

FALL 2004

O·B·U

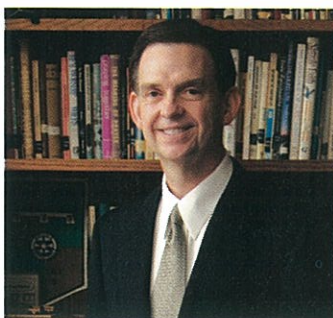
m a g a z i n e

Gumballs

Learning Through Imagination

8

Integration of faith and learning is a popular topic in Christian higher education circles. In an age of diverse delivery systems for college students, the nature and value of a degree from an evangelical Christian university is being scrutinized very closely. At OBU, that is a welcome inquiry. Throughout our history, we have sought to provide an academic environment where students are challenged with the claims of Christ, not just in extracurricular programs, but through the lives of our faculty and staff. Perhaps the best way to demonstrate the effectiveness of our faith and learning integration is seen in the stories of our students, alumni and faculty.



In this issue of *OBU Magazine*, you will find the stories of several individuals who had their lives shaped by their experiences on Bison Hill. There is a recurring theme in the life stories of Caleb Harris, Rusty Jones, and Mike Stewart. In each life, a well-rounded liberal arts education gained in an unapologetically Christian environment has equipped an OBU graduate to lead and serve others in a more informed, more empathetic way. The drive for excellence in music, in philosophical understanding, and in frontier missions leadership is rooted in an ability to see how things interrelate. The integration of knowledge that is demanded in OBU's core curriculum is enriched by the integration of biblical principles which challenge followers of Christ to do everything for the glory of God.

As we launch a new academic year, we anticipate another season of growth and achievement by our students. They are learning from a group of Christian scholars who share a commitment to integrate their disciplines and to do so with the full awareness that God has a plan for the life of each person. That is an OBU tradition that continues to grow. As we approach the centennial year of our university, we are in the midst of exploring ways we can build on our strong foundation and take advantage of new opportunities in higher education. There is no shortage of opportunities for new programs or delivery methods. However, as we near completion of our first 100 years, we are committed to pursue only those opportunities which are tied to our historic mission as we seek to equip informed, caring, compassionate Christian leaders.

The stories in this magazine give evidence to the great value of an OBU education.

We are continuing to work to provide an educational experience where the lives of our current students are being built up in the same fashion, so they will have stories of achievement which reflect the value of a well-integrated education.

Mark Brister
President

OBU MAGAZINE STAFF

Fall 2004 | Vol. 2 • No. 1

Editor

Zach Kincaid

Design Director

Chele Carr

Contributing Writers

Sharon Bourbeau, Ray Fink, Micah Harris, Rusty Jones, Zach Kincaid, Marty O'Gwynn

Photographer

Bill Pope

OBU Magazine

Winner of the 2004 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Gold Award for periodical improvement, District IV.

View OBU Magazine Online

www.okbu.edu/obumagazine

Contact OBU Magazine

obumagazine@okbu.edu
405.878.2107

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

President

Mark Brister

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Jim Colman

Senior Vice President for Business Affairs

Randy Smith

Senior Vice President for Development

John Patterson

CONTACT INFORMATION

(area code 405)

Academic Center	878.2023
Admissions	878.2033
Alumni	878.2706
Business Office	878.2020
Campus Ministry	878.2377
Career Planning	878.2416
Development	878.2703
Mabee Learning Center	878.2251
President's Office	878.2002
Public Relations	878.2109
Residential Life	878.2404
Student Development	878.2406
Student Financial Services	878.2016
Switchboard	275.2850

OBU Magazine is published quarterly by the Public Relations Office, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma. It is mailed to more than 35,000 alumni, parents and friends of OBU throughout the country and world. To change your mailing address send an email to update@okbu.edu; write *OBU Magazine*, 500 West University, OBU Box 61275, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804; or call 405.878.2706.

In compliance with federal law, including the provision of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Oklahoma Baptist University does not illegally discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or military service in its administration of educational policies, programs, or activities, its admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic or other university administered programs; or employment.

Features

2 Living Out the Love of God

As a piano performance major, most of my classes took place in the music department. One of the great OBU opportunities in the music program is the Concerto-Aria program in which I performed for three years. I also highly value the liberal arts core that I received. I often find that students who did undergraduate degrees in conservatories have not carefully studied a wide range of topics.

4 Carrying the Lamp

"It may seem a strange principle to enunciate as the very first requirement in a Hospital that it should do the sick no harm," writes Florence Nightingale in 1859. In a house just off of May Avenue in Oklahoma City, another nursing pioneer, Juanita Millsap, has a collection of writings in her office dedicated to Florence Nightingale.

6 Knowing God: Advice for Christian Thinkers

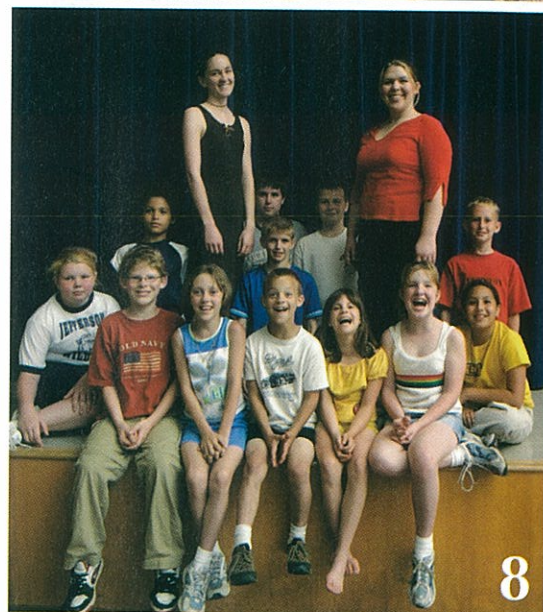
In human terms, significant relationships involve not just sitting in the presence of someone else, nor just talking. Significant relationship mean knowing as much about the other person as possible: who their family is, what their background is like, why they act the way they do, what we can expect from them in the future, and how they interact with other people. Thus, really knowing people involves knowing quite a bit about them.

8 Gumballs: Learning Through Imagination

Children's stories are usually stocked full of mythical places and charmed events that give pause for them to begin to recognize both their own creativity and the creative place that God has made, even if they later substitute gumball trees for apple or orange trees. The point is to look beyond your own eyes and imagine.



2



8



10

Departments

10 **Campus Life.** Fall Events

12 **Athletics.** Soccer

15 **Profiles in Excellence.**

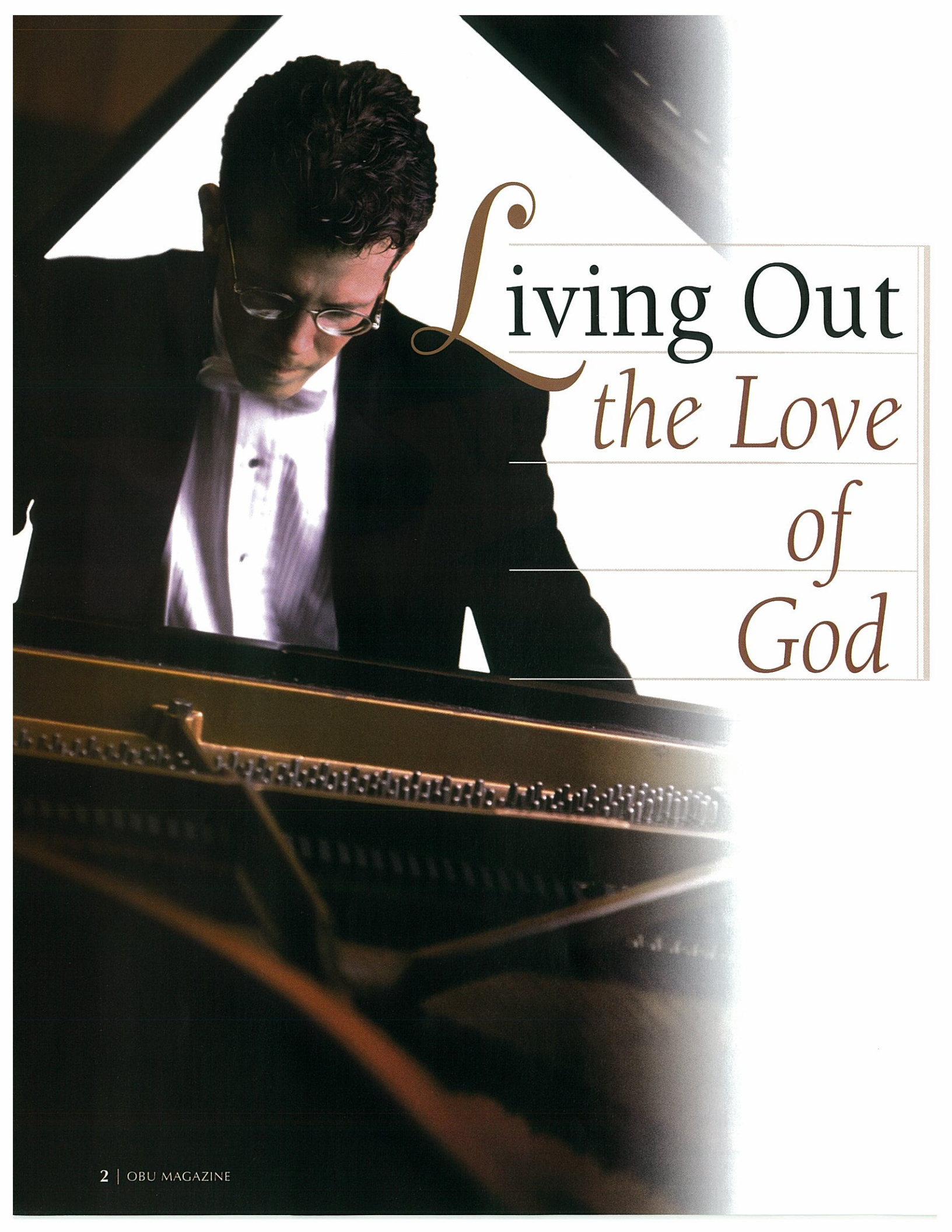
One Fighter Pilot's Love for Church Music
A Talent is Born in Sarkeys Studio "A"
God's Precious Little Ones

