Meet the Blanchards:
Building the Foundation for a Second Century of Success
The *Aeolian* is published by the Division of University Relations at Georgia Southwestern State University.

The name Aeolian derives from Aeolus, appointed by the mythological god Zeus to be the keeper of the winds -- both to calm and to arouse them. He was the King of the Aeolian Islands.

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The Panama Canal Cruise with Continuing Ed

The Division of Continuing Education is sponsoring a travel tour and alumni are invited and encouraged to participate. The departure date is March 31, 2008, and participants will spend 12 days aboard Holland America's MS Volendam touring some of the Caribbean's most beautiful destinations. Featured locations include a cruise of the Panama Canal, Gatun Lake, Half Moon Cay and Limon and Manzanillo Bay. Cost starts at $3,284. Call (229) 931-2151 for more information or to request a brochure.

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"On The Cover"— Georgia Southwestern’s 10th President Kendall A. Blanchard, Ph.D. and his wife Connie G. Blanchard, Ph.D.
Georgia Southwestern’s future growth thanks in large part to alumni and friends

I assumed my role as Interim President here at Georgia Southwestern on January 2, 2007. Six months later, at the June meeting of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, I was named the permanent President and have been working hard ever since to earn the trust shown by the Board and the many other individuals who have supported me.

Georgia Southwestern has been variously described as a “hidden jewel,” “best kept secret,” or “sleeping giant.” I am not sure if any of these descriptors is appropriate. However, I do know that the University has vast untapped potential. I am confident that with the right plan, a lot of hard work, and a little luck, Georgia Southwestern can become much larger and better known, with a widespread reputation for quality education, outstanding students, and successful graduates.

The potential that is Georgia Southwestern is not a product of chance. It is in many ways the result of all the contributions, success, and support of those among our friends and our alumni, those who have left the University but not forgotten it. Similar to any college or university, GSW’s friends and alumni are its most important resources. I realize that if GSW is to accomplish the lofty goals it has set for itself, it needs the support of its friends and those who have attended the institution and still hold it in high regard. For that reason, it is my intention to make friend-raising and alumni relations priorities of my administration.

What that means at the moment remains unclear. We are still hashing out the details of our long-term strategic plan. Underlying almost everything we do over the next few years is the ambition to grow. We are planning now to increase our enrollment in the Fall of 2008 by 10 percent, which is about 250 students. In order to make that happen we are moving forward on a variety of fronts and calling on everyone to help us. This is where you come in.

We need your help in identifying potential GSW students. If you know high school juniors or seniors who are looking for a University to attend subsequent to their graduation from high school, please send us their names and addresses, ideally their e-mail addresses. Likewise, if you know of students who are working on an associates degree at a two-year school and are interested in pursuing a baccalaureate degree, we would also like to have their names and contact information.

Meanwhile, we also would want to make sure we have your correct address, in particular, your e-mail address. We are trying to build an up-to-date e-list of all our friends and alumni with an eye toward creating and distributing a regular e-mail newsletter. We want to keep you posted on what is happening here at the University. Please call the Alumni Office 866-673-0436, go online at www.gsw.edu and make any changes necessary to your address, or send the information to president@canes.gsw.edu.

I cannot tell you how proud I am to be the President of Georgia Southwestern. Much of that pride is rooted in the realization that this institution has some of the finest and most accomplished alumni anywhere. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible. Toward that end my wife Connie and I are going to visit as many of you as possible in your home communities. At the same time, I hope you will take advantage of every opportunity to come to campus, drop by the office, and give me a chance to show you some of the great things that are happening at your Georgia Southwestern State University.

Kendall A. Blanchard, Ph.D.
President
GSW poised to start first PGM program in state: Shaun Murie leads the way

Seventeen, on the surface this number doesn’t mean much to most people, but to Georgia Southwestern State University it represents nationwide recognition, marketability and students, potentially 300 more students.

The fact is, there are only 17 colleges or universities in the U.S. with a Professional Golf Association (PGA) accredited Professional Golf Management (PGM) program. Georgia Southwestern would be the 18th and the only institution with such a program in the state.

Recently, GSW took an important step in this direction. Shaun Murie, former PGM internship coordinator at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), was appointed as GSW’s first PGM program director. His position and this program are housed in the School of Business.

"Mr. Murie comes to Georgia Southwestern with the highest recommendation," said President Kendall A. Blanchard. "Already, I have been impressed by his energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to the success of our program. I am confident he is the right person for this important job."

"My short term goal is very simple," said Murie. "Accreditation by the PGA of America is critical for the long-term growth and success of the program. All of my efforts over the next few months will be focused on achieving this single goal."

According to Murie, GSW is well on its way to becoming accredited by the PGA of America. University officials have attended required PGM information sessions and checkpoints, and they have submitted the proper rationale statement addressing interest and commitment to the program. In addition, GSW has constructed the required proposal outlining in detail its projected program. The proposal is awaiting approval from the PGA.

Another important step in this process is the gifting of the golf course, Southwestern Golf Links located in Americus, from the GSW Foundation to the University. The Foundation’s board of trustees and the Board of Regents voted in favor of the gifting. Pending accreditation by the PGA of America, the course’s change in hands will be seamless.

If everything goes according to plan, Murie hopes to have students enrolled into the program by Fall 2008.

