

Gordon College

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Volume 1 • Number 2

Fall 2004

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Established

20 Years of the
Gordon Cafe

Honor Roll of Donors





Reynolds Bush with two of his best friends.

Dedication

This second issue of the *President's Report* is dedicated to Reynolds Bush, a longtime chemistry professor at Gordon Military High School and College. Mention his name to former students and words like "great," "compassionate" and "understanding" come from their mouths.

As one former Gordon cadet put it, "He took his students' education to heart; he was interested in their welfare."

He prepared his chemistry students so well, that when they went on to a four-year school, they didn't have to crack the book for the first six weeks of their junior year.

Even after he retired from Gordon, he kept an interest in the welfare of former students. It seemed that no matter how much time passed since he saw a student, he could still come up with a name and ask after family members by name.

Bush died June 6, 2004, at the age of 90. He will be missed, and we hope this issue of the *President's Report* will help keep his memory alive.

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The *President's Report*, Fall 2004, Volume 2, Number 1

On the cover: Emily Barnelia Woodward, seated (far left) with family, attended the Gordon Institute in 1901 and became the first woman president of the Georgia Press Association.

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Acknowledgements: Beth Pye of Gordon College's Hightower Library provided research support. Emory University's Robert W. Woodruff Library Special Collections and Archives granted access to its manuscript collection no. 424,

"Emily Barnelia Woodward papers, 1918-1966." Items from the collection are the OWI identity card on p. 3, 6 and 7; the family picture on p. 4; the White House envelope and invitation on pp. 6-7. Shots from *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* on pp. 20 and 23 are copyrighted by 20th Century Fox. And many thanks to John Coles and Mark Tiedje for helping to date photographs and to proof copy.

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The *President's Report* is produced by the Department of Institutional Advancement; Director, Rhonda Toon, Gordon College; Barnesville, Georgia 30204; 770-358-5124; fax 770-358-5191; www.gdn.edu.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Foundation President Peter Banks (left), Gordon College President Larry Weill and Chancellor Thomas Meredith prepare to confer degrees.

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, construction will be underway on three new residence halls on our campus. Our fall enrollment will have set yet another record and the faculty will number more than 96. All of these changes present exciting challenges.

But, Gordon College has always handled challenges well.

Gordon College's very first president, Charles E. Lambdin, certainly saw many challenges as he labored to establish this institution. Not only did he serve as president, but he also taught science and mathematics. His efforts established an institution of high academic standards at a time when secondary schools were all but unknown in Georgia and the few colleges in existence were struggling for survival.

In this magazine you will read many stories of change and challenge. Among them is

the story of our alumna, Emily Woodward, the first female president of the Georgia Press Association. She was a change agent in Georgia and the nation. You will enjoy reading about this woman we are pleased to claim as one of our own.

In the midst of today's change and challenges, there is one constant we want to protect. We want to hold on to the traditions and memories of our alumni and friends. In September we will welcome the Class of 1954 to campus for their Golden Anniversary reunion and at that event, we will officially launch the Gordon College Alumni Association. This association will work with established groups like the Gordon Survivors, Inc. and the Gordon Alumni Association of Puerto Rico Inc. to further preserve Gordon College's 152-year tradition. A Student Alumni Association will also be established to help today's students remain connected to the College.

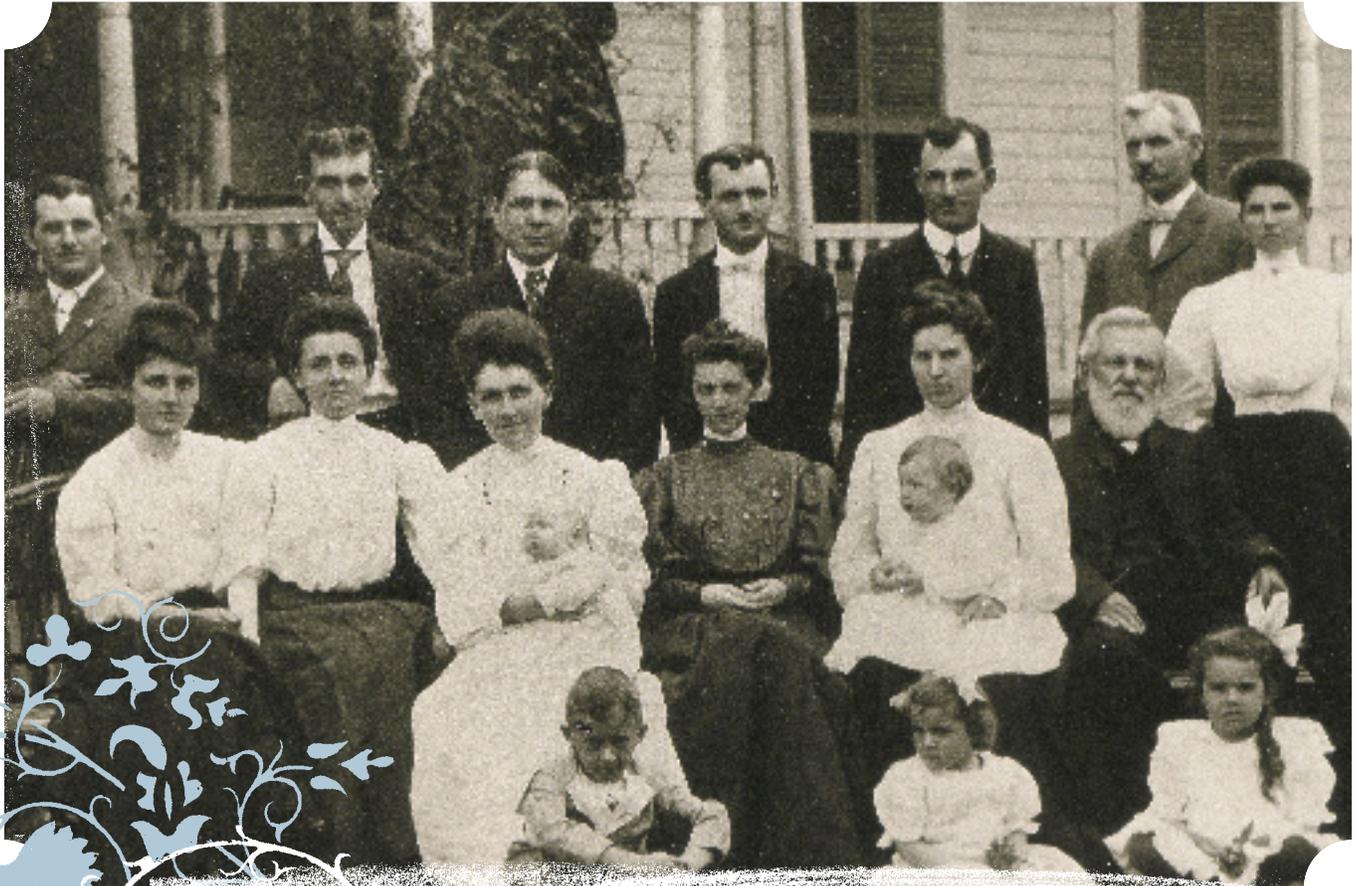
We are going to need volunteers to help with this effort. If you are interested, please return the card you will find in this magazine or contact our advancement office at 770-358-5124. We need your support.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Weill".

Larry Weill

We want to hold on to the traditions and memories of our alumni and friends. In September we will welcome the Class of 1954 to campus for their Golden Anniversary reunion.



