



The Moores: Katherine, DeVoe, Shirley and Tiffany

FloridaStateTimes

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National High Magnetic Field Lab unveils world-record magnet

By Barry Ray
FSU Media Relations Office

Biologists, chemists, engineers and physicists from Florida State University and all over the world are positively “charged” over the newest research tool to be unveiled at Tallahassee’s National High Magnetic Field Laboratory.

It’s a new, world-record magnet, standing 16 feet tall and weighing more than 15 tons —

and it signals a major scientific leap forward for one of the nation’s top research facilities. The magnet offers unprecedented opportunities for scientists working on everything from creating stronger building materials to developing medications that can more effectively combat tuberculosis, brain tumors and even AIDS.

“This is the most important magnet in the world right now,” said Stan Opella, editor of the Journal of Magnetic Resonance, who attended a commissioning ceremony for the new magnet on June 28. “It has tremendous potential.”

The National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, established by the National Science Foundation in 1990, is the world’s premier magnetic-research facility. It is operated jointly by FSU, the University of Florida and Los Alamos National Laboratory, and is located in Tallahassee’s Innovation Park.

With the new magnet’s unveiling, researchers from around the world now will be able to expand the horizons of scientific investigation using nuclear magnetic resonance and magnetic resonance imaging technologies.

“The incredibly precise magnetic field of this 900-megahertz magnet immediately positions our international chemistry and biology user programs at the forefront

of magnetic resonance research — research that will help us understand the workings of biological molecules, as well as the workings of the cell and the brain,” said Greg Boebinger, director of the magnet lab. “Its large volume also enables us to probe the unusual properties of materials under extreme conditions of heat and pressure similar to those found deep within the Earth.”

At full strength, the magnet has a magnetic field of 21 teslas — teslas being a scientific measure of magnetic field intensity. That is roughly 420,000 times the strength of the Earth’s magnetic field.

What makes the magnet particularly useful for scientific research, however, is not just its power, but also its bore size — 105 mm, or slightly more than 4 inches. The bore is the space within the magnet that holds the sample being tested. The larger the bore size, the larger the sample — and the greater the range of scientific experiments that can be conducted.

“This marks the successful completion of the third of the ‘Big Three’ magnet projects on which the magnet lab was founded. Whereas our other big magnet projects specialized in making the most powerful magnetic fields, this magnet specializes in preci-

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Moore’s generosity wows Seminole faithful

By Jeffery Seay
Editor in Chief

For a Tennessee farm boy who made good in business by sticking to the work ethic on which he was raised, and from the education he received at Florida State University, it only seemed natural to DeVoe Moore of Tallahassee to give back to the institution that helped give him his start.

This past September, Moore, along with his wife, Shirley, and their daughters, Katherine and Tiffany, committed a \$25-million gift to FSU, earmarked for both the university’s athletic scholarship endowment and the general

scholarship fund. The gift is the largest single donation ever made to the university.

“FSU is where I got my education and my beginning in business,” Moore said. “Now that I can give back, I can help students achieve some of the same goals that I achieved.

“By growing up on a farm, I learned the value of work,” he continued. “If you didn’t work, you didn’t eat. You had to get the crops in while the weather was right. I learned a whole different set of standards than most people by having to make a living from farming.”

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Greg Boebinger

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Up by the bootstraps: from farrier to philanthropist

(Continued from page 1)

Moore's sense of self-reliance and responsibility, learned early in life, has served him well.

As the owner of the Tallahassee Automobile Museum and a prominent real estate developer in Tallahassee, Moore has come a long way from his modest beginnings. Nearly 40 years ago, he put himself through school working as a farrier — shoeing horses — and working at an auto parts store and Fleet's store.

Now, Moore is happy to be able to give back to FSU in numerous ways. Among them, he serves on the boards of both the Seminole Boosters and the FSU Foundation.

"I hope I make some contribution to FSU and others while I'm here," Moore said.

"If you ask DeVoe and Shirley Moore what has led to their success, they will modestly say it was just common sense," said FSU President T.K. Wetherell. "I say it's a very special kind of common sense. They have been hugely successful in business by finding people's basic unmet needs and creating simple, efficient ways to meet those needs — from shoeing horses to building the first mini-warehouses."



DeVoe Moore standing beside the truck he used as a "rolling blacksmith shop" during his days as a farrier. The truck is on display at the Tallahassee Automobile Museum.

FSU Athletic Director Dave Hart praised Moore's generosity.

"DeVoe is a difference maker, and this gift will enable many young student athletes to attend college and get a degree in the

be given an honorary doctorate by FSU.

"It's probably the greatest honor I'll ever receive just for being who I am. If you look at the others who have received the same degree, I think I'm an individual who stands out, under what most of them represent," said Moore in his characteristically self-effacing manner.

Moore might not be the king of Jordan (King Hussein I) or a Broadway star (Helen Hayes) — two people with whom he shares the distinction of being selected to receive the Doctor of Humane Letters degree from FSU — but his contributions to FSU stand just as tall.

In 1998, he established a \$5 million endowment to create the FSU DeVoe Moore Center for the Study of Critical Issues in Government, to educate students in the area of government regulations, and to analyze how these regulations affect private enterprise.

"It is very difficult for young people to start their own businesses as I have done because of the intrusion of government, particularly at the local level," Moore said at the time.

The gift continues to pay for the center's two professorships, an

endowed chair and student scholarships.

A self-made man in every sense, Moore found that doing business in the 1950s, '60s and '70s was much more conducive to success than the business climate of today, which was one of his main reasons for establishing the center. He cited his own wait of more than two-and-a-half years for a permit to build a new museum building in Tallahassee to house his extensive automobile collection.

"I haven't done anything wrong (in preparing the property for construction and applying for the permit)," he said. "I've done as good a job as can be done. So why does it take so long?"

Moore pointed out the difficulty that young people face today in being able to succeed in business as he has because of over-regulation by government. He sees the work of the center as vital to helping ordinary people reclaim their ability to be able to achieve the American dream.

And now, with one extraordinary gesture of generosity, Moore and his family have added to their legacy of giving through the endowment of scholarships to benefit the FSU students of today and beyond.

Ultra Bore magnet to pull in scientific breakthroughs

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sion," Boebinger said.

The 900-megahertz magnet delivers 21-tesla magnetic fields that vary by less than 0.0000002 teslas over a volume roughly equal to the size of a small orange, Boebinger explained — an accomplishment unrivaled anywhere else in the world.

Timothy Cross, an FSU chemistry and biochemistry professor and director of the NMR Spectroscopy and Imaging Program at the magnet lab, said the magnet will offer opportunities for observing specific chemical and biological properties that were not available at lower magnetic fields.

"There are unique benefits that arise at high fields — some atoms become observable that were not practical to observe at a lower field," he said.

"In particular, we are finding that oxygen, a major component of most biological molecules, is observable in the new magnet. This provides us with a new tool for studying biological systems that was not previously available."

Cross added that the magnet can be used to determine the

shapes and chemical properties of biological molecules such as proteins and nucleic acids. This is useful in determining how certain drugs affect those molecules.

"Pharmaceuticals or drugs bind to biological molecules to enhance the biological function of useful molecules and interfere with the function of damaging ones," he explained.

"For instance, a drug called amantadine binds to a particular protein on the surface of the influenza virus, preventing it from functioning and thus stopping the viral infection in its tracks.

"Today, the magnet lab is using the new magnet with collaborators from Northwestern University and Brigham Young University to more precisely learn the detailed shape and chemical properties of the influenza protein so that vaccines with fewer undesired side effects might be designed."

In similar fashion, the electrical and physical properties of materials can be characterized, leading to the development and understanding of new materials, Cross said.

A team of engineers based at

FSU lures Applied Superconductivity Center

It's a major coup for Florida State University — and one that holds significant potential for breakthroughs in a variety of scientific endeavors. "It" is Florida State's new Applied Superconductivity Center, which soon will be setting up shop in Tallahassee's Innovation Park, across the street from the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory and near the Florida A&M University-FSU College of Engineering.

ASC has been headquartered at the University of Wisconsin in Madison for more than two decades. However, FSU administrators made a successful push to lure the entire center to FSU, citing the solid base of research that already exists here in the field of materials science.

"This will increase our capabilities even more in terms of materials science," said Kirby Kemper, FSU's vice president for Research. "Researchers at the magnet lab, for instance, are hoping to build the next generation of superconducting magnets. The Applied Superconductivity Center will develop the new materials so that they can do that.

FSU President T.K. Wetherell said such "cluster hires" will help the university become recognized as one of the top research institutions in the nation.

Four top ASC researchers, including Director David C. Larbalestier, will begin relocating by January 2006. They will be followed over the next six months by eight post-doctoral researchers, several highly skilled machinists and a few graduate students. In all, ASC may bring as many as 30 researchers to Tallahassee, along with some \$2 million in research grants and another \$2.5 million worth of precision laboratory equipment.

Read more about this in the April-May 2006 *Florida State Times*.

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Atkins-Gunter is first female Boosters chair

By Dave Fiore

Don't let her pink business card fool you.

