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Attitude

I remember the first time I met Chick Fleming. I had been frantically running about the campus with Billy Howard and crew. Billy is a professional photographer from Atlanta who comes to Southern once a year to do promotional shots for the public relations office.

I had mentioned to Billy the possibility of shooting Chick for the cover of *Columns* and he eagerly accepted the assignment.

Usually, working outdoors is a welcomed change to my desk routine with the computer. But it was an unseasonably warm autumn morning. The heat and humidity created an environment that was far from ideal for work and even less ideal for creating portraits.

For nearly an hour Billy and Chick worked together. With the hot sun burning his face and a flash box blinding him after every shot, Chick continued to smile. While his sport coat added to his discomfort, he graciously tried this position and that, never losing his poise. When asked how he was holding up he responded, “Disgustingly well for a man of my age.”

Between shots he wiped perspiration from his forehead and shared memories of his years as Southern’s business manager. He spoke of his parents—how they molded and shaped him into the man that he is. He told us about his wife Betty—that she is the greatest woman in the world and marrying her was the best thing that had ever happened to him.

I met with Chick on several occasions throughout the past few months, but it wasn’t until I spent time with him one-on-one that I realized how lucky I was.

Chick is one of those people who inspire others with their positive attitude. He makes an impact on nearly everyone he meets. He’s a rare breed. Larger than life, but firmly grounded in principle.

Chick’s creative ingenuity may have shaped the history of Southern more than any other individual, but it was his positive attitude that permeated the campus and created a foundation that has supported the university for decades. It was his positive attitude that drew scores of students to Southern. It was his positive attitude that won the hearts of Chattanoogans and its leaders. It’s his positive attitude that continues to benefit the campus today.

Charles Swindoll said about attitudes, “I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it.” And on that dreadfully warm September morning, Chick’s attitude proved to me the validity of that statement.

Such people are in limited supply. And Southern is blessed to have known such a man.
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Bietz’s Pitch

It was good to see the picture of Gordon Bietz at the August 15 Lookouts game. When I was a student and staff member at Southern, I wanted the school and the church to be more a “part of the Chattanooga community.” People should know Southern is not an exclusive island. I hope students and staff continue to mix with and give back to the community.

Daryl Cole, ’92 and former staff

Changing Tunes

Just wanted to drop a note and say how much I enjoyed the article about the School of Music in Columns Fall 2002.

As an alumnus of the School of Music and now a Masters student at Eastman, it is so nice to see the direction the School of Music is headed. Since graduating, I have been able to gain a new perspective on Southern’s musical groups from the audience. The quality of musicianship remains at an incredibly high standard, a reflection of the dedicated and talented faculty. Southern is so fortunate to have such talented musicians and it is my hope that others at Southern will have the opportunity to pursue their musical dreams just like Southern enabled me to do.

Brian Liu, Class of 2000

Job Well Done

I just had to drop you a note for the great work of editing the Columns! Since my husband, Clarence, ’65, and daughter, Deanna Brown, ’78, both graduated there, I have really appreciated the school and am first to pick up the latest issue to read from cover to cover. It has improved so much with the individual writers contributing and has making such an excellent contribution ‘selling’ the school and its ability to see the Lord's work go forward for His glory. Every article was absorbed and now my husband can satisfy his curiosity as I exulted over all the features I was enjoying!

Keep up the good work—God’s work—training to see the great commission completed in our generation.

Ruth Stevens

InBox is designed as a forum for reader feedback. Questions, concerns, compliments, criticisms, and even discussions—all are welcome and encouraged. Please send InBox letters to: Columns Editor, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN, 37315-0370 or e-mail garrett@southern.edu.
I n the life of most doctoral students comes a pivotal event: the verbal exam. Pass the committee's interrogation, and you proceed with your Ph.D. Fail the interrogation, and your time in graduate school may come to an end faster than Regis can tell everyone you should've used a lifeline.

The exam isn't really about finding out what you know—it's about finding out what you don't know. To pass, you must correctly answer most of the questions while avoiding the words, "I don't know." You also must avoid unknowingly giving a wrong answer—for doing so may have you stumbling along a path of wrong answers until you are the last person in the room to realize your ignorance.

In the science world, not knowing isn't tolerated for long. Not knowing is an annoyance to be dispensed with quickly, either through an experiment which reveals the unknown or through shaping a plausible theory. Having made it through the verbal exam, dissertation defense, and post-doctoral apprenticeship, I've been trained to see not knowing as not good.

As a professor, I don't have to look far to find students who are fearful about the consequences of not knowing:

"How am I going to get into medical school if I get an A- (or worse) in class?"

"How am I going to solve this problem if I don't have that information?"

I also don't have to look far to find students for whom not knowing is much less traumatic:

"Do we have to learn this for the test?"

"Am I really going to need to know this when I'm a doctor/nurse/underwater basket weaver?"

I've seen the pre-med student disappointed by a B+. This I understand.

But I've also seen the nursing student jump for joy in getting the C needed to meet minimum program requirements. And I've seen students taking chemistry merely to meet a general requirement sigh with relief, smile, and thank me when their grade was—to put it delicately—not an F. These things I don't fully understand. This happiness that comes in spite of not knowing is foreign to my training as a scientist. But I'm learning to appreciate it since I've had another verbal exam.

I've always believed that my students shouldn't plunge into studying creation without taking time to consider the Creator. So before every class and every lab, I talk about something in the world around us and how it pertains to what we should know about God. It might be something related to the lecture topic or experiment of the day. It might be something from the news. It might be something I saw on television. It might be a story about my nephew.

On Tuesday, September 11, 2001, before the afternoon's organic chemistry lab, discussing the topic in the world to discuss at the start of class wasn't difficult to do. I had followed events in my office that morning. And I had been home at lunch to see video of airplanes crashing and buildings falling. I pondered unimaginable loss and evil. But what did I know? What would I say to this class?

The students filed in and looked at me as they always do, although they were quieter than usual. And then I began to speak.

"This is the part of the class when I'm supposed to have something profound to say about God. Today I've got nothing."

In other words, I admitted not knowing before the first question was even asked.

I knew correct things that I could have said. I could have talked about a great controversy that began in heaven and moved to earth through all of which God will be vindicated. But that would have been a general answer—not all that helpful when there were specific questions about specific events still fresh in student minds. I might just as well have told the waiting students that the experiment of the day was about things that happen to atoms. That would have been correct, but not very helpful.

The students didn't look at me differently because I didn't know the answer that day. Not knowing was the right response, which was a relief to me. I didn't feel that relief immediately. I probably don't fully understand that relief now. But as I watched the students take time during lab to pray, they showed me the peace that comes from pursuing an approachable God instead of pursuing answers to difficult questions.

As much as my background and training makes me not want to admit it, there are questions that are unanswerable by human beings. Many of these questions are ones that we were never intended to be in a position to ask.

My students are helping me learn the good news about not knowing. The good news is that where knowledge ends, faith begins. And that is an answer worth knowing.
Kelly Razzouk
Music and Ministry

For as long as she can remember, she has loved to sing. From singing at home to singing for church, Kelly Razzouk developed her talents early in life and recorded her first CD at the age of 12. She sings every day; on her way to class, in her dorm room, in the cafeteria, and even while shopping.

“Sometimes I embarrass my sister because I sing so much,” says Kelly. “I even sing in the grocery store.”

Singing is more than a hobby to Kelly—it’s a passion. Her other passion in life is ministry, and she often uses her music in ministry. Last May, in the midst of political turmoil and danger, Kelly and a group of students from Andrews University, conducted an evangelistic crusade in Lebanon. Kelly was responsible for the music portion of each program, singing and leading out in song services.

The meetings were held on the campus of Middle Eastern University in the city of Beirut. The first meeting had been well attended, but on the second day, a Christian student leader was killed by local militia, and demonstrators swarmed on campus. Carrying signs and shouting in Arabic, they refused to allow any classes or meetings to take place.

“It was obvious that no one would be coming to our meeting that day,” Kelly said. “So we all began to pray.”

Just before the scheduled meeting time, the demonstrators suddenly stopped their shouting. Some even slipped inside the church to hear the meetings. Locals who had been afraid to attend filled the church, and for the next hour everyone sat quietly and listened as the meeting took place. After the closing prayer, the demonstrators resumed their picketing.

Another stop on Kelly’s mission trip was the Children’s Care Center, a small boy’s orphanage in Jordan. The Children’s Care Center has room for 30 boys, but funding is so limited that only 12 boys can be taken care of. In a dangerous and unsteady region, the boys who live at the orphanage are safe and happy, well fed and educated.

“They are the sweetest boys,” Kelly says. “They taught me how to count to 10 in Arabic and we played hide-and-seek.”

After witnessing the need first-hand, Kelly knew there was something she must do to help. When she flew back home, she asked some of her fellow musician friends—Jaime Jorge, Christopher Dellen, and others—to help her put on a benefit concert for the orphanage. With the help of a children’s choir from her home church in Illinois, they were able to raise over $4,500 to help with expenses for the Children’s Care Center.

Since her time in the Middle East, Kelly transferred from Andrews to Southern. She is now a junior public relations and music major with an emphasis on voice performance. And, of course, she sings in the university Chorale, but what she really enjoys is the spiritual atmosphere on campus.

“One of the reasons I transferred from Andrews to Southern is the incredible emphasis on spirituality on campus,” says Kelly. “The campus ministries office does a wonderful job involving many different types of students in ministry.”

Inelda Hefferlin
Useful for God

Few women in Collegedale have been as great an influence in this area as Inelda Hefferlin, 58.

