Dixie celebrates “100 Years of Rock Solid Tradition” with fun activities

A CENTURY OF HONORING THE “D”
100 years after its construction, the “D” still stands as a beacon of school spirit

Dixie State University Magazine • Spring 2015

ON THE COVER
Dixie Academy students show off their handiwork after constructing the “D” on the hill on Feb. 19, 1915. Celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, the now-iconic symbol of school spirit and class unity displays the Dixie Spirit to anyone who comes to St. George.

CONTACT US
To suggest a story you would like to read in an upcoming issue of Dixie State University Magazine, email Jyl Hall at jylhall@dixie.edu, call her at 435-652-7547, or send a letter to 225 S. University Ave., North Admin Building, St. George, UT 84790. To make changes to the mailing list, contact Kalynn Larson at 435-652-7535 or larson@dixie.edu. To view the magazine online, visit www.dixie.edu/alumni/alumniandfriends/alumni_magazine.php.

EDITORIAL STAFF
Director of Public Relations
Steve Johnson
Editor
Jyl Hall
Designer
Misty Frisbey, ’06
Copy Editors
Deborah Wirth, ’03
Marilyn Lamoreaux
Marketing Coordinator
Jared Madery, ’06
Alumni Director
Kalynn Larson, ’94
Alumni Association President
Hal Hiatt, ’93
Alumni Marketing Specialist
Chet Norman, ’13
Board of Trustees
Dr. Christina J. Durham, Chair
David L. Clark, Vice Chair
Julie B. Beck
Larry G. Bergeson
Elisabeth Rhodes Bingham
Hal P. Hiatt
Gregory J. Layton
Jon Pile
Gail Cooper Smith
Thomas E. Wright

Dixie State University Magazine is published bimonthly by the office of Public Relations and Publications in cooperation with the DSU Alumni Association for all alumni and friends.

To get up-to-date news on Dixie State University happenings, visit www.dixie.edu.

D-Week 2015
Dixie celebrates “100 Years of Rock Solid Tradition” with fun activities

Dixie celebrates “100 Years of Rock Solid Tradition” with fun activities

A CENTURY OF HONORING THE “D”
100 years after its construction, the “D” still stands as a beacon of school spirit

Dixie celebrates “100 Years of Rock Solid Tradition” with fun activities

A CENTURY OF HONORING THE “D”
100 years after its construction, the “D” still stands as a beacon of school spirit

ON THE COVER
Dixie Academy students show off their handiwork after constructing the “D” on the hill on Feb. 19, 1915. Celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, the now-iconic symbol of school spirit and class unity displays the Dixie Spirit to anyone who comes to St. George.

CONTACT US
To suggest a story you would like to read in an upcoming issue of Dixie State University Magazine, email Jyl Hall at jylhall@dixie.edu, call her at 435-652-7547, or send a letter to 225 S. University Ave., North Admin Building, St. George, UT 84790. To make changes to the mailing list, contact Kalynn Larson at 435-652-7535 or larson@dixie.edu. To view the magazine online, visit www.dixie.edu/alumni/alumniandfriends/alumni_magazine.php.

EDITORIAL STAFF
Director of Public Relations
Steve Johnson
Editor
Jyl Hall
Designer
Misty Frisbey, ’06
Copy Editors
Deborah Wirth, ’03
Marilyn Lamoreaux
Marketing Coordinator
Jared Madery, ’06
Alumni Director
Kalynn Larson, ’94
Alumni Association President
Hal Hiatt, ’93
Alumni Marketing Specialist
Chet Norman, ’13
Board of Trustees
Dr. Christina J. Durham, Chair
David L. Clark, Vice Chair
Julie B. Beck
Larry G. Bergeson
Elisabeth Rhodes Bingham
Hal P. Hiatt
Gregory J. Layton
Jon Pile
Gail Cooper Smith
Thomas E. Wright

Dixie State University Magazine is published bimonthly by the office of Public Relations and Publications in cooperation with the DSU Alumni Association for all alumni and friends.

To get up-to-date news on Dixie State University happenings, visit www.dixie.edu.

D-Week 2015
Dixie celebrates “100 Years of Rock Solid Tradition” with fun activities

A CENTURY OF HONORING THE “D”
100 years after its construction, the “D” still stands as a beacon of school spirit

Dixie celebrates “100 Years of Rock Solid Tradition” with fun activities

A CENTURY OF HONORING THE “D”
100 years after its construction, the “D” still stands as a beacon of school spirit

ON THE COVER
Dixie Academy students show off their handiwork after constructing the “D” on the hill on Feb. 19, 1915. Celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, the now-iconic symbol of school spirit and class unity displays the Dixie Spirit to anyone who comes to St. George.

CONTACT US
To suggest a story you would like to read in an upcoming issue of Dixie State University Magazine, email Jyl Hall at jylhall@dixie.edu, call her at 435-652-7547, or send a letter to 225 S. University Ave., North Admin Building, St. George, UT 84790. To make changes to the mailing list, contact Kalynn Larson at 435-652-7535 or larson@dixie.edu. To view the magazine online, visit www.dixie.edu/alumni/alumniandfriends/alumni_magazine.php.

EDITORIAL STAFF
Director of Public Relations
Steve Johnson
Editor
Jyl Hall
Designer
Misty Frisbey, ’06
Copy Editors
Deborah Wirth, ’03
Marilyn Lamoreaux
Marketing Coordinator
Jared Madery, ’06
Alumni Director
Kalynn Larson, ’94
Alumni Association President
Hal Hiatt, ’93
Alumni Marketing Specialist
Chet Norman, ’13
Board of Trustees
Dr. Christina J. Durham, Chair
David L. Clark, Vice Chair
Julie B. Beck
Larry G. Bergeson
Elisabeth Rhodes Bingham
Hal P. Hiatt
Gregory J. Layton
Jon Pile
Gail Cooper Smith
Thomas E. Wright

Dixie State University Magazine is published bimonthly by the office of Public Relations and Publications in cooperation with the DSU Alumni Association for all alumni and friends.

To get up-to-date news on Dixie State University happenings, visit www.dixie.edu.
A Lasting Legacy
Encapsulating the spirit of generosity and excellence held dear by southern Utah, Dixie State University’s historic “D” on the black hill is so much more than a large initial on a ridge. It is a symbol of unity, it encourages all passersby to have pride in the community’s university, and this spring, it turns 100 years old.

Standing for Do, Determination, Development, and Devotion in addition to Dixie, as Principal of Dixie Academy Hugh M. Woodward wrote in the 1915 yearbook, the “D” was built out of a necessity of sorts. You see, the academy’s classes of 1913, ’14, and ’15 got caught up in some rivalry.

The Inaugural D-Day
According to 1915 alumnus Mathew Bentley’s account, preserved in DSU’s Special Collections and Archives, students in the class of ’13 painted “1913” in large, white numerals on the Sugarloaf in 1912. Not to be outdone, the students graduating in ’14, covered the “3” on the prominent landmark with red paint and replaced it with a white “4.” The rivalry continued, with the year’s last digit changing every few days. After the class of ’13 graduated, the class of ’15 took their place in the showdown, and as time went on, antics escalated until a fistfight broke out between the classes.

The ‘D’ Celebrates 100 Years of Evoking the Dixie Spirit
Encapsulating the spirit of generosity and excellence held dear by southern Utah, Dixie State University’s historic “D” on the black hill is so much more than a large initial on a ridge. It is a symbol of unity, it encourages all passersby to have pride in the community’s university, and this spring, it turns 100 years old.

Standing for Do, Determination, Development, and Devotion in addition to Dixie, as Principal of Dixie Academy Hugh M. Woodward wrote in the 1915 yearbook, the “D” was built out of a necessity of sorts. You see, the academy’s classes of 1913, ’14, and ’15 got caught up in some rivalry.

