate directly with the children, several of whom made faith decisions. She has heard from her IMB contacts that the children are regularly attending church.

Upon graduating from C-N’s Teaching English as a Second Language program, she hopes to return to Mexico as an ESL teacher.

David Toombs

'00, dresses up like Frankenstein for a living. As part of “Monsters Rock Live” at Universal Studios - Osaka, Japan, he spends an hour or more putting on makeup to play between one and five shows, depending on the schedule. Since graduating in 2000, David’s career has taken him from Pigeon Forge to venues across the country as well. He is under contract at Universal - Osaka until spring 2007. David cites the now retired Dr. Thomas Teague as an “amazing professor” who readied him for the music entertainment business, and notes that he continues to feel “love and support” from Anne Drawdy, C-N’s music librarian. He adds, “She was definitely an inspiration to me and still is to this day.”
'99 Michelle (Robish) Estes and husband Rob
Hannah Grace on 3/30/05

'00, '99 Jonathan “Jon” and Taleen (Hobbs) Jackson
Ryan Ellis on 6/8/05

'01, '02 Chad and Connie (Hill) Ballinger
Patti Ann on 6/2/05

'01 Brian M. Bogle and wife Jill
Macaila Marie on 7/8/04
Savannah Collett on 2/10/06

'03 Claire (Lane) Santuae and husband Chris
Mary Glen on 12/2/05

Show Your Colors.

The Carson-Newman Bookstore is your one stop for all things Orange & Blue, including a wide variety of Eagle apparel and new “Spirit Eagle” merchandise. Located at 2130 Branner Avenue in the Maddox Student Activities Center, and online at http://cnbookstore.cn.edu.

Store Hours:
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday
and select hours on game days
Baker Memorial Building, circa 1961. A gift from Knox County Baptist Churches, Baker once housed both the campus bookstore and student center. It has served as home to the Family and Consumer Sciences Division since 1952. (Photo courtesy of C-N Archives)
Incoming freshmen and transfer students take part in the College’s Matriculation Ceremony. The annual August event welcomed new students to campus.