

Major Notes

Send it in: *Millsaps Magazine* would like you to know that its Major Notes policy has changed. The magazine is now printing only information sent in specifically for Major Notes. In the past, material was gleaned from newspaper clippings and other sources. The change was made to protect the privacy of alumni and to simplify the editing process. We would like to encourage all alumni to send in their news items, whether big or small, personal or professional, to Tanya Newkirk, Major Notes Editor, Office of Alumni Relations, Millsaps College, 1701 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39210-0001. Fax: 601-974-1088. Phone: 601-974-1038 or 1-866-MILLSAPS (1-866-455-7277). Email: alumni@millsaps.edu. Please include your name, address, phone numbers, email address, graduation year and degree, and any news you want to share. Appropriate items include births, weddings, advanced degrees, awards, job promotions, etc. Photographs are also welcome. If you are aware of alumni who are not receiving the magazine, please send us their names and addresses.

1959

Dr. Jesse (Joe) O. Snowden Jr., B.S. 1959, of Kingston, Okla., was named interim president of Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant in January 2006. Prior to this, he served as vice president for academic affairs at the university, a position he has held since 1999. Snowden began his career in higher education in 1962 as a geology instructor at Millsaps. While at the University of New Orleans from 1969 to 1990, he served in a number of capacities, including professor of geology, director of graduate studies in the department of geology and geophysics, and chair of the department. He was the dean of the College of Science and Technology at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau from 1990 to 1996. From 1996 to 1999, he served as dean of the College of Science and Engineering Technology at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock.

1962



Dr. Willard (Billy) S. Moore, B.S. 1962, of Hopkins, S.C., was elected in winter 2006 as one of 45 fellows for the American Geophysical Union (AGU), an international organization

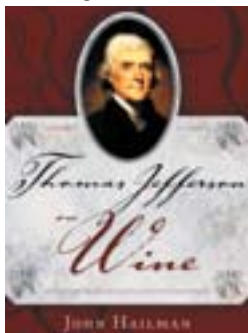
of more than 40,000 earth, ocean, atmospheric, and planetary scientists. Moore was installed in May 2006 at the AGU General Assembly in Baltimore. He was selected for his innovative development and application of natural radionuclides as tracers of geochemical processes in the ocean and at the land-ocean boundary. In 1999, he received the B.H. Ketchum Award from the Woods Hole Oceanographic

Institution. He received the Education Foundation Research Award from the University of South Carolina in 1993. Moore is distinguished professor emeritus and research professor at the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

1964

Dr. Stewart A. Ware, B.S. 1964, of Williamsburg, Va., received the Thomas Jefferson Medal for Outstanding Contributions to Natural Science from the Virginia Museum of Natural History in May 2006. A plant ecologist and professor of biology at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Ware was cited for more than three decades of research and more than two dozen publications on the plant communities of Virginia and other portions of the mid-Atlantic region. He has also served as president of the Virginia Academy of Science and editor-in-chief of *The Journal of Torrey Botanical Society*, the oldest botanical journal in the Western Hemisphere.

1965



John R. Hailman, B.A. 1965, of Oxford is the author of *Thomas Jefferson on Wine*, published by the University Press of Mississippi in November 2006. Using excerpts from the

third president's travel journals and letters to his friends and wine merchants, the book explores how Jefferson became the greatest wine expert of the early American republic. Hailman is a trial attorney and adjunct professor of law and literature at the University of Mississippi School of

Law in Oxford. For more than a decade, he wrote a wine column that appeared in *The Washington Post* and in syndication with Gannett News Service. He has served as a judge at numerous international wine competitions for more than 20 years.

Patsy R. Ricks, B.A. 1965, of Jackson is the co-author of *Cicero: De Amicitia Selections*, a Latin reader for Advanced Placement high school students as well as college students. Written with Dr. Sheila K. Dickinson, associate provost and director of the honors program at the University of Florida, the textbook was published by Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers in September 2006. Ricks teaches Latin courses, including AP Vergil and AP Latin Literature, at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Madison. She is also the owner of the online travel business Inside Italy Tours, through which she offers group and self-guided tours to destinations such as Venice and Sicily. Through the Millsaps Enrichment Series, she teaches classes on Italian travel, wine, food, culture, history, and art.

