

Foundation News



The University of Mississippi Foundation

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 2 • FALL 1999



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Investing in Ole Miss First Scholarships Best Way to Secure the Future of UM



Securing the future of University of Mississippi students is the top priority of Chancellor Robert Khayat (left). The Ole Miss First scholarship program will provide resources to open the extraordinary world of our beloved University to the next generation of deserving students.

When University of Mississippi alumni and friends meet with Chancellor Robert Khayat around the state and across the nation, they usually pose the same question: "If there were just one thing I could do to put Ole Miss first in my giving, what would it be?"

Chancellor Khayat's answer is always the same: "Support scholarships."

"Students are the heart of the University's invigorating campaign to build academic excellence for the 21st century on a scale beyond anything seen in its first century and a half. No university can be among the best unless it attracts and develops the best students," he said.

The Ole Miss leader was inspired to create a new scholarship program because of his strong belief that alumni and friends should invest in the future through

student scholarships. Ole Miss First, the premier unrestricted scholarship program, already has received support from more than 40 people.

"The Ole Miss First program reflects the University's commitment to put students first in our quest to take our place among America's great public universities," Khayat said. "These scholarships will provide the fountain of resources to attract and nourish the most highly recruited academic stars, as well as ensure that every deserving young person is able to attend Ole Miss.

"Stop a moment and remember," the chancellor continued. "Don't you recall someone special in your own life who gave you an opportunity to learn, grow, and experience a fulfilling life? You can complete the circle of opportunity by giving

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Message from the Chancellor



The faculty, staff, and students join me in expressing our profound appreciation to you for your support of the University. Your generosity has placed us among the top colleges and universities in the nation with regard to private support. We now rank 20th in endowment per student.

I have referred to private support as the Margin of Excellence—the difference between being good and being great. As you read the interesting, exciting stories in this *Foundation News*, you will see examples of extraordinary generosity providing that Margin of Excellence.

We are entering the final 18 months of the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*. You have responded to the call in large numbers (19,698 donors in 1998-99) and with significant gifts (\$37 million in 1999). You have given \$151 million in the campaign, and we continue to pursue the goal of \$200 million.

The balance of the campaign will focus on scholarships, such as Ole Miss First, highlighted in this issue; individual departmental needs; campus improvements; and special needs in athletics. We urge you to continue your support and to invite others to join you.

This is our opportunity to take our seat at the table of great public universities. We look forward to seeing you on campus.

Warmest regards,

Robert Khayat

Robert Khayat
Chancellor

Ole Miss First, continued from cover

ing your support to young people.”

Thomas McCarley III remembers. The Knoxville, Tennessee, businessman and a 1969 graduate was the inaugural supporter of the Ole Miss First scholarship program. As a high school student, McCarley thought he would be able to pursue a college degree with an athletic scholarship at a junior college. A knee injury put an end to those plans. Only through a small trust fund set up by his grandmother was he able to benefit from a college education.

“Going to Ole Miss was my dream, and it came true because of my grandmother,” McCarley said. “I was talking to Herb Dewees (executive director of alumni affairs) about establishing a scholarship for students at my (hometown’s) Olive Branch High School

to attend Ole Miss. While I was working out the details on that scholarship, Herb told me about Ole Miss First. What I like is that the program provides a way to help young men and women who might not ordinarily have the means to go to college to attend the best educational institution in the state.”

McCarley, who works with building contractors on performance bonds in his career with the insurance broker Aon Corp., and his wife, Denise, have three children, Kirby, Bucky, and Nicholas. The oldest, now Kirby McCarley Hall, is an Ole Miss graduate.

If McCarley could speak to future recipients of Ole Miss First scholarships, he says he would ask them to keep in mind the purpose of the program. “They will be blessed as students to earn a degree

from Ole Miss. I hope they will remember what was given to them and, in turn, give something back to their University, thinking about others who might need the same help.”

Individuals or organizations can join the new scholarship program with an annual investment of \$1,000, and five-year commitments are encouraged.

“By joining me in this worthy partnership, you will be joining hands with thousands of alumni and friends who put our students and Ole Miss first,” Khayat said.

“Just remember how Ole Miss has touched your life and what it continues to mean to you,” he added. “Know the deep satisfaction of opening that world to deserving young people—young people, in fact, who are our future.” ■

Campaign Co-Chair Sets Stellar Example Among Alumni In Leadership, Giving



George Hewes III

George Hewes III of Jackson was named to The University of Mississippi student Hall of Fame more than four decades ago because of his outstanding academic and leadership record.

Today, Hewes is racking up another outstanding record at his beloved alma mater as co-chair of the Ole Miss *Commitment to Excellence Campaign's* National Steering Committee and a generous contributor to the fund that has swelled to more than \$151 million.

"Ole Miss has given so much to me, literally and figuratively, that I want to repay that debt in every way that I can," said Hewes, who is a 1950 graduate of the Ole Miss School of Business Administration. After serving for two years in the U.S. Marine Corps, Hewes returned to the Oxford campus and completed his Juris Doctor degree in 1954.

In addition to serving as a national co-chair for the campaign, Hewes also has been a leader in giving, including a recent increase in his original pledge and earlier gifts to Memory House renovation, Hardin Phi Beta Kappa Challenge Grant, Triplett Alumni Center, Chapel at Ole Miss, and the Athletic Training Center. He is a member of the Lamar Order, Ole Miss Associates, and the Loyalty Foundation.

"We are grateful for George Hewes' extraordinary national leadership, which is inspiring many, many others who also truly love Ole Miss to step forward with generous support to make this ambitious campaign endeavor a reality," said Chancellor Robert Khayat.

"So many splendid things are happening at Ole Miss—the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, the Croft Institute for International Studies, and the Lott Leadership Institute, as well as funding for the library, scholarships, and faculty enrichment—it's just exciting to be a part of that progress and development," Hewes said.

National Search for Provost Leads to 'Home-grown' Candidate

UM administrator becomes first woman to hold position

Following a national search, The University of Mississippi has named Dr. Carolyn Ellis Staton to the position of provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

In the line of leadership after Chancellor Robert Khayat, Staton becomes the first woman named to the provost position and one of the top-ranking women in the state's higher education community. She previously was associate provost and associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and a professor and acting dean in the School of Law on the Oxford campus.

The holder of the provost and vice chancellor post serves as the chief academic officer, providing leadership for the Oxford campus and overseeing the planning and policy development for the Oxford, Tupelo, and DeSoto Center campuses.

Dr. John Williamson, chair of the Faculty Senate and associate professor of medicinal chemistry, said, "The faculty members of the University are very excited about the appointment of Dr. Staton as provost. We will work diligently with her and her staff to make The University of Mississippi one of the nation's great public universities."



Dr. Carolyn Ellis Staton

'I am looking forward to working with our faculty, staff, and students as we continue to create some exciting academic opportunities and initiatives.'

When news of the announcement came, Staton was "excited" about the possibilities the new position will afford. "I've been very blessed to have had the opportunity for a most rewarding and satisfying academic career in teaching, research, and administration. This will allow me the exciting opportunity to broaden the scope of what I have been doing and to continue the work of this office to enhance our outreach.

"Thanks to Chancellor Khayat and others, we have so much momentum right now. I am looking forward to working with our faculty, staff, and students as we continue to create some exciting academic opportunities and initiatives," Staton said.

Staton is married to Dr. William Staton, professor of mathematics at Ole Miss, and they are the parents of three sons: Will, 13, Tom, 11, and Michael, 9. ■

Harold Burson Funds Project to Explore Jewish Life on Campus



Thanks to a gift from alumnus Harold Burson (left) a pioneering study of the history of Jewish life is under way at the Ole Miss Center for the Study of Southern Culture. The study is being directed by Leah Hagedorn (center) who is teaching a new course on ethnicity and Southern culture based on her research this fall. Center Director Charles Reagan Wilson (right) noted that both the funder and the director are ideal for the undertaking.

ing.” Wilson said the project is important also in that it extends the center’s agenda into areas related to ethnicity and religion.

“I think the project reflects the center’s and the University’s interest in the diversity of a people who have been students here,” he said. “It demonstrates Mr. Burson’s continued memories of his experiences at Ole Miss and the desire to cast more light on their broader meaning.”

A Memphis native and a 1940 graduate of Ole Miss, Burson holds an honorary doctorate from Boston University for “pioneering work in the study of perception and the business of public relations.” The founder and chair of Burson-Marsteller, a global public relations firm, Burson was inducted into the Ole Miss Hall of Fame in 1980.

One of the focus questions Wilson said the ethnicity project will seek to answer is why the Jewish students and faculty members chose Ole Miss. ■

With a generous gift from alumnus Harold Burson of New York, The University of Mississippi has become one of only two institutions of higher learning in the nation—joining Yale University—to study the role of Jewish students and faculty on their campuses.

The Burson gift to the Ole Miss Center for the Study of Southern Culture also made possible a new course on ethnicity and Southern culture, which is being offered for the first time this fall.

According to Leah Hagedorn, who is directing the study and teaching the new course, research on Jewish life at the University is both historically and culturally important, given that the history of higher education has neglected ethnicity and religion generally.

Hailing the new history project, Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson, the director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and a cultural historian whose specialty is religion in the South, noted that “both the funder and the study’s director are ideal for the undertaking.”

Recipients of Frist Student Service Awards



Chancellor Robert Khayat (left); Sue Hodge, School of Business Administration; and Dr. William A. Staton, Department of Mathematics.

Two professionals who have rendered extraordinary service to University of Mississippi students were recognized with Frist Student Service Awards.

The honorees are Dr. William A. Staton, professor of mathematics, and Sue L. Hodge, records coordinator in the School of Business Administration.

Staton, the faculty honoree, and Hodge, the honored staff member, each received a plaque and a \$1,000 prize, presented by Chancellor Robert Khayat.

“Both Mrs. Hodge and Dr. Staton obviously care deeply about the welfare of our students,” Khayat said. “They are ideal examples of staff and faculty needed in higher education today. These awards are well-deserved, and we are fortunate to have these two caring people among the University family.”

Inaugurated in 1995, the Frist Awards were established with a \$50,000 gift from Ole Miss alumnus Dr. Thomas F. Frist Sr. of Nashville to recognize annually a faculty member and a staff member for outstanding service to students. When Dr. Frist created the awards, he paid tribute to his college experience at Ole Miss by mentioning the helpfulness and kindness shown him by the faculty and staff.

Finding Much to Praise on Tour of Campus, Ole Miss Alum Joins Chancellor's Trust

When Michael Grantham visited Ole Miss last year, he hadn't been back to campus since his 1985 graduation with a master's degree in mathematics. He was so impressed with what he found that he immediately joined the Chancellor's Trust before returning to his Santa Fe, New Mexico, home.

"There have been so many positive changes at the University. I was tremendously impressed with the emphasis on academic excellence. I really like the Chancellor; he has fire in his belly. I didn't even know about the Chancellor's Trust until the people at the Sesquicentennial Office ... told me about it. I wanted to join immediately."

After working in operations research for a government contractor and a stint in investment banking in Texas, Grantham went out on his own in 1987, when he sold his share in the investment firm partnership he had established and began managing his own investments.

Since joining the Chancellor's Trust and meeting with his former math professor Dr. Glenn Hopkins, now dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Grantham has made another investment in the University. He has donated \$30,000 to fund a feasibility study on establishing a multidisciplinary bioinformatics curriculum on the undergraduate level in liberal arts.

Only a few universities offer degrees in the relatively new discipline of bioinformatics—which involves the retrieving, storing, and analyzing of biomedical data—and those are mostly on the graduate level. Dr. Gary Miller, chair and professor of biology, is heading the feasibility study committee, which includes representatives from geology, chemistry, mathematics, com-

puter science, and information management science.

Grantham's investments in Ole Miss—which he indicates have only begun—are prompted, in part, by gratitude for an investment of confidence made in him by Dr. Russell Stokes, head of the Department of Mathematics in 1983, when Grantham was about to graduate.

"At that time, the oil industry was in a major slump, and no one was interested in hiring. I couldn't get a single interview," the Pearl native says. "Dr. Stokes asked me, 'Mr. Grantham, what are you going to do with the rest of your life?' If it weren't for his asking that question, I don't know what I would have done. He was kind enough to see potential in me and told me about a graduate assistantship in mathematics.

"Life takes certain turns and detours, and my work in math prepared me for the future. My liberal arts degree also gave me the ability to communicate. That's a plus in any field."

In addition to his private investments, Grantham and his wife, Carol, have set up the philanthropic Rose-Legett Foundation—using the middle names of their children, Dodge and Phoebe.

