Commuting Success

1988 Dixie grad, Eric Young, is a big part of the success of the new communication bachelor’s degree at Dixie State and of the success his students are finding as well.

Making the Most of Sunsets

Alum LaVoid Leavitt looks back on his years at Dixie, and looks forward as he makes the most of his “sunset years” by serving and teaching on Dixie’s campus.

Dixie’s Perpetual Gift of Smiles

With the passing of Dixie alum and philanthropist, Mervyn Cox, his perpetual smile and generosity to Dixie State are remembered with fondness and admiration.

Dixie’s Jack-of-All Trades Retires

For the past 35 years he has had a hand in building everything on campus from Hansen Stadium to the Russell C. Taylor Health Sciences Building, and now we say thank you to Ned Carnahan, Executive Director of Campus Services.

Campus Happenings

Get the update on the proposed DixieU of U affiliation, Dixie’s newly approved degrees, new Hall of Fame inductees, and the latest happenings on campus.

Sports Update

Review Dixie State’s fall athletic seasons and post-season honors on the field and in the classroom.

Keeping Up With Alumni

Check up on some of your Dixie classmates, and read about those who have passed on.
Young, a 1988 Dixie graduate himself, spent years in the production world before coming back to Dixie State College and giving even beginning students opportunities that typically aren’t available at other schools until their senior year. Any student can come into his classes with talent, but the ones who have the audacity to suggest and launch projects will find success. “The digital film program is a place where they can do that, and where they have access to experience, equipment and influence,” he says. And it’s not just about being able to operate a camera. “The priority in the program isn’t technical; it’s collaborative, working with artists and technicians to realize a communicative goal. It’s the ‘working with’ part that’s hard to come by.”

His influence contributed to the recent success of two communication majors who won the Utah Film Commission’s annual “Spot On” contest. Bobby Bowden, a sophomore from Sandy, and December graduate Ben Braten, from St. George, created a commercial to promote Utah as a place to shoot movies and won a $1,500 check, a trophy, and Sundance Film Festival passes. Braten, who also won the contest in 2004, helped Bowden’s idea to fruition with one smooth day of shooting and a “nightmare” week of post-production. In fact, Braten says they worked until the last minute, and Bowden had to drive the commercial to Salt Lake to make the deadline. The two sought advice from Young, who helped them with shooting, providing equipment and developing ideas.

Braten says one thing he has appreciated about Young is being able to “pick his brain,” that he had access to a professor who was willing to take the time to lend his knowledge and expertise to students. It seems Young is creating a legacy, considering the fact his students have won this contest three of the last five years.

“Every so often the program attracts student-catalysts who are courageous, maybe even outrageous enough to act on their drive to be creative,” he says.

Ironically, senior Kellie Mzik’s communication breakdown with Young led her to the program and a number of scholarly achievements. She came to DSC to get an associate degree while she was trying to figure out the next step in her life. She was incorrectly told she couldn’t register for classes unlessshe picked a major, and Mzik didn’t want to be a nurse, so she picked communication. She was told to get an adviser, so Mzik started at the bottom of the alphabetical list, and Young answered his phone. Once in his office, he assumed she was there for the then-new communication and new media bachelor’s degree. She assumed he knew she was there for an associate degree.

“It wasn’t until after I left his office 30 minutes later that I realized I had somehow just signed on for a bachelor’s program, which now, I’m very glad I did,” she says. “So, I tell people that I became a communication major because of a major breakdown in communication!”

Mzik was awarded the department’s Student of the Semester award in December, but don’t assume her success has come easily since her first steps into Young’s office.

“I’ve gained a lot of self-confidence at Dixie,” she says. “I’ve had to take on challenges in this program that have been completely outside my scope of experience. . . things I might not have tried if they hadn’t been ‘required.’ Having success at that has not only added to my academic knowledge, it’s prepared me to take on whatever challenges I’ll face in a professional environment.”

One criticism of the department from the mouths of students is the heavy emphasis placed on scholarship. The faculty has raised the bar and forced the students to stretch, particularly in the area of research. “We value the hands-on experience, but not at the sacrifice of legitimate scholarship,” says Randal Chase, the chair of the communication department.

Mzik says the students’ complaints make her laugh. “Isn’t college about stretching . . . seeing how high you can reach? Isn’t it supposed to be challenging?” She believes the professors set high, but attainable goals. “And then they really knock themselves out to help you reach those goals. If you put in the effort, they’ll match you every time.”

With 144 majors and 125 percent growth from the summer to fall semester, DSC’s communication program is storming its way to becoming one of the most popular bachelor’s degrees on campus.

Two-thirds of the majors are in the human communication emphasis, with the largest being the interpersonal/small group emphasis. The remaining third of students are in the emphasis of film or mass media.

Chase has been successful in turning the communication and new media degree into a more traditional and flexible degree. He says the film emphasis is really what makes this communication degree unique because film is normally in the fine arts area.

“Students have wonderful choices (for classes),” he says, which he attributes to the enormous success of the degree. The classes, and the fact that tracks are flexible enough for students to mix and match classes to personalize their programs, allows transfer students to come to DSC without being penalized for lacking the right credits.

Chase plans to add new tracks to the degree, like communication and technology as well as film production management and a film composite. DSC administrators are also on board to begin a degree completion program.

With 144 majors and 125% growth from the summer to fall semester, DSC’s communication program (broadened to include human communication and mass communication) is storming its way to becoming one of the most popular bachelor’s degrees on campus.

continued, see COMMUNICATING SUCCESS, page 6
COMMUNICATING SUCCESS continued from page 5

program in conjunction with the communication department to foster a "who" but a "what." The Student Media Center, currently in its second semester of operation, is a production company within the school that draws on all communication department disciplines, says Center Director Phil Tuckett, an assistant professor of communication. "It's not a class, just an open environment where students can work on web sites, radio, newspaper and film. We can produce for the marketplace and online." He says the setup opens doors for more participants through the cross-pollination of the disciplines across campus; communication students are not the only ones who stand to benefit. Because the center will eventually be fully funded, students will be paid to be involved—a better alternative for a part-time job than flipping burgers.

The reality right now is that a lot of development still needs to occur to make the center everything it's supposed to be. However, now that the center is backed by a name recognizable to Utahns, legendary KSL news anchor Dick Nourse, necessary resources are coming to fruition. His interest in higher education involvement started years ago, mostly with schools in northern Utah, but it was DSC administrators who finally crafted a proposal and presented it to Nourse early last year.

"I was impressed," he says. "Finaly someone had the guts to come forward (with a proposal)." Nourse, who is retired, and the official announcement was made Nov. 28 prior to his final news broadcast. Though the media center concept is well and alive, the ideal physical facilities won't be available until the communication department moves into the Jennings building early in 2009, at which point Nourse can install wireless from 40-plus years in the industry.

One reason he's excited about the affiliation is that he sees the potential for quality education in southern Utah. He also has a clear vision for future journalistic responsibility.

"We need more responsible journalists and more responsible citizens," he says. "I hope we can get back on track." Nourse wants students to understand broadcasting isn't just about the ego and entertainment, it's also about educating the public about the problems people face and finding resolutions to those problems. "We've gotten away from that in the name of competition." Nourse, who was replaced as chief of the Dixie Sun and a junior communication major, says he thinks it's important to have someone with a well-known name involved. "He's a down-to-earth guy," she says. "He has a lot to bring to our college.