This family picture was taken when Emily (far left, seated) was in her late teens or early 20s. The children seated on the ground are (left to right) Hartwell Woodward, Grace Woodward and Mabel Frances Woodward. The infants seated in laps are (left to right) Mary Emily Gurr and Esther Jane Woodward. Seated, from (left to right,) are Emily Barnelia Woodward, Mary Jane Woodward, Carrie Sheets Woodward Gurr, Fannie Kibbee Woodward, Buford Bryan Woodward and patriarch John Hartwell Woodward. Standing, from left to right, Lucius Lamar Woodward, Charles Cannon Woodward, Charles Stephen Gurr, David Matthias Woodward, James Madison Woodward, John McCormick Woodward and Emmie Polhill Woodward.

The lady of Embarwood

Emily Barnelia Woodward

championed democracy

PETER BOLTZ

In the photograph, she looks right into the camera, so that it appears she's looking into the eyes of anyone looking at her. We don't know if she wanted this effect, but in those unwavering eyes, you can see a serious and thoughtful woman peering into the future. There is not a hint of austerity in her face. She looks as if she's about to break into a smile as cheerful as the one on the infant she poses with.

The shot was taken about five years after Emily Barnelia Woodward took over the job of editor in 1916 of the weekly newspaper the *Vienna News*, a newspaper she came to own and run in 1918. The infant is her niece, 1-year-old Lou Woodward.

In 1936, she confessed she had never seen the inside of a newspaper office before her first day on the



Emily Woodward was 36 when this picture was taken of her holding her 1-year-old niece Lou Woodward. The house in the background still stands in Vienna, Georgia.



This family picture is undated, but it was probably taken shortly after her mother's death in 1896. The portrait displayed in the photograph is of Emily's mother. Emily herself (seated) looks as if she is a young teenager. Those seated, from left to right, are John, James, Emily, David and the patriarch John Hartwell Woodward. Standing, left to right, are John's wife Emmie, Lucius Lamar, Mary, Charles and Carolyn.

job, but she was prepared by “a long association with a father who took his newspapers seriously and interpreted them to me the same way.” A sense of humor, she added, was also important.

At that time, news was a male-only profession in Georgia – but this did not stop her. The men of Vienna predicted she would run the newspaper into the ground – but this just made her more determined to succeed. The job of heading a newspaper put her in the public limelight, but this just encouraged her to speak out in larger and larger forums.

“I passed through my editorial apprenticeship in the anomalous position of my own taskmaster,” she wrote in 1936, “and nobody ever had a harder one. In the period of trial and error that followed, I was sustained by my willingness to look at my own mistakes through an impersonal lens; by the

challenge of the lifted eyebrows of the town's masculine population which clearly foreboded an early demise – and finally, of course, the said sense of humor.”

The newspaper was momentous for her, for Georgia, for the nation and finally for the world, because it was Woodward's entry into the public arena. From small town editor, she extended her public life to the state level in joining the Georgia Press Association, becoming the group's first woman president in 1927. She entered the national arena in her support of Al Smith at the Democratic National Convention in 1928 and again in 1932 as a supporter of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Eventually, her voice and her opinions were broadcast internationally.

And what did she communicate?

The Emily Woodward Collection at Emory University's Robert W. Woodruff Library reveals a political animal dedicated to all that American democracy stood for, but especially freedom of speech and the press, which she saw as an instrument to educate Americans so that they could participate in a democracy free of demagoguery. Without a doubt, she understood American democracy with the passion and intellect of a Founding Father. For her, education was just as important as vigilance.

She is quoted in a 1939 *Columbus Enquirer* editorial that “the greatest danger to the American democratic system does not repose in dictators abroad nor in the German Bund or similar groups within the

nation, but in the apathy of the average American citizen himself.”

She warned that “we have neglected the building of an honest, intelligent, courageous citizenship, and the whole structure of democracy may be in danger.”

Imagine such a critique today with the United States at war in Afghanistan and Iraq and the shadowy war against terrorism, and you might catch a glimpse of this vital, public-minded woman.

Where did she get her love and faith in American democracy, and the courage to express her views in public?

We at Gordon College would like to think her time here in Barnesville, Georgia, played a part. After all, she attended Gordon Institute in 1901 at age 16. But the strongest influence seems to be her father, John Hartwell Woodward, a Confederate veteran who became a lawyer and lawmaker in Georgia after the war. “He taught her how to take a stand on an issue and stick to it. He debated issues with her, assigning a positive or negative point of view to her while he took the opposite side of the question,” wrote one biographer.

It is not clear when she decided to champion democracy, but it could have happened in 1918 when her father made a “rather gloomy forecast.” He told her, “My dear, I very much fear that true democracy is dead. By true democracy, I mean that fine flame that has burned in the souls of American men and inspired them to dedicate their lives and talents to the protection of human rights and liberty. I am afraid you are to witness a tragic era, an era when men shall be dominated by greed for gain and lust for power.”

It is a testament to Woodward that not only did she do her part to preserve “true democracy,” but that she also went out on speaking tours and wrote articles that helped build “an honest, intelligent, courageous citizenship.”

At first she used her newspaper for this task, and after she sold the paper in 1933, she became a freelance writer for *The Atlanta Journal* and a much sought after public speaker. The Woodward Collection at Emory University is overflowing with correspondence dealing with invitations to speak, with speeches made and with plans for speeches. Many of these speeches were delivered when she was director of the Georgia Public Forums, “an experiment in adult education by the U.S. Department of Education” started in October 1938.

The newspaper was momentous for her, for Georgia, for the nation and finally for the world, because it was Woodward's entry into the public arena. From small town editor, she extended her public life to the state level in joining the Georgia Press Association, becoming the group's first woman president in 1927.

A particular correspondence is instructive of the work of the Forum under Woodward, and of the quality of her thinking.

On Jan. 11, 1941, Robert R. Jackson

wrote her with the request that she not allow Mr. Glenn Rainey, professor of English at Georgia Tech, to speak on a Forum radio show called *Let Freedom Ring* on WSB Radio. His reasoning was that Rainey was a certified communist and that he supported the teaching of communism to school children.

“We in America have no place for communist [sic], and it is my duty and yours to stop them,” Jackson wrote. “If any one wants Communist [sic] let them go where the Communistic [sic] are, and in America be an American, or leave.”

Woodward responded on Jan. 14, 1941.

“Dear Mr. Jackson:
“Thank you for your letter of January 11th. I am always

glad to receive the views of others on what we are trying to do. One fine thing about our great country is that we can, through discussion and disagreement, strive to keep democracy functioning.

“I am sure you are a loyal U.S. citizen, and I am glad that you have the right to

express your loyalty in such a way as you believe to be right. I am confident that you grant me the same privilege – to be loyal in the way I conceive to be right.

“As for having Mr. Rainey on the radio I am not in agreement with you since I have no assurance, as you seem to have, that Mr. Rainey is not a good American. In all my dealings with him he has shown himself to be sincerely interested in searching for the truth about our national and world problems. I never convict anyone on another’s testimony, but try to find out the truth for myself. Until a person is proven anti American, I always give him the benefit of the doubt.

“While I agree with you that those who do not like living under our flag should go where their loyalties lie, I do think if we are unfortunate enough to have Communists in this country, it is better to let even them be heard, so we will know who they are. A boil that comes to the surface of the skin to erupt is less damaging to the body than one that secretly empties its poison in the blood stream.

“Thanking you again for your letter and assuring you that I shall continue to be interested in having your point of view, I am Emily Woodward.”

