

Ozark Visitor



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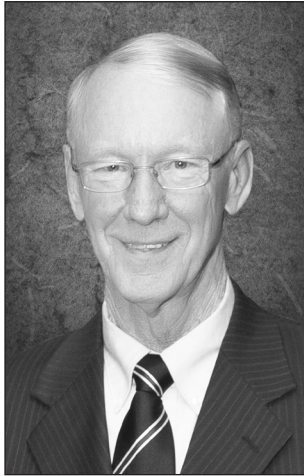
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Former First Lady Visits Hard Work U.

PROMISES TO KEEP

Historic Firsts Celebrated



Jerry C. Davis, President

Abraham Lincoln once said that “the best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time.” During the past several months, the College of the Ozarks family has enjoyed each day and the many historic firsts that they held. In August, the new college preparatory lab school for grades 9-12, School of the Ozarks (S of O), opened its doors to students.

S of O, which continues the institution’s original namesake, also mirrors the institution’s founding mission: *to provide advantages of a Christian education for youth of both sexes, especially those found worthy, but who are without sufficient means to procure such training.* As such, S of O students do not pay tuition. Instead, they

invest a little sweat equity into their education by cleaning their classrooms and lunchroom. While the name and mission are not new, students are experiencing new opportunities and many firsts.

The high school students partook in their first school day, Founders Friday, field trip, picture day, and semester finals. The cross country, volleyball, and basketball teams all experienced their first wins and losses. (You may read more about all of the “firsts” S of O students saw on the next page.) However, November 8, arguably held one of the most historic events for the students, the dedication of School of the Ozarks and the Roy F. Hopper Patriots Plaza (see page 9-10).

In attendance for the dedication, was former First Lady Laura Bush, who graciously participated in the ceremony prior to speaking at the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Community Convocation, themed “Education Matters.” After the dedication, Mrs. Bush took time to shake the hand of every S of O student. Later that day, College of the Ozarks students and S of O students alike, joined faculty, staff, and community members to hear Mrs. Bush speak.

During the convocation, Mrs. Bush helped the College honor S of O student Rachel Snyder and C of O student Jesse Lochman for their winning letters to a teacher who most influenced them. Alumnus and Board member Mrs. Sharon Bradley also was recognized by the College and Mrs. Bush for a lifelong dedication as an educator. While reminiscing about her family, time in the White House, and her first experiences teaching at an urban school in Dallas, Mrs. Bush captivated the audience with grace, wit, and a full measure of wisdom. Please find out more about the former First Lady’s visit to *Hard Work U.*, on pages 8-10.

These are just a few examples of great days from the fall semester, and we expect the future to hold many more. Please enjoy this issue of the *Ozark Visitor* which features many stories about events and trips from the past few months. During her visit to *Hard Work U.*, Mrs. Bush said that she was “happy to know values were being passed on through this school to the next generation of leaders.” We are too, and we will continue passing on traditional, American values to our nation’s future leaders.

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**Incorporated in 1906
as The School of the
Ozarks**

Founded by an early Presbyterian missionary, College of the Ozarks is an interdenominational, Christian, four-year, work college.

The College does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, age or ethnic origin, in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies.

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S of O UPDATE:

Some Firsts to Consider

By Austin Plummer

With alumni of the first School of the Ozarks lined along Opportunity Avenue shouting words of encouragement and applauding the first year students of the re-established School of the Ozarks, a college preparatory lab school for grades 9-12, walked to the first day of classes. Although School of the Ozarks is not the institution's first high school (the institution began as a high school and grammar school in 1906 and provided students with a secondary education until 1967); the students at this school are experiencing a lot of "firsts" of their own.

Every Friday is "Founders Friday," a time for students to gain knowledge about great American leaders such as John Hancock, William Whipple, and Robert Treat Paine. The first "Founders Friday" was on August 17, 2012, with four-star General Terrence R. Dake delivering a message about "the pride one should take in his/her country." "Founders Friday helps paint the picture of what our founders had in mind for our country," says Emily Kissinger, a freshman at S of O. "Some schools talk about our founders, but they never talk about the character and Christian influence they had."

With wrinkle-free uniforms and every hair in place, 67 students smiled for their photos for the first picture day on September 21. Tanner Tillack, a current junior at S of O,



First all-school photo

said he looked forward to having his picture taken with his classmates. "We're like a family here," he said. "We are developing friendships that are Christ-centered, and we learn and grow together. School of the Ozarks is teaching us scholastics, but we are also learning how to better ourselves."

The first medal in sports was awarded to Emily Kissinger for her performance running cross country on September 1. School of the Ozarks offers basketball for boys and girls, volleyball for girls, and track/cross country. "It was an honor to win a medal at the first meet," Emily said. "Hopefully it will be a conversation piece with other athletes when I come back to visit as a graduate."

The first choir concert took place on October 22. The first parent/teacher conference was on October 18, and lest we forget the first report cards were handed out on that same day.



