Dixie alumnus & Diamond Rio nominated for three Grammy Awards in 2001
Regular Features

3 Diamond in the Desert
Dan Truman, keyboard artist for the popular country western band, Diamond Rio, has helped take the band to the top of the charts; but, he hasn’t forgotten his Dixie roots.

4-6 Homecoming 2002
Join in the variety of activities available at this year’s Homecoming celebration. From football, to the Hall of Fame, to class reunions, there’s fun for all.

8-9 From Dixie to Hollywood
Dixie graduate and founder of DSC’s Visual Technologies Program, Brett Marshall, is now creating multimedia images for Hollywood films.

10-11 Globetrotting Rebel
Eathan O’Bryant is grateful for the decision he made to come to Dixie State College. It started him on a path that has revolved around the world with the Harlem Globetrotters.

14 Campus Update
In spite of budget cuts, students keep coming as the campus tries to keep up with growth.

18-23 Keeping Up With Alumni
Check up on former classmates, and check out the numerous activities planned by the alumni board, keeping the Dixie Spirit alive!
When it comes to country western bands, they don’t come much bigger than Diamond Rio. Since 1991, the band has been nominated for 11 Grammy Awards, has seen 19 of its songs rise to the top 10 on the charts, and is mentioned in the same breath with the likes of Garth Brooks, Alan Jackson, and Brooks and Dunn.

Dan Truman, the band’s keyboard and piano man, has been with the band from the very beginning and has been key to its success. He currently resides in the heart of America’s Dixie, in Nashville, Tenn., but the road that eventually took Truman to Rio can be traced, at least in part, back to Utah’s Dixie.

Born in Flagstaff, Ariz., Truman moved to St. George at the age of two. After graduating from Dixie High in 1974, he enrolled at Dixie State for his freshman year, but his Rebel spirit began taking form long before then. With a mother who taught piano at the college and a father who is a former DSC studentbody president, there’s a bit of a legacy that couldn’t help but rub off on Dan at a young age.

“The college gave me some of my education, it got me prepared, but to me Dixie was more the spirit that has always been here, and I’d felt that since I was a kid,” Truman said.

Whether it was sitting in the orchestra pit with Ron Garner as a young boy, performing in the college musical “Oliver” at the age of 12, attending his father’s Program Bureau performances, performing with the Program Bureau himself during his high school years, or watching Lionel Hollins on the basketball court, Dan couldn’t get enough of campus life. And this was all before he even stepped foot into the college classroom.

“I kind of got into the sociality of it. Even in high school, I was probably at the college just as much as I was doing activities at the high school. There were a lot of positive things going on here and you could sure feel it.”

During his freshman year at the college, Truman played in both bands, including the Dixie Jazz Band alongside Gary Caldwell, now director of that band. During that same year, Truman also played in a band with some friends from Cedar City and performed at dances from St. George to Provo. It was a great time for him because he was doing what he loved most – making music. All told, his time at Dixie set the tone for an eventual career that most musicians only dream of.

After spending two years in Tallahassee, Fla., on a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he transferred to Brigham Young University where he was a member of the BYU Young Ambassadors, a globetrotting Broadway-esque variety show, for three years, two of which as band director. Not only was he able to travel all around the world performing in Russia, Poland, India, Sri Lanka, Australia, and Tahiti, but he was able to do it with his now wife, Wendee Jensen, who sang with the YA group.

Prior to graduating from BYU, both Dan and Wendee landed seasonal jobs at Opryland, a musical

**DIAMOND IN THE DESERT**

Hit song “One More Day” was up for three Grammys

**Above:** Diamond Rio band members are (l to r) Brian Prout, drummer; Dan Truman, piano & keyboards; Jimmy Olander, lead guitar; Marty Roe, lead singer & guitar; Dana Williams, baritone singer & bass player; Gene Johnson, tenor singer & mandolin

**Left:** Dan’s Dad, Delmont Truman, poses with the band

Continued on page 12
**REUNIONS**

In addition to the homecoming schedule of events listed below, here are specific class reunion activities:

**DIXIE COLLEGE 80’S REUNION**

**Friday, October 11**

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Mingle & Pot Luck at Fountain  
Eat, visit, & listen to 80’s music  
(bring your potluck & yearbook!)

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
P.B. Sing-a-Long  
Location TBA

**Saturday, October 12**

8:30 a.m.  
Meet on north side of Sun Bowl  
to ride on an 80’s parade float

*Note: 80's graduates will be asked to stand and be recognized at the Founder’s Day Assembly and also at the football game. For more info call Kelly Kendall at 652-8232

---

**2002 Schedule of Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8**

7:00 p.m. Homecoming Queen Pageant  
*Avenna Center Cox Auditorium, $3 each*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11**

10:30 a.m. Alumni Assembly  
*Cox Auditorium, no charge*

12:00 p.m. Golden Generation Luncheon & Program  
*Gardner Center Ballroom, $10 each*

2:00 p.m. Alumni Golf Tournament  
*Sunbrook Golf Course, $85 per person*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12**

9:30 a.m. Homecoming Parade

10:30 a.m. Founder’s Day Assembly & Hall of Fame  
*St. George Tabernacle, no charge*

12:00 p.m. Alumni Association Tailgate Party  
*So. side of stadium, no charge*

1:00 p.m. Football Game: Dixie vs. Eastern Arizona  
*$5 each (purchase at box office)*

7:00 p.m. Alumni Banquet - Speaker: Bruce C. Hafen  
*Old Gym, $11 each*

Tickets for Golden Generation Luncheon and Alumni Banquet may be purchased at the Alumni House  
(658 East 200 South 652-7538) or at the No. Admin:  
652-7535, or email: larson@dixie.edu

---

**“Unite the Dixie Spirit”**

**Elder Bruce C. Hafen**  
A St. George native, Elder Hafen graduated from Dixie College in 1960. After serving an LDS Mission to Germany, he graduated from Brigham Young University, then from Law school at the University of Utah. He practiced law in Salt Lake City from 1967 to 1971 and became an assistant to President Dallin Oaks at BYU. He was a charter member of the J. Reuben Clark Law School and spent the next 25 years as a law professor in the fields of family, education and constitutional law. From 1976 to 1978 he was director of research and evaluation in the correlation department of the LDS Church.