The Inaugural D-Day
According to 1915 alumnus Mathew Bentley’s account, preserved in DSU’s Special Collections and Archives, students in the class of ’13 painted “1913” in large, white numerals on the Sugarloaf in 1912. Not to be outdone, the students graduating in ’14, covered the “3” on the prominent landmark with red paint and replaced it with a white “4.” The rivalry continued, with the year’s last digit changing every few days. After the class of ’13 graduated, the class of ’15 took their place in the showdown, and as time went on, antics escalated until a fistfight broke out between the classes.

The ‘D’ Celebrates 100 Years of Evoking the Dixie Spirit

D-WEEK 2015
100 Years of Rock Solid Tradition

Schedule

Monday, April 13
Food Fest
6-8 p.m., North Encampment

Tuesday, April 14
D Queen Pageant
7:30-9 p.m., Cox Auditorium

Wednesday, April 15
Wednes-D — Joel the Magician
7:30-9 p.m., Gardner Ballroom

Thursday, April 16
Break a World Record
6 p.m., Hunt Baseball Complex parking lot; the goal is to get the most bouncy balls in motion at one time

Friday, April 17
Great Race
5 p.m., Hansen Stadium
Carnival
6 p.m., South Practice Field

Saturday, April 18
Pancake Breakfast
8-9:30 a.m., Town Square
Whitewash the “D”
10 a.m., Black Hill
Evening of Dixie
7 p.m., Eccles Main Stage
D-Day Dance
9 p.m.-midnight, Gardner Plaza
True Rebel
Midnight-1 a.m., Fountain

Dixie Idol
Vote for your favorite vocalist during this fun singing competition at noon on April 9, 10, 13 and 14 in the Gardner Student Center Lounge. The finalists will perform before Joel the Magician at Wednes-D.

Evening of Dixie
A program that honors people who have made a difference at Dixie State University and in the community

Ken & Sherril Newby
Dixie Spirit Award
Champions of Dixie for more than 40 years, the Newbys have supported DSU in a variety of ways. Ken even drove the basketball team’s station wagon to games in the early days and served as an assistant coach.

Andrea Barlow Rounds
Big D/Roene DiFiore Award
A member of the class of ’72, Andrea performed in many plays and Program Bureau performances and won Best Actress both years she attended Dixie. She worked with others to encourage officials to transform Dixie into a four-year school and helped the institution become a university. For the last 10 years, Andrea has served as secretary of the Northern Utah Chapter of the Alumni Association.

The Jennings Family
Community Service Award
In addition to being committed to serving the community, L. Leon and Annie Jennings taught their children to do likewise. Furthermore, all of their children — Mansfield, John, Gilbert, Margery, and Marie — are Dixie alumni.

Jerry Anderson
Rebel Award
A noted sculptor, Jerry’s art is on display in a variety of public spaces throughout southern Utah, including on the DSU Encampment Mall. After being commissioned in 1983 to create a life-size monument of soldiers helping one another, Jerry crafted the well-known “Rebels” statue.

Dixie Idol
Vote for your favorite vocalist during this fun singing competition at noon on April 9, 10, 13 and 14 in the Gardner Student Center Lounge. The finalists will perform before Joel the Magician at Wednes-D.
Resolved to end this competition, student body officers and school administrators proposed replacing a specific year on the Sugarloaf with the word "Dixie" and constructing a large "D" on the black hill. After faculty secured approval to do so, plans were devised to celebrate the inaugural Dixie Day, Edna J. Gregerson describes in her book "Dixie College: Monument to the Industry of a Dedicated People."

Civil engineer Leo A. Snow began tackling the project, single-handedly laying stones to form the outline of the "D." Bentley recounts. Twelve boys from the class of 1915, including Bentley, joined in the preparation efforts. In three weeks, the boys repaired an abandoned trail, which was built on the hill in the 1870s, to accommodate the teams of horses that would pull wagons loaded with buckets of lime and water up the hill to the site of the "D."

"On the morning of February 19 (the day set for the work), the boys started to gather on the hill shortly after 6 o'clock," the 1915 yearbook chronicles. "It was not long till the 'D' site was covered with men (almost one hundred in number) armed with picks, shovels, crowbars, brooms and buckets.

To construct the 100-foot tall by 75-foot wide "D," Bentley specifies, students took advantage of the hill's ample supply of large lava rocks, moving the heavy stones into the border Snow had established. After this was completed, the boys gave the new emblem a finished look by applying two coats of whitewash to it.

The inaugural D-Day wasn't all work and no play, though. The academy's girls prepared lunch, carried it up the hill, and joined the boys for a feast and short program that included songs and speeches commemorating the momentous day.

Evolving Traditions

As time has passed, traditions surrounding the day have naturally evolved. Instead of watching skins immediately below the "D" students now listen to the story of the emblem before getting to work. Likewise, a warm breakfast provided by the Alumni Association has replaced the student-prepared lunch.

However, the practice of covering the "D" with 200 gallons of whitewash each D-Week has stayed relatively consistent over the years. To make this possible, the St. George Fire Department fills six or seven 32-gallon garbage cans with water, Andrew Jensen, current X-Club president, said. Before the whitewashing is to commence, members of X-Club, which plays an instrumental role in maintaining and protecting the "D," carry bags of lime to the iconic landmark and add them to the water.

Then, all those gathered on the hillside — usually a group of students, faculty, staff, and alumni — work together to apply one coat of whitewash to the "D" while singing the school song right at sunrise, Connor Shakespeare, 2001-02 student body president and a current member of the Alumni Association Board, said.

"What I like about the 'D' is that it's the longest tradition the Dixie campus has," Shakespeare said. "Every time you participate in whitewashing the 'D,'

1915
1957
1967
1987
2010

DSU Special Collections and Archives

Annals of Dixie's past and accounts of the university's deeply respected traditions await history lovers deep in the repository of Dixie State University's Special Collections and Archives. Located on the third floor of DSU's Holland Centennial Commons, Special Collections houses many of the recorded accounts and photographs used in this article.

Additionally, the collection includes historical materials about Washington County, the Arizona Strip, and the Big Muddy region of Nevada along with archives documenting the history of Dixie State University. The Oral History Collection, the Leo Alva Snow Papers, and the Munlock Aerial Photography Collection are of particular significance to the history of Utah's Dixie.

If you have historic artifacts — anything from photographs to memorabilia — or records of memories you would like to add to the university's collection, contact Special Collections Librarian and Archivist Amber D’Ambrosio at dambrosio@dixie.edu or 435-652-7718 or visit http://library.dixie.edu/special_collections.

Special Collections and Archives is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. to those interested in poring over the collection's artifacts.

you're participating in a tradition that has been going on for a century."

Lighting Up the Sky

Since 1942, when the City of St. George started producing municipal power, the "D" has lit the night sky, initially illuminated by floodlights, the "D" received a facelift in 2004. After seeing the lighting system used for the Olympic rings at the 2002 games in Salt Lake City, student leaders worked to bring that technology to Dixie. Thanks to the City of St. George's support and the efforts of the student body and Dixie administrators, the D was outlined with high-efficiency fluorescent light bulbs at 5-foot increments.

Before electricity was available on the hill, the "D" was illuminated with fire on D-Day. "It was a big day of the year," Enid Heaton, class of '47, said. "It wasn't lit like it always is now. It was a one-time thing. It was very special. You looked forward to it, whether you were young, old, or somewhere in between."

Despite the advent of electricity, the tradition carries on today. "That night after whitewashing the 'D,' X-Club takes empty paint cans that were used in spreading the lime, fills them with sawdust and just a little bit of diesel fuel, and lights them on fire to give the 'D' an on-line effect," Jensen said.

