

Ozark Visitor



Volume 93

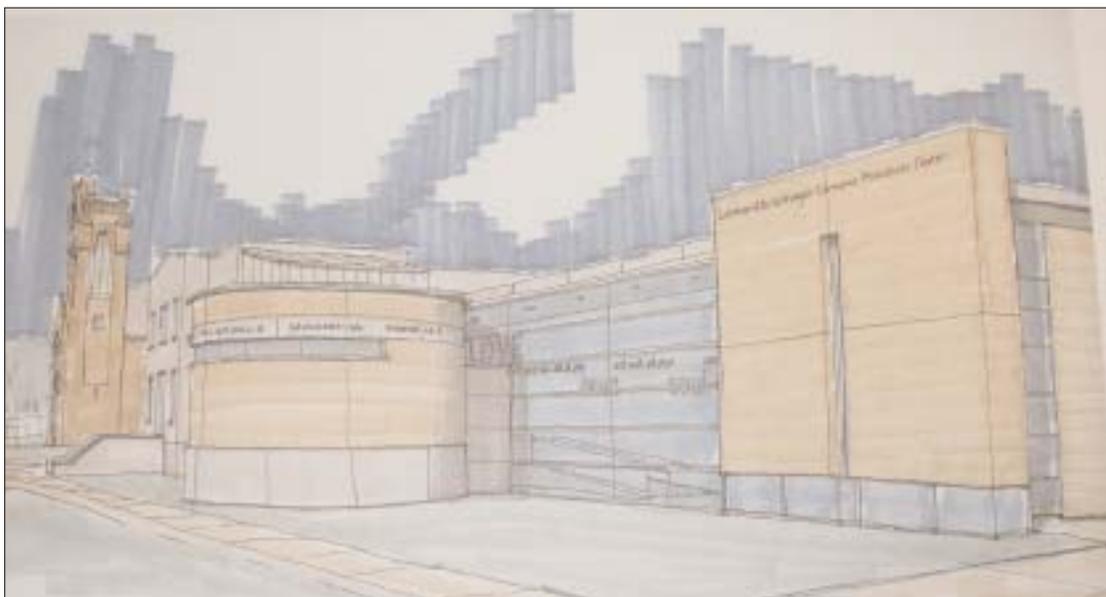
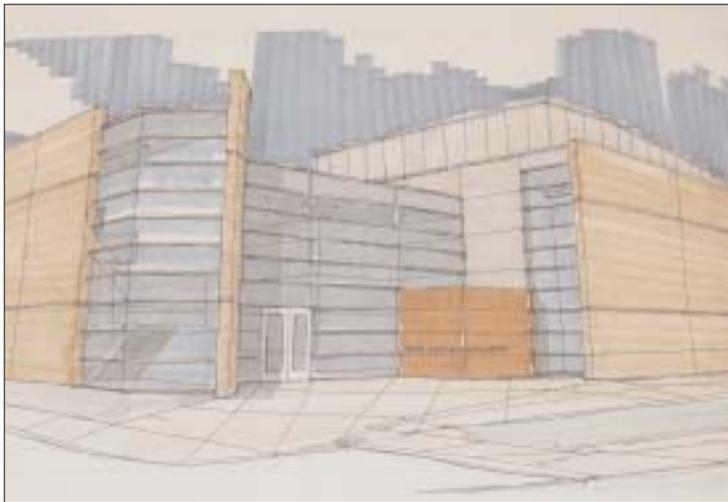
Spring, 2002

Number 4

College of the Ozarks... "Hard Work U.®"

www.cofo.edu

Point Lookout, Missouri 65726



*Gittingers Fund Renovation and Rebuilding of
Music, Ministry Centers for College*

PROMISES TO KEEP

Spring is in the Air: Longer Days, Warmer Weather



It's easy to tell it's Spring. The longer, warmer days are finally here, flowers are blooming and my income taxes are paid for yet another year! I can also tell it's springtime, because as I write this, the C of O fire department is testing its storm sirens right outside my office window. I don't think we need to worry about not being

informed of an impending tornado at Point Lookout, as these sirens are loud enough to be heard for miles.

Last month, we played host for the third year to the NAIA Division II Men's National Basketball Championship, and for the third year in a row, it was a huge success. This tournament does a lot of good, not only for C of O and the 32 teams that participate, but for the local economy as well. In the past, early March was a very quiet time in Branson, but now the thousands of visitors who pour into town for the tourney have made the place a lot livelier.

I can also tell it's springtime, because as I write this, the C of O fire department is testing its storm sirens right outside my office window.

Our congratulations go out to our Springfield neighbor, Evangel University, for winning the tournament. Evangel was ranked number one in the nation coming into the tournament and lived up to its Number One seeding. They only suffered one defeat all season, at the hands of our C of O Bobcats.

We also congratulate our Lady Cats, who received a bid to their NAIA national tournament in Sioux City, Iowa, and had a great first-round game.

As a result of all this basketball, you'll find more sports coverage than usual in this issue of the **Visitor**, and I hope you enjoy reading it.

Also in this issue of the **Visitor** is a story about Dr. and Mrs. Leonard B. Gittinger, longtime friends of College of the Ozarks. The Gittingers have always given generously of themselves to C of O, and recently they agreed to fund the restoration and renovation of two of our oldest buildings on campus for music and campus ministries.

You'll also see stories on two more honors the College has received from national publications, as well as features on faculty and on happenings around our campus.

Enjoy this issue of the **Visitor**, and best wishes for a happy, healthy and productive season. And if you're near Branson this Spring, stop by C of O and see our beautiful campus. It's a great place any time of year, but in the Spring, it's especially nice, thanks to our outstanding landscaping crew.

The Ozark Visitor (USPS 600540) (ISSN 0890-2690) is published quarterly by the Office of Public Relations, and is distributed free of charge to friends of our college, alumni, faculty, staff and parents of our students.