She continued her work for the Forum into World War II, including a special trip to England. The U.S. Office of War Information asked her to speak to citizens of England and Scotland for 12 weeks in 1944. Her mission, to improve American-British relations, had her averaging two speeches a day, at times



When Emily traveled to England in 1944, she was working for the Office of War Information. This is her identification card, issued April 3, 1944.

only a block away from explosions of “robot bombs” like the V1 and V2.

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, she was alone in her room, completely unaware of the news. She would later report in a BBC broadcast that she was told about the invasion in unbelievable understatement.

“Quite promptly, at the time appointed for me to start on my tour for the day, the gentleman who was to guide me arrived. He greeted me with the usual British politeness, asked courteously about my comfort the night before, then quietly said, ‘Miss Woodward, the invasion has begun.’ Perhaps I should stop here for I know no American will believe me when I testify that my own response, delivered with equal calm, was ‘Is that so?’” But once she left the seclusion of her room and she got an eyeful of the enormity of the invasion, understatement left her. “It just looked as if the earth had opened and all this stuff came pouring out,” she said. In her D-Day broadcast she said, “One wonders at this never ending stream of human and mechanical power and marvels that this little island has been able to tuck it away so unobtrusively.”

One of her friends, Edna Cain Daniel, publisher of the *Quitman (Georgia) Free Press*, was good-naturedly envious. She wrote, “We’ve been so mad at you getting over into the war while we stayed at home and tried to tell each other we who stayed home and waited also served.”

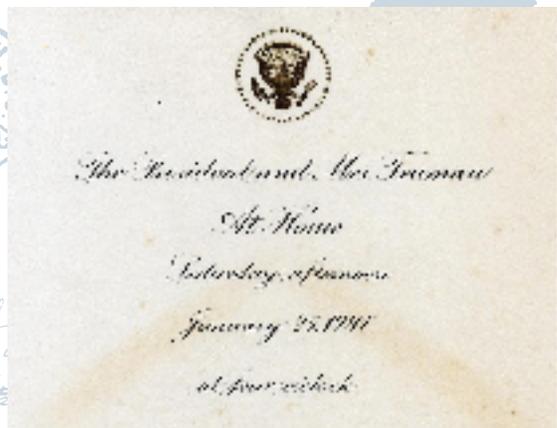
Woodward was called back overseas in February 1946 after General Douglas MacArthur, then the Supreme Commander of

the Allied Powers in Japan, called for a commission to study how best to reeducate postwar Japanese. Reflecting on her experience in a speech, she told her audience, “I was grateful anew for my country and its free institutions, despite their many shortcomings.... The American people face in this chaotic war weary world, the challenge to prove to less fortunate peoples that freedom of communication is essential to international understanding....”

At one time, Woodward believed there “was nothing more interesting for a woman than the small town newspaper game, if she has what it takes. I look back on my 17 years in harness, with all its ups and downs, as a happy adventure.”

In 1950, she retired to her beloved Embarwood, a cabin she designed and built “as a sort of housing act project, to meet the need of a lot of unsheltered books.” She remained involved and active in the life of Vienna up to her death on March 23, 1970. On March 11, 2004, she was inducted into the Georgia Women of Achievement, another honor in a long list of honors. ■

THE WHITE HOUSE



President Harry Truman invited Emily to visit him at the White House.

Listening to Gordon's



STUDENTS

ALAN N. BURSTEIN

GORDON COLLEGE HAS ALWAYS BEEN proud of its reputation for paying special attention to students. Faculty and administrators maintain an “open door” for students, not only to help them with their studies, but also to seek ways to enhance their experience at Gordon. Besides conversations, both formal and informal, with faculty and administrators, students have numerous opportunities—in surveys, in focus groups, in open forums—to express their thoughts

on what’s good at Gordon as well as what could use improvement.

Learning as much as we can about the attributes, needs, and opinions of our students is a vital part of the planning process at Gordon. Increasingly, we’re seeking our students’ opinions on a variety of topics and incorporating them into setting goals and objectives for the College.

In 1997 and again in 2001, the University System of Georgia (USG) administered a

Student Opinion Survey (SOS) on all its campuses, to be repeated every four or five years. In SOS, students' opinions were sought on all aspects of their college experience, and many of the survey's findings have been used at Gordon in both annual and strategic planning. Two of the most important concerns, regarding housing and course offerings, have received special attention.

In SOS, the students told us that they want more available housing, and over the past year, the College has undertaken a major initiative to plan for a new housing complex. Construction of the first phase, to provide 459 additional beds in three buildings, is scheduled to begin this fall aiming for occupancy in August, 2005.

Gordon students wanted more course offerings at more varied locations and times. The College has undertaken several initiatives to meet this need. Course offerings have been expanded at our satellite locations in Spalding, Henry, Butts and Fayette Counties.

Afternoon class offerings have been increased. An evening schedule is being developed which will offer the opportunity to complete an associate's degree in two years while attending only evening classes. And 2+2 programs are being developed which will allow students to complete their four-year degrees at affiliate USG schools

by taking courses on Gordon's campus.

On *any* student survey at *any* college, of course, students are likely to want better cafeteria food and more parking! In the last year, Gordon has addressed even these issues. Not only has the Student Center cafeteria been renovated and given enhanced food offerings, but Gordon students now have their very own Krystal on campus; a food kiosk has been added to the Instructional Complex offering breakfast items, fresh sandwiches and salads for lunch, and Starbucks coffee. Like cuisine, parking too has received attention. Construction of a new faculty parking lot on the west campus freed up several spaces across from Alumni Memorial Hall for students, and work is under way on a new lot across Gordon Road, as well as several other parking options.

Listening to students did not stop with the USG administered student opinion survey. Starting last year, the Gordon College Office of Institutional Research initiated an annual Survey of Presently Attending Students (SOPAS). SOPAS, to be given every year, is designed and administered with the cooperation of the entire faculty and administration to address questions of specific interest to Gordon College. As a "homegrown" survey developed exclusively at Gordon, SOPAS has enabled us to learn more about our students and better respond to their needs than ever before.

While Gordon's Institutional Research office has studied academic and demographic characteristics of our students on a continuing basis, SOPAS has enabled us add a whole new layer to understanding our students. Here's a small sample of what we learned:

- Sixty percent of our students are "first generation" college students, with neither parent having graduated from college.
- Over two-thirds of our students work at least part time.
- The "average" full-time student spends between 20 and 24 hours each week on classes, preparation, and commuting.
- Classes at Gordon provide an appropriate level of challenge for the students, with 86.6 percent of the students reporting their class work as either "somewhat difficult" or "just right."
- Over 60 percent of our students reported an interest in pursuing a four-year degree on the Gordon campus.

Such findings are of more than passing interest to Gordon's faculty and administration. We have learned from the survey that 70 percent of our students have the intention of obtaining a two-year degree from Gordon College while nearly 90 percent plan following their work at Gordon by seeking a



baccalaureate degree at a four-year college. Yet our actual graduation and transfer rates are somewhat lower, and SOPAS has given us information which will help students more successfully pursue their goals. We have sought to understand in depth those factors which affect retention, graduation, and transfer, and the SOPAS findings have been used to help develop a comprehensive retention plan with implementation beginning in the present academic year. Based on what we've learned from SOPAS, the Student Opinion Survey, and other avenues of communication with our students, the retention plan emphasizes enhancement of students' first year experiences, advising, Learning Support, faculty development, communication, and student services.

As an annual survey, SOPAS will enable us to assess our progress on initiatives such as the retention plan and seek new ways to facilitate students' learning success at Gordon. SOPAS will serve as a vital link between our students and the College's ongoing planning process.