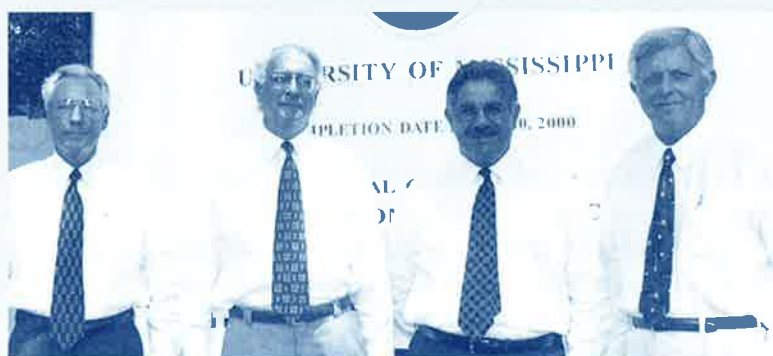
"The foundation donates to medical research, education, and the arts," Grantham explains. Before making investments or gifts, the Granthams research the strong points and future potential for the company or institution. That's what prompted the visit to Ole Miss.

When setting up his campus visit, Grantham asked to see some of his favorite professors in mathematics, especially Drs. Bill Staton, Eldon Miller, and Hopkins. He was anxious to discuss the possibilities of establishing an undergraduate program in bioinformatics.

"I'm passionate about the idea of bioinformatics, and I'm putting my own time and resources into this idea," said Grantham. "I don't know of any undergraduate program that provides biologists with

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Back To the Future at Ole Miss



The Board of Directors of The University of Mississippi's Croft Institute for International Studies enjoyed a tour of the institute's future headquarters on the Oxford campus recently. Among those inspecting the "Y" Building renovation now under way on The Circle were (from left) board member Charles McGehee, chair Gerald M. Abdalla, secretary Robert M. Bird, and board member Chancellor Robert Khayat. The \$3.25 million restoration project, made possible by the same Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund that provides funding for the Croft Institute, is on target for completion in May 2000.



Beloved Provost Walton Bids Farewell

A steady, positive influence for nearly 40 years, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Gerald Walton happily accepts a small gift of appreciation at a campus retirement reception in his honor. Shepherding Ole Miss through the best and worst of times since he became a part-time English instructor in 1959, Walton stepped down May 31. Famously modest, erudite, and deeply principled, he leaves behind a legacy of scholarship, quiet efficiency, and courage under fire.



Ole Miss Recognizes Alumnus With Dedication of Memory House



Memory House, home of The University of Mississippi Foundation, was officially dedicated to Ole Miss alumnus and longtime supporters Louis and Allison Brandt (right) of Houston, Texas. Chancellor Robert Khayat (second from left) and Don L. Frugé (left) recognized Brandt for his significant role in the acquisition and care of Brandt Memory House, which welcomes countless visitors to the Oxford campus through its meeting, dining, and reception areas. The Brandts contributed the seed money for the University Foundation to purchase Memory House and its grounds, retired the mortgage after its renovation, and created an endowment for its upkeep. They also have provided critical support to the University's academic and athletics programs for more than 16 years.

Lawyers' Group Funds Law Scholarships Through Mississippi Bar Foundation

The University of Mississippi School of Law has been chosen to receive a grant of \$10,000 for student scholarships from the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) of the Mississippi Bar Foundation (MBF).

The Ole Miss law school has received IOLTA grants of from \$5,000-\$15,000 each year since the first funds were disbursed in 1987-88. The law school's Office of Career Services and Scholarships distributes the money in several scholarships to deserving law students based on financial need and academic records.

"We are grateful to the lawyers of our state who make these funds possible through this unique channel," said Dean Samuel M. Davis. "It is a source that we can count on for much-needed student support, which is becoming more and more important in legal education today."

IOLTA began in Mississippi in 1984 when the state's Supreme Court made it possible for lawyers to convert their general pooled trust checking accounts into interest-bearing accounts. The resulting funds are directed to the MBF for disbursement. The MBF was chartered in 1962 and qualifies as a non-profit charitable, educational corporation.

IOLTA is supported by some 1,600 lawyers in the state, who maintain the confidential, fiduciary attorney-client relationship regarding the deposit, and serve the profession and the public by making the interest earned on their trust accounts available to support needed and worthwhile public service projects, including scholarships for law students.

New Mullins Endowment to Recognize School Administrators, Math Teachers

New awards in the Ole Miss School of Education will serve to recognize and encourage school administrators and secondary math teachers, thanks to a \$100,000 gift from Richard and Diane Scruggs of Pascagoula.

The Scruggs' gift establishes an endowment in memory of Ike and Elaine Mullins of Macon, who were staunch proponents of education. The endowment, which also will provide resources for education faculty development, will annually fund two educator awards:

- The **Andrew P. "Ike" Mullins Outstanding School Administrator Preparation Award** will be reserved for the most outstanding graduate of Ole Miss' new Administrator Training Program. The **Elaine Deas Mullins Outstanding Secondary Mathematics Educator Award** will be presented to the most outstanding undergraduate majoring in secondary mathematics education.

Both recipients will receive a plaque and \$500 stipend to apply toward educational expenses at Ole Miss.

"Elaine and Ike Mullins were my aunt and uncle, and they were very special to me," said Diane Scruggs. "They worked extremely hard to further the cause of education and were inspiring to many people, including their son, Dr. Andy Mullins at Ole Miss, who has always been deeply involved in education. My own mother died when my five siblings and I were young, so my aunt and uncle were even more important to me. We wanted to do something in their memory."

Mrs. Scruggs said she and her husband hope their gift encourages people to attend Ole Miss and



Elaine Mullins



Andrew P. "Ike" Mullins

encourages people to stay in Mississippi to "help cultivate educational opportunities. I don't like to see our good people leave the state."

Mullins, who is executive assistant to Ole Miss Chancellor Robert Khayat and associate professor of educational leadership, said, "My sister and I are overwhelmed. We consider it a special honor to have educators rewarded through a fund bearing our parents' names. We are

earned her degree from Mississippi University for Women and taught high school math in Webster and Noxubee counties for several years. After retiring from full-time teaching, she was the bookkeeper for the family's hardware store and continued her love of teaching by tutoring young people in the community. She passed away this year.

"My father absolutely loved Ole Miss, and my mother also was intensely loyal," Andy Mullins

'Elaine and Ike Mullins...worked extremely hard to further the cause of education and were inspiring to many people...'

very grateful to the Scruggs family for establishing this endowment, as well as for their continuing support of Ole Miss and higher education in Mississippi."

Ike Mullins was a 1929 graduate of Ole Miss who owned and operated a hardware store in Macon for 48 years before his death in 1994. Elaine Mullins

said. "They both would have been so proud to know an award was created in their honor.

Tax-deductible gifts may be made to The Mullins Endowment through The University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677; phone (800) 340-9542; e-mail: umf@olemiss.edu.

Two Alumni Give \$4 Million To Create Center for Academic Computing

A Houston, Texas, couple's gift of \$4 million to The University of Mississippi will create a center for academic computing, enabling their alma mater to be both a leader and innovator in the field.

In a press conference on the Oxford campus, Will and Susanne Galtney unveiled their gift, which will fund the renovation of Weir Hall, creating a state-of-the-art academic computing facility and establishing an annual budget to maintain and advance the technology-based educational environment.

"The Galtney Center for Academic Computing will ensure that University of Mississippi students graduate with extensive knowledge of the vital capabilities of computers and information technology



Will and Susanne Galtney

At the press conference on the academic computing center, Galtney said, "There is truly a movement going on at this University that reaches great distances, all the

be the cornerstone for educating and training faculty as well."

Dr. Kathy Gates, director of support services in the Office of Information Technology at Ole Miss, said the Galtney gift comes at a critical time, when it's more important than ever that college students gain experience with cutting-edge technology. "Computers, networks, and information services will impact all aspects of their professional lives. The Galtneys' generous gift allows us to equip Ole Miss students for the future." ■

'What more could we do than help young people...compete in this...global economy...from a technological standpoint?'

available to everyone worldwide," Ole Miss Chancellor Robert Khayat said. "The University's commitment to educating the leaders for the 21st century greatly depends on its ability to enhance and maintain academic computing programs and facilities. We are extremely grateful to Will and Susanne Galtney for offering these generous resources to enable us to attain this goal."

The University also dedicated the Galtney Tennis Pavilion at the Palmer-Salloum Tennis Center while the family was visiting the Oxford campus. Will Galtney, who played on the Ole Miss Men's Tennis Team, also funded the construction of a new spectator viewing area.

way out to Texas. Chancellor Khayat creates excitement about the University and motivated Susanne and me to give this gift.

"When we talked about what we would do," Galtney continued, "Susanne made it clear that it should be something to help the entire student body as well as the faculty. In this day and age, what more could we do than help our young people who are going to institutes of higher learning but to equip them with the skills to compete in this world, this global economy that we live in, from a technological standpoint? This center will really provide access to all students (to the latest technology and computer equipment) and will



Former Tennis Coach Mack Cameron visits with Will Galtney at the dedication of a new tennis pavilion.

He's great on the phone

Student Raises More Than \$100,000 for Ole Miss

Ed McAlexander is like a lot of other Ole Miss graduate students. He's polite, easygoing, and can't wait to finish school. But he's also a little different: Over the past 18 months, he's raised more than \$100,000 for the University.

He's one of about two dozen students who work at the University Phone Center. Each evening the students call alumni to solicit private donations, and over the past two years, they've raised more than \$1 million.

"These students have reached levels of returns on these calls that are beyond any reasonable expectation," said Chancellor Robert Khayat. "The result will be that we will be a better, stronger university."

The students work four nights a week during the summer and five nights a week during the school year. In June and July, they collected more than \$85,000 for the University. McAlexander, who worked his last shift in July, is the first of the group to collect more than \$100,000.

"For one caller to generate in excess of \$100,000 is truly extraordinary," Khayat said.

The chancellor surprised McAlexander with a visit at the Phone Center on one of his last nights. He presented McAlexander an award for his service to the University and told the workers that McAlexander will soon have his name placed on a brick in the new Walk of Champions in The Grove.

"It was a pleasant surprise," McAlexander said of the chancellor's visit. "It's kind of sentimental. I'm going to miss Oxford." ■



Ed McAlexander (left) with Chancellor Robert Khayat



B.H. Richardson

A Brother's Life Is Remembered Through Endowment

Picture an independent young man, one whose athletic ability would have almost certainly guaranteed him a college scholarship.

Imagine the talented, handsome 21-year-old man being honorably discharged from the U.S. Army after being wounded during the World War II invasion of Normandy, France. Think of that same young man, working to make a living in the country whose freedom he fought to ensure, growing old and forgetting everyone he's ever known and every brave thing he's ever done.

When we've envisioned all these things, we've only begun to see B.H. Richardson Jr., a modest Mississippi man who fought for freedom and then relinquished his own independence before losing his life to Alzheimer's disease in April 1998.

To honor their brother and the humble life he chose to live, Bobby E. Richardson of Vicksburg and Bernice Goldman of Philadelphia have established the B.H. Richardson Jr. Memorial Scholarship Endowment with an initial gift of \$103,000 to The University of Mississippi. The scholarship will be awarded each fall to a pre-med student at Ole Miss.

Bobby Richardson and Bernice Goldman are the only surviving siblings of four children born to Buford and Vera Richardson in rural Kemper County. None of the Richardson family has ties to Ole Miss; no children or grandchildren attended the University. The family didn't grow up spending Saturdays in The Grove on the Oxford campus. But B.H. Richardson's brother and sister chose to memorialize their late brother by giving to a state institution with a medical school whose students might one day find the key that unlocks the mystery behind Alzheimer's. ■

Law School Grad's 'Soft Spot' For Ole Miss Is Basis for Giving

Joins Chancellor's Trust with \$25,000 unrestricted gift



Woods E. Eastland

Woods E. Eastland is no stranger to University support. In fact, he's an ideal alumnus, giving generously and regularly to a long list of Ole Miss funds and projects.

Just recently, the Ole Miss School of Law graduate upped the ante by joining the Chancellor's Trust with a \$25,000 unrestricted gift.

Eastland's reasons are simple: "I've just got a very soft spot in my heart for Ole Miss," the Indianola native said. "The three years I spent there were wonderful. On top of that I got a good legal education. I was at a point in my career where I could do something like this, and I wanted to do it."

Eastland's soft spot for Ole

Miss may come from the fact that he spent many of his formative years in Washington, D.C., where his father, James O. Eastland, represented Mississippi in the Senate. In fact, the younger Eastland's decision to "come home" to the Ole Miss School of Law after receiving his undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt was due, in part, to his father's career in politics.