Currently, the only fully functioning element of the Student Media Center is the Dixie Sun student newspaper, with radio close behind. Details are in the finalization process for a student-run TV station and the online component of the center. Students are also already engaged in various film projects. McNaughton sees the unity of the mediums as a benefit, especially to bring people with similar goals together.

"We're going to get a lot more resources and a lot more freeway than we could if we stayed separate," she says. Those resources mean getting to a point where final projects are printed twice a week, increasing both advertising revenue and opportunities for student participation.

Other ideas for the center include a sports show highlighting both college and high school sports, and a student-run team-

About the Author

Rhiannon Best has been a full-time faculty member at Dixie State College for nearly four years, where she teaches communication courses and advises the Dixie Sun student newspaper. Rhiannon also does freelance writing for the St. George Magazine. She earned her bachelor's degree in communication at Southern Utah University and her master's degree in communication at Washington State University. She grew up in Centerville, Utah.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN COMMUNICATION AT DIXIE STATE COLLEGE

DIGITAL FILM EMPHASIS
Digital Film Production Track

HUMAN COMMUNICATION EMPHASIS
Small Group Track
Organizational Communication Track

M A SS COMMUNICATION EMPHASIS
Electronic Media Journalism Track
Electronic Media Production Track
Print Journalism Track
Public Relations Track

Check out the specifics of Dixie's Communication degree at: http://new.dixie.edu/degree_programs/

COMMUNICATION STUDENT Bowling on location for the filming of "Dream Utah," which won top honors at the Utah Film Commission Competition and was shown at the Sundance Film Festival.

DI GITAL FILM EMPHASI S

AT DIXIE STATE COLLEGE

COMMUNICATION STUDENT Bowling on location for the filming of "Dream Utah," which won top honors at the Utah Film Commission Competition and was shown at the Sundance Film Festival.

Two aspiring Dixie State College student filmmakers were announced as co-winners of the Utah Film Commission’s (“Spot On”) contest at an award luncheon held in Salt Lake City in December. The duo of Bobby Bowden, a sophomore from Murray, Utah, and Bethany McNaughton, a senior from St. George, were one of two recipients of the award.

The contest was a commercial competition, asking why it would be ideal for filmmakers to shoot among Utah’s landscape. Bowden and McNaughton, entitled “Dream Utah,” was a simple clip of a young boy looking at the southern Utah rock scenery and imagining what his desires as a future filmmaker might be.

"The competition was announced on Labor Day and I immediately started thinking of ideas on how to advertise Utah and why the film industry should shoot here," Bowden said. “After a few weeks of pitching ideas to my instruc-

"The most rewarding part about our commercial winning was when I called Eric after the ceremony and told him the news," Bowden said.

"When it came down to it, I’m just your average guy who came up with an idea, ran with it and got lucky."
D-Week Traditions Remembered

BY SHAUNA OTTESTEN, ‘85

Combine 100 boys, three hours, a bunch of rocks, some white lime... and what do you get? Why, our “D” on the hillside so bold, of course!

The tradition of lighting the “D” started as part of D-Day when huge bonfires were lit around the “D”. Another tradition that has remained is crowning the D-Queen. Additional traditions that have come and gone include a parade, formal dance, beard growing contest, fashion show, campus cleanup, taco eating contest, powder puff football. Mr. Dixie contest and a participation trophy awarded to the class with the most members attending the week’s activities.

One tradition that had been forgotten, but was recently brought back is the Great Race—bringing a wonderful tradition back to stay!

As Dixie State College approaches its 100th anniversary and the challenges associated with growth and change, we pause and reflect upon the words of the D-Queen of 1970, Alkerta Woodbury, who said, “When we come to the realization of just what Dixie has meant to us, we understand how great a contribution our founders made; how much courage, energy and sacrifice they put forth to accomplish their dreams. To them we owe a debt—a debt of gratitude, which we can repay only by living by the high standards and ideals that they set for us.”

D-Day traditions through the years (above) 1961 whitewashing of the D. (left) 1920 picnic under the D. (right, top to bottom) Pentecostals at D-Day parade: springing of the 1960 D-Day dance; inertubes, motorcycles, unicycles and horses line up for 1972 Great Race; 1962 illuminated D. 1970 D-Day Tug-of-war.

2007 Dixie State College D-Queen Royalty (l to r) Miss Dixie Spirit Heather Shopley, D-Queen Felicia Bennett, Second Attendant Amanda Sprague, and First Attendant Amber Wetbo.
Ned Carnahan is a paradox of a man. He contains the nuts-and-bolts know-how to talk blueprints and backhoes; the technical savvy to refit a "smart classroom" and modernize the heating and cooling systems; the mediation skills to reassure administration, accountants, faculty, and foremen on a multi-million dollar construction project; and a resume of experience at Dixie State College that spans from security patrol to speech professor to super planner.

After more than 35 years of loyal service, Ned Carnahan will retire this summer as Executive Director of Campus Services. This far-reaching position involves everything from the day-to-day operations (heating, cooling, electrical, plumbing, grounds, custodial, vehicle fleet) to the supervision of campus planning (new construction, remodels, acquisition of existing or new properties) from "the cradle to the grave," as Ned explained it.

"Ned is an extraordinary member of the Dixie family. He represents all that is good about the Dixie experience," said Stan Plewe, Vice President of College Services and Ned's administrative supervisor. "His loyalty is unusual and his commitment to doing his job without peer. He is always on call, meets every deadline, addresses every problem head-on, and sees the institution first at every turn." Ned, originally from Ogden, first stepped foot on Dixie's campus as a freshman looking for a degree and took his first campus job in the heating plant as a student employee. After graduation, he was drafted for military service in the army and felt fortunate to stay stateside working as a military policeman at an Arizona base.

He then enrolled at Southern Utah State College (now SUU), and started as a full-time Dixie employee with campus security. Later, he was hired as a faculty member of the DSC Speech and Theatre Department after completing majors of strange bed fellows—communication and industrial technology management at SUSC. During his seven year tenure, he completed his master's degree through Utah State, helped launch the College radio station, and left a "little bit of his soul" with his fellow colleagues and students.

In 1982 he was offered the position of Physical Plant Director, which evolved into his current post. The personality and background needed to tackle the span of this position required a unique person with less-than-typical experience and education. Whether or not this was exactly what the College sought out when they hired Ned to take on the challenge, it's what they got, and that's what they will have to find to replace him.

"I have known Ned since I came to Dixie in '78," said Plewe. "He wasn't quite this 'jack of all trades' then, but he was working on it. When Ned was with the faculty he developed the 'Jack-of-all-Trades' reputation. While it must have been a bit of a long shot for the administration when he was selected for the Director of the Physical Plant, Ned's qualities turned out to be a perfect fit for a campus that would see record growth during the 80s and 90s."

"That was the joy of this experience—getting to work as the liaison between two worlds," Ned said. "I would sit down with the faculty to assess their needs, go to the administration to determine budgets and resources, and then coordinate with the architectural, construction, and physical side of it."

He looked at his role as one of coordinator of multi-faceted, multi-million dollar projects involved the appeasement of every agency on campus and numerous within the community.

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He looked at his role as one of the 'Jack-of-all-Trades.'

"Then you could add a million dollars worth of remodel and improvement projects every year, and the great landscape projects have made an enormous difference over the last 30 years. There was the addition of the seven acre Encampment Mall, soccer fields, and a baseball/softball complex," said Plewe. "When we added the Institute Building it became necessary to do something with traffic and student access along 100 South. That improvement project has received amazing praise from students, faculty, staff and community."