While we use surveys like SOPAS and SOS to look for areas of the College which need improvement, the general message they send about student experiences is a good one. Most of our students expressed a positive attitude toward the school. They chose Gordon not only because of convenient location and agreeable cost, but also because of its reputation for quality teaching and attention to students. Our students report that Gordon lives up to its reputation, and the vast majority say that given the selection of a college to do over, they would, once again, choose Gordon. ■

Gordon College & Middle Georgia
PARTNERS IN

DEMOgraphic Change

ALAN N. BURSTEIN

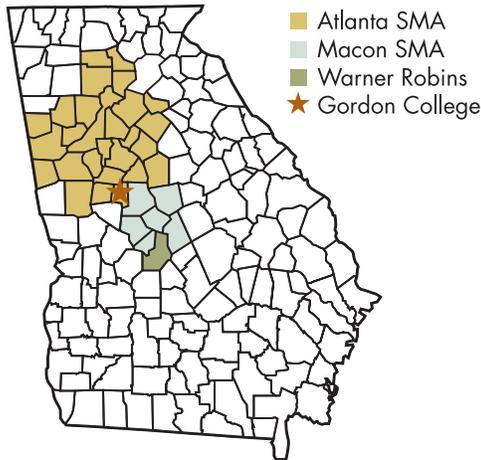
The 2003-2004 academic year was the ninth consecutive year of growth in Gordon's enrollment. Growth of nearly 10 percent from the previous academic year marked the second highest enrollment increase in the last 10 years. Gordon's average growth rate of over five percent yearly during the last decade has made it the fifth fastest-growing college among all 34 of Georgia's public colleges. No end is in sight to Gordon's growth.

Given Gordon's location on the southern edge of Atlanta's metropolitan area, Gordon's enrollment growth is hardly surprising. Atlanta is among the nation's fastest growing metropolitan regions. Henry County, home county for the largest number of Gordon students, was the fifth fastest growing county in the nation between 2000 and 2003. The hundred fastest growing counties in the nation included twelve from the Atlanta Metropolitan Area.

In 2003, based on 2000 census data, the Census Bureau expanded the boundaries of the Atlanta Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) to

include Lamar County, Gordon's home, as well as nearby Pike, Meriwether, Butts, and Jasper Counties. At the same time, neighboring Monroe County was added to the Macon MSA. The result is a single, continuous metropolitan region encompassing the Atlanta, Macon, and Warner Robins Metropolitan Areas and stretching from Atlanta's far northern suburbs over 150 miles south to Warner Robins. More than 4.5 million people, 56 percent of Georgia's total Atlanta/Macon/Warner Robins Region population, lived in the combined metropolitan region in 2000, a number expected to grow to 5.25 million by 2005.

Atlanta, Macon, and Warner Robins



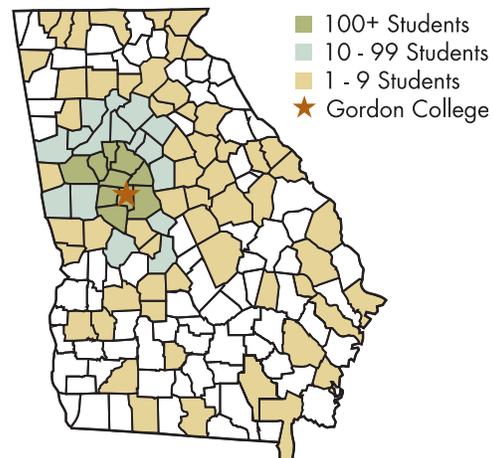
Just what does it mean, though, when counties are added to metropolitan areas? Obviously population growth and increased density, with more people living in towns and cities, plays a role. Just as important, however, is economic integration into the metropolitan area. While counties like Lamar and Pike continue to maintain a rural feeling, a significant proportion of their residents commute to work in the Atlanta metropolitan core. Inclusion in the metropolitan area results from a combination of increased population density and economic integration with the metropolitan core.

Increased commuting from the more rural metropolitan counties in Gordon's immediate vicinity is in part the result of local declines in manufacturing jobs, forcing residents to seek work closer to the metropolitan core. As a result, the manufacturing sector has decreased both in number of jobs and in proportion of the total workforce in Gordon's local counties, as has employment in the agricultural sector.

At the same time, the workforce employed in the service and retail sectors has increased substantially throughout both the Atlanta and Macon metropolitan areas. With metropolitan growth, then, comes challenge. Declining employment opportunities in manufacturing and agriculture require workers increasingly to compete for jobs in areas where postsecondary education is often a prerequisite. It's no surprise, then, that Gordon continues to grow rapidly when we fully appreciate Gordon's importance to the transformation that's taking place in the labor force.

Nearly 90 percent of Gordon's students come from either the Atlanta or the Macon metropolitan areas; including neighboring Upson County, not yet classified as metropolitan, brings the total to 95.9 percent. Rapid growth in the Gordon students' home counties surrounding area has resulted in Gordon having a thoroughly metropolitan student body.

Gordon Students' Home Counties



The importance of Gordon College to Atlanta's south metropolitan area is highlighted by the fact that the most rapidly growing county, Henry, is home to the largest number of Gordon students, 19 percent of the total, with students from Fayette, Clayton, and Spalding Counties comprising another 31.2 percent of the total. Over half of Gordon's students, then, come from the rapidly suburbanizing area between Barnesville and Atlanta's central core. The south suburban counties are the largest providers of students to Gordon because their populations are so large; Henry County's population, for example, is over eight times larger than Gordon's home Lamar County. While the more rural counties close to

Barnesville may send fewer students to Gordon than the more densely populated south suburbs, with 23 percent of Gordon's students coming from Lamar, Pike, Upson, Monroe, and Butts Counties, Gordon plays a critical role in the education of their population. In Lamar County itself, for example, fully one in six young adults between the ages of 18 and 20 is enrolled at Gordon College. Nearly a quarter of the graduates from Lamar, Pike, and Upson-Lee High Schools matriculate at Gordon the fall following their graduation. Gordon truly serves as a primary gateway to higher education in the metropolitan corridor between Atlanta and Macon, and even beyond middle Georgia, Gordon, as a residential college, enrolled stu-

dents from 85 different Georgia counties in Fall, 2003.

While Gordon continues to offer a full college experience to traditional age students beginning their college careers, requirements for a more highly educated workforce brought about by metropolitan growth are resulting in an increase in the number of nontraditional students attending Gordon. Half of last year's enrollment growth was among older and part-time students. Gordon is seeking ways to better serve these students by offering a greater variety

The importance of Gordon College to Atlanta's south metropolitan area is highlighted by the fact that the most rapidly growing county, Henry, is home to the largest number of Gordon students, 19 percent of the total, with students from Fayette, Clayton, and Spalding Counties comprising another 31.2 percent of the total.

of class times and enhancing off-campus class offerings as well as developing programs in cooperation with four-year colleges which will allow students to complete their four-year degrees on the Gordon campus.

Gordon College and middle Georgia are truly partners in demographic change. Metropolitan growth has resulted not only in enrollment growth at Gordon, but also in our faculty and administration seeking ways to help the community adapt to change. As the only two-year college between Atlanta and Macon, Gordon's challenge is to maintain its excellence as a key access point to higher education for a rapidly growing and increasingly diverse population. ■



Townspeople like these five young women were called to harvest cotton during the war years. From left to right: Virginia Brown, Betty Smith, Margie Smith, Hilda Horne and Betty Bowman.



all the young MEN

*Remembering
Gordon
during the
war years*

PETER BOLTZ

One of the notable things

about Gordon's 1942 yearbook is how little is said about the war. It isn't mentioned in the foreword nor in the message from the college president. When it is mentioned, it is only incidentally, even in a two-page spread on a cadet military exercise. Inscriptions from classmates in the graduating class speak to a normalcy found in any peacetime yearbook: "Best of luck to a swell fellow and a fine golfer." "Have enjoyed knowing you. Will see you next year. You were good in the senior play." "Okay you lady killer, leave a couple for the rest of us."

