

ArchLink

Your E-Link to The University of Findlay

April 2010

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Welcome to ArchLink!



Greetings, alumni!

Celebration was the word for your alma mater during the month of March.

Dr. George and Shirlee Whitson hosted a very special reception March 6 in Fort Myers, Fla., to honor Dr. DeBow Freed for his years of outstanding service as president of your alma mater! The reception was attended by alumni, friends, faculty and staff.

The campus congregated March 25 for a special announcement from Dr. C. Richard Beckett, chair of the Board of Trustees, as he named Dr. Katherine Rowe Fell the University's 17th president. Fell is serving as vice president for advancement at Centenary College, Shreveport, La. She will officially begin her tenure on July 1.



Shirlee Whitson, Dr. DeBow Freed and George Whitson

We honored four alumni for their successes as coaches at the 12th Annual Alumni and Friends of Findlay College/The University of Findlay Reunion March 26. The reunion was held prior to the start of the Ohio High School Athletic Association Boys' State Basketball Tournament.

And last, I invite all of you to come back to your alma mater and be part of Homecoming 2010 on Oct. 1-3. You will have an opportunity to meet our new president, along with an entire weekend of celebration!

Please find listed below additional information on the events we have planned. Of course, you can always get updated information and register for events online at www.findlay.edu, KEYWORD: Alumni.

Continue that Oiler Pride, and be sure to keep me updated by filling out the "What's New with You?" form at www.findlay.edu, KEYWORD: Alumni.

With Oiler Pride!

~~Dee Dee Spraw '00, M'07, director, Alumni & Parent Relations

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FINDLAY
THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY

1. What's Happening on Campus?

Dr. C. Richard Beckett, chair of The University of Findlay Board of Trustees and chair of the presidential search committee, announced on March 25 that Dr. Katherine Rowe Fell has been appointed the 17th president, succeeding Dr. DeBow Freed. Members of the campus and Findlay community, who had gathered in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary TLB Auditorium to hear the surprise announcement, erupted in cheers and a standing ovation.



Senior Adam Houser greeted Dr. Fell at the reception following her announcement.

Currently, Fell is vice president for advancement at Centenary College in Shreveport, La., where she has helped raise \$40 million in the past two years for a comprehensive campaign. She also has 14 years' experience as a

faculty member in the Department of English at Centenary. "You have made Roger (her husband) and me a very grand and gracious offer, and we wholeheartedly accept," Dr. Fell said. Addressing the crowd, she noted, "You attracted my attention from the very beginning of this process. You have made bold steps already to

champion the liberal arts while preparing students for professions of great success and lives of great meaning ... I am deeply honored to be asked to be your president. Your election of me is a blessing and a calling, and one I take very, very seriously." She will begin July 1. [Click here](#) to learn more about her, see photos of the event and view a video of her acceptance speech.



Dr. C. Richard Beckett, chair of the board and the search committee, announced the appointment of Dr. Katherine Rowe Fell as the 17th president of The University of Findlay on March 25. Dr. Fell stands at back with her husband, Roger.

The University's performing arts season will wrap up in April with several performances. For tickets, contact the UF Box Office at 419-434-5335.

- **The UF Concert-Chorale will perform "Naughty Marietta," Sunday, April 11, 3 p.m.,** at Winebrenner Theological Seminary (WTS). Tickets are free but required.
- **The final theatre production, "Sylvia,"** will be held April 14-17, 8 p.m., and Sunday, April 18, 2 p.m., in the John and Hester Powell Grimm Theatre. Tickets are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for non-UF students and senior citizens, and free for UF faculty, staff and students with a valid UF I.D.
- **The UF Singers will perform a variety of selections at its annual Family Concert** held Sunday, April 18, 3 p.m., in WTS. Tickets are free but required.
- **The Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble will present "Of Souls and Salvation,"** a musical depiction of "Divine Comedy" by Robert W. Smith, which portrays Dante's vision of life after death in the Christian faith, Sunday, April 18, 3 p.m., Heminger Auditorium at Findlay High School. Tickets are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for non-UF students and senior citizens and free for UF faculty, staff and students with a valid UF I.D.



Michelle Billen (left) plays Kate, with Samantha Woodman (center) portraying Sylvia the dog, and Kevin Subler (right) is Greg in "Sylvia."