Kathy Atkins-Gunter is a hard-nosed, experienced businesswoman with enough determination to easily see her through as the first woman to head the 15,000-member Seminole Boosters. She owns three businesses, invests in real estate on the side, and maintains a calendar that you would expect of a mover and shaker who is in constant demand.

Atkins-Gunter takes over the Boosters just as the organization is shifting its focus from raising money for facilities to endowing scholarships. The goal is to build the scholarship fund from its current \$26 million to as much as \$100 million.

"For the past 10 years or so, the focus has been on athletic facilities. They needed to improve if we were to continue attracting able and scholarly athletes," Atkins-Gunter said. "Now, the board has recognized the need to put the second piece in place for the future — and that is to endow our scholarships."

She said she is up for the challenge.

"The responsibility for such a



big project is not intimidating, but it is humbling," she said. "I know that it is a huge responsibility, everything must be done correctly, and everything must be in place to kick it off correctly."

Being the first woman elected as chair of the Boosters was an honor, but it should not be too surprising given the stature of women's sports at Florida State University, according to Atkins-Gunter.

"It does put a woman in a different position, but women's athletics at Florida State have been in high standing and have had a great reputation in intercollegiate sports for years," she said. "It is always a first step when there is a variation from the norm, but it was time. The Boosters have had women on the board for several years, and it is more diverse than it has ever been. This gives me an opportunity to make people more aware of the need for diversity."

The Boosters are successful because of the work of an outstanding permanent staff and a convergence of strength and success in key areas, according to Atkins-Gunter.

"Our university is recognized across the country for our academics, research and athletics," she said. "(Seminole Boosters President) Andy Miller is a strong visionary, and we have a world-class football program. We have also had some great university presidents, and when you add all that together, you are able to attract a substantial and diverse crowd into the fold. Everything is in place for success."

Atkins-Gunter's business responsibilities also are significant, as she runs an eclectic group of business ventures in Tallahassee and in neighboring Wakulla County near the Gulf Coast.

She founded Atkins Management & Consulting Inc. in 1998, following the sale of her interests in Rogers Atkins Insurance after her first husband, Bob Atkins, passed away.

Her other businesses, which are located on U.S. Highway 98 in Panacea, require a different set of business skills.

With three businesses and buying real estate as a hobby, how does Atkins-Gunter have time to squeeze in her Boosters responsibilities — much less a private life?

"Fortunately, I have a very wonderful, supportive husband who is very active in his business and related ventures," she said. Her husband, former Florida Insurance Commissioner, Treasurer and Fire Marshal Bill Gunter, is chairman and CEO of Rogers, Gunter, Vaughn Insurance Inc., an independent insurance agency based in Tallahassee.

"We have no children at home, although we do enjoy spending time with our grandchildren. It is about being organized," she said. "I like to stay busy. People who work around me know my favorite phrase is 'Try to keep up.'"

Good luck.

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'Bridge to the Doctorate' boosts minorities

By Dave Fiore

Recent numbers show that Florida's universities are having a difficult time attracting minority students. These students are underrepresented at the undergraduate level, but the degree to which they are absent from the graduate classrooms at institutions of higher learning is cause for greater concern.

While Florida State University is not immune to this trend, it has spent the past two years participating in a program designed to attract minority students who are interested in pursuing a doctoral degree.

The Bridge to the Doctorate Program is a supplement to the longstanding Florida-Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, a coalition of 12 institutions based in Florida — with one in Georgia — created to provide opportunities for bright and motivated minority students. The Bridge program gives these students an opportunity to participate in graduate study that leads to a doctorate in the underrepresented areas of science, technology, engineering and math.

Program participants are paired with faculty mentors, attend conferences in their field, and are provided opportunities for peer fellowship to support them through student-organized seminars and workshops.

"The students have regular meetings that feature speakers re-

lated to graduate school," said program Director Emmanuel Collins, the John H. Seely Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the Florida A&M University-FSU College of Engineering. "They all know each other and have a bond with each other because they socialize outside the classroom."

Former director Patricia Stith said that is important, because there is more to completing a graduate degree than just academics.

"The biggest advantage of having this program is to make students feel comfortable that they can start and complete a doctoral degree," Stith said.

The program is an extension of a similar effort to help retain minority college students, according to Collins.

"The National Science Foundation has funded the Alliance for Minority Participation program for minority retention at the undergraduate level, and it was soon realized that minorities were underrepresented to an even greater degree

at the doctoral level," he said. "FSU was the first in the Stokes Alliance region to be awarded a Bridge program — and one of the first in the country to have one."

Participating students receive tuition and a stipend that equals \$30,000 per year; once they are in the program, they must remain in good standing with the university. Over the past two years, the program has supported 21 FSU students.

"A lot of students would not be able to attend without this financial support," Collins said. "Without this opportunity, they may not be able to pursue the degree."

The program lasts only two years at a time, and this one expired

Sept. 30, 2005. FSU applied for continual funding this year but did not receive it, and is applying again for next year.

"Most of those students will now get a teaching position or another fellowship to allow them to complete their program of study," Collins said. "Most students can't complete their studies in two years. Because many are starting with just a bachelor's degree, it can take several years to get a Ph.D. But this at least gives them a huge head start."

When asked why the underrepresentation of minorities increases with each degree level, Collins said it is a matter of supply and demand.

"There is an undersupply of minorities at the undergraduate level, so those students are being tempted to go directly into industry with a bachelor's degree or even a master's," he said. "There are lots of employment opportunities for them — and so few of them."

"We remain confident that the university's investment in these students ultimately will be worthwhile, even though very few have completed their studies," Collins said.

Martin stood to serve in post-Katrina New Orleans

By Jeffery Seay
Editor in Chief

C.J. Martin’s face bore the weariness of two weeks’ worth of grueling duty in the flooded destruction of New Orleans, a world that was upturned by Hurricane Katrina.

After his ordeal, while on a five-day furlough to visit parents Bill and Diane Martin of Tallahassee, the Florida State University alumnus and New Orleans police detective took a much needed and well-deserved break from his obligations of service to colleagues and civilians alike.

Martin (B.S. ’96, Criminology and Criminal Justice), who has been a scuba instructor for the past 10 years, is currently assigned to the New Orleans Police Department’s bomb squad and dive team. He started his career with the department in 1998 as a narcotics detective, and later was assigned to the department’s cold-case squad.

On Sunday, Aug. 28, Martin reported for duty around 10 a.m. to help in such preparations as placing departmental boats and rescue equipment, along with complements of four divers and two sergeants, in key locations throughout the city.

As the hurricane passed over the city, Martin watched it from inside his police truck with his dogs Scout and Renegade in the New Orleans police headquarters parking garage.

“I was just waiting for it to pass so (my fellow officers and I) could go out and do what we had to do,” he said.

After the storm, Martin and his colleagues started to conduct an assessment of their surrounding blocks. Within a few hours, however, the 17th Street Canal levee broke, and floodwaters started to rise quickly.

“Once the flood waters got to



C.J. Martin

Officers launch rescue effort from Interstate 10 ramp.

ment in the days leading up to the hurricane’s landfall, the reality of post-Katrina New Orleans was a shock.

“During the first couple of days, when we’d be out on one of our boats, it was surreal to see the water level so high, and people in such need. Being limited to what we were capable of doing — not having helicopters — it was frustrating. But at the same time, we were just as desperate as the civilians were. Even though we had an obligation to help people as best as we could, we weren’t much better

and rescue missions on their departmental boats, sometimes beginning at dawn.

“The back of headquarters has a loading dock that we wound up using as a makeshift sally port to launch our boats, because the loading dock was flooded,” For the first seven days, Martin said, this became the routine. And except for the sporadic cell phone signal from one corner of the roof of police headquarters, they’d usually get the “all circuits are busy” message.

But serving the residents of

“We started picking up people by boat from rooftops and the second floors of their houses, and were able to take them to the Broad Street overpass...”

off than they were.”

The first night, Martin said that members of his 11-man contingent went up to the roof of police headquarters simply to get some relief in the cool night wind, and survey the city.

“We got up on the roof and it was just pitch black,” he said. “I used to go up there with my tripod and camera and shoot cityscapes when I was in Homicide. Now, you couldn’t see anything, except for a building burning in the distance from an electrical fire.”

Over the ensuing days, Martin and his colleagues ran scout

New Orleans was foremost in the daily grind. During the daylight hours, Martin participated in rescue missions launched from the sally port.

“We started picking up people by boat from rooftops and the second floors of their houses, and were able to take them to the Broad Street overpass (an on-ramp to Interstate 10),” Martin said. “By Day 2 or 3, we had Black Hawks, Coast Guard Dolphins and Chinooks (helicopters) assisting us, airlifting people from there.

“After the military arrived, we got a truck — an F-350 with a

flatbed on the back — loaded with a couple of pallets of MREs (meals ready to eat). We’d load the boat up from those, and gallon jugs of water, and we’d go around to people we couldn’t easily evacuate and who were waiting on helicopters to come in, and we’d deliver these necessary items.”

By Day 5, Martin and those on duty with him learned about the chaos erupting elsewhere in the city — snipers shooting at rescue helicopters and firefighters — from the fuzzy reception of TVs powered by generators.