*Incorporated in 1906
as The School of the Ozarks*

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Produced by the J.M. McDonald Printing Department
in memory of Jerrold Watson, Manager
Associate Member, Missouri Press Association

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Periodicals postage paid Point Lookout, MO
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Ozark Visitor • P.O. Box 17
Point Lookout, MO 65726-0017

To Top Things Off

Williams Memorial Chapel Gets New Roof



Workers perch on scaffolding as they re-roof Williams Memorial Chapel. Photo by Vanessa Miles

By Vanessa Miles

In mid October of last year, College of the Ozarks began its long-awaited Williams Memorial Chapel renovations. The College began re-roofing the chapel with Harness Roofing, of Little Rock and Harrison, Arkansas, as contractor. Work was completed in March, 2002.

Built in Neo-Gothic style, the original chapel construction took 12 years to complete and was finished in 1956. Chuck Zehnder, Dean of Campus Ministries, said that last year, people began to notice the chapel roof leaking. There were also stains on the interior walls.

Over the years, the chapel has become a recognizable sign and symbol of the College's aspiration to provide a Christian education for its students. Every week a mixed con-

gregation of students, faculty, staff and community meet for Sunday worship service within the confines of the stone sanctuary. Bobby Davis, student leader for Chi Alpha group that meets weekly in the chapel, remarked that the chapel has come to represent a place of refuge, peace and strength for many of the students at the College.

Dean Zehnder says the new shingles being used to re-roof the chapel are made of a rubberized composition that is guaranteed for 100 years. The College community, and the many visitors that the chapel receives each year will benefit from the renovations.

The College of the Ozarks Alumni Association provided the funds and resources necessary to complete the project.

Allman Receives Governor's Award for Excellence

By Sam Waterman

Anne Allman, professor of art at College of the Ozarks, recently received the 2001 Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. The award was presented by Governor Bob Holden during the Governor's Conference on Higher Education held in Kansas City. Also honored were 66 other outstanding faculty from numerous post-secondary schools, colleges and universities in Missouri.

The Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching recipients were selected by their respective institutions for their effective teaching and advising, service to the school community, commitment to high standards of excellence and success in nurturing student achievement. Holden presented the awards following his keynote address during the luncheon.

"I had no idea that I had even been nominated for the award. I got a phone call one day telling me that I had received the award and was invited to the conference in Kansas City. I was very honored to receive such a prestigious award. Day in and day out I perform my job to the best of my ability. It's nice to know that someone else has noticed."

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Anne Allman, center, receives her Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching from Missouri Governor Bob Holden (right) as Mary Elizabeth Bradley, associate professor of music, looks on.

DEVELOPMENT NOTES

Is it the Right Time to Review Your Will?



Rodney Arnold

Out-of-date wills can create hardships, be needlessly expensive, cause family bitterness, and lead to lawsuits.

Sound estate planning requires periodic review. If it has been several years since your last review, now may be a good time to visit the safe deposit box.

If any of the following changes have occurred in your personal affairs, I encourage you to review your will to see if it continues to meet your family's needs under the changed circumstances.

Changes in the Law. The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 substantially affected the law regarding estate taxes. Your estate plan may have been drastically affected. For bequest provisions to someone other than your spouse, \$1,000,000 can be given free of any estate taxes. Currently, the annual gift exclusion is \$11,000.

Marriage: Your own marriage will certainly require a revision to your will. Not only to meet your new responsibilities, but because the law creates certain new rights and obligations respecting property after marriage. Marriage of a son or daughter can change your plans as well. Do you want a new son-in-law to inherit your estate? Has one daughter married a wealthy man while another is married to one far less affluent?

Birth: A new child or grandchild always means a will should be renewed. Heirs may have a contingent

REQUEST FORM

- Please send me literature on updating my will.
- Please send me literature on how to include College of the Ozarks in my will.
- Please send me updated information on the following College program _____.
- I have included College of the Ozarks in my will.
- Please call me regarding a question I have.

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Telephone/Email _____

ATTENTION ONLINE SHOPPERS

Enjoy Shopping and Contribute to C of O at the Same Time!

While you are shopping online, you may also be able to contribute to College of the Ozarks through two shopping websites that offer to donate certain percentages of purchases to charitable organizations designated by individual shoppers.

These websites will make donations back to C of O depending on the number of purchases made at their sites.

So next time you shop online, check out the following sites: www.greatergood.com and www.iGive.com, and help Hard Work U. with the click of your mouse. Thanks for your support.

interest, therefore, should you establish a trust to protect an inexperienced beneficiary? Should you provide funds for your granddaughter's college education?

Death: Does the death of a family member completely change your plan? What will be the tax effects of an unexpected death? Should the shares be changed or a beneficiary substituted?

Divorce: Would you want to change a provision should your son become divorced? How can you protect a grandchild, or keep your hard-earned money out of undesirable hands?

Change of Assets: Has your estate increased in value? What are the tax implications? Can you minimize shrinkage with sound estate and tax planning? Do you no longer own certain items mentioned in your will?

Change of Needs: Have your children grown up? Have your assets become a tax burden? Should you make greater use of gifts?

Change of Job or Business: Do you have new pension or profit-sharing benefits? How do these tie in with your plan? Suppose you have started a new business. What will happen at your death? Who will run it, or will it be sold?

Change of Residence: Does your will conform to the laws of the state where you now reside? Are inheritance taxes more? How will your estate pay them?

Charitable Bequests: Programs or objectives change in organizations. Does the specified program still exist at the named charity? Or, has your financial or family situation changed so that you now would like to include a bequest to your favorite charity? Would now be an

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BOBCAT ROUND BALL

Lady Cats Finish Outstanding 30-Win Season

By Sam Waterman

Amazing is the only word that came to mind when Coach George Wilson was asked about the Lady Cats' 2001-2002 season. "You look back and nobody thought it would happen," said Wilson. "We lost four of our top six players from last year, including three of our five starters."