Regardless if it is greeting residents bright and early each morning or illuminating the night sky on D-Day, Dixie's iconic "D" elicits strong emotion in the hearts and minds of students and alumni of all ages.

"Whitewashing the 'D' gives you pride in your school," Shakespeare said. "That's why I do it. It keeps me attached to the school. I like that I'm doing something that my parents and relatives have done for decades. As an alumnus, I go every year, and when my kids get older, I'll take them and hopefully they'll value the same thing."
Whitewashing the ‘D’ Through the Decades

1915

The boys of the class of 1915 were given the preliminary assignment of restoring the old hill, making it fit for wagon travel. Our biggest pieces of equipment were hand picks and shovels, but with plenty of teenage energy and by scheduling work assignments after school hours, we were able, in about three weeks, to drive a team of horses up to the area immediately below the site of the ‘D.’

1920s

The freshies enthusiastically received their initiation into the whitewash carryings, and the sophomores stoically gave the ‘D’ its annual bath. The freshman class conducted the D-Queen ceremonies during the dance in the evening, after which the crowds gathered to view the illuminated “D.”

1929

1930

The big celebration of the week was D-Day. We all had the time of our lives, and the queen (Loren Wanzer) was one of the prettiest I’ve ever seen.

1940s

1945

At 7:00 a.m., the parade was underway. The main feature of this event was whitewashed hair and eyes. Next came our toiled-over floats in pompous procession, followed by a tasty lunch on the Black Hill. Climaxing this memorable celebration was the treasury banquet and the magnificence of the traditional D-Day Ball.

1980s

1985

The spirit of Dixie then and now is, as always, unbeatable. During D-Day Week, the events have changed a little throughout the years. This year saw the stocks in operation engulfing unwary Rebels who had no pin, hat, or flag. The queen’s assembly dazzled spectators and the annual parade and whitewash of the “D” will add to any college career that spark of life. The week was brought to an end with the unforgettable D-Day Dance. The D-Day committee can be congratulated on their outstanding efforts in making this year’s D-Week one of unsurpassed “D-Power” and Southern Spirit.

1990s

1997

1998

On Friday, April 24th, the night wound down with a late outside movie, “Twister,” and on the morning of April 25th at 3:30 a.m., the day had just begun. Many students packed up the bare necessities and drove up to the “D,” where they would spend the rest of the morning. The lights were bright out at the “D,” brown bats dominated the skies, and monster moths swarmed the lights. Despite various night creatures, people were able to find semi-comfortable sleeping areas to demonstrate their dedication. Sleeping out on the “D” has been a tradition that only started a few years ago. … Nick Scott, who was numbered among the many who slept out, said, “The city looks awesome from the top of the ‘D.’” … As for whitewashing the “D,” Kelli Cottam said, “It was an exciting display of school spirit as we sang the school song and poured the lime.”

2000s

2004

At 7 a.m., students gathered once more at the base of the hill and prepared for the project ahead. They didn’t allow the rain to dampen their spirits, and they slipped through the mud as they climbed up to the “D.” “I think it builds a lot of school spirit,” said Brittany Freed. “I love to drive into St. George and see the ‘D.’ I think it’s an awesome idea to relight the ‘D,’ and I’m glad that we had the funding and support of the city.”

2011

“The alumni tell about the ‘D,’ and then we sing the school song,” said Student Body President, Abby Hirschi. “The whitewashing goes fast, so don’t be late.”
What does the “D” on the hill mean to you?

The Dixie State University Alumni Association asked social media followers what the “D” on the hill meant to them. Here is a sampling of what Dixie supporters had to say:

“It means I’m home. Not only have my friends and I used the ‘D’ for directions, like “Oh, it’s behind the ‘D’” or “Kind of close by the ‘D,’” but it’s also a reminder that we came to Dixie for a reason, to further our education and receive that degree. We wouldn’t choose any other place to call our home away from home.”
— Vika Havili, ‘15

“College is scary for a small-town girl from Wyoming. There is so much unknown and so much to learn. The ‘D’ on the hill isn’t just a sparkly landmark to me. It’s my motivation. The ‘D’ reminds me every day of my purpose of being here. It reminds me to stay focused, live my dreams, and like the ‘D’ itself, overcome my ‘mountains and obstacles’ and shine bright for all to see.”
— Erin Corun, ‘15

“Looking up at the ‘D’ brings that hope into my life and makes me excited when I dream of the future. It lets me know that I can still hold on to the past, but there is room for the new.”
— Candy Roland, ‘15

“The ‘D’ means that I’m at a place where I can be free. I have ancestors who came here with pioneers to settle the St. George valley, and seeing the ‘D’ reminds me of my ancestry. As I moved here for college, it became a symbol of what can come in the future, as I know my future is great.”
— Ashley Olson, ‘15

“It reminds me I’m home. It’s the place where my family lives, where I met my amazing friends. It’s where I have had wonderful opportunities in life, where the sun always shines, and a place where unforgettable memories with friends occurred.”
— Mari Savoir, ‘14

“The ‘D’ brings back great memories. Serving as the X-Club president and keeper of the ‘D,’ the hillside became a sacred place for me. It still invokes powerful feelings inside just looking at it. I miss being there. I would often go up to the ‘D’ to reflect on future goals and personal direction or to see the beautiful town I grew to love. In fact, I still sing the school fight song to my son at night. I hope he will grow to love and protect that ‘D’ on the hillside so bold, as I have done.”
— Christian Spitzenberger, ‘10

“To me, the ‘D’ represents perseverance. I think of the early settlers who came to St. George, despite all their hardships and challenges. They knew this is where they were supposed to be. Thinking of those early settlers gives me great hope that I can accomplish anything I set out to do.”
— Teisha Field, ’14

“I have gone to Dixie State University for almost two years. From the first day I moved in until the last day I leave, I will be able to look up at the Dixie ‘D’ and feel at home. I had a hard time moving to St. George from Salt Lake City at first because I didn’t know any of my roommates and had never lived on my own. The first night I moved in, I took my bike and pedaled all the way to the tabernacle, where I could see a perfect view of the Dixie ‘D.’ I was excited by this overwhelming feeling of comfort that everything would be all right and that this is where I was meant to be. Seeing the Dixie ‘D’ gives me a feeling of comfort that I don’t get going anywhere else.”
— Jocelyn Gibbons, ‘14

“The ‘D’ on the hill is as timeless and permanent as the institution. It demonstrates the institution’s commitment to educating and preparing all who come to partake in her beauty.”
— Jon Oglesby, ’12
A Storied History of Celebrated D-Queens

1922 — Roma Church
1923 — Helen Gardner
1924 — Maxine Findlay
1925 — Mary Graham
1926 — No queen
1927 — Hortense Snow
1928 — Nina Nisson
1929 — Karina McGregor
1930 — LoRen "Loie" Watson
1931 — Dixie Judd
1932 — Rosy Romney
1933 — Viola Woodbury
1934 — Loretta Murdock
1935 — Allen Judd
1936 — Doris Tobler
1937 — Evyanne Cox
1939 — Helma Thomas
1939 — Lallerta Woodbury
1940 — Vela Washburn
1941 — Janice Schmutz
1942 — Barbara Tweedie
1943 — Vernell Chamberlain
1944 — Rosza Allen
1945 — Joan Allen
1946 — Miriam Christiansen
1947 — Marilyn Snow
1948 — Renee Lund
1949 — Wanda Hall
1950 — Bernice Bentley
1951 — Marilyn Thomas
1952 — Helen McMullin
1953 — Annie Laurie McGregor
1954 — Willa Nita Brooks
1955 — Ellna Ann McArthur
1956 — Pansy Leavitt
1957 — Geniel McConkie
1958 — LaRae Terry
1959 — Geraldine "Jerri" Lund
1960 — Darlene Heaton
1961 — Geraldine "Jerri" Lund
1962 — Mary Ann Savage
1963 — Lasa Kay Frehner
1964 — Judy Squiers
1965 — Mary Lynn Sorenson
1966 — Susan Savage

Celebrated D-Queens

By Deborah Wirth ‘03

"Follows, gals from Dixieland,
Get out your horns and flutes,
We want the whole wide world to know
Our "D" Queen is FRANCIE SCHMUTZ,"
declares the 1941 yearbook.