But if you have a guide, someone who was at Gordon during the war years, you'll discover the impact of World War II throughout the yearbook. A guide like Bobby Bush, class of '42, Gordon Military High School. He went on to complete his freshman year at Gordon Military College before joining the Army in June 1943.



The Tri-Omega Club had “plans in mind for future good times” according to the 1942 Gordon Taps. From left to right front: Joe Guillebeau, Van Baker and Alex Burousas. From left to right rear: Marvin Owen, Bobby Bush and Tommy Summers.



U.S. Army Lt. Tommy Summers, a member of Gordon's Tri-Omega Club in 1942, was killed in action in 1944.

In a recent interview, he opened his '42 TAPS to where the Tri-Omega Club was featured. “We were six local boys who enjoyed each other's company, so we formed a club,” he said. “We weren't into pulling pranks. We were a peer group on the straight and narrow.”

One of the things he's most proud of is a radio dedication the club got out of the Glenn Miller band. “They were on WSB-Radio, and they always featured a college during their show, dedicating a song to it. We wrote and asked Miller to make a homecoming dedication to Gordon.”

A couple of weeks later, Gordon was featured on the show. “Glenn Miller dedicated a brand new song, *String of Pearls*, to Gordon,” Bush said. “It was the first time he played that song for listeners.”

Bush pointed out the six members of Tri-Omega. “Joe Guillebeau and Alex Burousas were a grade behind the rest of us. Van Baker got an appointment to West Point and spent the war there. Tommy Summers, he was killed in France in July 1944. Marvin Owen made it through the war, but he was called back for Korea. He was killed at the Chosen Reservoir.” Bush himself manned an M-36 tank destroyer in Europe during World War II and won a Silver Star during the Battle of the Bulge.

“Joe Guillebeau went on to get his doctorate,” he continued. “For his Ph.D. thesis he composed a requiem mass, which he dedicated to Tommy Summers.”

In the years before the war, 1938 to 1941, Bush said things were pretty routine at Gordon. Students went to class and kept their

noses clean – and if they didn't, they walked the bull ring. A lot of boys were sent to Gordon for the discipline, and usually it straightened them out. But if they didn't, they were shipped out. The teachers lived in the barracks with the boys, so order was maintained. Every weeknight from 7 to 10, cadets were expected in study hall, unless they were local boys and then they couldn't be out at night unless accompanied by a parent. The officer of the day would be out checking the theaters and eating establishments during study hall, and if a cadet was caught, he was written up and disciplined.

Bush and his parents were in Atlanta on Dec. 7, 1941, and heard about the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese on the radio. "When we came home, it took some time for all of us to get adjusted to the idea that we were in a war. In 1942, I graduated high school, and that summer people here in Barnesville collected scrap metal. Teams of people went into the countryside looking for rusted farming equipment. By fall of '42, so many men were in the service that the farming community was wondering how it would get crops in. Town was closed, schools were closed, and everyone capable went out into the fields and picked cotton. I began reading all the news and listening to the radio. Before, the news was not all that interesting to a 17-year-old. I was more concerned with girls."

Betty Smith Crawford was in the same class with Joe Guillebeau at Gordon. She spoke

about the war years at her Barnesville home with several photographs spread before her on the kitchen table. One of them was a shot of five beautiful young women in shorts, short-sleeved shirts and straw hats. They are in a cotton field, large collecting bags hanging from their sides, smiling like they're having the time of their lives.

A terrible, wonderful time is how Crawford put it.

She and many other women rolled bandages for the Red Cross, knitted scarves for soldiers, picked cotton, and wrote letters to soldiers they didn't even know to help keep their spirits up. She remembers blackout drills, blue stars and gold stars in Barnesville windows, the Victory Garden that

fed Gordon students, and just trying to keep things as normal as possible.

"We didn't go places a lot. There was gas rationing. We'd stay at home and play old-fashioned games. We'd save up our sugar ration for two months so we could have a candy pull. We'd have to grease our hands with margarine so the candy wouldn't stick.

"We lived at Hampton's Drug Store where Carter's is now. We'd buy a drink we called a crook, because we felt like we were robbing the place for all we got for just five cents. One dip of ice cream, chocolate syrup, a spritz of soda and a cherry on top. Sometimes a girl could get two dips if she knew the boy behind the counter.

"Friends and I would meet in front of the Carnegie Library on Saturday nights to listen

"GLENN
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Gordon cadet battalion commander Joe Guillebeau in 1942. After the war he wrote a requiem mass for his friend and fellow cadet Tommy Summers who was killed in battle.

and dance to the hit parade on car radios. We lived by the hit parade. We'd all grab a handful of corn meal before leaving the house to throw on the sidewalk to make it slick to dance on. We did the jitterbug, waltz – we knew all the dances. The dip was 'in' for slow dancing.”

She recalled her chemistry teacher, Reynolds Bush. “He really taught us well. When I entered the University of Georgia in 1943, I didn't have to crack a book for the first six weeks of chemistry. One day, my teacher said to me, ‘You went to Gordon, didn't you?’ That's the kind of reputation Gordon had.”

On school days, cadets and coeds would join at chapel after morning drill a little after 8 a.m.

One morning, students were informed that a graduate of Gordon, Mell Witcher, had been killed in action. His parents asked that the students be informed.

“This was quite an awakening,” Crawford said. “I thought, Oh my God, we really are at war.”

And there were more deaths, more prayers, more flags at half-staff and more gold stars in windows of mothers who had lost sons. “They must still bear the hurt,” Crawford said.

Alex Burousas had a brother eight years older than he, Jimmie, who graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1935. By 1939, Jimmie had served a stint with the Marines and was back at Gordon as a college

student in the cadet pilot training program, eventually joining the Air Force and becoming a B-17 crewman during the war. But before he left, he married Bobbie Dorsey in 1940 and started a Gordon institution in 1941, The College Canteen.

“One of the professors, a reserve officer, opened a shop in the basement of Lambdin where he sold Gordon trinkets. Things like rings and bracelets and necklaces with Gordon written on them,” Burousas said. “When he was called up, he sold me the business with all this junk, so I opened a canteen, selling hamburgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks. I did this while I was enrolled in the flying program.”

Bobbie Burousas saw the war years from the perspective of a married woman with a newborn. “We had babies. Girls would come home to live after their husbands had gone. There'd be a million strollers all over town.

“We had a cannery, and a lot of us would go can fried chicken and biscuits and mail them overseas. We could only send five-pound packages, about the size of a shoe box. We would also write letters to servicemen from our church.”

A particular memory of hers has to do with margarine. Because butter was rationed, people started using margarine more. But before they used it, they had to mix it.

“It was white. It looked like a chunk of lard, and it came with a plastic bag with a lit-

“THE NEWS
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tle orange capsule in it. You'd pour the coloring from the capsule in with the margarine and mix it together with your hands. Once this was done, you'd put it into a mold and it would look like butter."

She and her husband explained that margarine didn't come already mixed because the dairy industry objected. It did not want to compete with something that looked like butter.

Mixing margarine, rationing food, collecting scrap metal, putting a blue star in the window and writing letters to lonely servicemen. Going to class, graduating from high school or junior college, walking the bull ring and dancing to the hit parade. Standing for a moment of silence, lowering the flag to half staff and putting a gold star in the window.