18 **Campaign OBU.** A New Look for the Wellness Center

20 **Alumni.** Celebrate! Coming Home 2004

22 **Newsnotes.** News from Alumni around the World

28 **Alumni Spotlight.** Sent to Sin City

A man with dark, curly hair and glasses, wearing a white tuxedo jacket and a white shirt with a bow tie, is seated at a piano. He is looking down at the keys, which are illuminated by a warm, golden light. The background is dark and out of focus, with some architectural lines visible. The title text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Living Out *the Love of God*

In May, Caleb Harris, '02, graduated from Eastman School of Music with a master of music degree with a concentration in piano performance. This past summer, he recorded a CD and traveled throughout Asia as pianist with the Eastman Wind Ensemble.

Caleb is one of seven children. He is one of four who chose OBU; the other three are not yet college age. Caleb's brother, Ben, graduated in 2000 and now has a master's degree in music with a concentration in piano accompanying. Ben also went to Vienna, Austria, on a Rotary scholarship. Now, he works as a private instructor in Waco, Texas. Micah will be a senior next year. He is an interdisciplinary major and spent the fall of 2003 at Oxford University. Amy will be a junior next year and is a nursing major. She hopes to work as a missionary nurse.

"Our OBU story began when two of our friends from Borger, Texas, mentioned that they were considering OBU for their undergraduate degree," says Caleb. "One of them was planning to major in music. From their report we decided to travel to Shawnee and find out about OBU for ourselves. When we arrived, we instantly felt at home."

The Harris family grew up on a ranch in Texas. "I began piano lessons at age 10 and music study has been very influential since that time," says Caleb. "My parents taught us to pursue excellence. Our father often says, 'If all I do is teach you to learn and how to think, I will feel successful.' I believe that this has been one of most fundamental aspects of my education." Ben agrees. "Our parents home-schooled us," says Ben, "and they emphasized the practical application of what we were learning. Not only were we drilled in theoretical academics, but we were able to practice life skills by working alongside our dad on the farm and by participating in the everyday chores of running a household of nine people."

"When I think of OBU, I think primarily of fine teachers and great friends I have," says Caleb. "As I was a piano performance major, most of my classes took place in the music department. One of the great OBU opportunities in the music program is the Concerto-Aria concert in which I performed for three years. I also highly value the liberal arts core that I received. I often find that students who did undergraduate degrees in conservatories have not carefully studied a wide range of topics. I think that this sometimes causes a narrow-minded world-view that is unhealthy. OBU is a school where Christianity is valued. I think that the Christian message gives a career in an entertainment-related field a very different twist. Certainly, I must be guided by a desire to honor and glorify God and not myself through music. It is my hope that in playing, and the people I come in contact with will become a unique mission opportunity."

Each of the Harris children defines his or her successes in terms of the Christian message. Ben says, "The Christian message does not just impact my life – it defines it. My music, career, and education are only valuable to me as they provide venues and opportunities for me to serve others and live out my love for God." Micah puts it this way: "If Christianity is true, how can it be a mere influence in life? I pray that since God has given me life, He will define my life rather than just influence it. God is the ultimate vision, and whatever occupation or study I may do is valuable to the extent that it contributes to that." Amy says, "My aspiration to minister to others through nursing loses its meaning if I do not personally grow in Christ. I want to glorify God through my life."

Caleb has just begun a doctoral program in piano performance at Eastman School of Music. ♦

Toil

by Micah Harris

We are working together.

My dad and I do our best to coordinate
the use of our three useful hands.

His right hand is tanned – robust.

Just now, it carries much more
than its rightful load.

His left is a little than an obstruction.

Yes, a painful liability.

I have sowed wheat many times with my father.
We have plowed the earth to fluffy loam
positioned to new seed where it will grow best
considered the likeliness of rain
worked long hours, while conditions were right.
We have patched the ancient creaky machinery
"for the last time," many times.

Today is more difficult.

We wrestle 500 pounds of steel.

Sweat drips. Our throats grunt.

Our backs strain. I am concerned.

His good hand is doing too much.

The other instinctively reaches to help.

The shot of pain hurts us both.

His right hand is determined

to relieve my young back.

I am young,

my back will be needed in the future.

It does help when he lends a hand.

This poem was originally printed in the *Scriblerus* (2003),
where it received first place in poetry.



Juanita Millsap



"It may seem a strange principle to enunciate as the very first requirement in a Hospital that it should do the sick no harm," writes Florence Nightingale in 1859. In a house just off of May Avenue in Oklahoma City, another nursing pioneer, Juanita Millsap, has a collection of writings in her office dedicated to Florence Nightingale. Born in 1820, Florence was named after the Italian city of her birth. At age 24, Florence says that God called her into his service as nurse. Ten years later, she accompanied nearly 40 other nurses to help care for the soldiers of the Crimean War. The Crimean War began as a fight between Czar Nicholas II's Russia and The Porte's Turkey. Soon Napoleon III's France and Victoria's England were involved. Florence stepped into a situation of much despair, and she left a legacy of compassion as she carried her lamp from bed to bed.

Juanita Millsap, like so many in the epic story of nursing, point to Florence Nightingale as a key person who lit the way for the profession to meld into the respected place it has in society today. In Nightingale form, Juanita helped fashion the first

CARRYING THE LAMP

Oklahoma baccalaureate program in nursing on the campus of Oklahoma Baptist University in 1952. "The government became involved in recruiting nurses for World War II," Juanita says, "and that changed the scope of nursing." Where it was learn-by-experience before the War, it was quickly adding training and education as requirements. "You get the government in on something and they'll set up standards. As a result, the hospital school was ending."

The hospital school taught nursing through more of an apprentice type model with the students largely responsible for the nursing service. "The directors of the Wesley Hospital School of Nursing wanted to develop a baccalaureate program whereby their hospital could be used for the major clinical experiences of nurses. A committee was formed by Ben Nickelson, representing the hospital board; Dr. James Ralph Scales, OBU; Katherine Fleming, director of nursing service at Wesley Hospital; and myself, who was the instructor at the School of Nursing at Wesley. And through that committee, I began to write the plans for the OBU School of Nursing, which were submitted to the State Board of Nursing Registration.

"I'll never forget the Saturday morning when we went to meet President John Raley and Dr. Scales, the academic dean. It was a reward to hear their willingness, readiness, and interest in starting the program soon." From that meeting, Juanita doubled her efforts. She had two years to write the requirements and recruit a clinical faculty for the only program of its type in the state. When classes opened in 1952, there were 10 students and three faculty members.

Today, nearly 150 students study at OBU each year in the School of Nursing, and there are eight faculty members. Juanita served as an OBU faculty member for 33 years, being appointed as dean of the School of Nursing as well. "OBU still stands out among other programs," Juanita says. "First, the liberal arts has remained an important piece of a nursing student's time at OBU. Second, students are introduced to how nursing is a worldwide calling, especially as it relates to ministry for those communities in great need."

Florence Nightingale was known for always carrying a lamp, a description that could apply to Juanita Millsap as she began the vivid work that the School of Nursing continues today. We have collected several of these stories at www.okbu.edu/obumagazine.

Florence Nightingale: A Household Name

The first organized attempt to mitigate the horrors of war, to prevent disease and save the lives of those engaged in military service by sanitary measures and a more careful



Juanita, in uniform, with the first School of Nursing students in 1956.

nursing of the sick and wounded, was made by a commission appointed by the British Government during the Crimean War, to inquire into the terrible mortality from disease that attended the British army at Sebastopol, and to apply the needed remedies. It was as a part of this great work that the heroic young Englishwoman, Florence Nightingale, with her army of nurses, went to Crimea to care for the sick and wounded soldier, to minister in hospitals, and to alleviate suffering and pain, with a self-sacrifice and devotion that has made her name a household word. (*The Western Sanitary Commission, A Sketch*, 1864)

Juanita Millsap: A Mentor to Many

Juanita Millsap has been more than a mother to the OBU School of Nursing. She not only instills a caring perspective in the lives of nurses, but she also lives the Christian spirit now and when she was a nurse, professor, and dean. When graduates get together at reunions, it is not unusual to hear them share stories of Juanita Millsap. Although those stories invoke a lot of laughter, the memories are filled with respect for the one who would take us on tours of the hospital so that we would know the history of the agency, the one who would demonstrate how to interact with suffering patients in a very caring manner, and the one who would encourage us to engage in lifelong learning. When I was a student, she gave me copies of articles to read at home, since I was a single parent with toddlers to care for in the evenings. Later, as a faculty colleague, she would give me a big bowl of stew for our supper. As she celebrated her 90th birthday this August, she still reads the nursing literature and is excited to engage in conversations about current nursing issues. She truly is a great lady of nursing.