And so has been the clarion call of all the reigning D-Queens through the decades. Since Dixie’s first queen, Roma Church, was selected in 1922, Dixie has honored women of achievement during the school’s annual D-Week celebration.

By 1941 D-Queen Janice (Schmutz) Nisson recalls fond memories of her D-Queen days. “We didn’t have money,” Janice remembers, “so my home economics teacher, Anneliese (Buggett) Erne, said she would look for fabric while she was in Salt Lake City. She helped me sew a beautiful chiffon dress, which I later converted into my wedding dress.” Janice’s husband, LoRoy Nisson, remembers the voting process. “The administration selected six top female students with B+ or better grades and the students voted on them. I still remember the ballot boxes.”

“We think a lot about Dixie,” they reminisce. “They were the best years of our life.”

Holding D-Queens to high standards has been a fundament of the competition since its inception. “The D-Queen is one of the oldest campus traditions long before football was a Dixie staple,” retired director of student services Donna Stafford said. “The criteria is much more than a typical beauty pageant because the recipient truly represents Dixie.” As years have passed, expectations for D-Queens have held strong.

“Service and community involvement, an interview, and academic achievement make up 60 percent of the contest,” Del Beatty, DSU Dean of Students, said. “The talent, evening wear, and essay-writing categories make up the balance of the pageant contest.”

In addition to serving as positive representatives of Dixie, D-Queens make their families proud.

“It was such an honor to be the mother of three D-Queen daughters: Sydnee, Sheryl, and Shandra,” Sharon Wittwer Blake said. “I think it is more of an honor to be a D-Queen than Miss Utah.”

As future D-Queens represent the spirit of Dixie through this time-honored tradition, Dixie State will proudly revive their achievements.

Fun Facts

• The youngest queen was 14-year-old LoRen “Loie” Watson, who was crowned in 1930.
• The oldest queen was 45-year-old Pansy Leavitt Hardy. The plucky student and grand-mother won the title in 1956.
• Two sets of sisters — Julie and Lynne Cannegierter as well as Sydnee, Sheryl, and Shandra — have been elected D-Queen.
• Swimwear has never been part of the D-Queen pageant criteria.
• Some early D-Queens fashioned their crowns using cardboard, foil, and glitter.
• Queens were often required to write a poem or message for the yearbook.

D-Day Queen’s Message

I hereby thank the faculty and the students for the great honor and the D-Week for the great honor of representing our school at the 1974 D-Day Queen.

LoRoy Terry

D-Day Queen
1974

Dixie’s D-Queens

By Deborah Wirth ’03

“One of the oldest campus traditions long before football was a Dixie staple,” retired director of student services Donna Stafford said. “The criteria is much more than a typical beauty pageant because the recipient truly represents Dixie.”

As years have passed, expectations for D-Queens have held strong.

“Service and community involvement, an interview, and academic achievement make up 60 percent of the contest,” Del Beatty, DSU Dean of Students, said. “The talent, evening wear, and essay-writing categories make up the balance of the pageant contest.”

In addition to serving as positive representatives of Dixie, D-Queens make their families proud.

“It was such an honor to be the mother of three D-Queen daughters: Sydnee, Sheryl, and Shandra,” Sharon Wittwer Blake said. “I think it is more of an honor to be a D-Queen than Miss Utah.”

As future D-Queens represent the spirit of Dixie through this time-honored tradition, Dixie State will proudly revive their achievements.

Fun Facts

• The youngest queen was 14-year-old LoRen “Loie” Watson, who was crowned in 1930.
• The oldest queen was 45-year-old Pansy Leavitt Hardy. The plucky student and grand-mother won the title in 1956.
• Two sets of sisters — Julie and Lynne Cannegierter as well as Sydnee, Sheryl, and Shandra — have been elected D-Queen.
• Swimwear has never been part of the D-Queen pageant criteria.
• Some early D-Queens fashioned their crowns using cardboard, foil, and glitter.
• Queens were often required to write a poem or message for the yearbook.

D-Day Queen’s Message

I hereby thank the faculty and the students for the great honor and the D-Week for the great honor of representing our school at the 1974 D-Day Queen.

LoRoy Terry

D-Day Queen
1974
DSU in the News

Professor Plays Key Role in Skin Infection Prevention Research

Dixie State University Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr. Rico E. Del Sesto, along with researchers from the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Northern Arizona University, and UC Santa Barbara, discovered a breakthrough antibacterial approach last fall that could revolutionize the treatment and prevention of serious skin infections.

Del Sesto served as a principal investigator for the project, which began during his tenure at LANL (2006-12). Researchers developed liquid materials called ionic liquids that can decrease survival of biofilm-protected bacteria by more than 99.9%. These biofilm-protected bacteria account for some 80 percent of total bacterial infections in humans and are 50 to 1,000 times more resistant to antibiotics than simpler bacterial infections.

Del Sesto brought the design and synthesis of the ionic liquids to DSU in 2012. Researchers are continuing to develop more effective and less toxic materials and plan to move toward in vivo studies in collaboration with UCSB, he said. “Over the last year, there have been four undergraduate students involved in various research aspects of this project, performing chemical synthesis and materials design,” Del Sesto said. “Students will continue to be part of the ongoing efforts in this exciting area of science.”

For more information on the research or to view the entire study, visit www.lanl.gov.

DSU Uses Grant to Create Student Success Center

Last fall, Dixie State rolled out an initiative to ensure that students receive the help they need to achieve academic success. With the help of a $40,000 completion grant provided by the Utah System of Higher Education and the Utah State Board of Regents, DSU Student Services created a Student Success Center (SSC).

The center serves as a focal point for student-retention efforts and provides students with resources and support to help them achieve their educational and personal goals. As part of this effort, the Student Success Program targets specific at-risk populations, including first-generation students and academically less-prepared students. The SSC staff has implemented the Starfish Early Warning System, which provides faculty with an online tool that helps them quickly identify students exhibiting various risk behaviors, including excess absences, poor test scores, and other factors detrimental to students’ success.

“We are excited to have this new center as an additional resource for our students,” DSU Director of Enrollment Services Dr. David Roos said. “The increased usage by faculty of the Starfish system has been phenomenal, with more than 12,000 faculty-created alerts in the past year alone. Our staff has done an outstanding job with Starfish, and we’re happy to provide students with the support they need to be successful in the classroom.”

For more information on the STARFish system, visit www.sss.utah.edu.

University Dedicates Light Post in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

As part of the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Dixie State and the DSU Black Student Union (BSU) hosted a lecture and dedicated a new light post just outside of the Gardner Student Center in honor of the life and legacy of the late civil rights leader.

“Dr. King was about inclusiveness and working together for the good of the whole,” said Christina Duncan, DSU assistant to the president for diversity and BSU advisor. “The BSU’s goal is to work together with every member of our campus to move forward and work together. The event added in the education and facilitation of a better cultural understanding on campus and in the community.”

Fine Arts Department to Sponsor Two Art Trips

In an effort to provide educational opportunities to students and the community, Dixie State’s Fine Arts Department is sponsoring two art trips this spring: a three-week European tour and an excursion to northern California.