As it turned out, the Lady Bobcats were on a mission to surprise a lot of people. They ended up having one of the best seasons in the history of College of the Ozarks women's basketball. Coach Wilson doesn't like to compare his teams (he says it gets him into trouble), but compared to last year's team, it was a complete turn around. This year the Lady Cats compiled an impressive record of 30-3, which broke the old school record for the best record for a season set in 1996-1997 of 29-3. This year's team didn't want to stop with just breaking that school record. They also ended up breaking quite a few other records as well as finding themselves in the national rankings.

The Lady Bobcats also set a new record for largest margin of victory, blasting Stephens College by a point spread of 68 points (95-27) on December 12.

Freshman Katie Howard set the new free throw percentage record of .848, breaking Jeanne Woody's (1989-1990) record of .845. Howard was also ranked seventh nationally in free throw percentage.

Regan Hughston broke the record for individual field goal percentage set by All-American Becky Light (98-99). Hughston shot 61.7 percent from the field. She was also ranked fourth nationally in field goal percentage.

The Lady Cats also broke the records for highest field goal percentage and free throw percentage. They shot 48.2 percent from the field (third

in the nation) and 76.6 percent from the foul line (seventh in the nation).

Coach George Wilson even set a new school record for most career coaching wins at C of O. Wilson now has a career record of 122-35 in five years of coaching at the College.

The Lady Cats had two All-Americans this season in Regan Hughston and Heather Henson. Hughston received Honorable Mention in the All-American voting this year and Henson was named an All-American Scholar Athlete.

Not only was this year's team one of the best in C of O history, they were also really good friends, which might have had something to do with the kind of season they had. Coach Wilson said, "The girls really got along well this year. They were a caring group who always encouraged each other through it all." Senior Becky Vest added, "The camaraderie and the attitude this team displayed all year long was great. We kept the atmosphere light and fun."

Of course there were plenty of unforgettable moments on the court this year. According to Senior Becky

Vest, one of the most memorable games of the year came early in the season against Hendrix College. The girls were playing for Coach George Wilson's 100th career win. "We were down by about 20 with only 12 minutes left in the game and we came back to win it by about 20 to get Coach's 100th win for him."

The highlight of the season was the Lady Bobcats' trip to the NAIA national tournament held in Sioux City, Iowa. This is the fourth time in five years that the Lady Cats have ventured to the tournament. "Getting back to the national tournament felt great after last year's absence," said Wilson. About 75 fans made the trip and joined the Lady Cats in Sioux City. Coach Wilson said, "They weren't large in numbers, but they sure made a lot of noise. We had some of the best fans at the tournament."

The Lady Cats played well at the tournament, but not as well as they would have liked. They defeated Black Hills State in the first round of

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The Lady Cats pose for this shot after winning the conference tournament held at C of O. The Lady Cats were a perfect 14-0 at home this season.

Photo by Kim Cooper

TODAY'S TOP STORY

Gittingers' Very Generous Gift Provides Funds

By Liarra Bartlett

College of the Ozarks is proud to announce plans for the redesign and restoration of two buildings on the C of O campus. College officials will break ground for the buildings in May of this year; one for music and the other devoted to campus ministries. These buildings will be made possible through the generosity of Dr. Leonard Gittinger and his wife Edith.



The old Jordan Music Building will become the Edith Gittinger Music Center.

Photos by Vanessa Miles

One of the new buildings will be the Leonard B. Gittinger Campus Ministries Center, which will be built around the current Thompson Music Building. According to Chuck Zehnder, Dean of Campus Ministries, this will be a blessing to the department and is an answer to prayer. In the past year alone, the department has grown from three staff members to five, one of whom has her office in what is barely more than a broom closet. Mr. Zehnder hopes that the new building will provide "breathing room and a sense of unity." While the space will be a nice change, the location will also be beneficial and "will bring the Ministry Department more exposure on campus."

The building will contain much more than offices. There will be a missions development center, a circular prayer chapel and a student center, to name a few. The student center will contain sofas and chairs around the fireplace where students can come and relax. And the central location will make it close to all students' dorms. The entryway will exemplify missions both in our communities and cross-culture missions and hopefully, as Mr. Zehnder says, "will prompt people's minds to think globally and of God's Kingdom."

"Dr. Gittinger and his wife, Edith, are

exemplifying the giving nature of Christ by their eagerness to provide funding that will enable the College to completely remodel what is now the Thompson Building as well as expanding the Jordan Building," said College Chaplain Dan Chinn. "Their purpose for remodeling Thompson is to provide a place in which to move the Campus Ministries team. Having Campus Ministries in one, bigger building will position the Pastor's office to minister more effectively to the student body.

"We will also be just across the road from the Chapel, which is the heart of C of O campus life," Chinn continued. "Thanks goes to God for raising up people like the Gittingers who graciously and abundantly share God's provision to them so that the whole family of God at C of O benefits."

The second building will be the Edith Gittinger Music Center. When asked his reaction to the news of this new building, Dr. Bruce Gerlach, Chair of Performing and Professional Arts,

conveyed his amazement. "I had been praying for God's blessings, just as in Jabez' prayer. I asked God where were the blessings that He had promised that would be more than I could bear, and that day I found out about the building."

Gerlach also said that this new building would be a "shot in the arm for the department." With an average of 40 music majors at this time, the new building will hopefully bring in more students to average closer to 60 music majors. The current music building is 8,000 sq. feet, and the proposed building will cover 20,000 sq. ft. There will



The old Thompson Music Building, formerly the College's Dining Hall, will become the Leonard B. Gittinger Campus Ministries Center.

A NEW LOOK

For New Building Projects on C of O Campus

also be a recital hall, and the classrooms will be better insulated. Construction will begin in May of this year, and should be completed within a year, soon to be followed by the Campus Ministries building.

From an administrator of music's perspective, Dr. Gerlach added, "Our music department exists primarily to train those in the music fields of education and ministry, and thirdly those planning on going into professional music careers. While our building and department will be growing, our focus on training students to make an impact in those fields will remain the same as ever."

Faculty and administrators aren't the only ones thrilled with the Gittingers' gift. Students are equally awed. Jeff Brummel, junior music major and Chapel Organist from Springfield, Oregon, was pleased to hear of the gift.