- **The University's orchestra will perform its inaugural concert** featuring oboe soloists Shelly Beal and Jill Dentel. The newly formed group is conducted by Thomas Carey, Sunday, April 25, 3 p.m., WTS. No tickets are necessary.

UF's College of Pharmacy will host speaker Kelly Jerry, whose 2-year-old daughter died as a result of a pharmacy technician's error, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 22, in Winebrenner Theological Seminary. This presentation is open to the community, and patients, family members and health care professionals are encouraged to attend. Emily Jerry died three days after being given a lethal dose of sodium chloride (salt). Criminal charges were filed against the supervising pharmacist, and he was sent to prison. As a result of Emily's death, the state of Ohio passed Emily's Law, which requires prospective and current pharmacy technicians in Ohio to pass a competency test as well as a criminal background check. After Emily's tragic death, Kelly Jerry became active in the pursuit of patient safety and reducing avoidable medication errors.

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2. Academic Update

Three students from Findlay were finalists for the Japan-American Society of Central Ohio's (JASCO) Japanese Language Speech Contest at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, where they competed against seven other finalists from universities in Ohio. UF students have been represented in the final competition in each of the last five years. During the March 6 competition, finalists were required to deliver their memorized speeches in Japanese on a stage in front of an audience. That was followed by a non-rehearsed question-and-answer session with the judges. Sophomore Japanese major Kimberly Welenc earned second place; senior pre-medicine major Kyle Wright and graduate student Kaitlyn Kerzisnik, who is studying Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, also competed as finalists. To read more, [click here](#).



Kaitlyn Kerzisnik, Kyle Wright and Kimberly Welenc competed as finalists in a Japanese language speech contest in Columbus.

More than 100 faculty members attended the Faculty Recognition and Appreciation Dinner on Feb. 25. Recognized for 20 years of service were **David Foster**, associate professor of communication, and **Robin Koehler**, assistant professor of equine studies. **Christine Denecker**,



Among the faculty who received awards were (l-r) Dr. John Malacos, Sharon Milligan, David Foster, Dr. Michael Edelbrock, Dr. Kim Forget and Dr. Christine Denecker.

Ph.D., associate professor of English, received the Founders' Academic Excellence Award, while **Rick States**, director of the Nuclear Medicine Institute, received the Harriette Smith Ritz Service Award. The Elizabeth S. Gupta Award for Excellence in Teaching Fine Arts was awarded to **Diane Kontar**, Ph.D., assistant professor of art history and the Shiv Kumar Gupta Award for Excellence in Teaching Business was given to **Dan Yates**, Ph.D., assistant professor of business. **Kim Forget**, Ph.D., assistant professor in the College of Education was the recipient of the James D. and Judith L. Phillip Award of Excellence in the College of Education. The College of Health Professions Faculty

Excellence Award was given to **Sharon Milligan**, associate professor of physical education. **Michael Edelbrock**, Ph.D., associate professor of biology and environmental, safety and health management was honored as Faculty Chair in the College of Sciences. **John Malacos**, Ph.D., chair of the department of psychology, received both the David L. Allen Award for Teaching and the Richard E. Wilkin Chair in College of Liberal Arts.

The charter class of the honor society Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 310 was inducted during a ceremony Feb. 25 in Ritz Auditorium. Officers for the group also were named. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective honor society for all academic disciplines. Its chapters are on more than 300 campuses in the United States, Puerto Rico and the Philippines. Approximately 30,000 members are initiated each year.



The charter class of Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 310 was inducted Feb. 25.

The University will host its fourth annual Symposium for Scholarship and Creativity Tuesday, April 13. A welcome and University awards ceremony is at 12:15 p.m. in the Alumni Memorial Union. Student academic presentations on a variety of topics begin at 1:15 p.m. and continue every 30 minutes, with the final presentations starting at 3:45 p.m. In addition, theatre students will present scenes from "Sylvia," and other demonstrations, such as spray paint art, will occur during the afternoon. Each of the University's colleges also will host award presentations and speakers. A closing reception is at 4:30 p.m. in the AMU.