“I think that most people will be surprised at how academic this program really is,” said Murie. “Golf is a multi-billion dollar industry. In order to prepare students to compete for jobs in this industry, they need to know more than how to swing a golf club.

“Students enrolled in the PGM program will be expected to complete all of their business major requirements, 16 months of internship, all three levels of the PGA’s Class A certification process, and pass the PGA’s Playing Ability Test in a little over 4 years time,” said Murie.

A native of Royal Oak, Mi., Murie is a Class A PGA member and an experienced golfer, as well.

“When I am playing on a fairly regular basis, I generally play to around a 3 or 4 handicap,” said Murie.

While an internship coordinator at FGCU, Murie served as academic advisor for all PGM students; he taught PGM courses; and he was responsible for recruiting prospective students.

Prior to FGCU, Murie served as head golf professional at Highlands Plantation Golf Club in Starkville, Miss. There, he managed all golf, food and beverage operations, managed a staff of fifteen and was responsible for a number of other duties.

Murie earned a BBA in marketing and an MBA from Mississippi State University in Starkville.

“It is always special to be part of..."
something from the ground level," said Murie. "To have the opportu-
nity to mold the direction of a PGM
program is something that very few
individuals get the chance to do."

**FRESH PLACES,
FAMILIAR FACES:
CHANGES IN GSW
ADMINISTRATION**

W. Cody King, GSW comptroller,
has been appointed vice president
of Business and Finance at Georgia
Southwestern State University. His
selection follows the retirement of
VP Alan Parks, D.B.A., and a brief
stint as interim vice president.

Originally from Blakely, King
joined the staff of Georgia South-
western as director of Accounting
Services in 1996 before serving as

He earned his B.S. in accounting
from Georgia Southwestern
College and his M.B.A. from Albany
State University. King is also the
president-elect of the GSW Alumni
Association.

**Tietjen named GSW interim VP of Academic Affairs**

Georgia Southwestern State Univer-
sity President Kendall A. Blanchard
announced July 13 that William L.
Tietjen, Ph.D., professor emeritus
of biology, has been named interim
vice president of Academic Affairs
(VPAA) and dean of faculty. This
appointment comes after former
VPAA Cathy L. Rozmus, DSN, ac-
cepted a position at the University of
Texas Health and Science Center at
Houston.

Tietjen joined the faculty at
Georgia Southwestern in 1967 as
an associate professor of biology.
During his tenure, Tietjen held such
positions as Biology Department
chair, acting dean of the School
of Arts and Sciences and interim
vice president of Academic Affairs.
Following his retirement in 1998,
Tietjen has remained active on cam-

**Daniel appointed GSW interim dean of Nursing**

Sandra Daniel,
Ph.D., associate pro-
fessor and director of
the Accelerated BSN
program, has been
appointed interim dean of the
Georgia Southwestern School of
Nursing.

Beginning her professional
career at the Americus and Sumter
County Hospital in 1974 as a Charge
GSW President Emeritus William B. King dies at 91

William B. King, Ph.D., president emeritus of Georgia Southwestern State University, died March 9 at the age of 91. He had been in declining health.

King served as president of GSW from 1963-78, and is credited with leading the institution from junior college to four-year degree granting status. Enrollment climbed from 593 students in the fall of 1963 to 2,500 students at his retirement.

King was born in Forsyth, Ga., and received his B.S. in Social Studies and English from Georgia Teachers College (now Georgia Southern University), the M.Ed. in Guidance and Sociology from the University of Georgia, and a Ph.D. in Guidance Counseling and Higher Education from New York University. Previously, King has been recognized with a room named in his honor in the Newman Alumni Center, and with a campus street that bears his name.

Following GSW retirement, King became associate executive secretary to the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in Atlanta. When that service ended, he and his wife, Vivian, returned to Americus. King was a life trustee of the Georgia Southwestern Foundation, Inc., and in 1993, the Kings established a fund to promote faculty development at Georgia Southwestern.

"The entire GSW community extends its deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Dr. King," said President Kendall A. Blanchard. "Dr. King's contributions to GSW helped grow this institution tremendously. He was the right man at the right time, during a very turbulent era for many American colleges. That period was largely without incident at GSW, and a time of growth for the GSW campus. The caliber of his leadership has left a tremendous legacy."

King is survived by family including his wife, Vivian, and their children, who are GSW alumni: Hellen K. Driggers and William H. King.

Nurse, Daniel has worked primarily in Southwest Georgia. She did, however, serve as Nursing Supervisor for the Barbour County Health Department in Eufaula, Al. from 1980-1983. Daniel has been a faculty member of GSW in the School of Nursing with progressively responsible roles since 1986.

In addition, to her multifaceted position as a part of Georgia Southwestern's faculty, Daniel served as Chairman of the recent presidential search and advisory committee to elect the next president of GSW.

Daniel attained a bachelor's degree in nursing from Georgia Southwestern, a master's degree in nursing from Valdosta State University and a doctorate in nursing from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. She is also a licensed Pediatric Nurse Practitioner with a degree from the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Watford holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Tift College in Forsyth, a master's degree in mathematics education from Georgia Southwestern State University and a specialist's degree and doctorate from the University of Georgia.