Lana Bolhouse, *current dean of the School of Nursing* ♦

Knowing God: Advice for Christian Thinkers

BY RUSTY JONES, '04

Good questions are as important as good answers. Plato, the great Greek philosopher, relates a story about a conversation between Socrates and Theatetus. Socrates was an old man, weeks from death. Theatetus was a young student of Theodorus, a mathematician. Theodorus had bragged to Socrates about the intellect of Theatetus, and Socrates could not resist meeting the young philosopher. Part way through their discussion about the nature of knowledge, Socrates presented a difficult philosophical puzzle to Theatetus and asked if he was familiar with such puzzles.

"Oh yes, indeed, Socrates," answered Theatetus. "I often wonder like mad what these things can mean; sometimes when I am looking at them I actually begin to feel quite giddy." Socrates was pleased with this answer and responded, "I dare say you do, my dear boy. It seems that Theodorus was not far from the truth when he guessed what kind of person you are. For this is an experience which is characteristic of a philosopher, this wondering: this is where philosophy begins and nowhere else. And the man who made Iris the child of Thaumás was perhaps no bad genealogist."

This last line is one of the finest sentences in all of Plato's work, but is a bit enigmatic for most of us who are unfamiliar with the finer points of Greek mythology. "The man" to whom Socrates referred is Hesiod, who wrote the *Theogony* which, along with Homer's epics, provided the Greeks with, and provides us today with, the most important elements of Greek mythology. The *Theogony* is a genealogy of the gods; hence Socrates calls Hesiod "no bad genealogist."

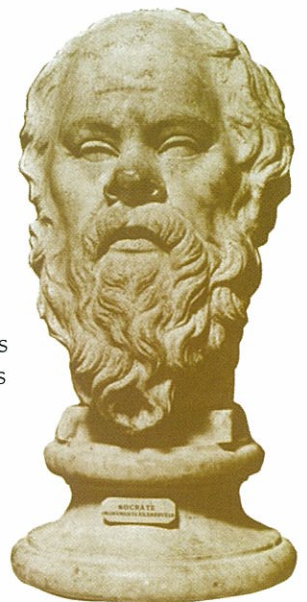
But what is this about Iris being the child of Thaumás? Thaumás is the Greek god whose name suggests wonder or marvel. Perhaps Plato's reference to Thaumás here is best understood as a marveling fascination or curiosity which falls short of knowledge and prompts one to ask questions in search of understanding. Iris, on the other hand, is the messenger of the gods, the rainbow which stretches between earth and heaven. It is Iris who connects the gods to mere

mortals below. Plato's suggestion then, that "the man who made Iris the child of Thaumás was perhaps no bad genealogist," is meant to affirm this truth: Curious questioning begets a connection between man and god.

Plato says that this wondering, this curious questioning, is the sole beginning point for the philosopher and will ultimately connect the philosopher to the divine. Alvin Plantinga, one of the most influential Christian philosophers alive today, wrote a paper titled, "Advice for Christian Philosophers." I wish to borrow his basic idea, but not his specific content, and expand it to include all Christians, whether philosopher or psychologist or nurse or musician. My "Advice for Christian Thinkers" is this: Take Plato's words seriously. Curious questioning is critical for the Christian thinker.

What does it mean for us to take Plato's words seriously? What would it look like for us to become a community of serious Christian thinkers? As we ask these questions, we have begun to put Plato's words into action even as we explore their implications for our own community. Our community is unapologetically committed to a particular faith. At the same time, it is unapologetically committed to intellectual pursuits. As a community which defines itself on the basis of both faith and intellect, we of all people should be interested in the connection between curious inquiry and the divine. This question should be paramount in our minds: What do our academic studies have to do with God?

Allow me to suggest a response to this question in the hope that my suggestion will spark further dialogue. Engaging in inquiry is one of the primary means by which we express our devotion to God. Because this is so, our devout engagement in inquiry demands the best intellectual resources that we can cultivate and employ. If we do not offer our best, we cannot consider our act to reflect true devotion.



Why should we consider inquiry an act of devotion in the first place? I believe that if we value something highly, we will be highly motivated to understand that thing. If we value God as much as we often claim, our desire to gain greater understanding of him will be very strong indeed. If we want to know God, it is not enough to know him in a purely pietistic fashion, *knowing* who he is without knowing very many facts *about* him. Our faith affirms that we may participate in a divine-human relationship with God and that relationship entails more than just understanding facts.

In human terms, significant relationships involve not just sitting in the presence of someone else, nor just talking. Significant relationships include knowing as much about the other person as possible: who their family is, what their background is like, why they act the way they do, what we can expect from them in the future, and how they interact with other people. Thus, really knowing people involves knowing quite a bit about them.

The same is true of our relationship with God. For the relationship to be significant, we must do more than merely sit in his presence or talk to him. This element of the divine-human relationship is important, but in the absence of inquiry about God the relationship remains relatively superficial. If we value God highly, we will learn everything we can about him and his world. This desire to know results directly from valuing God highly. When we do this, we begin to marvel at what we know of him, to wonder about what we do not understand and will never understand. Out of this marvel or wonder is *Thaumas* born. The birth of *Thaumas* within us inevitably leads us to ask questions, questions which arise from our desire to know. These questions may take many forms depending on our curiosity: Does God exist? Is he good? How can I learn about him? Is it possible for me to know him on a personal level? If God is completely good, powerful, and wise, why is there so much evil in the world?

During my years at OBU, I have experienced *Thaumas*. I have marveled at what I know of God and I have wondered about what I do not fully understand. This experience has led me to ask many difficult questions, some of which I have just shared with you. This process of questioning has been, and still is, an uncomfortable one. It often feels impious or irreverent to question God's existence or his goodness. Let me assure you I still believe in both. It even feels impious to ask the question of how a good, powerful, and wise God could allow so much evil in the world, yet one who lives and loves for very long in this world can hardly avoid asking it. It is this question about the abundance of evil that

troubles me most. I do not have a satisfactory answer, and that makes me uncomfortable at times.

Uncomfortable as it may be at times, let's have a curious wonder and a robust knowledge of God, one that doesn't separate knowledge and experience, but rather let's have a robust knowledge of God that recognizes that the two are inseparable. Knowing God through experience and knowing about God with our minds are two perspectives on the same relationship, two ways of looking at the same robust knowledge, and both must be present.

When we place high importance on knowing God, much of our inquiry relates to God's creative acts and his relationship with his creation. It is for this reason that we study liberal arts at OBU. We are compelled by the all-surpassing value of knowing God to ask questions that range across a wide number of fields. As a scientist, that means discovering all that you can about the physical world through physics, chemistry, biology, etc. As a nurse, doctor, or psychologist, it may mean asking questions about how to preserve the health. As an artist it is defined in terms of contributing to and asking questions of beauty and aesthetics. As an economist it means a concern for economic structures and welfare of societies. As a lawyer it has details of justice and compassion in mind. As a writer, it may be expressed through an illumination of truth or understanding the narrative of humanity better by telling stories. As pastors and theologians, it means a preservation of tradition and playing out the role of the church. And in a very real sense, all the roles we work from contain theology. As one of my favorite professors likes to say, we are all theologians and all truth is really God's truth.

Let's practice a curious questioning which arises from *Thaumas*, that marveling and wondering which is in turn born out of a deep desire to know God. For *Thaumas* gives birth to *Iris*, the rainbow, the connection between divine and human. *Thaumas* gives birth to a robust knowledge, which isolates neither knowing nor experience. So let us follow in the tradition of the heroes of our faith who placed such a high value on knowing God. Let us follow in the tradition of the writer of Proverbs who calls his hearers to devote themselves to the pursuit of wisdom. Let us follow in the tradition of Paul who valued robust knowledge of God above all things. And as we follow in that tradition, let us watch and marvel as our curious questioning gives birth to a closer relationship with God. ♦

Rusty Jones is at work on a graduate degree in philosophy at the University of Oklahoma.

BY ZACH KINCAID

Gumballs

Learning through Imagination



Beth Kinney, left, and Andra Dunn with the kids from Jefferson Elementary in Shawnee.

I recently told our 3-year-old son a bedtime story about two friends... It was a lazy summer day. The hard metal of the railroad by their house seemed to burn red from the sun's heat. Peter's mom had brought out lemonade. He and his friend Paul sat and stared at the tracks that melted into the forest. "My dad tells me that at the end of those tracks," said Peter, "there's a place where all the gumballs come from, a place where you can stuff your pockets full with every color and flavor." "I don't think so," said Paul. "There is nothing at the end of those tracks except for more tracks and more tracks and more tracks." "No, that's not true," Peter responded. "If that's true then you tell me, where do gumballs come from?" There was silence. "Let's go then," Paul finally said. Their cups of lemonade sweated in their hands as Peter thought about the heat, his mom, the tracks, and... the gumballs. They each took one more drink and darted out on their journey... At this point our son was completely enthralled. "Yeah, to find the gumballs," he said with eyes as big as the circles he made with his hands. "Big, big, gumballs." Peter and Paul made it well down the tracks. The sun had dropped lower in the sky, a defined ball of yellow that would soon drop into the hands of the earth. "Are we almost there?" Paul said, a little frustrated. Just then they saw a bridge and below a valley with gumball trees dotting every glance – red, blue, green, purple, orange – every color under heaven. They stuffed their pockets until they could hardly walk and headed home.