Ned's first project was the construction of Hansen Stadium. The final project he will see to fruition before retirement is the 80,000 square foot Russell C. Taylor Health Sciences Building. In between these monumental tasks is sandwiched a lifetime of work and a generation of growth.
In an effort to streamline more programs and educational opportunities to Washington and Kane County residents, Dixie State College of Utah’s Board of Trustees overwhelmingly passed a motion to petition the University of Utah to consider an extended and enhanced affiliation between the two institutions.

A formal petition letter was sent by DSC’s Trustees to the U of U Board of Trustees in early October. The petition called for the new official name of Dixie State College to become the University of Utah-St. George, with the desire of referring to the St. George campus as the “Dixie Campus.” At an appropriate future time, the College’s current Hurricane and Kanab Centers would be recognized as Hurricane and Kanab Campuses.

The petition also outlined DSC’s expectations that a formal affiliation would acknowledge and support the institution’s existing and ongoing community college mission and be similar to any existing state institutions that mirror DSC and are part of a larger state university system.

This spring, the task force found that all three institutions visited in December believe that a formal affiliation would provide the major benefits of having a part of a larger state university system. The purpose of the trip was to gather information about the relationship each college has with its larger university system, aspects of that relationship are most beneficial, and which aspects are most problematic.

Those campuses, which mirror DSC’s current demographic, included the University of Tennessee-Martin, Indiana University-Southeast in New Albany, Ind., and the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

In addition, the task force will visit campuses in Montana, Colorado and Texas to get a broad perspective of community college-school relationships.

In December, the task force took part in a fact-finding trip to visit three small campuses and to determine the needs and concerns that exist.

Additionally, all three schools indicated the ability to maintain a separate mission and identity and accreditation from the other system campuses is an essential element for success, noting that nearly all of the community college professionals said their focus on students and members of a local community that cannot be represented by a statewide system.

All three schools visited currently design their own degree programs, grant their own degrees, propose their own budgets, run their own intercollegiate athletics programs, have their own school mascots, and generally have a high degree of local control over the affairs of their campuses.

The culmination of the work produced by the task force would be a mutually agreed upon proposal, which would be supported by an operating agreement.

If approved by the Regents, the proposal and operating agreement would be submitted by the president to the Utah State Board of Regents for consideration and approval.

The annual Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Rocky Mountain Regional competition was held at the University of Utah, one of three host sites in the region, where DSC seniors Daniel Evans, Jeff Shipley and Chad Schmaltz teamed up to beat out teams from each of the participating in-state schools, including Utah State University, Brigham Young University, Utah State, Weber State and Utah Valley State.

In addition, the trio finished ahead of teams from the University of Colorado, University of Wyoming, Montana State University and Montana Tech.

Dixie State’s team of Evans, Shipley and Schmaltz was the only team of the 23 competing teams that were able to solve five problems in the five-hour competition, which consisted of nine total practical programming problems and seven theoretical problems.

According to Dr. Bart Stander, Dixie State’s professor of computer science and ACM club team advisor, “Our program is a lot smaller compared to the likes of BYU and the University of Utah and because of that fact, I don’t think anyone took us seriously. All the guys worked hard for this and I’m very proud of them.”

Dixie State’s four-year computer and information technology program was introduced at the College in 2000. The program consists of three emphases—computer science, information technology and visual technology.

CIT STUDENTS WIN BIG

DSC students prove to be “Best in State” at ACM regional competition

Imagine completing an entire semester’s worth of computer programming in just one afternoon. That is exactly what nine Dixie State College students accomplished at a competition in Salt Lake City last fall, with three of those students proving to be the best in the state of Utah.

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APPROVAL RECEIVED TO OFFER SECONDARY EDUCATION LICENSURE AT DSC

In a continuing effort to meet the needs of the Washington County School District, Dixie State College received approval from the Utah State Board of Regents for its secondary education teaching (SET) licensure program in three emphases: biology, English education and integrated science. Classwork for those programs will begin at the start of the 2008 fall semester.

The addition of the three programs will bolster DSC’s biology and English bachelor degree programs, which have many of the essential resources in place to support the SET programs.

According to Dr. Brenda Sabey, DSC associate dean for the division of education, the secondary education licensure program would serve those who already have a four-year science. Classwork for those programs will begin at the start of the 2008 fall semester.

The addition of the SET programs will help students pursuing a degree in secondary education with the desire to seek only one major teaching endorsement area, such as biology. This may not be adequate if the student teaches in grades 10-12. However, students choosing a biological science emphasis would enhance their marketability if they were to complete coursework in the physical sciences to be qualified to teach integrated science.

In addition to the more traditional biology secondary education emphasis, DSC proposed and received approval to add a dual emphasis area for secondary biology and integrated science education within the bachelor of science degree in biology. The dual emphasis will provide a more versatile career path for future DSC graduates, would be geared toward those students with a desire to teach at the intermediate or junior high school level (grades 6-9).

The English SET program, which is an option within the English baccalaureate program, also plays a role assigned to DSC to meet the educational needs in southern Utah.

Giving due consideration to the rapid growth of the area and the infusion of public-school-age students combined with retirements projected in the WCSD, the need for public school teachers is critical and growing. The English SET program, along with the English education degree offered at Southern Utah University, aims to meet that need in Iron, Washington and Kane counties, as well as throughout Utah.
CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

CAMPUS TO COMMUNITY HELPS CHEER LEADER COACH

As part of their annual semester Campus to Community service project, Dixie State College students rallied to help a member of the Kehl family, as they raised money washing cars to help DSC cheerleader coach Donelle Forbes and husband Ryan, whose 18-year-old son Teacum was seriously injured when he was struck by a vehicle backing out of a driveway last August.

The toddler spent eight days in the Primary Children’s Medical Center PICU and was hospitalized for nearly a month overall. Teacum was released from the hospital in September and is currently undergoing physical, speech and occupational therapy.

DSC students provided free car washes, with all tips and other monetary donations going directly to the fund. The students also accomplished a successful pledge drive as they accepted pledges from local businesses and Washington County citizens for each car washed. In all, the students combined to raise $3,678, which was used to help the Forbes family offset the mounting medical costs incurred during Teacum’s recovery.

“Campus to Community is always an exciting event for students here at Dixie State College,” said 2004-05 DSC student body president Jennifer Shakespeare. “It’s a chance for us to give back and show our thanks to this amazing community that has added a great deal to our Dixie College experience.

We felt honored to raise funds for the Forbes family and help them with those overwhelming medical bills,” Shakespeare continued. “We are appreciative of all the businesses from across the county that pledged countless donations determined by the number of cars we washed.”

STUDENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STAGES BENEFIT CONCERT

Former Dixie State College student Joe Kolar, creator of the prayers of family and friends for his survival after he underwent emergency surgery to remove a tumor from his brain early this year. He also credits his friends in the DSC Student Alumni Association (SAA) with helping to make a dent in the overwhelming medical bills, which have piled up since the surgery and ensuing chemotherapy treatments.

The SAA held a benefit concert in the Gardner Center Ballroom which featured the bands City of Ashburn, Never-Mind, The Dave Keir Her Band and Travis Marshall, all of whom donated their time, talents, and proceeds to benefit Joe.