GSW Awarded Grant from Branan Foundation for Writing Center

The Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Foundation, administered by Wachovia Nonprofit & Philanthropic Services, recently awarded a grant to Georgia Southwestern State University in the amount of $10,000.

The grant will help fund a proposed GSW Writing Center. The Center is designed to enhance the writing and comprehension skills of GSW students, most of who reside in a 10-county region of Southwest Georgia, as well as strengthen their communication skills.

As a part of the Department of English and Modern Languages, the Writing Center will offer GSW students the necessary resources, such as faculty and peer tutoring, writing technique workshops, and computer facilitated assistance, to sharpen their abilities to communicate effectively.

The Branan Foundation was created under the will of Charles I. Branan, who died in 1929, and was so named in memory of his mother. Income from the trust is distributed to 501(c)(3) organizations ‘...for the promotion of such matters as have for their object the relief of suffering and for charitable purposes.’ The funds from the Foundation are distributed at the discretion of its Board of Trustees.

For information on how to support the Writing Center, please contact Stephen Snyder at 229-931-2037 or email snyder@canes.gsw.edu.

Watford appointed GSW dean of Education

Lettie J. Watford, PhD, interim dean of the School of Education, has been appointed dean. Her new position was effective July 1, 2007.

Since the summer of 2005, Watford has led the School of Education as interim dean. Previously, she was an associate professor of education at GSW (1997-2005) and an associate professor of mathematics at Gordon College in Barnesville (1996-1997).
Baseball and tennis complex dedicated

Wife, mother, philanthropist—Georgia Southwestern State University honored the memory of Susan Kay Smith August 6, by dedicating the baseball and tennis complex in her honor. Smith and late husband, Roy Lee, have been generous supporters of Georgia Southwestern for many years. President Kendall A. Blanchard is shown, right, presenting a plaque to the Smith family. From right to left: daughter, Debra Stapleton; son-in-law, Walter Stapleton; daughter, Lisa Smith; and grandson, Jimmy Whaley. The night was filled with precious memories of her life and stories of her endless generosity, along with a video with interviews from friends and family. Before a crowd of hundreds, Mayor Barry Blount (’78) declared August 6, 2007 Susan Kay Smith Day.

Edwards campaign makes stop on campus

Edwards speaks at GSW—Presidential candidate John Edwards and his wife, Elizabeth, made a campaign stop at Georgia Southwestern State University August 29. Senator Edwards’ speech touched on the environment, health care and poverty, with the North Carolina Senator stating that the minimum wage should be raised to $9.50 per hour. President Jimmy Carter (’43), who was also in attendance said that Edwards was “a candidate whom I really admire.”

President Carter stopped short, however, of endorsing Sen. Edwards but said that Edwards “has a very good chance to do well” in the current presidential race. Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter (‘46) was also in attendance.

Media coverage—The Edwards Convocation brought representatives from every major news network (ABC, NBC, CBS and FOX), CNN, Georgia Public Broadcasting and the Japan Broadcasting Corporation, the second largest TV station in Japan.

Hurricane student athletes pitch in with Tomato clean-up

Lending a hand—GSW Women’s Soccer Coach Barry Kaplan and men’s soccer player, Etchu Tabe, help each other dispose of a tree limb at GSW Business Professor Liz Wilson’s home following the March 1 tornado that devastated Americus. Wilson’s home was one of many that GSW students, faculty and staff gathered to following the storm that killed two people and destroyed Sumter Regional Hospital.
Cardiac classroom:

A courageous story of how a GSW psychology professor survived a bout with cardiac arrest

By Stephen Snyder

What is a hero? According to Webster's Dictionary, it is one who shows great courage. What about the ones who show great courage? I think the definition would still apply, especially in the opinion of Dr. LaVerne Worthy ('81) of Georgia Southwestern State University's Psychology/Sociology Department.

Monday, February 5, 2007 was an event-filled day. I was starting a new career; the Indianapolis Colts were enjoying their first full day as Super Bowl Champions; and psychologist Dr. LaVerne Worthy was teaching her 9 a.m. Human Sexuality class.

Dr. Worthy hadn't been feeling well for a couple of weeks and recently her doctor had diagnosed her with bronchitis and pneumonia.

Near the end of the class, Dr. Worthy says she remembers that she ran a string of words together that she knew didn't form a complete sentence. She could hear the words coming out, but it wasn't like she was saying them.

She said to the class, "That didn't make sense, did it?" "No," the class responded. Worthy replied, "I'm sorry, I'm just not feeling well. Why don't you go a little early today."

Then she collapsed.

According to sociology professor Dr. Paul Shapiro, "I was sitting in my office about 15 minutes before my 10 a.m. Contemporary Social Problems class was to begin when a student came running down the hallway and said Dr. Worthy had collapsed in her classroom and to come quickly."

Dr. Shapiro hurried to the classroom and what he saw was something he had been confronted with time and again when he worked as a paramedic in New York City. Fortunately, Dr. Shapiro keeps a "jump bag" in his office for just such emergencies. This bag contains various medical supplies, not the least of which are airway tubes and breathing equipment.

"I knew right away that Dr. Worthy was experiencing a catastrophic medical emergency," said Dr. Shapiro.

"She wasn't really breathing and I could barely detect a pulse. I asked if they [the students] had called 911," said Shapiro. "They had, which was good. I told them to call again and
say she was in cardiac arrest.”