Elder Hafen served as President of Ricks College from 1978-85 and Dean of the BYU Law School from 1985-89. Elder Hafen has served in his current capacity since 1996, with the specific assignment as President of the Australia/New Zealand Area. He married Marie Kartchner in 1964; they are the parents of seven children.

**Jim Lundberg**  
Jim Lundberg will be honored as Homecoming 2002’s “Distinguished Alumni.” “Jim was an easy choice for "Distinguished Alumni," said Kalynn Larson, alumni director. “He has served Dixie State College enthusiastically in so many ways over the years—currently as Golden Generation chairman. And, could we even have a parade without Jim’s cars? That’s just one of the many contributions he has made to Dixie.”

Jim was Dixie College student-body president in 1950 and graduated that same year. He says it only took him two terms—Truman’s and Eisenhower’s!

Jim graduated from BYU in 1952 and worked for 46 years in the insurance industry. He married his high school sweetheart, Ila Claire Stucki in 1950. They have four children: Scott, Max, Sally Jo and David, 14 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter.

As an active volunteer in the community, Jim served in Lions International for 50 years and graduated that same year. He says it only took him two terms—Truman’s and Eisenhower’s!

Jim was Dixie College student-body president in 1950 and graduated that same year. He says it only took him two terms—Truman’s and Eisenhower’s!
Above: The Dixie State College Alumni Board beckons you to join them at the Homecoming festivities this year. The 2002-2003 Alumni Board Members are as follows: President, Russ Feller; Past President, Kelly Kendall; Vice-Presidents, George Graff, Rick Neilson, Debbie Parker, and Ron Wade; Administrative Assistant, Dan Watson; Board Members, Toni Caplin, Mary Hasfurther, Rudy Iverson, Shauna Ottesen, Robert Prince, Delmont Truman, Ron & Brenda Wade; Alumni Director, Kalynn Larson.
Dixie State College will honor four outstanding individuals and one couple as this year’s inductees into the Hall of Fame. Each inductee or their representative will be presented a medallion at the fifth annual Hall of Fame ceremony to be held in conjunction with Homecoming Founder’s Day activities on Saturday, October 12th, at 10:30 a.m. in the St. George Tabernacle.

Honored in the area of Public and College Service is DAN C. WATSON (’41), a Dixie College legend and icon. Among numerous duties and talents, Dan wrote songs, served as administrative assistant to five Dixie College Presidents and worked as Commencement Committee Chairman for 29 years. His honors are many including the “Distinguished Alumnus Award.” His service and dedication to Dixie are heartfelt and generous and have spanned over 40 years.

Also to be honored in the area of Public and College Service is DR. MERVYN K. COX who is a graduate of both Dixie High School and Dixie College. He was the first orthodontist in St. George. His kindnesses to Dixie College include the MK Cox Auditorium, the Dr. Mervyn and Sue Cox Dental Hygiene Clinic, the family fountains sculpture garden, and the Library carpeting.

Honored in the area of Education is FERRON C. LOSEE (deceased), Dixie’s 11th President (’64-’76) who was known as “the Builder of the Dixie College Campus.” During his tenure, enrollment grew from 383 students to 1200. He directed the building of the O.C. Tanner Amphitheater, Dixie College Outdoor Mosaic and the water fountain in the campus center. He is also remembered for hiring Mrs. ‘D’ who started Program Bureau and set in motion the “Dixie Spirit.”

To be recognized for their contributions in the area of Business, are KEN and WILMA GARDNER. Ken founded Electrical Wholesale Supply with several units in Utah and Idaho. The Gardners love Dixie State and have always affirmed that any success they’ve had in life was a result of their associations with those inspired with the spirit of Dixie and their focus on excellence. Ken passed away in 1988. Wilma has served on the National Advisory Council. The Kenneth N. Gardner Student Center, on campus, was made available by their commitment to Dixie.

In the area of Athletics, Dixie College graduate, PHIL TUCKETT has been chosen to be honored. Phil played football for Dixie from 1964 to 1966 where he was Honorable Mention All-American Running Back (he shared this honor with O.J. Simpson). He began his professional football career in San Diego with the Chargers. Phil is currently Vice President of Special Projects at NFL Films. Since 1978, he has won 28 Emmys for cinematography, writing, editing and directing, and a Billboard Music Award. He has served as a member of the Dixie College National Advisory Council.

Additional details of the outstanding accomplishments and contributions of the these six Hall of Fame Honorees will be given at the Founder’s Day Assembly.

◆ Photos above right are of the Hall of Fame Inductees for 2002. They are (top to bottom) Dan C. Watson, Dr. Mervyn Cox, Dr. Ferron C. Losee, Kenneth and Wilma Gardner, and Phil Tuckett.
KEEPING THE DIXIE
SPIRIT ALIVE

Anyone who’s spent any amount of time on the campus of Dixie State College can tell you about the ‘Dixie Spirit’ – a Spirit of tradition, pride, and involvement that permeates throughout campus.

“You talk about the Dixie Spirit,” said Delmont Truman (’51) who served as studentbody president when Dixie College and Dixie High School co-existed in the same building. “If this generation can have the same spirit we’ve always had to always give more than we receive, look what we’ll have in another generation.”

Well, the Dixie Spirit torch appears to be in good hands. Just ask the St. George community, which got an up close and personal look at what that ‘spirit’ is all about this past academic year.

Students, alumni, and faculty and staff teamed up on two large-scale service projects as part of the “Campus to Community” service campaign instituted at the college in 2001-02. The program, which is expected to become a permanent fixture at Dixie State, consists of one student service project per semester.