Logan Whatcott, Student Alumni Association President, and Derek Larson, DESA Club President organized the event while City of Ashburn gave free flyers and solicited donations for prize drawings at the concert. St. George station KCSG-TV was on hand live to film the concert and interview Joe. All sound, security and ticketing were also all donated so every penny made went to help Joe.

The concert raised $1,839, all of which was given to the Kolar family that night. In addition, an anonymous donor matched the funds, making the total gift $3,678.

The expensive surgery prompted Joe’s parents to sell their home and move into an apartment to help pay the medical bills, but they have still been left owing more.

“Joe and his family were so excited for the extra help,” Whatcott said. “Joe has had a great attitude through this whole ordeal, and he is in an inspiration to us all. It was so worth the time and effort.”

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

CALDWELL NAMED EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR

Dixie State College

President Dr. Lee Caldwell was named Executive of the Year by the St. George Area Chamber of Commerce at the organization’s annual awards and installation banquet held in February at the Gardner Center Ballroom.

Caldwell, who was one of seven business leaders and citizens honored by the Chamber at the ceremony, garnered the honor for his work in improving the academic landscape of not only the St. George community, but DSC’s entire service area of Washington and Kane Counties.

“I never expected anything like this,” President Caldwell said. “A vibrant business community is energetic and I think Dixie State College has a responsibility to be active participants in economic and business development in the community. I appreciate the DSC spirit very much,” he continued. “It is the idea of a welcoming community that I hope we never lose. We continue to pull people in and make them feel a part of us and provide a rich, cultural and economic environment where people can flourish and develop.”

President Caldwell became DSC’s 16th president on July 12, 2005. He previously had worked at six different institutions as a professor and administrator, and held executive level positions at three Fortune 500 high tech companies – Unisys, IBM, and Hewlett Packard – seven years with each.

He also spent six years with Novell, Inc.

Previous to his appointment as president of DSC, President Caldwell served as the vice president of academics at Dixie State during the 2004-05 academic year.

Recognized internationally as an expert in networking technology, Caldwell has 21 years of experience working with the Internet, and has been a major driver behind Internet2 and next generation networks. He authored a book on the subject with Prestice Hall; the book was released in 2002.

ART SHOW WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The winners of the 21st-annual Robert N. and Peggy Sears Dixie Invitational Art Show were announced February 15 at the show’s annual gala banquet at the Dolores Doré Eccles Fine Arts Center on the Dixie State College campus.

This year’s Purchase Prize was awarded to Karl Thomas from Prow, Utah, for his oil painting “Utah Winter” (bottom right). In addition, this year’s Invitationals award a “Best in Show” prize, the first-ever in the event’s history, which was presented to Chris Young from Orem, Utah, for his oil on panel painting entitled “Leaving the Handcart” (top right). The Sears Dixie Invitational Art Show and Sale, which has been a mainstay at Dixie State College, features 250 works from 130 renowned artists from Utah and the United States, making this year’s show the largest in the event’s history.

All artwork will remain on display through Saturday, March 22, in the Robert N. and Peggy Sears Art Gallery located in the Dolores Doré Eccles Fine Arts Center at College. Exhibit hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays. The public is invited to view the exhibit free of charge.

Each work exhibited is for sale to the public, with a portion of the proceeds from each piece of art purchased to be allocated to help fund the Sears Art Museum Gallery in the Fine Arts Center. The Sears Dixie Invitational Art Show made its debut in that new art museum gallery in 2005, which serves as the show’s permanent home.

BACHELOR OF INTEGRATED STUDIES DEGREE APPROVED TO BEGIN IN AUGUST

Dixie State College received approval from the Utah State Board of Regents to offer a new integrated studies baccalaureate degree. Classwork for the new degree program will begin at the start of the 2005-06 academic year in August.

The program consists of common core and select concentrations in nine disciplines, including business, communication, computer and information technology, English, biology, mathematics, sciences, psychology, fine arts and Spanish.

“This one degree is actually 36 options,” said DSC Vice President of Academic Services Dr. Donna Dillingham-Evans. “Students are free to select concentrations in nine disciplines, including English and fine arts, and business, but they are just a few of those possibilities.

The degree approval continues the College’s progression toward fulfilling its mission to offer core, foundational and high demand educational opportunities. With the addition of the integrated studies degree, DSC will offer students 11 bachelor’s degrees come registration time for the upcoming Fall 2005 semester.

“The degree is like a tree full of ripe apples ready for harvest—which apple is the perfect taste…”

— Dr. Donna Dillingham-Evans, Vice President of Academic Services

The integrated studies program is intended to provide opportunities for students to earn a bachelor’s degree different from traditional, discipline-specific programs. The program is expected to serve students who have a variety of needs and interests, including those who are beginning a college program, students who may have started a program but wish to change major/program of study, and those with associate degrees and/or college credits who want to complete a degree for career advancement or personal fulfillment.

“Students will be able to choose a concentration in the nine disciplines, including English and fine arts, according to their personal interests.”

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“This degree is like a tree full of ripe apples ready for harvest—which apple is the perfect taste…”

“The degree is intended for any student interested in tailoring a degree to meet their unique interests by combining coursework in two different disciplines,” said DSC assistant professor of English Darl Binney. “Students who want to major in a discipline other than those presently available at Dixie State, and those who have earned college credits beyond an associate degree but who have not completed a four-year degree, will find this degree especially attractive.”

The program offers students the flexibility of developing a major program of study that will uniquely suit their personal and professional goals.

“This degree expands the opportunities for our students and opens the door to additional degrees,” said Dr. Don Hinton, DSC dean of education, humanities, arts and social sciences. “Now a student who wants to attend Dixie State has an opportunity to study in their area of interest and get a degree.”

“Likewise the student who can’t decide which of two areas to major in can explore both and get a degree,” Hinton continued. “Then, as registrations grow, we can use it to provide a need for separate degrees in those areas.”
FIVE INDUCTED TO INAUGURAL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AT DSC

Dixie State College Athletics inducted five members into its inaugural Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2007 in a ceremo-
ny held in the Gardner Center Ballroom August 31. They are:

JOHN ASHWORTH “CAT” THOMPSON (1906-1990) garnered the nickname “Cat” from his quickness in stealing the ball from opponents. He gained national recognition as a member of Dixie High School’s consolation winners in the National High School Tournament in Chicago, Ill. The first game of the tour-
nament was the first time he had ever played basketball indoors on a wood floor. After attending Dixie College in 1925-26, he went on to play at Montana State University, where he helped lead the Bobcats to a national championship in 1929. He was a four-time All-America selection at MSU and was named National College Player of the Year in 1929. After his graduation, Cat played semi-pro ball in California for a year, then coached high school basketball in Montana and Idaho. He was enshrined in the Helms Athletic Hall of Fame and named “Coach of the Decade” in 1920. He was one of the first players inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

SARKIS “COACH SARK” ARSLANIAN graduated from the University of Utah and a master’s

Sarkis coached professional teams in Milan, Italy, and Tokyo, Japan, and introduced American football in his ancestral home-
land of Armenia. After retirement, he coached high school football teams in Colorado, Idaho and at Pine View High School in St. George. Coach Sark is still noted as one of the most successful of NCAA coaches; only 13 others had better records. Honors include the Pop Warner

doctorate at Dixie State College. She was also a member of the Governor’s Initiative on Family Today (GIFT) Board.