Children's stories are usually stocked full of mythical places and charmed events that give pause for them to begin to recognize both their own creativity and the creative place that God has made, even if they later substitute gumball trees for apple or orange trees. The point is to look beyond your own eyes and imagine. Most recently students Andra Dunn and Beth Kinney brought in a certain kind of magic to a fifth-grade classroom, the magic of theatre and playacting.

"We started with the basics of theatre," says Andra, "about props, lines, scenes, and story. Once we had introduced them to these ideas, they knew what to do." Andra, a theatre major, and Beth, an education drama major, had two weeks in Ms. Hartman's class at Jefferson Elementary in Shawnee, to teach theatre and allow the students to write and star in their own play. "Kids are role playing during recess every day," says Beth. "The boys are commonly playing war and the girls are playing dolls. It's not a far stretch to bring this into the classroom."

Growing up in Garber, Oklahoma, the closest theatre for Andra was more than 30 minutes away. Beth had a similar context in Bloomfield, New Mexico. As a result, they both value the role of theatre productions and know what it means when that expression is absent. "It's amazing to work with these kids and see them open up," says Andra. "One girl in particular was very introverted when we first arrived, but this all changed by the end of our two weeks. By thinking through a play and being part of that production 'Blue Fish,' as she called her character, became engaged in the subject matter and with her fellow students."

"We gave the students specific directions to create individual characters, define those characters, and then work as a class to incorporate each character into the settings of the play," says Beth.

So accompany Beth, Andra, and Ms. Hartman's class on "The Great China Adventure," as the students called their production. The play opens in an underwater lab, where two mad scientists have developed a radioactive slingshot. We are not sure why, but they only lack Jeanie's lamp to make everything work. The lamp is somewhere in the ocean and must be stolen and delivered to the mad scientists as soon as possible. Therefore, they employ Cyrus

and Spy to accomplish the mission. It's unclear why the play is set in China, but as Cyrus and Spy are looking for the lamp, Mist, Sally, and several others are atop the Great Wall of China and figure out that the mad scientists must have a secret lab. They must find it. The scene shifts to Shark who is guarding Jeanie's lamp, bored that nothing ever happens. Cyrus and Spy sneak in, take the lamp, and throw a fish to Shark as they swim off. Somewhere an angel enters the scene and helps collect all the sea creatures to wage a great battle with the scientists. At the end of the play only one character remains standing and she keeps repeating, "Help me."

The great strength that Beth and Andra discovered is the versatility of playmaking to apply to many subjects. It is something that they each play out in their own lives. As members of OBU's recently formed drama team ECHO, they perform six to eight shows a year with the purpose of communicating Christian principles through short sketches. "We write the material ourselves," says Andra, "and perform at churches around the area." In addition, Andra just completed another summer at Theatre 315, an off-Broadway house in New York City organized by the Salvation Army. Having graduated last spring, Andra hopes to continue working in the New York City area. Beth will graduate this December. She spent the summer working at Centrifuge, and hopes to continue combining theatre and education, perhaps in a church setting in the near future.

Peter and Paul made it back just before dinner. Peter had a bright yellow dump truck in his room. They quickly emptied the gumballs from their pockets until the truck overflowed, and rolled it under Peter's bed. They washed their hands, which were quite sticky by now, and sat down for dinner. Unfortunately for Peter and Paul, turnip greens and squash casserole stared back at them from their plates. Hesitantly, they each took one bite, then another, and another, until their plates were licked clean. Peter's mom looked baffled, but the two boys smiled at each other without saying a word. They didn't need to explain it. Everything had the hint of tasting like gumballs, and that made all the difference. ♦

Students in Worship

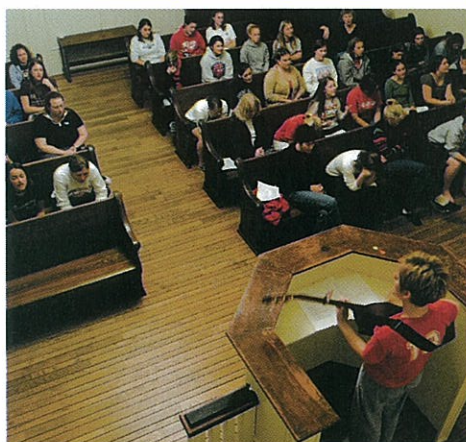
It's not your typical church time at 9pm on Tuesdays. And it's not your typical service for a 150-year-old church building. But that is the hour and Stubblefield Chapel is the place for one of the most meaningful worship times on the Oklahoma Baptist University campus. The student-led service in a building that predates the university combines scripture, testimony, prayer and some of the newest music under the sun, meant for the Son.

"We pack that place out," said Campus Minister Dale Griffin. "It's one of the greatest times you can be a part of." Students openly share what God has been doing in their lives. They will pray for friends and families in need. And they will sing. The music ranges from familiar choruses, to new arrangements and even a few works written by current students. The styles include introspective ballads, lively praise music and joyful noises.

It's a contemporary service in one of the most historic buildings on campus. Named in honor of pioneer pastor Cortez Stubblefield, the chapel was erected in 1849 as the original home of the First Baptist Church of Shawnee. Articles creating the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma were signed in the chapel. It was moved to the OBU campus in 1963.

One of the things that makes the time special is that it is a non-required time for students, led by students, to worship. Everyone who attends has come for the purest of purposes – to honor God.

STUBBLEFIELD CHAPEL



Fall Chapel Schedule

Join us at
10am in Raley Chapel

September

- 1 Convocation
President Mark Brister
- 8 Scot McKnight
- 13 Tom White
- 15 Avery Willis
- 17 Avery Willis
- 22 Kay Bridgwater Altic
- 24 Tommy Nelson
- 29 Hobbs Lecture
Rebekah Naylor

October

- 1 Student-led Worship
- 6 Dale Griffin
- 13 Arthur Holmes
- 27 Sam Shaw

November

- 3 Emerson Falls
- 10 Spirit Assembly
- 13 Homecoming Chapel
- 17 Deron Spoo
- 22 Student-led Worship

December

- 1 Ramon Aleman
- 8 Fine Arts
Christmas Program



The Fine Musical Sounds of the Fall

There are a variety of concerts planned for the fall, some of which are listed below. The complete list is available online at www.okbu.edu/campuslife.

September 16

United States Air Force
Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble

October 4

Thomas Bacon, French Horn

November 12

Homecoming Musical Gala

BISON GLEE CLUB
HOMECOMING
MUSICAL GALA 2003

November 16

John Rutter's
Mass of the Children

November 20

University Chorale

December 4

Hanging of the Green

December 5

Ceremony of Carols
performed by the Bisonettes

2,300 at Super Summer

In June, Super Summer, a camp for juniors and seniors who are leaders in their youth groups, brought 2,300 students to OBU. Because OBU serves as the host school, participants of Super Summer receive a scholarship of \$500. Twenty-eight such scholarships were utilized by students last year.

TODD AGNEW, CHRISTIAN ARTIST



Fall 2004 Preview Day

You won't want to miss Fall Preview Day coming October 16. We have put together a power-packed schedule that will give the whole family a chance to experience the excitement of Oklahoma Baptist University. We also encourage youth leaders to bring their juniors and seniors. We will open Preview Day at 2pm and move into a rotating schedule of half-hour sessions that include a view of academics, all you need to know about financial aid, the scoop about campus life, and a tour of the campus. At 5pm attend the Barbecue Experience on the lawn. Then at 7pm, we welcome Todd Agnew, Christian artist who brought us "Grace like Rain" and many others. With a full band, he will provide a night of powerful worship in Raley Chapel. Joining Todd Agnew is speaker Dave Nassar and the music of BarlowGirl and Starfield. If you attend Preview Day, the Barbecue Experience and Todd Agnew concert are free. For all the details, go to www.okbu.edu or call us at 800.654.3285.

2004-05 OBU Theatre Season at the Craig-Dorland Theatre

Stones in His Pockets – by Marie Jones

Sept 9, 10, 11 – 7:30pm; Sept 12 – 2:30pm

Stones is set in a tiny Irish town that has been invaded by a Hollywood production crew filming a romance epic. The play revolves around Charlie Conlon and Jake Quinn, two locals who get hired as film extras and who actually portray all of the show's 15 characters, from the temperamental star to the lowliest peon. As extras, Charlie and Jake have the opportunity to gawk at the moviemakers and fantasize about joining their glamorous ranks. After a local death that the visitors from Hollywood dismiss as a professional inconvenience, Jake and Charlie become disillusioned. They emerge triumphant, however, planning a screenplay based on their film experience. *Stones* is still showing on the West End in London, at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles, and has had a successful run on Broadway.

The Orestia: The Legacy of Agamemnon – by Aeschylus
Edited by Joyce Spivey Aldridge, Emily Dial-Driver;
based on the translation by Ian C. Johnston

Nov 4, 5, 6, 11 – 7:30pm; Nov 13, 14 – 2:30pm

Aeschylus' *Orestia* is the sole surviving Greek tragic trilogy. Offering an opportunity to make contact with the culture of the past, these plays provide the contemporary audience a time to reflect on a theme of universal interest: the evolution of justice in human society from blood vengeance to the rule of law.