She and her husband, Ray arrived on the campus of Southern Missionary College in July 1955. They were newly-weds and Ray was the only Ph.D. on campus. It was a unique position for them, because she was both a student and the wife of a faculty member.

Inelda received a degree in home economics while her young husband taught math and physics. “Everyone was so great to us,” she recalls. “We were impressed by the love and warmth of the other faculty members and many offered true hospitality and kindness to us.” The powerful growth of warm and caring friendships has been a great influence in the Hefferlins staying in Collegedale for more than 45 years.

Inelda can testify that sometimes experiences in life seem bad or worthless, but God can

Gary Horinouchi
One, Two, Three,...Testing

It was 7:50 on Saturday night, and in 10 minutes the front doors of Iles P.E. Center would let hundreds of people pour inside. The occasion? Afrofest, an annual gymnastics event
take those times and use them in the future in ways we never dreamed of. From 1979 to 1981, the Heflerins lived in Russia while Ray was conducting research at the Academy of Science. The academy provided a tutor for Inelda, because she wanted to learn the Russian language. The Iron Curtain was in place at that time and she struggled to understand the way of life there. "I was so lonely and I did not know anyone," she said, "I was frustrated, because I could not communicate with people around me." After many months, she eventually learned the language and became more deeply immersed in the Russian culture.

At that time Inelda had no idea that God would use those lonely, difficult times in her life to give her a greater understanding of what immigrants go through here in the States.

Today Inelda works with many different language groups in a new English as a Second Language (ESL) program at the Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church. The idea began four years ago when a Russian family came to her asking for help with documents, medical information, and language tutoring. She realized that although there are ESL classes in downtown Chattanooga, it would be beneficial to have something in Collegedale.

Inelda also serves on the Women's Council for Diversity in Chattanooga, which frequently conducts forum discussions on the impact of immigrants and various religions in the area. She serves her local church community as head deaconess for the Collegedale Church.

Her goals in life are simple. "I want to be useful to those who need assistance, but not too busy that I forget to spend time with God," she says. "Being too busy can make us lose our focus if we spread ourselves too thin."

Spreading herself too thin is easy since she and her husband have four daughters and six grandsons. The diverse experiences in her life have allowed her to see how God uses things from our past to give us a greater understanding for working with other people. She has found that focusing on the ways God has led us in the past, helps our lives become a greater blessing to those around us.

...
The year was 1946. The Second World War had ended and hundreds of GIs and their families came streaming onto the campus of Southern Missionary College. The dramatic influx of students brought with it the tremendous challenge of creating adequate housing.

The administration scrambled to build an addition onto either side of the men’s dormitory. However, until the construction could be completed, many of the male students were forced to live in tent-houses scattered about the campus.

To accommodate the married students and their families, the administration secured war surplus trailers and lined them along the hill at the southwest corner of campus. A residential community was created almost overnight. Living conditions were crude, but administration responded to the challenge. Leading the way was Charles “Chick” Fleming, Jr.

For 30 years Fleming served as Southern’s business manager. His effervescent charisma was overshadowed only by his creative genius; and his leadership came to Southern at exactly the right time.

Revered by countless alumni and community members, Fleming made an indelible impact on Southern. “Chick’s long-term commitment to the community and his enthusiasm and vision for Southern have had a stabilizing and transformational impact on both Southern and on Collegedale,” says Gordon Bietz, university president.

Fleming’s entrepreneurial spirit, calculated adaptability, and his genuine love for people contributed immensely to his enduring success as Southern’s business manager.

**Chick the Business Manager**

Fleming believed that the success of the college revolved around two key ideas: a quality educational program and solid industries that would allow students the opportunity to work their way through college.

After World War II ended many young men returned to Southern eager to take advantage of their GI bill benefits. Through educating the men was a top priority, administration quickly realized that adequate student employment opportunities were necessary to support the hundreds of student families that now occupied the campus.

Bill Halsey was one of the many GIs who came to Southern following the war. “Myrtle and I packed our belongings and our three children into the family station wagon and headed off to Southern,” Halsey recalls. “When we arrived, Chick was there to meet us and welcome us to the campus,” Halsey says.

Neither man knew it, but Fleming would become Halsey’s mentor, and over time they would become best friends.

“Chick is a man full of ideas and it’s been those ideas that have largely shaped Southern Adventist University,” says Halsey, former manager of Collegedale Cabinets and long-time member of Southern’s board of trustees.

Fleming’s vision for creating a strong industrial program contributed immensely to the growth of the college through student employment and increased profit margins. The Furniture Factory, Broom Shop, College Press, Cabinet Shop, and the Collegedale Laundry provided only a few of the work opportunities that were available to students.

“In those days, things were different,” Fleming recalls. “Students who didn’t have to work were looked down on.”

One of Fleming’s biggest responsibilities included serving as general manager of the college industries. And with each departmental manager he developed an individual friendship. “He always made each manager feel special and that he was partial to him or her,” recalls Winton Preston, former manager of the College Press. “He had a unique way of bringing out the best in people.”

In 1956, Cecil Coffey, a Southern graduate, wrote an article titled “The College with a Built-In Pocketbook.” The article appeared in Reader’s Digest and highlighted the strengths of Southern’s industrial program and how the college administration was making it possible for students to work their way through school without incurring any debt. Coffey credited Fleming and President Kenneth A. Wright with the development of a flourishing industrial program.
and turning a struggling junior college into a thriving senior college.

When the time arrived for the college's periodic accreditation, Fleming and the other administrators sent copies of the article to the accrediting team prior to their visit to the campus. "When they arrived they were very eager to see our industrial program," Fleming recalls. "We took them down to the Broom Shop and they all wanted to make brooms to take home to their wives," he says with a laugh. "In fact, I think they were more interested in our industries than they were in our educational program."

**Chick the Innovator**

"Many times we think of businessmen as accountants, but Chick is not an accountant," Hulsey says. "Chick is an idea man, and in that regard he was exactly what this campus needed when he came."

Fleming's entrepreneurial spirit guided the college almost seamlessly through dramatic highs and lows experienced by similar institutions. But his focus and goals remained constant. "Chick was always looking for new opportunities for the college and its students," says Bill Wohlers, vice president of student services.

In the late 40s and early 50s Fleming and President Wright created a variety of retail businesses that served as a financial benefit to the college, and a source for student employment. Southern Mercantile sold such items as refrigerators, televisions, washing machines, and ranges to other institutions as well as to individuals and the general public. The Mercantile proved very profitable.

Fleming also developed the Collegedale Auto Expeditor, an agency that sold cars to denominational workers. "We had arrangements with auto dealers in Chattanooga as well as in Dalton and Atlanta, Georgia," Fleming recalls. "The customers would pay us and then head to the dealership to pick up their car." A small portion of the sale price of each automobile went to the college, which one month sold 286 automobiles, but averaged about 150.

While many of Fleming's ideas successfully materialized into profitable endeavors for the college, they were not without challenges. Fortunately, however, Fleming and the other administrators were progressive enough to realize when to resist change and when to embrace it. "We had a team that was open to new ideas and wasn't afraid to change," Fleming says.

In 1962 Fleming made what some consider his largest contribution to Southern. He, along with a group of 17 Adventist professionals in the Southern Union, formed the Committee of 100 for Southern Missionary College, Inc. With dues of $500 per year the committee pledged financial as well as fund-raising support to the college. Throughout the past 40 years the group has fluctuated in size, but its commitment to the university remains constant. To date the Committee of 100 has completed more than 30 projects and has raised more than $10 million.

In 1963, the Committee of 100 underwent one of its largest projects ever, the construction of the College Plaza. which housed the College Market (Village Market), the Book and Bible House, Southern Mercantile, the Post Office and a variety of other stores and offices. Under Fleming's leadership the Village Market grew tremendously, and even today remains one of the university's top industries.

Fleming's steady focus on the industrial program and the financial impact it had on the college did not go unnoticed. Ten years after Fleming's retirement, Bill Taylor, former director of public relations for Southern, suggested that the College Plaza be renamed after Fleming. After all, Fleming was viewed by many as Collegedale's entrepreneur so the match seemed a perfect fit. On May 4, 1986, the plaza was officially renamed Fleming Plaza.

**Chick the Ambassador**

In an effort to make contact with leaders and raise Southern's profile in the Chattanooga community, Fleming joined many of the civic clubs and organizations downtown. His relationships with Chattanooga businesspeople proved valuable for the college as needs for expansion arose.

"We had tremendous credit in Chattanooga," recalls Fleming. "Bank presidents had high respect for us and would loan almost anything we needed." Returning their favor Fleming often steered top business graduates in the banks' directions as they tested the job markets following graduation. Many were hired and became successful bankers in the greater Chattanooga community.

"Chick built a rapport in the Chattanooga area for Southern that no other individual has built for this institution," Hulsey says. Fleming also understood the value of bringing the Chattanooga community to Southern's campus, and he took every opportunity to showcase the industries.

"Chick would have all the industries set up booths in a central location on campus to display our products," recalls Craig Parish, '51. "Then he invited businessmen from Chattanooga to visit the campus to see what was going on here. I've often marveled at the good rapport he had with the business community of Chattanooga."

One of Fleming's favorite activities was to tour campus visitors in the Purple People Teater (*). Remembered fondly by everyone who saw the vehicle, the Purple People Teater was an old school bus with the top cut off. The bus was painted white with pink and purple dots covering the sides. When guests came to visit, Fleming would drive them around the campus pointing out the different industrial and academic buildings as they continued on their tour.
Even in his retirement, Chick has been an advocate of community involvement. When Gordon Bietz moved to Collegedale in 1981 to pastor the Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church, Fleming co-sponsored Bietz’s membership with the Chattanooga Rotary Club.