“Service is kind of the rent you pay for the life you get to live here upon this earth,” said Donna Stafford, director of student activities. “You have to get involved in projects like this sometimes to develop community pride. When people get involved it becomes their project.”

Last fall, a large-scale yard sale was organized to benefit an 8-year old near drowning victim who lives in the St. George area. New and used items for sale were donated from local businesses and community members. Over $5,000 was raised to help out with the boy’s medical bills and rehabilitation.

Last spring, students, alumni, and faculty/staff all chipped in and helped develop the new Southern Utah Water Conservation Garden. The purpose of The Garden, located just west of Tonaquint Park, will be to educate the community on ways to reduce water consumption and demonstrate landscaping alternatives that are conducive to desert living.

Over 75 student, alumni, faculty and staff, and community volunteers turned out to plant trees and other vegetation for the conservation garden.

“This community gives so much to the college,” said 2001-02 studentbody president Connor Shakespeare. “It’s important that we the students give something back, and this was our chance to give something back.”

Not only is the torch in good hands, but the current generation of Dixie students is off and running with it.

◆ Photos: Top (l to r): Dixie State employees Donna Stafford, Pat Roper, Becky Smith and Linda Lou Bills are a few of the many volunteers at the yard sale fundraiser.

Middle: Donated items filled the gymnasium parking lot and helped raise $5,000.

Bottom (l to r): Dennis Cox, Mary Hasfurther, Delmont Truman, and Kalynn Larson, represented the Alumni at the tree planting service project.
The old saying “it goes both ways” may be particularly true in the case of Dixie State alum, Brett Marshall. The creator of special visual effects for numerous Hollywood films, Marshall is also the founder of Dixie’s acclaimed visual technologies program.
But he points to his education at Dixie along with his first job there as a graphic designer as laying the foundation for his future success.

“When I was attending Dixie State College, I really had no idea what I wanted to do for a career,” said Marshall from his office in Redmond, Washington, a suburb of Seattle. “I was mainly focused on general studies that would satisfy GE requirements at the University of Utah, Utah State or BYU. The main thing I gained from my time at Dixie State [as a student] was confidence that I could actually succeed in academic pursuits. It was really the first step in opening my eyes to the world of possibilities.”

Marshall said he benefited most from the personal attention and guidance he received from Dixie faculty. “I was like a big sponge taking it all in,” he said. “Dixie provided me a well-rounded academic and social experience in a positive, non-intimidating environment. I also met my wife, Kim, on campus so Dixie really did kick off my adult life in the right direction.”

Upon graduating with an AS degree, Marshall received full-ride academic scholarship offers from all three universities to which he applied. He, along with his new bride, chose the University of Utah and moved to Salt Lake.

Still, Marshall could not decide the exact focus for his occupational pursuits. It was not until two years later upon his return to Dixie as an employee that he began to discover what he wanted to do with his career. “I got a job as a graphic designer in the public relations office,” he said. “New graphic programs were just coming onto the market and desktop publishing was in its infancy. All of these things fascinated me and I kept experimenting with new and more advanced technology.”

From these early experiences, Marshall developed a dream to create a new academic program on campus.

“The Visual Technologies program really grew out of my enthusiasm for what I was learning on the-job as a graphic designer. Amazing software and hardware tools were being developed, and I was having a blast applying them to design/communication tasks. I just thought others would be interested in playing with this stuff too. Fortunately, I was working with people who had a similar vision and helped me get it rolling.”

Starting the Visual Technologies program required extensive cross-departmental cooperation. Marshall explained that many people across the campus came together to get the ball rolling. “It was exhilarating for me because I was learning right along with the students,” he said. “It was all I could do to stay a half-step ahead of the next class, but it provided me with the experience and training to take the next step in my career.”

The next step in his career actually became several gigantic steps, leaping from one boulder to the next in a profession that was on fast forward. After just a few years at Dixie, Marshall was snagged by a local 3-D software company Strata Inc. as creative director.

But a traditional job could not hold him down for long. He joined forces with a couple of creative friends to venture out with his own creative multimedia company, Boom. Although it was successful, a big offer from Electronic Arts of Vancouver, Canada lured him away to become the director of in-game cinematics for Chaos Development Group. It was the job of a lifetime, but it could not hold him down for long.

“I've always wanted to be my own boss and not be tied down to an 8-5 schedule,” he grins. “So I created my own company again.”

His current company, i.Solve, Inc, is a graphic design company with a focus on digital media design and motion graphics. “My task
Talk about culture shock. Coming from a humid, crowded Texas Bible Belt suburb, to the sleepy, desert, mostly Mormon community of St. George, Ethan O'Bryant unpacked his bags and got ready to kick off his collegiate basketball career at Dixie State College in the Fall of 1991.

“My new roommate, Mike Curtis, was fresh off his mission,” recalls O’Bryant. “I didn’t know anything about Utah or the LDS Church. So, he started telling me about his church and his mission—he gave me the lowdown.”

“The next thing I knew, we were hiking St. George from end to end with a Bible and Book of Mormon in hand!” he laughs. “I think all the church I missed as a kid, was made up for that day!”

Not exactly the kind of education he had expected, but just the first of the unique and valuable learning experiences O’Bryant received in his two years at Dixie.

“I loved Dixie! That was probably the best time I’ve ever had,” says O’Bryant. “When I look back I think it was the best decision I ever made.”

That decision was the first on the road to his professional basketball career—a career that has taken him all over the world. So nowadays, culture shock isn’t as much an issue for O’Bryant. He is in his sixth season with the world famous Harlem Globetrotters. In addition to doing the “razzle dazzle” (alley oop w/slam dunk) or “the hop” (3-man weave) on the basketball court, Ethan is known as an “Advance Ambassador” for the Globetrotters. In this capacity, he travels thousands of miles across the country and the world making appearances at schools, clinics, hospitals and charity events as well as making radio and television appearances on behalf of the team.