Around the ninth day, Martin was able to get close enough by boat to his home — the second story of an old-style Louisiana house with a wraparound wooden porch — to find it intact.

He also was able to arrange for the transport of Renegade and Scout, his dogs, out of the city with an animal-rescue group. His parents picked up the dogs in Baton Rouge, La.

Around Day 12, Martin began conducting scouting missions for some of the federal agencies that had brought in equipment, including U.S. Customs out of Miami.

In the end, after Martin and the officers in his contingent were able to hook up with the majority of the New Orleans police force, he discovered that most of them had done the same things he had.

“They were bunkered in, in small groups, 10 and 15 people trying to do their jobs, not knowing whether they were being left behind or if there were other officers around.”

Martin told of one officer who had been in Atlanta as the hurricane prepared to make landfall. Just as Martin had made the decision not to leave his post during the most difficult of circumstances, the officer hitchhiked back to New Orleans courtesy of a law enforcement relay that drove him from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

“I probably had about 10 messages from guys just like him who said, ‘We’re on our way.’”

country, and one way to achieve this distinction is to use the AAU membership indicators as guideposts to mark our pathway forward,” Ellington said. “AAU membership will be tangible recognition that we’ve achieved this goal.”

Ellington, who specializes in the fields of comparative and evolutionary biochemistry, has been on the faculty of FSU’s biological science department since 1981.

Ellington To Lead ‘Pathways to Excellence’ Program

FSU Provost Lawrence G. Abele has named Professor Ross Ellington associate vice president for Academic Affairs to lead the university’s efforts to become a Top 20 graduate research institution as outlined by President T.K. Wetherell in his “Pathways to Excellence” program.

To help FSU reach its goal, Ellington chaired a committee of faculty charged with developing a plan of action toward membership in the elite American Association of Universities. His new appointment is effective immediately.



Ross Ellington

Ellington said the competition for membership in the association is intense. The association is currently made up of just 62 of the leading research institutions in the United States and Canada. “We want to be one of the top public research and graduate education universities in the

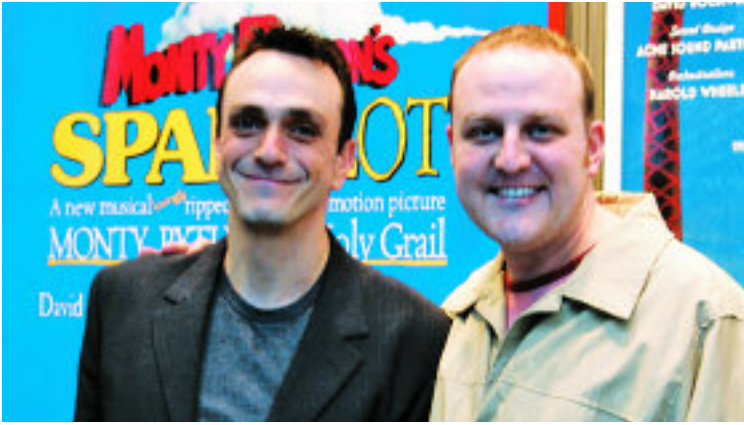
Ni! Covert is ‘Sir Not Appearing’ in ‘Spamalot’

By Kim MacQueen

A university education prepares graduates to make their way in the world. It doesn’t necessarily teach them how to perform a pas de deux with a nun, ride a non-existent horse and sing about shrubbery in a smash Broadway hit. Luckily, Kevin Covert went to Florida State University, where the music theatre department set him up well for his roles in “Spamalot,” the musical version of the comedy classic “Monty Python and the Holy Grail.”

“Spamalot” tells the story of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, but also has a lot in common with a Las Vegas floor-show. Monty Python fans will remember the Knights of Ni, the Lady in the Lake and the knight who keeps fighting even after his arms and legs are cut off. There’s also a fair amount of crossing of genres, continents and time periods while simultaneously parodying Stephen Sondheim, “West Side Story” and decades of other famous musicals.

Since its debut in March, “Spamalot” has been acclaimed by fans and critics alike (The New York Times lauded it as “the best musical to open on Broadway this year” and the New Yorker called it “a no-holds-barred smash”). The show boasts an all-star cast, including Tim Curry (“The Rocky Horror



From left, Hank Azaria and Kevin Covert

Picture Show”), Hank Azaria (“The Simpsons”) and David Hyde Pierce (“Frazier”). Eminently respected director Mike Nichols took Best Director at this year’s Tony Awards, where “Spamalot” captured Best Musical for 2005.

As “Sir Not Appearing in This Show,” Covert appears in nearly every scene, including one dressed as a monk who dances with a nun. “I always knew I’d get to Broadway,” said Covert, who performed in community theater and school productions all through grade school and was a shoe-in for acceptance to the music theatre department at FSU. “But never in my wildest dreams did I think I’d get to be in the original cast of a musical like ‘Spamalot.’ It’s absolutely a dream come true.”

It also is one he was ready for. Covert moved to New York in 1995, joining a burgeoning com-

munity of fellow graduates working to break into theater there. That’s when it hit him that his FSU training set him head and shoulders above the competition. Directors and casting agents responded to the university’s name on his resume, as its graduates have a reputation for being able to hit the ground running.

“They taught us what you need to do when you go into an audition: You need to have a book of songs ready. You need to have dance steps ready,” Covert said. He credits a special four-day workshop at FSU with arming him with the tools he needed to ace any audition. “The difference is enormous when you go in with intent, as opposed to just floundering around.”

As someone who spends his days — and makes his living — singing and dancing, Covert is

quick to point out that he moved to Tallahassee with only one of those skills under his belt. While dancing came naturally, singing wasn’t yet in his repertoire. As a freshman appearing in “Anything Goes,” Covert was given exactly one solo line, and he nearly whispered it.

“I never sang a note before I came to Florida State,” he said. “I had always heard dancers couldn’t sing. I was terrified.” He worked hard and got help with it, making

its students a comprehensive, professional background in music, theater and dance, as well as other general education courses specific to a four-year degree, such as humanities — as opposed to the conservatory model, in which students tend to study their one subject in depth. It’s that balance that he credits with giving him a “real life” while in college.

“I was able to take classes from four different acting profes-



Kevin Covert

such progress by his junior year that his voice coach remarked she “couldn’t believe this was the same boy.” Now he loves to sing. Apparently his experience was part of the plan: A casting director friend tells Covert he loves seeing FSU on aspiring actors’ resumes because “he knows they’re going to be able to sing.”

Covert lauds his experience with the department, which offers

sors with a range of styles — so many students in similar programs only have access to one.”

As one of only eight students in the program, he thrived under the individual attention.

“It did take me a couple of years to realize it,” he said. “But I’ve really come to appreciate how rare and important that experience was. Now I can’t imagine having gone anywhere else.”

Two alumni trade careers for mission work in Guatemala

By Peter B. Gallagher

Lloyd Monroe and Bill Smith work in mysterious ways.

Both are Florida Panhandle natives — Monroe has lived his whole life in the Jefferson County community of Waukeelah, and Smith grew up in Tallahassee, attending Florida High on the Florida State University campus.

Both are FSU graduates: Monroe earned a bachelor’s degree in history in 1979 and a law degree in 1982, while Smith earned a bachelor’s degree in economics in 1994.

Best of friends, they were living the comfortable life in Tallahassee, making good money and rolling along like gangbusters in their careers, when they started talking crazy right in the middle of it all.

“Let’s quit our jobs, leave the good life behind, pack up the wives and kids and hop a plane to Central America. We can open a musical cafe and mission in Guatemala, or a jazz club — whatever. Maybe we’ll

never come back!”

Family and friends became understandably alarmed. A few tried to “talk some sense into” the pair, who never wavered from their plans to trade the Southern comfort of Tallahassee for mission work amid the poverty and adventure of civil-war-torn Guatemala.

“Now a lot of people have come full circle with us and they are saying, ‘Gee, I really admire you guys,’” said Smith, 35, a former Florida Department of Education computer expert and current coffee import entrepreneur. “They went from ‘Can’t you guys wait until you retire?’ and ‘Why make your families suffer?’ to ‘I wish I had the guts to do the same thing,’ and ‘I would love to be in your place.’”

“There is something about just striking out and doing it that appeals to a lot of people,” said Monroe, 48, a trial lawyer with Coppins, Monroe, Adkins, Dincman and Spellman in Tallahassee. “Most just dream about it. We have to do it.”

In September, the Smiths —

Bill, wife Suzanne and their 1-year-old — and the Monroes — Lloyd, wife Melanie and two of their three children — and friend Mark Ford arrived and began setting up the eclectic café in tiny Panajachel, in the heart of the Mayan homeland, on the shores of Lake Atitlan, known as “the world’s most beautiful lake.” Their humanitarian mission, Porch de Salomon (after the biblical Solomon’s Porch), is intended to be a comfort for the forgotten — the native poor and lost expatriates who populate this disadvantaged region.

The saga of the Smiths and Monroes began to germinate during their years at FSU.

“FSU had a real freewheeling air about it,” Smith said. “Experimenting was all right. It was encouraged. We were sort of the underdog back then, and I learned about how the underdog can come out on top. I was in economics, where you have to learn to think in new ways.”