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3. Alumni News & Events

Save the Date

Sept. 24-25 Family Weekend

Oct. 1-3 Homecoming

Upcoming Events

- April 16** Alumni Association Board of Governors Meeting;
Gardner Fine Arts Pavilion, Mazza Board Room, 5-6:30 p.m.
- April 16** Spring Thing Jazz Evening;
Gardner Fine Arts Pavilion, 7-9 p.m.
- April 17** Alumni Reception and Dinner;
Kalahari Resort & Waterpark, Sandusky, Ohio, 6-8 p.m.
- April 24** College of Education Evening with the Toledo Mud Hens;
Fifth Third Field, Toledo, Ohio, 6 p.m.
- May 1** Doctor of Pharmacy Hooding Ceremony;
Winebrenner Theological Seminary, TLB Auditorium, 9:30 a.m.;
Baccalaureate, Ritz Auditorium, 10:30 a.m.;
Commencement Brunch, Alumni Memorial Union, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.;
Undergraduate and Graduate Commencement;
Koehler Fitness & Recreation Complex, 2 p.m.

- May 8** Reception for Students, Alumni & Friends;
Intercollegiate Horse Show Association National Championship
Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, Ky., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- June 7** Fourth Annual Golf Scramble;
York Golf Club, Columbus, Ohio, 11:30 a.m.
- June 26** Cedar Point Oilers Alumni Day
- Aug. 13** Oilers Night with the Columbus Clippers – game time 7:05 p.m.
- Aug. 15** Oilers Night with the Toledo Mudhens – game time 6 p.m.

For more info or to register for events, contact the Office of Alumni & Parent Relations by visiting the Web site at www.findlay.edu,
KEYWORD: Alumni, or call 419-434-4516.



Guests attending the reception honoring Dr. DeBow Freed were: (front row) Gail Creager, Dr. Marianne Younger, Shirlee Whitson, Dr. DeBow Freed, Dr. George Whitson; (second row) David Ferguson, Pastor Don Creager '48, Dr. Elizabeth Raker, Becky Asbury, Al and Vera Knueven, Marilyn Hampton, Judy Lloyd Cooper '71, Dorothy Gorr, Dee Dee Spraw '00, M '07; (third row) Arthur Raker, Doug Asbury, Aaron and Michelle '98 Arnold, Ron and Marge Kruse, Ivan Gorr '98 and Dr. Charles Younger.

Receptions and gatherings took place in Bradenton, St. Pete Beach and Fort Myers, Fla., in early March. The trip allowed Dee Dee Spraw, director of alumni and parent relations, to meet with alumni. The receptions provided a great networking opportunity and a chance for alumni to catch up with old friends.

Dr. George and Shirlee Whitson hosted a reception at the Lighthouse Waterfront Restaurant, in Fort Myers, Fla., to celebrate Dr. DeBow Freed's accomplishments as



Meeting in Bradenton, Fla., were (l-r) Heather Spraw '12, Clifford Brooks '48, Theodore '50 and Jean Taylor, and standing, Dee Dee Spraw '00, M '07.

president of The University of Findlay. David Ferguson, vice president for development, and Dee Dee Spraw '00, director of alumni and parent relations, also were there to greet alumni and friends of the University.

While in Florida, Spraw had an opportunity to meet with current students who were there on spring break and staying in the same hotel as she was. She hosted a meal at The Hurricane, which was a nice treat and allowed them to also meet with several alumni.



Enjoying a gathering at the Hurricane were: (l-r) Holly Perkins, Kayla Sendelbach, Kim Petersen, Addie Bokin '05, Lisa (Huffman '84) Hansel and Kris Hansel.



Also attending were: (l-r) Samantha Ayres '12, Heather Spraw '12, Stacey Endicott '02, M '05, Abigail Magner '12 and Colleen Coulter '12.



Clifford Brooks celebrated his 90th birthday.

Dee Dee Spraw, director of alumni and parent relations, helped Clifford Brooks '48 celebrate his 90th birthday March 31 in Florida. His last visit to campus was for his 50th class reunion in 1998. Now unable to travel to Findlay due to health issues, he enjoyed Spraw bringing a bit of The University of Findlay to him.