Ethan’s basketball skills earned him a spot on the roster, but his vibrant personality landed him this additional opportunity. “When I first started to play for the Globetrotters, they noticed I was always ‘running off at the mouth,’” grins Ethan. “So they decided to put it to good use and make me an ambassador!”

That same combination of skills and personality made him one of the most valuable players former head coach Dave Rose has ever come across.

“Eathan was one of the funnest players I ever coached,” said Rose, who is now the assistant head basketball coach at Brigham Young University. “Every day, never fail, he was happy and excited to play. He was probably one of the best guards I ever coached as far as his leadership ability, because he got along with everybody—that’s so important in a point guard. When I recruit now, I’m trying to find a guy like Eathan.”

In addition to being well liked, O’Bryant was immediately productive as the Rebel point guard. His first season was seen as a “building year,” yet the team won over 20 games and Ethan was named to the All-Tournament team. The next season, O’Bryant directed the team to a 30-3 season and a region title. He was named All-Region guard and led the league in assists with 8.9 per game.

But O’Bryant credits Dixie and Coach Rose with honing more than just his basketball skills. “I love Coach Rose—he still means a lot to me,” says O’Bryant of their continuing relationship.
“He is an outstanding person as well as a great coach. With him as my coach, and the other positive influences there, I grew so much spiritually and mentally. That prepared me for life—the good times and the bad.”

After graduating from Dixie in 1993, Eathan was recruited by the University of Nevada in Reno where he continued his basketball prowess. He was named second team All-Big West as a junior after leading the conference and ranking fourth nationally in assists with 8.1 per game. He also led the Big West with 2.6 steals per contest to become the only player to lead the conference in two categories.

After receiving a B.S. degree in criminal justice in Reno, Eathan again travelled into a new cultural setting. In Europe he played basketball with the Inter Siaunaft team in Bratislava, Slovakia.

“And I thought St. George was a culture shock!” says O’Bryant of his first venture out of the country. “I first thought the people were really different there—seeing an

Continued, see GLOBETROTTER, page 17

“I try to teach the message that as you strengthen your belief in God, self and family, everything else takes care of itself.”
By the end of ’84, the park formed a band called the Tennessee River Boys, which Truman played in through ’85 alongside three other Diamond Rio originals. It wasn’t long before the band left the park and ventured off to try and land a record deal. Right along with them were thousands of other bands trying to do the same thing. Nashville, Truman says, is to the music industry, specifically would be singers and songwriters, what L.A. is to the film industry.

For the next five years, the band scraped along, rehearsing in a one-car garage with a dryer running just to keep warm and playing small gigs wherever it could, including at Dixie State College in ’86. The Truman family scraped right along with the band, doing its best to survive. While Wendee was out working, Dan was often at home with their two-year old son, Ben, writing songs, making phone calls, teaching piano, and playing Mr. Mom. Dan fast became famous for his patented afternoon snack, which consisted of homemade shakes, Ritz crackers, cheese, and broccoli with Ranch dressing. To this day, all of his kids eat broccoli.

Despite the hardships brought on during that 5-year period – even when they lost their lead singer and the band looked like it may fold – they never quit.

“We just hung hard. There are very few bands that will hang together for six years. It took us from 1985 when we left Opryland..."
While the band is listed in the country western format, it’s a unique coming together of a variety of musical backgrounds, from bluegrass, to R&B, to jazz. In Truman’s case, he grew up listening to a St. George radio station that played everything under the sun, something that he referred to as the “Johnny” radio station.

“We’d listen to Johnny Cash, Johnny Winter, and Johnny Mathis all in the same hour. So I didn’t know that you were supposed to like this kind of music, or this music was better. I hadn’t developed those opinions. There’s great in all music.”

His fellow band members, as well as the record company, share the same philosophy, and it’s reflected in their music and has become a band trademark. Diamond Rio does all of its own recording and the record company gives the band a lot of leeway to do what it wants, a rarity in the music industry, particularly country western.

The band’s latest album, Completely, just released in August, is a perfect example of...
top to bottom: an evening rendering of the future Dolores Dore’ Eccles Fine Arts Center; a depiction of the addition to the Gardner center currently under construction; the new Dr. Mervyn and Sue Cox Dental Hygiene Clinic.
Despite unprecedented budget woes statewide this past year, DSC has undergone several facility upgrades in order to keep pace with a constantly ballooning student body. A new fine arts center, student food court, and dental hygiene clinic had been priorities at the college long before the current budget situation. With the help of private donations from alumni and friends, all three of these facilities have gone forward as planned.

DELORES DORE’ ECCLES FINE ARTS BUILDING

A near 40-year era has come to a close at Dixie State College.

After nearly 20 years of anticipation and three years of planning and state requests, Dixie State College will finally have its new fine arts center.

The Graff Fine Art Center’s long-awaited and much anticipated date with the wrecking ball began Aug. 14. Demolition on the 39,000 square foot building will run through October, and construction on the new 70,000 square foot Delores Dore’ Eccles Fine Arts Center will begin in November.

“We’re on our way,” said executive director of college services Ned Carnahan.

The new building is scheduled for completion in March 2004 and will have the distinction of being the largest on campus, overtaking the 58,000 square foot Udvar-Hazy Business Building and the 67,000 square foot Burns Arena.

The sentiment is a bittersweet one for many on campus. After all, the Graff building was one of the first on campus and has been a college icon since it was built in 1961-62.

“It was a wonderful place to go, but a bit inadequate,” said fine arts department chair Eric Young who attended classes in the building as a Dixie student in 1980-81 and again in 1983-85. “It’s hard to see it come down, but it’s good to see the campus progressing.”