Monroe agreed, remembering

spending his college days as a party animal who still got all of his work done.

“FSU made me a major risk taker,” Monroe said. “You were taught it was OK to take risks. I’ve spent 20 years as a trial lawyer. That’s what trial lawyers are — risk takers.

“FSU is where I got my introduction to the ‘world of ideas,’” Monroe continued. “Coming up with good ideas has been a huge advantage in my legal career — in my whole life.”

The pair met in 1990, when Smith began dating Suzanne, who is Monroe’s sister. As members of the same church, the Smiths and Monroes began hanging out together, playing music. The trial lawyer and the economist found that they and their spouses had a mutual fascination with the missionary life.

Missionary trips to Nicaragua, Mexico, Cuba and Guatemala followed. The abject poverty in the Panajachel area gripped the two

families.

“We’ll run a nice clean coffee house, a music room, a jazz club or whatever God brings to us. It will be Christian, but it won’t be ‘Rock of Ages.’ It will be a lot of rock ‘n’ roll,” Monroe said.

Believe them or not, there are no plans to return to Tallahassee. Economist Smith is practical: “I took early retirement at the age of 35. I’ll be in Guatemala until the money runs out. We’ll have to see what happens.”

“Think about it,” Monroe said. “Americans are trapped by affluence. Hey, I love the finer things in life. But I don’t like the trap. My wife always wanted a home in the mountains someday. So now she has it.”

Without the trap.

At press time, the Monroes and the Smiths were safe and helping with clean-up efforts after Hurricane Stan caused massive mudslides in Panajachel.

To learn more, visit www.porchdesalomon.org.

Lauren, Moreton and Long hit big time with No Address

By Dave Fiore

Florida State University has a long history of producing quality musicians, but they rarely come from the English or chemistry departments. Yet that is where two members of the band No Address spent their years at FSU — earning degrees and reputations as good students.

Frontman Ben Lauren earned a master’s degree in creative writing and is a published poet, while guitarist Phil Moreton earned a degree in chemistry. Guitarist Justin Long also attended FSU, leaving just one class short of his undergraduate degree.

In April, the band released its first CD, “Time Doesn’t Notice,” on the prestigious Atlantic label and scored a Top 10 hit with “When I’m Gone,” its first single. The CD was guided by Tallahassee producer John Kurzweg, who also produced CDs by the band Creed.

Lauren and Long had a freshman poetry class together, but didn’t see each other again until their senior year. That summer they started the band, adding Moreton, a former bandmate of Long who al-

ready had graduated, Randy Lane on drums and bassist Bill Donaldson.

The band was discovered when manager Terry Clark, who was managing another local band, came looking for Long and heard No Address practicing. He was impressed and passed along a single, “Lasting Words,” to Rob Gilmore, who runs an independent Web site that gives recording label executives an opportunity to hear new bands. A couple of months later, they were signed by Atlantic.

“I was still in graduate school when we signed,” Lauren said. “We wrote the music in Tallahassee in a warehouse on Orange Avenue. We would go there several times a week at night and play.”

The band became No Address after their first name, New Address, was ditched, in part, because they felt it sounded like a boy band.

“I said, ‘What about No Address?’ as a joke,” Lauren said. “I was still teaching in Tallahassee and actually became homeless to go on the road and pursue my dream.” Lauren said the label liked it. “When I was reading through my old journals, I noticed a writing



Matthew Welch

Phil Moreton, Justin Long, Randy Lane, Ben Lauren and Bill Donaldson

theme about the freedom to be yourself. By being nothing, you had the freedom for the first time to be something. It started out as a joke, but the name ended up having a lot of meaning.”

Lauren said he loved the writing program at FSU and was particularly influenced by English Professor David Kirby, who was FSU’s Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor in 2003.

“He was a very important figure for me. He was definitely my

mentor,” Lauren said. “I sought him out as an undergraduate and worked with him very closely as a graduate student. He is innovative, and as a writer, made me feel comfortable. He allowed me to discover my own voice.”

Kirby said that voice was meant to be discovered, even if Lauren’s personality was a bit laid-back.

“As far as pop sensations go, Ben’s a real sleeper — literally. I’ve never seen a guy so relaxed,” Kirby

said. “Ben’s one of the sweetest-natured persons I know, and all the other students adored him. The talk can get vicious in a writing workshop, but Ben always had something helpful to say to everyone.” Kirby said that even with his success, he believes Lauren has not lost his grip on reality.

Lauren said that when it comes to writing poetry and writing songs, they are separate endeavors as far as he is concerned.

“Lyrics can become poetry and poetry can become lyrics, but the two are completely different things for me,” he said. “Lyrics have music that accompany them, but a poem has only the music of language.”

Lauren’s goals for the future include getting a Master of Fine Arts degree and writing more songs. “I want to put out more music — that’s what I do — but I would also like to study more poetry and publish a magazine,” he said. “My dream is to be a poet.

“There is a lot I like about being a rock star and a lot I hate, but what I hate is canceled out by the poetry. And what I miss from poetry I get from being in the band. It’s the best of both worlds.”

On the way up: Reeve winning Atlanta crowds



Tyler Reeve

Amy Brazil

By Jeffery Seay
Editor in Chief

Keep your ear on Tyler Reeve. The Florida State University alumnus and up-and-coming singer-songwriter is busy paying

his dues along the road to the big time. A veteran at age 24 of travel between venues and cities, Reeve already has won over audiences from Tallahassee to Key West with his easygoing charisma and natural stage presence. However, it’s his

brand of acoustic rock that keeps them coming back for more.

On the cusp of recording his first studio-produced album, “Too Many Songs About Women,” and with his Sept. 15 stage debut at Atlanta’s famed Fox Theatre under his belt, Reeve (B.S. ’04, International Affairs) has been honing his craft over the past four years with as many as 20 hours of stage time every week. Now, his hard work is beginning to pay off.

“If someone comes and hears me play, I’m at a point where there is no question it’s what I do for a living,” said Reeve, who is based in Atlanta and can be seen regularly at Tin Lizzy’s, a laid-back bar, popular among local FSU alumni.

“As a stage musician, one of my strongest points is the amount of gigs I’ve played in Tallahassee and at Irish Kevin’s (in Key West). Most people do their practicing at home. I basically have done all of my practicing on stage.”

Reeve describes his sound as a cross between Maroon Five and Gavin DeGraw, and he intends for his forthcoming album to be a showcase of his 12 best original songs.

“When I was selecting the tracks, I only had a couple of songs that weren’t about women. I thought, ‘I have too many songs

about women!’ Then, it hit me. I said, ‘That’s it, I’m going to use all the songs about women and that’s what I’m going to call it!’”

Recalling his early days as a musician in Tallahassee — his “college job” — Reeve said he first considered pursuing music as a career after realizing he had developed a bona-fide fan base.

“During my junior year at FSU, I was playing very regularly and starting to get to where people knew me and were coming out to see me. One day, I played a bar where no one went — ever. They hired me for one night. We put out a few flyers, and all these people came. I thought, ‘Wow, this is really cool that so many people showed up, just for me.’”

Reeve’s ability to connect with audiences comes down to his own passion for music and performing. “I’m not there to sell them records. I’m there to have a good time, just like they are.”

He also has perfected gauging what the crowd wants, and adjusts his show accordingly. Switching between his own 80-song catalog and a mix of covers that run from country to classic rock, his performances can be laid back or “in your face.”

A resident of Atlanta since July, Reeve has been pleased to find

larger venues and a world of potential new fans who are responding as favorably to his music as others have.

“The best thing about it are the new crowds. I recently played a bar up here. They were really into my show). In Tallahassee, many people have seen it, but they’re not there staring at my guitar (for the first time). These people did. It made me so excited.”

Despite his growing Atlanta popularity, which is fueled by a weekly schedule of Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday night gigs, Reeve is determined not to forget his loyal Tallahassee fan base. He is booked to play at A.J.’s Sports Bar on Friday nights through the end of the year.

In preparing for the next phase of his career — accepting a record contract and touring as an opening act — Reeve plans to establish a solid Atlanta fan base and simply do what he loves most — perform his music. And if that means more travel between venues and cities, he is ready.

“I like the grind. It’s worth it. I’ll be worn out on three hours of sleep, ready to pass out as I walk, but the second I get on stage, I’m completely fine.”

To learn more, visit tylerreeve.com.

Westcott Lakes will promote community among retired alumni

The idea has been percolating in Florida State University circles for years: Build a community where alumni and friends could return to live in their later years ... take advantage of everything the university has to offer ... maybe even enroll in a class or two.

“We recognized the merits of a university-related retirement community some years ago,” said Ray Solomon, former dean of FSU’s College of Business. “It makes good sense for a number of reasons. Alumni and faculty can remain connected to FSU after they retire — and it’s an excellent resource for the university, as well.”

But, developing such a community is a complex undertaking — and the idea has only recently gained traction. For President T.K. Wetherell, it was an idea whose time had come.