These acts all help describe Gordon during the war years, but even all put together, the image that comes through is lacking a fullness to help us today really know what that terrible wonderful time was like. It may be just coincidence, but Betty Crawford and Bobbie Burousas have a similar memory of the time, even though they were just two people living in the same town during the war. There's a haunting quality about the memory that helps to give us an emotional link with that time.

They remembered, as if it happened all of a sudden, that all the young men were gone. ■



Gordon coed Hilda Horne straightens cadet Mell Witcher's tie. Horne's friend Betty Crawford remembers Witcher as a "charismatic somebody." His death in combat was announced to the Gordon student body during morning chapel.



Gordon cadet officers in the spring of 1943.



The
Solace of Virtue
Buffyology Is Its Own Reward

PETER BOLTZ



It was a deeply felt honor for Dr. Rhonda Wilcox. She had been invited to be the keynote speaker at a conference sponsored by Trinity College. That's Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. *The Trinity College.*

Wilcox, a professor of English at Gordon College, is an internationally known scholar with a popularity that leaves fellow scholars in a state of excitement just to see her at a distance. At least that's how her colleague at Gordon, Dr. Mary Alice Money, likes to tell it. Wilcox humbly denies the celebrity status, but Money insists she has seen it firsthand.

Money, an international scholar in her own right, was set to travel with Wilcox to the American Quality TV Conference at Trinity, until a demon interfered with their plans.

(A demon? What's that you say? An evil spirit? Come now, this is the 20th century. We don't believe in demons.)

Just a few days before she was to leave, Wilcox was involved in an accident with a tractor-trailer. She suffered several broken ribs and a partially collapsed lung. When she asked her doctor if she could still make her flight to Dublin, he told her she could but she would be risking death. So she stayed at home while Money went on and delivered the keynote speech for her. In an extraordinary act, the sponsors of the conference set up a long distance connection with Wilcox so she could answer questions from her bed after her keynote address was over.

Wilcox and Money are Buffy scholars. That is, they analyze the television show *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, looking for connections

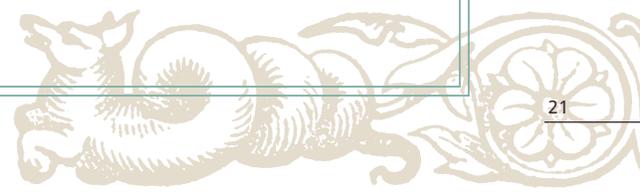
between the show and myths, archetypes and symbols. They study how the show instructs teenagers, especially those in high school, about virtues like self-sacrifice, friendship and community.

"Buffy teaches them to be their own

"It teaches them not to dismiss others as dorks or losers or monsters, but to be brave enough to give others a second look, to truly see them for who they are. Many shows give young audiences the impression that the way to virtue is quick and cheap. With Buffy, virtue is not easy and it doesn't come cheap."

person," Money said. "It teaches them not to dismiss others as dorks or losers or monsters, but to be brave enough to give others a second look, to truly see them for who they are. Many shows give young audiences the impression that the way to virtue is quick and cheap. With Buffy, virtue is not easy and it doesn't come cheap."

In short, Buffy teaches virtue as it is taught in real life. Practicing virtue is often



its own, and only, reward. Wilcox calls this “the solace of virtue.”

Buffy scholars also study demons, so it is not too far off the mark to suggest demons played a part in Wilcox’s accident – in a symbolic way, that is.

But Wilcox chose to see parallels of virtue, not demons, when she considered how her accident and Buffy related.

“I identify with Buffy, who gets knocked down, again and again, but she gets back up every time. And she succeeds with the help of her friends, like I did. Mary Alice read my keynote address, and the people in Ireland who were so kind set up a long

“I identify with Buffy, who gets knocked down, again and again, but she gets back up every time. And she succeeds with the help of her friends, like I did.”

distance connection so I could answer questions from bed.”

Since the first Buffy episode aired in 1997 and Wilcox’s first Buffy article in 1999, the size of Buffy studies has steadily grown, and so has publicity about it. You can find articles about Buffy scholarship in the *Chicago Tribune*, *The Salt Lake Tribune*, the *National Review* and other newspapers and news magazines. *CNN* and *National Public Radio* air stories about it. And this is just to mention the press in the United States.

But with the attention has come a bit of

the old bashing of academics high up in their ivory towers. In a recent *National Review Online* article, Jonah Goldberg wrote, “*The Slayage Conference on Buffy The Vampire Slayer* convened the leading experts at wasting tuition money on geeky personal hobbies to present papers....”

And further: “I suppose I shouldn’t be too dismissive of the professoriate’s interest in all things Buffy, considering what a great show it was. It’s just that, well, the American founding was pretty great, too, and very few professors teach that. Meanwhile, a Boston College professor can find time to present a paper on *Self Becoming or Becoming Self: A Comparative Study of Buffy and the Hindu Saint Antal on Identity and Self-Realization.*”

Any suggestion that studying Buffy is trivial or frivolous infuriates these two women, neither of whom gets release time to pursue their work on Buffy. Both teach full teaching loads every fall and spring semester (that’s five composition courses each semester) and sit on the many academic committees that come with the title professor. Money chaired her division up to last year, and Wilcox has to pass on summer paychecks so she can have a block of time to work on Buffy.

The self-sacrifice they so admire in Buffy, they practice in studying Buffy. “We do it because it’s worthwhile, significant scholarship and people are finally understanding that,” Money said. She and Wilcox don’t accept the criticism that “great literature” like Shakespeare’s should be the only focus of their scholarship. Both of them still study greats like Shakespeare. As for honoring and teaching the American founding, Wilcox named her son

after one of the Founding Fathers, Jefferson. For them, *Buffy The Vampire Slayer* is literature.

“Remember,” Money said, “Shakespeare was popular in his time. He played to the pit, to the people who paid a penny to get in. They booed the villains and left the theater quoting lines from the play. If he were alive today, he’d be writing for Buffy.”

Wilcox and Money see Buffy studies as “a wonderful new representation of a very old idea.”

That is, literary critics have an ancient legacy of analyzing works of literature. Just because the literature is written in the medium of television, doesn’t mean it is any less because it is not in the medium of live theater or the medium of books. Literary critics have been analyzing films, books, theater and television for some time, Wilcox said. “The idea is not new but part of a stream of work that has been going on for some time.”

And it looks like Buffy studies will continue to attract scholars and generate more papers, more books and more publicity. The editorial board of *Slayage, the Online International Journal of Buffy Studies*, held its first conference from May 28 to 30 in Nashville.

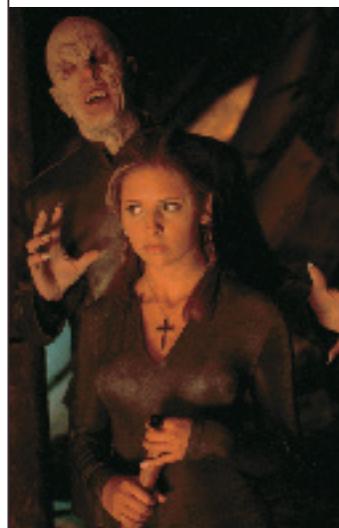
Present was David Lavery, professor of English at Middle Tennessee State University. Wilcox and Lavery co-edited *Fighting the Forces: What’s at Stake in Buffy the Vampire*. She describes Lavery as the “No. 1 guy at the Nashville conference.” This conference was such a success, Wilcox said, that a second conference is planned for May 26 to 28, 2006.