Even the most sentimental, however, can’t dispute the need for the new building. The building was originally designed to accommodate a mere 500 students. Today, enrollment at the college has exceeded 7,000. In addition, an architectural and engineering study has indicated that replacement of the building was the only reasonable solution to correct all of the ADA, fire, building code, and seismic problems that had recently plagued the building and rendered much of it unusable.

The new facility will include an art museum, which will house traveling and campus collections, a 500-seat main performance theater, a 150-seat black box theater, a concert hall, and supporting rehearsal halls, offices, and classroom space.

Continued on page 16
GARDNER STUDENT CENTER REMODEL

The Kenneth N. Gardner Student Center is on the verge of expanding its waistline by about 11,000 feet, an expansion that, ironically enough, happens to be food related. Filling that new space three months from now will be a state-of-the-art food court, kitchen and dining area. In addition, 5,000 sq. feet of existing space will be renovated.

“Similar to our bookstore, we want this new facility to be comparable to any in the state,” said DSC executive director of auxiliaries Randy Judd. “That’s what we’re working on – that’s what we want it to be.”

The $2 million addition, construction on which began in May, will be built onto the south end of the existing building. Highlighting the new building will be a food court made up of six different food stations, including a grill, a pasta/pizza station, a deli, a traditional food station, a desert station, and a station featuring five international cuisines. A large salad bar will also serve the food court.

A 240-seat dining area overlooking the Encampment Mall will also be built into the new addition. Currently, three dining areas, including one large ballroom, are housed in the Gardner Center. An additional 60-seat dining area will take the place of what is now the Gardner Center kitchen and snack bar. A small meeting room, a service/storage area, a new elevator and loading dock, and a remodeled convenience store will round out the expansion. The substantial finish date for the project is Dec. 20, 2002, just in time to open for business for the start of spring semester in January 2003.

The prospect of this new building has been welcomed with open arms by many on campus. Heading the welcoming committee is DSC’s Food Services department. The new facility will allow them to work under the same roof just steps from the Gardner Ballroom and other dining areas, something that everyone, including the business and community groups the college hosts each day, will benefit from. Not only that, they’ll have a brand new kitchen complete with top of the line equipment to work with.

DENTAL HYGIENE CLINIC

As if scoring in the top 10-percent among all programs in the nation on this year’s National Board Exam wasn’t enough, the dental hygiene program at Dixie State College now...
has a brand new dental hygiene clinic to go along with that national renown. For the first time in the program’s four-year history, all classroom and clinical instruction associated with the program will be held under the same roof.

“Life is a little bit easier for us because we’re right here on campus with everything in house,” said DSC Dental Hygiene Program director Dr. Gordon Jennings. “Now instead of running back to the school to get a supply that’s missing, we just go to the supply room across the hall and get it, so it’s pretty nice. The school’s done us right. It took us a while to get it, but they did us right.”

The Mervyn and Sue Cox Dental Hygiene Clinic, located in the former lapidary (rock polishing) lab in room 119 of the Jennings Technology Center, opened its doors for business this past June. Fourteen operatories with accompanying chairs, lights, and equipment make up the clinic, along with a wet and dry lab, sterilization area, supply room, and reception area. All X-rays and developing are also done in-house. The equipment is a combination of new and old, much of it being donated by local dentists.

“Well, all of the remodels I’ve seen, I’ve never seen a finer remodel than to take the lapidary lab and turn it into the dental clinic,” said director of institutional advancement George Whitehead, who’s seen a number of remodels over his 25 years at the college. “It is professional, and is as nice a clinic as I’ve ever seen anywhere. It is five-star.”

A clinic the college could call its own has been a goal since the program was brought aboard nearly four years ago. Since that time, DSC has borrowed clinic space from several local dentists—primarily Drs. Jim Ence and Bob Prince. Others who have donated space, time, and supplies include Drs. James Ott and Larry Staples.

“I cannot express how grateful we are for their help and level of endurance in sacrificing their facilities for our clinical work,” Jennings said. “All in all, there is really no way to even begin to put a dollar figure on everything the dental community has done for our program.”

Continued on page 19

**GLOBETROTTER**
(continued from pg. 11)

American was rare. But, just like in St. George, once I got to know the people, they were great.”

Eathan was named “European League Most Valuable Player” and “All-Star Game MVP” that season while leading his club to the league title.

The next adventure was a quick stint with the Phoenix Suns, but when he was released from the team, the Globetrotters came calling.

“Since Globetrotter headquarters are in Phoenix, I got to be good friends with their people,” he explains. “They gave me a call, I decided to give it a try, and the rest is history.”

Eathan’s first game in a Globetrotter uniform almost ended in “culture shock” for the fans. He was so excited to be playing that night, he nearly gave the audience more than they had bargained for!

“We have rip-off warmups so we can pull them off and toss them into the crowd,” he chuckles. “Immediately before each game, rookies get the assignment of tearing up paper confetti to be thrown into the audience. I was in a rush doing that—besides being nervous. When we got ready to go to the middle of the floor to be introduced and do our ‘throw off the warm-ups routine,’ I realized I had forgotten to put on my basketball shorts underneath! I ran to the dressing room and got back just in time—barely.”

As if globetrotting weren’t enough, O’Bryant owns a basketball gym in Reno with former Dixie State assistant coach, Jason Glover, called “NBA - Nevada Basketball Academy,” where he teaches individual and team basketball skills to kids ages six through 18.

“I love working with the kids, both at the gym and with the Globetrotters,” explains O’Bryant with satisfaction. “It gives me a chance to be a positive role model in their lives. It’s not just basketball—I try to teach the message that as you strengthen your belief in God, self and family, everything else takes care of itself.”

That’s a culture worth passing on.

◆ Right: Eathan O’Bryant, former point guard for the Rebels, is currently playing for the Harlem Globetrotters as well as performing public relations responsibilities for the team. He loves playing basketball, but he wants to be a positive role model for kids as well.
here,” he said, “is still pretty much the same as when I was designing at Dixie State, Strata or Electronic Arts — to create compelling designs that get attention and communicate the intended message. When you’re doing the work for high-profile clients (like Hollywood directors and producers) the work has a greater monetary reward, but the design process fundamentals are the same.”