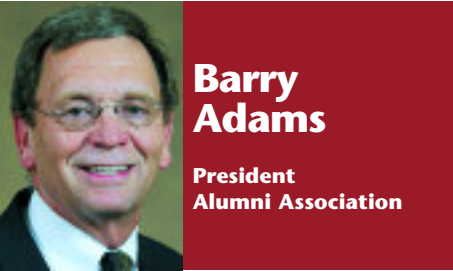
“As one of the nation’s top public universities, Florida State is a center of excellence in many areas — medical and health-care education, technology, science and the arts,” Wetherell said. “We have also been recognized internationally for the work we’re doing at the Pepper Institute on Aging, here on campus. So, there’s a logical tie-in for us to sponsor a community for older adults, with a mandate to make it the new ‘gold standard’ — or should I say ‘gemet and gold standard’ — in the industry.”

FSU alumnus Jim Joanos, a retired appellate judge of the Florida Court of Appeal, First District, is the chairman of Westcott Lakes’ founding board of directors.

“Like universities across the country, Florida State has found that alumni and supporters over the age of 62 want to enjoy the cultural, social and athletic benefits of living near an institution of higher education,”

Building relationships with alumni: Why alumni associations sell

More than one speaker has labeled salesmanship as the process of “transferring a conviction by a seller to a buyer.” There are, of



Barry Adams
President
Alumni Association

course, many other short definitions that one could relate about the art of selling. I like this one because it touches on why alumni associations, such as ours at Florida State University, provide numerous services and offer various products to graduates. Most of our product selection arrives to you via direct mail, and today’s Internet world allows us to show and even explain products or services with a click.

Alumni associations have been involved in promoting the institutions they serve, literally, since organized alumni activity began more than 175 years ago. In the early years, alumni groups wanted to recapture the spirit prevailing at annual commencements — hence some of the earliest alumni sales offered reprints of entire speeches given to the graduation class. It wasn’t long before alumni groups be-



FSU Photo Lab / Michele Edmunds

Betty Lou Joanos, Jim Joanos and FSU President T.K. Wetherell

Joanos said. “Taking this desire to the next level, Florida State University is sponsoring a community that is aimed at moving traditional ‘retirement’ living to a whole new dimension.”

The community will be developed using the unique Life Fulfilling Community® concept for older adults (age 62+), which reflects a forward-thinking, cutting-edge approach to senior living — and a dramatically different alternative to traditional continuing care retirement communities.

The Life Fulfilling Community® environment’s objective is “creative aging,” growth, vitality and excitement.

It encourages members to stay physical-

ly and intellectually fit.

Westcott Lakes will be located near master-planned SouthWood, a St. Joe Hometown in Tallahassee. The SouthWood development includes golf, tennis, shopping, restaurants and houses of worship, schools, colleges and many other amenities that will be available to members of Westcott Lakes.

Inherent in the name Westcott Lakes is a strong connection to the university.

“We wanted the link to FSU to be very apparent, because this community will enjoy a fully integrated relationship with the university through a series of affiliation agreements with various colleges,” Wetherell said. “Using the name Westcott, which is important to our history, was a logical choice.”

FSU’s main administration building is named for James D. Westcott Jr., who served Florida as attorney general and as a justice of the Supreme Court.

Because of Westcott Lakes’ direct affiliation and joint programming with the university, community members will have campus privileges similar to those of university faculty, including access to libraries, athletic facilities and cultural activities. FSU students will be integral to the community through coursework, employment and volunteer efforts. Westcott Lakes members also will have the opportunity to interact with, mentor and advise FSU students.

The university also will benefit in a number of ways. Affiliation agreements will provide internships and direct field experience for students, and exchange opportunities in the areas of nursing, medicine, health and human performance, among others.

Perhaps most important: A portion of the entrance fee paid by Westcott Lakes mem-

bered in social gatherings or monthly meetings. As one takes an assessment of the lifelong bonds that alumni associations are committed to perpetuate, such efforts cannot be overlooked for long.

Alumni travel programs, like the one you find on our Web pages (www.alumni.fsu.edu — go to *Alumni Tours and Travel*), have enabled thousands of alumni nationwide to participate in group travel, though many may not be interested in traditional programs. And travel programs sponsored by associations like ours have often developed educational components, independent travel opportunities and even significant savings for vacation condo rentals!

The group insurance programs offered by the FSU Alumni Association are widely accepted and mirror similar benefits offered by associations representing Duke, Navy, Stanford, Michigan, Georgia Tech and hundreds of others. The array of insurance products offered has grown over the years to include things like temporary health care coverage for young alumni (often who have just graduated) to auto, home and even renter’s policies.

Of course, these illustrations have an economic engine behind them. The FSU Alumni

bers will be reserved for scholarships and professorships, providing FSU with a future income stream for educational enrichment.

In addition to Joanos, other members of the founding board of directors are FSU President Emeritus Talbot “Sandy” D’Alemberte, FSU Vice President for University Relations Lee Hinkle, and Ruth Bass, the owner of Bass & Bass Ltd., a Tallahassee interior design firm.

Westcott Lakes will offer a mix of apartment residences and single-family homes in a gated, country club-style setting. The community also will provide a type “A” life care contract that includes a complete package of services: dining, housekeeping, transportation, maintenance, 24-hour emergency response and educational/recreational amenities. It also will provide guaranteed access to unlimited care in private accommodations in assisted living, memory support and skilled nursing at approximately half of what comparable accommodation would cost elsewhere.

The developer of the project is PRAXEIS LLC of Jacksonville, Fla., a company with decades of collective experience in the senior living industry. “Our communities are designed to provide a unique environment for creative aging, personal growth, vitality and excitement,” said Jim Cater, CEO of PRAXEIS. “We encourage members to focus on a balance of body, mind and spirit, and stay physically and intellectually fit. We provide the resources to help them do it.”

FSU alumni and friends will be given the first opportunity to get a “priority number” and reserve a home at Westcott Lakes. This process will begin soon, so watch for details.

For more information, visit www.westcottlakes.org.



Daryl Kirby

STACEY KIRBY



Stacey Kirby

By Stacey Nevins Getz

In coping with her heavy workload as an interior design major at Florida State University, Stacey Kirby remembers one professor in particular, the late Manuel Ponce, whose brutal honesty in her first studio class really helped to develop her design talent.

“He could be a bit harsh in his critique,” Kirby said. “But I learned a lot about design from him, and he also helped bring me out of my shell a bit.”

Today, Kirby serves as project manager for interior design at Seiber Design Inc. of Atlanta, where she oversees all phases of the design process. Since making partner earlier this year, she also has spent time managing project teams, marketing the company and engaging in strategic planning.

Before becoming a certified interior designer and working her way up to the top of her field, this Baltimore native traveled to Tallahassee to enroll in FSU’s undergraduate interior design program. Looking back, Kirby said that her experiences in the program helped prepare her for life in the real world.

“I pulled a lot of all-nighters at my drafting board,” Kirby said. “But I believe the hard work demanded by the design school helped me develop a good work ethic, which made

me a great entry-level employee.”

After earning her Bachelor of Science degree in interior design from the FSU School of Visual Arts and Dance in 1994 (now Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance), Kirby moved to Atlanta in hopes of finding an interior design position working on hotel projects. Unfortunately, it did not work out exactly the way she wanted.

“I thought it would be a breeze to find a job in such a large market,” she said. “That was certainly not the case.”

After several months, Kirby finally landed a position at a furniture dealer, working with commercial interiors. Still searching for her dream job, she spent most of her time networking with other professionals in the design field until it finally paid off.

“I met a senior designer who had just started working for a small architectural firm called Seiber Architects, and she expressed an interest in building the interiors department,” she said. “I kept in contact with her and was eventually hired in the spring of 1996, which was when the firm changed its name to Seiber Design.”

After spending nearly a decade with the firm, Kirby has learned how to cultivate relationships and understands the reciprocity involved in design development. At Seiber Design, she said she believes it is her job to challenge clients to think beyond the scope of typical design ideas.

“In doing this, we are providing the client with an innovative, original design, as well as placing a value on our services,” she said. “This process requires a lot of give-and-take between both parties. It is important that each feels comfortable offering ideas without worrying about whether they will be liked or disliked.”

Even though Kirby may provide direction in discussing a design program with a client, she does not allow her own design opinions to influence her advice.

“My design philosophy is to design for the client and their program,” she said. “I think that is one of the hardest things for new

designers to do. It is difficult not to let your personal taste come into play.”

Kirby leaves her personal design preferences at home — literally. She lives with her family in Buckhead, Ga., a rural area about 70 miles outside of Atlanta, in a house she designed herself. The structure resembles what she calls a “modern farmhouse,” with relatively traditional architecture and modern interior elements, such as decorative lighting.

The nation got a good look at the finished product when Kirby’s house was featured in the October 2005 issue of *Home* magazine.

Though thrilled with her new house and flattered by its appearance in a national publication, Kirby admits that designing her home was a true task.

“Building a home is a lot of work, especially when you are the designer,” she explained. “The first real challenge was developing the design and construction documents after working a full day in the office and spending the evening with my family. I normally wouldn’t get started on the house until about 9:30 p.m.”