Dr. Shapiro moved Dr. Worthy onto her back to better manage her airway, and he said “she looked like someone who was dying.” He was right. Within seconds, Dr. Worthy’s heart stopped beating. “She was clinically dead — no pulse, no respiration, and no obvious signs of life” said Dr. Shapiro. Immediately, he began performing CPR and inserted a tube to help ventilate her.

At that point, Dr. Tom Johnson, sociology professor, arrived on the scene. He had been escorting a political science job candidate to see, of all people, Dr. Worthy.

“When I arrived in the building it was clear that something had happened to agitate several students in the hallway. I looked into the classroom and saw Dr. Shapiro on his knees in the process of ventilating [breathing for] Dr. Worthy. I asked Paul what I should do and he told me to begin chest compressions.”

Dr. Shapiro instructed Johnson on how to give CPR compressions. This allowed them to “work as a team,” said Shapiro. They continued chest compressions and ventilations until the ambulance crew arrived.

According to Dr. Johnson, “Paul had determined that her heart had stopped, so we continued the tandem procedure of ventilations and compressions until the ambulance arrived. I remember at one point looking into LaVerne’s eyes and thinking to myself that she wasn’t there. When the team from the ambulance arrived they asked us to continue CPR until they could set up the defibrillation machine. When they first placed the electrodes on her you could tell from the screen that she had no heartbeat, so we “cleared” while they gave her the first shock.

The monitor showed some response, but evidently it was still irregular, because they gave her a second shock. This time the heartbeat settled into a regular rhythm.”

Specifically, Shapiro said that Dr. Worthy was experiencing ventricular fibrillation (V fib). This is a life-threatening condition in which the heart’s electrical conduction system becomes chaotic and unproductive. The lower chambers of the heart beat in a “rapid, unsynchronized way” causing the ventricles in the heart to ‘flutter’ rather than beat. When this occurs, the heart pumps little or no blood.

The end result of V fib is cardiac arrest, which is defined as the sudden, abrupt loss of heart function.

In fact, according to the American Heart Association, “Brain death and permanent death start to occur in just 4 to 6 minutes after someone experiences cardiac arrest.” Therefore, time is extremely critical. Survival statistics show that when cardiac arrest occurs outside of a hospital and CPR is not begun immediately it is extremely unlikely that the victim will survive.

Approximately seven minutes after the initial 911 call, the paramedics arrived. Drs. Shapiro and Johnson continued to assist the EMS crew as they worked on Dr. Worthy.

According to Dr. Shapiro, “The key to LaVerne’s successful outcome was immediate pre-hospital CPR, and being able to provide prompt cardiac defibrillation. We were able to get her heart started and a viable blood pressure right in the classroom where she collapsed.”

Six months later, Dr. Worthy is fine. In fact, her doctor cleared her to teach classes this past summer. At her five month doctor’s visit, he said most patients who have experienced cardiac arrest don’t recover as quickly in one year as she had in five months.

“I never thought I was going to die,” said Dr. Worthy. “Having experienced this has made me fear death less. Maybe the good Lord has something planned for me.”

In the ten years I was a paramedic in New York City (1985–1995) I responded to well over 15,000 EMS calls and I’ve done CPR hundreds of time,” says Dr. Shapiro matter-of-factly. “And while I’ve had some great ‘saves’ this time was absolutely the most special.”

The faculty, administration, students, and the entire GSW family couldn’t agree more. Their support, according to Dr. Worthy, did not go unnoticed.

“The most touching thing was the outpouring of warmth and support from the faculty, staff and students of Georgia Southwestern,” said Worthy. “GSW will always have a warm place in my heart.”

Both Drs. Shapiro and Johnson are somewhat uncomfortable with being identified as “heroes”. When asked about it, they offered this joint statement:

“While we have received a lot of attention over our few minutes of help, we feel the real hero here is Dr. Worthy. LaVerne is the one who struggled through several months of recovery, and it is LaVerne who had the courage to re-enter the classroom a mere four months later and teach some of those very same students.”

Special thanks to Dr. Tom Johnson and Dr. Paul Shapiro

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Meet the Blanchards

By Stephen Snyder

In December of 2006, Georgia Southwestern State University and the city of Americus were introduced to an exceptional couple. Over the next six months, the community fell in love with this couple, almost as much as the couple loves each other, but not quite. On June 13, 2007 the University System of Georgia Board of Regents made an exception to a rule that would have kept the couple from making Americus and ultimately, Georgia Southwestern home. Meet Drs. Kendall and Connie Blanchard, tenth president and first lady of Georgia Southwestern.

The Blanchards are not from Georgia. Prior to a GSW campus visit in December 2006, they had never stepped foot in Americus. After a year in Southwest Georgia, this is home, and together they are building a foundation for Georgia Southwestern’s second century.

Having grown up in North Florida, Dr. Kendall Blanchard is familiar with life in the Deep South. According to him, however, the social culture here is different than other places he has lived. “There is a level of civility and hospitality here that is different than anything I’ve ever experienced,” said Blanchard.

Dr. Connie Blanchard has lived in the South, but until now, never the Deep South.

“This is very different for me being a city girl having lived most of my life in the United States in the Northeast, Midwest and West,” she said. “People here are friendly, and as in any part of the country, it is about the people.”