NOLAN D. ARCHIBOLD was an All-American basketball player at Dixie College leading the Rebels to the National Junior College Basketball Finals. After graduating from Dixie, he earned a bachelor’s degree from Weber State College, where he led the Wildcats to their first appearance in the NCAA tournament and was named an Academic All-American. He then went on to earn an MBA from Harvard Business School. He was invited to try out with the Chicago Bulls, but missed the final cut concluding, “they had no vision.” Nolan is currently President, Chairman and CEO of the Black & Decker Corporation, a five billion dollar company with 60,000 employees doing business in more than 100 countries throughout the world. Fortune magazine named him as one of the “ten most wanted managers” in the U.S. and Business Week named him one of the six best managers in 1997. Alumnus of the Year by the American Association of Community Colleges.

GAIL COOPER SMITH as an All-American in basketball and softball teams. Before serving a mission for the LDS church in London, England, she taught at Ben Lomond High School. Following her mission, she taught at Ben Lomond H igh for three years. She then coached at Centerville Junior High School for three years, winning one regional championship. Raised in a time when women athletes were an oddity, she was driven to improve the quality and per-
ception of women’s athletics. As a coach, she believes in teaching the fundamentals of any sport in a way that instills important life values in young hearts, as well as joy in the game. Gail is the author of a book enti-
tled “Shadow Fall: Reflections on Nurturing Family Values,” plus many short stories. In 1995 she was given an honorary

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

FIVE INDUCTION CANDIDATES

NATIONAL HALL OF FAME FOR PREMIER ARTISTS

The newly created Athletic Hall of Fame at Dixie State College honors the south wall of the Burns Arena foyer.

THREE INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME DURING FOUNDER’S DAY

Dixie State College inducted three members into its Hall of Fame as part of homecom-
ing activities in October. Dr. Richard G. Whitehead, Julie Bangerter Beck, and Del Parson were honored at a ceremony in the St. George Tabernacle as part of the annual Founder’s Day Assembly.

The Hall of Fame honors individuals who have been distinguished in their field of study or profession; lead lives with standard of impact; made significant gifts to education at Dixie State College; or proven themselves over time.

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Del Parson
Julie Bangerter Beck
Dr. Richard Whitehead

DEL PARSON was inducted in the Fine & Performing Arts category. For 31 years Parson has been painting professionally, pro-
ducing art work for top national galleries; print companies; and public, religious, and private institutions. He was thrilled to be able to come to Dixie State College and con-
siders his 19 years at Dixie a major highlight of his life. Del has received public and critical acclaim and won numerous national and regional painting awards. Millions of art prints have been made of his image. Some of his most well-known images are the more than 200 he has painted for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, especially those depicting the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Del counts among his most fulfilling accomplishments the students whom he has taught, and many have gone on to their own professional art careers. He and his wife Lynette have six children.

JULIE BANGERTER BECK was inducted in the Public & Corporate Service category. At Dixie College, Julie B. Beck discovered her love for public administration: she was a member of Program Bureau under Irene DiFiore, marched with the Rebelttes, was in the cast of Show Boat, was involved in Student Institute programs, and served on the Executive Council under the leadership of Rudy Berenson. Following her graduation from Dixie College, she mar-
rried Ramon P. Beck and completed her edu-
cation at Brigham Young University. She has worked very hard serving in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She served on the Young Women General Board and as First Counselor in the Young Women General Presidency. She currently serves as the Relief Society General President. As part of her responsibilities, she is a member of the Church Board of Education and the Board of Trustees of four Church universities. She is on the Executive and General councils for Welfare and the Eternal Education Fund of the Church. Her great love and passion remains her family; any time spent with them is golden.

DR. RICHARD G. WHITEHEAD was inducted in the Education category. Dr. Whitehead is a graduate of Dixie High School, Dixie College and Brigham Young University. He also graduated from Creighton University School of Dentistry in Omaha, Nebraska, and completed an oral surgery internship at Mercy Hospital in Baltimore, MD. He prac-
ticed dentistry and oral surgery in St. George for 26 years, but eventually left dentistry to devote his full attention to Dixie State College. As the executive director of institutional advancement, he headed efforts that raised in excess of $30 million. He is past president of the Dixie State College Foundation, the Alumni Association, co-founder and member of the Dixie College National Advisory Council and former member of the Dixie College Board of Trustees. In May of 2005 at Dixie College’s commencement exer-
cises, the Utah State Board of Regents award-
ed him an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities degree. In 2007, Dr. Whitehead was appointed vice president of institutional advancement at Southern Virginia University. He, his wife Laura, and their six children are all graduates of Dixie State College.

HOLDING COURT

The National Hall of Fame, Weber State Hall of Fame, Utah Sports Hall of Fame, All- American Women’s Basketball team at Dixie, and Honorary Lifetime member of the Dixie Colonels Club, which he helped organize.

RUPER T BUCHMAN was a baseball and football star at Montana State University, Chicago, Ill. The first game of the tour-
nament was the first time he had ever played basketball indoors on a wood floor. After attending Dixie College in 1925-26, he went on to play at Montana State University, where he helped lead the Bobcats to a national championship in 1929. He was a four-time All-America selection at MSU and was named National College Player of the Year in 1929. After his graduation, Cat played semi-pro ball in California for a year, then coached high school basketball in Montana and Idaho. He was enshrined in the Helms Athletic Hall of Fame and named “Coach of the Decade” in 1920. He was one of the first players inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

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The white minivan raced up Skyline drive with dust and gravel flying and skidded into the makeshift parking lot that overlooks the city of St. George. An older man jumped out of the vehicle, rushed over to the edge of the cliff, looking intently at the western sky and exclaimed, “Darn! I missed it!”

Teaching at Dixie’s ICL was like coming full circle for Leavitt. As a teenager, determined to make a better life for himself than the hardscrabble existence of his father, he decided he needed an education and Dixie College was the place to get it.

It was at Dixie College that Leavitt met the love of his life, the former Harriet Anderson. She was a high school student downstair, while he attended college classes upstairs. “I saw her standing on those steps and thought, ‘Oh my’” he remembers with smile. They waited until Harriet graduated from Dixie College in 1942 before they were married.

Both continued their education at BYU, and Harriet ultimately earned a teaching degree from the University of Nevada. She taught elementary school for some years.

College students today might be surprised to learn that Leavitt and some fellow students lived without electricity or running water, no indoor plumbing, and with only dirt floors. Dinner often consisted of lentil spread on a slice of bread. During one particularly difficult term, Leavitt ate nothing but canned peaches four days a week for a month, and then walked from campus to Santa Clara to eat as much as he could at his aunt’s house. Still, he says, he was grateful for the chance to get an education, at any cost.

Leavitt marvels at the changes he’s seen both in the College and the community. DSC has one of the highest-ranked dental hygiene programs in the state of Utah, and St. George boasts more dentists per capita than most major American cities. Yet Leavitt remembers when “dental care” for his mother meant holding on to the back of a chair while the only man in Gunlock who owned an old pair of foertics pulled out 17 of her teeth, one by one, with just a quick swish of his water bottle. She was in her mid-thirties at the time.

Leavitt’s love of theater was rewarded during his years at DSC when he won drama awards and was surprised if a white Ford pickup comes racing up the hill, slipping into the nearby parking lot, and an older gentleman jumps out to join you. Enjoy the view together, introduce yourself, and feel privileged to meet a true local pioneer; then let him tell you about the things he’s seen from up there through the years. You’ll never see the red hills quite the same way again.