"After graduating from Vanderbilt, I didn't know what I wanted to do and was trying to decide between going to business school and law school," Eastland said. "I thought law school would give me more options, and I thought specifically that if I came to law school at Ole Miss, there was always the possibility of a political career like my father had. But after I worked in two of his campaigns, I quickly became convinced that I didn't want to go into politics."

Eastland's gift to the Chancellor's Trust represents his support of

the direction that Chancellor Robert Khayat has taken with the University in recent years—and for the University's future. "It seems to me that Robert's talents, personality, and character strengths have all come together at a particular time in the life of the University, and he has everybody—staff, faculty, and students—energized and enthusiastic," he said. "Good things can't happen—in a University or in any business—without people like Robert who are willing to go out there and work to make them happen."

Khayat has similar praise for Eastland's accomplishments and support of the University. "Woods Eastland is perhaps the finest example of a 'native son,'" he said. "His dedication to the agricultural future of the state of Mississippi and to the educational future of the students of this state is unsurpassed." ■

Ole Miss Athletics Department Shares Bowl Money with University Libraries

University of Mississippi Head Football Coach David Cutcliffe (second from right) and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics John Shafer (far right) gather outside the J.D. Williams Library on the Oxford campus with (from left) Provost Carolyn Staton, former Provost Gerald Walton, and Dean of Libraries John Meador to finalize a \$10,000 gift from the Department of Athletics to the libraries. The gift was made possible by the Ole Miss football team's win in the Independence Bowl.



Jackson Attorney Establishes Two Annual Awards At Law School

Jeffery P. Reynolds of Jackson, Mississippi, has established two new annual awards for students at The University of Mississippi School of Law.

The Jeffery P. Reynolds, P.A., Environmental Law Scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded annually to the student making the highest grade in the environmental law class, and the Jeffery P. Reynolds, P.A., Diversity Essay Competition Scholarship of \$1,500 goes to the student who writes the best essay on a topic proposed by the donor.

A 1985 graduate of the Ole Miss law school, Reynolds heads the Jackson law firm Jeffery P. Reynolds, P.A., which specializes in aggressively litigating cases under Reynolds' leadership.

"We are extremely grateful to Jeff for his loyalty to the law school in making these two scholarship awards available to our students," said Dean Samuel M. Davis. "Both awards recognize outstanding performance in important areas of our program and will enhance our ability to offer a rich and diverse curriculum."

Regarding his reason for establishing the environmental award, Reynolds said, "I have defended environmental litigation for companies for most of my legal career. I represent a number of major oil companies in toxic tort litigation both in Mississippi and Alabama, thus, I am always looking for the most talented students in environmental law who may be interested in my firm."

As for the diversity award, the attorney said his firm is committed to diversity. "It has been my experience that many firms say that they are [committed] but come up short when it comes to actual progress. I guess I plan to put my money where my mouth is regarding our diversity program."

Inaugural winners of the awards are Rebecca A. Bourland of Coldwater, recipient of the environmental award, and Mickey R.E. Ware of San Antonio, Texas, winner of the essay competition.

Law School Receives \$1 Million Gift from Jackson Law Firm

The University of Mississippi School of Law has received a \$1 million gift from the Jackson law firm Pittman, Germany, Roberts & Welsh.

A part of Ole Miss' *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*, the gift was announced during annual Law Weekend. It is designated for the enhancement of library holdings and to provide faculty assistance.

"We are grateful to the Pittman, Germany, Roberts & Welsh law firm for their generosity and vision in making this wonderful gift through the Lamar Order to benefit the law school," said Dean Samuel M. Davis. "The income from the endowment will be used to provide much-needed support for academic enrichment, library support, and faculty research." (A part of the Law Alumni Chapter of The University of Mississippi Alumni Association, the Lamar Order is the highest level of giving for law alumni.)

Said C. Victor Welsh III, member of the donor firm, which participated in the recent successful tobacco litigation, "It is essential to the education of lawyers in this state that the University has the resources available to meet the ever-changing needs of today's law school students. Thanks to the leadership of Attorney General Mike Moore in the state tobacco litigation, we are fortunate to be able to make these funds available for the benefit of students today as well as in the future."

Welsh holds a juris doctorate from the Ole Miss School of Law, along with the other members of the firm: Crymes G. Pittman, Robert G. Germany, and Joseph E. Roberts Jr.

The firm's generosity with the \$1 million gift pushes the law school's fund-raising goal over the top for support to help obtain a chapter of the prestigious Order of the Coif, which is the highest academic honor accorded to a law school graduate.

"We set a goal of \$1.15 million to support our efforts to attract a chapter of the Order of the Coif, and the firm's gift has enabled us to realize that goal," Davis said. "Moreover, their gift ultimately will benefit future generations of law students who undertake their legal studies at The University of Mississippi and will enhance the growing reputation of the law school as one of the best public law schools in the country."

The process of Coif membership is in the hands of a law school committee, with plans to file a membership petition to the Coif Executive Committee in November 2000. ■



Crymes G. Pittman (J.D. '64) announces a \$1 million gift to the Ole Miss law school from his Jackson law firm Pittman, Germany, Roberts & Welsh at a Law Weekend press conference in The Grove. Other firm members are (background, from left) Joseph E. Roberts Jr. (J.D. '82), C. Victor Welsh III (J.D. '85) and Robert G. Germany (J.D. '81).

Ole Miss Associates Grant Funds Put Aspiring Reporters on the Information Highway

Just as past generations of journalists had to learn to report through the use of telephones and typewriters, journalists of today must learn to take advantage of the information highway in an increasingly complex information age.

The University of Mississippi Department of Journalism is guiding Mississippi's media toward Computer-Assisted Reporting (CAR) with a new laboratory on the Oxford campus. Funded by an Ole Miss Associates Grant, the lab uses high-speed Macintosh and Windows-based computers and the latest software-including FoxPro, SPSS, Microsoft Access, and Microsoft Excel.

"CAR is the most important of the new trends in American journalism," said Dr. Stuart Bullion, chair of the Ole Miss Department of Journalism. "CAR uses high-speed computers with software that helps journalists analyze public records and other data.

"It raises fact-gathering to the level of a science and allows reporters to become better-informed. Better-informed reporters write better reports and give their readers a better idea of what's going on in the world," Bullion added.

Burnis Morris, Ole Miss associate professor and the Samuel S. Talbert Lecturer, interviewed journalists around the state and nation to develop a model laboratory for the department. "This is the future of American journalism. Journalists who can do this kind of work are becoming the most sought-after and the best-paid in the industry," he said. ■



Burnis Morris (right), Ole Miss associate professor and the Samuel S. Talbert Lecturer, works with a journalism student to enhance his reporting skills in the new computer-assisted reporting laboratory.

Local Restaurant Association's Annual Gift Supports Academics



John Currence, (second from left) president of the Mississippi Restaurant Association/Oxford Chapter, presents a gift along with John Welty (left), secretary-treasurer, and Abner White (right), vice president, to Ellen Rolfes, advancement associate at Ole Miss. The Restaurant Association makes its gift annually to this worthwhile program that helps strengthen academic programs.

New Scholarships For Sigma Nu, Student Athletes



Dean James W. Davis (left) and Carson Hughes (right), Sigma Nu alumnus, accept a generous gift to the University from Mrs. Kathrine Roach of McComb (center) to honor her husband's memory. The J. Gordon Roach Endowment will provide scholarships for students in two areas that Judge Roach loved, athletics and his fraternity.

J. Gordon Roach of McComb, Ms., hit the football field as a Rebel back in 1923, helped charter the campus chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity, and fell in love with an Ole Miss beauty.

To honor his memory, Kathrine C. Roach—that Ole Miss beauty who enjoyed many years as his wife and mother to their two children—has established a scholarship making it possible for other young men to enjoy the experience of attending The University of Mississippi.

The J. Gordon Roach Scholarship Endowment will provide scholarships for members of the Sigma Nu fraternity who play intercollegiate athletics on the Oxford campus.

"This scholarship memorializes a founder and the first commander of Sigma Nu fraternity at Ole Miss," said Dr. James W. Davis, dean of the School of Accountancy and a faculty adviser to the fraternity. "John Gordon Roach Sr. was a Sigma Nu scholar athlete with demonstrated leadership ability, so it is fitting that Mrs. Roach endowed a scholarship for a Sigma Nu scholar athlete who also is a proven leader."

John Gordon Roach Jr. of McComb, an attorney and alumnus, agrees. "This scholarship is very appropriate, and I think my father would have been very proud. At the same time that this scholarship is getting under way, my son, John Gordon Roach III, is beginning his freshman year at Ole Miss. My father would have been very happy and pleased about this tradition and this scholarship fund."

Forensics Program Reborn with Hopes of Recapturing Success

University of Mississippi students will once again take their place in national debate competitions, thanks to a \$107,000 gift from law alumnus Raymond L. "Mickey" McGuire of Alexandria, Virginia, that will breathe new life into a forensics program.

The program will be structured under the umbrella of the new Lott Leadership Institute.

Ole Miss Chancellor Robert Khayat applauded McGuire's support, saying, "Mickey McGuire has chosen to make an extraordinary investment in our students through a program that is absolutely key to our McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, Croft Institute for International Studies, and new Leadership Institute, as well as to many other programs and disciplines.

"We thank Mickey for providing these very generous funds and are excited about the doors of opportunities that will open for Ole Miss students," Khayat continued. "This program will enhance our students' abilities to articulate ideas, concepts, plans, data, abstract concepts, and concrete thoughts within the reality of their chosen professions."

Dr. Carolyn Ellis Staton, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, said that Ole Miss has a long history of outstanding forensics. "It is a joy to have the opportunity to restart and reinvigorate a forensics program at The University of Mississippi.

A gift of \$107,000 will provide courses in persuasive argument as well as build an intercollegiate debate team.

"Our hope is to offer courses in persuasive argument, debate and expository speaking, as well as build an outstanding intercollegiate debate team," Staton said. "It is important in looking at leadership to understand the value of civil discourse."

The University's forensics program has existed in many forms since as early as 1923. According to records, each phase of the program met with regional and national success. For example, the debate team of 1947-48 had a record of 24 wins, eight losses, and one tie, and was chosen to represent the Southeast in the first National Debate Tournament in New York. Between 1980 and 1987, the debate team won 17 national first-place honors, as well as a host of other top 10 awards.

Students prepare for a competitive forensics tournament—whether for individual events or debates—by researching, writing, and rehearsing their cases, speeches, or interpretive events. In a competition, a student is taken from the written academic achievement of the classroom and placed straight into a competitive presentation environment. Students will use these skills as they pursue careers in corporate America or in the fields of medicine, law, politics, literature, science, or education.

Individuals and organizations can support the new forensics program by contacting The University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677; phone (800) 340-9542; e-mail: umf@olemiss.edu. ■

Ceremony Honors Senator Thad Cochran For Role in Creating Natural Products Center

One of the country's leading scientific research centers was renamed in honor of U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran in a special ceremony at his alma mater, The University of Mississippi

"I am very flattered and deeply grateful for this honor," Cochran said. "The work that's being done at the center is extremely impressive and important. I'm pleased that we've been able to attract such high-quality research scientists to Ole Miss."

"Senator Cochran was instrumental in assuring the location of the Natural Products Center on the Ole Miss campus, and we wanted to honor him for his tremendous efforts on behalf of the people of



U.S. Senator Thad Cochran

Mississippi," said Chancellor Robert Khayat.

The center, the only research facility of its kind in the United States, was established to discover, develop, and commercialize new pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals derived from natural products. Officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) selected Ole Miss and its School of Pharmacy as the site in fall 1989.

Research at the \$35 million facility focuses on discovering potential new drugs for unmet

'I am pleased that we've been able to attract such high-quality research scientists to Ole Miss.'



therapeutic needs, such as cancer and infectious diseases; research on the quality, safety, and efficacy of dietary supplements—including herbal products; and the development of new, effective agrochemicals that won't harm the environment. The center also conducts research on medicinal plants so that they may be developed as cash crops for U.S. farmers.

A USDA research unit is housed at the facility, and University staff and faculty work in partnership with USDA scientists on a range of projects related to improving human health and agricultural productivity. ■

Ole Miss Makes Major Step Toward Phi Beta Kappa Chapter

The University of Mississippi has taken a third step toward realizing its dream of a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Phi Beta Kappa faculty members at Ole Miss received the call reporting the Committee on Qualifications had recommended to the Phi Beta Kappa Senate that a chapter be established on the Oxford campus. If the Senate supports a recommendation in December 1999, a membership vote by the full Council of the organization will occur in fall 2000.