Combined, Kendall and Connie Blanchard have lived across the United States serving in progressively responsible roles at nine institutions over the last thirty years. Most recently, Dr. Kendall Blanchard served at
The moment is here—While Chancellor Davis looks on, Blanchard bows as University System of Georgia Chief Academic Officer and Executive Vice Chancellor Susan Herbst presents him with Presidential Medallion.
Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado as a professor of management and anthropology in the School of Business Management. Connie was a professor of Spanish Literature at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Most of Kendall’s career has been in higher education as a professor, administrator or both, but he has dabbled in other areas.

“For some reason, when I was growing up, I just assumed I would go into medicine,” Blanchard said. “It just seemed like the right thing to do, so I declared as a pre-med major my freshman year.”

Some time during his sophomore year at Olivet Nazarene College in Kankakee, Illinois, Blanchard’s plans changed. “I had mononucleosis, so I was in the hospital, and it was a horrible experience,” he said. “I was in the hospital for several days, and an older guy rooming with me died. It was that experience that told me I didn’t want to spend my time around sick and dying people.

“In many ways, the opposite of that is being a teacher. The clientele are eternally young,” said Blanchard. “They are people who basically always stay the same age. Rather than facing death or terminal things, they’re facing their whole future, and as an educator, I’ve got an opportunity to help shape that future.”

And shape the future he has done. As president of Fort Lewis College, from 1999-2002, Blanchard completed two major building campaigns, secured the funds to complete two additional buildings, conducted a major marketing campaign that led to a new look and branding for the institution and saw the college’s enrollment reach a record high of more than 4,500 students. What’s more, he plans to grow GSW in the same way. With an enrollment hovering around 2,500 students year in and year out, Blanchard plans to grow the student body by ten percent, roughly 250 students, in Fall 2008.

Dr. Blanchard graduated from Olivet with a Bachelor’s degree in English, history and philosophy. Except for a brief stint as a stock broker, his professional career has been linked almost entirely to education. In fact, in his first year out of college, Blanchard taught English and coached junior varsity basketball and track at Grant Park High School in Illinois.

Four states southwest of Illinois at the University of New Mexico, Dr. Connie Blanchard also contemplated the medical field. But this wasn’t what she loved; it wasn’t her passion.

“I was a pre-med major until my junior year, as well,” she said. “I had already been accepted to medical school. One day, I was coming back from a lab that hadn’t worked for several hours... it was very frustrating; it was snowing; it was cold; and I decided that I’d had it. I didn’t want to do it anymore. So, I fell into literature because I couldn’t imagine anyone paying me for what I loved to do anyway, which was read.”

As a result, Connie earned a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American studies and Spanish, a Master of Arts in Spanish literature and Latin American History at UNM and completed her PhD in Latin American Literature at the University of Kansas. In addition, she took post-doctoral courses in literary criticism and Spanish literature at the University of Minnesota.

From there, Connie’s career soared. She taught full time at several institutions: Emporia State University in Kansas, Southeast Missouri State University; the University of Kansas, Murray State University in Kentucky and was a visiting scholar at Fort Lewis. At Emporia State and Murray State, Continued on Page 20
**Leeder leads Team USA to gold medal in Arafura Games**

With the help of Hurricane basketball standouts, Adrian Robinson and Ric Roderick, GSW Head Men’s Basketball Coach Mike Leeder led Team USA to a gold medal round victory at the 2007 Arafura Games in Darwin Australia in May. The Arafura Games is a globally recognized international sporting competition for developing athletes of the Asia Pacific region. Held every two years in Darwin, the capital of Australia’s Northern Territory, the Games began in 1991 as the Arafura Sports Festival with 1500 participants from seven countries competing in 13 sports. The final game of the tournament was broadcast before a live national audience on Australian television as team USA defeated the host province, Northern Territory, 73-67.

**New winds blow as the ‘Canes Athletic Department sees reorganization**

**Jaclyn Kaylor**
GSW head athletic trainer and assistant athletic director Jaclyn Kaylor has been promoted to associate athletic director.

**Jennifer Rodkey**
Jennifer Rodkey (’03) who served as head women’s basketball coach for four seasons is the new NCAA compliance coordinator. This is a critical position as GSW is currently moving from the NAIA to NCAA Division II.

**Kelly Britsky**
After starting the women’s basketball program at LaGrange College from scratch in 1999, Kelly Britsky has begun her first season as head coach for Lady ‘Canes Basketball.

**Barry Kaplan**
Head men and women’s soccer coach Barry Kaplan now leads soley ‘Lady Canes Soccer.

**Warren Russ**
Warren Russ has left a brief stint in the business world to return his first love as head men’s soccer coach for GSW. Russ has spent time playing professional soccer and coached at the University of Central Florida and the University of Georgia.

**Jay Johnson**
Fresh out of graduate school at Georgia College and State University, Jay Johnson is the new head athletic trainer for the Hurricanes.
GSW enters NCAA provisional status

Georgia Southwestern State University recently was invited by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to enter the provisional period of the new membership process effective Sept. 1, 2007.

Becoming an “active” member of the NCAA Division II plays an essential role in the University’s goal to grow as an institution.

“This is good news for the future of our athletic program and the reputation of Georgia Southwestern,” said President Kendall A. Blanchard. “It is also a comment on the good work of our athletic department staff and its determination to make the move to NCAA status as quickly and efficiently as possible.”