Leavitt and Harriet’s memories of their years at Dixie College are the subject of a short film being produced by students in DSC’s Communication Department.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Kellie Mzik is a freelance writer and a senior at Dixie State College, pursuing a bachelor’s degree in communications. Returning to college after a lengthy break, Kellie is looking forward to getting her degree May. Originally from Pensacola, Florida, Kellie, her husband and their three daughters enjoy southern Utah sunsets in Santa Clara.

Lavord Leavitt– a Dixie Pioneer making the most of...

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Merv Cox
Dixie Perpetual Gift of  Smiles

by Chauntelle Plewe Lewis, ’01

“Mervyn is a perpetual gift to Dixie State College. Not only has he endowed the school with numerous gifts, he has also endowed the community with perpetual smiles.”

—George F. Whitehead, Associate Vice President of Advancement and Cultural Arts

Dr. Mervyn K. Cox, ’56, left smiles everywhere he went, and though his physical presence has left us, he will keep us smiling forever.

“This is...as good a man as I’ve ever known,” said Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, at Mervyn Cox’s funeral. “He was a profound influence on me. I could speak for legions of other young men and young women who were influenced by Merv Cox.”

Those who met Merv may never forget how his smile, cheerful disposition, and wisdom in influenced young women who were influenced by Merv Cox. “He could speak for legions of other young men and women who were influenced by Merv Cox,” said Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, at Mervyn Cox’s funeral.

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Merv, continued from page 21

Brightening Smiles in the Mervyn and Sue Cox Dental Hygiene Clinic (2002)

“The dental hygiene program would not be where it is today were it not for Merv’s generosity and caring,” said interim Coordinator, DSC’s Dental Hygiene Program Coordinator.

When Dixie’s dental hygiene program started in 1998, they relied solely on local dentists for education and practice areas. Dental hygiene classes were taken at night and on Saturdays on the dentists’ off hours. As the program grew, it needed its own home. Since donum was his dad, Merv felt it would be a good way for him to help. The Mervyn and Sue Cox Dental Hygiene Clinic on the DSC campus was largely made possible by their generous donation. Many local dentists and orthodontists also contributed, and individual operators were named after those who couldn't come to the clinic, why not bring the clinic to them. In 2006 the Cox’s once again spread smiles by donating Skywest stock to pay for the Mobile Dental Hygiene Clinic (2006) and how to best serve the community.

Traveling Miles for Smiles in the Mobile Dental Hygiene Clinic (2006)
The one-campus clinic served many, but could not serve all low-income families in the community. If they couldn't come to the clinic, why not bring the clinic to them. In 2006 the Cox’s once again spread smiles by donating Skywest stock to pay for the Mobile Dental Hygiene Clinic, “A Few Miles for Bright Smiles.”

Since 2002 when the clinic was completed, numerous dental hygiene students have received training and even more grateful patients have left the clinic with brighter smiles. Merv was also a great asset on the program’s advisory council. He helped provide advice and vision on program growth, the impact the clinic on the dental community, and how to best serve the community.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Chaunette Pierre Lewis, ’01 has been enjoying her dream job at Dixie as the marketing coordinator since last July. She has loved promoting the College and the arts, being a fan of both. She is also earning a new respect for teachers as she teaches her first college class. Before joining the DSC Staff Chaunette graduated from BYU in Communications, Public Relations, and served an LDS mission in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She married Tyler Lewis last November.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Amber Mikels Rich has been an adjunct communications instructor at Dixie State for the past nine years. In addition to accepting freelance writing assignments from the Dixie State Public Relations office, she also writes for the St. George Magazine, Dixie Regional Medical Center, Boy Scouts of America, and others. After earning her associate degree at Dixie in 1994, Amber graduated with her bachelor’s in communication at SUU, where she was nominated as the outstanding communication student of the year in 1996. Amber and her husband, Adam, live in St. George with their four children.

Ned goes over plans with principal architect, Derek Payne, on one of the nearly-completed Russell C. Taylor Health Sciences Building. His last project in his long career was the Dixie Campus "G" building.

Ned, continued from pg 10

opportunity and unique perspective. “How many people have been able to experience all these different types of realms and individuals? I don’t know if there is any other position on campus where you get to work with so many great people and do so many different things.”

In return, he proved and supervising complete the site and yard that it has taken to manage, coordinate and satisfy the massess and still come in on target. He has never been run over by an architect or contractor. They all know that Ned means business and will follow the rules and the plan,” said Plowe. “He’s a great budget administrator, never spends in the red, and his employees are respectful of him, and his consistently firm but fair management style.”

In summation Ned looks back on 35 years of hard work and development without a base of weariness or nostalgia. Still charging ahead as he nears the finish line, he refuses to waiste as he tackles the most complex project in size and scope of his career, the Russell C. Taylor Health Sciences Building. Blueprint the size of a folding table and as thick as a dictionary appears complete to see it through until the last phone is plugged in and the final desk is straightened in its row.

“The growth that took place during Hudleston’s and Caldwell’s tenures changed the flavor of the school and brought about a distinct change in the caliber and quality of the architecture and direction of the campus,” he stated.

“In regards to the “Dixie Spirit” that first attracted Ned to the campus and anchored him here for the past three plus decades, he concluded: “I think the alumni, administration, and community need to keep that identity alive. It’s more than a name or a building, but something of the high caliber of faculty, staff and students that make this institution different.”

In parting he added, “If you write any thing, say I had a great opportunity at Dixie. This college and the people here have been really good to me.”

The feeling is mutual. ◆

DIXIE/U OF U AFFILIATION, continued from pg 12

aged in this affiliation and that the institution’s responsiveness to local needs, including the region college mission and current program offerings, would remain unchanged. Caldwell added that the exact details and performance structure will be incorporated in the operating agreement. In terms of the school’s identity, Dixie State’s position stated the desire for U of U officials to acknowledge and encourage the citizens of Dixie and Dixie State College to continue to feel all the good that is revealed and honored from the original Dixie College and Utah’s Dixie heritage. In addition, such symbols including the “D” on the hill above St. George Boulevard, school and civic songs, and school chants would be preserved.

If the affiliation takes affect and we become the University of Utah-St. George, the name ‘Dixie’ will not be in the official title of the institution, but the Dixie name and the Dixie spirit will not be taken away,” said DSC spokesperson Steve Johnson. “The St. George campus will be known as the Dixie Campus. Students will still be able to proudly say they go to Dixie.”

Johnson also notes that DSC’s Trustees knew the importance of preserving and protecting the original pioneer mission heritage and the history of the institution, and took the steps necessary that it is celebrated and honored in Utah’s Dixie heritage.

“The name ‘Dixie’ is very important from the standpoint of regional identity,” Caldwell said. “While many people have documented Dixie’s history, little investment has been made in documenting the traditions and values of Dixie College.”

Caldwell pointed to the era when the institution took the path of adopting the “confederate” identity, which he noted does not reflect the true ethics or heritage of the region. To that end, the petition letter for DSC to retire the use of the “Rebel” nickname.

“As this institution grows and evolves, the idea of investment becomes critical,” Caldwell continued. “That [confederate] path has obstructed and confused the true pioneer heritage of this institution. It is our hope to return this institution back to a state of authentic heritage.”

Caldwell noted that an institutional task force, made up of current students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community leaders, has been created to work toward a new identity for both the institution and its athletic programs that is grounded in the pioneer heritage of the area and the College. ◆
Dixie State Rebels Sports Highlights

Dixie State College announced last fall that its intercollegiate athletic program had been given approval to add a men’s soccer program, contingent upon final budget reviews that will occur in April.