Two Honors College Students Chosen For Century Institute

Only 30 students in nation selected for the public policy training program

Two University of Mississippi honors students were selected to participate in the prestigious Century Institute Summer Program.

Senior **Cassie Williford**, recent recipient of the coveted Truman Scholarship, and junior **Melva James**—both undergraduates in the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College at Ole Miss—are among 30 college students nationwide chosen to take part in the progressive public policy training program at Williams College in Massachusetts June 21-July 9.

As part of the three-week fellowship program, James, a chemistry and German double major, and Williford, who plans to attend law school after graduation next May, learned about the underpinnings of progressive principles and explored such issues as economic equality, political reform, and diversity. The two joined in debates and case studies and took part in seminars with historians, journalists, and economists.

"We are especially pleased," McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College Director Dr. Elizabeth A. Payne said, "as our institution is in the company of only UCLA, Harvard, the University of Chicago, and Dartmouth in having two students selected for this wonderful opportunity."

The program is sponsored by the Century Foundation, "a research foundation that undertakes timely and critical analysis of major economic, political, and social institutions and issues."



Cassie Williford



Melva James

Businessman Continues Support Through Chancellor's Trust

Alum fell in love with Ole Miss as a little boy

Tom Barksdale was just a little boy when he fell in love—with Ole Miss. As a youngster, Barksdale came to campus with his parents—Jack and Mary Bryan Barksdale, both University graduates—to see Charlie Conerly play football in the 1940s, and later in the 1960s when his father was president of the Alumni Association.

His devotion to his alma mater, where he earned a bachelor's degree in geological engineering in 1959, has continued unabated through adulthood and a highly successful career in banking and as the founding president of Mtel Corp., the pioneer in nationwide paging via satellite.

In fact, you could say commitment to Ole Miss is a Barksdale family tradition. His four brothers all earned at least one degree from the University, and his son, T.G. Barksdale Jr., holds a bachelor's degree.

The most recent tangible evidence of his support is joining the Chancellor's Trust—which he admits is, in part, because his Ole Miss classmate Robert Khayat is now the chancellor.

"I treasure Tom Barksdale as a longtime personal friend (who even kept in touch with me and visited when Eagle Day and I played for the Washington Redskins) and as one of the most dedicated friends of The University of Mississippi," said Chancellor Khayat. "His contributions have already helped make a significant difference at his alma mater, and I am personally grateful that he has chosen to further support the University through his Chancellor's Trust membership."

Barksdale returns the compliment, saying, "Robert Khayat has already proven to be an outstanding chancellor, as I knew he would be. Robert's leadership in securing a significant increase in funding and his ability to attract and retain a world-class faculty ensure an even brighter future for Ole Miss in the new millennium. I'm also proud of the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, funded by my brother Jim and his wife, Sally."

Joining the Chancellor's Trust also was motivated by his long-held belief that "Ole Miss needs broad-based support from her alumni. Who better knows the value of the University than those who have been associated with their alma mater through the years?" ■



Chancellor Robert Khayat presents Tom Barksdale of Jackson, Mississippi, with a certificate of appreciation for joining the Chancellor's Trust program at Ole Miss. The Chancellor's Trust provides unrestricted resources for areas of greatest need on the Oxford campus.

Washington Gala Garners \$13 Million For Lott Leadership Institute

When a shower of star-shaped confetti exploded over the audience gathered in the elegant Opera House of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., it heralded a new era in leadership training at Ole Miss.

The Celebration of Mississippi Leadership gala in late May garnered a stunning \$13 million to endow the Lott Leadership Institute, which is being named for U.S. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, who earned undergraduate and law degrees from Ole Miss.

"We are absolutely elated with the results of this spectacular gala," Ole Miss Chancellor Robert Khayat said. "To have so many individuals and organizations support our dream of a leadership institute at such a tremendous level is both humbling and inspiring.

"The Lott Leadership Institute will be a major addition to our



Bernard J. Ebbers, president and CEO of MCI WorldCom, Tricia Lott, U.S. Sen. Trent Lott, and Kristie Ebbers pose for a photograph during a reception hosted before the Celebration of Mississippi Leadership gala in Washington. MCI WorldCom and the University hosted the gala, which garnered \$13 million for the new institute.

cations, while benefiting the new program.

The Lott Leadership Institute will open on the Oxford campus in fall 2000, offering an undergraduate minor in leadership development, an annual national/international symposium exploring leader-

what we needed for our dreams and dared us to make them real: our families, our neighbors, and our teachers in towns like Grenada, in places like Pascagoula, in classrooms at Duck Hill Elementary, and universities like Ole Miss," Senator Lott said at the gala. "I propose that each of us on the stage this evening accepts these honors as a stand-in for the many folks back home who couldn't make it tonight."

Dr. Gloria Kellum, vice chancellor for university relations, said the \$13 million total "exceeds our goals, speaks volumes about the tremendous respect for Senator Lott, and reflects the amazing support The University of Mississippi receives from alumni and friends."

Kellum described the Leadership Institute as "the next step in our academic quest," noting the additions of the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, the Croft Institute for International Studies, and increased interdisciplinary opportunities on campus. ■

**'This celebration of our state and of its people
is about each of those individuals ... who gave us what we
needed for our dreams and dared us to make them real.'**

campus as the University community enters the 21st century," Khayat said. "The University of Mississippi is known across the nation and beyond for its extraordinary preparation of students as leaders, and the Lott Institute will strengthen our leadership training."

Hosted by the University and MCI WorldCom, the gala provided a spirited showcase of the state's talents and leadership in the fine arts, public service, business, medicine, education, and telecommuni-

ship issues; a summer institute for high school and college students; opportunities for students at other higher education institutions in the state; and programs for business, industry, and other professionals. An interim director will be named this fall, and an extensive renovation and construction project will begin on LaBauve Hall to house the institute.

"This celebration of our state and of its people is about each of those individuals ... who gave us

Self-Described 'Yank' Finds Success As Teacher at Ole Miss

It was necessity that brought Dr. Mary E. Stuckey to the South a little more than a decade ago. The popular, Southern California-born instructor, then fresh out of graduate school at the University of Notre Dame, needed a job, and The University of Mississippi needed a political science assistant professor.

But as the 1999 recipient of the coveted Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, an honor that includes a check for \$4,000, it is now apparent that what has kept Stuckey at Ole Miss had little or nothing to do with the need to earn a monthly paycheck.

Now an associate professor, Stuckey, who teaches courses on the American presidency and political communications, as well as honors classes in the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, describes the best part of her profession as "the interaction with students and colleagues." In her speech accepting the award, she said, in part, "I love teaching. Teaching energizes my life, clarifies my thoughts, tests my ideas, and immerses me in a constant stream of extraordinary people. Teaching requires community, because without the support of colleagues and the enthusiasm of students, the magic of the classroom would be impossible."

The award is particularly meaningful to Stuckey, who remembers getting off to a bit of a "rocky beginning" at Ole Miss. Moving to the South was a "huge cultural shock," she said. "I was not very good in class for the first year. My students didn't get any of my jokes."

Outside the classroom, the adjustment was just as difficult, until Stuckey hit on just the right answer to a frequent question.

When strangers asked her what she was doing in Mississippi, she replied with an answer worthy of a steel magnolia: "My daddy is from Meridian (which is true)."

People would smile, and Stuckey knew she had made a connection.



Dr. Mary E. Stuckey

Couple Memorialize Professor Who Was Inspiration, Friend

Gift of painting honors Civil War historian

Harry and Ruth Woodbury of Jackson, Tennessee, have donated a painting by prominent Mississippi artist Emmet Thames to The University of Mississippi in memory of Dr. Bell Irvin Wiley, faculty member from 1938 to 1943 and chair of the Department of History.

"This gives us the opportunity to honor an eminent scholar and a longtime friend," Harry Woodbury said. "He was one of the top Civil War historians and still is today."

A prodigious researcher and prolific writer, Wiley is best-known for his books *The Life of Johnny Reb* and *The Life of Billy Yank*, detailed studies of common soldiers in the Confederate and Union armies. He left the University in 1943, when he was commissioned a first lieutenant and became staff historian for the U.S. Second Army.

After the war, Wiley accepted the history department chair at Louisiana State University and later spent many years on the faculty of Emory University in Atlanta.

Harry Woodbury arrived on the Ole Miss-Oxford campus in the fall of 1940, and he met Ruth Gaskell in Wiley's classroom. The new semester was two weeks old, but Ruth—who had first enrolled at Ole Miss in 1938—had returned late for the fall term because of a family illness. "She was sitting in my assigned seat, and I told her she was going to have to move," Mr. Woodbury recalled. "She refused."

Eight weeks later the two married.

The Woodburys, now retired and in their early 80s, were both history majors in college and inspired by the work and friendship of Wiley. For 40 years—until the professor's death in 1980 at age 76—the Woodburys and Wiley remained close friends. All three originally hail from west Tennessee.

"Shortly after I arrived on campus, Dr. Wiley took me under his wing, and that started a lifelong relationship," Mr. Woodbury said. "He'd known Ruth for two years by then."

While a graduate student at Ole Miss, Mrs. Woodbury assisted Wiley with his research for *The Life of Johnny Reb*, published in 1943. "The book is based largely on letters from Confederate soldiers back home to their families," Mr. Woodbury said. "Ruth accompanied Dr. Wiley on weekend research trips to locate families who had such letters in their possession."

The Woodburys' gift to Ole Miss is a still-life portrait of an abandoned farmhouse titled *Gray Day* done by Thames. "It's both art and history," Mr. Woodbury said. "It depicts a part of Mississippi history just before World War I. It's a hill country house, not a plantation. Typical of the times, many such houses were abandoned as families moved in search of better economic opportunities." ■



On behalf of Ruth and Harry Woodbury of Jackson, Tennessee, Dr. Don L. Fruge' (left), president and CEO of the UM Foundation, and Kirk Purdom (second from left), advancement associate for liberal arts, present the painting 'Gray Day' to Dr. Robert Haws (second from right), chair of the Department of History, and Dr. Glenn Hopkins, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. The painting was given to the University in honor of Professor Bell Wiley, formerly of the history department.

Six Mississippi Seniors Tapped to Receive Prestigious \$32,000 Carrier Scholarships

The Robert M. Carrier Scholarships at The University of Mississippi—among the Mid-South's oldest and most prestigious scholastic honors—have been awarded to six Mississippi high school seniors with outstanding leadership and academic records.

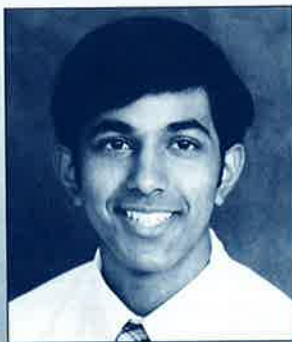
The recipients each receive \$32,000, and five of them already

have been accepted into the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College on the Ole Miss-Oxford campus.

"This is a stunning group of young people composed of scholars, leaders, musicians, athletes, and community volunteers," Ole Miss Chancellor Robert Khayat said. "At The University of Missis-

issippi, we will provide them with extraordinary opportunities to help them further develop and prepare for successful and fulfilling lives."

Mississippi philanthropist Robert M. Carrier endowed the scholarships in 1955 to identify and bring the state's future leaders to Ole Miss for maximum scholastic and personal development. ■



Jay Ramesh Desai
West Point

Desai was named Outstanding Student for his sophomore and junior years and was selected for the Spirit of Mississippi School for Math and Science, Community Spirit, and highest academic average awards.



Laurie Evans
Laurel

Evans was the STAR Student at R.H. Watkins High School, where she also was selected for the school's Leadership Award for three years.



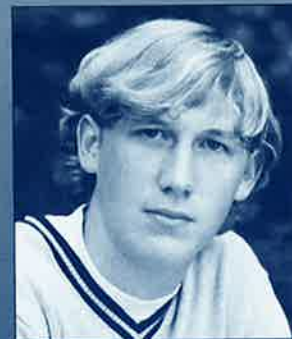
Mary Mills Lane
Jackson

Lane of Jackson Preparatory School is a National Merit Finalist and was a member of the Hall of Fame, and Cum Laude and National Honor societies.



William Dorsey Pieschel
Columbus

Pieschel, No. 1 in his Columbus High School class, has conducted research as a summer intern in the Office of Naval Research of the Ole Miss-headquartered National Center for Physical Acoustics.



Robert William Sindelar
Oxford

Sindelar, No. 1 in his Oxford High School class and a National Merit Finalist, was recently selected as a national Presidential Scholar and returned from the International Science and Engineering Fair with a second place in chemistry.