"This will help the department be able to reach the level of sophistication it is striving for," Brummel said. "It will greatly motivate students to work harder, because we will now have up-to-date equipment and facilities."

Brummel spoke of his friendship with the Gittingers. "Every Sunday, I see Dr. Gittinger and we shake hands," Brummel said. "His volunteer work here and his spirit of generosity are so impressive. He's given so much of himself and not just in terms of money."

The Edith Gittinger Music Center and the Leonard B. Gittinger Campus Ministries Center were designed to retain the character of the present Jordan and Thompson Music Buildings, by constructing around the original entryways. The architectural firm, Butler, Rosenbury and Partners of Springfield, took pedestrian traffic into consideration as well as circulation. The new buildings were also designed to attempt to tie together the main campus quadrangle, where such buildings as the Jones Learning Center are located.

Born in Chariton, Iowa, in 1911, Dr. Gittinger was raised primarily by his grandparents. He attended the local high school and Junior College from which he graduated in 1932. While attending the third year of his college studies he was employed as a bookkeeper by a local egg and poultry processing plant.

In 1938, Dr. Gittinger married Edith May, a fellow Chariton native. Mrs. Gittinger was a registered nurse, a profession she was actively involved in for most of her

life. During the earlier years of their retirement, Mrs. Gittinger worked at the C of O blood drive. In August of this year the Gittingers will have been happily married for 64 years.

After working 10 years at the processing plant, Dr. Gittinger decided to venture back to college. In 1942, he graduated from the Harvard Business School with a Master of Business Administration with distinction and honor as a Baker Scholar. Upon graduation, Dr. Gittinger was employed at Freeport Sulphur Company, an international mining company, where he worked for nearly 30 years, retiring in 1972 as a Vice-President and Director of Market Research.

The first time the Gittingers drove through Hollister, Missouri, was in 1942, on their way to New Orleans. Their first thought was that it looked like a nice place to live. It must have made a great impression, because following retirement the Gittingers re-located in Hollister, for both the location and to be closer to his sister who lived in the area.

Dr. and Mrs. Gittinger's introduction to the College was their attendance at a play at the College's Beacon Hill Theatre. They became members of the C of O Chapel and Dr. Gittinger enrolled in several classes at the College. To this day, Dr. Gittinger will proclaim that the best teachers he has ever studied under belonged to C of O—Dr. Courtney Furman who is still instructing Philosophy and Religion at the College, and Dr. Kenton Olson, former Dean of the College.

In 1995, Dr. Gittinger was awarded the Meritorious Award for Distinguished Service to College of the Ozarks by the Alumni Association. In May, 1999, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the College.

One Sunday morning in Chapel, nearly 20 years ago, it was announced that Dr. Paul Slicer would be the new Director of Career Development. Following the service, Dr. Gittinger, who had been serving as a volunteer at the Ralph Foster Museum, offered his service to Dr. Slicer in career development. This was the beginning of a long and beautiful friendship. Dr. Gittinger assisted in the Career Development Department for over 16 years, both financially and with his counseling skills and support. From providing computers and copy machines for the department to helping students independently, Dr. Gittinger has helped many students discover their God-given talents and learn how to apply them.

The first gift the Gittingers gave to the College was a teaching greenhouse attached to the Pfeiffer Building and others followed, including Bernina sewing machines, video tapes on world

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Jeff Brummel

SPORTS SHOTS

NAIA Championship A Big Success for Third Year:

By Camille Howell

They came from New Jersey, Maine and Vermont; they came from California, Washington and Oregon, and they came from many places in between. Men's basketball teams from 32 small colleges throughout the U.S. converged on Branson and C of O March 6-12 for the 11th Annual National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Division II Men's National Basketball Tournament.

This was the third year C of O hosted the tournament, and it was bigger and better than ever. Sellout and near sellout crowds dominated the event as the week progressed, and fans got to see one incredibly exciting game after another as contest after contest came down to the wire and only a few points separated the winner from the loser.

In the end, top-seeded Evangel University from nearby Springfield won the championship, finishing with a 35-1 season. Ironically, their only loss came at the hands of the C of O Bobcats, who defeated the Crusaders handily in the last game of the regular season. Evangel



Australian Bobcat Caleb Dreaver comes up from down under to sink this basket.



The NAIA dirigible floats across the gym entertaining the crowd and dropping goodies to the spectators.

beat (in order of play) St. Joseph of Vermont, Black Hills State of South Dakota, Holy Family of Pennsylvania, Northwestern of Iowa, and finally, seventh-seeded Robert Morris College of Chicago to claim the championship trophy.

Other teams in the competition included College of the Ozarks, Brevard of North Carolina, Newman of Kansas, Ottawa of Kansas, Northwestern of Minnesota, Briar Cliff of Iowa, Holy Names of California, St. Joseph's of Maine, Mt. Saint Clare of Iowa, Bluefield of Virginia, Ohio Dominican, Menlo of California, Western Baptist of Oregon, Walsh of Ohio and Tabor of Kansas, all of whom fell in first-round play.

Teams eliminated in the second round, in addition to Black Hills State, included Evergreen State of Washington, Siena Heights of Michigan, Huntington of Indiana, Caldwell of New Jersey, Jamestown of North Dakota, Bethel of Tennessee, and Sioux Falls of South Dakota.

Elite Eight teams were Evangel and Holy Family, both mentioned above, along with St. Vincent of Pennsylvania, Northwestern of Iowa, Cornerstone of Michigan, MidAmerica Nazarene of Kansas, Robert Morris of Chicago and Warner Southern of Florida. Evangel, Cornerstone, Northwestern and Robert Morris advanced to the final four, for two of the most exciting games of the tournament, including a two-point heart-stopping win by Evangel in the semifinals over Northwestern, last year's champions.

The final game was decided by an 84-61 margin and was seldom in doubt from beginning to end, much to the

MARCH MADNESS

Nearby Evangel University Takes Home Top Honors

delight of the highly partisan Southwest Missouri crowd. Daniel Cutbirth of Evangel was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, and Bobby Smith of Robert Morris, the country's leading scorer, took home Player of the Year honors and finished his five-game run with 156 points, a tournament record.