If you’re wanting to get a closer look at Buffy studies, it’s as easy as typing www.slayage.tv into your computer browser.



Drs. Mary Alice Money (left) and Rhonda Wilcox are Gordon College’s two Buffy scholars. On the brick wall next to them are a poster announcing the most recent Buffy conference and a prototype for an award called “Mr. Pointy.” The award is modeled after the wooden stakes Buffy uses to kill vampires.

This will take you to the online journal of Buffy studies, which Wilcox is quick to point out is a refereed journal. An editorial board of international scholars screens what gets printed, an indication of the rigor of the field. Or you might just watch an episode of Buffy, now in syndication. Perhaps you’ll share an experience similar to Wilcox’s when she first saw the show. At first she thought “it would either be stupid or the anti-stupid.” But within the first few minutes, she realized she had found an area of research she could sink her teeth into. ■



Avid Buffy fans can look at this picture and tell you the name of the episode and the season it ran.

© 20th Century Fox

AND DON'T FORGET TO
wash
your hands

PETER BOLTZ and RHONDA TOON



For the past 30 years the Gordon College Nursing program has graduated a class of students who have learned this mantra.



Marie LoMonaco right, founder of the Gordon College nursing program and Pat Brown, interim director of nursing

It was the mantra of Marie LoMonaco when she started the nursing program in 1973, and it remains the admonition of Pat Brown, the current interim director of nursing. Nurses are taught to wash their hands, but they don't always wash them the way Brown and LoMonoco were taught. Today nurses often use an alcohol-based wash rather than plain water.

The thin textbooks LoMonaco used in her early teaching years have been replaced by textbooks that are inches thick. Much more is demanded of today's Florence Nightingales. The most up-to-date teaching dummies in the labs at the College not only have realistic body parts, they have the capability to speak. "Ouch!", "No!", and "Nurse!" are among the words that can be programmed into the life-size figures.

When LoMonaco was hired in May 1973, she was a brand new master's graduate from Emory University. She was given something akin to a "Mission Impossible" assignment—create a nursing program in time for the following fall semester in September. Within four months the program was written and approved by the National League of Nursing and in September 1973, 50 students entered the program. In 1975, Gordon graduated its first nursing class.

Twenty-four of the original 50 made it through.

The demands of the program are evident at the annual pinning ceremony. As part of this ceremony where the new graduates solemnly recite the nursing pledge, students share the experiences of their graduating class with the audience. The stories are about helping each other make it through marriages, divorces, births, deaths, and calls to war while meeting the unfailing demands of their professors.

But all the rigor and discipline are worthwhile because the program almost ensures that its graduates will pass the dreaded NCLEX—the National Council Licensing Examination. Brown will tell you that graduating from the program does not make a student a registered nurse. Passing the NCLEX does. On average over the past four years, 97 percent of Gordon's graduates pass the exam. In 2000, the entire class passed.

The success of the program's graduates mirrors the success of the program in receiving support for its work. In December 2003, the College was awarded \$346,450 by the Intellectual Partnership Program (ICAPP), the economic development arm of the University System of Georgia. This award allowed the College to partner with area healthcare agencies and Griffin Technical College to move nurses more quickly from the

RECENT AWARDS	
Intellectual Partnership Program	\$346,450
West Georgia Workforce Investment Board	\$99,920
Foundation of the Nat'l Student Nurses' Assoc.	\$25,000

LPN designation to Registered Nurses. It was followed by a \$99,920 grant from the West Georgia Workforce Investment Board. In July 2004,

the program was the recipient of a \$25,000 grant from the Nursing School Grant Program administered by the Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association.

LoMonaco often returns to campus to assist in instruction, as she did this past fall. She and Brown occasionally reflect on the approximately 1,600 nurses who have now successfully completed the program and are now in the workforce. They know where many of them are and they often hear from former students.

When asked if it was difficult to make the transition from practicing nurse to an administrator of a program to produce nurses, both shook their heads and answered in unison, "Once a nurse, always a nurse." Thirty years does not change some things. ■



Graduating from the program does not make a student a registered nurse. Passing the NCLEX does. On average over the past four years, 97 percent of Gordon's graduates pass the exam. In 2000, the entire class passed.

Mike Firsowicz pours sand into a bucket attached to his and Trey Moore's (in red) model bridge. Their bridge snapped under the weight of 22 pounds.



Reaching a New Generation of SCIENTISTS

**The Science
Olympiad
brings middle
schoolers to
Gordon College**

Middle school science students converged on Gordon College on Feb. 28, 2004, to compete in the Science Olympiad, the fifth the college has hosted.

Gordon Professor Theresa Stanley, the director for all five years, said the Olympiad was created 20 years ago with the goals of improving the quality of science education, instilling passion for science, and recognizing the achievements of science students.

Students from 11 schools competed in 23 different events, like "Bridge Building" where the object of the competition is to see whose bridge can bear the most weight. ■

Sapelo Island

Gordon College's Department of Community Education sponsors two educational trips a year to the island. Join us in June or October.

SAPELO ISLAND IS ONE OF A STRING OF barrier islands off the coast of Georgia with names as varied as the people who settled them. Skidaway Island and Wassaw Island, Blackbeard Island and Wolf Island, St. Simons Island and Cumberland Island. All are inhabited in a range from heavily developed to hardly developed. Sapelo Island is of the latter type.

The island once held two bustling sawmills and was a prime planting site for Sea Island cotton. Barges that once ferried cotton and timber through the waters of Doboy Sound have gone away. Today the island is mostly owned by the state and under the care of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Visitors to the island can stay in one of the 13 bedrooms in the Reynolds Mansion, which is managed by the DNR.

The mansion was originally built by a planter named Thomas Spalding between 1807 and 1810. It fell into ruin after the Civil War and was restored as a hunting club in the early 1900s. In 1912 Howard Coffin purchased the island and rebuilt most of the house. In 1934, he sold Sapelo to



tobacco heir Richard J. Reynolds, who retained ownership until his death in 1964.

Gordon College's Department of Community Education sponsors two educational trips a year to the island. One in June and one in October, it's a three-day trip that means stranding yourself on the island, because the ferry makes only so many trips. Gordon visitors don't mind however; they stay in the Reynolds Mansion and are fed by the mansion's staff.

Visitors can choose to follow a schedule of events like touring the island's tabby ruins, lighthouse and the island community of Hog Hammock, or they can spend all their time beachcombing the island's pristine beaches. They can also visit the University of Georgia Marine Institute and listen to researchers who study the island's fragile ecology.

You can make this trip in October when Gordon College will be taking another group from Oct. 4 to 6. All you have to do is call 770-358-5123 for details. ■

MEMORIES OF LESSONS LEARNED

JON HARDWICK "I arrived at Gordon Military College in August, 1970. I had just turned 18 and wanted to play football. I reported along with 135 other football-playing cadets knowing that only about 30 would make the first team, and on top of that stress was the academic work. The toughest class assignment I had came from Mrs. Ora Lee Howard. She wanted my class to write a paper entitled "Who am I? Where am I going? And why?" I did not know the answers to those questions.

I did not know if I would be drafted into the Vietnam War. I did not know if I could continue to make the team. I did not know if I could make good grades. I often found myself alone in the field house thinking of these things. Many of the cadet football players packed up, gave up, and went home. I feared I might do the same.

I continued to struggle with Mrs. Howard's assignment. The team was playing well and even though the newspapers said we could not do it, we beat Tampa in a well-fought game. I began to feel proud of myself and the decisions I was making. I began to answer the questions Mrs. Howard had asked. She gave me an A+ and wrote a note on the paper. I still have that paper.