Heather Waldrup
Madison

Waldrup of Madison Ridgeland Academy is a National Merit Finalist. She was a STAR Student, Clarion-Ledger All-Star, and an Advanced Placement Scholar.

Ole Miss First



An initiative of the
Commitment to Excellence Campaign

audience.”

“The University is honored to join Brad Martin and Saks Incorporated in providing this wonder-

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ence

erence is a unique exploration of literature and its reflection on the human condition.” ■



literature teachers from five Southern states participated in a conference held on the Ole Miss campus. The conference included a series of teacher workshops that were part of a larger effort to honor William Faulkner at the high school level. This year, \$200,000 gift from the Saks department stores.

PROGRAM

Honor

...med to give
...venient way
...tion of caring.”

—Jan Farrington ('65)
Miss Alumni Association

am



“Ole Miss First opens the wonderful world of our university to the next generation of deserving students. The opportunity is in our hands—thousands of hands—joined in partnership.”

—Chancellor Robert Khayat



Student-based academic excellence for the 21st century

Students are the heart of The University of Mississippi's invigorating campaign to build academic excellence for the 21st century on a scale beyond anything seen in its first century and a half. No university can be among the best unless it attracts and develops the best students. Our university has a proud history of producing generation after generation of leaders in various fields for Mississippi and the world. Chancellor Robert Khayat's *Ole Miss First: Student Partnerships* campaign will ensure that this legacy flourishes into the 21st century.

Ole Miss First is the University's premier unrestricted annual scholarship program. It reflects our commitment to put students first in our quest to take our place among America's great universities. *Ole Miss First* provides the fountain of resources to attract and nourish the best highly recruited academic stars as well as to ensure that every deserving student is able to attend Ole Miss.



The Ole Miss Family's circle of opportunity

Members of the Ole Miss Family can join the *Ole Miss First* campaign with an investment of \$1,000 per year. Five-year commitments are encouraged. In return, benefactors get the deep satisfaction of opening the world of Ole Miss to a deserving student. For many, this will be a token repayment to complete the circle of opportunity they entered years ago.

Think of a bright young person in your life today, and imagine what the Ole Miss experience could mean to him or her. Make a difference by helping others benefit from the opportunity to learn in our exceptional academic community, grow through leadership experiences, and forge lifelong friendships. Invest in the future through the *Ole Miss First* program.



Chancellor Robert Khayat on an early morning walk with students.

Student-based academic excellence for the 21st century

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Chancellor Khayat on an early morning walk with students.

Tear at perf. fold and seal

Pledge Card



Yes, Chancellor Khayat, I want to help you open the door to academic excellence for deserving students at The University of Mississippi by investing in the *Ole Miss First* campaign.

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I pledge \$5,000 to be paid \$1,000 per year.

I pledge \$1,000 to be paid this year.

I have enclosed my company's matching gift form.

I do not wish to have my name publicized in connection with this gift.



Please send me one of the following symbols to denote I am an *Ole Miss First* supporter:

- Large red lapel pin
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My pledge will be fulfilled as indicated:

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Teachers in Five Southern States Eligible For Saks Fellowships to Faulkner Conference

You couldn't tell by looking, but there was something a little different about 30 high school teachers who attended the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference July 25-30 at The University of Mississippi.

Unlike the other conference participants, these teachers from five Southern states were the recipients of all-expenses-paid fellowships designed to further the study of Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner in high school classrooms.

Awarded for the first time this year, the Saks Incorporated Fellowships were created on behalf of McRae's, Proffitt's, and Parisian department stores and made possible by a four-year, \$200,000 gift from the Saks Incorporated Foundation. English and literature instructors in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee are eligible to apply.

"The Saks Incorporated Fellowships made an extraordinary contribution to the Faulkner Conference by giving secondary school teachers the opportunity to attend this internationally recognized event, which in turn will enable these educators to introduce Faulkner to their students," said Dr. Donald M. Kartiganer, director of the conference and William Howry Professor of Faulkner Studies at The University of Mississippi. "The result should be very much in keeping with one of the purposes of the conference, which is to bring Faulkner to a larger, more general audience."

"The University is honored to join Brad Martin and Saks Incorporated in providing this wonder-

ful opportunity for teachers throughout the South," said Chancellor Robert Khayat. "The Faul-

kner Conference is a unique exploration of literature and its reflection of the human condition." ■



The first Saks Incorporated Fellows, a group of 30 high school English and literature teachers from five Southern states, attended the 26th annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference held on the Ole Miss campus in July. Their attendance at the lectures, panel discussions, and a series of teacher workshops was part of a new literary initiative to further the study of Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner at the high school level. The Saks Incorporated Fellowships were made possible by a four-year, \$200,000 gift from the Saks Incorporated Foundation on behalf of its McRae's, Proffitt's, and Parisian department stores.



THE OLE MISS MEMORIAL PROGRAM *To Remember, To Honor*

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—Jan Farrington ('65)
President, Ole Miss Alumni Association

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e-mail: umf@olemiss.edu

Medical Center Conducts World's First MRI Renal Cryosurgeries

The world's first renal cryosurgeries using a new interventional MRI are being performed at The University of Mississippi Medical Center.

The revolutionary procedure has destroyed cancerous tumors in the kidneys of three Mississippians. Dr. Patrick Sewell froze the tumors by inserting a CryoHit (surgical tube with a freezing tip at the end) through a tiny incision in the lower back. He guided the tube by following internal tissue images that were instantly shown on the interventional MRI's video monitor.

"From a technical point of view, we were 100 percent successful," Sewell said of Guice's surgery. "We got excellent positioning with the (CryoHit) probe. It looks like we destroyed all of the cancer."

The Medical Center is one of three test sites in the United States for the vertical twin-magnet, interventional MRI. The others are at Harvard and Stanford Universities' teaching hospitals.

"It's extremely exciting," said Dr. Brent Harrison, Medical Center professor and chair of the Department of Radiology. "I believe this machine, or something like this machine, will be universally used in the next five years."

Follow-up CAT scans run on the MRI renal cryosurgery patients also confirmed that all cancer appeared to be destroyed after the procedure, Sewell noted. "In these patients, this procedure is essentially a cure because we are treating their primary tumors—and they had not metastasized (spread to other parts of the body). As with conventional cancer surgeries, cancerous tissue may be eliminated in cryo or laser surgeries using the interventional MRI. But only time will tell whether the cancer returns.

Sewell, an assistant professor of radiology, said all three surgeries were successful. He said using the interventional MRI in combination with cryo (freezing) or laser (heating) surgery has numerous advantages over conventional surgical procedures. The most obvious one is that the surgeon can instantly detect whether all of a cancerous growth is being destroyed. "Because we can be so precise by using the interventional MRI, we also minimize the pain, the risk, the healing time, the complications, the costs, and the surrounding tissue damage," Sewell added.

MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) is to body tissue what the X-ray is to the skeletal structure. MRI provides video images of internal body tissue by using a magnetic field and radio waves to detect atoms within the body. The new interventional MRI takes technology a step further; it allows physicians to look inside patients while they perform procedures.

Medical Center patients are released as early as a day after the procedure. Recovery time is a few days at home.

Dr. Bruce Shingleton, Medical Center assistant professor of urology, assisted in Guice's surgery. He pointed out that the recovery time is four to six weeks for conventional surgery to remove a kidney and about half that time for laparoscopic surgery that does not involve this interventional MRI procedure. ■



Dr. Patrick Sewell, performing the world's first MRI renal cryosurgeries at The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, consults the monitor of the interventional MRI while inserting a CryoHit probe into a kidney cancer patient.

School of Nursing Gets First Endowed Chair With \$1 Million Gift from Kidney Care Foundation

A \$1 million gift from the Kidney Care Foundation recently established the world's first endowed chair of nephrology nursing at The University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Calling it a "signal event in the life of the School of Nursing," Dr. Anne Peirce, school dean, presided over the acceptance of the Harriet G. Williamson Chair of Nephrology Nursing, the first endowed chair in the school's history.

Peirce said the chair will allow the school to further develop and implement a curriculum for nephrology nurse practitioners.

"Our students will have a special resource at hand in the chair holder, and the Williamson Chair will be a continuing symbol of our determination to improve the lives of patients with one of the most prevalent health problems in our state," she said. "Please be assured that the school will be a careful steward of this magnificent gift and that it will truly affect the lives of Mississippians for generations to come."

The chair is named for the late Harriet G. Williamson, a nurse clinician who coordinated the management of chronic renal patients in the hospital. She died July 2, 1998, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Dr. John Bower, professor of medicine and director of the division of nephrology and hypertension, told the crowd that Williamson was unparalleled in her dedication to her patients.

"Harriet Williamson was a professional nurse, first, last, and always," Bower said. "With Harriet, compassion was a malignancy. It completely consumed her and metastasized to everyone around her. In the final analysis, she gave a whole lot more than she got back, and I think that is the true and ultimate tribute a human being can receive."

Dr. Wallace Conerly, vice chancellor for health affairs at The University of Mississippi Medical Center, said Bower was instrumental in the establishment of the chair.

"Dr. John Bower has been a pioneer in many aspects of his career, always seeking better ways to care for his dialysis patients," Conerly said. "This gift is only one in a long succession of contributions he has made to the field of renal dialysis, and this gift—like his many contributions to the practice of dialysis—will ultimately benefit the patients for whom he has worked so hard these many years."

Conerly accepted the \$1 million from Anne Bower, chief operating officer of Renal Care Group Southeast and vice president of the board of directors of Kidney Care Foundation, Inc.

"The University of Mississippi is in the midst of a \$200 million fund-raising campaign," Conerly said. "The Medical Center's goal in that drive is \$45 million. The gift we acknowledge today—funding the Harriet G. Williamson Chair in Nephrology Nursing—will go a long way toward meeting that goal." ■



Dr. Anne Peirce, second from left, and Dr. Wallace Conerly, second from right, express appreciation for the \$1 million check from Dr. John Bower, left, Anne Bower, center, and Jimmy Dorris, CEO of Kidney Care Foundation.

'Harriet Williamson was a professional nurse, first, last, and always.'

Children's Miracle Network Raises \$650,000 for Children's Hospital

The Children's Miracle Network Champions telecast June 5 and 6 on Jackson's Newschannel 12 was a banner year for the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children. It was the culmination of a year-long effort by CMN national and local sponsors, the Friends of Children's Hospital, and local businesses and community organizations to raise funds for pediatric services at The University of Mississippi Medical Center.

This year's donation reached \$652,432, pushing the total raised in the last 15 years over the \$5 million mark.

More than 30 Children's Hospital patients and their families shared their stories during the fund-raiser, including Ray and Monica Harrigill. What began as symptoms of a stomach "bug" became life-threatening for their 3-month-old daughter Tori as her stomach tore and its contents spilled into her abdomen. She was resuscitated in the pediatric emergency room and then had emergency surgery. But her kidneys failed and her tiny body was filled with infection.

"The truth of the matter is there is no other facility in the state that could have taken care of Tori," said her father. Tori was put on a special ventilator that is only available in Mississippi at the Medical Center. "Without that piece of equipment, she wouldn't be here," he added.

The special ventilator was purchased with funds donated to Children's Hospital through the Children's Miracle Network. ■



Jackson's Newschannel 12 anchors and Children's Miracle Network volunteers celebrate a successful toteboard at the end of the 1999 broadcast!

A Trusting Couple



Chancellor Robert Khayat (left) and Dr. Wallace Conerly (right), vice chancellor for health affairs, watch as Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Brock of McComb sign an agreement to establish the Dr. Ralph L. and Billie Brock charitable remainder unitrust for unrestricted use by the health sciences campus.

Looking Beyond University's Current Needs, Family of 5 Alums Creates Endowment

To save some money while attending The University of Mississippi, Bob Seibels became a houseboy for Pi Beta Phi sorority. Seibels jokes that the job ended up being the most expensive thing he's ever done, but admits it was worth every dime.

For it was in that sorority house across from Martin/Stockard residence halls that Seibels first spotted his future wife, Cindy Morrison. He graduated in 1966, and she received her degree in 1968.

The newly created Seibels Family Endowment—a contribution to the Ole Miss *Commitment to Excellence Campaign* that will continue long after the fund-raising drive is completed—is just one result of the union between those two young Rebels.