1966

Dr. Rodney J. Bartlett, B.S. 1966, of Gainesville, Fla., received the 2007 American Chemical Society Award in Theoretical Chemistry at a ceremony held during the organization's 233rd national meeting in Chicago in March 2007. Sponsored by the IBM Corporation, the prestigious international award is presented to a scientist who has accomplished innovative research in theoretical chemistry that either advances theoretical methodologies or contributes to new discoveries about chemical systems. It is now widely agreed that the many-body methods for electron correlation that Bartlett has pioneered offer the most predictive and generally applicable

approaches in the field. He is graduate research professor of chemistry and physics at the University of Florida.

1974

Dr. Elaine M. Coney, B.A. 1974, of Magnolia received the 2006–07 Humanities Teacher Award from the Mississippi Humanities Council in October. The award is given annually to one professor at each institution of higher learning in the state. Coney teaches English composition, first- and second-level Spanish, and emergency medical and conversational Spanish at Southwest Mississippi Community College (SMCC) in Summit. She is a member of the Modern Language Association, the National Council of Teachers of English, the American Association of Teachers of French, and the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing. Coney has received numerous awards for her achievements in higher education, including the SMCC Humanities Instructor of the Year Award in 1994–95 and the Mississippi Foreign Language Association's Distinguished Service Award in 1998. She has frequently been listed in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, *Who's Who of American Women*, and *Who's Who in American Education*. In honor of her award, she presented a public lecture on Oct. 24 at SMCC entitled "A Need for Service Languages: Let's Speak Spanish." In her lecture, Coney asserted that more translators and interpreters are needed in the court system, hospitals, and clinics due to the high number of Hispanics living in Mississippi counties.

1977



Dr. Margaret W. McCarty, B.A. 1977, of Laurel, Md., was selected as the first lay president of the Education Parish Service by the EPS Board of Trustees in January 2006.

To find alumni online, log on to MyMillsaps.com

The Millsaps alumni online community makes it easy for alumni to stay in touch with classmates and their alma mater. Access to the online community is a password-protected benefit exclusively for Millsaps alumni. Registered users enjoy a number of services, including an online search for other alumni and permanent email forwarding, which allows alumni to receive email no matter how many times their addresses change. An online calendar alerts alumni to upcoming events on and off campus, enabling graduates to stay informed. Alumni can also report changes in their addresses and personal information. If you would like additional information or if you have questions or comments about the online community, please email us at alumni@millsaps.edu or call 1-86-MILLSAPS.

A Catholic organization that operates in four U.S. dioceses, EPS teaches adults the foundations of faith, provides practical ministry training, and fosters spiritual development. McCarty brings to the position a broad range of professional experience in church ministry, ministry training, and development. From 1996–2007, she served as director of development at the Good Shepherd Center, a residential treatment center in Baltimore for teenage girls with severe emotional and behavioral problems and learning disabilities. She has also served as program specialist with the U.S. Catholic Conference's Department of Education, executive director of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, and in a volunteer capacity on many church-related boards. In addition to lecturing and conducting workshops across the United States, McCarty has held adjunct and visiting faculty appointments at institutes such as Loyola University's Institute for Ministry in New Orleans and Broken Bay Institute in New South Wales, Australia.

1980

Dr. Ann B. (Bishop) Burke, B.S. 1980, of Silver Spring, Md., has been named the first medical director of obstetrics and gynecology at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring.

1981

Chris S. Brunt, B.M. 1981, of Dallas performed a recital at Perkins Chapel at Southern Methodist University in

September 2006. In May, he performed at The Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Dallas. He serves as music associate-organist at Highland Park United Methodist Church.

1983

Rhonda Elizabeth Jones, B.B.A. 1983, M.B.A. 1989, and Fredrick A. (Arthur) Acklie of Franklin, Tenn., were married on Oct. 21, 2006, in Chattanooga. **Phyllis P. (Pfanschmidt) Gay**, B.A. 1983, served as a bridesmaid, and **Cordelia Douzenis Zinskie**, B.A. 1983, was the soloist. Other Millsaps alumni in attendance were **Marie N. (Nation) Becker**, B.S. 1983, **Dan Columbus**, B.S. 1983, **Margo T. (Templeton) Columbus**, B.A. 1983, and **Anita A. (Addington) Weber**, B.A. 1983. Jones is an informatics analyst with MedSolutions in Franklin.