With the addition of men’s soccer, DSC will be the only institution in the state of Utah, along with Idaho, Nevada, and Arizona, to offer NCAA intercollegiate men’s soccer at any classification. Currently, all programs within the region support men’s soccer at a club-team competition level. This fact will help the DSC men’s program attract some of the more elite players from the region.

DSC Director of Athletics Desiree Irvin says that a search for a head coach is currently on-going, noting that the position will consist of a part-time head coach with duties similar to that currently held by DSC head women’s soccer coach Linda Huddleston.

The DSC men’s soccer program is scheduled to begin play in the fall of 2008.

DSC ATHLETES ENJOY BANNER SEMESTER IN CLASSROOM

Nineteen Dixie State College students received Exceptional Scholar-Athlete designation from the athletic department for their performance in the classroom fall semester.

Included are six students who earned 4.0 GPAs this semester, a group that includes David Jennings of Bountiful (golf); Sam Ashman of Orem (football); Lily Schumacher of Bountiful City (softball); Alex Blake of St. George (men’s soccer); Bob Hogue (women’s soccer); and Michael Orsillo of Idaho Falls, Idaho (golf), and his wife, Monica Manning Orsillo, also of Idaho Falls (cross country).

Thirteen additional Exceptional Scholar-Athletes were honored for earning a grade point average of 3.8 or higher.

Assistant athletic director and compliance officer Maureen Eckroth said that a GPA of 4.0 is a challenge for female student-athletes, who are often juggling academics, practice, and competition. Overall GPA for the 249 student-athletes in the region.

Eckroth said, “To have the turnaround turn in by DSC’s student-athletes a year ago.

Scheidt was then responsible for creating and funding a competitive program that will be able to challenge for conference and national titles in the near future.

It is our plan to offer a well-rounded educational experience to our student-athletes,” Irvin said.

“Adding men’s soccer is another component of that plan, along with the possible future additions of emerging women’s sports, such as golf, lacrosse and swimming.

WOMEN’S SOCCER KICKS ITS WAY IN SUCCESS

The 2007 women’s soccer team just missed making history in the first season of Pac-West Conference Play as the Rebels won eight of their last nine matches to finish the season at 15-4-1 overall, including a 9-2-1 Pac-West record—second place in the conference standings.

The Rebels’ 15 wins were the most since the program moved to NCAA Division II competition, including a victory over NCAA Division I member UNLV (2-1) and a 1-1 exhibition tie at Utah State to open the season. In addition, DSC posted its first winning season since making the jump to four-year competition two years ago.

DSC had six players earn all-Pac-West Conference honors, including two first team selections.

Senior midfielder Mikela Wilkes (Cedar Hills, Utah/Lone Peak HS) garnered first team honors after co-leading the league in scoring with seven points on a conference-high 15 goals and seven assists. She was joined on the first team by freshman defender Jessica Nelson (Orem, Utah/ Timpview HS), while sophomore defender Rebecca D’Occio (Fr., Las Vegas, Nev./Centennial HS) and Carly Haycock (Fr. Bound Brook, N.J., and Utah/Bountiful HS) were voted to the league’s second team.

In addition, senior nemminder Suzanne Hunt (Salt Lake City, Utah/Layton HS) earned honorable mention selection.

Women’s soccerPost-season honors

Seven DSC football players picked up post season recognition as coaches from 13 NCAA Division II independent select all-Independent Collegiate Athletic Association first and second teams.

Five Rebels were voted to the first team, including senior tight end Judd Thompson (6-3, 205, Corner Creek, Ill./Plainfield Ridge HS; team-high 35 rec., 476 yds. 1 TD), sophomore Olinemen Ryan Davidson (6-5, 308, Miami, Fla./Droop HS), freshman punter Nash Fowler (5-11, 175/Ludington, Utah, IA/Chariton HS; 45.7 all-purpose yds.; 8 rec., 111 yds. 1 TD, 14 P, 140 yds. 26 KOR, 471 yd.), D-Lineman Chad Frank (6-3, 258/Lubbock, N.M./New Mexico High, 51 total tackles, 12.0 TFLs, team-high 7.0 sacks), and junior linebacker Teddy Owens (6-4, 220, Pleasant Grove, Utah/Pleasant Grove HS, team-high 78 tackles, 52 solo stops, 5.0 TFLs).

According to Jim Fischer of D2football.com, Deluca is up for all-region honors, and his status is considered an NFL prospect.

Women’s soccer Post-season honors

Dr. Alan Ewell

Alumni Updates

Shawna Otteson and Kaylon Lavrin contributed to these updates

**ALLEN B. EWELL, ’02**

Graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine in May 2007. He was elected to the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Honor Society, for “scholastic attainment and professional potential” and awarded the American Student Award of the American Academy of Periodontology, in recognition of outstanding achievement in periodontics. Dr. Ewell is practicing in the Phoenix area.

**BEA WULFENSTEIN, ’48**

Is 79 years old and swims five days a week in the Salt Lake YMCA in Salt Lake. She swims one hour a day for at least 3000 meters a day. She has $50,000 in cash and 186,000 pounds of food. The rivalry week drive was recently awarded the CACE Circle of Excellence Gold Medal as the outstanding university community service project in the nation. John said the most enjoyable part of his job is his role as adviser to the Student Alumni Board (SAB) and the MUSC. He feels that Dixie’s SAB to be one of the best student organizations in the nation “I can’t take much credit there since I work pretty much full-time with students,” he said, crediting the energy of the SAB as the driving force behind the student’s success. Under John’s direction, the MUSC has grown from a meeting of nine people in 2002 to more than 4,500 members during Utah’s 2007 football season.

In my 14 years of coaching football at the University of Utah, the most important addition to our game-day atmosphere has, without question, been the ever increasing presence of THE MUSC,” said Ute Head Football Coach Kyle Whittingham. “The MUSC, one of the top ten student-life clubs in the country according to ESPN, is what Utah football is all about. The support and emotional boost they give to our team is invaluable, and this is due largely to the hard work of John Fackler. He has put his heart and soul into the development of The MUSC and he is the main reason it has become the success it is today.”

John and his wife Carol, along with their two sons, reside in the East Miller Creek area of Salt Lake City.
**JULIE MCAUTHER SCHMUTZ, ’79, passed away in her home on Oct. 17, 2021, after a lengthy battle with complications due to cancer. She was an Eagle Scout and aide to four presidents at Dixie State College. Arlene was a certified gemologist and loved rocks and gemstones of every kind, especially collecting fine jewelry. She lived in Brazil as an exchange student during high school. She met her sweetheart in a Spanish class while attending Dixie State College. She was a voracious reader and had a unique fascination with the history of the people and places she visited on her tours throughout the U.S. and Canada. As a tourist she visited countries throughout the world and shared her adventures with others. Travel trips and adventures with her husband were highlights of her life.**

**MONTRE GREY LARKIN, age 92, passed away Wednesday, September 12, 2012. She was born September 28, 1920, in Utah, to Thomas Cleveland Grey and Charlotte Jane Cole. She attended Box Elder High School in Brigham City, where she was a star in a weekly column, Tour Guide for the Continental Bus Line. At the age of 17, she was sealed for time and eternity to Jeffrey D. Schmutz. They were the parents of seven children, two of which preceded her in death. She and her husband moved to St. George, where he founded Larkin Plumbing and Heating. Herman was a partner in the family business in 1948, leaving Montre a young widow. She considers the raising of her five children her greatest accomplishment. Montre was an ‘elec’ lady in every way; renowned for her service to her community, church, Dixie College and countless individuals who have been recipients of her compassion and counsel. Her legacy to Dixie College includes her years as Bookstore Manager, Counselor, instigator of the campus Christmas lighting, and her family, including fine arts professor and chairman, Dr. Michael Scott Cannon, of the Fine Arts Program. Donations can be made to the AA and NA program or to the David H. Cannon Scholarship Fund through Dixie State College.**