Enjoying art during the first field trip



S of O student Quentin Evans runs in first cross country meet.

**Would you like
to help us,
but don't
know
how?**




If you are like many people, you may be concerned about the economy and taxes this year. Please know, we appreciate your continued support of our mission and want to thank you for your past generosity.

We know that you would like to help us again this year, but may not know how. One idea you might consider is a **charitable bequest**.

A **bequest** is a gift you can make without using any of your current resources. It is simply a commitment made in your will to leave a future amount, asset, or percentage of your estate to us. Your gift is important to us because it will help us continue our work in the future.

If you have already included us in your estate plan, please let us know so that we can recognize and thank you. **To learn more about how to create a bequest in your will or to request a free guide to creating your will or trust, please visit our website or call us today.**

College of the Ozarks
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College of the Ozarks Named A Top Conservative College

Young America's Foundation (YAF), an organization committed to ensuring that young Americans understand and are inspired by the ideas of individual freedom, a strong national defense, free enterprise, and traditional values, again named College of the Ozarks as one of the top conservative colleges in the nation. According to YAF, "The 'Top Conservative College' list features institutions that proclaim, through their mission and programs, a dedication of discovering, maintaining and strengthening the conservative values of their students."

"The YAF 'Top Conservative College' list serves as a great tool for prospective students and their parents to pinpoint colleges that align with their ethos," said Elizabeth Hughes, public relations director. "College of the Ozarks is honored to be included alongside some of the best conservative colleges in America."

The list, in alphabetical order, includes Christendom College, College of the Ozarks, Colorado Christian University, Franciscan University, Grove City College, Harding University, Hillsdale College, The King's College, Liberty University, Patrick Henry College, Regent University, Saint Vincent College, Thomas Aquinas College, Thomas More College of Liberal Arts and Wisconsin Lutheran College.

On its website YAF features a profile on each of the colleges included on the list. "In addition to the 41 majors and 38 minors and eight pre-professional programs it offers, the College of the Ozarks has an extensive character education program," YAF wrote. "As soon as students arrive for freshman orientation, they begin character edu-

cation programs and abide by a dress code and an honor code."

This is the eighth year for College of the Ozarks to be included on the top conservative college list, which according to YAF "serves as a starting point" for students seeking colleges that offer an alternative to the liberal status quo.

"They [colleges on the list] offer coursework and scholarship in conservative thought and emphasize principles including smaller government, strong national defense, free enterprise, and traditional values," YAF stated on its website.

To see the list and learn more about the top conservative colleges, please visit yaf.org.



PATRIOTIC EDUCATION

Going to China with Charlie “Two Shoes”

By student guest writer
Sarah Unruh

In October, I had the opportunity to travel with College of the Ozarks to Qingdao and Beijing, China, in order to commemorate an amazing story of friendship, dedication, and loyalty. The trip included ten students, five World War II Veterans, and one very special Chinese man named, Charlie Tsui, affectionately called Charlie “Two Shoes.”

Charlie grew up in a small village near Qingdao with his family. Following World War II things were hard for Charlie and his family. They were living on meager means without many resources. However, in 1945, the American troops came to China in order to facilitate the surrender of the Japanese army and protect American interests in China. Among the troops in China was the Love Company, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division who were stationed in Qingdao at the end of World War II.

When they arrived in Qingdao, the Marines discovered that they were ill-prepared for the cold weather. Therefore, they started trading their K-rations with the locals for other supplies they needed. This is how the Marines of Love Company met a very young, Charlie Tsui.

Charlie would come to the Marine barracks often and trade peanuts and eggs for the Marines’ K-rations. He also provided wood for the Marines’ fires. A friendship was soon created, and the Marines decided to adopt Charlie as one of their own.

Love Company took Charlie under its wing; they paid for him to receive an education, created a real Marine’s uniform for him, and ultimately adopted him as an honorary United States Marine. More than this symbolic gesture, the Marines truly cared about Charlie. They all thought of him as a little brother and even



The group visited Qingdao and Beijing in China.

bought him a bicycle and Christmas gifts.

The Marines also played a part in Charlie coming to know Christ. They knew the importance of Charlie gaining an education, so together they pooled their money and sent him to a school taught by several nuns who came to Qingdao as missionaries. One particular nun, named Sister Blanda, took Charlie under her wing and helped him come to know Christ as his Savior. This would become a significant part of Charlie’s life, because he would continue to hold onto his faith through many struggles and times of persecution. Throughout our trip, Charlie always said that it was Christ who got him through those difficult moments.

After the nationalists lost the war and communism took over China in 1949, the Marines were forced to evacuate China, leaving Charlie behind. Nonetheless, they promised that someday they would bring him to the United States. Unfortunately, this feat would take much longer than they anticipated, as more than three decades went by before the Marines were finally able to get Charlie and his family to the United States.