OBU Theatre for Young People presents

The Wind in the Willows – by Moses Goldberg
Freely adapted from the book by Kenneth Grahame

Feb 25, 26, March 4, 5 – 7:30pm

Toad is the rich playboy of the animal kingdom. His current enthusiasm is motor cars, which he embraces passionately without the formality of learning to drive. After several narrow shaves, his friends, Rat and Mole and Badger, ground him for his own safety at his home, Toad Hall – but he eludes them and appropriates a police car, which lands him in jail. In his absence, the Weasels take over Toad Hall, and Toad returns to find his mansion in a shambles. It takes his friends to drive the Weasels out and restore Toad to his senses, but by that time he has acquired a new passion – airplanes!

It Could Be Any One of Us – by Alan Ayckbourn

April 21, 22, 23, 29, 30 – 7:30pm; May 1 – 2:30pm

A thunderstorm. A windswept country house. A family of failures – a detective who has never solved a case; a writer, an artist and a composer whose work has never been aired publicly; a dysfunctional teenager – wrangling over a bequest... All the prime ingredients for a murder-mystery thriller in the traditional mold. But this thriller by Alan Ayckbourn has within it a number of surprises: the victim is not who we at first believe it will be; the murderer could be one of three people, the identity of whom can change every night; and the thrills are leavened throughout with tongue-in-cheek humor and slyly ironic comment.

For OBU Theatre ticket information, call 405.878.2347 M-F 9am-4:30pm; 2 weeks prior to productions 5-8pm.

OBU

Marcelo Galvao instructs the OBU soccer team at Worton Field during their opening day of training.

SOCCER

Ready for Inaugural Season

The first OBU soccer season begins September 1. Coach Marcelo Galvao and many others have spent the last months in the mode of preparation – the hiring of a coaching staff, recruiting two varsity teams, forming a junior varsity men's team, the construction of two new soccer fields, purchasing new equipment and uniforms, and scheduling for the teams.

Most important, Marcelo says, is preparing a program that will be a spiritual journey. He has sought out athletes who will represent the university and the Christian values he wants to instill into their lives through competitive sports. It's a way of coaching that has provided a certain set of challenges.

"There's a perception that Christian athletes are soft, but I don't believe that," Marcelo says. "Christian athletes have more reason to train harder than anyone else, but it is a challenge to find great athletes who feel strongly about their faith." Making that goal a little easier is the fact that several players followed Marcelo to OBU from Oklahoma Wesleyan University, where he had coached for several years. "It is very gratifying to have them choose to come here and play," he says. "They will know what to expect from me and they

can help the other players adjust. I think they'll be a positive influence." Most of those who transferred enrolled as OBU students last spring. "They identify with OBU now," says Marcelo. "They are excited to be here and be a part of a new beginning."

Because this is a new program at OBU, several goals weigh heavily as hopes for the program. "Our main goal is to have a winning season without compromising our faith," Marcelo says. "We want to be competitive on the national level while representing what OBU stands for. Secondly, we really need the students and the faculty to come out to the games and support the teams."

In addition to the excitement that OBU soccer will likely bring to the campus, Marcelo is anticipating interaction with the local community. He has plans to visit with community leaders to see how the team can interact with the Shawnee area, including involvement with the local youth soccer association. Marcelo also has sought out pastors to help lay a foundation for spiritual growth and church involvement for the team. Join us as we welcome OBU soccer. The teams take the field for the first time in early September.

Focused Athletics

In the last decade, OBU has added women's golf and women's tennis, with men's and women's soccer scheduled to begin this fall. Junior varsity sports also have been added, bringing OBU's athlete population to nearly 300 – or just under one-sixth of the student body. Their scores don't scroll on ESPN. They've never had to worry about the SI Jinx. Big bucks are not rolling in from OBU's athletics. So why have college athletics at a Christian liberal arts school?

"My view is, athletics at a small Christian college embodies what college athletics is supposed to be," says Athletic Director Norris Russell, who played football at Rice University. "Students come out to see their classmates play. The athletes aren't removed from the student body."

While the NAIA doesn't evoke the images of prestige that accompany the NCAA, the ability is still very evident. "There is still a high level of competition," Norris says.

For example, the OBU men's basketball team defeated Oregon State 85-69 in 1994 and the big-name schools have somewhat shied away since then. The OBU track team has competed with and defeated larger schools for several years. However, competing and winning are not the ultimate goals. If these were the goals, OBU would have a similar game face as any of the state schools or private institutions with little or no faith statement.

"We like to see athletes grow," Norris says. "We like to see them grow academically, spiritually, socially and within their sport. All of those things are important. If athletes don't grow while they are here, then we probably haven't done our job." Academically, the coaches and the faculty, keep up with the progress of OBU athletes to help ensure that they leave the university with more than game day memories. A chaplaincy program, headed by Dr. Bobby Kelly, assists athletes on their spiritual journey. Added to this, through the NAIA's Champions of Character program, OBU athletes have put their faith to action.

The Phases of a Cross Country Athlete



A college cross country race may last about 25 minutes, but what the fans see is only the tip of the running iceberg that is cross country training. Nutrition, weight training and lots and lots of running are involved. "It is satisfying to observe improvement, but it can also be frustrating to have injury or a poor training plan keep you from enjoying reaching your potential. There are many ways to successfully manage the components of making a quality cross country program and training schedule," says OBU Coach Ford Mastin.

Think you're in top physical condition? Try the cross country workout. "There are basically four phases of development during a cross country season," says Ford. "Having these in the right order, making the work load appropriate for the individual athlete, and working the meet schedule to be in harmony with the program are important factors to ensure success."

The first phase – the preparation phase – is the most important, Ford says, because it gives the runner the aerobic base to be able to handle the stress of the more demanding workouts in the season and to increase the workload gradually to minimize the risk of injury. This 10-week phase is a gradual mileage build-up with a pace that is comfortable, which is most important to grow the heart to be efficient in carrying oxygen. "Running 'strides' are important in developing the muscles that are used for strong, fast running. The speed of the strides is a faster-than-race pace. The distance is about 100 meters, with a full recovery walk between each stride," says Ford.

The second phase is early season. The early season is a four-week stage for workouts that develop the ability to train specifically for racing. Repetitions, which are distances that are run at race pace – or a little faster – with full recovery

between each run, allow the body to produce lactic acid, but the full recovery keeps the body from failure. These workouts prepare the athlete to be able to handle the more difficult interval workouts. Strides, tempo runs, and weight training are still incorporated in this phase. A race can be scheduled at the end of the phase.

The third phase is mid-season. This is the time that a routine is usually established to give the runner the ability to start racing well and become successful in competition. Interval training is the biggest ingredient for this four-week phase. This phase includes runs at various distances run at race pace with the recovery not being full, but just enough to bring the heart rate down to have another run at the set distance.

The fourth phase is peaking. This phase involves the last two weeks of the season, when the runner wants to have his or her best performance. The week's total mileage is lowered by about 25 percent and the number of intervals is cut by as much as 50 percent. It is important to rest, but it is also important to not change the runner's routine very much. This is also a phase when the athlete's mental state must be very positive. It is always good to choose the athlete's favorite workout to incorporate during the peaking phase.

There can actually be a fifth phase, which would be a time of renewal and recovery before starting up again with a preparation phase for the next season. This phase can involve cross training. Walking, hiking, biking, swimming, playing other sports, skating, etc., can offer a break from running for about two weeks. "As in anything, you get out of something what you put into it," says Mastin. "Cross country is a tough sport, with suffering involved. If you have a strong will and keep yourself motivated by reaching achievable goals along the way, it can be a great sport for you."

Cross country runners enjoy more than just the opportunity to compete. "The improved fitness and discipline of the athletes are qualities that carry over to all parts of life," Ford says. Visit the athletics section of www.okbu.edu for a complete schedule of cross country events. The cross country season begins each year in early September and concludes in November just before Thanksgiving. On September 25, OBU hosts the Bison Invitational, which will include about 100 high schools from around Oklahoma. On November 6, OBU will host the NAIA Region 6 cross country meet. ♦

A Talent is Born in Sarkeys Studio "A"

When the clock hits five o'clock in the evenings, many Tulsans who appreciate sports tune into KOTV Channel 6. Perhaps you are among them. If you don't catch the five o'clock news, the six or ten o'clock broadcasts will also provide a good recap of sports around the state of Oklahoma, the region, and the country. Why? It's in part due to the talent of John Holcomb, '88, who has served as sports director with Channel 6 since 1999.