“Fleming's involvement with the community has always been an inspiration to me,” Bietz says. As Southern's president Bietz continues to serve as an active member of the Chattanooga Rotary Club.

Chick the Entertainer

Fleming's passion for people and his ability to make people laugh made him the consummate entertainer. He had a special knack for entertaining the students, often at the expense of himself and the other administrators.

“He was quite the showman,” recalls Preston. “He loved to make people laugh and he was always the master of ceremonies at campus events.”

Preston remembers one year at new student orientation when Fleming was introducing the college administration to the incoming students. As each administrator was introduced Fleming presented them with a gift. When he introduced President Kenneth Wright he presented him with a pair of shoes sewn together at the heels and announced “these are for the president who doesn’t know whether he's coming or going.” Students roared with laughter while Wright just shook his head.

“Chick was a student’s dream,” says Doug Bennett, '51 and former professor of religion. “He had such a good sense of humor and he was so much fun.”

Fleming's popularity wasn’t limited to the students, however. He and his wife Betty kept their home open to faculty and students alike. “I can remember going over to the Flemings with my parents to play games often on Saturday nights,” recalls Peggy Elkins, daughter of K.R. and Jeanne Davis. “Betty was a most gracious host, going out of her way to prepare the most elaborate meals, while Chick was always the life of the party.”

Fleming loved to include others in his fun. One of his antics involved a used Cadillac limousine that he had purchased from a wealthy individual in Chattanooga. On several occasions he loaded a group of students in the back of the limo and headed downtown. Upon reaching their destination the doors would open and students would all exit the vehicle from the same side. While some got out and went into the intended building, others would quickly and quietly circle the car, enter from the other side, crawl through, and exit again, making it appear to unknowing bystanders that several dozen people had been crammed in the car.

Chick the Gentleman and Friend

“Chick had a natural affinity for relating with students,” says Wohlers. “He has always been so charismatic.”

Fleming's endearing sense of humor made people feel comfortable, no matter whom they were. “He can mingle with the kings and feel perfectly at ease, but he can also mingle with the common person and make them feel comfortable,” Hulse says. “And that was important to the success of the institution.”

As enrollment continued to increase so did the need for more faculty. When new faculty came to campus Fleming worked with them to help find housing. “We put in a road that is now known as Pierson drive,” said Fleming. “We thought that if we offered faculty a nice piece of land, close to the campus and the College Plaza, it would be a selling point.” And it was.

As the college attracted more and more students, more qualified faculty and administrators came to Southern. And when they arrived, Fleming's personality immediately made people feel like part of the team.

“When teachers and administrators came to Collegedale they felt like they had a friend,” Hulse says. “The president and the deans and others came and went but the one constant was Chick Fleming and that made the difference.”

Fleming retired in 1975 but has remained active in the Collegedale community. He and Betty have an apartment in an assisted living facility not far from the campus at Four Corners. Each day they go out for dinner at a local restaurant. And every week while Betty is getting her hair done, Chick makes several stops to visit friends in the community.

“Collegedale has been our home for 56 years,” says Fleming. “We’ve been blessed with wonderful friends and great people to work with. I couldn’t imagine a better set-up anywhere.”

Even at 87, Fleming's engaging smile and witty sense of humor continue to win friends. And friends are what Fleming feels are important.

Several times each week he stops by the administration building to check in on his friends and make sure everything is going well. While he's on campus he usually visits Lynn Wood Hall, where his office was housed when he began at Southern 55 years ago.

Though most of the faces that occupy the offices have changed since Fleming retired, the fact that they’re his friends has not.

Fortunately, some things never change.

On Chick...

• Chick Fleming—the best dressed man in Collegedale.
  —Peggy Elkins

• Chick could make a dollar out of 50 cents by just looking at it.
  —Wayne Janzen

• My father wasn’t an Adventist when I began school at Southern. Upon meeting Mr. Fleming, dad said, “I do not understand how this little college back in the middle of nowhere can attract a man of Chick Fleming’s caliber. I am just astonished.”
  —Mary Elam

• Chick's relationship with the businesspeople in Chattanooga was reflected in their positive relationships with the college.
  —Robert Merchant

• Chick had a way with people. He was so insightful and had the ability to analyze people and meet them where they were. He was the best leader I’ve ever known.
  —Louesa Peters
Composed of individuals from a variety of backgrounds and professions, Southern’s board of trustees brings a collective wisdom to the leadership of the university. Over the next several issues Columns will feature the board members and give readers the chance to get to know each one personally.

**Dave Cress**

**Occupation:** Minister, president of Georgia-Cumberland Conference  
**Family:** Wife, Lynn, and one daughter  
**Home:** Calhoun, Georgia  
**Hobbies:** Sports, reading, walking, and travel  
**College attended:** Southern  
**Why he serves on the board:** I love Southern and believe that Seventh-day Adventist Christian Education is the best method of transferring important life values to young people.  
**Advice:** Get involved in a variety of student life/service/extra-curricular activities to expand your horizons.  
**Role model:** My parents as a child, now Jesus Christ and Jimmy Carter for his emphasis on humanity service projects.  

**Bill Hulsey**

**Occupation:** Retired owner and president of Collegedale Caseworks, Inc.  
**Family:** Wife, Myrtle, and three children  
**Home:** Collegedale  
**Hobbies:** Music, land development, travel  
**College attended:** Southern  
**Why he serves on the board:** I believe in Christian education and all that Southern stands for.  
**Advice:** Don’t give up! These are some of your best days. Here at Southern you will develop life-long friendships, and also make important decisions. Hang in there!  
**Role model:** My mother, she was a real Christian and understanding of my needs.  
**The last book he read:** Cambodia, by Fern Babcock

**Beverly Self**

**Occupation:** Administrative assistant at Southern’s humanities department  
**Family:** Husband, Don, and two children  
**Home:** Hamilton County, Tennessee  
**Hobbies:** Gardening and traveling  
**College attended:** Southern  
**Why she serves on the board:** I am president of the alumni association.  
**Advice:** Realize that you set your goals, you determine your priorities and the choices are yours.  
**Role model:** I’ve learned role models let you down. I try to live more like Jesus did.  
**Favorite place to visit:** Chicago  
**The last book she read:** Portrait of A Lady, by Henry James
Joan Taylor

Occupation: Physician, anesthesiologist
Family: Husband, Dennis, and three children
Home: Fletcher, North Carolina
Hobbies: Music, reading, and travel
College attended: Southern

Why she serves on the board: I support Christian education and want to see our school grow.

Advice: View your education as your job.
Role model: Mother, she finished college the year I finished 7th grade.
Favorite place to visit: Scotland, Italy, Washington D.C., San Francisco

John Wagner

Occupation: President and CEO of Prevent Blindness, Indiana
Family: Wife, Lyvia, and two dogs
Home: Indianapolis, Indiana
Hobbies: Woodworking, walking, reading
College attended: Atlantic Union College and Andrews University

Why he serves on the board: I was asked seven years ago to serve and enjoy participating in the board activities.

Advice: Give time and money in service and be serious about your preparations for the future.
The last book he read: The Africa House, by Christina Lamb

Greg Willett

Occupation: Attorney
Family: Wife, Terri, and two children
Home: Ooltewah, Tennessee
Hobbies: Teaching as an adjunct professor at Southern
College attended: Southern

Why he serves on the board: As an opportunity to be of service and return some of the benefits and wisdom that I received from Christian education.

Advice: College is the place to learn how to think, communicate, and develop your thought process.
Role model: Father
Favorite place to visit: Any place new

Ed Wright

Occupation: Minister
Family: Wife, Maralyn, and four children
Home: Collegedale, Tennessee
Hobbies: Backpacking, skiing, SCUBA diving, and cycling
College attended: Pacific Union College

Why he serves on the board: I believe in the institution and what it stands for.

Advice: Don't rush. Take time for electives, even if it means an additional semester or two. This is the best time for you to broaden your competencies.
Role Model: Father, grandfather

The image contains text about various individuals, including their occupations, family details, home locations, hobbies, educational backgrounds, reasons for serving on the board, advice, and personal role models. The text is in English and is presented in a structured format with headings and paragraphs.
A Monument to Physical Fitness

by Ryan Wallace
Do you think we can do it?” Stephen asked. “There’s only one way to find out,” Jonathan replied.

It was October 2000. The friends were looking at a poster for Southern’s Sunbelt Cohutta Springs Triathlon. Stephen Lundquist and Jonathan Fettick, sophomores at the time, had never competed in a triathlon. They’d heard about the race from professors Jud Lake and Heather Neal. Some of their friends would be racing. This looked like a challenge too big to pass up.

Held every October in Crandall, Georgia, the triathlon combines a 1/2-mile swim, 18-mile bike race, and 4-mile run into one challenging course. This event is not one for the faint of heart or slow of pace.

“A triathlon,” Jonathan mused, “is a real monument to physical fitness.”

With only two weeks to train, Jonathan and Stephen knew they wouldn’t be in optimal condition for the race, but they entered anyway. They didn’t have much time to train, but their enthusiasm built as race-day approached. On days when they had the time, they ran around the track or took a fast bike ride, but never got around to swimming laps.

After hearing about carbo-loading from some friends, Jonathan and Stephen tried it. At supper the evening before the triathlon, they piled their plates with carbohydrate-rich foods, stocking up for the next day. “I ate about four or five big plates of spaghetti,” Jonathan remembers.