The couple chose to create the endowment as a long-term investment in the University, and they envision its growing over the years into an important source of revenue. “The Seibels Family Endow-



The newly created Seibels Family Endowment, a contribution to the University's Commitment to Excellence Campaign, is the latest in a long line of generous gifts made to Ole Miss by alums Bob and Cindy Seibels. Shown here during a University of Mississippi Alumni Association trip to the Mediterranean is the entire Seibel family, including (from left) Bob, Emmet, Cindy, William, and Ryan.

ment will always be there, so our children, after Cindy and I are gone, can make gifts to the University as they so choose,” Bob Seibels said.

Chancellor Robert Khayat said the University is blessed to have friends like the Seibels family. “Bob

and Cindy's continual generosity is inspiring, and it would be difficult to find a family more dedicated to Ole Miss—whether it be through academic programs, athletics, student recruitment, or alumni involvement. ■



U.S. Supreme Court Justice Speaks at UM Law School

Justice Antonin Scalia (right) visits with Tupper McClure Lampton (left) of Columbia and James W. McClure Jr. of Sardis before delivering the James McClure Memorial Lecture in Law in the Lamar Law Center's Ethridge Memorial Moot Court Room.

The James McClure Memorial Lectures in Law series was established at the University's School of Law by James McClure Jr. of Sardis and Mrs. Tupper McClure Lampton of Columbia to honor the memory of their father, James McClure, a Sardis attorney and alumnus of the law school.

Jackson Attorney Commits \$2.25 Million To Create 'Life of the Mind' Freshman Seminar



Crymes G. Pittman and his wife, Scarlotte, announced a gift to enhance the freshman experience at Ole Miss, ensuring students' chances of academic success.

A Jackson attorney and his family have committed \$2.25 million to The University of Mississippi to help freshman students experience a cutting-edge interdisciplinary approach to learning, enhancing their chances of academic success.

Crymes G. Pittman and his wife, Scarlotte, announced a \$2.25 million gift to help underwrite the planning and development of the "Life of the Mind" Freshman Seminar at an April press conference. The program will improve the freshman curriculum and could eventually become a required course.

learning opportunities for freshmen," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "The Freshman Seminar will bring together rhetorical skills, both written and oral, in the context of a substantive academic field. It will acquaint students with the critical participation required in a seminar and stimulate their interest in more active learning. We are extremely grateful to the Pittman family for supporting the academic mission of this University with such a visionary gift."

The Pittmans—who are both alumni, as well as their daughter, son, and daughter-in-law—said their gift was prompted by a desire

give something back that would benefit all Mississippians," said Pittman, who is a partner in the Jackson firm of Pittman, German, Roberts & Welch, LLP. "The most natural place to do that was through the state's institutions of higher learning. For us, that had to be Ole Miss. Education is sort of my religion. It's what I believe in and what I think is important."

At the press conference, Pittman recalled his Ole Miss days in history and political science classes. "The school was small enough that we not only got the younger faculty but the more experienced faculty. They gave us a good background in subjects that touched us early and made a lot of difference to us.... The most important aspect of the College of Liberal Arts is that you learn how to think. And as my mother said, 'It's hard to take that away from you.'"

The Freshman Seminar appealed to them because of its mission, said Pittman. "The attractive aspect about this new program at Ole Miss is that it will give freshmen practical applications. We think it's a unique program that will serve as a powerful recruitment tool."

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Carolyn Ellis Staton said the gifts for the Freshman Seminar come at an opportune time. "A University faculty committee is studying the future of a core curriculum for lower-division studies. We want to give our freshmen an enriching experience in small, active learning environments, where they can benefit from strengthened oral and written communication skills and from close relationships with professors and fellow students." ■

'Relationships that develop between faculty and students are key factors in students' academic success, and we want to do everything possible to ensure success.'

"With the generous resources provided by these loyal alumni, Crymes and Scarlotte Pittman, Ole Miss will offer unprecedented

to help their fellow Mississippians. "We felt that we benefitted from representing Mississippi in the tobacco litigation and wanted to

Hederman Family Joins with Class of 1998 To Construct Pavilion, Enhance Grounds in Grove

A family of University of Mississippi supporters has recognized the importance of The Grove in the life of Ole Miss by contributing resources to build a new pavilion.

The 11-acre park in the heart of the Oxford campus is used by people of all ages as a gathering place, classroom, park, playground, outdoor wedding chapel, auditorium, and more.

Because of the ever-growing popularity of The Grove, the Ole Miss Class of 1998 initiated a drive to attract funding for a larger structure equipped with electronics for lighting and sound to replace The Grove stage. An architectural design for a covered pavilion

emerged, as well as plans to enhance landscaping and drainage of The Grove's natural amphitheater. The Class of 1999 continued fund raising, but with a price tag of more than \$400,000, the pavilion and landscaping appeared to be a long-range project.

That is until Mrs. T.M. Hederman Jr. of Jackson, Hap Hederman of Jackson, and Mrs. Richard Hussey of Memphis became partners with the students to make the dream a reality. The Hedermans' gift honors Martha Dean Hederman (Ole Miss Class of 1942) and memorializes Tom M. Hederman III (Class of 1962) and Richard W. Hussey.

"The Grove is the heart and soul of Ole Miss,"

Hap Hederman

said. "All of us have special memories of the activities and times we enjoyed there as students and now enjoy as alumni. This project also appealed to our family because it is important to Chancellor Robert Khayat. We wanted to be involved to honor and show our appreciation for him because he has inspired and brought enthusiasm back to the entire Ole Miss community." ■



Maggie Abernathy



Rebecca Coyle

Foundation Welcomes New Staff Members

Maggie Abernathy, accountant, earned her Bachelor of Accountancy degree from Ole Miss in 1989. After working in public accounting for nine years, she joined the Foundation Office in January 1999. Her responsibilities include assisting with the overall accounting functions and preparation of financial statements for the UM Foundation.

Rebecca Coyle, executive secretary for the Development Services Office, joined the staff in April 1999 after working at Delta RSI. Her responsibilities include providing administrative support for executive business matters in the Foundation, Advancement, and Development Services offices.



Sylvia Finley



Tate Thigpen

Sylvia Finley, senior secretary, joined the Development Services staff in February 1999 after working in the private sector. She is instrumental in the receipting process and is also responsible for final distribution.

Tate Thigpen, advancement associate, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in history at Mississippi College in 1997. He joined the advancement staff in February after working as a sportswriter for CBS Sportline and America Online covering Ole Miss athletics. His current responsibilities include alumni relations and fund raising for the School of Pharmacy.



David Wann

David Wann, computer programmer, earned his Bachelor of Science degree in computer information systems in 1994. He joined the Foundation staff in May 1999 after working with Blue Cross Blue Shield and Deltech Computer Works in Memphis, Tennessee. His current responsibilities include the design and coding of a new development gift receipting and general ledger system. ■

Athletics, Communicative Disorders to Benefit From \$1 Million Endowment by Corinth Alums

An endowed fund created by a Corinth couple for The University of Mississippi will benefit athletics and the Department of Communicative Disorders, as well as the couple's hometown church and high school.

Sallie Davis Dillingham and Bruce Dillingham Jr., both Ole Miss graduates, have committed \$1 million in appreciated stock to a charitable remainder unitrust fund in their name.

"At the death of the last survivor, the assets in the trust will be transferred to the Dillingham Endowment Fund at the UM Foundation," said UM Foundation President Don Frugé.

Mr. Dillingham earned his bachelor's degree in business from Ole Miss in 1968. Mrs. Dillingham graduated a year later with a degree in speech therapy. He is president of The Appraisal Co., a real estate appraisal firm in Corinth. Until recently, Mrs. Dillingham worked as a speech therapist. Their eldest daughter graduated from Ole Miss, and their youngest daughter will be a freshman in the fall.

"Some of the happiest times of our lives were spent at the Univer-



Bruce and Sallie Dillingham (center) and their daughter Sallie Kate (second from left) reminisce with Chancellor Robert Khayat (left); Dr. Gloria Kellum (second from right), vice chancellor for university relations; and Dr. Thomas Crowe, chair of the Department of Communicative Disorders.

sity," said Bruce Dillingham. "We truly enjoyed our experience at Ole Miss, not only in terms of a formal education but through the entire socialization process. We saw this fund as an opportunity to return something to the University."

Mr. Dillingham attended Ole Miss on a football scholarship and played defensive back from 1965 to 1967. "It would have been difficult for my parents to send me to college. Without an athletic scholarship, I probably would not have received a formal education," he said.

Mrs. Dillingham reflected on her experience as a speech therapy major at Ole Miss. "The communicative disorders program was just beginning at that time," she said. "It turned out to be a really excellent program, and it had a great impact on my life. Dr. Gloria Kellum was one of my favorite instructors—she was a fantastic teacher and really influenced me."

Chancellor Robert Khayat said the fund will provide scholarship

and administrative support for the two Ole Miss departments. "Thanks to the Dillinghams' generosity, future students will have the opportunity to learn and excel both in the classroom and on the playing field. This is a gift that will make a major difference in many lives for years to come."

Athletics Director John Shafer also welcomed the gift. "We are deeply grateful to the Dillinghams for their generous commitment to intercollegiate athletics at Ole Miss," he said.

"Scholarship availability is currently an exigent fiscal need of our department," said Dr. Thomas A. Crowe, chair of communicative disorders. "The Dillinghams' generosity will appreciably help us to meet this need and will enable us to continue to attract outstanding students to study communicative disorders at Ole Miss. We are fortunate to have such friends of our department and to have esteemed faculty such as Dr. Gloria Kellum in whose honor this gift is made." ■



Bruce and Sallie Dillingham (left) discuss Ole Miss athletics with Coach David Cutcliffe (second from right) and Athletics Director John Shafer.

Hudspeth Photography Brings Wildlife to University Museums



Green Heron by Joe Mac Hudspeth

The University of Mississippi Museums has been transformed into the Mississippi outdoors as wildlife photographs by Joe Mac Hudspeth are on exhibit through December 12.

The University Museums are publicly displaying these photographs for the first time, thanks to a diverse group of generous sponsors including Gateway Tire and Service Centers, Mississippi Chemical Corporation, and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

The exhibit features the best examples of Hudspeth's work from the photographer's own collection, including wild turkey, deer, songbirds, and waterfowl. Displayed in the Museums' Seymour Lawrence Gallery on the Ole Miss campus, the exhibit is free and open to the public.

Hudspeth, a native Mississippian, has received national acclaim for his ability to capture the stunning beauty and diversity of the region's wildlife on film. His work has been published in Mississippi Outdoors, Birder's World, and Ducks Unlimited magazines and has been featured in the Nature Conservancy calendar. His photographs also have appeared on Duck Stamps and Sportsman Licenses for the state of Mississippi.

The University Museums are located on University Avenue at 5th Street in Oxford. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. The galleries are closed on Mondays. For more information, call the University Museums at (662) 915-7073.

Scholarship Fund Honors Memory of Football Player

Friends remember athlete as someone 'you had to love'



Joey Embry

During football camps under sun-drenched skies on the Oxford campus, Joey Embry decided he wanted to be an Ole Miss Rebel. In 1995, at the end of his stellar prep career at Bruce High School, the scholarship offer came.

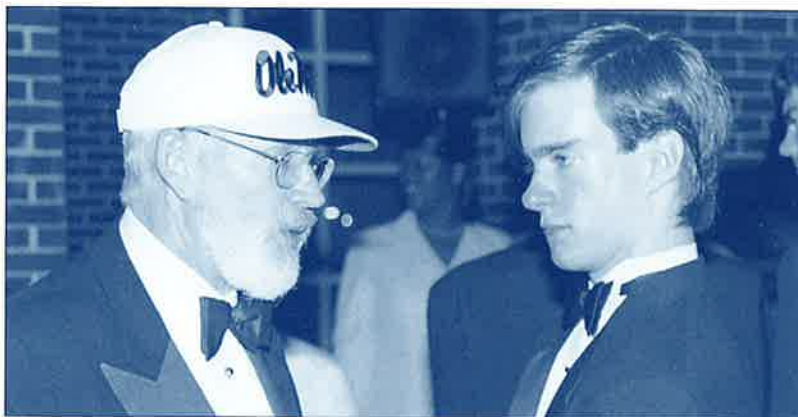
"Joey reacted as any young man would who had dreamed of playing SEC football," recalled his mother, Gwen Embry of Bruce. "He was so excited, so thrilled; he was going to do something he had always wanted to do."

Almost four years later, Joey Embry's Rebel teammates dedicated the 1998 season to his memory and wore Embry's name and number on their helmets. Embry drowned May 19, 1998, in a tragic accident just months before he was expected to be a major contributor on the Rebel offensive line.

Family and friends are keeping his spirit alive through the Joey Embry Memorial Scholarship Fund, established to help student-athletes at The University of Mississippi. "I think Joey would be really proud of the scholarship fund," his mother said, "not because it is honoring him but because it will help so many other students."