College of the Ozarks once again received high praise for its role as tournament host, as hundreds of staffers and townspeople worked thousands of hours to make the week an unqualified success. C of O is guaranteed the tournament bid for one more year, but hopes are high that the contest will stay in Point Lookout for many years to come.

C of O owes its thanks to the many tournament sponsors who helped with financial and in-kind support. Team sponsors/honorary coaches included the following businesses: Baldknobbers Jamboree, Big Cedar, Branson Dental, Branson Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, Branson Outdoor, Cooper Creek Resort and Campground, Country Mart/Hiland Dairy, Dick's Old-time 5&10/Allstate Insurance, Dixie Stampede, Fairfield Resorts, Inc., First Community Bank of Taney County,



Dan Crisp and his custodial crew make sure that everything is a clean sweep during all of the games.

Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Vista Resort, IMAX Entertainment, L&J Plumbing Supply, Leo Journagan Construction, Loyd's Electric Supply, Inc., Office Concepts of Missouri, Outback Roadhouse & Motel Suites, Ozark Mountain Bank, Ozarks Coca-Cola/Dr. Pepper Bottling Company, Republic Ford, Showboat Branson Belle, Sir Speedy/Signs Now, Skaggs Community Health Center, Table Rock Asphalt Construction Company, Inc., Tanger Outlet Center, The Track, Thunder Road/Golden Corral, Union Planters Bank, Webbco, Inc., and White River Electric Company.

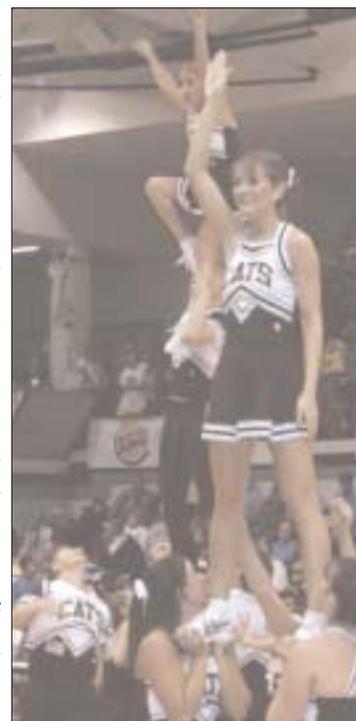
Additional sponsors included: Sodexo, Branson



The number one seed Evangel team stands at attention during the playing of the National Anthem.

Photos by Linda LeNeve and Shann Swift

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The Bobcat Cheer Team performs at the championship halftime extravaganza.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNA

Fronterhouse Travels to Japan on Fulbright Award

By Raven McNelis

Imagine for a moment the opportunity of traveling to the Far East, a region whose ancient lands are embedded with history and unique customs that make up their way of life. To the average American, the Far East remains somewhat of a mystery and though most have knowledge of the land and its people, they haven't experienced it up close and personal.

The work done to repair cultural relations between the U.S. and Japan has been going on for over 50 years. Each country has had to work on understanding the other, valuing the differences and also influencing each new generation so that peace remains. It takes dedicated teams of people to achieve this endeavor and see it through.

A College of the Ozark graduate, Miranda Fronterhouse Ascone, found herself in one of these dedicated teams when she traveled to Japan in October, 2001. Miranda was selected to participate in the Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program, which consisted of 200 distinguished educators from all over the United States.

Miranda came to College of the Ozarks in the fall of 1993. While at C of O she was an Elementary Education major and a Bonner Scholar for four years. She also



Miranda Fronterhouse Ascone (back center) is shown with a group of Japanese schoolchildren and their pet rabbits.

earned her certification in library science. Miranda is currently employed by Spokane Elementary School in Missouri.

The Government of Japan sponsored this program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Government Fulbright Program, which has allowed over 6,000 Japanese citizens to study in America for graduate education and research.

While in Japan, Miranda corresponded by email with three school districts: Spokane, Houston and Willow Springs. Miranda e-mailed the schools almost every day. Through her writing she tried to depict the richness and diversity of her experiences in one of the most ancient cultures in the world. In addition to the e-mails, she was able to scan and send digital pictures.

The purpose of the group is to promote greater understanding between the two nations. The only way to do that was by actually living in the Japanese culture. The program lasted three weeks and consisted of intense seminars and observing classes at local schools. In addition, the delegates worked on acclimating themselves to new foods, new sounds and even new ways of behavior.

When Miranda began her journey to Japan, it was somewhat overwhelming. Not only was she leaving her familiar surroundings of home, but she was also leaving her country that had just experienced the horrific events of September 11, 2001. She wrote in her travel journals that while on a connecting plane to St. Louis, the pilot came on the public address system and told the passengers that the U.S. had just bombed Afghanistan. Miranda said, "This was one of the most sobering moments of the trip." Miranda knew, however, that personally and professionally, this was a chance of a lifetime and she wasn't about to miss it.

On Miranda's journey, she visited several ancient sites. One she truly enjoyed was the city of Inuyama, where she visited the National Treasure, Inuyama Castle. It is about 460 years old. Inside the castle lies the oldest dungeon in Japan. Miranda said, "Castles weren't used as living quarters but as fortresses where Samurai Warriors fought their enemies. The structure was designed for strategic attacks." Also, she visited Myokoji Temple where Zen Buddhist monks practice the art of meditation.

Another adventure for Miranda and her group was the experience of a local fish market that daily supplied every kind of sea creature available. The auction began around 5:30 a.m. and lasted until the fish were gone.

As previously mentioned, the delegates were able to enter into local classrooms and

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OUR GLOBAL CONNECTION

Visiting Professor Sam Sun of China at C of O

By Sam Waterman

Sam J. Sun, professor of English at the College of Foreign Studies, Liaoning University, is visiting College of the Ozarks this semester. Sun is very impressed by a lot of the things he has experienced here.