That night they went to bed early but were so excited that they couldn’t get to sleep until midnight. Waking up early the next morning, they ate a big breakfast of bagels and fruit, threw
their gear into the car, and drove to Cohutta with plenty of time to register and warm up.

Unfortunately, their driving directions were incomplete and they got lost along the way. When they finally arrived at the camp, it was almost time to start. They had only a few minutes to unload bicycles, check tires, sign in, slip on swim trunks, and rush off to the starting line.

“Almost at the start, Jonathan and I got a call that a large raccoon had crossed the road and was trapped by a car. We had toATED the raccoon to get it out of the way so that we could start on time.”

“Jonathan!” shouted a man who was trying to unload his bike and gear. “You can’t start without your bike.”

“I was trying to get it ready,” Jonathan relayed. “I had a friend who was going to help me.”

Jonathan had forgotten about the bike and had left it behind at the start line. He ran back to the parking area and found his bike, but it was too late. The race had already begun.

“Jonathan, I’m sorry,” said the Organizer. “You’re too late. You can’t start now.”

“I’ll get you next time,” Jonathan predicted.

**Humble Beginnings**

The triathlon was started in 1984 by Southern, and as part of an effort to offer a wide variety of physical activities to students. Bob Kamenisky, then chair of the physical education department, knew that the popularity of triathlons was growing. The triathlon was also a good source of positive community exposure for the school, and it offered local academies a chance to visit Southern while participating in a unique event.

“A triathlon is really a social event,” says Phil Garver, dean of the School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness. “Many people just come to watch and cheer. We also have family teams, church teams, and lots of parents racing alongside their children.”

Originally, the event began at Cohutta Springs Camp with the 1/2-mile swim. Then racers would bike to Southern—a distance of about 30 miles. There they ran 10 kilometers and crossed the finish line.

Besides the physical difficulty, this arrangement was a logistical nightmare. The bike route from Cohutta to Southern intersected three railroad crossings. Unfortunately bikers that stuck waiting for a train to pass could do nothing to deduct their wait from their total time, while others who might risk safety in front of oncoming trains would win the race. Also, the race was open to all traffic, and at least two bikers were injured in vehicle-related incidents over the years. Even after the race was over, some had to travel back to Cohutta Springs to pick up their gear.

In 1989 the race changed to its current format, with all events sharing one central transition area. Spectators can now stay in one spot to see the beginning and end of each part of the race, and cheer friends across the finish line.

“Having one central transition area is convenient for spectators, contestants and race officials,” says Garver. “Some people bring bikes that are worth thousands of dollars, and it’s our responsibility to see that nothing happens to them.” So far, no one has had a bike stolen or damaged at the Cohutta Springs Triathlon.

The transition area is where all the action takes place. Many racers collapse here at the end of a grueling ordeal while others hurry to the first aid station to get bandaged (almost yearly, a bicyclist or two will have a bad scrape with the pavement). Others, like Jonathan, find a massage on hand to relieve tense muscles—a free service available for the first time this year.

In recent years, increased participation and sponsorships have made the event self-supporting. “Now that the triathlon is self-sustaining,” says Garver, “we can afford to improve the event by investing in better equipment, such as more accurate time clocks. It’s also become a fundraiser for Southern, and we’ve raised money to benefit Southern’s athletic program.”

This new financial freedom allows for some free goodies too. Triathlon t-shirts are given to each racer, and food is donated to the event by local businesses and restaurants. This year, event staff and volunteers handed out several cases of apples, bananas, and granola bars; 200 gallons of water and 40 gallons of Gatorade; and 30 dozen bagels and countless doughnuts.

“Some people enter this triathlon for the first, second, or third place awards,” Jonathan quips, “but I came for the free swim cap, t-shirt and food.”

**Second Attempt**

With the difficulties of his first attempt still in his mind, Jonathan planned ahead for this year’s race. He borrowed a friend’s mountain bike instead of using his mountain bike. He attended triathlon training and informational meetings sponsored by Southern’s triathlon club. He also spent four weeks, instead of two, in training. Every evening he swam in the pool, ran around the track, or biked around College Dale with Stephen. With one triathlon tucked under their belts, they felt quite confident about the second one.

Race day dawned bright and clear, and after an early breakfast of bagels, fruit, and yogurt, they headed to Cohutta. This year, they didn’t get lost. They arrived early, unloaded their gear, registered, and warmed up with time to spare.

Mingling with other racers, including friends from Southern, Jonathan began pre-race stretching. Nervous energy caused laughter throughout the gathering crowd. Soon everyone moved toward the lake to start the first segment of the race. For extra safety, several canoes with student lifeguard volunteers waited out in the water.

“The first few minutes in the water are the most confusing and intimidating, because everyone is surrounding you,” says Jonathan. “You're
constantly getting hit by other arms and legs and you have to keep swimming or you'll get run over."

Swimmers divide into groups based on speed—fast swimmers in front, moderate in the middle, and slow swimmers behind. Judging by his previous time, Jonathan decided to swim toward the back of the crowd. To his surprise, he beat his past time by almost 10 minutes, and came out of the water ready for the bike race. He didn't faint in the transition area. A friend even loaned him a high-energy gel pack to keep him going.

Jonathan felt good as he headed out on the bike. The new bike he had borrowed was light and fast, and he began passing people.

"I started a little late on the biking," Jonathan says, "so I felt really good to catch up with a small pack of cyclists ahead of me. After a few minutes, I'd passed all six of them."

Coming to the first hill, Jonathan's bike chain began slipping and soon came off the gears, dragging on the pavement. Jonathan had to stop and fix it while the six bikers he'd just passed sped by. A minute later, he was after them, and caught them at the base of the next hill. Just after passing them, his chain fell off a second time. Again, he stopped to fix the problem and all six bikers passed him. Frustration built inside him, fueled by heat and exhaustion.

Before catching the six bikers a third time, Jonathan spotted a lone racer standing next to his bike on the shoulder of the road. The man had a flat tire and no spare, but he was trying to fix it temporarily. Looking over his shoulder, Jonathan offered to let the other man take the Litespeed and finish the race, but he declined and wished Jonathan good luck. With time ticking, Jonathan rode off toward the cheers of the transition area.

Having peddled through 18 miles of twisting road and up and down hills, Jonathan was getting tired. He handed the Litespeed to a friend, gulped down several mouthfuls of water, and began the run with Stephen close behind. His efforts had paid off with a good bike time, but his legs were weak and he still had a four-mile run. As in his last triathlon, Jonathan was pushing his limits.

Mid-stride in the second mile of the foot race, he reached his limit. His legs cramped without warning and brought him crashing down on the hot asphalt. Skinning his knees and elbows on the pavement, he slid to a stop. He rolled over and tried to relax his legs, but they wouldn't respond. Painful cramps shot through his twitching leg muscles. His mouth and throat were raspy and dry.

The receding thud of runners' feet and faint finish-line cheers were the only sounds audible.

Two runners quickly caught up with him, and seeing Jonathan on the ground, they stopped. One asked, "Cramming up?"

"Yes," Jonathan replied through gritted teeth. "You need to stretch," the other said. Without even introducing themselves the men grabbed his ankles and pushed Jonathan's feet over his head, forcing his legs straight in spite of the cramps.

"I don't know what was worse," Jonathan recalls, "the pain from the cramps or the pain of stretching them out again."

After holding the stretch for a full, precious minute of their own race times, the two runners wished him luck and took off. With the cramps gone, Jonathan scrambled to his tired feet and cautiously resumed his race. The cramps didn't return, but they had taken their toll on his muscles and delayed him for several minutes.

**Final Stretch**

Determined to keep going, Jonathan pressed onward. His feet were sore, his legs were stiff, his knees were skewed and his lungs wanted to burst, but he kept running.

"Those last four miles," says Jonathan, "were the worst four miles of my entire life."

Without the help of the two runners that stretched his cramps out, Jonathan might not have even finished those four miles.

"One of the great things about this triathlon is the helpful spirit of other racers," says Jonathan. "People will stop and help you if you need help. As it was, I still had a hard time finishing."

Nearing the finish, his friends shouted his name, encouraging the last few strides. Gasping for air and grinning wildly, he crossed the finish line, completing the foot race and the triathlon.

Jonathan not only finished his second triathlon, but improved his time from the previous year by more than 10 minutes, coming in after two hours and six minutes.

After the results were calculated, there was a brief awards ceremony for the winners of each category. This included age group categories for individual racers as well as the relay team categories. The winner of the Cohutta Springs 2002 triathlon finished with a time of only one hour, twenty-three minutes, and seventeen seconds. The last person to cross the finish line this year came in at a little over two and a half hours.

Jonathan and Stephen didn't get any medals or trophies, but they were happy to have completed the course—especially Jonathan, who made good on his promise to beat Stephen to the finish line. With tired bodies and smiling faces, they packed up their gear and headed home.

"Every year after the triathlon, you'll hear people say that this is their last one, that they'll never come back," says Jonathan. "But then the next year, you'll see those same people lined up and ready to race again. It's addicting."
Imagine hundreds of smiling faces beaming during worship in a newly finished church building. Feel the gentle grasp of a healthy newborn baby. Listen to the sound of children laughing, running in circles across new school grounds. Understand the greatest needs in this world. Meet those needs.