Now that the house is finished, Kirby enjoys spending weekends relaxing with her children and taking walks through their wooded, 25-acre property. She and her husband also enjoy entertaining friends and just recently developed a passion for cooking.

PETER HARTUNG

By Jeffery Seay
Editor in Chief

With a fine knowledge of design and adept project management that he developed from his work in South Florida residential design firms, Florida State University alumnus Peter “Gage” Hartung has learned that the art of pleasing his clients begins with listening.

“People know what they like. You never run into a client who says, ‘I don’t know what I want. Give me anything,’” said Hartung, the senior designer with Shuster Design Associates of Fort Lauderdale. “My job is to listen to them, interpret it and give them what they want.”

Hartung can count among his clients a Fortune 500 CEO and a successful Internet entrepreneur. But it is his work on the residence



Kara Moore

Peter “Gage” Hartung of Shuster Design Associates of Fort Lauderdale shows one of his recent residential designs.

Designing Seminoles

of a prominent Boca Raton, Fla., retailing family that is featured in the fall 2005 issue of *Florida Design* magazine (Vol. 15, No. 3, page 198). He said the traditional aesthetic that the family preferred challenged him to learn more about antiques.

“The project helped me sharpen my eye on what makes a good antique,” he said. “You can tell by the quality of the workmanship, the age, its condition. I got to explore some incredible antique dealers, and was able to see antiques that are truly works of art.”

Hartung, who earned his Bachelor of Science degree in interior design in 1991, has worked for Shuster Design Associates and its principal designer, Louis Shuster, since 2000. The company’s 14-member staff includes two architects, two auto-cad (computer-aided drafting) designers and an assistant designer who work in teams, under either Hartung or Shuster.

While freshly graduated from FSU, Hartung began his interior design career in a temporary job doing clerical work for a Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., design firm. Afterward, he took more than a year renovating the home he had recently purchased — a personal design project that became his de facto full-time job. Then, his big break happened.

“I met a designer named Mark Kirby,” Hartung said. “He was a successful designer in West Palm Beach. He really took me under his wing and taught me the business.”

In 1996, Hartung followed Kirby to the Hallandale, Fla., firm of Fine Decorators, where he worked as Kirby’s assistant designer.

“I grew with him, and after four years, I decided I needed to make the move to a firm where I could start designing my own projects. In 2000, I found out about a position opening up here with Shuster Design. I’ve been a designer here ever since.”

As the team leader for a given client, Hartung creates the overall concept, and then works with Shuster’s team of architects and other associates to bring it to life.

Shuster complimented

Hartung’s company loyalty and genial demeanor.

“The one trait that everyone agrees upon with Gage is that he’s very easygoing,” Shuster said. “The clients really enjoy working with him because he takes things at their pace.”

Shuster also praised Hartung’s design sense — his sense of scale and color — as absolutely great.

Not surprisingly, Hartung’s favorite part of his job is the creative side of design. What is surprising is that only 20 percent of the business of design is what Hartung would call “creative.” The remaining 80 percent is all business.

“If I feel I’m an expert on anything in this field, I’m an expert on how the industry runs,” he said. “Interior design is a hands-on kind of industry, where you learn as you go.”

AMY O’KEEFE

By Stacey Nevins Getz

Over the course of her young career, aspiring interior designer Amy O’Keefe has learned to subscribe to the use of “green” design in both her residential and commercial work at the Sechrest Design Company of Tallahassee. She said she believes it is her social responsibility to actively seek out and work with companies that produce environmentally friendly design supplies and materials.

A proud Seminole fan, O’Keefe is an allied member of the American Society of Interior Designers and has taken the National Council for Interior Design

Amy O’Keefe in a showroom of the Sechrest Design Company of Tallahassee.



Bayard Stern

Qualification examination to earn official recognition as an interior designer. She expects to receive the results within the next few months.

O’Keefe was born in Indianapolis, but moved around a lot growing up.

She spent her middle and high school years in South Florida, where she heard accolades from friends about Florida State University. After visiting Tallahassee, O’Keefe knew it would be her college home.

O’Keefe earned her undergraduate degree in business management before returning years later to pursue a master’s degree in interior design. As an undergraduate at FSU, she joined Alpha Kappa Psi, America’s oldest professional business fraternity.

“In addition to providing a social outlet, Alpha Kappa Psi connects students to the business community and teaches them how organizations work,” she said. “I made some great friends and learned so much through my involvement with that organization.”

After graduating in 1993, O’Keefe worked in retail in Atlanta for some time, then moved back to South Florida and on to

Raleigh, N.C., where she practiced marketing and public relations for five years. Eventually, she decided she wanted to pursue an advanced degree in interior design.

“I didn’t want to go somewhere that required me to earn a second bachelor’s degree in interior design before enrolling in a graduate program,” she recalls. “I wanted to pursue a master’s degree immediately.”

As fate would have it, she found that Florida State would allow her to do just that. “As soon as I discovered that FSU offered exactly what I was looking for, I was sold.”

So it was back to the place she fell in love with years ago, and her experiences this time around were just as fulfilling. She made a new family of friends and enjoyed working closely with her graduate professors in the interior design program.

One teacher in particular, Associate Professor Lisa Waxman, served as her professional mentor and personal role model. “She just seemed to have her life so

tile are manufactured.

Waxman was not the only one who influenced O’Keefe during her second stint at FSU.

“There were a lot of wonderful professors in the program,” she said, “and I was fortunate enough to develop a relationship with each one.”

O’Keefe was impressed with the one-on-one attention students received.

After earning her master’s degree in August 2003, O’Keefe chose to stay in Tallahassee and remain involved with the university and the community. She joined the FSU Alumni Association, Seminole Boosters, the University Center Club and the local chapter of ASID, which works closely with the FSU student chapter.

Now a design assistant at Sechrest Design, O’Keefe has merged her academic knowledge with her recently acquired professional experience and continues to learn more about the profession every day.

O’Keefe believes that the most rewarding aspect of practicing interior design is the wonderful feeling she gets after seeing the finished

product and knowing the client is happy. However, she also sees her fair share of challenges.

“Project management has always been the toughest part of my job, but also my greatest strength,” she said. “Making sure we order all the proper materials and line up the right people to do the project in a specified period of time takes a lot of hard work and coordination.”

It’s no surprise how successful Stacey Kirby, Peter “Gage” Hartung and Amy O’Keefe have become. This success is repeated hundreds of times each year by our other fine graduates, who work in every aspect of interior design. Many people don’t realize just how difficult a degree program they have completed. Much of the content is the same as what architects learn. Successful interior designers have to demonstrate not only aesthetic prowess but also business savvy and an extensive knowledge of building codes, engineering and construction systems, and much more. It’s certainly not just decorating!

The FSU department of interior design is one of six highly ranked academic units in the newly renamed College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance. With a revised undergraduate curriculum, fast-growing graduate program and nine full-time faculty, the department of interior design provides remarkable academic and professional preparation for the best new designers in the field.

— Sally McRorie, dean, College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance

'Seminoles' stands as unique and honored symbol

This is Part II of a two-part series on symbols, mascots and nicknames.

In my last column, I discussed the vast spectrum of names used by college and university athletic teams, from the common to the unique.

Which brings us roundabout to our own Seminole Indian symbol, unique among the thousands of American colleges and universi-



Charlie Barnes

Executive Director
Seminole Boosters

ties. Ours is always referred to as an honored symbol, never a mascot or a nickname.

While there are no other Seminoles, we are far from alone in the use of Indian symbolism for our athletic programs. Most are generic names, but some do refer to specific tribes such as the San Diego State Aztecs, the University of Illinois Illini, the Central Michigan Chippewas, the Mississippi College Choctaws and the University of North Dakota Sioux.

Twenty-six college athletic teams are called Warriors. Nine colleges call their teams the Indians, and eight more are the Braves. Three are the Redmen; there is one Tribe and

one Chieftans.

You'll not be surprised to learn that the Southeast Oklahoma State University Savages find themselves at ground zero in the Indian symbol controversy. Their teams display no Indian caricatures, but they do employ a spear symbol similar to Florida State's.

Those who attack Florida State's use of the Seminole name like to say, "People are not mascots." Well, that may be in the eye of the beholder, because it does appear that most mascots are, in fact, people. Animals, weather systems and other oddities aside, the majority of all American college and university athletic team symbols appear to be human beings of one description or another.

Lots of them refer to peoples of the British Isles or northern European origin. American culture reflects the glorious ambitions of her early immigrants and the landscape is noisily rife with college athletic teams such as the Tartans, the Scots, the Swedes, the Saxons, the Britons, the Highlanders, the Norse, the Gaels, the Northmen, the Celts, the Dutchmen. There are five other Cavaliers besides Virginia. Minutemen and Mountaineers aside, 25 colleges call their team the Knights, and an astonishing 31 identify themselves as Pioneers.

There are 14 Trojans and 18 Vikings. There are eight Cowboys: five at schools in Oklahoma, one each in Texas and Wyoming and, inexplicably, one in Louisiana.