Chatting over the telephone from the set of “X Men II” in Vancouver, Marshall explains his work setting up interactive displays for Storm’s (played by actress Halle Barry) X-Jet. “Storm controls the weather and she also has this special jet,” said Marshall, “so all of the screens on this jet are stuff that we create. The plane is set up on this big gimble that moves it around and makes it appear as if its flying. It’s really cool.”

Other films that Marshall has worked on recently include: “Men in Black II,” “The Hulk,” Michael Creighton’s “Timeline” and “Charlie’s Angels II.” Marshall is doing Web and DVD development for some of these productions as well. Future motion pictures for which his company has contracts are “Spiderman II” and a new film starring Gene Hackman.

“We have a lot of electric moments,” said Marshall. “But it all stems from the excitement that comes from creating new images, new designs and seeing them implemented in a variety of media forms. Every day is different and enjoyable and it all began back in a tiny design office at Dixie State College. It’s hard to believe!”

◆ Right: A listing of credits on the i.Solve web page shows a sample of high tech special effects Dixie graduate and founder of DSC’s Visual Technologies Program, Brett Marshall, is now creating for Hollywood films.
that diversity. The song, Rural Philharmonic, combines classical baroque and a 44-piece orchestra with piano, banjo, mandolin and the electric guitar. As for Truman himself, he’s been known to sneak in a piano jazz solo or two somewhere in many of the band’s albums. He’s even gone so far as to include a few “Herbie Hancock licks.”

“Our vocals sounded traditional country, but the production of our album and the way we did our tracks instrumentally was like a rock and roll album. Everybody was saying, ‘gol, these guys are so progressive and sound so great but they’re still traditional,’ and we’ve always had that. The thing kind of swings – it rocks.”

That unique sound has made Diamond Rio a band for the ages. In all, the band has now produced eight separate albums. They’ve been named “Vocal Group of the Year” six times by the Academy of Country Music and the Country Music Association collectively. Of the band’s 19 Top 10 country hits, 15 of them have reached the Top 5 of the charts.

In 1998, the band was inducted into The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tenn. The honor, widely considered the greatest in country music, was magnified by the fact that Opry inductees are normally individuals, the last group being inducted in 1984.

One of the group’s first hits, Norma Jean Riley, which Truman helped write, recently received its second Millionth Air Award,” signifying that the song has aired over 2 million times on the radio. It’s a plateau that fewer than 150 songs have reached in the history of song writing for any format.

The one award that has eluded the band over the years has been the Grammy. The band’s first nomination came at the heels of their first album, Diamond Rio. Even though they didn’t win, the nomination sent a charge through the band. “We were freaked out, man,” Truman said.

Three of the band’s 12 Grammy nominations came from Diamond Rio’s recent album, One More Day, an album whose title track sat atop the charts at No. 1 for two weeks and whose lyrics continue to work their way into peoples’ hearts everywhere.

A decade later, however, award shows have lost a little of their luster. After all, the band has attended some 30 of them over the past 10 years. Truman volunteered to be the band’s sole representative at this year’s Grammy Awards in Los Angeles after nobody else, including his wife, wanted to go. His son, Ben, went along, but they returned empty-handed.

What hasn’t lost its luster is the Grammy itself. When asked if not winning is disappointing to the band, Truman doesn’t hold back.

“Yes! Grammys are the ultimate prize in the music world,” Truman said.

Truman feels like Completely may be the album that takes them over the top and is more excited about this particular album than any of their previous albums with the exception of their first. But even if that elusive Grammy never crosses Diamond Rio’s path, you know what they say about diamonds.

And while this Diamond may not last forever, it has by industry standards and is still going strong.

GROWTH (continued from pg. 17)

In addition to the 30 to 40 hours per week the dentists work at their clinic, Jennings and his students put in between 25 and 35 hours of their own. Combined, the offices took quite a toll, nearly doubling normal wear and tear. Because of the extra strain put on these dentists, it’s been a priority for the college to get out on its own as quickly as possible.

‘Like the 18-year old kid whose time has come to move out on his own, it was time to go,’ Jennings said. “We could only be under their wing so long and we promised them that we would be out, so that was why it progressed so quickly.”

The new clinic will provide a shot in the arm to a program that is already flying high. A highly competitive and popular program, between 200 and 400 applicants vie for 14 spots each year. In addition to its performance on the National Board (top 10 percent of 236 programs in the nation), four students from the Class of 2002 scored 100 percent on the Western Regional Exam, a clinical exam that the DSC program as a whole has averaged approximately 95 percent on. On top of that, the program enjoys nearly 100 percent placement of its graduates, which typically start out making $200 a day on the job.

The clinic is open to the public and will continue to offer the same services formerly offered off campus, including comprehensive cleanings and X-rays at approximately $20 for both.

The price tag for the entire remodel, approximately $450,000, was covered primarily through private donations. Over $280,000 has been donated in the clinic’s behalf. Similar to many other buildings and programs on campus, the new clinic is a product of the entire extended Dixie family, Whitehead said, including DSC’s National Advisory Committee, which was key to the fundraising effort.

Also key was the dental community, including Dixie alumni from California to Florida. Whether through a monetary donation or in kind equipment, people really got behind the clinic, Whitehead said.

“It really began to snowball. Every chair is worth $5,000-$7,000, and the next thing we knew we had seven or eight chairs. People just continued to rally behind us to keep the thing going. There’s been a great spirit of local donors.”

In 2000, DSC’s dental hygiene program graduated its first class of 14 students. Knowing first-hand the special need of the clinic, the Class of 2000 collectively contributed $1,000 toward the new facility, illustrating just one of the many stories behind the new clinic.