The annual European Showcase is a 20-day trip that will take place May 13 through June 1 and include visits to world-renowned art galleries and historical sites while making stops in England, France, Switzerland, Italy, and Greece.

The California trip to the Bay Area is scheduled for June 3 to 9 and will feature stops along the coast in Santa Barbara, Monterey, and San Francisco.

Finance Students Win State Competition

Seniors in DSU’s Finance Club, from left, Scott Donnell (Riverton), Dillon Schmutz (St. George), Brady Pierce (Raymond), and Robert Hoyn (St. George) took home top honors at a statewide competition held at the University of Utah last November. DSU finance faculty member Kent H. Cannon is also pictured. The first-year competition, hosted by the U of U’s Finance Department, featured a Finance Case, during which DSU’s delegates hosted all corners to claim first place. For their efforts, each student received a $100 gift card.

“Over the last year, there have been four undergraduate students involved in various research aspects of this project, performing chemical synthesis and materials design,” Del Sesto said. “Students will continue to be part of the ongoing efforts in this exciting area of science.”

For more information, pricing, and registration details, visit www.dixieculturalarts.com/visual-arts-2 or contact Lanora Nielsen at 435-862-9277 or nielson@dixie.edu or Blakley at 435-652-7795 or blakley@dixie.edu.
Celebrity Concert Series Offers Three Recitals in March

After wowing audiences with masterful performances, the 2014-15 Celebrity Concert Series is set to finish the season strong with three outstanding performers scheduled to grace the Cox Performing Arts Center stage in March. A trumpeter with a wide range, a beautiful tone, and the ability to blend together many influences into his own style, Byron Stripling will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 5. The artistic director of the Columbus Jazz Orchestra will be joined by keyboardist Bobby Floyd in a performance that is reminiscent of Louis Armstrong, yet very much their own. BYU Young Ambassadors will combine contemporary music and dance for a fast-paced showcase of their own. Additionally, 2015-16 season memberships will be available beginning April 1 for $160 each for adults and $75 for youth between the ages of 6 and 17. To purchase tickets or memberships, call the Dixie State University Ticket Office at 435-652-7800 or stop by the ticket office inside the Cox Performing Arts Center. Visit www.celebrityconcertseries.com for more information.

Ticket Information
Individual Tickets:
- Adults — $20
- Youth — $15
Season Memberships:
- Adults — $160
- Youth — $75
DSU Ticket Office: www.dsutix.com 435-652-7800

Dixie State Reports Enrollment Increase Last Fall

For the first time in two years, Dixie State officials reported an increase in the institution’s fall enrollment numbers. DSU saw a 2.63 percent increase in total headcount for the fall 2014 semester, with 8,570 students attending the institution — 220 students more than fall 2013’s total of 8,350.

Dixie State also documented a 15.5 percent increase in straight-out-of-high-school freshmen, with 1,937 enrolled, a 270-student increase compared to the Fall 2013 first-time freshmen total. The institution also reported a 14.2 percent increase in minority student enrollment from last year with a total of 1,530 students, and an 18.75 percent increase in nonresident students with 1,607 out-of-staters. Similarly, international enrollment saw a 2x9.9 percent bump, as the institution is home to 231 students from 32 foreign countries. DSU also continued to see enrollment growth in upper division enrollment with a 9.4 percent increase to 2,327 students and a 5.85 percent increase in transfer students.

DSU officials attributed the institution’s upward trend in enrollment to a variety of factors and point to the fact that students are engaged on campus and take advantage of the various clubs and extracurricular activities Dixie State and the area provide.

“The top reasons why students are choosing to apply and enroll at Dixie State is our affordability, our broad spectrum of degrees and certificate programs, and our exemplary faculty and staff who provide students a quality experience of college life,” DSU Vice President of Student Services Frank B. Lojko said. “Those factors, above and beyond our location, attract students here.”

Freshman Crowned Homecoming Queen

Dixie State freshman Sarah Thompson was crowned 2014 Miss Dixie State Homecoming Queen last fall in front of a capacity crowd at the M.K. Cox Auditorium. Thompson, an English major from Brigham City, won a full-tuition scholarship and an opportunity to compete in the 2015 Miss America Pageant. For the first time, DSU Homecoming royalty included an on-stage question and personal interview portions of the event. Rounding out the 2014 DSU Homecoming royalty, Jessica Jensen, a senior integrated studies major from Herriman, was honored as first attendant and Jaylin Humphries, a freshman general studies major from Hurricane, was crowned second attendant. Pageant hopefuls were judged in the physical fitness/swimwear, evening wear, and talent categories along with the customary onstage question and personal interview portions of the event.

11 Faculty and Staff Announce Retirements

After dedicating years of service to Dixie State and the community, 11 members of the faculty and staff have announced their retirements. The DSU community appreciates the commitment to excellence the retiring employees have demonstrated. Faculty and staff who have announced their retirements in the last year include:

- Don Hinton, Dean of the School of Humanities
- Deaun Kimber, Acquisitions
- Mary Klein, Assistant Professor of Medical Radiography
- Jane Leaphart, Registration Supervisor
- Philip Lee, Dean of the School of Business and Communication
- Pam Montrallo, Director of Human Resources
- Scott Mortensen, Chair of Math Department
- Jeannie Reeves, Community Education Administrative Secretary
- Rob Snee, Associate Professor of Family & Consumer Science/Physical Education, Health & Recreation
- Betty Stokes, Associate Professor of Nursing
- Lucille Wilson, Assistant Professor of Nursing

Pageant hopefuls were judged in the physical fitness/swimwear, evening wear, and talent categories along with the customary onstage question and personal interview portions of the event. Rounding out the 2014 DSU Homecoming royalty, Jessica Jensen, a senior integrated studies major from Herriman, was honored as first attendant and Jaylin Humphries, a freshman general studies major from Hurricane, was crowned second attendant. In addition, Baylee Bucher, a freshman criminology/psychology major from Las Vegas, was named Miss Dixie Spirit.

Dance Professor Represents Dixie State at International Conference

DSU Professor and Director of Dance Dr. Li Lei was invited to address the 24th annual meeting of the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science (IADMS) last October in Basel, Switzerland.

Lei shared her research findings, in a presentation titled “Application of Physics Laws and Principles to Teaching & Learning Dance Techniques: Turn on One Foot.” The conference marked the second time Lei addressed IADMS meeting attendees, as she also presented at the 2007 conference in Canberra, Australia.

Lei has served as the director of the DSU dance department since 2000 and has taught theory, technique, composition, and performance courses. She established the Dixie State Dance Company in 2001 and is the company’s artistic director.

“I was honored to be selected to present my research paper in front of this world-renowned organization,” Lei said. “Dixie State University is a great institution that promotes and supports academic excellence. I am very glad to have had this opportunity to present my research as one of Dixie State’s faculty members.”
Student Leadership Organizations Lend a Hand to Serve the Greater Good

Student Association Helps Peers Make a Difference in the Community

By Gregory Layton, DSUSA Student Body President

More students are getting involved in clubs, intramurals, academics, and leadership opportunities at Dixie State University than ever before, but there may be one area of focus that is increasing the most — service. The DSU Student Association has provided students with opportunities to volunteer before, but it never had an official department to connect students to service events — until now. This year, the leaders of DSUSA added a new service branch to its structure to provide students with service opportunities on campus and in the community.

“This year, we’re trying really hard to make (service) something that students want to come and do,” said Megan Church, the DSUSA vice president of service and a senior integrated studies major from St. George. “Dixie was supported and founded by our community, and I think it’s really important for us to give back.”

DSUSA’s service leaders have worked with more than 20 organizations this year to provide hundreds of students opportunities to serve DSU and the community. Students have helped with various projects ranging from cleaning the seats in Burns Arena to working with community organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and Dixie Care & Share: Serving the community of St. George. “Dixie was supported and founded by our community, and I think it’s really important for us to give back.”