There are plenty of "people names" here

for the politically correct crowd to dislike. College athletics features a whole shelf of Conquerors, Crusaders (27 actually), Explorers, Barons, Bombers, Patriots, Colonels, Generals, Majors, Captains, Cadets, Gentlemen, Buccaneers, Lancers, Lumberjacks (and yes, Lumberjills), Matadors, Marauders, Missionaries, Monks, Mounties, Musketeers, Canoneers, Pirates, Raiders, Rangers, Vandals, Governors, Statesmen, Senators and Swordsmen.

Essays have been written on the fruits of victory, and how the winners get to enjoy history's admiration. You recall the Peloponnesian Wars between Athens and Sparta: the conflict between the Athenians who gave us democracy and The Classical Age vs. the Spartans who personified the severe and harshly disciplined lifestyle that bears their name today. Well, in the end, the Spartans won those wars. Therefore, today 16 college athletic teams go forth proudly as the Spartans. Mount St. Mary's College of Los Angeles remains the only institution to embrace the Athenians.

We live in an era beset by an entire class of people who appear to have discovered how to make a profession out of being offended. But we are not obliged to change our lives to feed the engines of their agenda. In fact, if we are morally obliged to do anything it is to oppose the tyranny of activists who bully and browbeat those too timid to defend themselves and their institutions.

I can be offended, too; so can any of us. If I were Irish, I might be offended by the Notre Dame logo that glorifies the stereotype of drunken, brawling Irishmen. Surely, among the alumni ranks of the 10 colleges calling themselves Scots, there is at least one kilt-wearing son of the heather who will say he is offended by such use of his heritage.

As the discussion over symbolism unfolds, I'll be interested to see if Notre Dame or Oklahoma or West Virginia or Massachusetts or Michigan State or any of the other legions of American colleges and universities whose teams are represented on the field by symbols reflecting proud cultural tradition are inclined to change.

Certainly, there are alumni of Florida State University who sincerely disapprove use of the Seminoles symbol. And, I imagine there are Seminole Indians who would prefer that our university discontinue the association with their Tribe's name. We must respect those honest feelings, but those individuals are few and do not compare in numbers to the vast majority of us who support Seminoles as an honored symbol.

We who are in the majority have a responsibility to ensure respect in our use of the Seminole name, respect for all the tradition and all the symbolism. In the end, that respect is our most effective defense against efforts to dismiss one of the most honorable, noble and recognizable symbols in college athletics today.

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NEWS NOTES
ALUMNI

Compiled by Kathy Harvey and Sarah Broz

Got News?
To submit items for Alumni News Notes, e-mail kharvey@mailers.fsu.edu. Please write "Alumni News Notes" in the subject heading of the e-mail.

1965
Nancy S. Dale (B.A.) has written the article "Pioneer Cow Hunter Bobby Roberts: Building a Ranch in the Heart of the Everglades," published in *The Florida Cattleman* and wrote the short story "The Tattered Flag" published in "The Treasure Coast Writers Guild Anthology."
Terry E. Lewis (B.A., M.A. '66, J.D. '78) was named among the "Legal Elite" by *Florida Trend* magazine, July 2005. The magazine publishes a list of the top 1.7 percent of the the state's legal leaders named by their peers.

1970
A.J. "Jim" Spalla (J.D.) was named among the "Legal Elite" by *Florida Trend* magazine, July 2005. The magazine publishes a list of the top 1.7 percent of the the state's legal leaders named by their peers.

1972
Miranda Franks Fitzgerald (B.A., J.D. '78) was selected as one of the "Best Lawyers" in the area of environmental law by *The Best Lawyers in America* 2005-2006.

1973
Linda Losik Speranza (B.S.) received the Bureau of Health Professions' Associate Administrator Achievement Award in recognition of outstanding leadership and achievements in supporting basic nursing education.

1974
Marilyn Miller Patterson (B.A.) was promoted to professor of psychology and sociology at Lindenwood University, St. Charles, Mo.

1976
Diahann E. Lassus (B.S.) is celebrating the 20th anniversary of Lassus Wherley, her wealth-management firm.

1993
Dr. Ronald L. Katz (B.S.) joined Kawa and Nicolas Orthodontics LLP, where he will specialize in preventive, reconstructive and emergency care surgery to address diseases and

trauma of the teeth, mouth, jaw and facial structures, Boca Raton, Fla.

1994
Robert "Joe" Grass (B.S.) was promoted to banking officer of BB&T, Jacksonville.

1996
Rosalyn Sia Baker-Barnes (B.A., J.D. '00) has been elected president of the West Palm Beach Chapter of The Links, which is a national community service organization.
Jeremy N. Jungreis (J.D.) wrote the article "Permit Me Another Drink: A Proposal for Safeguarding the Water Rights of Federal Lands in the Regulated Riparian East," published in *Harvard's Environmental Law Review* Vol. 29, No. 2, summer.

1999
Edrick E. Barnes (B.S.) was elected president of the F. Malcolm Cunningham Sr. Bar Association, West Palm Beach, Fla.

2004
Philip Frost (M.S.) is teaching and coaching football and soccer at Chipley High School, and writes reviews of prep football games for the Washington County News, Chipley, Fla.

2005
Theodore E. Thornhill (M.S.) was hired as the assistant director of graduate admissions at the American International College, Springfield, Mass.

Marjorie Mowlam



Marjorie "Mo" Mowlam

Marjorie "Mo" Mowlam, 55, a former high-ranking British politician and FSU professor in the late 1970s, died in August. Mowlam, who rose to the rank of Britain's Northern Ireland secretary, is credited with helping negotiate the Good Friday peace settlement in 1998. She retired from politics in 2001.

Mowlam was an assistant professor of government at FSU from 1977 to 1980. "She was a gutsy lady," said FSU President Emeritus Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte.

"It is no exaggeration to say she transformed the politics not just of Northern Ireland itself, but crucially of relations between the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom," said British Prime Minister Tony Blair in *The New York Times*. "And it was this transformation that created the culture in which peace-making could flourish."

IN MEMORIAM

1920-1929
Eleanor Curry Grace (L.I. '29)

1930-1939
Lois Ostlund Clark Allsworth (B.S. '34,M.S. '55), Florence Devine Chapman (B.A. '36), Shirley Stevens Glenn (B.S. '37), Mary Burgoon Licari (B.S. '37),

1940-1949
Dorothy Ross Cherry (B.S. '40), Louise DeVore (B.S. '40), Iris Ida Sperber Whitney (B.A. '42), Bettye Burch Atkinson ('44), Grace Fain (B.S. '45), Kathleen Craig Fox (B.A. '46), Louise "Bookie" McMichael Galloway (B.S. '47)

1950-1959
Ernest P. Maney (M.A. '52), Mildred Allison Love (M.S. '53), Judge John T. Ware (B.S. '57), Patricia Hill Jackson ('58)

1960-1969
Jane Kelly Shearer (Ph.D. '60), Donna Ashling Stuart (B.S. '63), James R. Laird Jr. (B.S. '65), Rene H. Gross (B.S. '68), J. Bob Humphries (B.S. '68, J.D. '71)

1970-1979
Hubert D. Foster (M.M. '70), Jerry E. Rowe (B.A. '73), Gabriele M. Pietsch (B.F.A. '75), Michael T. "Gus" Gostomski (B.S. '76), Wayne K. Lynch (B.S. '78),

1980-1989
Dr. Robert Lewis Brown ('81), Geraldine "Gigi" Elana Traina (B.S.N. '87), Mary Eleanor Day (M.S. '88), Virginia Kay Cole Sharp (M.S. '88)

1990-1999
Patrick K. Murphy (M.S. '95), Scott R. McRae (J.D. '96)

2000-2005
Andromeda M. Spencer ('05), Viquilla R. Troupe ('05), Alana C. Williams ('05)

FACULTY AND STAFF
Dorothy M. Butz, Deroderick Green, Clemetine Reese Hayes, Sheryl Linda Holt Pelt

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Voth has found rewarding adventure volunteering in Africa

By Bayard Stern
Managing Editor

At times, Jenni Voth's work can overwhelm her. After all, she's only human.

Voth, who has met thousands of West Africans in dire need of medical attention, is a volunteer for Mercy Ships, a charity organization that operates a fleet of three hospital ships that visit developing and war-ravaged nations and offers free medical care and long-term development help.

She has worked in more than 20 countries, including some of the poorest in the world.

"Currently, I teach adult literacy in villages in West Africa," Voth said from South Africa, where her ship was in dry dock for repairs. "I just finished working in Liberia. What we try to do as an organization, or my little subpart, is we train the people that are there. My team trains 11 teachers in adult literacy, and then we model a class for them so they can continue it when we leave."

The primary mission of Mercy Ships is to give people medical treatment on its floating hospitals, and promote Christianity. The surgeries it offers include cataract, orthopedic, and cleft-lip and palate, and women's reproductive health issues. It does not charge for its services or require people to convert.

The ship will go to a country and usually dock for seven to eight months without leaving. When the ship first arrives in a country, the volunteers conduct a two-day medical

screening clinic where people come and try to schedule an appointment for treatment or surgery.