According to NCAA bylaws, “The length of the provisional period will vary depending on an institution’s readiness to become an active member institution; however, in no event shall the provisional period be less than one year.”

Therefore, Georgia Southwestern cannot be a full member of the NCAA Division II until Fall 2008, at the earliest. However, GSW has taken steps to expedite their readiness to be an active member institution. The ‘Canes recently filled coaching positions for men’s soccer, women’s basketball and Jennifer Rodkey was appointed as GSW’s NCAA compliance coordinator.

“The NCAA’s new member process is strenuous and sometimes frustrating when you realize how many obstacles can stand in the way, but as I look back, I see just how far we have come in just a few years,” said Jaclyn Kaylor, associate athletic director.

To assist in the process, GSW hired an independent firm, Oliver and Lindemann Athletic Consulting, LLC of Colorado, to conduct a compliance blueprint assessment during the 2007-08 academic year. GSW has had positive feedback. Provisional members are also required to attend the NCAA convention and the NCAA Regional Rules Seminar.

If all goes well, Georgia Southwestern will be a full member of the NCAA Division II by the beginning of the 2008-09 academic year. With full membership, the ‘Canes will be eligible to participate in all Peach Belt Conference and NCAA national championship tournaments.

Until Fall 2006, Georgia Southwestern was a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

Hall of Fame inducts three new members

Paul Bush holds nearly every single season pitching record in the history of Hurricane baseball. In 2007, his senior season, Bush tallied 13 wins, 152 strikeouts, 11 complete games, six shutouts and 110.1 innings. He holds the GSW record for career wins as well with 34. During his senior year, Bush earned player of the year honors in the conference, region and nation; he was the 2002 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Player of the Year. In addition, Bush was named First Team All-American and was drafted in the 24th round of the 2002 Major League Baseball Free Agent Draft by the Atlanta Braves. He is currently a member of the Richmond Braves, a Triple A affiliate of the Braves in Virginia.

Joao Paulo Clementi (’01, ’03) was a champion on the tennis court and in the classroom. While accumulating a combined singles and doubles record of 173-60, all-conference honors in singles each of his four years on the team and NAIA All-American honors in 1999, 2000 and 2001, Clementi was an NAIA Academic All-American from 1999-2001. He was nationally ranked during that same span and graduated with a 3.73 grade point average with a degree in Computer Science.

William “Willy” Mathis (’74, ’78) was a member of the men’s basketball and track teams from 1969-1973. He averaged 12 points and 8 rebounds per game in his four-year basketball career. Mathis was the second ever recipient of the Hussman Hustle Award for his play on the basketball court. In 1969, Mathis and the GSW track team compiled an 8-1 record and placed second in the Georgia Intercollegiate Athletics Conference. Mathis was an industrial electrical technology instructor at South Georgia Technical College for the past 10 years. After a courageous battle with cancer, Mathis died less than a month after his induction.
Homecoming 2007

“A New Beginning”

Top to bottom:

Driven to develop—Boyd Lofton, executive director of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Industrial Authority, was the featured speaker at the Luncheon. Lofton earned his Master’s degree at GSW in 2004.

Crowned ’Genes—Ashley Houseworth and Antonio Campbell are named Homecoming king and queen as they stand with President Blanchard.

Supporting Students—The Silent Auction raised nearly $4,000 to fund Alumni Association scholarships.

Homecoming festivities—One of the many activities during Homecoming week was a pie eating contest. GSW students participated wholeheartedly in this event.

Alumni Allegiance—Pete Bridges (’59) receives the Lee Wynn J. Fiddiea Award from friend and fellow Alumni Association Board Member Glynn Mathis (’51). Named in honor of the University’s first alumni director, the award is presented annually to an alumnus who has offered outstanding service to the institution.
Lee Belford
President
Class of ‘70
belfordtitle@comcast.net

Melody Godfrey-Burke
Class of ‘91
melodygodfrey@yahoo.com

Lemond Hall
Class of ‘98
lemondhall@gmail.com

Betty Hamilton Anderson
Vice-President
Class of ‘46
bha2429@sowega.net

Daphne Ann Chambless
Class of ‘50
229-595-2509

Glynn Mathis
Class of ‘51
glynnmathis@comcast.net

Cody King
President Elect
Class of ‘90
cking@canes.gsw.edu

Len Hicks
Class of ‘75
lhicks@sumterbank.com

Mary Wysokansky
Class of ‘87
wysochan@bell-south.net

Doug Moses
Treasurer
Class of ‘97
dmoses@mjcpa.com

John King
Class of ‘51
pittdogs@aitel.net

Edward Pope
Class of ‘70
ed.pope@comcast.net

Russ Barnes
Class of ‘87
rbarnes@btlawpc.com

Joe Saturday
Class of ‘69
jsat@bellsouth.net

John “Pete” Bridges, Jr.
Class of ‘59
pdawg@sowega.net

2007-2008 Georgia Southwestern State University Alumni Association Board Members

For more information about the GSW Alumni Association call (866) 673-0436 or visit us online at www.gsw.edu/alumni.