“Even in the worst of times our alumni have been loyal to us,” Whitehead said. “As long as we have a good cause, our alumni rally.”
As Georgia Tech's Golf Coach, Bruce Heppler was named the NCAA Coach of the Year for 2002. Under Bruce's direction, The Yellow Jackets were ranked number one in the country, winning seven tournaments.

As further evidence of his coaching success, Bruce taught several current PGA Tour players, one of whom, Matt Kuchar, has winnings totaling over a million dollars this season.

A 1982 graduate of Dixie State college, Bruce played golf for Dixie for two seasons. After serving a mission to South Africa, Bruce attended BYU where he graduated in accounting in 1986. He then became a CPA and went to work for an accounting firm for one year.

Bruce obtained a sports management degree from Mass. University, graduating with a 4.0 GPA. He coached the Amherst golf team while at UMASS, was later the assistant golf coach at UNLV, and then at Oklahoma State in ’91. After OSU won the National Championship in 1995, he was offered the head coaching position at Georgia Tech.

Bruce and his wife, Traci, are parents of Zakary, age 6 and Moriah, age 3.

Kenny Rollins of La Jolla, California, has stepped on board at the Law office of Cooley, Gradward as a recent graduate of the University of Virginia ’02. His focus will be corporate law.

Kenny began his education after high school at Dixie State College where he graduated in 1997 as valedictorian of the class. He furthered his education at SUU, graduating in 1998 with a degree in accounting and economics where he was also named valedictorian of the 1998 class.

He was then accepted into the law program at the University of Virginia School of Law. In 2002, he graduated in the top 10% of his class. During the summer of his last two years he interned at the law offices of Parsons Behie & Latimer Cooley, Godward LLP gaining experience and expertise in corporate law.

Rollins is an avid sports fan. In his spare time he enjoys baseball and during the opening hunting season travels back to Utah to enjoy the bow hunt.

He and his wife, Erin VanAusdal, also a Dixie graduate (’97) and a fourth grade elementary teacher, are putting down roots and settling into their new community.

Angela E. Atkin (’95) has recently been hired by the law firm of Jones, Waldo, Holbrook and McDonough in Salt Lake City. She is a member of the Utah State Bar Association and the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants. Her areas of practice include taxation, estate planning, trust and probate, and general corporate law.

After her two years at Dixie State, Angela graduated magna cum laude from the University of Utah in 1997 with a B.A. in accounting. She received her CPA license in 1998 and worked as an auditor for two years. In 2001, Angela graduated cum laude from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University.

“It was my favorite two years of college—it really was!” said Angela of her time at Dixie State. “Because the classes were small, there was personal attention from the professors. And all the hard work in the classroom was balanced out by the social life and activities.

“I would recommend Dixie anytime,” she continued. “I was prepared academically and the transition from high school to Dixie to the University of Utah was just right.”
Alumni - tell us of your accomplishments! Go to: www.dixie.edu/alumni

**LYNETTE STAHELI**

Lynette Staheli (’00) part of the first graduating class in the dental hygiene program, not only helped usher in a new era of medical professional training at DSC, but along with her inaugural classmates, achieved the sixth highest test scores in the nation. The wife and mother of two children, ages 3 and 1, is married to Kres Staheli and now divides her time between home and work.

Lynette actually graduated from Dixie on two different occasions. First, she graduated with an A.S. degree and later returned for the hygienist program earning an A.A. along with her certification. In both instances she proved to be an outstanding student and received summa cum laude honors.

“The first time I attended Dixie State I think I went for the same reasons most people do,” she says. “I wanted small classes and felt I would have the opportunity to get to know my professors.”

“The next time through,” she continues, “I entered into the hygienist program and it proved to be a bigger challenge. It becomes your life for two years. It’s competitive to get into the program and it’s competitive within the program. I felt like I really earned my education.”

**MICHAEL LEAVITT**

Michael Leavitt (’96) returned to St. George, the community that first inspired him to attend law school, and has joined the law firm of Snow Nuffer PC. A dream come true for him and his wife, Sara (’96) who stated that they were very happy to be back in Dixie to settle and raise their two sons.

After receiving his associates at Dixie, he continued his studies in history at SUU before receiving a rare full-tuition scholarship to the University of Idaho School of Law where he recently graduated with honors.

Michael performed well academically while at Dixie State and was intrinsically involved with student life. He played several roles in the campus theatre, was a part of the radio staff, served on student government committees and performed with his guitar on a regular basis at school activities. He was awarded Entertainer of the Year two different times and also received Performance of the Year for his memorable role in the play “Dracula.”

“There are a lot of reasons why I love Dixie State,” Mike says. “I was involved in a lot of new things that made my college experience a really great one.”

**FRED HOUSE**

DSC alum Fred House was invited to training camp with the Atlanta Hawks of the NBA in September, and will be signed by the team for the 2002-2003 season on October 1.

In 1999 he led the Dixie Rebels to the first national NJCAA Basketball Tournament appearance in 14 years. After his two years at Dixie, House played for the Thunderbirds at SUU, where he led the team to a Mid-Continent Conference Championship and a first ever berth in the NCAA Tournament.

After college, House was drafted into the NBA’s developmental League, where he was named Rookie of the Year, and played for the league championship.

“During my two years at Dixie I had a wonderful time. I graduated with an A.S. degree—the first college degree in my family. Now, Mom says she wants to get back in school and catch up with me.”

“I owe my professors at Dixie special thanks,” he said. “They didn’t see me as Fred House the athlete, they saw me as Fred House the student. They gave me personal attention to make sure I succeeded—just like they do with every other student at Dixie.”
It’s Homecoming time again! It’s a time to renew and rejuvenate our Dixie Spirit, a time to remember the past and look forward to the future. The future of Dixie is bright. Amid budget cut after budget cut and having to slim down in many areas, the growth continues. Because of this growth, it is even more important to have the support of our alumni. The need for scholarships is growing, so please give to the scholarship funds when we call.