This past trip was the first time

that Charlie and the Marines had returned to China since Charlie’s arrival in the US in 1985. It was incredible to see first-hand what brought this unlikely friendship into existence.

While in China, we were able to return to many of the places that were special to Charlie and the Marines. We went to the beach where one of the Marines had taught Charlie to swim. We also visited the original barracks where they stayed and the school that Charlie attended. All of these places brought back many memories for Charlie and the Marines to relive. It was incredible to hear these stories and understand the strength of friendship that the Marines and Charlie forged.

However, out of all the places we visited, one sticks in my mind the most. We went to the pier where Charlie waved goodbye to his Marine friends when they were forced to leave China. Our group stood at the end of that pier listening to the sadness in Charlie’s voice as he retold all that he felt when he watched his Marine brothers sail off into the distance, not knowing if he would ever see them again.

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To imagine Charlie as a small 12-year-old boy waving goodbye to the men who had become his family, brought tears to my eyes. Charlie talked about the uncertainty he felt that day, not knowing what his life would bring now that the Marines were gone. This moment made me realize the strength of friendship that Charlie and the Marines share.

Joy would come back into Charlie's life when he was finally reunited with the Marines upon his arrival into the US in 1985. Charlie's story is one of determination; he never gave up and continued to persevere despite the persecution he endured.

Left: Charlie "Two Shoes" (center) and the Marines of Love Company

Faculty, Students Create Documentary

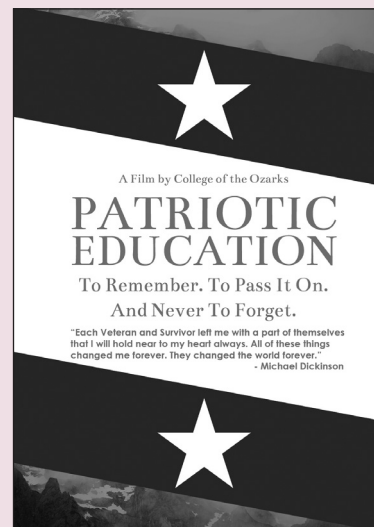
By Tyler Lopez

In February of 2011, Bill Gebhart, Assistant Professor of communication arts, began documenting the success of College of the Ozarks Patriotic Education Travel Program. The program sends Veterans back to their original theatres of war and pairs them with students who gain a lasting perspective on patriotism, service, and sacrifice. The documentary entitled "A Patriotic Education: To Remember. To Pass It On. And Never To Forget," provides an overview of the trip to the Philippines for the 70th anniversary of the Bataan Death March and the Holocaust Remembrance Tour, wherein students accompanied WWII Veteran Liberators and Holocaust Survivors to concentration camps in Europe. In addition to providing facts, the film honors Veterans of past and present and tells of the impact the Veterans and their accounts had on the students.

The documentary was produced completely in-house by Gebhart and student workers of the Mass Communications department. The crew filmed throughout the course of the two trips and obtained almost 80 hours worth of footage, which was condensed down into the 50-minute final product. Senior Jonathan Wahl was in charge of managing progress made during the Philippines trip. He took still photographs, as well as video, and edited both. "Photographing a trip is a lot of work both on the trip and after, due to editing," said Wahl. "It was entirely worth it."

Professor of Music Bruce Gerlach composed the original score for the film. "Watching the film instills a sense of pride of country, of thanksgiving for the blessings that are ours and a bright hope for the future," said Gerlach.

Each person involved in the production process



realized that the film was not for simple documentation, but an opportunity to look into the unique experience College of the Ozarks students are provided through the Patriotic Education Travel Program. "Hopefully, the documentary honors the Veterans and survivors by telling the story through the eyes of the students and how the students are going

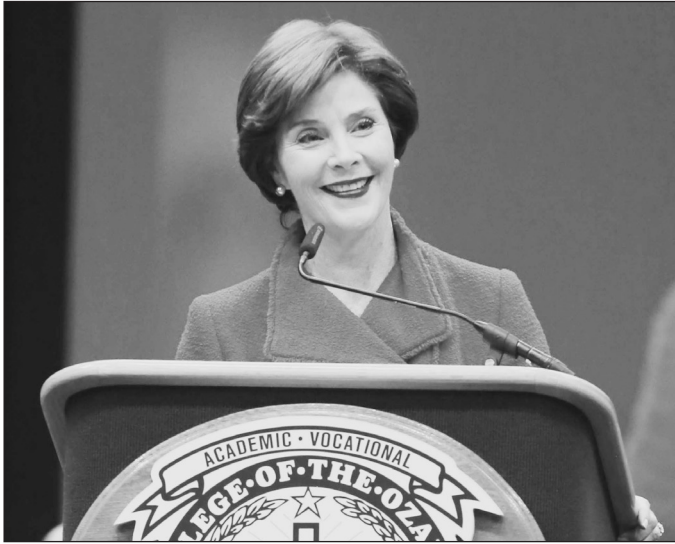
to remember it," said Gebhart. After wrestling with a story idea, and even completely starting over from scratch six months into production, Gebhart decided to tell the story through the eyes of the students. "I think it gives the story a sense of hope, knowing that we will remember these things, that we will pass them on, and I believe, the students won't stand idly by and let things like the Holocaust ever happen again."