Upcoming events:

Alumni Weekend 2008
February 15th-16th, 2008

My Big Fat Greek Reunion
April 18-19, 2008
Graduating into parenthood

Many things are synonymous with commencement at Georgia Southwestern: caps, gowns, diplomas, excitement…child birth! That’s right, child birth.

On June 14, 1997, Pam Ayres (’97) was waiting for her name to be called as a graduate of GSW. Nine months pregnant, her soon-to-be-born child had different plans. On that day, at that event, she went into labor, and twenty-four hours later, she and husband Jim had their first child, Brewer.

Residents of Daphne, Ala. since ’97, the Ayres were on their way to Hartsfield Jackson Airport in Atlanta earlier this year, June 15 to be exact, and decided to take a trip down memory lane by visiting GSW’s campus.

Both Pam and Jim are currently teachers in the Baldwin County Alabama School System. Pam, having received her degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education on that fateful day in June of 1997, teaches kindergarten, and Jim teaches first grade.

In fact, Jim earned his teaching certificate in Early Childhood Education at Georgia Southwestern in 1997 while married and working full-time at a restaurant in Albany. Initially, he earned his bachelor’s degree in 1993 from the University of West Virginia School of Journalism with an emphasis in advertising.

Reminiscing on her time as a student, Pam said she loved the close knit feel of GSW and specifically the School of Education. In fact, the School of Ed hosted a baby shower for her.

Over the last ten years, the Ayres family has grown. Brewer, the oldest, has one younger brother, Liam, eight, and two younger sisters, Gillian, five, and Chloe, two.

Alumni Spotlight: Doug Moses (’97)

Profile:

Doug is a manager for governmental practice in the Atlanta office of Mauldin and Jenkins Certified Public Accountants, LLC voted one of “The Best Places to Work in Georgia” in Georgia Trend’s November 2007 issue. Moses’ prowess remains in the local realm focusing on city and county government.

Prior to earning an MBA at Georgia Southern University in 1999, Doug’s post-secondary education began at Georgia Southwestern in 1993. At GSW, Moses was extremely active in campus life as a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity but managed to make special focus on his studies earning numerous scholarships. He also completed a seven-month international internship in Sarreguemines, France in the accounting/finance department of Delphi Automotive Systems, a former subsidiary of General Motors. Moses graduated Magna Cum Laude 1997 with a bachelor’s in Accounting and was selected as an Outstanding Graduate in Business Administration. He earned his CPA license in 2001.

Doug is married to Yolanda Sims Moses (’01, Computer Science) of Sylvester, Georgia. On August 29, 2007, Yolanda gave birth to their first child, Camille Alexandria.
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($10,000.00 +)

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Flex-Tec, Inc.
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Earl Gammage
Georgia Dept of Natural Resources
Jeffrey Green
William R. Hackett
Gregory Hawver
Robert E. Herrington
James G. Herron

President's Circle -
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George O. Marshall
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($500.00 +)

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Marvin R. Benson
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Century 21 Americus Realty, Inc
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Janice Cleet
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Margaret A. Ellington
Patricia S. Embleton
George M. Engelmann
Jimmy H. English
Chuck R. Fitch
Flex-Tec, Inc.
Millard Fuller
Earl Gammage
Georgia Dept of Natural Resources
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Enrique Valdes
Dawn Valentine
Randall Valentine
Gregory N. Ward
Maria Warda
Sandra Wardell
Lettie J. Watford
Ronald Wilkey
J. C. Wilson
Jones T. Wright
70 Tower Club

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Atlanta Marriott Marquis
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George R. Baldwin
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Barnes, Farr & Nesmith, PC.
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Ricky Burgess
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Marilyn B. Campbell
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Cigna Foundation
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John Crisp
Sheila M. Crowley
Jeff Dale
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Larry K. Davis
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Gibbs Patrick
Lori Payne
Samuel T. Peavy
Durwood Pennington
Shelia E. Pinkney
Plains Historic Inn
Rik Poduschnick
Donald K. Pollock
Cynthia A. Poole
Thomas C. Poole
Frank Pooser
Betty Pope
Leigh A. Powell
Debbie O. Pratt
Meet the Blanchards
Continued from Page 18

she served as department head. What’s more, Blanchard conducted 28 study abroad programs and taught exchange programs in several countries including Spain, Ecuador, Latvia, Estonia, Colombia and Mexico. She also served as school superintendent of the Mancos County School District in Colorado.

In addition to her busy life as a teacher, scholar, and administrator, Connie has been an active wife and mother. Together, she and her husband have five children and three grandchildren. She also enjoys travel, making jewelry, knitting, and she is an excellent cook.

While the Blanchard’s journey to Americus meant a good career move for Kendall, it also meant that Connie had to abandon her position at the University of Kansas. Although she misses having her own professional identity, she is making friends, building relationships and establishing a name for herself in the local community.

At Dr. Kendall Blanchard’s recent inauguration in early November, former U.S. Attorney General Griffin B. Bell (’36) said it best, “We got two for one.” He said Connie “is a bonus.”

Kendall couldn’t agree with this more. “She is my ear on the community,” he said of Connie, “I would not have taken this position without her. Not to mention, she’s a lot more exciting than me!”

According to Connie, “Most people would agree to that,” she said with a smile and a laugh. “I get to wear ruffles!”