"We see thousands of people at the screenings," Voth said. "A lot of them have traveled for days to see us, but they have problems that we can't help with. We're very specialized in our surgeries, so you have to tell a lot of people 'No.' So those two days can be very intense. And seeing those masses of people needing help, it's very easy to get overwhelmed. But I enjoy it and my experiences have mostly been very rewarding."

The people who volunteer on the Mercy Ships do not get paid, and in fact, have to contribute money every month toward the ships' operating expenses. Voth performed many jobs on the Anastassis before teaching adult literacy. During a two-year period, she instructed new volunteers on the ship and led teams into countries. For three years, she was a chaplain on the ship.

"We have 350 to 400 crew on the ship," she said. "We usually have volunteers from 35 different nations, so it can be very challenging for everyone to get along sometimes. I was in 'member care.' I did some counseling, and teaching and training, but I focused more on the crew on board, so they could function. People go through a lot here, and see a lot of things they've never seen before, so helping in that area is important, and rewarding as well."

"We don't promote a specific denomination of Christianity, which I like. Some people on board like to debate these things, but I feel



Above, The Anastassis. Far right, Jenni Voth teaching literacy.

it's more important to teach the basic teachings to others. My main reason for doing it is to share the love of God with people. But I really like this organization because they don't force it on anyone."

Being a volunteer in impoverished countries wasn't Voth's plan while in college. She graduated from FSU in 1986 with a degree in restaurant and hospitality administration.

"I enjoyed FSU and the campus a lot," she said. "I made some wonderful friends with whom I still keep in touch. My sister went to FSU. My junior year, I did the program in Switzerland, and Ashby Stiff (retired associate professor of hospitality administration) went with us. It was a blast. I still have a little bit of a connection with FSU, even though it's been almost 20 years now."

After Voth graduated from FSU, she had



no idea that she would be a volunteer in West Africa.

"I worked for Marriott for five years, and managed restaurants for them in the Tampa area, and then, working in other Marriott divisions. From there, I went into retail management and worked for William Sonoma for five years. Then, I learned about Mercy Ships."

After six years with Mercy Ships, Voth is considering a change. She has agreed, however, to volunteer for one more year.

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Make your gift count: strategies for year-end giving

The end of the year is a time to reflect upon the past and anticipate all that the future holds. It also is an excellent time to consider the advantages of year-end giving.



Camille Anderson Licklider
Senior Director
Planned Giving
FSU Foundation

Completing a charitable gift by Dec. 31 demonstrates your commitment to making a difference through helping others — and can reduce your federal and state income taxes in the current tax year. In addition, by making a gift to the FSU CONNECT Campaign, you demonstrate your commitment to the students and faculty of Florida State University.

Consider the following strategies as you map your charitable and financial goals for this year.

First Things First
To begin, make a list of the causes you would like to support. Depending on your resources, you may want to narrow that list to charitable organizations with the greatest needs or those for which you have the most passion.

To determine your tax liability, calculate

your income. If, for example, you sold appreciated assets this calendar year, or if for any other reason you may owe a larger-than-normal tax bill, move some of your anticipated giving for next year forward to create a larger deduction this year.

If you don't regularly itemize, you might try "grouping" your gifts in alternate years so that you can take advantage of an itemized tax return at least every other year. Prepaying pledges is one way to accomplish this, as a pledge is deductible in the year it is paid.

Last but not least, be sure to consult with your accountant or other financial adviser. These experts are in the best position to assist you in determining your tax liability and obtaining all deductions that are allowed by the Internal Revenue Code.

Assets and Needs
Cash, real estate, personal property and stocks are among the most popular charitable gifts; gifts of appreciated property that have been owned for more than a year offer special tax breaks.

Depending on the gift, you are generally

eligible for a charitable income tax deduction that can range as high as 30 percent to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. If appreciated property is used to make a gift, you can first claim a charitable deduction based on the property's fair market value and then avoid paying capital gains taxes on the appreciation.

Even property that has lost value can provide you with tax advantages. By selling the devalued asset and donating the proceeds, you can claim a loss on your taxes and receive a charitable deduction.

Many people would like to make a charitable gift, but need the security of an income. If this sounds familiar, a life income gift may fulfill your needs.

The tax benefits can be outstanding, and you'll receive regular payments for life. As you may recall, the article that was published last month highlighted the Charitable Remainder Trust — an excellent giving vehicle for donors who are using real estate to make their gift.

Watch the Calendar
A gift's delivery date determines the year of deduction, so if your year-end giving

is about to live up to its name, make sure you have enough time to transfer the gift — especially if you are donating non-cash assets such as real estate or stocks.

With checks, the mailing date is the delivery date.

If you are giving irrevocable stock power and have arranged for the certificate to be reissued in the name of a charitable organization, delivery is effective on the date the security is postmarked or physically delivered to the charitable organization.


In other words, if your broker is making an electronic ("wire") transfer of stock to the FSU Foundation, the gift is not completed until the asset actually arrives in the FSU Foundation account.

It is in your best interest to follow up with your broker to make sure the transfer that you requested takes place prior to Dec. 31. To play it safe, give early.

The staff in the Office of Planned Giving stands ready to answer any questions you may have about making a year-end gift to Florida State University.

In addition, we encourage you to consider participating in the FSU CONNECT Campaign by making a gift prior to Dec. 31. For additional information about the Campaign, visit our Web site at www.fsu-connect.com.

To reach the planned giving staff, call (850) 644-3192, or e-mail plannedgiving@foundation.fsu.edu.



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FSU represented my first big challenge. It was a test. Passing this test prepared me for a future that I would never have expected. It also represented a door to the wonderful possibilities that have grown in my life. It is my pleasure to pass this key to future Seminoles from all over the world.

Jane Marks, B.S. in Arts and Sciences

Seminole name prevails in face of NCAA challenge

By Bayard Stern
Managing Editor

Florida State University students, faculty, alumni and friends shared a collective gasp on Aug. 5. The news quickly spread that FSU would have to defend its use of Seminole symbolism because of a new policy adopted by the National Collegiate Athletics Association banning schools that used Native American names and symbols from hosting NCAA championship events.

FSU President T.K. Wetherell, supported by the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the university community at large, immediately responded. He argued that the university should be exempted from the policy because of the efforts it has made for nearly three decades in cultivating and maintaining a close relationship with the Seminole Tribe of Florida. He also pointed to the tribe's support of the university's use of its name. Prior to the NCAA's initial ruling, in fact, FSU had an important meeting with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

On June 17, Wetherell, the first FSU president to be invited to a Seminole Tribal Council meeting, received a resolution from the tribe. The resolution read, in part, that the "Seminole Tribe of Florida has an established relationship supporting FSU's use of the name 'Seminole,' as well as various Seminole symbols and images."

Wetherell expressed his appreciation for the gesture.

"That they chose to go on record and formally reaffirm that they trust us to be good stewards of their name and traditions is humbling," Wetherell said.

Just two months later, the NCAA announced its ruling, which shocked the Seminole faithful as well as many impartial ob-

use of Native American mascots, names and imagery at NCAA championships will be reviewed," wrote the NCAA. "The first review under that process resulted in the removal of Florida State University from a list of universities and colleges that are subject to those restrictions. ... The staff review committee not-

forever be the 'Florida State Seminoles' as long as we have the support of the Seminole Tribe of Florida," he continued.

"We are most thankful to the Tribal Council and all members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida for their continued support as well as their recent public efforts to create better understanding of our relationship."

FSU, in its continuing mission to educate the public about the Seminoles, has developed an online document that highlights the history, images and traditions associated with FSU's use of Seminole symbolism.

"The Florida State Seminoles: A Tradition of Tribute" is available by going to www.fsu.com and clicking on the link titled "FSU and The Seminole Tribe of Florida." The page provides details on the evolving images of American Indians; how FSU's campus became a learning ground with regard to Florida's Seminoles; the genesis of the Osceola and Renegade symbols; a Seminole timeline at FSU; and questions and answers about the Seminole tradition at the university.

"I thought it would be a good idea for us to have a source of information that Seminole fans and the entire university community could visit to learn more about the history and traditions of the Seminole Tribe itself and of its relationship to FSU," said Frank Murphy, assistant vice president and director of University Communications. "There is a narrative that tells you how we adapted the name and why, and a question-and-answer portion of the page, as well as a chronology."



Seminole Tribe of Florida Chairman Mitchell Cypress and FSU President T.K. Wetherell on the set of Wetherell's "Issues in Education," which is produced by WFSU-TV.

FSU Photo Lab / Michele Edmunds

servers around the country.

Under enormous pressure, just 13 days after the ruling, the NCAA set up an appeals process, and FSU was first in line. Less than a week later, the NCAA made the announcement that Seminole supporters everywhere hoped to hear: FSU was to be exempted from the new policy on hostile or abusive names.

"The NCAA Executive Committee approved a process Aug. 18 by which colleges and universities subject to restrictions on the

ed the unique relationship between the university and the Seminole Tribe of Florida as a significant factor."

Wetherell, who took a public and aggressive stance in defending FSU, immediately commented on the NCAA's decision.

"I am pleased to inform you that the 'unconquered Seminole' spirit has prevailed," Wetherell said in a special e-postcard sent to more than 200,000 FSU supporters.

"The NCAA decision means that we will



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