Sun first learned of C of O when he met President Jerry C. Davis and Glen Cameron, Dean of Campus Services, while they were visiting Liaoning University in China last year. After hearing about America and College of the Ozarks from Davis, Sun became very enthusiastic about visiting the College.

"I showed great interest in visiting the States and experiencing the real American culture and interacting with some more Americans. I had no idea if I would be the first exchange professor under the agreement between C of O and the College of Foreign Studies," Sun said. Apparently, he impressed Davis and Cameron enough to be invited to spend the semester at the College.

"In October, I received the invitation from Dr. Cameron, and my college authority decided that I would be our first exchange teacher. I was very excited about the decision. I had dreamed of visiting the States for quite a long time, and now it is a reality," said Sun.

Being a teacher has been a dream of Sun's since he was very young. He began to learn English in junior middle school (the equivalent of American high school) as one of his normal subjects. It wasn't until he enrolled in a university that he made his mind up to teach English. "I was told that English is an international language and I knew that English could introduce me to different

people in the world," Sun said. "I enrolled myself into a university specializing in teaching English as a foreign language, and I began to make my dreams come true."

After settling into one of the campus guesthouses, Sun began to enjoy the beautiful landscape of the Ozarks. He was very impressed with how peaceful it is here. Sun was most impressed with the hard-working students and professors here at C of O. "Before I came to the States, I thought that American college students might be lazy and careless, but I was wrong. I have met so many students and professors who are very hard working in both their studies and work."

Mr. Sun is part of the English department, but he speaks in many different classes to introduce Chinese culture to the students at C of O. Besides teaching here at the College, Sun would like to travel all over the country and visit different levels of schools to see how the educational systems are compared to that of China. Sun said, "I'd like to work as an educational ambassador and introduce advanced educational ideas and principles in order to promote global communication and civilization."



Sam Sun, visiting English professor at C of O this semester.

Photo by Sam Waterman

observe the cultural differences in teaching styles. Miranda spent a day at Hokuba Junior High School. She noticed many differences in American and Japanese public schools. She said, "I left that school appreciating our school systems even more." A few of the differences were the students must eat in the classroom and they serve each other wearing face-masks but no gloves. They cannot bring a sack lunch from home or eat in the cafeteria, because there isn't one.

Miranda's experiences didn't slow or stop at any point during her stay. There were new places to visit almost everyday, new tea ceremonies

to learn, how to be a proper guest at Japanese cultural seminars, being dressed in a kimono by Japanese women and learning a few calligraphy strokes. Her time there was a chance to absorb everything she could so that the memories would last a lifetime.

On the final day each group had to do a presentation about anything that represented their stay. Miranda's group decided to zip her up in a suitcase and wheel her out on stage to symbolize just how much they had to carry around from place to place. In her final e-mail she wrote, "At this moment I feel as if I've been standing in a dark room and the light flashed

on for a split second. Now I sit here trying to put into words what I experienced."

Miranda said that promoting understanding between the United States and Japan has been truly inspiring. The opportunity is one that only a few will experience but the hope is that the select few can share the knowledge and wisdom gained. She said it will benefit Japan and the United States, and it has the power to impact how the whole world can relate interculturally. It is important for the present but it is imperative for future generations to learn that culture differences shouldn't stand in the way of understanding.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

College of the Ozarks in a Class By Itself, Study Says

By Camille Howell

College of the Ozarks recently added a new accolade to its long list of achievements in the field of high-quality, affordable education. C of O was named the only affordable college in Missouri (as well as in many other states) in a new book titled "Unequal Opportunity: Disparities in College Access Among the 50 States."

It's no secret that college tuition costs are outpacing the rate of inflation throughout the country, but a new study by the Lumina Foundation for Education of Indianapolis shows just how true that really is.

Dividing potential students into the categories of dependent and independent, and further into the categories of low-income and median-income, the study

"This study puts College of the Ozarks in a class by itself. . . We are determined not to let our students rack up huge debts during their college years."

looked at colleges and universities throughout the nation and determined whether or not they were affordable, unaffordable or affordable with loans to each of these prospective-student categories.

College of the Ozarks was the only school in Missouri named affordable to students in all categories. Ozarks Technical Community College in Springfield, a two-year college, was also deemed either "affordable" or "affordable with loans" in all four categories. Many other colleges in Missouri and throughout the nation, however, were found to be "unaffordable" in at least one of Lumina's categories.

"This study puts College of the Ozarks in a class by itself," said C of O President Jerry C. Davis, "but it is important to remember that there are many other fine schools in Missouri who go out of their way to help students.

"Our no-tuition policy plays a huge part in this, of course, but we see our dedication to keeping our students out of debt as even more important.

"We are determined not to let our students rack up huge debts during their college years," he added. "This study by the Lumina Foundation just underscores what we have been committed to for years at C of O. And our commitment will continue; you can be certain of that."

College of the Ozarks Again Ranked Among Best

By Vanessa Miles

College of the Ozarks has recently been ranked among America's most prestigious schools in a 2002 Kaplan/Newsweek study. The study surveyed colleges and universities to determine which schools were the most selective in their admissions acceptance. Also reviewed in the study was information on the yield rate (the percentage of applicants who actually enroll after receiving an acceptance letter).

C of O was ranked 10th, following such schools as Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, and Yale University and just ahead of MIT. College of the Ozarks has earned a reputation for being one of the most sought-after colleges in America with over 2,500 applicants applying each semester for one of the 450 spaces available. However, beyond this qualification, the College was also ranked with an 85.1% yield rate, which was the second highest percentage in the 10 most selective schools.

Although Newsweek included this study in an article depicting the recent "maelstrom" that students must wade through to be accepted at the school of their choice,

the College claims that the statistics only highlight the quality of the school and not so much the degree of difficulty that is involved in the admissions process. The distinction, they said, must be made between the values and goals of their college compared with the other highly selective schools.