After countless evenings of working through the night and hundreds of hours poured into this film, Gebhart, Gerlach, and the rest of the production crew have created something that will share a story for many years to come.

The documentary is available to anyone interested in learning more about the Patriotic Education Travel Program. Individuals who would like to obtain a free copy, may request one by calling (417) 690-2212.

EDUCATION MATTERS

Former First Lady Visits Hard Work U.



By Ashley Bench

Former First Lady of the United States Laura Bush visited *Hard Work U.*, to speak at the Leonard B. and Edith Community Convocation themed "Education Matters" on November 8, 2012. The convocation was part of the College of the Ozarks Keeter Center for Character Education's Community Convocation Series, which welcomes renowned leaders to share with students and the community on topics of character. Mrs. Bush arrived early that day, participating in the dedication of the School of the Ozarks and the Roy F. Hopper Patriots Plaza.

Prior to her speech, Mrs. Bush assisted the College in honoring three individuals. College of the Ozarks student Jesse Lochman and S of O student Rachel Snyder were recognized for their winning letters to a teacher who most influenced their lives. All C of O and S of O students had the opportunity to submit letters early in

the fall semester, and a panel read each entry to determine the best examples of inspiration on technical and creative merit. Mrs. Bush also helped the College honor S of O alumna and current C of O Board of Trustees member Mrs. Sharon Bradley for her lifelong dedication to educating young people.

At the convocation, she informed the audience about her life, and encouraged every person with her passion for education. Prior to marrying George W. Bush, Mrs. Bush was a teacher and librarian at inner-city schools in Texas. She taught at a place where children barely had enough to eat and more than less never had experienced a proper education. Poverty and broken homes had an extremely negative effect on the children that attended school during her time as a teacher, but her experiences inspired and shaped her vision for this country's education as first lady. "Reading is not just a cause I selected as a first lady," said Mrs. Bush, "but one of the guiding passions in my life."

Serving in the White House for eight consecutive years, Mrs. Bush experienced numerous trials. The most difficult trial of their presidency was 9/11. The former President and Mrs. Bush were unharmed and their family safe, but the citizens of America were under different conditions during this catastrophic event. "All we could think about were the thousands of Americans who couldn't say the same about their own loved ones," said Mrs. Bush. "And about the duty that had suddenly fallen on George to lead the country through the dark shadow that had fallen over it." Blindsided by this destructive day of terrorism, Mrs. Bush never imagined such an event occurring during their presidency. She discussed her fears and the responsibilities during the aftermath of 9/11, and although this day was one of the most difficult trials during the Bush presidency, it was a time where



C of O student Jesse Lochman, Mrs. Laura Bush, and Lochman's former teacher Luke Mahsman



Casey Carpenter, Snyder's former junior high coach, Mrs. Laura Bush, and S of O student Rachel Snyder



C of O President Jerry C. Davis and former First Lady Laura Bush present a Lifetime Educator Award to Mrs. Sharon Bradley.

America came together. "The greatest honor of being first lady was having the chance to witness every now and then not just my husband but all of America facing up to fear and shattering change and standing proud," said Mrs. Bush. After 9/11, Mrs. Bush realized the need for education and equality was not localized to America, but all over the world.

Mrs. Bush has visited schools and met with students in nations from Afghanistan to Zambia, with a particular focus on encouraging girls and women to pursue their education. In 2001, she became the first first lady to give the President's weekly radio address, speaking out against the Taliban's oppression of women and children.

"As first lady I was no longer speaking out about literacy," said Bush. "I was giving radio addresses denouncing the brutal treatment of women and children by the Taliban." She has traveled to Afghanistan three times and served as honorary chair of the U.S.-Afghan Women's Council. John Adams once said, "There are two types of education...one should teach us how to make a living and the other how to live." Mrs. Bush has shaped her vision for education around this statement because she believes that literacy is an essential foundation for democracy. The people of America and around the world must be educated in literacy, so they can contribute to society, making the world a better place.

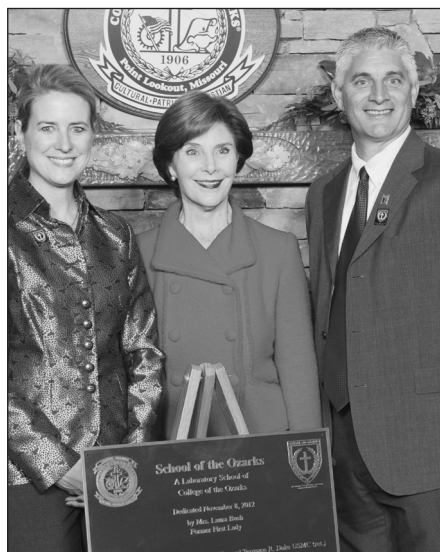
"College of the Ozarks students receive an extraordinary education, rooted in a strong tradition of scholarship and service," said Mrs. Bush.