A mission trip is one of the best ways to change lives and personally make a difference in the world. Right now, your long list of things to do probably does not include planning a mission trip. But maybe it should. Becoming involved is not as difficult as many people imagine. Just ask Wolf Jedamski or Laura Nyirady, who plan foreign mission trips frequently from the campus of Southern Adventist University.

Over the past ten years, Wolf Jedamski, Collegeade Seventh-day Adventist Church administrator, has coordinated four mission trips to Cambodia. His teams have completed numerous construction projects in Cambodian villages where schools and churches are needed.

Laure Nyirady, associate professor of the School of Nursing, plans a different type of mission trip each spring. She leads a trek to Nicaragua for students interested in learning about medical needs in underprivileged areas. Instead of equipping her group with hammers, nails, and concrete, they bring boxes of medical supplies and wear stethoscopes at their necks.

According to Jedamski and Nyirady, any church, school or youth group can organize and conduct a successful foreign mission trip. Trips will have specific differences, but there are some basic steps that all groups should follow for a successful trip.

**STEP 1** Determine the purpose of the trip. Will it be primarily a construction, medical aid, evangelism, disaster relief, development assistance, or other need-based project?

First, consider the purpose for the trip. Will it be a construction project, an evangelistic series or a medical mission trip? Remember, if you plan to complete a building project you will need people in your group who have experience in construction work. Also, trained medical professionals need to be on site for all medical mission projects. Other mission adventures to consider are need-related projects, development and agricultural trips, and disaster relief.

**STEP 2** Decide where and when the project will take place by contacting mission organizations in the country which you plan to serve.

Step two, decide where the group will go and when the trip will take place. Contact the foreign Seventh-day Adventist conference office or a mission organization in the country where you plan to serve. Phone numbers and addresses for the foreign conferences are available in the Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook or on the official web site for the Church at www.adventist.org. The local conference will assign your group to the most urgently needed project. “In order to be successful, you must remain in contact with a dependable person in the country who is passionate about the project,” says Jedamski.

**STEP 3** Recruit people for the trip. Experts recommend taking less than 30 for most projects.

Once your time and place is set, invite people to sign up for the trip. Trips should be planned at least one year in advance. Jedamski suggests providing sign-up space for less than 30 people. Although being involved in service has no age limit, foreign mission trips are best for adults and young people age 12 and above.

**STEP 4** Establish the trip budget including:

- airfare
- food
- lodging
- emergency funds
- project transportation
- group travel materials
- sightseeing funds

The fourth step, form a small committee to plan a budget for the trip. It should include the cost of plane tickets, cost of group travel insur-
ance, food, transportation, lodging, supplies needed for specific project, sightseeing for emergency money. “Food depends on what is available in the country,” said Nyirady. “If there is no one on-site to do the cooking, then it is necessary to bring food along.” Add in the costs of materials needed for the trip such as construction supplies, children’s Bible school materials, medicines, evangelistic equipment, etc. If the group is planning to spend a few days sight-seeing in the country, then lodging, tickets and food expenses need to be included also.

STEP 5 Begin fundraising for the project. Buy plane tickets after the team has paid the required amount.

Fundraising is the next step. It is best to begin fundraising a year in advance. After people begin to sign up for the trip, the amount of money that will be required from each individual can be decided. “Typically trips to Central America or Mexico require about $700-$800 from each participant,” said Jedamski. “The trip to Cambodia however, is much more expensive at $2,100.” Individuals are mostly paying for their plane ticket, but supplies are covered partly by this amount also. Usually an organization is able to raise some funds independently. Requesting support by writing letters to family and friends makes personal fundraising easy. “The donations will come in if you ask,” said Nyirady. “There is no need to be shy or afraid to ask because many people are eager to support mission trips.”

As individual funds are raised the group leader should reserve plane tickets. Buy tickets early to get the lowest price. “By writing letters the students raise $900-$1,000 to buy their plane tickets,” said Nyirady. “Always require the full price of the ticket to be raised by the individual before getting their ticket.”

STEP 6 Remind team members to get or renew their passport and to check with a doctor on necessary immunizations. Provide advice on any other travel necessities specific to your trip.

The next step should be done two months before the trip. Make sure participants have a current passport and any medical shots necessary for foreign travel. Shots depend on the country. A doctor should be consulted to find out if shots are necessary. Also, contact the risk management services of the General Conference to get group travel insurance. Other insurance and travel agents can provide travel insurance to groups as well.

STEP 7 Make arrangements for food, lodging, supplies, first aid, and transportation by contacting your representative located in the destination country.

Usually one month before the trip, a list of the needed project supplies should be sent to a trusted person in the country where you will serve. “Your contact person in the country will be the one you depend on to get the project ready by purchasing supplies, arranging for transportation, housing and food for your group,” said Jedamski. If there is no reliable person, the group coordinator should plan to go over a week or two early to set up the project and make the necessary arrangements.

STEP 8 Hold final organization meeting with confirmed team members to review medical precautions, travel advisories, packing lists, and general project and trip information.

Hold a final meeting with confirmed participants before the trip. Discuss the project details and travel arrangements with the group. Answer questions, and spend some time getting to know each other. Some groups take the time to share in a special worship service, dedicating their mission trip plans to God.

Soon the group is flying across blue oceans, landing in thick jungles, speeding down dirt roads and discovering new friends and co-workers. The project begins and where once there was no building, a new one forms. Healthy boys and girls play where sick and hurting children waited in line to receive medical attention.

A new perspective on the world can be yours. Conducting a successful mission trip simply takes careful planning, unified support, and passionate commitment. ♦
Making History at Southern

by Ryan Wallace

It's a long way from Ben McArthur’s office at Southern Adventist University to Omaha Beach, Normandy. McArthur is the chair of Southern’s history department, and though he talks about D-day from time to time in his lectures, few of his students ever get to see the place for themselves. For the adventurous few, however, internship positions make it possible for historical sites mentioned in class to become familiar ground. Every year, students at Southern enter internship programs sponsored by the history department. Brina Pittman, a junior French major, is one Southern student who is taking advantage of this unique opportunity.

For as long as she can remember, Brina has loved foreign languages, travel and politics. As early as age 6, she was concerned with the Bush vs. Dukakis election. As a high school freshman, she made a list of places she would like to intern: the White House, the United States Senate, a local congressman’s office, or an embassy. After talking to McArthur at Southern, she realized that her dreams were actually quite possible.

“Dr. McArthur encouraged me from the moment I mentioned an internship with the State Department,” says Brina.

“History is a great liberal arts degree,” says McArthur. “It’s an excellent preparation for many careers, not just law or teaching. The possibilities are endless.” Though many students take positions in law and government, others become park rangers. Some history majors go into medicine. Someone even went to Saipan to work in a museum.

Brina is currently serving as an intern in the political section of the U.S. Embassy in Paris, France. This internship is exactly what she wanted to round out her education with practical, hands-on experience. Though she lives and works in Paris, she occasionally has time to tour the country with friends.

The morning that Brina visited the beaches at Normandy was cold and clear. Looking out over the water at Omaha Beach, with the light sparkling on receding waves, it was hard for Brina to imagine that there had ever been a battle there. The only signs left were old German bunkers in the hills and signs marking important sights. It was easier to imagine when she visited the American Cemetery in the city of Caen. Rows and rows of crosses stretched over gentle green hills, and Taps played solemnly on the loud speaker system.

“I’ve been able to do quite a lot of site-seeing here in France,” says Brina, “but of course, that’s not really why I’m here. I love my work at the Embassy, and the work experience is perfect for my major.”

New Professor

Back at Southern, some things have changed in the history department since Brina left for France. In addition to new classes such as Middle Eastern history, Latin American history, and Historiography, a new professor has been hired: Lisa Clark Diller.

Originally from West Virginia, Lisa graduated from Southern in 1996 with a B.A. in history. Lisa’s husband, Tom, was also a student at Southern, and they are both happy to return to the area. Lisa entered a Ph.D. program at the University of Chicago in 1996 and graduated in 2002 with an emphasis in Early Modern British history.

“Returning to teach here is a dream come true,” Lisa says. “When I graduated from Southern, they encouraged me to go to graduate school and kept in contact over the next few years. I had other job opportunities, but I knew it’s the Lord’s will for me to be here. I’ve spent a lot of time in youth ministry, and I feel that teaching here is an extension of that.”

Making the change from being a student to professor has taken some time for Lisa. “I’ve been a student my whole life,” Lisa says. “It’s a little difficult to hold a full-time job. Time management has been hard.”

Since her days as a student, some things have changed at Southern. “I see a lot more students interested in military history, graduate school, and history as a discipline instead of just preparation for law school,” Lisa says.

Local Events

In addition to offering fascinating internships, new classes, and hiring a new professor, the history department regularly sponsors activities for its students. Last September, McArthur took several students to hear Thomas Friedman, a prominent New York Times Correspondent, speak on the world after the September 11 terrorist attacks. Yearly involvement in Community Service day brings students the chance to volunteer at Chickamauga National Battlefield and the Chattanooga Regional History Museum. On campus, history students can enter Phi Alpha Theta, a national history honor society, and compete in Brock Bowl, a friendly academic quiz contest between English and history majors.
The powerful ministry of Operation Christmas Child gives people of all ages an opportunity to share love and hope with millions of children around the world. A simple shoebox full of toys is an amazing gift that transcends ethnic boundaries and spreads happiness to less fortunate children.

For three years Southern has taken an active role in promoting the project to the surrounding community. But the ministry of Operation Christmas Child would not be possible on Southern’s campus without the support of countless students and community members who are passionate about sharing the gift of love.