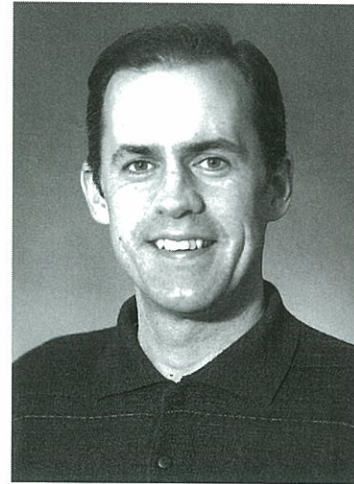
John came to OBU interested in telecommunication and athletics. On a basketball scholarship, he was close to the sports scene all four years. He also excelled in television journalism and worked well alongside Dr. Roger Hadley, professor of telecommunication. "Roger always gave us boundaries, but he never curtailed our sense of creativity," John says. "For example, in Sarkeys Studio A we did a program we simply called 'The Show,' a take-off of the late night talk show concept. We borrowed the Hornbeck marquee and even had a live band and audience. Neil Nichols and Mike Bruce came up with the idea, and I was the host. It didn't even feel like work. The three of us were involved in the whole production, and we learned a lot." It was Sarkeys Studio A that would become John's testing ground, as it has been for many others, to work out his talents and practice for the future.

Because his father worked as an associate professor of religion at OBU for 10 years, John knew about OBU even as a young child. He says that Shawnee was always a comfortable place for him. It was a place he wanted to return to after his father took a job in

New Orleans during John's teen years. "OBU seemed very natural for me," he says. "I developed many friendships in the area that I looked forward to renewing."

When John graduated, he worked at KGFF Radio in Shawnee for a year until he inquired with a fellow alumnus about any job openings. "Darrell Barnard, was a photographer for a television station in Sherman, Texas. He told me that they needed a news reporter, and he would put in a good word for me. I asked him 'What about sports?' He replied with emphasis, 'It's a news reporter job.' I put together a tape and applied anyway, even though it wasn't exactly what I wanted." John got the job. For nine months he worked at the station. Then a job opened up in Lawton, Oklahoma, for a weekend sports anchor. He took it. "Sports has always been a passion for me," he says.

It was another step in providence, because it was in Lawton that John met his wife, Jeanna, who was a feature reporter and production assistant. They married in June 1993. From Lawton, the Holcombs moved to KFDA-TV in Amarillo, Texas, where John was "promoted within the company to sports director." Three years later, John learned that KOTV was looking for a sports anchor. After four years in Tulsa, John was promoted to sports director. Along with his duties as the sports anchor for the evening newscasts, John also co-hosts the statewide "Oklahoma Sports Blitz," a widely popular show that recaps the week in sports and anticipates the week to come.



As the reigning Oklahoma Sportcaster of the Year, John credits OBU with a strong influence in his professional life but also his personal one. "Jeanna and I had a baby girl named Allison, born in March 1999. Allison lived three and a half months – all of it in the hospital. It was a very traumatic time. Some experiences you can learn from if you are open to what God wants you to learn. They are priceless lessons, and they are lessons we can miss on a daily basis if we are not open to them. The outpouring of support we received from friends, many from OBU, was tremendous, including our former pastor Sam Shaw," he says. Today, John and Jeanna have two daughters, Melody and Maggie.

As God continues to lead John and his family down life's path, there is great hope for the future. If you're a Tulsa resident, greet John with a big "Sarkeys Studio 'A' hello as you watch the five o'clock news from the other side of the tube. ♦

One Fighter Pilot's Love for Church Music

Harold Souther, '41, is passionate about many things – his service to his country as a fighter pilot during World War II; his love for his late wife; and, at the age of 86, his continuing contribution to the field of church music.

"I directed the music at a revival, fresh out of high school and new to OBU," says Harold. "During the revival, a little old lady came up to me and asked if I was playing my trumpet to show off my talent or if I was playing to praise the Lord. I answered to praise the Lord, of course! I couldn't sleep that night. It weighed heavily on my conscience, and it changed my whole approach to playing. I began playing the words of the song, and I now sing the words with my trumpet. That was back in 1938, and that lady changed my approach as a minister of music."

Harold was born in 1917 in Columbus, Nebraska. "My dad lost everything during the Depression, so we moved to Sapulpa, Oklahoma, for one year. In that year, I was delivering newspapers when a lady offered me milk and a cookie, and then invited me to her Sunday School class. I was probably nine years old. The church later held a revival and during the invitation, the preacher asked if we loved Jesus to cross this white line. Well, everyone crossed it except for me and two other boys, and we became the subject of much prayer! It was sometime after that revival that my brother, Billy, went forward, and I decided that if it was good enough for him, it was good enough for me, too."

The family then moved to Pontiac, Michigan, where the boys attended First Baptist Church. "I met a man

named Ralph Pardee, who perhaps influenced my life more than anyone else. Pardee and a friend invited him to attend a mission of the church, Emerson Mission. "At that mission, the pastor's sons played the trumpet and trombone. I was 13 and just learning to play the trumpet and Mr. Pardee asked me to direct the music. He really influenced me to go this direction (music ministry)," says Harold.

Not only was his brother influential in his becoming a Christian, but influential in bringing Harold to OBU. Billy graduated from OBU in 1932. When I graduated from high school, I worked for two years in a factory before coming to OBU. A friend of mine and I went to see Dean Angell to request some assistance in directing music, and out of this conversation, the Bison Glee Club was later formed."

As a student at OBU, Harold led the music at Highway Baptist Church, and following an invitation to have lunch in the home of some church members, he met his future wife, Betty June. "She was in high school and I was fascinated by her," Harold says. When he graduated from OBU in 1941, Betty encouraged Harold to join the Army Air Corps. "I had taken flying while at OBU and had already obtained my pilot's license, but the Army likes to train people their way. Well, I got my wings, and Betty and I married in May of 1942." In August 1942, Harold was assigned to New Guinea, where he served for a year and a half as a fighter pilot.

Harold served in New Guinea and Australia for 18 months and flew 143 combat missions. He completed his



service in the Army Air Corps in 1946, with the rank of captain, and with many decorations, including the distinguished flying cross.

Harold's service in music ministry resumed in 1946 when he became minister of music at First Baptist Church, Sulphur Springs, Texas. He was called to Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1948. He served at Second Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, and First Baptist Church, Irving, Texas, before being named associational music/education director for the Kansas City Baptist Association in 1957, where he served until 1976. He was named division director of church development for the Missouri Baptist Convention and retired in 1982.

Harold then became primary caregiver to his wife for more than 20 years. "Betty June had Alzheimers. She was a brilliant woman... I lived by my marriage commitment of for better or worse and 'til death do us part, and I almost died by it." Betty died in October 1999.

Today, Harold continues to play his trumpet every Sunday at Southside Baptist Church in Sarasota, Florida, about 45 miles north of his home in Port Charlotte. "It gives me an opportunity to travel, meet new people and to minister," he says. ♦

Helping God's Precious Little Ones

Dr. John Provine, '69, loves children. As the middle child of five, he helped his parents from day one with his two younger sisters. "I knew even then that one day, with God's help, I would be a pediatrician and spend my life helping God's precious little ones," he says. For many years he continued to fulfill that early calling as a pediatrician at Northwest Pediatrics in Enid, Oklahoma, before retiring in 2003.

In Midwest City, Oklahoma, John's mother taught mathematics and Latin at Midwest City High School and his father was the chief chemist at Tinker Air Force Base. The family children grew up in First Baptist Church and John learned early that God had a plan for his life.

"At OBU I enjoyed the academic challenge of a rigorous biology/chemistry major," he says. "I was privileged to sit under the gifted teaching of Dr. William Neptune and Dr. Jack Purdue in freshman chemistry, and I laughed through the pun-a-minute teaching of Dr. Richard Canham in inorganic chemistry. I learned to draw the chicken scratching formulas for organic compounds from Dr. John Mills. My major professor was Dr. Jim Hurley. How I remember trembling under his intricate questions, asking me to reason and think instead of just accepting facts! With their guidance, I grew in confidence. The education gained laid the foundation for success in medical school."

During his first year in medical school, he married his high school sweetheart, Laurel. "God gave us the ability to take one day at a time, and in no time, the seven years of medical education and training were completed. We moved to Enid, Oklahoma, for medical practice and set up the first level-2 intensive care nursery in northwest Oklahoma. The Provines moved to a farm homesteaded by Laurel's great-grandparents in the Cherokee Strip land run of 1893. "We reared our family of five children in a rural setting, encouraging them to revel in the beauty of God's creation. We attend Hillsdale Bible Church in which our children are the sixth generation of church members."

Throughout his years of practice, John has had the opportunity to help establish the Children's Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma and serve as its second president. He was founding chairman of the Garfield County Child Advocacy Council, providing a child-friendly environment for the victims of child abuse and neglect. He received the Friend of Children award in 1996 from the Oklahoma Institute of Child Advocacy the Friend of Education award in 2002-03 from the Enid Education Association; and the Volunteer of the Year award in 2002 from the Greater Enid Chamber of Commerce.



"Pediatric practice was a natural for me, and I thoroughly enjoyed days full of interaction with children and their parents. Someone once said that children are God's wish that the world should go on. God's gift to me was a love for children. Whenever I hold a newborn baby, I am overwhelmed with the wonder and awe of God's creation and inspired by the responsibility to support that new life so that the little one will have the opportunity to grow and achieve his or her greatest potential. Children are sponges that soak up all the experiences in the world around them. What we do for them is the legacy we leave in this world." ♦

OBU Nursing Program Receives \$1 Million Grant

Oklahoma Baptist University's School of Nursing was one of three Oklahoma nursing programs recently awarded \$1 million grants payable over five years. The grants are being funded by an anonymous donor – through the Communities Foundation of Oklahoma – who has a goal of increasing the number of registered nurses in central Oklahoma hospitals. Through this granting initiative, Oklahoma Baptist University, Oklahoma City University, and the University of Oklahoma were each selected as recipients of a \$1 million award.