Camille Howell, Director of Public Relations at the College, says, "We're obviously pleased to be in such good company, but the last thing we want to do is discourage prospective students from applying to College of the Ozarks because they think they can't get in. Although it is true that many more people apply to C of O than are accepted, the reasons for this are often things such as high family income. In addition, large numbers of international students apply each year, many more than we can accept.

"Even though C of O is one of the 10 most selective colleges in the country it is still a place that welcomes students who are bright, willing to work, and might have a difficult time paying to go to college elsewhere. That has always been and will always be our principal mission."

HONORING EXCELLENCE

Wynn, Schmitt, Inducted into Sports Hall of Fame

By Camille Howell

Larry Schmitt and James Wynn, standouts in baseball and basketball during the '80s and '90s, were inducted into the College of the Ozarks Sports Hall of Fame Saturday, February 9, during a luncheon in their honor.



Larry Schmitt, center, admires his induction plaque while his baseball coach Bob Smith (left) and Al Waller (right) look on.

Photos by Camille Howell

A host of family, friends and teammates turned out to see the two men honored. As Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Coach Al Waller said, the purpose of the C of O Sports Hall of Fame is both to honor outstanding athletes and to tie together the history of The School of the Ozarks and its high school sports program with today's collegiate program.

The C of O Sports Hall of Fame began in 1985, and each year, at least two standout athletes have been inducted. Of the 39 inductees, 30 of whom are still living, 12 were able to attend Saturday's festivities.

Wynn was a four-year letterman in basketball and graduated in 1996 as C of O's all-time leading rebounder with 898 career rebounds, the number two all-time leading scorer with 1834 career points and the number four all-time assist leader with 359. He was First Team All-Conference as a junior and senior and also earned Honorable Mention All-American honors his senior year. He also helped lead the Cats to two NAIA national tournament appearances.

Today, Wynn and his wife Mitzi live in Valley Springs, Arkansas, and he is employed by American Freightways.

Schmitt was a four-year letterman in baseball and



James Wynn, right, accepts his Sports Hall of Fame plaque from Coach Al Waller.

basketball from 1979 to 1983. In baseball, he had a .372 career batting average and was named All-conference his last three years and All-District his senior year. He batted .414 in 1981 and .421 in 1982. During his four years, the baseball team had a 118-52 record.

In basketball, Schmitt's career numbers included 437 points, 167 rebounds and 94 assists.

Since graduation, Schmitt has worked in the Branson community, managing WhiteWater (where he began working in college as a lifeguard) and the Showboat Branson Belle for a number of years. Today, he is part owner of The Track, Inc. He and his wife Marty have been active in Branson and were very influential in gaining sponsorships for the NAIA Men's Basketball National Tournament.

Both men received commemorative plaques, duplicates of which hang in the C of O Sports Hall of Fame, which is located in the west wing of Keeter Gymnasium.

The purpose of the C of O Sports Hall of Fame is both to honor outstanding athletes and to tie together the history of The School of the Ozarks and its high school sports program with today's collegiate program.



Memorial Gifts

DECEMBER MEMORIAL SCROLLS

ERMA H. (DODD) ADAMS FROM MR. JAMES L. ADAMS
Chris Adams from Violet (Frye) Adams
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Josephine McDonald and Family from Mrs. Bernice Rex
Ruth Mary Miller from Mrs. Helen H. Smith

A GIFT ANNUITY is a means of providing yourself with a guaranteed income for life at the same time you provide financial support for College of the Ozarks. Many friends of C of O over the years have created Gift Annuities which eventually result in a gift to the College as a Memorial to themselves or friends and relatives that they may designate.

In brief, you give C of O a specific sum of cash, securities or other property. In consideration of this gift C of O guarantees to pay you a fixed annual income for life. This income is based on the amount of your gift and your age (ages) at the time the gift was made. If you are considering a survivor beneficiary or a two-life gift annuity the income is based on the information for both lives. At the time of your death the principal of your gift is used in support of our program here at Point Lookout.

The Gift Annuity offers many advantages as a way to make a contribution. It insures a guaranteed, fixed annual income for life, and in the year you make your gift a large percent is deductible from your Federal Income Tax Return as a charitable contribution. If the deduction exceeds the amount allowed by law in any one year, you may apply the deduction over a period of as many as five years. In addition, a large portion of your annual income from the annuity paid to you by C of O will be tax free. It frees you of any management or investment worries, and you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have contributed to the education of young men and women who otherwise could not aspire to a college degree.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Moll from Mr. and Mrs. John C. Moll
Barton Moore from Mr. and Mrs. Alan Futrell Moore, Mrs. Elaine Barton
Ralph Morgan from Mrs. Mary Fulcher Morgan
Violet Morgan from KC Chapter Alumni Associates, Violet H. Adams
Sue Morrison from Mr. and Mrs. Joe C. Griffin
Loyd and Nellie Musick from Mrs. Marjorie Lockwood
Walter Oltman, Jr. from Ms. Veletta Martin
Clifton O'Neal from KC Chapter Alumni Association, Violet H. Adams
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Genevieve Wyatt from Mr. J. B. Wyatt
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DECEMBER HONOR SCROLLS

Mary Ann Beattie's 99th Birthday from Mrs. Barbara B. Mercer
Miss Lamar Louise Curry from Mrs. Blanche Blackwell Ballew, Helen Blackwell
Dr. Jerry C. Davis and Family from Dr.

and Mrs. Bradford L. Crain
Judi Harris from Mrs. Rosemary K. Nobles
Jim Keeter from Mr. and Mrs. William I. Rau
John and Lisa Luebker from Mr. and Mrs. Barney H. Forbes
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Luethye from Mr. Harry Luethye
Nita H. McLean from Mr. and Mrs. Troy Curtright
Pam O'Toole from Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Newsom
Mary E. Rose from Dr. Robert K. Skillman