Mrs. Bush has dedicated her life to empowering others with education. "When I was younger, I used to think that work was what you had to do to live," said Bush. "Now I know work is what truly makes life fulfilling." *Hard Work U.* provides a college education to deserving students who are willing to work. "College of the Ozarks students receive an extraordinary education, rooted in a strong tradition of scholarship and service," said Mrs. Bush.

DEDICATION OF SCHOOL OF THE OZARKS AND ROY F. HOPPER PATRIOTS PLAZA

By Chelsea Kliethermes

During her visit to *Hard Work U.*, on November 8, 2012, former First Lady Mrs. Laura Bush assisted the College in dedicating of the Roy F. Hopper Patriots Plaza and the new School of the Ozarks college preparatory laboratory school for grades 9-12. Headmaster Brad Dolloff and Dean of Character Education Dr. Sue Head, both instrumental in making School of the Ozarks a reality, along with Mrs. Bush unveiled the bronze dedication plaque for School of the Ozarks. The historic day provided the opportunity to celebrate the College's new lab school and reflect on a few great



Dr. Sue Head, Mrs. Laura Bush, and Mr. Brad Dolloff

Americans, alumni of the original School of the Ozarks.

Drafted into WWII in 1943, School of the Ozarks student Roy F. Hopper from Harrison, Arkansas, did not get the opportunity to finish school with his classmates. Instead, he faced off with the Nazis in Europe, was captured by the Germans, and remained imprisoned in a POW camp for nine and a half months until he and three other American soldiers made a harrowing escape.

In 2001, 57 years later, PFC Hopper received an honorary high school diploma from his alma mater—now called College of the Ozarks. In honor of his patriotism and service, the College named the lab school's

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Mrs. Bush assists Mr. Roy F. Hopper with unveiling his bronze marker.

flag plaza the Roy F. Hopper Patriots Plaza. To dedicate the plaza, Mr. Hopper and Mrs. Bush unveiled a bronze plaque that was placed at the Plaza. Those in attendance honored him with a standing ovation. Within the new Roy F. Hopper Patriots Plaza are four bronze reliefs of generals, also alumni of The School.

General Terrence R. Dake graduated from S of O junior college in 1964. He advanced to the rank of General and assumed the position of Assistant Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps in 1998.

Lieutenant General Gary H. Hughey graduated from S of O high school in 1965. He served as Deputy Commander, United States Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

Major General Jerry W. Ragsdale attended S of O prior to finishing his degree in civil engineering from Southern Methodist University. Gen-

eral Ragsdale served as Commander of the Texas Air National Guard, Hensley Field in Dallas, Texas, in 1987.

The late Brigadier General Tommy I. Bell graduated from S of O high school in 1948. General Bell enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served as a fighter pilot with the 71st Fighter-Interceptor Squadron. He also served his country in the Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force; Washington, D.C. General Bell was buried with honors at Arlington National Cemetery on August 19, 2011.

General Dake, General Hughey, General Ragsdale, and Lillian Bell, the wife of General Bell, ceremonially unveiled their bronze reliefs during the dedication.

At School of the Ozarks, which opened in August, students receive a classical, Christian education grounded in the Great Books. "Modeled after College of the Ozarks, it charges no tuition but requires students to participate in meaningful work experiences. By doing chores, they learn the fundamentals of responsibility, of commitment, and of self-discipline," said Mrs. Laura Bush. "With rigorous academic studies, these students are taught true American values."

Once the dedication ceremony was completed, all 67 students of The School of the Ozarks had the opportunity to shake hands with the former First Lady.



General Terrence R. Dake, Mrs. Bush, and Mrs. Sue Dake



Mrs. Bush, Lieutenant General Hughey, and Mrs. Heidi Hughey



Mrs. Bush, Major General Ragsdale, and Mrs. Sue Ragsdale



Mrs. Bush and Mrs. Lillian Bell

"By doing chores, they learn the fundamentals of responsibility, commitment and of self-discipline. With rigorous academic studies, these students are taught true American values."

—Mrs. Laura Bush

SUMMER IN BELIZE

Mission and Archeology Trips

By Haley Jones

As the cold wind whips across the campus of College of the Ozarks, students and faculty search for ways to keep themselves warm. For many students, thoughts drift to summer.

This past summer, College of the Ozarks sent two student groups on trips to Belize and Guatemala. One group, a chemistry team led by Professor of Chemistry Dr. Jerry Easdon, traveled to Guatemala and Belize, the civilization located in parts of southern Mexico and Central America. Another group, a nursing team led by Assistant Professor of Nursing Karen Shepherd, traveled to Belize on a medical mission.