Let me thank all of you who give so freely. From the golden generation to the local businesses of the community, the support for Dixie is wonderful.

We need help in maintaining the alumni database. If you have time to volunteer, please call Kalynn Larson at 652-7535 or Russ Feller at 574-3663. Dan Watson volunteers a few hours a day to help and we thank him so much for his service.

We also thank all of you helping us start our alumni chapters in Las Vegas and on the Wasatch Front. We hope to see you at one or all of the many Homecoming events, including our 1st annual alumni scramble golf tournament, so bring a friend and sign up now. Keep the Dixie Spirit alive.

Under the direction of chapter president, Dr. Bob Nisson and the organization of alumni director Kalynn Larson, the Las Vegas chapter of DSC Alumni Association held its first meeting and social event at the Green Valley Ranch Station Casino on May 9th.

Over 50 alumni of Dixie State College attended and were treated to a wonderful evening that included remarks from DSC President Robert Huddleston. Attendees ranged from the class of ’53 to the class of ’99.

“If outward appearances are any judge of the actual event, it seems as though this get-together of the Nevada bunch was a success in anyone’s book,” said Rick Neilson, Alumni membership vice-president. “The food was good, entertainment fantastic (even by Vegas standards) and those who made the effort to get there found the whole evening enjoyable.”

Elegant hors d’oeuvres were served and entertainment was provided by the singing group Forte’, whose members—Jonathan Morrell, Shauna Otteson, Budd Black, and Glen Andersen, are all DSC alumni. They nearly brought down the house with an original song, “Living in St. George Utah,” a spoof sung to the tune “Living La Vida Loca.”

A basketball autographed by members of Dixie’s national championship team was given away after the alumni group watched some of the championship game. The evening concluded with a short business and organizational meeting where it was decided that the Las Vegas chapter would meet semi-annually.

For information on the Las Vegas chapter’s next meeting in October, as well as other upcoming events, contact Bob Nisson at 702-682-6038 or Kalynn Larson at 435-652-7535.

Check out our official website to find information on other alumni, our credit card, alumni trips, what’s new at Dixie, and apparel. Register your current information so we can e-mail you a monthly newsletter.

alumni.dixie.edu

Alumni Board Notes…

Las Vegas Chapter Rocks

Under the direction of chapter president, Dr. Bob Nisson and the organization of alumni director Kalynn Larson, the Las Vegas chapter of DSC Alumni Association held its first meeting and social event at the Green Valley Ranch Station Casino on May 9th.

Over 50 alumni of Dixie State College attended and were treated to a wonderful evening that included remarks from DSC President Robert Huddleston. Attendees ranged from the class of ’53 to the class of ’99.

“If outward appearances are any judge of the actual event, it seems as though this get-together of the Nevada bunch was a success in anyone’s book,” said Rick Neilson, Alumni membership vice-president. “The food was good, entertainment fantastic (even by Vegas standards) and those who made the effort to get there found the whole evening enjoyable.”

Elegant hors d’oeuvres were served and entertainment was provided by the singing group Forte’, whose members—Jonathan Morrell, Shauna Otteson, Budd Black, and Glen Andersen, are all DSC alumni. They nearly brought down the house with an original song, “Living in St. George Utah,” a spoof sung to the tune “Living La Vida Loca.”

A basketball autographed by members of Dixie’s national championship team was given away after the alumni group watched some of the championship game. The evening concluded with a short business and organizational meeting where it was decided that the Las Vegas chapter would meet semi-annually.

For information on the Las Vegas chapter’s next meeting in October, as well as other upcoming events, contact Bob Nisson at 702-682-6038 or Kalynn Larson at 435-652-7535.

CONTACTS FOR ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP INFO

Send us your address or email as well as those of classmates

Las Vegas Area:
Dr. Bob Nisson (702) 361-8513
Dr. Rick Neilson (702) 454-2629

Northern Utah Area:
Chapter Mtg. @ Governor’s Mansion
October 19, 2002  7-9 pm

or contact Kalynn Larson at (435) 652-7535 e-mail larson@dixie.edu

stay informed

The alumni association is building an email database so we can send out monthly newsletters about events happening at Dixie. Send your email address to:
larson@dixie.edu
alumni memories–bathing beauties


Bette Seegmiller (Spilsbury) remembers the occasion of the bathing beauty contest pictured here, stating that it either occurred on July 4 or 24, 1935. The winner was Beth Seegmiller. The pond, site of the contest, was located just north of the Red Rock Canyon School at 747 East St. George Boulevard. If you recognize the girls at either end of the picture, please call 652-7538.

Tour or Cruise with your Alumni friends & families!

DSC ALUMNI TRAVEL SPECIALS

Something for Everyone from Cruises, to Train Rides, to History Tours

Royal Britain 13-day Tour
ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND
MAY 2003 • From $2,299
Highlights: Stonehenge, Kensington Palace, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Glasgow
Loch Lomond Cruise

9-day Tour
CANADIAN ROCKIES TRAIN TOUR
AUGUST, 2003 • From $2,199
Highlights: Columbia Icefields, Lake Louise, Calgary Stampede, Vancouver, Rocky Mountaineer Train

8-day in the
WESTERN CARIBBEAN
CELEBRITY CRUISE
JAN 31 - FEB 7, 2003
from $997 to $1467

12-day Tour
LDS CHURCH HISTORY & HILL CUMORAH PAGEANT
JULY 8 - 19, 2003
approx. $1,799

For more information on the travel packages above, call Bret Gove at Collette Vacations — (800) 832-4656

For more information on the travel packages above, call Nick Barlow at Destinations (435) 628-0017 or toll free 1-800-748-4777
A piece of Dixie State history came tumbling down in August as a wrecking ball demolished the auditorium and stage where countless performers have entertained St. George audiences since the early 1960s.