**ORA LEE MCMULLIN, ’48, a woman of great faith, Ora Lee Gardner McMullin passed away in her home on Wednesday, August 22, 2007. She was born in St. George, Utah, on December 15, 1921, to Donald Alpine McGregor and Bertha Linda Williams, of Mesas, Arizona. She was an Eagle Scout and loved the outdoors. She was a member of the Southern Utah Heritage Choir for nearly ten years. Ora Lee loved a life of compassion and service. From crocheting afghans for grandchildren, to cooking countless meals, she served with her hands and her whole heart. Every occasion was special because of her touch. Her grandchildren smile when they remember her legendary stuffed animal hunts and memorable Christmas gatherings. It was so important to her that her family be together. Ora Lee was an Eagle Scout and loved the outdoors. She was born in St. George, Utah, to Thomas and Fae McArthur. She was raised in St. George and received her associate degree from Dixie Jr. College.**

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BRA G A boutYour Friends & Fam ily
who are D SC A lum ni!
You know the good stuff! Don’t keep it to yourself! Send us news about careers, post-graduate pursuits, awards, promotions, community service, births and more. Send us news to Dixie State College. Dixie State College 225 South 700 East St. George, UT 84770. larson@dixie.edu or mail the coupon to Alumni Update, Dixie State College 225 South 700 East St. George, UT 84770.

Send your mailing or email addresses as well as those of classmates to Kalynn Larson at larson@dixie.edu or call 435-652-7535.

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We don’t mean to be nosy...

...but we’d “udderly” appreciate if you would update your contact information!

Send an e-mail to larson@dixie.edu, or use the form below to update us with your current contact information including:

- Name (maiden & married)
- Address
- Birthday
- Phone number
- E-mail address
- Graduation year or years attended
- Any other updates you’d like to share!

CHAPTER EVENTS

NORTHERN UTAH ALUMNI CHAPTER UPDATE by Julie Poulsen, ’96

The Northern Utah Alumni Chapter held its 4th annual dinner and auction at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City on Nov. 10. It was a fun evening with wonderful food, good company, give-a-ways and an auction. The zany Mary Lee Anderton, who acted as MC for the evening, worked hard to obtain donated items for the auction, which included everything from designer jewelry and hand carved pens, to get-a-ways and hotel stays. The chapter presidency is so appreciative of the continuing support from the sponsors who support this event year after year. They are especially grateful to the Jones family who were the underwriters for the evening so all of the funds raised from the auction can be used for a scholarship for a northern Utah student to attend Dixie State College.

“Each year this event grows and I am so grateful to all alumni and their spouses who attend and bid on the auction items,” Mary Lee told the attendees. “Your generous support is much appreciated.”

An update on the College along with entertainment rounded out the night. Thank you to all who attended and helped to make the night a success.

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As the fall semester dawned at Dixie State this year, I had the opportunity to stand with our newly installed Student Alumni Board at the foot of our beloved “D” on the Black Hill. Together our eyes traversed the expanse of modern Dixie as it lay before us. As we stood there soaking in the wonder of it all, I couldn’t help but imagine what Dixie must have looked like to its earliest explorers and colonizers.

My study of our history tells me that in 1849 Parley P. Pratt and a company of 50 men were among the first to explore the Virgin River Basin as part of the self-sustaining, colonization infrastructure envisioned by Brigham Young. Of Dixie, the explorers of a subsequent party reported, “Here we can raise cotton, flax, hemp, grapes, figs, sweet potatoes, fruits of almost every kind and be independent of our kind ... friends who drove us from their midst.”

By 1854, Jacob Hamblin was sent to establish the “Indian Mission” along the Santa Clara River. The very next year, Augustus Hardy planted a bottle of cotton seed here in his new home. He had received the seed from a Southerner, Nancy Anderson, of Border. A good crop of cotton was produced and 30 yards of cotton cloth were woven from its harvest.

In 1857, encouraged by samples of that cloth, Brigham Young sent 38 Southern families that had cotton growing experience to the Virgin River to establish the Cotton Mission. Under the direction of Samuel Adair and Robert Covington, these early pioneers named their settlement “Washington” after the first President of the U.S., George Washington. By 1858, they had diverted the Virgin River and Adair Springs and had planted 400 acres of cotton in “virgin” land. Collectively, these pioneers possessed very little experience with irrigation and they were unaware of the effects that alkali salts had on vegetation. Consequently, only 130 acres of those planted grew to maturity. However, even with these hurdles to overcome, they still managed to harvest a crop of 70,000 pounds of ginned cotton.

Unfortunately, with their focus diverted to growing cotton, they found that they hadn’t planted enough food and in 1859 they began to starve. To make matters worse, their dams washed out repeatedly and without fences to pen them in, their stock had to be tended by a herdsman day and night to keep them from destroying their crops.

Reminiscent of their earlier home, these early pioneers soon began calling their new home and the surrounding areas Dixie. Ironically, that same year Daniel Decatur Emmett (a Yankee) and his minstrel band wrote and premiered the historic tune “Dixie” in New York City. Peculiarly, this song reportedly became one of Abraham Lincoln’s favorite tunes. It also soon made its way to Utah’s Dixie and helped these pioneers to retain a portion of their heritage.

The early Dixieites found strength by banding together and overcoming each obstacle they encountered, one by one. Through overcoming trials together, the “Dixie Spirit” was born among them.

Just as this “Dixie Spirit” was symbolic of those that tamed Dixie, over time this characteristic has become genetically woven into every fiber of those that have followed them and we have become, in a sense, genetically modified by the red sand that fills our own shoes. This is that same “Dixie Spirit” that we understand to be a “can do attitude” of going forward in unity, having faith in the pursuit of a better future for all. This “Dixie Spirit” enables us to make the most of our options. It is not a stranger to self-sacrifice, nor does it cause us to be inclined to recoil from any challenge, large or small.

As we continue to grow and to capitalize upon the opportunities that will come to our great Dixie school, may we ensure that we take care to preserve this “Dixie Spirit” for the benefit of future generations. Let us maintain the same “can do attitude” that our forefathers possessed. We can do this if we continue to meet all challenges by pulling together. By pulling together through our actions and contributions, we cannot help but prosper.

Just For Now,
— Mark H. Gubler, DSC Alumni President

PS. If you have just arrived in Dixie, put a little red sand in your shoes and give yourself a little time. There is hope for you, too!
Highlights of Dixie’s Centennial Celebration last November

Clockwise from top left: Thomas McArthur representing the Cotton brothers in one of the historical vignettes; St. George City law enforcement enjoying a break from duty; Annie, one of Claudia’s Clown’s, puts the finishing “dot” on the nose of a little girl; Dan Watson at the historical vignette featuring past College presidents; Sunset Elementary Sunset Express performs; an onlooker enjoying the afternoon; President Caldwell and Mayor Dan McArthur at the VIP reception; a little boy enjoys a sweet treat.