The nursing team met up with a medical mission's team there, and together, they ventured to small villages to set up clinics. At these clinics, the team practiced basic nursing care by providing screenings for general health care and distributing prescription medication to the villagers based on their personal health needs.

"Nursing and mission work has always been an interest of mine," said senior nursing major Joanna Good. Going to Belize for missions service was a learning experience for Good. She has always had a passion for missions, and traveling into Belize was an opportunity for her to witness how medical attention can spread the word of God. "It [medical care] allows you into their lives," Good said. "People from the community would come, because word would spread quickly that there was a clinic happening."

Each day, Shepherd also took a team of students with her to the neighboring hospital to help the local nurses with their hospital duties.

Shepherd said that taking students to serve at the hospital was an amazing learning experience for both the students and for her.

The nursing team wasn't the only

group to spend time in Belize during the summer. The C of O Chemistry department traveled there to study the archeological aspects of the Mayan ruins. The students prepared for the trip by taking a course in archeological chemistry during the spring semester.

C of O junior biology major Steffi Finck appreciated the opportunity to travel and to view, in person, what she had learned in class about the Mayans. Traveling from site to site and examining ruins brought educational enlightenment. Finck likes to reminisce about her favorite site – Tikal, which is one of the largest archaeological sites and urban centers of pre-Columbian Mayan civilization in Guatemala. "The sun came out just as we were walking through and shone on an enormous plaza with tall temples on both sides," said Finck. "You could almost see what it had looked like before."

Senior chemistry major Rio Febrian also participated in the

trip. In preparation for the trip, the chemistry class learned how chemistry relates to the archeological field. Febrian said that the trip was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for him and other chemistry majors. The team visited seven different Mayan sites, many of which contained pyramids. Traversing the pyramids and other ruins was not easy. "It was a workout walking in the tropical climate," said Febrian.

One of the most exciting aspects of the trip was the tour guides of Mayan descent who accompanied the C of O students. In addition to showing the group around the area, they shared legends about the ancient ruins. "It wasn't like reading it out of a history book; it was like talking to someone who had actually been there," said Finck.

The ancient ruins left a lasting impact on the lives of the chemistry students. "On this trip, C of O students saw a way to use science to

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C of O nursing student Kayla Woerman visits with patients at a remote clinic in Belize.

NEVER TO FORGET

College of the Ozarks Remembers 9-11

By Turner Brock

On September 11, 2012, College of the Ozarks took time to remember the victims of the terrorist attacks on America that occurred 11 years prior with a flag display, morning memorial, and patriotic convocation with former White House logistics specialist Lieutenant Colonel Robert Darling (USMC, ret.) The 9-11 memorial service started with the raising of the 9-11 National Remembrance flag raised by Col. Darling. The backdrop to the memorial was a hauntingly beautiful display of nearly 3,000 flags, one for each of the innocent lives taken during the September 11 attacks, spelling out "9-11." During the day, C of O student firemen took turns standing watch over the sobering display.

The evening convocation, Remembering 9-11: A Crisis Leadership Presentation, featured special

guest Col. Darling, who authored *24 Hours Inside the President's Bunker: 9-11-01: The White House*. Col. Darling served in the United States Marine Corps for over 20 years. During his service, he flew attack helicopters in Desert Shield, Desert Storm, the first Gulf War, Somalia, and Africa in support for Operation Restore Hope. In 1998, Darling was selected to fly as a presidential pilot for former President Bill Clinton and later to work for the White House Military Office supporting former President George W. Bush. The September 11 attacks occurred while he worked at the White House. During the national crisis, he was tapped to support Vice President and National Security Advisor in the President's Emergency Operations Center on September 11, 2001. It was during that time, when Col. Darling witnessed the crisis leadership of the nation's decision makers.



Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and international leaders, including President of Russia Vladimir Putin. "September 11 was a day that changed my life forever; it changed America's life."

Students took to heart the importance of remembering September 11, 2001, as a day that changed America. "We must never forget 9-11; we must never lose sight of our past and why we are a free nation today," said College of the Ozarks sophomore Tyler Lopez. "We must remain vigilant at honoring our heroes' sacrifices." Darling said to C of O students: "There is no finer group of individuals. You have learned the value of hard work, character, integrity, teamwork, and are some of the most patriotic group of young Americans I have met."

"We must never lose sight of our past and why we are a free nation today."



Lt. Col. Robert Darling raises the 9-11 National Remembrance Flag.

"September 11 was a day that changed my life forever; it changed America's life."

September 11, 2001, is a day that is remembered as one of America's darkest days, and Col. Darling used his time at College of the Ozarks to share the events he witnessed. He gave a chronological account of the attacks and what type of discussions and decisions were being made in response to the every-changing information coming to the President's bunker.