"The generosity and foresight this donor has demonstrated will prove to be critical to addressing health care concerns related to the shortage of nurses that our society is facing," said Dr. Mark Brister, OBU President. "As Oklahoma's oldest baccalaureate nursing program, the OBU School of Nursing is committed to producing nursing graduates who will provide cutting-edge, competent and compassionate Christian nursing care."

OBU will use these funds to address the shortage of nurses by:

- Providing 40 new scholarships that generate enrollment growth in the nursing program.
- Providing additional faculty support for clinical education – made necessary by an increased number of nursing students – which will allow

OBU to keep the size of clinical groups to a maximum of eight students.

- Establishing a nursing residency program which will increase the retention of new graduates in Oklahoma City metropolitan area hospitals.
- Dr. Lana Bolhouse, dean of the OBU School of Nursing says, "We are excited to have access to the expertise of Dr. Claudine Dickey, retired dean of the OBU School of Nursing, who will be the director of the nursing residency program. This program will include OBU graduates in addition to new graduates from other nursing programs who are employed by the cooperating hospital. I believe that the results of this grant will ultimately yield more nurses practicing in the greater Oklahoma City area."

For more information about the scholarship program or the grant itself, please contact Dr. Bolhouse at 405.878.2081.



New Recreation/Wellness Center Plans Continue

Progress continues to be made for plans to replace Clark Craig Fieldhouse with a new recreation/wellness center. The proposed facility, to be built on the same site as Clark Craig, has undergone significant review and enhancements during the past year as a committee of faculty, staff and administrators reviewed initial plans for the building. A two-story facility, connected to the Noble Complex, will meet the needs of future students, once the building is constructed. Construction will begin once all funding is secured. An architectural rendering of the facility is to the right.



OBU WELLNESS CENTER PERSPECTIVE VIEW

Gifts That Endure: 2004 Annual Fund Campaign

The Gifts That Endure: 2004 Annual Fund campaign is off to an incredible beginning. With volunteer leadership of 20 people, and projected alumni class agents numbering more than 100, the target is set at \$800,000 for the 2004 annual fund. This is well within reach. "The credibility that these individuals provide for this type of giving is unbelievable," says Bill Holley, project coordinator. "The financial support of the volunteer leadership and class agents has breathed new life into the annual fund program."

This fall, personal letters will be mailed to you, as an alum, parent, or friend of OBU, if you have not yet participated in the 2004 annual fund. These letters will come from alumni agents who represent each decade and parents and friends who are leading the campaign in Shawnee, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Dallas/Fort Worth. If you are a parent or friend outside the four major geographic areas, a letter will arrive from the national parents or friends chairs. "We hope these letters will celebrate the fact that one of our decade chairs made a gift of \$150,000 to the

effort already, as many consider this opportunity to invest in OBU," says Bill. "Already, we have exceeded where we were at this time last year by \$145,000 and 100 additional donors. We expect that this will only increase in the next months." A significant number of those who receive a letter will also be contacted by a volunteer encouraging them to respond.

The campaign approach, which involves using volunteers to encourage peer group support of the 2004 annual fund, was launched to help reverse a small decline in numbers of donors over the past several years. "Because individuals receive so many requests for support from various charities, they often have to set priorities," Bill says. "Our volunteers are reminding friends that OBU has an impressive track record in Christian higher education and that their investment in OBU pays huge dividends in its positive impact on our world. Support for the annual fund is extremely important because it enables the university to direct unrestricted dollars to the areas of greatest need."

The executive volunteer leadership for Gifts That Endure 2004 include:

NATIONAL CHAIR

Burton H. Patterson '56

HONORARY CHAIR

John Massey

ALUMNI DIVISION

National Chair

Patrick L. Adams '79

Decade Chairs

'20s and '30s – Vivian Waller '27

'40s – Lawrence C. Harris '41

'50s – Benjamin G. McDow '52

'60s – Ronald Lee Clem '67

'70s – Michael S. Sperry '71

'80s – Michael F. Ross '83

'90s-2003 – Robert S. Duran '98

PARENTS DIVISION

National Chairs – Gary & Laura Drumb

Shawnee Chairs – Jim & Sue Winterringer

Oklahoma City Chair – Arthur Hayes

Tulsa Chairs – Milford & Murrel McDougal

Dallas/Fort Worth Chairs – Webster & Kay Bolland

FRIENDS DIVISION

National Chair – Larry Payton

Shawnee Chairs – Rex & Wilma Madeira

Oklahoma City Chair – W.A. "Dub" Ross

Tulsa Chair – Jack Selby

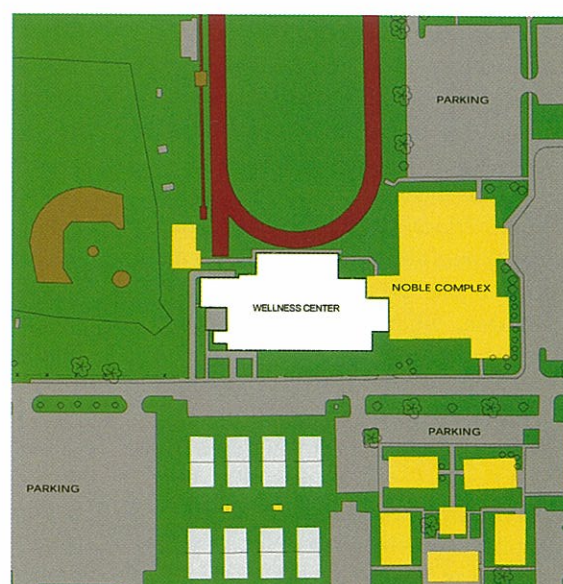
Dallas/Fort Worth Chairs – Bob & Beverly Riggs

In addition to the architect's progress for the new recreation/wellness center, gifts to OBU exceeded \$7 million for the first time ever, setting a new record for private financial support in a single fiscal year. Contributions to OBU in the 2003-04 fiscal year were \$7,148,483, eclipsing the previous record of \$6,658,164, set during the 2001-02 fiscal year.

Totals were: endowment \$3,506,243; current scholarships, \$1,201,863; operations, \$771,001; capital needs, \$939,648; and special projects, \$729,729. Support from donor groups included alumni with \$717,132; friends, \$1,590,728; foundations,

\$1,711,572; businesses, \$1,338,988; and church groups, \$1,790,063.

Figures listed previously do not include approximately \$2.8 million in Cooperative Program support from the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma for unrestricted operating budget support. OBU is truly grateful for the financial support of its alumni, friends, foundations, businesses, churches and the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.



OBU WELLNESS CENTER SITE PLAN

Celebrate A Bison Hill Homecoming Nov. 12-13

For four years (more or less), Bison Hill was home for OBU alums. Relationships were built; lifelong friendships formed; memories created through shared experiences, academic challenges, and a collection of adventures.

Homecoming 2004, Nov. 12-13, will give alums the chance to celebrate those memories as they come home to the OBU campus. The weekend will offer nearly 60 events, along with special recognition of alumni award recipients, and celebration of a golden anniversary for the Bisonette Glee Club.

Two distinguished graduates will receive the Alumni Achievement Award during the Harvest Dinner at 6pm Friday, Nov. 12, in the Geiger Center. Bob Burroughs, '59, a noted church musician who has served in a variety of leadership and educational posts, and Jerry Bradley, '69, president and CEO of Texas Baptist Children's Home and Family Services, will receive the OBU Alumni Association's highest honor.

Bob, a composer, resides in Birmingham, Alabama. He was director of the church music department of the Florida Baptist Convention from 1994-2001. He previously was composer-in-resident at Palm Beach Atlantic College from 1990-94, and Samford University from 1971-80. He served as a minister of music at churches in Texas and Oklahoma before his career in Baptist higher education. Bob has more than 2,000 published works. He has written three books. He and his wife, Esther Milligan, '59, have two children and five grandchildren.

Jerry has served as chief executive officer of Texas Baptist Children's Home and Family Services since 1990. He previously worked with Oklahoma Baptist children's services for 13 years, serving as director of child care for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma from 1988-90. He entered social

service ministry in 1970, while studying for a master's degree in religious education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also completed a master's degree in social work at Florida State University in 1975. He is a licensed child care administrator, and has served on several professional association boards. Jerry and his wife, Linda Martin, '69, have two children and one grandson.

The Bisonette Glee Club, founded in 1954 by Warren M. Angell, will celebrate 50 years of music with activities during Homecoming. The celebration will include a reunion dinner at 5:30pm Saturday, Nov. 13, in the Geiger Center. Dr. Bonnie Sneed, conductor of the Bisonettes, is planning a collection of reunion activities along with alumni and current Bisonettes.

Twelve Profile In Excellence honorees will be recognized at 10am Saturday during the annual Homecoming Chapel service in Raley Chapel's Potter Auditorium. The award recipients, who are featured in *OBU Magazine* throughout 2004, will receive their awards from OBU President Mark Brister.

Other significant Homecoming events include the second annual Children's Festival. Activities for children age 4 through 6th grade will begin at 10:30am Saturday in Clark Craig Fieldhouse. The festival includes games, a praise and worship time, and opportunities for grade school children to attend special academic sessions. A sandwich lunch is included in the program, which concludes at 2pm.