During the first week of the fall semester, more than 70 students helped assemble beds, paint walls, organize living spaces, build shelves, and clean at Switchpoint Community Resource Center, located at 948 N. 1300 West in St. George. Toward the end of the fall semester, more than 300 student and community volunteers participated in the DSUSA Campus to Community event and packaged 50,000 bean-and-rice meals for those struggling with hunger in the St. George area. The DSUSA has provided more than 30 service events during the 2014-15 academic year and has set goals to increase student involvement in those events. Students chose “We Do” as the theme for this academic year and the leaders of DSUSA’s service branch live by a similar motto: “We Do Service!”

“Dixie was supported and founded by our community, and I think it’s really important for us to give back.”

— Megan Church, DSUSA vice president of service

SAA is constantly finding ways to serve the Washington County community and invites anyone who is interested to help them.

To raise funds to support need-based scholarships and improve the community as a whole, SAA members volunteer at many activities, including Dixie’s Got Talent, the annual DSU Midnight 5K, a sand volleyball tournament, and a Zumba night. Additionally, the organization volunteers for the Washington City Dog Town Marathon and events like the Dixie College Foundation sponsors, such as the annual Fire & Ice Gala and Dixie Classic Golf Tournament.

Another unique volunteer effort many SAA members enjoy is going to local elementary schools and letting the children practice reading to them. It is so gratifying to see a child’s reading ability improve from a first-grade level to his peers’ third-grade level because of the help he received from SAA volunteers. The DSU students love the time they get to spend reading with elementary students.

To show the association’s appreciation for DSU employees’ commitment to serving and assisting the student body, SAA sponsored an Easter party for faculty, staff, and their families. As part of the event, SAA members placed hundreds of Easter eggs around the fountain on campus and offered a variety of games.

SAA is constantly finding ways to serve the Washington County community and invites anyone who is interested to help them. Connect with the Student Alumni Association on Facebook or Instagram @DixieSAA for updates on upcoming events, service projects, and more.
Ambassadors Strive to Make Students’ Education Goals a Reality

By Bryce Dahlberg, Ambassadors President

Spend an extended period of time on Dixie State’s breathtaking campus, and you will probably see a smiling young person adorned in a red polo shirt enthusiastically explaining the grounds to a group of newcomers. These beaming individuals are Dixie State University’s very own Ambassadors. Impacting both campus and the community, Ambassadors help provide people with the opportunity to receive a quality education at an affordable price.

Not only do Ambassadors take prospective students on tours, they communicate with high schoolers all across the country. They act as liaisons between these students and Dixie State. Ambassadors are responsible for contacting interested students weekly through emails, text messages, and phone calls. Ambassadors also make formal presentations at multiple schools in northern Utah.

Along with these formal methods of communication, Ambassadors contact students through modern means that reach them in their natural habitat. They each have an active and influential presence on various social media outlets, namely Twitter and Instagram. The posts Ambassadors create show their individual personalities and college experiences. This enables them to connect with students in the most effective way possible — as individuals. Ambassadors are encouraged to get involved with clubs and other student groups to gain a wealth of experience so they can accurately share about what Dixie has to offer.

How do these actions assist the community or make a difference? The answer is simple yet profound. College is seen as unreachable and unachievable by many. If an Ambassador helps one student receive higher education, thus improving the quality of his or her life, then the Ambassadors have made a difference.

Dixie State is a fast-growing university, and St. George is now a college town. By making themselves available and accessible, DSU Ambassadors assist in the quality growth of the institution itself and the community as a whole.

Ambassadors are encouraged to get involved with clubs and other student groups to gain a wealth of experience so they can accurately share about what Dixie has to offer.

To join the STORM CLUB, please contact Dixie State Assistant Athletic Director Derek Dawes at dawes@dixie.edu • 435.879.4295

* The IRS allows 80% of the non-benefit portion of your donation (after tickets, hospitality area, etc) to be tax deductible
When Parke and Emily Cox drove from St. George to Warren, Ohio, in the summer of 1946, they had no idea they would soon be assembling a new life. After Parke was discharged from the Army Air Forces, he heard the government was selling a surplus of army trucks. Arriving in Ohio, they found their truck unassembled and in seven crates. “It took us 10 days to put it together,” Parke recalls, “and we drove it home at the top speed of 42 miles per hour!”

Parke’s ancestors were called to Dixie and their names are etched on the Encampment Block from the Cox family. Jeff’s dad, Harry, and Parke “spent a lot of time on the road together during those early years until they branched off,” Jeff said. “Dad continued with the mechanical side while Parke stayed with the trucking.”

“I remember,” Jeff continues, “Parke bringing his big, lanky trucks into the neighborhood to wash them. As boys, we were so impressed with how shiny he kept them. He always kept everything top-notch.”

As the interstate highway system grew, so did Cox Trucking. Slow and steady has been their business management motto. “We’ve grown as our customer base has grown,” said son Dave, who continues to carry on the family legacy with his brother and Emily’s son Don.

“Truck driving is a volatile economy,” Jeff explains. “The business of trucking has come a long way since the days Mom had to wait a long way since the days Mom had to wait a long way since the days Mom had to wait for a phone call from Dad — if our sisters weren’t tying up the phone line — to give her a location update,” Dave recollects. “When we got pays, we thought we’d die and gone to heaven.”

“Now we have satellite tracking,” Don interjects. Both Dave and Don have been proactive in uniting local trucking businesses. “It’s the Dixie Spirit; it’s what we do,” Don said. Truck Driver Appreciation Day, which is hosted by the Southern Utah Trucking Association (SUTA), recognizes the drivers for their hard work and dedication.

“Cox Trucking, local organizations, and volunteers are stationed on both the north and south bound ports,” Dave said. “We hand out over 2,000 bags of fruit, snacks and water donated by local grocers.”

“It’s a really neat experience to see the look on the drivers’ faces when we hand them a bag and thank them,” Brecken added.

“As another way to give back, nine years ago Don and Stacey Bettridge of KB Oil created the annual SUTA Golf Tournament. Fellow carriers, vendors, and community members gather in early April to play a round and raise funds for scholarships for Dixie State University, Dixie Applied Technology, and Southwest Applied Technology students. The beautiful Cox Trucking facility is now located on the south end of St. George in the Fort Pierce Industrial Park, and Parke and Emily are still wistfully laughing about the early days. “We still have the picture of that first truck we put together,” Emily chuckles with a twinkle in her eye. “It’s such a beautiful thing.”
Dixie State Athletics celebrated a banner 2014 fall semester, both on the field and in the classroom. A total of 46 student-athletes posted grade-point-averages of 3.8 or higher. In fact, 24 athletes recorded a perfect 4.0 GPA, while 21 others posted at least a 3.9 average.

In addition, the entire athletic program announced a cumulative 3.1 GPA, with the women’s volleyball team leading the way with a 3.5 GPA. DSU men’s cross-country team finished second overall with a 3.12 GPA, followed by women’s softball (3.419) and men’s basketball (3.401). The Storm football team recorded its highest team GPA during a competition season with a 2.83.

“These results are a true reflection of the quality young men and women we have on our teams,” DSU Athletic Director Jason Boothe said. “We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments in the classroom this fall.”

Dixie State Athletics Inducted Former Footballer and Baseball Player into Hall of Fame

DSU

Dixie State Athletics inducted former football player Ralph Britton and Barry Sims, former baseball player Brandon Lyon, and the 2000 NJCAA Women’s Soccer National Championship team into its Hall of Fame in a ceremony held Feb. 11.