1984

Dr. Benjamin R. Wynne, B.B.A. 1984, of Watkinsville, Ga., is the author of *Mississippi's Civil War: A Narrative History*, published by Mercer University Press in November 2006. Beginning with an overview of the socio-political climate of the state during the 1850s, the book covers the pivotal events, issues, and personalities of the period. Wynne signed copies of the book at Lemuria Books in Jackson on Nov. 25, 2006. He is an assistant professor of history at Gainesville State College in Georgia.

1985

Jo Watson Hackl, B.A. 1985, of Greenville, S.C., was chosen in early 2007 as one of 20 Liberty Fellows. The Liberty Fellowship is a statewide initiative that seeks to promote outstanding leadership in South Carolina. The 2008 class was chosen from more than 100 nominees from the business, government, and nonprofit sectors. The fellows participate in a two-year program consisting of four advanced leadership seminars held at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., and the Aspen Institute in Colorado. Each fellow also completes an individual community service project

under the direction of experienced moderators and mentors. Hackl is an attorney with Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham P.A. in Greenville. She has served as a board member of The Peace Center for the Performing Arts, The Community Foundation of Greenville, The Emrys Foundation, and the Legal Services Agency of Western Carolina. She is also a past president of the Greenville County Bar Association. Hackl received her J.D. from Yale Law School, where she was an editor of the *Yale Law Journal*.

1986

Dr. Jeffrey D. Crout, B.S. 1986, of Canton is a pediatrician and associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

Macky (Mitch) R. Mitchell Jr., B.E. 1986, of Hazlehurst was named *The Daily Leader's* 2006 Area Co-Coach of the Year for Lincoln, Lawrence, Copiah, and Franklin Counties for the second consecutive year. The athletics director and elementary school principal at Copiah Academy, Mitchell has served as head football coach of the Copiah Colonels for the past three years, during which time he has compiled a 29-9 record. In November, he coached the Colonels to win the Mississippi Private School Association Class AA State Football Championship. Mitchell also coaches the varsity girls and boys basketball teams at the school.

1989

W. C. (Chris) Crosby, B.B.A. 1989, and Caroline Taylor Johnson of Memphis were

married Oct. 14, 2006, in Memphis. He is the vice president of private equity with Dobbs Management Services, LLC. She is the development and community relations associate at the Memphis Child Advocacy Center and is pursuing an M.S. in social work at the University of Tennessee.

1990

John F. Hawkins, B.A. 1990, of Jackson was elected in June 2005 to serve as president of the Mississippi Trial Lawyers Association for 2006–07. He is an attorney with Baria, Hawkins & Stracener PLLC. He is also a guitarist and vocalist for Men of Leisure, a roots rock, soul, and funk band. To learn more about the band and listen to song clips, visit www.molmusic.com.

Dr. Melissa C. Lang, 1990, and Harold E. Wilson of Marietta, Ga., are the parents of Campbell Lang, born July 25, 2006. He has two sisters, Christina and Candice. Melissa is a licensed child psychologist and co-founder of the Center for Psychological and Educational Assessment in Atlanta. Harold is the owner of Georgia Classic Restorations, which specializes in restoring pre-1970s Ford Mustangs and Thunderbirds.



Dr. Sharon L. Stephenson, B.S. 1990, of Gettysburg, Pa., was awarded a three-year grant from the National Science Foundation in October 2006.

The funding will support her research in fundamental neutron physics at Gettysburg College and in Snezhinsk, Russia. She is an associate professor of physics at Gettysburg, where she received the Thompson Distinguished Teaching Award in 2004.