OBU nursing graduates will continue celebrating OBU's golden anniversary of nursing excellence as they gather for a reunion dinner on Nov. 13. This is the third in a series of Homecoming dinners as the School of Nursing celebrates the start of Oklahoma's first baccalaureate nursing program. The

Homecoming dinner will feature reflections from former students and faculty, as well as a visual review of the nursing school's history.

During Homecoming, OBU Theatre will present *The Orestia: The Legacy of Agamemnon*, a classic Greek play by Aeschylus, edited by Joyce Aldridge, assistant professor of theatre. The production will be in OBU's recently renovated Craig-Dorland Theatre, in Shawnee Hall. Show times are 7:30pm Thursday, Nov. 11; and 2:30pm Saturday, Nov. 13, and Sunday, Nov. 14.

Other fine arts events during the weekend include the Homecoming Musical Gala at 8:30pm Friday, featuring talent from the Warren M. Angell College of Fine Arts. The weekend's major activities will conclude with the Alumni Showcase at 8pm Saturday, as talented alumni from reunioning years perform.

For the latest information about Homecoming, and details on how to order event tickets, visit the alumni section of the OBU website at www.okbu.edu.

Fall 2004 OBU Alumni Events

Tuesday, Sept 21 (7pm)
Arlington, VA

Thursday, Sept 23 (6:30pm)
Richmond, VA

Friday, Sept 24 (6:30pm)
Charlotte, NC

Saturday, Sept 25 (11:30am)
Raleigh, NC

Monday, Sept 27 (6:30pm)
New York, NY

Tuesday, Sept 28 (7pm)
Boston, MA

For details, visit the alumni section of OBU's website at www.okbu.edu.

Introducing the Raley Chapel Ceramic Collectible

The OBU Alumni Office has partnered with Vertrees Fine Porcelain & Ceramics to commission a limited edition, highly collectible, ceramic replica of Oklahoma Baptist University's Raley Chapel. To create this piece, Vertrees combined the unmatched skills of technical sculptor and mold-maker Robert Petro with the exceptional talents of ceramic artist Cheri Mullins. The result is an extraordinary Vertrees replica of Raley Chapel. We are pleased to announce that this extremely detailed and accurate scale reproduction of OBU's signature building will soon be available to you.

Vertrees Fine Porcelain & Ceramics does not typically market products well in advance of scheduled release. However, the response to this offering has been unusually positive. As a result, orders for the Vertrees Raley Chapel may be placed in advance at a special web site – www.raleychapel.com. By ordering in advance, patrons are assured of securing one of the limited edition pieces before the collection is sold out. Additionally, early order placement assures delivery before Christmas and reserves a lower numbered piece, which enhances future value and collectibility.

In honor of the year OBU was established, the Vertrees Raley Chapel was commissioned as a limited edition of 1910 signed and numbered pieces accompanied by certificates of authenticity. As a special opportunity, artist's proof pieces will be created for presentation purposes or upon request by collectors. Now more than ever,

we are pleased to let you know that while most all collectible porcelain and ceramic pieces are manufactured in China, the Vertrees Raley Chapel will be produced entirely in the United States of America.

Photos of the finished piece were not available by the publishing deadline for this issue of *OBU Magazine*. However, by the time you read this, photos of the master cast original will be ready for viewing at www.raleychapel.com. Each piece is approximately 9 inches tall and would be right at home on a fireplace mantle, desktop, or in a display case. Numerous intricacies of Raley Chapel's architectural features are recreated in amazing detail. As a final touch, each piece includes an interior light. You'll be proud to display this work of art anywhere.

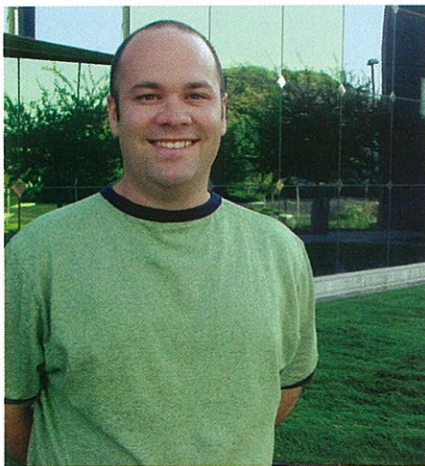
Vertrees is pleased to offer the Raley Chapel collectible at a remarkable cost of only \$147.00. As a service to the university, Vertrees will contribute a significant portion of the purchase price of each piece to the OBU Alumni Association.

More details and pictures of the Vertrees Raley Chapel are available at www.raleychapel.com. Advance orders may be placed on the secure website, or by calling Vertrees direct at 479.420.9973.



sent to Sin City

This is Reno, Nevada. Half the population is single. The median age is 35 and the median salary is 42k. The gambling industry is the largest employer, with the majority of its



MIKE STEWART

business being conducted on weekends. Camping is year-round. Less than one in ten people attend a Protestant church.

Established in the 1860s, Reno was a resting point for those on their way to or returning from the Gold Rush. Later, it received the name "Sin City," because it hosted several legal brothels, was the scene of illegal underground gambling, and offered quick and easy divorces, according to the city's website.

Among all these facts, a new church has emerged communicating several things to its community: "We are not a typical church. Our services are casual, relevant, and relational. We use the communication media of our age. We

believe God wants us to speak in the language of our culture." The church is called Discovery Fellowship. Mike Stewart, '93, is the pastor.

"When you invite someone to an event, you are laying your credibility on the line by extending the invitation," says Mike. "You are saying to them, 'I care about you and think you would have a better time doing this than whatever you were planning on doing.' Mike says that in a real sense God has invited him to start Discovery Fellowship in Reno and it is God who will see it grow as he desires and if he chooses. Discovery Fellowship was formed in April 2003 after Mike had served in a local church for some years. "Planting a church was



not my idea," he says. "It was an invitation from God."

Within 90 days, 14,500 square feet of space was found for 14 cents a foot. With the going rate ten times that, Mike counts this as a lesson in God's faithfulness. The space is not typical, as it was built for a dot-com company that went under. Some amenities include a two-story rock climbing wall, basketball court, large cafeteria, shower/locker room facilities, two fire poles, sand volleyball pit, horseshoe pit, shuffleboard, adult-sized playground, two duck ponds, and walking trail. Ample classrooms were also part of the package. Now, the church has expanded to take up 25,000 square feet at the property.

"Jesus says that the two greatest commandments are to love God and love others," Mike says. "To combat the loneliness in our community, we have designed a church that focuses on helping people develop a deep relationship with God and others." Part of the design is dedicating Tuesday evening as the time they come together for worship. "Because of the young nature of our community, the large employment base working on weekends, and the available leisure activities afforded by the natural surroundings of Reno, we knew that Sunday may not be the best day," says Mike. "However, Tuesday is one of the slowest nights in our community."

Discovery Fellowship is an example of a church analyzing their particular context and formulating their vision and structure around it. Mike Stewart credits his OBU experience as instilling the confidence to be instrumental to such endeavors. "I'm grateful to Paul Hammond and the School of Music staff for the education they provided and the setting in which they provided it. In addition, my time serving in campus ministries was extremely valuable in developing people skills and the ability to lead others. There's no way I am who I am today without the influence of OBU on my life."

For more information about the ministry of Discovery Fellowship, go to www.discoveryfellowship.org.



The campus was alive and buzzing with excitement in 1941. There was great debate about whether to continue the football program, and there was planning for the construction of Brotherhood Dormitory. And then came the attack on Pearl Harbor, which plunged the U.S. into World War II. "On that quiet Sunday, everything changed. On Monday, class schedules were cancelled, students and faculty met in Shawnee Hall to hear President Roosevelt's radio message. The boys began to leave immediately; faculty members joined up; reservists reported for duty. Ten percent of the girls left to join the war effort," according to Helen Thames Raley in *The View From Bison Hill*.

Since the declaration of war, civilian aviation had become increasingly important, and civil pilot training courses offered at the university included primary and secondary flying and cross country and instruction classes, according to Uncle Jimmy Owens, in his book, *Annals of OBU*. "The coming of the 91st College Detachment gave rise to much planning and influenced every person on the campus. Many changes had to be made. A new schedule had to be prepared to harmonize with the Army schedule. Classrooms and living quarters had to be provided for

500 soldiers. The men vacated the basement of Montgomery Hall and a PX was installed. The men's dormitory was vacated and equipped for young women, who moved out of Memorial Dormitory in order to furnish it for the cadets.

"On a cold night in February 1943, the eastbound Rock Island train stopped at Kickapoo Street in Shawnee. Five hundred cadets and their officers dismounted and began their march on Kickapoo to the campus of OBU. They were singing all the way. All became awake along the street. The news reached the campus and all students arose from their sleep, dressed and had a big bonfire roaring where the cadets turned in at University Street," he continues.

OBU's participation in the war effort was great, and included the Army's development of the Air Force Pre-aviation Cadet Program as well as the detachment of the first contingent of 500 cadets that initiated further participation. In time, the Navy Reserve Command, commissioned in 1949-50, went on to play a significant role in student life at the university. After the war, the guard was re-activated and called the Thunderbirds, the famous 45th of World War II.



Oklahoma Baptist
UNIVERSITY

500 W. University
Shawnee, OK 74804

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
LIBERTY, MO
PERMIT NO 63

O.B.U.
m a g a z i n e