Initially, Col. Darling had been assigned to the President's bunker where he was to help with logistics of getting the nation's top leaders to secured locations, but instead was needed to assist with communications between the President (who was out-of-state), the Vice President,

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

C of O Students Attend Character Conference

By student guest writer
Kait Varghese

In October, a group of six students traveled to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY, for the National Conference on Ethics in America. I was privileged to be one of the students on the trip. C of O President Jerry C. Davis served as one of the keynote speakers at the conference. The experience was excellent for each of us in different ways. For me, the trip was enriching spiritually.

The conference lasted three days, and during that time, we heard four keynote speakers, and then divided into small groups to discuss various topics within the categories of ethics, character, and leadership. The conference was attended by college students from around the nation, and those students made up our various small groups. Dr. Davis gave an exceptional talk about establishing and maintaining an ethical environment within an organization. He used College of the Ozarks as an example and gave various scenarios in which he, as college president, has had to make ethical decisions to set the standard for our institution. I have never been more proud to be associated with the College as I was that day. The other three speakers were also enlightening.

Each of the speakers provided topics worthy of debate and discussion, and discussion time was personally my favorite aspect of the



C of O student attendees (from left) Bonnie Anderson, Kait Varghese, Jonathan Craig, Jon Tegg, Bethany Malm, Ciera Kaspar, and C of O faculty sponsor Natalie Rasnick

conference. Privileged with a safe, Christian environment, I forget what the outside world can be like. Many of the other universities represented do not have the opportunities for Christian growth. I was one of very few who claimed Christianity at the conference, and it was a great chance to share my testimony in a unique way with other students my age. Even though I felt that I had to defend my faith in our discussion group several times, it caused me to stretch and grow in a different way than I ever have before.

Another interesting aspect of the trip was the West Point campus. We stayed with cadets in the barracks and were able to witness the very structured military day. They

are extremely disciplined and regimented, as one would expect at a military academy. The campus was beautiful and full of history, and we were able to tour parts of it in our free time. While West Point certainly is unique, the secular culture is pervasive. I have always loved College of the Ozarks, but experiencing another campus, which leans toward the secular world, gave me a refreshing perspective of my opportunity. I feel that I appreciate the College even more now after this trip. As a group, we all wanted to give special thanks to those who support the College and make trips like these possible! Your gifts and prayers are much appreciated.

MISSION REFLECTION

understand the world," said Easdon.

Serving in clinics and hospitals also left a lasting impression on the nursing team. "I am so blessed to be an American," said Good. "I can either look at the wealth and the comfort we have in America as being a blessing or a curse. I can choose to ignore the needs of others or use my

blessing to be a blessing to others."

Going to Belize made the nursing team realize the importance of health care and improving the quality of people's lives. Jesus went to the people to heal them and share the Good News.

"We have this conception that a mission trip only occurs when a

preacher is bringing the Word, but we are really bringing the Word through our actions," said Shepherd.

Warm memories of serving the people of Belize or traversing the massive Mayan ruins to understand a past culture not only help students stave off the winter's chill, they inspire.

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RECOGNITION



Lady Bobcats Receive Prestigious “All That’s Right in Sport” Award

Outstanding sportsmanship, citizenship, servant leadership, character, and winning are descriptors often used when talking about the College of the Ozarks Lady Bobcats. For the fourth time, the Lady Bobcats earned the National Runner-up title in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II (NAIA D-II) Women’s Basketball Championship held in March 2012. Equally, if not more, important (than the team’s record), is the off-the-court activities that led to the Lady Bobcats receiving two of the most prestigious honors given by the NAIA and the Citizenship Through Sports Alliance (CTSA).

Recently, the NAIA and CTSA named the Lady Bobcats as the recipient of the “All That’s Right in Sport” award, which the team formally received on November 17, at the 13th Annual National Sportsmanship Awards (one of the most renowned sports awards events in the country) hosted by the St. Louis Commission and CTSA.



2012 Lady Bobcats

During the NAIA Women’s Championship tournament held in March 2012, the Lady Bobcats also were recognized—that time with the “Buffalo Funds Five Star Champions of Character” award. At the end of each sports season, the NAIA recognizes only one college in every sport with the Champions of Character award. Teams are selected based on “exemplary character and sportsmanship displayed during practice,

competition, on campus, and in the community.”

What caught the attention of the NAIA and CTSA, that team members or their coaches would never boast, is that the Lady Bobcats quickly responded to the needs of nearby Joplin High School, which was destroyed by an EF5 tornado in May 2011. The Lady Bobcats would not sit idly by as Joplin residents struggled to rebuild. Only a few weeks after the storm, with the help of Head Coach George Wilson and Assistant Coaches Becky Vest and Paul Voliva, the team organized a benefit game that raised \$10,000 for the Joplin High School girls’ basketball team that had lost everything to the tornado.