Britton (1956-57) played two seasons for legendary Hall of Fame coach Sark Arslanian. Britton was Dixie’s second-ever NJCAA All-American and was selected to play in the 1957 East-West All-American Game. Sims (1995-96) played two seasons at Dixie and led the Rebels to a 1996 Dixie Rotary Bowl victory before transferring to the University of Utah. He went on to play 12 years in the NFL for the Oakland Raiders and San Francisco 49ers and played in Super Bowl XXXV (1991) with the Raiders.

Lyon (1999-2000) pitched two seasons at Dixie and compiled a 24-3 overall record. He struck out 245 batters and posted a career 1.59 ERA, having only allowed 34 runs in 193 innings pitched. Lyon, who was drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in the 14th round of the 1999 June Amateur Draft, played 12 Major League seasons for seven different organizations. In 2009, Lyon’s #9 jersey number was the first number retired by DSU’s baseball program.

The 2000 Rebel women’s soccer team, led by former coach Rob Dahl, posted an 18-1-1 record and became the first women’s team to win a national title at Dixie State, when the team defeated Monroe (NY) Community College, 3-2, in double overtime.

Monkres transitions to college coaching after leading Dixie High School to the Utah 3A state title in 2012 and 2014. In his seven years at DHS, he led the Flyers to two Region 9 titles and two other state semifinal appearances.

Prior to his arrival to Utah’s Dixie, Monkres held coaching positions at several northern Utah schools, including serving as head coach at Fremont HS (1994-2008) and Morgan HS (1990-94), where his team won the 1993 state title. He also was an assistant coach at Roy HS (1986-90) and Roy Junior HS (1983-86).

McClure had served as defensive coordinator and recruiting coordinator at HSU since 2006, where he consistently had the Lumberjacks ranked near the top of the GNAC and Division II in most defensive categories. In 2011, his defense helped propel Humboldt to a 9-1 overall record and the GNAC title, along with a No. 13 ranking in the final AFCA Division II poll.

Prior to his time at Humboldt, he served as defensive line coach at Southern Oregon University (2002-06) and defensive coordinator at Occidental (Calif.) College (1999-2002). He also had stints as a secondary coach and special teams coordinator at the University of Nevada (1997-99) and SOU (1995-96).

For more information about Dixie State Athletics or to view teams’ schedules, visit www.dixieathletics.com.
ATHLETICS

VOLLEYBALL

Team Gains National Prominence During ‘Cinderella’ Season

By Steve Johnson

Coming on the heels of a 10-win turnaround and the program’s first NCAA tournament bid in 2013, expectations were high for Dixie State’s volleyball program heading into the 2014 campaign. And judging by the way the season played out, the team was not only up to the challenge, it exceeded all expectations and turned in one of the most impressive seasons in school history.

Dixie finished the season with a 22-9 overall record and finished second in the PacWest Conference with a 17-3 mark, just one game behind national power BYU-Hawai‘i. DSU’s season earned the Storm their second-straight trip to the NCAA Regionals.

As the No. 8 seed at the regional contest, Dixie State drew top-seed Northwest Nazarene, but the Storm stepped up to the challenge and blew the Crusaders 3-1 to earn the program’s first-ever NCAA tournament victory. Next up was a showdown with PacWest rival BYU-Hawai‘i, a team Dixie had never defeated on the volleyball court. The Storm stepped up in a huge way, knocking off the Seasiders in four games, 3-1, to earn a trip to the West Regional Final.

After Dixie State had taken down the No. 1 and No. 5 seeds in consecutive nights, all that stood in the team’s way of becoming one of eight to advance to the NCAA Championships was No. 7-seed Sonoma State. The clock struck midnight on Dixie’s dream season as Sonoma State spoiled the Storm’s shot at a national title with a 3-1 victory.

“It was a ‘Cinderella’ season for sure. What a year! (It) was not the ending we wanted, but one heck of a postseason,” Head Coach Robyn Felder said. “I am so proud of their efforts. They fought like champions and I can’t say enough about what a phenomenal group of athletes they are.”

Additionally, Dixie State landed a league-high six players on the 2014 all-PacWest Volleyball postseason honors list, including second-team honors for senior outside hitter Maddie Rex, third-team accolades for seniors Nicole Koehler and Kendahl Weiland and juniors Edithza Urias and Alex Anderson, and junior Shelby Sorenson earned honorable mention recognition. Weiland and Sorenson were also named to the NCAA All-West Region Tournament Team.

“It really was a great year,” Felder said. “It was a fantastic finish and well deserved for these girls. I am excited for the future of this program.”
Dear Alumni and Friends,

The Dixie State University school song states: “Our ‘D’ on the hillside so bold / Cherished emblem of them all.” The alumni of this institution are so grateful to the many students who decided in 1915 to leave a “D” on the side of the black hill.

The “D” means so many different things to our alumni and friends. To some, it reminds them of the Dixie Spirit. Others think of it as a symbol that aligns with Tabernacle Street. Some simply say it means you are home. Whatever it means to you, I hope you feel a sense of pride when you see it and are grateful for the hard work and sacrifice it took to build it. We’ll never forget the great students and people of Dixie’s past.

We hope you plan to attend D-Day celebrations. 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the “D,” a St. George landmark. Enjoy the Great Race, whitewashing the “D” and breakfast, and the annual Evening of Dixie events on April 17 and 18. These activities give you another opportunity to come back to campus and associate with fellow alumni and friends. You are always welcome home.

The Dixie Spirit is alive and well. The Student Alumni Association works hard each year in conjunction with the Alumni Board to keep the Dixie traditions alive and share school spirit with students, alumni, and the community.

If you haven’t had the opportunity to meet President Richard “Biff” Williams, I hope you will attend some of the fun D-Day activities and introduce yourself to him. He would love to meet you.

Sincerely,

Kalynn Larson, ’94

Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP) makes saving for college a little easier.

UESP accounts:
• Free to open
• Require no minimum or ongoing contributions
• Offer federal and Utah state tax advantages

We help you save. You inspire their future.

Open a UESP account today.

UESP Rated a Gold 529 Plan by Morningstar

“The plan’s flexible suite of investments and low costs continue to earn it a gold rating.”

Utah Educational Savings Plan*
800.418.2551 | uesp.org

Gold UESP Rated a Gold 529 Plan by Morningstar

Utah Educational Savings Plan*
800.418.2551 | uesp.org

*Read the Program Description for more information and consider all investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. Call 800.418.2551 for a copy of the Program Description or visit uesp.org. Investments are not guaranteed by UESP, the Utah State Board of Regents, Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority, or any other state or federal agency. However, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance is provided for the FDIC-insured accounts. Please read the Program Description to learn about the FDIC-insured accounts. Your investment could lose value. Non-Utah taxpayers and residents: You should determine whether the state in which you or your beneficiary pays taxes or lives offers a 529 plan that provides state tax treatment and benefits not otherwise available to you by investing in UESP. You should consider such state tax treatment and benefits, if any, before investing in UESP.

UESP Rated a Gold 529 Plan by Morningstar

“Gold UESP Rated a Gold 529 Plan by Morningstar

Utah Educational Savings Plan*
800.418.2551 | uesp.org

*Read the Program Description for more information and consider all investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. Call 800.418.2551 for a copy of the Program Description or visit uesp.org. Investments are not guaranteed by UESP, the Utah State Board of Regents, Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority, or any other state or federal agency. However, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance is provided for the FDIC-insured accounts. Please read the Program Description to learn about the FDIC-insured accounts. Your investment could lose value. Non-Utah taxpayers and residents: You should determine whether the state in which you or your beneficiary pays taxes or lives offers a 529 plan that provides state tax treatment and benefits not otherwise available to you by investing in UESP. You should consider such state tax treatment and benefits, if any, before investing in UESP.