The 12th Annual Alumni and Friends of Findlay College/The University of Findlay Reunion was held prior to the start of the Ohio High School Athletic Association

Boys' State Basketball Tournament March 26. Despite wintry weather that caused some travel problems, everyone was able to enjoy breakfast and recognize the following athletes and coaches:

- **Tom Benjamin '80**, Miamisburg, Ohio – varsity basketball coach
- **Rick Gross '83**, Lima, Ohio – coached football, wrestling, track and administrator
- **Daniel Grothouse '77**, Delphos, Ohio – girl's basketball coach
- **Fred Pessell '64**, Battle Creek, Mich. – track & field and football coach



Coaches who were recognized: (l-r) Daniel Grothouse '77, Rick Gross '83, Tom Benjamin '80 and Fred Pessell '64.



Join The University of Findlay alumni and friends for an alumni dinner reception at Kalahari Waterpark Resort and Convention Center in Sandusky, Ohio, April 17, from 6-8 p.m. Dinner is \$10 for each adult, \$7 for children ages 5-12 and children age 4 and under are free. President DeBow Freed will be there to greet you. Just for the kids, our STAR group is planning special Kalahari-themed crafts and activities after dinner so you can relax

and mingle with other alumni. To register for the event, please go to www.findlay.edu, KEYWORD: Kalahari.

Register now for online social networking. If you have not yet registered for the Findlay Oiler Alumni Connection, please do so by visiting www.findlay.edu, KEYWORD: Alumni connection. We are here to support your continued success and your lifelong connection to your alma mater.

Be sure to keep us updated on your marriage and birth announcements by filling out the "What's New with You?" form at www.findlay.edu, KEYWORD: Alumni.

Welcome UF Newest Little Oilers:

*Chip '00 & Lindsey Roush
Baby girl, Lexi Elise, born March 1, 2010*

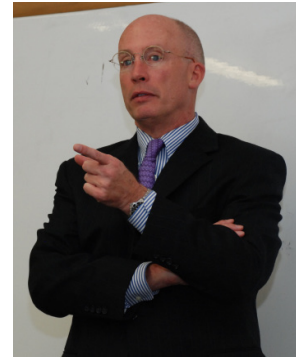
*Cody & Mary (Kear '01) Jones
Baby boy, Winston Ford, born Jan. 26, 2010*

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4. Alumni Spotlight

Bernard Vonderhaar '81 Addresses Credit Crisis

Bernard R. "Ben" Vonderhaar II '81 spoke with students in business classes and gave a community lecture on "The Credit Crisis and Its Aftermath: We're Not Out of the Woods Yet" as a College of Business Visiting Executive on March 26.



Ben Vonderhaar '81

[REDACTED]

Previously, Vonderhaar held positions with WhiteHorse Capital Partners L.P., Highland Capital Management L.P., The Commonfund, Bankers Trust Co. and Marathon Oil Co. He also earned a MBA from Ashland University in 1983.

Vonderhaar presented background information on the credit crisis, detailing governmental deregulation of banking, mortgage and structure finance, and the financial maneuvers of Wall Street and investment banks that led to the credit crisis, which peaked in late 2007, calling it a "cataclysmic house of cards."

Although he acknowledged that no solution to the current economic crisis is readily apparent in the short term, he told students that even in bad times there are incredible opportunities. "Find something that gets you juiced," he recommended. "Find something you love, and you'll never work a day in your life."

Vonderhaar noted that he has competed against Ivy League graduates from the time he got into the financial industry, saying "I've been the least credentialed person in virtually every meeting." Despite working with high-profile people, "Amazingly, I never felt ill-equipped academically," he stated, telling students, "You have the same gift. You have the same faculty. Nothing has changed with the professors. The faces have changed but the attitude is ingrained here. It's embodied in here. It is in the fabric, the DNA of the school."

He acknowledged special faculty members who made an impact in his life: Kenneth Buchenroth, Shiv Gupta, Ray McCandless and Nondace Campbell.

In addition to his academic experiences, Vonderhaar has fond memories of his fraternity brothers, serving on the Student Government Association, being on the staff of The Obelisk (student newspaper) and playing on the tennis team three years.

He and his wife, Kathy, live in Houston, Texas, and have three children, Ben, 19, Bill, 17, and Margaret, 15.