1991

Dr. Andrew J. Velkey II, B.S. 1991, of Newport News, Va., was elected in December 2006 as an associate director of Sigma Xi, the international honor society of science and engineering. He will represent the society's mid-Atlantic region, which includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. Velkey is an associate professor of psychology at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, where he teaches courses in statistics, psychological research methods, and animal learning. He is the primary facilitator for Café Scientifique, an informal gathering of scientists and the public in the Tidewater area to discuss developments in science and technology. He is a member of Project Kaleidoscope's Faculty for the 21st Century, a diverse group of educators who lead a national alliance working to build a strong learning environment for undergraduate students. Velkey is the past president of the Tidewater chapter of Sigma Xi and currently serves as its membership chair. Sigma Xi, which has more than 65,000 members and more than 500 chapters in North America and abroad, publishes the award-winning *American Scientist* magazine, and sponsors a variety of programs that support science and engineering.

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Kelly A. (Bricker) Webb, B.B.A. 1991, of St. Petersburg, Fla., is the business development manager for WhiteHall Products, Inc., in Tampa. The company specializes in marketing, designing, and distributing plastic packaging products.

I 992



Shawn L. (Shelton) Barrick, B.S. 1992, of Brandon competed in the Ice Skating Institute's Adult Figure Skating Championships in September 2006. She received first

place in the Freestyle 1 Solo Compulsories event, third place in the Figures 1 event, and fourth place in the Freestyle 1 event. She is a financial analyst for Verizon Business in Clinton.

W. W. (Wilson) Day, B.B.A. 1992, of Jackson is the retirement services director for the business insurance broker Fox Everett, Inc.

I 994

David C. Armistead, B.S. 1994, and Laura R. Armistead of Birmingham are the parents of Whitman James, born Nov. 14, 2006. He has two brothers, Dean and Ethan.

Laura Santoro Flynn, B.B.A. 1994, and James K. (Kevin) Flynn of Birmingham are the parents of Sutton Anne, born May 13, 2006. She has one sister, Merritt.

I 995

Russell (Russ) E. Hawkins Jr., B.B.A. 1995, and Michelle H. Hawkins of Jackson announce the birth of their daughter, Meredith Callaway, on Sept. 29, 2006. Russ is an owner of the contracting firm Valcorp LLC in Pearl, where he is a general contractor and construction manager. Michelle is the director of interior design for JBHM Architects in Jackson.

The Rev. Steven (Rusty) Paul Keen, B.A. 1995, of Amory was hired as the program coordinator for the Gilmore Early Learning Initiative in January 2007. The initiative seeks to improve the state of early childhood education in Monroe County. An ordained member of the United Methodist clergy, Keen was most recently appointed minister of discipleship at First United Methodist Church in Amory and program staff person to the Tupelo District of the Mississippi United Methodist Annual Conference.

I 996

Carrie C. (Coker) Blount, B.A. 1996, and Dr. Philip Blount of Ridgeland are the parents of Bailey Lamar, born Jan. 17, 2007. She has one sister, Kimberly. Carrie is a full-time mother, and Philip is a physician with the University Rehabilitation Center at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

Amy R. Harden, B.A. 1996, and Kyle I. Cannon of Memphis were married Oct. 28, 2006, in Nesbit. She is an attorney with Apperson, Crump & Maxwell PLC in Memphis. He is an attorney with Glassman, Edwards, Wade & Wyatt PC.

Michael (Mike) D. Tagert, B.S. 1996, and **Dr. Mary Love (Mortimer) Tagert**, B.S. 1998, of Starkville announce the birth of their daughter, Ellen Frances, on Sept. 5, 2006. Mike is the director of the Bureau of Plant Industry, a regulatory and service division of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Mary Love received a Ph.D. in agricultural and environmental science from Mississippi State University in May 2006. She is an assistant research professor with the Mississippi Water Resources Institute.

I 997

Michael B. Hixson, B.A. 1997, of Stuttgart, Germany, joined the international products liability defense firm Lungershausen & Smith in Boeblingen as an associate in January 2007. He focuses on global

products liability defense for the automotive industry. He is a member of the New York State Bar Association and the Bar Association of Stuttgart.

Dr. Dana L. Roe, B.S. 1997, of Flowood completed a pediatric residency at Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock in June 2006. She is a pediatrician with Rankin Children's Group in Brandon.

I 998

Michael R. Highfill, B.S. 1998, and Tina Lynn Highfill of Madison are the parents of Avery Brooke, born Dec. 29, 2006. She has twin sisters, Ashley and Lindsey, and one brother, Michael Jr.