UESP Rated a Gold 529 Plan by Morningstar

Utah Educational Savings Plan*
800.418.2551 | uesp.org

*Read the Program Description for more information and consider all investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. Call 800.418.2551 for a copy of the Program Description or visit uesp.org. Investments are not guaranteed by UESP, the Utah State Board of Regents, Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority, or any other state or federal agency. However, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance is provided for the FDIC-insured accounts. Please read the Program Description to learn about the FDIC-insured accounts. Your investment could lose value. Non-Utah taxpayers and residents: You should determine whether the state in which you or your beneficiary pays taxes or lives offers a 529 plan that provides state tax treatment and benefits not otherwise available to you by investing in UESP. You should consider such state tax treatment and benefits, if any, before investing in UESP.
The value of hard work

Crescent Hardy, who was born and raised in Mesquite, Nev., and attended Dixie College in 1975, has always worked hard to not only take care of himself and his family, but to give back to his community.

His commitment to public service is clear — in addition to carrying out two terms in the Nevada State Assembly, he has served as director of Mesquite Public Works, a member of the Virgin Valley Water District, and a member of the Mesquite City Council. Additionally, Hardy was recently elected to represent Nevada’s 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A fifth-generation resident of Mesquite — his grandfather was the first baby born in the town — Hardy knows the importance of building a strong, safe community for families. He and his wife, Peri, have been married for 32 years and are the parents of four children.

Hardy co-founded the Golf Fore Kids fundraising program, which has raised more than $161,000 for needy children in southern Nevada, and helped create the Legacy of Higher Learning and Talent Development organization, which has provided roughly 60 southern Nevada students with college scholarships. He is also active in community organizations such as Junior Livestock, 4-H, and veterans groups.

Growing up in a farming community taught Hardy the value of hard work at a young age. Working with cattle, horses, and pigs on his father’s ranch as a young man instilled a valuable work ethic that he applies each and every day as a businessmen. Learning the value of a hard day’s work and being self-reliant helped him succeed in his career.

by Ascent Academy to teach business, digital literacy, keyboard application, and marketing.

by topics of spirituality, science, and industrialized nations. He is fascinated by the film’s premiere throughout the U.S. and Latin America.

Jensen has lived or worked in Brazil, China, and India and is interested in films that explore stories in newly industrialized nations. He is fascinated by topics of spirituality, science, and technology as well as these subjects’ collision with modern society.
ALUMNI NEWS

Remembering Friends

Bette Lu Spilsbury
Bette Lu Spilsbury passed away on October 9, 2014, at the age of 96. She was born in St. George and always appreciated her pioneer heritage. She was educated in the local schools and went on to earn a master's degree. She was a charter member of the St. George Alice Louise Reynolds and Red Hills Reviewers book clubs. Bette loved learning and took all kinds of Dixie College classes for more than 52 years, accumulating 494 credit hours. She took her last art class in 2012. She was married to LeGrande Spilsbury and they had four children, 32 grandchildren, 94 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

Susan Allen Orchard Garner
Susan Garner passed away on December 3, 2014. A hard worker and champion of the Dixie Spirit, Susan spent her life touching the lives of others. Through her years as a teacher at Dixie Junior High School, Dixie High School, and Dixie State University, she influenced countless individuals with her love of literature, history, and the arts. She was genuinely interested in the lives of all those she taught and dedicated herself to improving each student's life. Susan was married to Dr. Ronald Garner and was loved by her three children, Ron's five children, 28 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren.

Melvin Tom Adams
Dixie Staff
(April 13, 1930 — Oct. 1, 2014)
St. George, UT

LaLilerta Woodbury Bowler Altermatt
1939 D-Day Queen
(April 16, 1919 — Sept. 10, 2014)
Huron, UT

Alden Garth Belliston
Dixie Coach
(Sept. 23, 1922 — Sept. 13, 2014)
St. George, UT

John Benap
Dixie Custodian
St. George, UT

Alan David Clayburn
(May 10, 1947 — July 31, 2014)
Washington, UT

Oral Covington
(June 27, 1930 — Nov. 9, 2014)
Cedar City, UT

Norma Davis Dixon
(Aug. 7, 1924 — Sept. 29, 2014)
St. George, UT

Eva Elliott
Dixie Staff
(March 16, 1938 — July 22, 2014)
St. George, UT

Delay Gabler
(Dec. 26, 1931 — Sept. 12, 2014)
Irvins, UT

Renon Hartley
(Aug. 29, 1939 — Sept. 27, 2014)
St. George, UT

Gerald Leavitt Holt
(Dec. 1, 1935 — May 31, 2014)
St. George, UT

Norma Hirschi Lund
(Sept. 25, 1944 — Aug. 7, 2014)
Page, AZ

Joshua “Theo” McKean
(May 12, 1995 — Aug. 7, 2014)
St. George, UT

Robert Mower
Dixie Faculty
(April 19, 1937 — July 25, 2014)
St. George, UT

Dena Louise Reynolds Sylvester
(Oct. 25, 1944 — July 31, 2014)
St. George, UT

Kimball Jensen
(Oct. 4, 1951 — Aug. 16, 2014)
Desert Springs, AZ

LaDell Vergel (Buzz) Jessop
Dixie Mechanic
(Aug. 6, 1930 — Dec. 6, 2014)
St. George, UT

Janice Kentch
(Oct. 14, 1936 — Sept. 20, 2014)
St. George, UT

Helen Avery Larson
(Oct. 31, 1919 — Aug. 30, 2014)
St. George, UT

James Lott
(July 15, 1942 — Oct. 26, 2014)
New Harmony, UT

Bettye Jane Jennings
(Sept. 12, 1944 — Oct. 25, 2014)
St. George, UT

Walter Wiest
Dixie Faculty
(Oct. 19, 1937 — July 25, 2014)
St. George, UT

To have your loved one included or featured in next issue’s Remembering Friends, please email Alumni Director Kalynn Larson at larson@dixie.edu.
Dixie State University Magazine • Spring 2015

Former Football Standout Loses a Lot to Gain Even More

By Jyl Hall

Seeing the reflection of a sharply dressed, lean man, Howard “Woody” Carter, can’t peel his eyes from the mirror. Not vain, this behavior isn’t common practice for the 1987-88 Dixie College defensive lineman, but ever since Carter became a contestant on NBC’s “The Biggest Loser,” he has gained pride in himself and his appearance.

“Before, I would never look in the mirror,” Carter says during an episode of the show. “Now, when I wake up in the morning, I run to the mirror ... the mirror is my best friend.”

Carter, who won championship rings while playing semi-pro and arena football, became intent on losing weight and improving his overall health after his wife passed away from cancer. He was determined to be able to live a full life and be there for his two daughters, two sons, and three grandchildren.

As one of 20 former athletes featured on the 16th season of the hit show, Carter was whipped into shape and advised by a host of fitness trainers and medical and nutrition experts. The assistance proved invaluable to Carter, who dropped more than 100 pounds on his journey to making the final five. After weighing in on week 14 and realizing he lost the least percentage of weight that week and would face heading home, Carter exuded gratitude for all he had accomplished.

“I knew there was going to be a time that I was going to have to go home;” he said as he prepared to exit the show. “I felt I’ve already won. I’ve won life. I’ve won a second chance. There’s a new Woody.”

While the show did wonders for his physical health, it also did a number on his lease on life — it even helped him deal with the grief of living without his wife. “I’m not sad anymore about the loss of my wife. Now I celebrate her,” he said on an episode.

Carter wasn’t the only one who noticed the transformation he made.

“You reinvented the man you are. You reinvented how you feel about your worth,” Trainer Jennifer Widerstrom told Carter before he headed to Comeback Canyon. “You know that you are important. You know that you are valuable. You know that you are powerful because the room changes when you are in it.”