Each year new stories are written about individuals who sacrifice of themselves, giving their time, money, and effort to spread the hope of Christmas to children they may never meet.

About a week into the campaign, a student named Jessica showed up at the public relations office looking for 30 shoeboxes. She and her boyfriend had saved their change over the past year and had accumulated $350 to spend on toys to fill shoeboxes.

Faculty and staff and off-campus students jumped on board and invited groups of students to their houses to wrap shoeboxes and fill them with toys, greatly increasing student participation.

Sending Christmas Around the World

Other students, like Louis got his church in Atlanta involved. And his girlfriend Stacy talked about Operation Christmas Child with her classmates at Chattanooga State. One of them gave her $200 to spend on toys.

There are even stories of people like Jane, who spent last summer scanning local stores for toy sales so she and her church and elementary school in Sand Mountain, Alabama could get a head start on the project.

The combined efforts of everyone involved culminated with the collection of 901 toy-filled shoeboxes. And everyone who participated lends testament to the fact that giving is far better than receiving.
Alumni 2002

Members of Southern's Symphony Orchestra perform for a packed Collegedale Church.

Carol Lome, director of alumni relations, and Paula Grubbs, '85, prepare for the rush of registering alumni.

Anthony Smith, '02, plays his hammered dulcimer for alumni and friends as they mingle at the scholarship award breakfast held Sunday morning.

Marian Kuhlman, '70, is honored with a spray of roses at the So-Ju-Conian supper on Friday evening.
 sounds too good to be true? Not for friends and alumni of Southern Adventist University. The United States Government actually encourages gifts to Southern. Note the following: If you are 70 years of age and give Southern $20,000, the U.S. Government lets you receive from Southern $1,440 a year ($360 quarterly) for the rest of your life. They will also permit you to take a $7,490 tax deduction. Not only that, but you will pay taxes on only $786 of the $1,440 yearly income. That makes the 7.2% fixed payout of your annuity seem as if it is earning 8.4%. Give to Southern, receive an attractive income for life, and save taxes all at the same time.

Would you like more information on how you can receive High Interest/Low Taxes for life?

Please write Southern Adventist University, Office of Planned Giving, R.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, send e-mail to pgsmith@southern.edu or call Dr. P.J. Moore, '39, approaches the podium to accept the Distinguished Service Award.

Sherrie Norton receives a $9,250 check from Craig Parrish, '51, contributed for the Student Missions program on behalf of the SMC-ites.

Mike Fulbright, '88, introduces Lynell LaMountain, '89, as guest speaker for The Third, a young-adult worship service held on campus.

Members of the 1957 Honor Class gather together.
The Club Throw
A smashing hit

A new event was introduced at this year's Southern Adventist University Golf Classic. Participants paid $2 to compete in the longest club throw.

Richard Eisner, '76, and Scott Sahn head down the fairway at the Southern Golf Classic.

Humorist Carl Hurley entertains a full house at the Saturday night program.

Jennifer LaMountain, '90, lifts her voice in praise during an afternoon concert.

SMC-ites listen to the soothing sounds of Tyler Hall's trumpet.

The Third praise team leads singing at the young adult worship service.

Southern's Symphony Orchestra rests during the sermon by Harold Cunningham, '77.

Arnold Cochran, 2003 alumni association president-elect, speaks during the SMC-ite supper.

Southern provided old clubs for the competition. The winner of the event receives a hard-shell golf club travel case. The club throw was monitored by an official who reported only three broken clubs and one that might still be hanging from the branches of a tree.
So-Ju-Conians Give Back

Many have heard that it is more blessed to give than to receive, but So-Ju-Conian alumni have put that theory into practice by establishing a birthday scholarship program. Alumni from 1917-1945, when Southern was Southern Junior College, continue to keep in touch with their alma mater in a unique and generous way. Every time they celebrate another birthday, donors give a dollar per year of life to an endowment fund. This fund grows from year to year as donations increase the principal amount of the fund, and only interest is given as scholarship money. It is, in reality, a gift that keeps on giving.

“It was nice to realize that my school remembered and appreciated my grandparents even now,” says Chris Self, recent scholarship recipient. “It’s always nice to get any help you can, but the scholarship was an unexpected and greatly appreciated bonus.”

This year’s birthday scholarship recipients were: George Fuller, Jaron Sue, Natalie Moore and Susanna Schomburg.
Professor Awarded For 25 Years of New York City Volunteer Service

In recognition of 25 years of feeding Thanksgiving meals to the homeless in New York City, the Greater New York Division of The Salvation Army presented an award to Ed Lamb, retired chair and professor of the department of social work and family studies at Southern. For more than 25 years, Lamb has taken hundreds of Southern students to New York City for a cultural trip. His groups have helped serve full Thanksgiving dinners to thousands of homeless people.

The presentation of the award took place during a university convocation in October. Representative, Captain Paul Tilman of the Chattanooga Division of The Salvation Army, in full dress uniform, presented Lamb with the plaque stating appreciation for his distinguished service to New York City. This is the second award Lamb has received from the Greater New York Division of The Salvation Army. Another was presented to him in the 1980s.

Additionally, Lamb received the Professor Emeritus in April 2002. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Medallion in 2002. His 31 years as a faculty member at Southern have demonstrated his committed service to the university and the surrounding community.

Acrofest Draws Hundreds to Southern

In November, more than 1,100 students and sponsors from high schools and colleges nationwide arrived on Southern's campus for Acrofest 2002. Two days were filled with practices and clinical instruction. Clinicians included Southern's Gym-Masters, the Cheerleaders from UTC and the United Cheerleading Squad from Hixson, Tennessee. U.S. silver medallist, Jason Barrent, also offered expert instruction to the young gymnasts.

After starting each day with motivating devotionals, the athletes rotated through five workshops. "I enjoyed the way all the schools had their own unique styles," said Tiana Lopez, a senior health science major.

Two days of practices and instruction ended with the 2002 Acrofest show on Saturday night. There was not enough seating for all the people wanting to attend. Large groups of people waited outside the doors for two hours. More than 3,100 people attended the three-hour show.

"My friends and I ended up sharing chairs," said Damaris Vega, a sophomore business major, "but the show was worth it." More than 1,000 people were turned away because the crowds were over the capacity of the P.E. Center.

It was one of the best Acrofest shows ever, bringing together exciting routines and difficult techniques. Gymnasts closed the evening by presenting a 10-minute routine which included all performers creating successive pyramids, making numerous tosses, butterflies, three-highs and tumbling passes.

School of Nursing Acquire SimMan Patient Simulators

Two SimMan patient simulators can be heard coughing, wheezing or calling, "Nurse, leave me alone!" down the halls of Southern's School of Nursing. SimMan is a highly sophisticated computerized mannequin that breathes, makes audible gastric intestinal sounds, talks, and has a detectable pulse and heartbeat.

"Nursing students will test their diagnostic and decision making skills on the mannequins in realistic training scenarios," said Phil Hunt, dean of the School of Nursing. "There will be less trial and error with real patients," added Mary Qualls, senior nursing major.

Computers with specialized software are used along with SimMan to provide advanced education through programmed 'sickness' and 'symptoms.' Typical situations a nurse may experience are easily simulated.

SimMan gives nursing students more opportunities to put into practice what they are learning in real-to-life training scenarios. The simulator can even impersonate a grumpy patient. When programmed it expresses discomfort by speaking phrases like, "Get out of here! I'm trying to sleep."

While students already have hands-on clinical assignments, the SimMan will give added experience in situations previously unavailable. "This guy will help increase my confidence when I am in hospital clinical situations," Qualls said. Southern is the third university in Tennessee to receive the $60,000 patient simulators.
Southern Golf Classic Raises $21,000

Although Gordon Bietz, university president, does not claim to be a golfer, he enjoys the benefits of the annual Southern Golf Classic during alumni weekend. In October, more than 150 alumni, faculty, students and community members participated in the event. “Not only did everyone have a great time, but substantial resources were raised to support the university,” Bietz said.

The tournament has been a part of alumni weekend for many years. Recently the tournament was reorganized to not only be a time of fun and fellowship, but to raise money for students in need of financial aid. This year, a record high of more than $21,000 was raised.

Unlike many fund-raising tournaments, this one does not garner funds through green fees. The funds come from sponsors such as local businesses and friends of Southern who use the Golf Classic as an avenue in which to channel their gifts. Contributors give on various levels, usually from $400 to $10,000.

A check for $16,850 was presented to Bietz by Rob Howell, director of public relations and tournament director. These funds are used for need-based scholarships in the Golf Classic Endowment fund, which was established last year. “Any student who demonstrates financial needs on their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) can take advantage of the endowment fund,” Howell said.

In addition, five academic departments are randomly selected to each receive $1,000. The Schools of Religion; Computing; Journalism and Communication; departments of Social Work; and History are benefiting from the 2002 tournament. The departments that have benefited from the tournament are excluded from the pool for the next few years until every department has shared in the funds.

“For many years the tournament has been an event for alumni to get together, play golf and have fun,” Howell said. “Now, through growing support and sponsorships, we’re having fun and benefiting a worthwhile cause.”

Southern Celebrates Diversity with Week of Activities

Bright flags from 30 different nations created a festive display in the dining hall during Diversity Week. Cultural presentations, unique cultural foods and several video documentaries helped students become better acquainted with different ethnic backgrounds. “The programs present a diverse perspective on the world and give the students real-life, hands-on international education,” said Verna Burghart, administrative assistant for Marketing and Enrollment Services.