“We were very overwhelmed with College of the Ozarks, the women’s basketball team, and coaches in how they took it upon themselves to rescue our program,” said Joplin Lady Eagles Basketball Coach Vicki Spivy. “We will forever be thankful to Coach Wilson, his staff, and his girls for what they did for us. Not just material things were given; hope was restored. My girls realize that there are great people in this world, and it starts with the team from College of the Ozarks.”



Lady Bobcats Assistant Coach Paul Voliva, Former Lady Bobcats/C of O alumni Kelsey Combs Howerton, Miranda Vaught, Julie Posey, and Morgan Hickey, and C of O Athletic Director AI Waller received the award on behalf of the team.



Memorial Gifts

SEPTEMBER MEMORIAL SCROLLS

BOBBIE ALLEN FROM CONRAD MARTIN

Jewell Boothe from Tom & Sandra Watkins

Lindle Divine from Dr. & Mrs. Eldon Divine

Corine Everhart from Mr. & Mrs. R. C. Taylor

Jim Jones from Dee Wampler, Walter Thomas, and Virginia Fry

Edward McCall from Mr. & Mrs. Eldon Johnson

Dennis Moore from Bob & Johnna Welch

DOROTHY SCHUBERT FROM ROY SCHUBERT

ROY E. WILLIAMS FROM CONRAD MARTIN

SEPTEMBER HONOR SCROLLS

SSGT A. M. De La Fuente from Martin Keene

OCTOBER MEMORIAL SCROLLS

Leo Adams from B. Fern Brown

SAM BRAND, SR. FROM CONRAD MARTIN

Bill Cameron from R. L. Bartley, Jr.

Francis "Butch" Daharb from Dan & Leona Kurrelmeyer

ANN DEPOYSTER FROM CONRAD MARTIN

Barbara Dowell from Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Menefee

GLORIA EATON FROM CONRAD MARTIN

Mr. & Mrs. John Gilley from Sandra Aikins

MATILDA GONSALVS FROM CONRAD MARTIN

BRADFORD HENDERSON FROM CONRAD MARTIN

Colonel Gary Herchenroeder from Bob & Johnna Welch, Drs. Donald & Dana McMahon, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Wise, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Swearngen

Jim Jones from Ken & Patty Lawrence

Patricia Mack from Ellen Thoma

William Rex McKinney from Frances Lundgren

Corine O'Brien from Mr. & Mrs. Don Stafford

JOHN ROGERS, JR. FROM CONRAD MARTIN

OCTOBER HONOR SCROLLS

Marcia G. Brown from B. Fern Brown

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL SCROLLS

R. L. DORROUGH FROM MRS. R.L. DORROUGH

Clyde Edmonson from Evelyn Peterson
Shelby Lea Estep from Knial Lorg



Harol Gustafson from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Turbeville

Colonel Gary Herchenroeder from Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Fernandez, Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Jack Graves, Aggie Club, Mrs. Bob Phillips, Dr. & Mrs. Jerry C. Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Taylor, Dr. & Mrs. Bob Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Darrel Bearden, Dr. & Mrs. Howell Keeter, and Justin Stephan
Ed Howard from Evelyn Howard

Jerry Lilley from Jim & Carlion Middleton

Mr. & Mrs. Edward McCarroll from Beverly Ginochio

Charles & Jennie Parker from Charles Parker, Jr.

Ann Sexton from Beverly Ginochio

Clark & Belle Singleton from Mary Smith

Fred Smith from Mary Smith

Bill Wright from Eleanor Kempt, Mr. & Mrs. Virg Adle, Beatrice Wright, Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Richards and family, and Mr. & Mrs. Harold Hanssen

Denver M. Wright from Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Harper

Jimmy Young from Mr. & Mrs. Joe Griffin

NOVEMBER HONOR SCROLLS

Sharon Bradley from Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Eversole

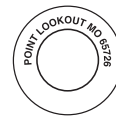
SSGT A.M. De La Fuente from Martin Keene

NAMES IN CAPITAL LETTERS REPRESENT GIFTS OF \$1,000 OR MORE.

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 whom 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 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.



ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



Incorporated in 1906 as The School of the Ozarks

www.cofo.edu

Laura Bush

November 19, 2012



Dr. Jerry Davis
President
College of the Ozarks
Point Lookout, Missouri

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

Thank you for your warm welcome to Point Lookout for the Fall 2012 Gittinger Community Convocation.

At the College of the Ozarks you are receiving a rigorous education that is preparing you to lead lives of service and significance. You are learning the fundamentals of responsibility, commitment, self discipline and American values. I am honored to have been your speaker this year and glad that your school's mission is to educate the whole person for the glory of God.

President Bush and I are enjoying the fruits of your labors – the fruitcake, the jellies and all of the gift basket goodies. Thanks, especially, for the College of the Ozarks sweatshirt. I am proud to be associated Hard Work U!

We send our very best wishes for a happy school year.

Sincerely,

Laura Bush