"What is ahead for you as graduates of this great school? What does this school do for you?" he asked rhetorically. "It will give you a sense of independence. It will give you a sense that you can accomplish great things. You develop relationships. You also will have a better understanding that we, collectively, stand on the shoulders of giants, of everyone who has come before us."

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5. Oiler Sports

The Oilers are currently ranked 21st in the 2009-10 Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings, with 283 points. The Learfield Sports Directors' Cup was developed as a joint effort between the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) and USA Today. Points are awarded based on each institution's finish in up to 14 sports – seven women's and seven men's.

Fifty-two UF student-athletes achieved all-academic status from the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) during the winter sports season. The men's track team had the most representatives with 21, and the women's track team featured 15 honorees.



Calli Coppus

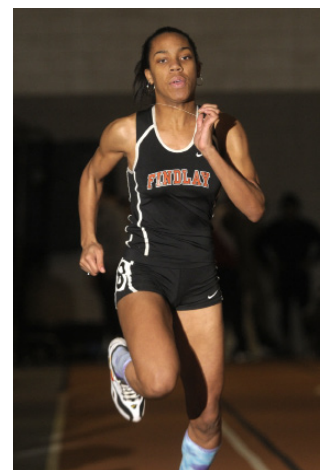


Curtis Smithey

The University of Findlay softball team has a 11-17 overall record, with a 1-5 mark in the GLIAC. Calli Coppus is having an outstanding season for the Oilers, hitting .444 on the year, while Jaci Messmer is hitting .405 with a team-high 12 extra base hits and a .689 slugging percentage.

Members of the Oilers men's track team, Curtis Smithey, Derrick Vicars and Cody Crockett, all have set school records during the 2009-10 campaign, and each has finished first in his respective event on numerous occasions. On March 23, Smithey and Vicars were named the track and field athletes of the week by the GLIAC.

The Oilers women's track team has been led by Stephanie Charnigo and Raven Clay. Clay was named the GLIAC athlete of the week on March 23, while Charnigo set a new school record in the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4:35.94 at the Oliver Nikoloff Invitational on April 3 in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Raven Clay

Check out Oilers sports at <http://athletics.findlay.edu>.

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6. Alumni Support

In conjunction with the 125th Endowed Funds Drive, two new scholarships have been created. The goal of the endowed fund drive is to create 125 new endowed funds for student scholarship, faculty development and program development. Thus far, 89 new funds totaling more than \$6.5 million have been created.

• **The members and friends of Town & Campus have established the Town & Campus Scholarship Endowment Fund** honoring the 50th anniversary of the founding of the organization on campus. Town & Campus is a service organization whose purpose is to create and foster a

closer understanding and relationship between the community and the University. The scholarship is awarded to a student in good academic standing who exhibits volunteerism and philanthropy on campus and/or in the community and graduated from a Hancock County high school.

• **The Dale Wilkinson Western Equestrian Scholarship Fund for western equestrian studies students was established in his honor.** He helped found the western equestrian studies program in 1976. He was the first supervisor of riding and adapted his 72-acre farm for training students, which he sold to The University of Findlay in 1984. Wilkinson passed away March 12, 2010, in Georgia. The scholarship will be awarded to a full-time student majoring in western equestrian studies, who has junior or senior standing and at last a 3.0 GPA.

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7. FYI Campus Newsletter

Want to know what is happening on campus between *ArchLink* issues? UF has a biweekly newsletter called *For Your Information* that is circulated on campus. The newsletter includes feature stories and pictures of campus activities. Check out *FYI* online at <http://www.findlay.edu>, KEYWORD: FYI.

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8. Spread the Word...

If you want to sign up to receive *ArchLink* each month, you may [click here](#) to fill out a form or e-mail your name, graduation year, major and home address to archlink@findlay.edu. Please add archlink@findlay.edu to your address book/contact list.

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The Office of Career Services provides comprehensive employment services for undergraduate and graduate students, alumni and employers. [Click here](#) to go to our Web page, and then click on College Central Network at the bottom of the page to search for or post jobs and internship opportunities. Contact us directly at 419-434-4665 or careerservices@findlay.edu if you have questions or to learn more about how we can help fill your employment needs!

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**The mission of The University of Findlay is to equip our students
for meaningful lives and productive careers.**