A stage in the dining hall was used at meal-times to host a juggling show, Dixieland jazz concert, cultural dances from Hawaii and India, and Southern’s Gospel Choir. Table displays with artifacts, photos and information helped students get a closer look at life in Africa, Bolivia, Bangladesh, Trinidad and Western Europe. “The question and answer quizzes about different countries that were set up on the dining tables really got the students involved,” said Dipika Pandit, a junior medical technology/pre-med student. Each activity and exhibit booth was designed to be informative and entertaining. Diversity week focused mostly on cultures represented in the current student body, while adding a few other ethnicities.

“I am grateful that the mission and values of Southern Adventist University attracts motivated students from all over the world,” said Gordon Bietz, university president. This year Southern has enrolled 116 students from 51 countries outside of the United States. “All the activities and programs were a great opportunity for students to get to know other cultures,” Pandit said. “I think diversity week also helps unify the student body and helps us to understand each other more.” International students total 5 percent of the current student body hailing from countries as close as Canada and Mexico to nations as distant as India and Iceland.

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Southern Ranks in Top Tier

Southern is among a select group of colleges and universities ranked in the top tier by the U.S. News and World Report Best College Rankings. Each year the rankings are used primarily by parents and prospective students for criteria in selecting colleges. After many years of consecutively ranking in Tier 2, the second highest, Southern is now ranked in the top 100 schools, in Tier 1.

“It’s an honor to be ranked as a top school,” said Vinita Sauder, vice president of marketing and enrollment services. “We’re pleased our reputation is gaining recognition. Top ranking gives evidence to the high quality of our academics and faculty.” Southern is ranked in the classification called Comprehensive Colleges—Bachelors for the region in the South.

Seven categories are used to calculate an overall score. Rankings begin with peer assessment, student selectivity and faculty resources. A survey showed the positive reputation Southern has among other schools. Another category studied the methods used for selecting students. Southern ranked high in each of these categories, and showed strength in the areas of alumni giving, financial resources, and graduation rate. Studies also calculated the student retention rates and numbers of students who graduate from Southern annually. Southern was compared with 103 other schools in the Southern region.

Faculty and administrators see Southern’s reputation steadily improving. Southern’s aim to provide students power for mind and soul is a call to excellence in higher education, and is contributing to the place it holds in the top school category.

Student Center Renovation Nearing Completion

Renovations in the student center on the top floor of Wright Hall are nearing completion. New carpet has been laid, fresh paint covers the walls, new furniture is in place and only the finishing touches remain. Drapery, lamps, tables and a few other aesthetic accents will be added as funding comes in, said Karla Shultz, director of student services.

The initiative to remodel the student center was passed through SA Senate at the end of last school year by Jared Thurman, SA president this year. “Ideas to renovate the student center have come from current students and from former students over the last couple of years,” Thurman said. “Faculty have had an interest also.”

Before, the student center was filled with blue-carpeted “mountains,” large pieces of furniture that students could sit inside of, on top of, under, and around. These structures were removed to create more open space and to accommodate a new interior design plan with different colors and styles in the carpeting and furniture.

“There is now a remodeled amphitheater in the student center with speakers installed to create a surround sound effect,” Thurman said. New light fixtures, chairs and coffee tables will soon fill the open space. More decorations and furniture will be added throughout the year.

The multi-colored carpeting and interior design elements were suggestions offered by Yessick’s Design Center, a Chattanooga-based design consultation firm. “They helped choose the colors so that everything is coordinated,” Shultz said.

“I think the student center will have a sit, chat and study combination that we did not have on campus before,” Shultz said. “It will be very open.”

Thurman also plans to have the student center open for students to socialize on Friday nights after Vespers, which has not been an option in years past.
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Kristin Stagg earned a B.S. degree in biology last year and is now a student missionary. She will return to graduate studies next June.

How long did it take you to adjust to Pohnpei, and to what did you have to adjust?

I'm still adjusting. Some women are more traditional in their style of dress (topless), and the girls play sports in skirts and bare feet. The boys chew and spit betel nut (a local nut/leaf/tobacco mix that has some sort of drug effect) everywhere. There are things you can't do, can't wear, without causing someone to look at you funny. Plus, everyone in the area knows who we are, so we have to be very careful about the example we set.

What are some major cultural differences between Pohnpei and the United States of America?

Well, for starters, Pohnpeians are not very direct. Case in point: Mr. B., the school principal, will not tell you, "No, I don't think that's a good idea." Instead he'll say something more like, "maybe we'll do that next time," or just smile and nod. Basically, unless you get an unsolicited, or emphatic affirmative, the answer is "No."

Why do you serve as a student missionary?

I am here for a lot of reasons. I tend to be a self-sufficient person, so I need to learn to depend on God more. What better way than isolation in a foreign culture, thousands of miles from anything familiar, forced to witness everyday to children who don't even want to be in your classroom in the first place? I also wanted to feel I had done something concrete to fulfill my part of God's commission to "Go ye into all the world." I want to learn to be less selfish. Traditionally, Americans are extremely self-absorbed. Who wants to "ruin" their perfect life and move to some dirty, third-world country, right? I don't feel I've worried all that much about anyone's future but my own. I hope I'm a different person when I go home.

Did you think it would be easier or harder?

I was prepared to teach kindergarten—that's what my call said—so making the switch to high school was a bit challenging. Now, instead of coloring and stories, crafts and nap-time, it's Beowulf, the Iliad and Shakespeare, nutrition and the parts of the cell, lesson plans and mountains of grading, midterms and report cards.

What do you enjoy the most about Pohnpei?

The kids. It's awesome when they start treating you like their friend, confiding in you, coming to see you just to talk, and not to get homework or ask for help. But a close second is the awesome scenery: coral reefs, breathtaking sunsets, spectacular views from tropical mountains, evening boat rides—gliding over the water with the salty wind whipping your hair into knots.

What rewards have you experienced in Pohnpei?

The light bulb that comes on in my students' heads when they finally understand something I'm trying to teach them, or the look in a child's eyes when I've cleaned his wounds and bandaged his dirty little hands and feet, and given him a children's chewable vitamin for a treat.

What is the most difficult aspect of being an SM?

Kids who don't come to class! My own ineptitude, too. It's hard to come up with fun, effective ways to teach, to keep kids involved and attentive.

What do you miss most about home?

I miss my parents! I miss fruits and vegetables at my beck and call! I miss the news, stop lights (there aren't any here, but whoa, do they need some!), and Wal-Mart—you have to go to three grocery stores to get everything you need.

What would you say to a potential SM?

Do it, whatever it is. God can use you. He might end up using you in a way you never dreamed, but it will be the best experience of your life. He will only give you what you can handle—and believe me, you can handle a lot more than you think. It will probably be the hardest thing you do, and the most rewarding. You will change in the process. You'll grow and learn more than you teach.

What is Pohnpei's greatest need?

MONEY and MISSIONARIES! The school is overflowing. We have been forced to pack kids into the shop, library, and old kitchen for classes. A new building was built in 1999 with the help of a group from Washington, but already, it's not enough. Tuition is only $50 a month, so tuition itself does not begin to cover the school's costs. We had so many kids at the start of this year that all the elementary grades except one had to be split into two classes. Now, we don't have enough teachers. We are hoping to get two more. If anyone wants to come, I'm pretty sure we still have room for you! Please continue to pray for the school. Prayer is power, and your prayers can work miracles.
Music and singing have played a significant role in Southern's heritage. 'Twas You Who Invited Me Here was composed in 1925 by professor Harold Amadeus Miller.

Miller was a music professor at Southern from 1935-1953, except for a three-year stint during which he taught at another Adventist college. An accomplished composer of gospel songs, Miller's commitment to excellence did much to advance Southern's music program.

One of his students, Philip F. Lemon, '43, sang Miller's song in church one Sabbath. Miller autographed the sheet music and gave it to Lemon as a gift. Lemon cherished the gift, and even carried the sheet music with him twice to Central Africa.

In 1996 Lemon donated the sheet music to the Heritage Museum.
Walter E. Wright, '54, says he is enjoying retirement in Sun City, California, and would love to hear from classmates. His phone number is 909-672-7248. He was in College Dale from 6th grade through college.

Betty (Martin) Litchfield, '60, recently lost her husband, Wendell, '60. She has been retired from the education field for 12 years.

Clarence Small, '70, has been a pastor in the Illinois Conference for 12 years, where he serves three churches. Clarence and his wife, Ginger (Virginia Fardals), '70, have two sons and a daughter: Chris, pastoring in Michigan; Loren, attending, and Karin, doing her medical residency in Detroit.

Hove Henderson, '70, and his wife, Hazel, attended recently retired in Apopka, Florida. They are happy to be living near their children, Lewis and Valerie. They are delighted to have several former classmates and work associates living nearby in the retirement community.

Don Taylor, '71, and his wife, Charlotte (McKee), '61, live in Portland, Tennessee. Don is a certified registered nurse anesthetist at Sumner Regional Medical Center in Gallatin, Tennessee. Charlotte is a full-time homemaker. They have a son, Rob, and a daughter, Renee. The Taylors say that God has richly blessed their family.

Joseph, '75, and Clarice (Nathanial) Rudd, '75, live in College Dale. Joseph is president of the Davis Indian Foundation and member of the Erlanger Medical Center teaching faculty. He also is on the faculty of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. He was recently published in the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery.

Rick Norskov, '76, and his wife, Jeanne (Denski), '76, live in Fayetteville, Tennessee. He is an ER physician and she is a critical-care nurse. Their daughter, Rachel Bostic, attending, is editor of The Southern Accent.