JANUARY MEMORIAL SCROLLS

Elaine Balzersen from Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Hryhorchuk
Carroll Bradley from Mr. Wayne H. Musteen
Marian Brastrom from Mr. Donald Brostrom
Jacqueline Buritsch from Miss Carolyn Hackman
William Calhoun from Ms. Mary K. Headlee
Gerald Causey from Naomi Welch, Robert and Johnna Welch
Dr. M. Graham Clark from Mrs. Carolyn H. Ledford
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Ann Coxsey from Jack and Jackie Reeves
Buck Dusek from Ms. Janet Sue Toney
Tom Edmondson from Mrs. Marilyn Maddux
Patricia Finazzo from Mrs. Dorothy A. McDonald
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Thurman W. Gordon from Mrs. Neoma Gordon
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Coral Crandall Hodde from Mrs. Kathlyn Flaten
Audra Marchbank from Jack and Jackie Reeves
Leatres Mercier from Ms. Oral E. Selliken
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Harold Payne from Linda (Payne) Tremain
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Modene (Jones) Smith from Helen (Jones) Christian
Hugh Daniel Smith from Helen (Jones) Christian
Dr. Jim Smith from Dr. and Mrs. E. R. Walker
Ella Mai Tanner from Dorothy and Louise Miley

JANUARY HONOR SCROLLS

Loraine Garner from Ms. Misha Hammond
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John and Gwen Sheu from Dan and Beth Hanschu
Eula Mae (Shelton) Shipman from Paul W. Shipman
J. Hugh Wise from Ms. Misha Hammond
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Ann "Andy" Allen from Dr. and Mrs. E. R. Walker
Thea A. Anderson from Mr. Oscar O. Anderson
Bill Bucher from Ms. Oral E. Selliken
Oma Inge Burkardt from Dr. and Mrs. E. R. Walker
William H. Calhoun from Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jennings
Coral Crandall Hodde from Mrs. Kathlyn Flaten
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Patricia K. Finazzo from Mrs. Erin F. Kuhlmann, Ms. Marie Redhage
Sherry Gerard from Mr. and Mrs. Archie D. Ellis
Fred L. Hryhorchuk from Mr. and Mrs. Emery Montgomery
Ray Kempt from Mr. and Mrs. Bill F. Wright
Dr. Juanita Kirk from Dr. and Mrs. Charles Row
Ms. Leota Mae Ledford from Harry Dee Frost, Glen Dale Ray
Joseph A. Lutz from Mrs. Virginia R. Lutz
Barton Alan Moore from Mr. and Mrs. David B. Bradford
Oliver H. Myers from Mrs. Mary M. Gilmore-Gilliland
Vera Richter from Ms. Oral E. Selliken
Mary Lou Schmidt from Mr. Charles T. Schmidt
Dorothy Short from Mr. and Mrs. Theodore B. Kelly
Fred Smith from Mr. and Mrs. Avis D. Burton
Josephine Ulmer from Mr. and Mrs. Seth Caperton, Jr.
James T. Workman from Dr. James L. Workman
Mildred Workman from Dr. James L. Workman
Dixie A. Windolph from Mrs. Nancy M. Perry, Ms. Jean C. Crowley

FEBRUARY HONOR SCROLLS

Pidge (Godsey) Land from Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wertz

NAMES LISTED IN ALL CAPITALS REPRESENT GIFTS OF \$1,000 OR MORE.

religions, lighting and audio equipment for the theatre and display cases, his 25-year postage stamp collection and numerous quilts from his and his wife's collection.

Playing an active role in the community, Dr. Gittinger belongs to numerous organizations including the College Board of Visitors and the Branson camp of Gideons International. In 1999, the Gittingers endowed the Community Convocation Services, which enabled

speakers such as Franklin Graham, Colin Powell and James Baker to share their career experiences with College of the Ozarks family and friends.

"Dr. Gittinger and his wife enable College of the Ozarks to meet the five goals of the College. The Music and the Campus Ministries Departments are a priority here at the College, and we are very grateful," said Dr. Jerry C. Davis, President of the College.

ON THE COVER

Dr. Leonard B. Gittinger and Mrs. Edith Gittinger, longtime friends and supporters of College of the Ozarks, have provided the funds necessary for two major building renovation/rebuildings. The story begins on page 6.

Gittinger photo by Larry Plumlee
Elevation drawing photos by Linda LeNeve

ANNE ALLMAN

continued from page 3

Anne admires her colleagues and students, whom she gives credit to for keeping her on her toes.

This year marks Allman's 21st year of teaching at C of O. She is a member of the Evaluation Committee, Teacher Education Board and Academic Assessment Task Force. Allman also recently co-chaired the Institutional Self-Study Committee on the Academic Program of the Missouri Arts Council.

An active participant in organizations that support Missouri art educators, Allman has served on councils for the Missouri Art Education Association and the Southwest District Art Teachers Association. In addition, Allman often serves as a juror of regional and state art competitions and has served on the advisory panel for the Visual Arts Program of the Missouri Arts Council. She also supports the art programs in area school districts by organizing an annual school art exhibit.

Allman has received the Missouri Art Education Higher Education Award twice and has also been awarded the College of the Ozarks Professional Achievement Award for her service to the College.

LADY CATS

continued from page 5

play, but fell to St. Francis in the second. "We played well. We didn't play as well as we did in the conference tournament, but maybe the competition had something to do with it," said Wilson. "Even though the outcome wasn't what we wanted, we still had fun."

The Lady Cats gave it their all, but it had to end sometime. "This was a great way for us seniors to end our career. What made the season so great was the tight group of girls and how unselfish we were. There were no egos, just 12 girls playing together as a team," said senior Becky Vest.

Coach Wilson felt privileged to be a part of the girls' lives this year. Wilson said, "Of all the years I've coached, I've been fortunate to have a lot of good teams, but this one stands out in my mind as one of my favorites."

DEVELOPMENT NOTES

continued from page 4

appropriate time to increase your provision for existing charities in your estate plan?

With last year's tax law changes, I highly recommend a will review with your estate-planning attorney. Should I be able to be of assistance with your estate planning or be able to provide you with information regarding a provision for College of the Ozarks, please complete the request form provided. I would be pleased to send you literature about making a bequest or provide you updated information on a bequest for a specific purpose.

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