Individuals and organizations can contribute to the Joey Embry Memorial Scholarship Fund through The University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677; phone (800) 340-9542; e-mail: umf@olemiss.edu. ■

Head of Stock Exchange Speaks at Ole Miss

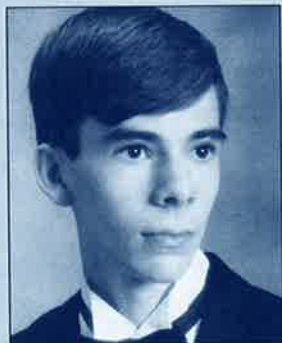


New York Stock Exchange president William R. Johnston (left) donned a baseball cap with his tuxedo when he spoke at an April black-tie dinner at The University of Mississippi. Ole Miss & Company, the University's inaugural Students in Free Enterprise chapter, tapped the noted speaker for its first major entrepreneurial fund-raiser to create an endowment for the School of Business Administration. Chancellor Robert Khayat described the event as amazing, "... one of the most elegant events I've attended at Ole Miss." Johnston is pictured with sophomore Will Pepper (right) of Cleveland, a business major.

Talents of 12 Stand-out Students Garner \$24,000 Honors Scholarships



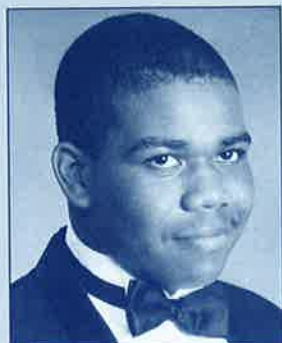
James Douglas Hankins



John Ashley Kimble



Chinwendu Chioma Onwubiko



James Mitchell Paige

Twelve gifted high school scholars from Mississippi and Louisiana have been chosen to receive prestigious scholarships to the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College at The University of Mississippi this fall.

The recipients of the four Barksdale, six Pichitino, and two Parker scholarships each have been awarded \$24,000 for four years of undergraduate study. They are: James Douglas Hankins of Ripley, Ripley High School; John Ashley Kimble of Hazlehurst, Copiah Academy; Chinwendu Chioma Onwubiko of Stringer, Stringer High School; James Mitchell Paige of Meridian, West Lauderdale High School; William Eric Byrd of Clinton, Clinton High School; Megan Thomas Brown of Vaughan, Benton Academy; Chrystal Michelle Griffis of Gulfport, Harrison Central High School; Jessica Beth Landry of Long Beach, Long Beach High School; Nicholas Lastie Maragos of Lafayette, La., Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts; Megan Earline Norris of Jackson, Jackson Preparatory School; Vernon Alvarez Rayford of Holly Springs, Holly Springs High School; and Laura Knox Sanders of New Albany, W.P. Daniel High School.

The following students were chosen to receive the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors Scholarships, set up with a \$2 million endowment from the Barksdale's original gift:

Hankins, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Douglas Hankins and a National Merit Finalist, was valedictorian of his Ripley High School senior class, captain of the Academic Team, senior class president, and editor of the school newspaper.

Kimble, son of Mr. and Mrs.



William Eric Byrd



Megan Thomas Brown



Chrystal Michelle Griffis



Jessica Beth Landry

Ernest Randall Kimble, was designated an All-American Scholar in his junior year of high school and was recipient of the U.S. Mathematics Award and the U.S. National Leadership Award.

Onwubiko, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chinyere Onwubiko, is a National Achievement Semifinalist who received the U.S. Achievement Academy Award in mathematics and French.

Paige, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Paige, was class salutatorian of his West Lauderdale High School senior class. He received the Superintendent's Academic Award and was named a Radio Shack Tandy Scholar.

Listed below are those selected for the **Donald S. Pichitino Memorial Honors Scholarships**, which honor the memory of 1956 Ole Miss graduate Donald Pichitino:

Byrd, son of Dr. and Mrs. William Hale Byrd, is a National Merit Finalist and was a member of the National Honor Society and the Clinton High School Band.

Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Buford Brown, was salutatorian of her Benton Academy senior class and is a National Merit Semifinalist.

Griffis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Carley Davis Jr., was valedictorian of her Harrison Central High School senior class and a member of the National Honor Society, serving as both its secretary and executive board member.

Landry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lane Landry, was valedictorian of her Long Beach High School senior class. She served on the Student Council and was a member of the basketball and track and field teams.

Maragos, son of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Alan Maragos, served as a staff writer for his high school newspaper and was a member of the Lafayette High School Student Council.



Nicholas Lastie Maragos



Megan Earline Norris



Vernon Alvarez Rayford



Laura Knox Sanders

Norris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Norris, is a National Merit Semifinalist who was a member of the Cum Laude and National Honor societies.

The following students are recipients of the **Harold Parker Jr. Memorial Scholarships**, established through a \$1 million gift from the estate of Ole Miss graduate Katharine L. Parker to honor the memory of her brother:

Rayford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Van Lewis Rayford, is a National Achievement Scholar Finalist and an All-American Scholar, and was an honor student throughout a high school career that culminated in his being named valedictorian of his Holly Springs High School senior class.

Sanders, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Knox Sanders, was senior class valedictorian at W.P. Daniel High School and student body president.

They join a class of 123 freshmen entering to the Honors College in fall 1999. The Honors College was established in 1996 with a \$5.4 million grant from James Barksdale, former President and CEO of Netscape, and his wife, Sally McDonnell Barksdale, both Ole Miss graduates.

With an enrollment of 380 for the fall semester, the Honors College combines the highest standards of academic excellence with a strong commitment to public service in accordance with its mission to keep the brightest college students in state.

In announcing the winners, whose ACT scores average 31, Dr. Elizabeth A. Payne, director of the Honors College said, "These students represent a stunning array of talent. Not only are they extremely bright, they are committed to improving our civic culture. They are precisely the kind of students for whom the Honors College was created." ■

Geology Program Receives Almost \$1 Million From Estate of Former Department Chair's Wife

Enhancing its aim to provide the best education and facilities for its students, Ole Miss recently received a donation of almost \$1 million from the estate of Violet Douglas to enact the John G. and Violet Douglas Geology Endowment Fund.

Mrs. Douglas created the fund before her death to enhance programs in the Department of Geology and Geological Engineering on the Oxford campus. The late Dr. John G. Douglas was chair and a professor in the department.

"It is always humbling when one of our own from the University family includes the University in his or her will and estate plans," said Dr. Don L. Frugé, president and CEO of The University of Mississippi Foundation. "We are particularly pleased that this wonderful endowment will support the areas of geology and geological engineering. We are grateful to the Douglases for their generosity and to Dr. John Pilkington, who assisted so ably and generously with the administration of the estate."

"We were told that this gift was imminent, but the size of this donation really takes our breath away," said Dr. R.P. Major, chair and professor of geology and geological engineering.



Violet and John G. Douglas

"Personally, I'm overwhelmed. This is a big infusion for us. We had no idea it would be this large, and it will be well-used. Our program has grown, and this gift can relieve some of our growing pains."

'[Mrs. Douglas] wanted to make it possible for students to have the opportunity to partake in the field work necessary in this area of study.'

The purpose of this endowment is to supply the Department of Geology and Geological Engineering with the financial means to support student projects, guest speakers, scholarships, and expenses associated with field trips, including the cost of transportation.

"The department has a great deal of latitude in the way the funds are used to impact teaching and research programs," said Major. "It's too early to say specifically how the resources will be used, but suffice it to say that the effect on this department will be profound."

"Mrs. Douglas' gift was structured in a way that would assist geology students who need help in the kind of field work that both Dr. and Mrs. Douglas felt was important to geological education," said Duke Goza, an Oxford attorney who served as the attorney of Mrs. Douglas' estate and worked with the University Foundation to facilitate the gift. "She wanted to make it possible for students to have the opportunity to partake in the field work necessary in this area of study."

The Ole Miss Department of Geology and Geological Engineering embraces 100 students at the undergraduate level. Most of these students are in the area of geological engineering because the University has the only program of this nature in the southeastern portion of the country. The needs of the

programs are increasing due to the higher number of students enrolled in these areas.

"All scholars have to travel, and in this area of study we have to travel as a part of instruction for students," said Major. "This fund also will provide scholarships."

Dr. Douglas joined Ole Miss in 1956 as chair and professor after a successful career working as a petroleum geologist in South America for Gulf Oil Company. He stepped down as chair in the mid-1960s but remained an active member of the faculty until his death in the early 1970s. ■

From the Delta to California to Ole Miss

New Grisham Writer-in-Residence Back Home

Steve Yarbrough, the newest recipient of the John and Renee Grisham Writer-in-Residence Program at The University of Mississippi, is back home—for a while.

"Steve's arrival points to the ongoing success of the John and Renee Grisham Writer-in-Residence Program," said Dr. Robert Brinkmeyer, acting chair of English and professor of American literature and Southern studies. "The Grisham Program has allowed us to have extraordinary writers here on campus. Steve now joins the select group, and we couldn't be happier about his coming."

Yarbrough left Mississippi in 1981 after earning bachelor's and master's degrees in English from Ole Miss. He then went to the University of Arkansas where he received a master's in creative writing. After teaching at Virginia Tech for four years, he joined the Fresno State faculty in 1988. As a professor of writing there, he leads graduate courses in fiction writing.

The author recently published his fourth book, *The Oxygen Man*, a novel that received glowing reviews from the national press. His previous books include three selections of short stories: *Family Men* (1990), *Mississippi History* (1994), and *Veneer* (1998). He is working on a second novel, *Payne's Deadening*, whose title is drawn from an old technique of killing trees to provide more productive farmland.

A native of Indianola, Yarbrough was the only child of a cotton farmer, and his grandfather was a sharecropper. "I would like to think that my sense of place is very strong," he said, when asked about the influence of his family

and childhood on his writing. "The landscape down there in the Delta is not like any place else. It had a somewhat claustrophobic effect on me, and I think that is evident in my writing. I also find myself writing a lot about race relations."

Yarbrough and his wife, Eva, have two daughters Tosha, 11, and Magda, 10.

"I think the big thing I try to do with the students is to encourage them to develop some craftsmanship and to make writing a part of their lives," said Yarbrough. "It takes real character to be a successful writer and also a great deal of discipline. Writing is hard work."

"Steve is a great addition to our department," Brinkmeyer added. "We have a strong demand for creative writing from our students, both undergraduate and graduate, and having a writer of the stature



Steve Yarbrough

of Steve—thanks to the generosity of John and Renee Grisham—benefits everyone: students, faculty, the University, the Oxford community." ■



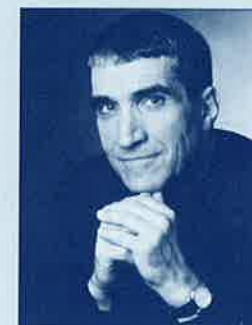
Czeslaw Milosz

Visiting Writer Series Brings Poets to Campus

During a recent campus visit, **Czeslaw Milosz**, a giant in 20th century world poetry and winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1980, read selections from his massive body of captivating and passionate work. Born in Lithuania in 1911, he is today a hero and symbol of intellectual freedom in Poland, where he lived much of his early life.

Robert Pinsky, current poet laureate and consultant of poetry in the United States, read selections from *The Figured Wheel: New and Collected Poems, 1966-1996* including "Shirt," "Poem With Refrain," and "Ode to Television." Pinsky was named the 39th U.S. poet laureate in the spring of 1997 and will hold the post two years.

Both poets' visits were made possible by the John and Renee Grisham visiting Writers Series, which is instrumental in bringing nationally acclaimed artists to the University.



Robert Pinsky

10 Students Preparing for International Careers With Help from \$32,000 Croft Scholarships



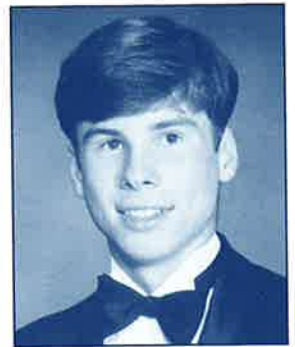
Elizabeth D. Bydalek



Kristin Ann Caldwell



Laura Marie Congleton



Gordon Lee Gent

Ten of the most accomplished high school scholars in Mississippi and the Southeast have been awarded prestigious scholarships by the Croft Institute for International Studies at The University of Mississippi.

"We are very excited about the 1999 Croft Scholars and the talents they bring to our program. These fine young students can all be very proud of their achievements, as can their parents and teachers," said Dr. Michael F. Metcalf, executive director of the Croft Institute.