I 999

Elizabeth (Betsy) Vandiver Allison, B.A. 1999, and James B. (Bryan) Allison Jr. of Arlington, Tenn., announce the birth of their son, James Caldwell, on May 31, 2006. Betsy is a diabetes specialist with the Memphis branch of the pharmaceutical corporation Eli Lilly & Co. Bryan is a senior consultant with the international accounting firm Deloitte & Touche LLP, based at the Memphis branch.

Misty A. Leon, B.A. 1999, of Austin, Texas, is an associate with the law firm Vinson & Elkins LLP.

Catherine (Cassie) A. Sheldon, B.A. 1999, of Atlanta received the Northwestern Mutual Best Master's Thesis Award on Nov. 9, 2006, at the Institute for Public Relations' Annual Distinguished Lecture & Awards Dinner in New York City. She earned her master's degree from the University of Georgia's Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communications in May 2006. Her thesis, "Image Repair on the Political Front: An Experiment Testing Effects of Communication Strategy and Performance History in a Political Faux Pas," suggests that a politician's choice of communication strategy in a self-imposed crisis is more important to the public than his or her actual record on the issue.

The best master's thesis competition was judged by a panel of senior-level public relations practitioners and academics. The Institute for Public Relations is an independent nonprofit organization that exists to build and document the intellectual foundations of public relations and to make that knowledge available to practitioners, educators, researchers, and client organizations. Northwestern Mutual, longtime sponsor of the Best Master's Thesis Award, is the nation's largest direct provider of individual life insurance. Sheldon is a health communications specialist for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

2000

Sandi (Pullen) Beason, B.A. 2000, of Byram is the copy editor for nondaily publications of *The Clarion-Ledger* in Jackson. She edits five newspapers (*The Madison County Herald*, *Rankin Ledger*, *The Clinton News*, *Northeast Ledger*, and *Hinds Ledger*) and three magazines (*Mississippi Kids*, *50 Plus Lifestyles*, and *VIP*) for grammar, style, content, and design. She is married to Mark Beason, the editor of *Mississippi Outdoors* magazine.



Kevin J. McMahon, B.A. 2000, of Hattiesburg and Jessica McMahon announce the birth of their son, Carter

John-Patrick, on Aug. 30, 2006. Kevin is a cultural resources and survey specialist for Environmental Management Services, Inc., in Hattiesburg. Jessica is a full-time mother.

2003

Marcus D. Hill, M.B.A. 2003, of Canton placed first in a harness race at Cooper Downs in Terry on Sept. 30, 2006. He won with a five-year-old trotter that he bred named All B Good.

2005

Scott W. Colom, B.A. 2005, of Madison, Wis., is pursuing a law degree at the University of Wisconsin Law School in Madison. From August 2005 to May 2006, he was a volunteer teacher with WorldTeach, a nonprofit organization based at the Center for International Development at Harvard University. WorldTeach provides opportunities for individuals to contribute

to international education by living and working in developing countries. While participating in the program, Colom taught English grammar, style, and creative writing to 12- to 18-year-olds in Guyana, South America. In July 2006, he served as an intern with the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania.

2006

Theon L. Johnson III, B.S. 2006, of Washington, D.C., was elected co-chair of the United Methodist Board of Discipleship's Division on Ministries with Young People in August 2006. Approved by the 2004 General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the division models a global community with 17 representatives from 11 countries other than the United States. Johnson is currently working with members and staff in structuring, planning, and implementing events. He is a first-year master of divinity student at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington.

Millsaps Family Reunion Portrait Homecoming 2007

Does your family have three or more generations of Millsaps graduates? If so, please complete the form below, starting with your earliest family member who graduated from Millsaps (for example, Reuben Millsaps, 1890, founder).

(We will take Millsaps family group portraits in the Bowl at Homecoming 2007.)

1. Name: _____ Graduation year: _____ Your relationship: _____

2. Name: _____ Graduation year: _____ Your relationship: _____

3. Name: _____ Graduation year: _____ Your relationship: _____

Your contact information:

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please return this form to: Vernon King, Millsaps College, 1701 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39210-0001