Philippine Langjahn, '81, and his wife, Briatte, live in La Ligniere, Switzerland, with their four children. He works in the technical department of the Adventist, Lake Geneva Sanitarium.

Roy Cole, '82, and his wife, Roberta (Snyder), '79, live in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she is a nurse in labor and delivery. They have a son, Benjamin, age 20.

Daisy (Hughes) Sears, '84, and her husband, James, have two children, Jonathan, 12, and Jessica, 10. Daisy works as employment coordinator of the Orange Grove Center in Ooltewah, Tennessee.

Catherine (Lirnoud) Bigs, '84, is the prosthetics representative at Walla Walla VA Medical Center in Walla Walla, Washington. She has two children.

Kim (Shearer) Staudenraus, '55, and her husband, Kurt, live in Lake Mary, Florida. Kim works at the national office for the American Medical Association. Kurt pastored Seminole Meadows Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Their stepson is a U.S. Marine.

Dawn, '85, and Brian Moltz, in Michigan, where they raise their two sons, Brenton, age 6, and Brian, age 4. Brian is working as a senior reactor operator at the local Cook Nuclear Plant, and Dawn is a limited licensed psychologist currently staying home with the children.

Rayza (de los Rios) Fernandez, '92, and her husband, Leonardo, live in Longwood, Florida, with their daughters, Kassandra and Branna. Rayza works for the Florida Conference in the Women's Ministries Department.

David Graham, '93, and his wife, Balinda, celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary. They have three children: Sarah, age 8, Alyssa, age 4, and David, age 2.

Donald Moore, '93, and his wife, Renee (Taylor), attended, have a five-year-old daughter and one-year-old son. Donald is an anesthesiologist resident in Birmingham.

Rob Taylor, '93, and his wife, Jennifer (Hamilton), attended, have a three-year-old daughter and an eight-month-old son. Rob is an anesthesiologist at Tennessee Christian Medical Center.

David Kineman, '94, and his wife, Marquita, '94, recently celebrated their seventh wedding anniversary. They live in West Newton, Pennsylvania, where David pastors three churches and Marquita serves as an overseas evangelist coordinator for the conference.


Young Chia, '96, pastors in Korea where he has been active in ministry for eight years.

Nelson Dean, '97, and his wife, Aurora (Baltzar), attended, live in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania, with their three-year-old daughter, Taylor Renee Dean. After spending some time at home with Taylor, Aurora is now back in nursing school in Pittsburgh.

Stacy (Sparkling) Syvert, '96, and her husband, Brian, live in Montgomery Village, Maryland, where Stacy teaches journalism at Columbia Union College. She is studying for a Ph.D. at the University of Maryland.

Tonya (Simco) Tinkham, '97, and her husband, Matthew, attended, returned to College Dale when Tonya went to teach eighth-grade English for A.W. Spalding Elementary School. She will primarily teach social sciences and organize outdoor education activities.

Travis Crowson, '97, and his wife, Debbi (Frey), '96, celebrated the birth of their first child, Joshua Luc Crowson, on April 22, 2002.


Lewis, '97 and Rachel (Williams) O'Neal, '98, announced the birth of their beautiful daughter, Laurel Rose, on December 3, 2001.

Toumavon Kollie, '99, works as the general manager of U-Haul International. She shares this word of encouragement, "If you cannot hold children in your arms, please hold them in your heart."
Edythe Stephenson Cothren (1907-2002)

Edythe Stephenson Cothren passed away on August 11, 2002. She was a true "Southern lady" whose influence has been felt by many generations of Southern students and faculty. She was born in Brooker, Florida on February 4, 1907. Her father was a Seventh-day Adventist pastor and her mother, worked as a midwife. Throughout her 95 years, Edythe served as a teacher, administrator, businesswoman, soprano vocalist, wife and mother of five children.

During her years at Southern Missionary College she taught voice and was a college registrar. She also inspired the alumni of Southern Junior College to save and restore Lynn Wood Hall. She participated in Southern alumni functions and hosted the Ladies Luncheon and Alumni Box Supper during Alumni Weekend.

Music was Edythe's life-long passion. At age 72, she was awarded a Doctorate in Music Education from Columbia Pacific University during the 1983 graduation at Southern. She established a scholarship fund, the Cothren Vocal Scholarship.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Frederic Barnette Cothren. She is also survived by a brother, a sister, three children, five grand children and seven great-grand children.

In Remembrance

Eldine (Allen) Frederick, '38, passed away March 3, 2002 in Berrien Springs, Michigan. She taught secretarial science at Spicer College (India), Columbia Union College, and Loma Linda University. Frederick is survived by her husband, Charles O. Frederick; daughter, Cheryl Frederick; son, Allen Lee Frederick; granddaughter, Wendy Withrow; and sister, Imogene (George) Akers.

Eunice (Bell) Reiber, '38, passed away June 3, 2002. She was 85. She is survived by daughters, Ramona (Reiber) Mikamba, '68, and Candyce Reiber, '63, and two grandchildren. She was married to Milton Reiber, '38, for 58 years when he passed away in 1997. After 35 years of ministry they retired in Pikeville, Tennessee.

Juanita Mathieu-Norrell, '46, passed away June 4, 2001, after a four-year battle with a rare lung condition. Juanita attended Southern Junior College, where she received a $25 scholarship after graduating from 12th grade in 1939 as an honor student. Juanita was married to Milton Norrell.

William Steen Nelson, '66 passed away September 13, 2002. He worked for the U.S. Government most of his adult life, first as an assistant to Congressman Frank Annunzio of Illinois and then for the Library of Congress. He is survived by his mother, Vivian Nelson of Collegedale, and two sisters, Andrea Hawkins of Nashville, and Naomi Sessman of Silver Spring, Maryland.

Send your On The Move entries to the alumni office at PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. We gladly accept photos that contain the specific alum listed in the entry.
I have always had a fascination with being in flight. How great it is to live in an age where you can board a plane, go to sleep, and wake up eight hours later on the other side of an ocean in a land where no one speaks your language.

Having flown a lot, I had often wondered what it would be to like to drop out of a plane. Learning terms in physics class like 'terminal velocity' piqued my interest even more. Recently, my curiosity got the best of me and I joined a group from Southern for an afternoon of skydiving.

It didn't really hit me until we were almost there. I am willingly going to fly up above the clouds and drop thousands of feet. That's when I started to get excited.

We arrived at the airfield and signed all the necessary paperwork, which took away almost all of our rights while we were there.

Then we each waited for our turn. Most of us took different flights, which allowed us to watch our classmates start out as little specks in the sky, fall slowly, and then open their parachutes and float down to meet us once again on terra firma.

Finally it was my turn to board the plane. First I put on my flight suit and tested my goggles and helmet. Next, I received the proper instructions. Then I boarded the plane.

The interior of the small plane was gurled and fitted with two benches each accommodating about 10 people. We all crammed in and moments later the engines started. We sped along the runway and took off slowly climbing. I looked out the window the entire time. I began to think of how high up we were. I glanced at my altimeter and the needle pointed to a big 2...2,000 feet. I asked the guy behind me how high up we were going. He replied, "14,000 feet."

I started running calculations in my head... rate of fall, drag from air, time of free fall, and finally the height we would drop from...14,000 feet. 2.65 miles up. That's when I got really excited.

Our ascent took forever. The plane seemed to meander up dipping down occasionally to give us the feeling of being on a roller coaster. The air pressure kept changing as the air got thinner. I kept swallowing to keep my ear drums in equilibrium. Our small propeller plane eventually broke through the clouds and we continued to climb higher. Finally, the bay door opened. Cold 40-degree air rushed in. Everything got loud so I put my helmet on to filter out the noise.

Then it was time for us to jump. As it goes in the Beatitudes, the last shall be first. I was the first to board the plane and headed to the very back, which meant I got to see everybody else jump out. Finally it was my turn. I inched up to the edge of the plane, turned around and held on.

The noise of the propellers and the rushing wind as I sped along horizontally suddenly went away only to be replaced by even faster rushing wind as I sped along vertically.

I saw the plane, then it went out of sight, then I saw it again and again as I back flipped over and over away from the door. Eventually I settled to falling face down. The air rushed around my body as I reached speeds of 120 miles per hour.

There wasn't much going through my head except wow and man, it is really cold and those clouds are coming up to me fast.

After 70 seconds of falling, I had just breached the clouds and my parachute opened. Suddenly I had the sensation of being forcibly yanked up yet plummeting down at the same time. Gradually the fast air slowed until I was gently floating down. From then on it was a slow drift as the ground crept closer. I spiraled some on the way down allowing me to descend even faster.

The only noise audible were the gentle cold gusts of air as I continued to fall. I had to get used to the higher air pressure again. From up there everything looked so different. In reality everything was the same, but from this different perspective, a vantage point from above, everything seemed so small and insignificant.

I relate it to going through life with the knowledge that God is in charge and we are part of His master plan. He makes the obstacles and hurdles in life so small and insignificant, whereas without Him, challenges can seem unbearable.

After some searching, I spotted the runway and the landing zone where I was supposed to drop. Moments later I softly descended to the ground with a quiet thud.

God is always with us, something I was quite glad of when I gained an intimate knowledge of terminal velocity after years of wondering and questioning.
One World, Many People: Lathika Mohan, junior medical technology major, displays her native dress during Southern’s Diversity Celebration. The Diversity Week included cultural dances, ethnic meals, and trivia on various countries from around the world. (See story page 27) PHOTOGRAPHER: Jyll Taylor.
network.
http://alumni.southern.edu

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