Their love for each other and for Southwest Georgia is what makes them such a charming couple, and Kendall’s drive to grow GSW is what makes him a great president.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Geneva Johnson Spirling is a retired principal living in Fortville, In.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Jeanette Jackson-Serbin is a retired teacher living in Stockbridge, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Peggy Corner Ruble is a retired missionary who worked in Indonesia 29 years. She and her husband live in Winston-Salem, NC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Addison Kell Freeman is retired and enjoyed traveling with his wife to Israel and Jordan this year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Sandra G. Slade is a semi-retired teacher living in Cordele, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Rebecca Neighbors Sligar is living in Casselberry, Fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Billie Ann Hall Beard is a retired teacher. She and her husband write and illustrate children's books. They reside in Kennesaw, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Hubert F. Scott, Jr. has recently been appointed to the Board of Directors of Heritage Bank of the South.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Daniel T. Camp is Sr. Vice-President of Human Resources &amp; Support Services for Saint Agnes Medical Center in Fresno, Ca.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Charlie Hughley is living in Oak Ridge, Tn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Lynn G. Brown graduated August 11, 2007 with a Masters of Science in Nursing. Lynn and her family live in Hoover, AL where she is employed at UAB Hospital.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Lorene B. Floyd received her MBA in 2003. She is self-employed and lives in Americus, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Donald W. Avera works in industrial sales and is a small business owner. He lives in Burleson, Tx.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Craig L. Young is Associate Professor/Head Baseball Coach at Middle Georgia College. He led the Warriors of MGC to the Region XVII GA JUCO Championship - his 6th Ga. championship at the JUCO level. Craig lives in Cochran, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Lynn Gibbs Young is a teacher in the Dublin City School system. She and husband Craig have three children and reside in Cochran, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Dr. Adrian K. Haugabrook is Vice President of The Education Resources Institute and recently named to the Board of Trustees for Wheelock College in Boston, Ma. He and his family live in Framingham, Ma.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1993
Julie Hooks Roberts is a RN at Oconee Regional Medical Center in Milledgeville, Ga.
Melvyn Y. Little is with the Department of Human Resources, Atlanta, Ga. She and husband Randall reside in Fairburn, Ga.
Mark Gibson is State Director for the Georgia Chapter of March of Dimes. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Southern Conservation Trust, is a volunteer for the Peachtree City Community Emergency Response Team, and is an active member of the Peachtree City United Methodist Church.

1996
DeDe Goodwin Nichols is a healthcare consultant for Moore Stephens Lovelance, Pa. and resides in Macon, Ga.

1997
Pamela Ayres is a kindergarten teacher in Baldwin County. She and husband Jim have four children and reside in Daphne, AL.
Rachael Oliver is a Family Connections Coordinator and resides in Americus.

1998
Anthony Aikens is Assistant Principal at Griffin-Spalding County Schools.

2000
Christina Weeks is a Human Resource Generalist with Meadwestvaco. She resides in Springboro, Oh.

1999
Exciting alumni—Dwayne Miles (’99, ’02), CEO of the United Way of Southwest Georgia, was selected as one of Georgia Trend Magazine’s “40 under 40.” This prestigious list focuses on some Georgia’s top business-
men and women under the age of 40.

2002
Julie Nicole Brown is working toward a Doctor of Physical Therapy at University of South Alabama in Mobile.

2003
Megan Griffith Hatchett is a nurse at Wellstar Cobb Hospital. She and husband Jason reside in Bremen, Ga.

In Memoriam

Class of 1930
Hazel C. Ansley
March 6, 2007

Class of 1932
Dorothy A. Sullivan
March 1, 2006

Class of 1933
Emily L. McIntosh
December 7, 2006

Class of 1940
W. Melville Johnson
December 3, 2006

Class of 1942
Adalene R. Powell
June 2006

Class of 1957
James N. Reese, Sr.
December 12, 2006

Class of 1974, 1976
William “Willy” Mathis
November 14, 2007

Class of 1990
Teresa H. McCoy
February 13, 2005

President Emeritus
William B. King
March 9, 2007

Trustee
Gail G. Hooks
September 16, 2007

Trustee
Harrold P. Bowen
July 1, 2007

Trustee
Carl Patrick
July 4, 2007

Life Trustee
Roy Lee Smith
August 8, 2007

Class of 1955, Life Trustee
Peggy Smith Tucker
March 7, 2007

Life Trustee
Andrea L. Caffey
June 2007
Alumni Weekend 2008

Friday, February 15, 2008
- Registration

Saturday, February 16, 2008
- First Annual Hurricane Homecoming Fun Run
- Registration and Silent Auction
- Luncheon with speaker Debbie Griffiths, GSW Alumnus of the Nursing Program, author and entrepreneur from Thomasville, GA.
- Hurricanes Basketball teams host USC-Aiken

Please note: Schedule is tentative and subject to change. For more information, call toll free (866) 673-0436.
William "Willy" Mathis Athletic Scholarship

Willy Mathis (’74, ’76) was a beloved husband, father, teacher and teammate. Earlier this year, we lost Willy to a bout with cancer, and though he is sorely missed, he will not be forgotten. In honor of his commitment to Georgia Southwestern as a student athlete and alumnus, the University has initiated an athletic scholarship in his name.

For information regarding the scholarship, call 229-931-2037. To give, please return the reply card inserted in this issue.