Scholarship recipients are Elizabeth D. Bydalek of Ocean Springs, Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science. Bydalek, daughter of Martin Bydalek and Debra McClanahan, received the Marine Biology Award from the J. L. Scott Marine Education Center and the Outstanding Senator Award for the MSMS Student Legislature.

Kristin Ann Caldwell of Natchez, MSMS. The daughter of Charles and Julie Caldwell, she was a member of the National Honor Society and participated in the Rotary International Exchange Program to Spain, in the Mississippi Foreign Language Fair, and in Girl's State.

Laura Marie Congleton of Charlotte, North Carolina, Providence Day School. The daughter of Thomas and Genevive Congleton, she was a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, National Beta Club, and the Varsity Letter Club.

Gordon Lee Gent of Gulfport, St. John High School. Gent, the son of Alfred and Joy Gent of Gulfport, was salutatorian of his high school and a member of the National Honor Society.

Matthew Grabow Moller of Clinton, Clinton High School.

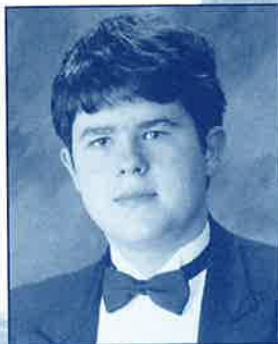
Moller, the son of Sid and Dalerie Moller, is a National Merit Finalist who was named STAR student during his senior year.

Jacob Lawrence Patton of Oxford, Oxford High School. The son of Jerry and Leita Patton, he is a National Merit Finalist and was a member of the National Honor Society.

Warren Luke Payne of Perkinston, Hancock High School. Payne, the son of William and Tammie Payne, was a member of the National Honor Society and the recipient of a Congress-Bundestag Youth for Understanding Scholarship.

Elizabeth Anne Price of Florence, Alabama, Bradshaw High School. Price, a National Merit Semifinalist who was the No. 1-ranked senior at her high school, is the daughter of Don and Susan Price.

Isla Anne Schuchs of Fulton,



Jacob Lawrence Patton



Warren Luke Payne



Elizabeth Anne Price



Isla Anne Schuchs

Desire to Help Students Excel Drives Chancellor's Trust Gift



Matthew Grabow Moller

Itawamba Agricultural High School. President of the Student Council and a delegate to Girls State and Girls Nation, Schuchs, the daughter of Fredrick and Allison Schuchs, was a member of the National Honor Society.

Myra M. Shaffer of Little Rock, Arkansas, Little Rock Central High School. Shaffer, the daughter of James and Debra Shaffer, was a member of the school's Beta, Art, and Spanish clubs, as well as a member of Y-Teens and Poetry Study Club.

Metcalf noted that the Croft Institute's faculty has been nearly doubled by appointments made during the past academic year and that "these outstanding freshman students and our outstanding new faculty members will make the institute's second full year of operation very rewarding indeed." ■



Myra M. Shaffer

Chip Triplett practically learned to walk on the Ole Miss campus. His entire extended family, in fact, has deep roots at the University.

And just recently, Triplett took another step on his own: He and his wife, Susan, joined the Chancellor's Trust with an unrestricted gift.

But it wasn't just the continuation of the family tradition of support that prompted Chip to make the contribution. "Before I went to school at Ole Miss, a friend of mine in high school died after his junior year," Triplett said. "I had a huge amount of respect for my friend's family, especially his father, T.G. Blackwell. Mr.

Blackwell told me that when I went to college I needed to really get an education. He said, 'If you don't, it would be like going to the Rogue (a fine men's clothing store), paying for a stack of clothes, and then walking out and leaving them on the counter.' That stuck with me.

"When I went to Ole Miss, I put forth effort, but I could have done a lot more than I did," Triplett continued. "Of course, hindsight is 20/20, but I wish I had taken more advantage of the programs that they had to offer at the time. So that's one of the reasons that I decided to join the Trust. I want to help those who really want to get an education and who really want to succeed in life get a chance that they might not otherwise have."

Triplett spent a little over two years at Ole Miss and graduated from Belhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi, his hometown, where he and Susan still live. He tried several different careers after college, including working as a sales manager for DREAM, a national nonprofit organization that creates grade-appropriate drug-prevention materials for kids in grades K-12.

"That's when I really began to see kids who really wanted to excel in life," Triplett said. They were coming from places like Houston, Mississippi, and the Coast, and a lot of them didn't have the financial resources to go to college. They really wanted an education and to succeed, but it was hard for them to pursue their goals because of their lack of money."

That's when Triplett decided that to be able to give back to the community, he would have to get involved in a business that would allow him to contribute financially. He contacted another Ole Miss alumnus, Tommy Thames, and joined Thames in his new real estate development venture. Six years later, Triplett is now director of development for Jackson-based Park Development, a developer of multifamily residences across the Southeast.

"And Tommy Thames is another reason that I decided to give to the University," Triplett said. A lot of people talk about the relationships they form with people they went to school with at Ole Miss, but it even goes beyond that. It's opened up doors for me with Tommy, because even though he went to Ole Miss at a different time, it's still a mutual bond that we have.



Chip Triplett (right) with Chancellor Robert Khayat

Continued on Page 34

Pianist, Poet, Basketball Star Receives \$32,000 Newman Scholarship

Like a lot of young women her age, 18-year-old Ashley Tanner of Heidelberg dreams—and dreams big.

She wants to be a concert pianist, America's poet laureate, "an inhabitant of the moon, a visionary, inventor and innovator ... a maximizer and a fire starter."

Oh, and she wouldn't mind being a better speller, too.

So far, Tanner is off to a great start. Already a prize-winning poet and musician, a National Merit Scholar, star athlete, budding actress, and computer whiz, the Heidelberg Academy senior also has earned the prestigious \$32,000 Newman Scholarship for four years of undergraduate study.

An avid reader of Charlotte Bronte, Sir Thomas Malory, and Ernest Hemingway, Tanner will pursue a double major in English literature and computer science at Ole Miss this fall and will attend



Ashely Tanner

the University's McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College. She also will receive the University's Frederick A.P. Barnard Scholarship, a National Merit Scholarship, and numerous other awards. She also was selected for the Chancellor's Leadership Class.

Created in 1983, the Newman Scholarship is one of the most lucrative in the United States.

Announcement of this year's recipient was made by W. Richard

Newman III of Jackson, son of W.R. "Buck" Newman, Jr., the Ole Miss alumnus in whose memory the scholarships were endowed by the Newman family.

Tanner's intelligence, ambition, and drive made her the perfect choice for the Newman Scholarship, said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "Ashley Tanner is a young woman of outstanding character, intellect, and talent. She exemplifies the student ideal that the Newman family envisioned when they established this prestigious scholarship.

Tanner said the scholarship influenced her decision to attend Ole Miss, but added, "I was already very impressed with the University's commitment to educational excellence, as well as the campus itself, the class sizes, and the emphasis placed on the individual student." ■

Tour of Campus, continued from Page 5

the computational, modeling, and computer skills necessary to solve biological problems.

In the past, biologists have had to learn these skills on the job. Employers, especially those in biotech and drug-discovery companies, want employees who can make an immediate contribution.

This proposed curriculum would allow Ole Miss graduates such employment opportunities. If this program becomes a reality, and the preliminary studies indicate there are already many components in place at the University to make that possible, it would be my baby. I hope to eventually endow a chair

or whatever else is needed."

"We're grateful that Michael Grantham, who has a history of investing in successful cutting-edge endeavors, sees so much potential in Ole Miss and has chosen to invest in his alma mater's future," said Chancellor Robert Khayat. ■

Chancellor's Trust Gift, continued from Page 33

Another leader that convinced Triplett to join the Trust was Chancellor Robert Khayat. "When I found out about the Chancellor's Trust and the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*, I knew joining was the right thing to do," Triplett says. I am behind Robert

Khayat and the way he's carrying Ole Miss into the new millennium, and I wanted to do what I could to help him."

Chancellor Khayat sees Chip Triplett's contribution as a reflection of what makes Ole Miss a true family. "It is with special and

sincere gratitude that we accept Chip Triplett's gift to join the Trust," he said. "His entire family has been instrumental in our growth for many years. With Chip's support, we have another generation promoting excellence in Mississippi education." ■

Message from Don L. Frugé

President/CEO, The University of Mississippi Foundation



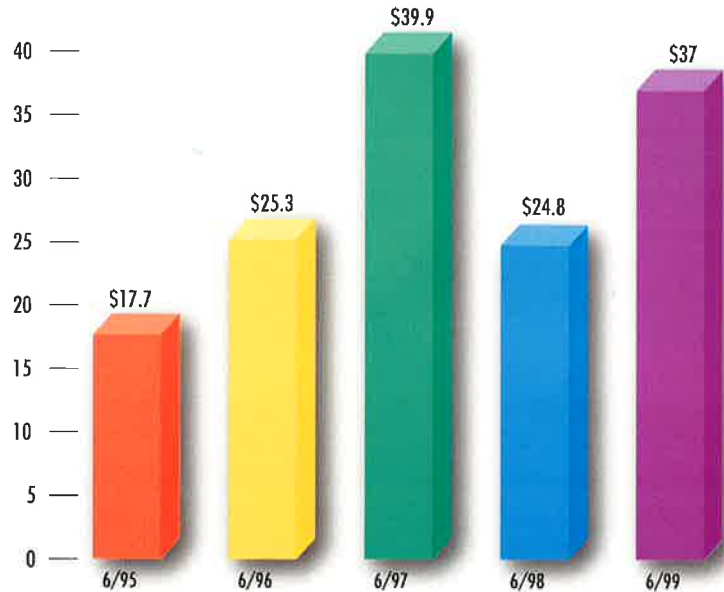
Thanks to your generosity, we have experienced a stellar year at The University of Mississippi. Enthusiasm on and off campus has never been higher in my years at the University, and private support truly is making a quantum difference. We say thanks to you again and again.

Last fiscal year, 19,698 alumni and friends provided more than \$37 million in private support. The University and Foundation endowment grew to more than \$230.8 million as of June 30, 1999, making us nationally competitive. For sure, we have been blessed with a strong economy, but this level of support would not be forthcoming without the intense loyalty of you, our alumni and friends.

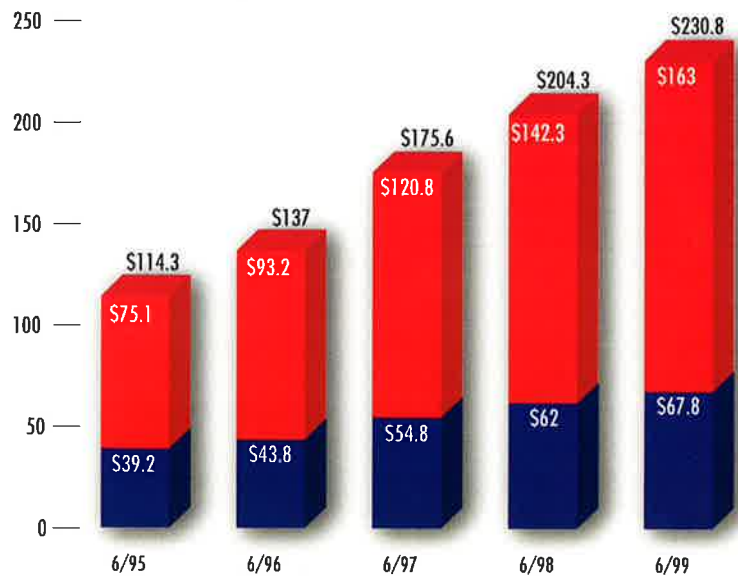
It is our hope that all 70,000 alumni and 20,000 friends of the University will choose to be counted in the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*. To date, over one-quarter have joined our mission to make Ole Miss one of the great public institutions in America. If you have not already done so, please consider participating today.

Don L. Frugé

Private Support 1995-1999 (Market Value in Millions)



Growth of the University's Endowment 1995-1999 (Market Value in Millions)



■ Managed by the University and The University of Mississippi Foundation
■ Managed by other Financial Institutions



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Graphic design: Chiquitta Walton. Contributing writers: Stella Connell, Tina Hahn, Michael Harrelson, Rick Hynum, George Kehoe, Barbara Lago, Tena McKenzie, Leslie Myers, Will Odom, Elaine Pugh, Janis Quinn, Jan Robertson, Laura Scholes, Katy Schweers, and Deidra Walters. Contributing photographers: Harry Briscoe, Bruce Coleman, Joe Ellis, Jay Ferchaud, and Robert Jordan. Editor: Sandra McGuire Guest.

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