I use to go back to Barnesville and visit with Mrs. Howard before she

passed away. I always told her how thankful I was to her for challenging me to answer those questions. Something still draws me to Gordon today. When I am in the area I drive by the football field and the field house and I think about the choices I have made since I was there as a student. I hope Mrs. Howard would be pleased."

Hardwick, a Captain in the Glynn County Fire Department and a real estate agent, lives on St. Simons Island. After graduation from Gordon, he went on to the University of Georgia and received a degree in education.

JARRETT BURCH

"I thought I wanted to be a veterinarian, but then I took Hutch Johnson's history class, and I was hooked. His



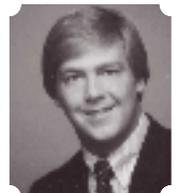
explanations of the problems that led up to the Civil War and the issues surrounding slavery led to my interest in Southern history. Dr. Johnson is a great teacher. He always hung around after class ended and he answered our questions. He had a way of wandering from a point to bring up details that made the history alive. He always encouraged me. He knew what he was talking about and he knew how to defuse an angry student when topics led to controversial things. Gordon

College had high academic standards. I have attended other two-year colleges and Gordon was definitely the most academically strenuous of the two-year schools. I have popped in and out to see Dr. Johnson over the years, and I am still grateful to him for being such an incredible teacher and for the time I spent at Gordon."

Burch recently authored a book *Adiel Sherwood: a Baptist Antebellum Pioneer in Georgia*. Burch transferred from Gordon to Mercer and later attended Georgia College and State University and the Southwestern Seminary. He earned his doctorate of philosophy in historical studies from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Burch lives on his family farm in Dodge County, pastors two rural churches, and teaches history in the Houston County School system.

BILL BAZEMORE

"Dr. Carolyn Tift was my favorite teacher at Gordon.



When I had her for English 101, I was a high school senior at Mary Persons and she came to Forsyth every day of Fall Quarter 1979. The class started at 8:30 each morning and Dr. Tift was always full of enthusiasm. She brought a sense of humor and a practical teaching approach to Grammar

and Composition. As for instruction, Dr. Tift had a five minute conference with you after she graded your paper to review mistakes and make suggestions for improvement. During those one-on-one conferences she taught me two invaluable lessons: 1. the key to communicating was organizing your thoughts, and 2. it is not always what you say but how you say it. I did not realize it at the time, but these were life lessons and for that, I am grateful to Dr. Tift."

-Bazemore is the President and CEO of the Monroe County Bank in Forsyth. He started college in the joint enrollment program at Gordon during 1979-1980 and finished his Gordon degree in 1981. He then went on to Georgia College where he graduated in 1983. He now lives in Forsyth with his family.

CHUCK COPELAND

"I was at Gordon College from the Fall of 1979 until the Winter of 1981. My memory of Mary Alice Money revolves around our first class paper in English 101. It was to be a short story about ourselves. As I recall my story centered around one of the most important things in my life at that time: cars. The part of the story that I still remember



was the day Dr. Money handed out the graded papers. After giving me accolades for the story content she offered one very matter-of-fact suggestion which she felt could greatly improve my writing and more importantly my chances of receiving a passing grade. Her suggestion was that in my future writing I should try to include some punctuation! Surely enough as I looked over my work I had submitted what has to be one of the longest run-on sentences in history. I had structured my entire, one-page story, in one sentence."

- Chuck Copeland is the President of First National Bank of Griffin. He completed his studies at Gordon in 1981 and graduated from the University of Georgia in 1983. His wife, the former Teresa Shapard, also attended Gordon and they have two daughters.

BARRETT HAWKS "Not every teacher knows how to impart the value of knowledge, but Ed Sellers did. He was my biology teacher at Gordon Military High School and I remember dissecting frogs with him in the lab. I learned more than biology from him—I learned about the importance of an education. He was a very dedicated and knowledgeable teacher, who had the ability to inspire. More than most, he was able to communicate the importance of learning. I was like most

kids in high school who think that little of the required study material will have much value to the real world. Ed Sellers was able to communicate to us that it did matter. I don't really know how he did it. I can't recall a single event or a speech that I can look back at and identify a technique or method he used. He did a lot of things. For example, he gave out these awards that he would get different companies to provide. They would go to people in the class who had shown an aptitude or interest in an area of study. It was motivating. We wanted to be chosen by Ed, and I guess that is what I remember the most about him—he showed a real interest in us. He showed us that he cared whether we learned the material or did not. He wanted us to know. And because he wanted us to know, we wanted to know it."

- Barrett Hawks graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1956 and currently resides in Atlanta, where he is a partner in the firm of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP. ■

If you have stories of your time at Gordon that you would like to share for future issues of this magazine, please send them to Rhonda Toon, Editor, at Gordon College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, Georgia 30204 or email rhondat@gdn.edu.



Chosen to Represent Gordon College

"I enjoyed my humanities classes and I really liked history. Where else at my age can you sit and hear someone tell you a story everyday? But what I really enjoy is the sciences. I plan to major in biology and someday I would like to be a college professor. I would really like to teach," said Price.

Daniel Price of Orchard Hill has been named the 2004 Academic Recognition Day representative for Gordon College. Each year 34 students are chosen to represent each of the 34 institutions of the University System of Georgia. These students receive special recognition in the form of resolutions from both the Georgia House of Representatives and the Georgia Senate for their outstanding academic achievements.

The selection was made by a faculty committee following guideline from the Board of Regents. The student chosen must be representative of outstanding scholastic achievement on his/her campus, have a 4.0 GPA, be an undergraduate student, and be a Georgia resident. Price was nominated by multiple faculty members for this award according to Robert Vaughan, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"Daniel certainly impressed his professors and the selection committee. He entered Gordon as a freshman in 2002, and just recently completed degree requirements for his associate's degree. All the while he balanced school, work, and fatherhood and maintained a 4.0," Vaughan said.

Price is a 1988 graduate of Pike County High School. He is the son of Dan and Carol Price, and the father of a 5-year-old daughter, Jessica Price.

"I chose Gordon because of the location. I needed to be near home because of my daughter, but I don't think I could have received a better education anywhere else. I recommend Gordon to others whenever I can. Almost every one of my professors has their doctorate degree and the campus is really nice," said Price.

"I enjoyed my humanities classes and I really liked history. Where else at my age can you sit and hear someone tell you a story everyday? But what I really enjoy is the sciences. I plan to major in biology and someday I would like to be a college professor. I would really like to teach," said Price.

Price, who says the internet has replaced the daily newspaper for him, has been especially interested in the recent missions to Mars. "Every day you can find something new. I think this is why science is so appealing. I look forward to completing my education, and maybe someday I will come back here to teach." ■

Make PUERTO RICO the Location of Your Next Gordon Reunion



Jorge Argomaniz (left) and J.P. Rivera



When David and Virginia Mari introduced themselves, it was no surprise to learn he was a Gordon alumni from Puerto Rico. Many Gordon cadets in the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s came from the island.

But what was surprising was to learn that Puerto Rican alumni of Gordon Military College hold reunions. In fact, one was held in San Juan on June 12, 2004.

Starting with the top photo and going clockwise: Jorge Argomaniz (left) and J.P. Rivera (both Gordon Military H.S. Class of 1954, College Class of 1956); left to right, Fernando Fernandez (Gordon Military College Class of 1952), David Mari and Luis Guinot Esq. (both Gordon Military College Class of 1953); Luis Guinot Esq. (left) and Alberto Oben, M.D. (Gordon Military College Class of 1954); and Juan Martino P.E. (left) and Jaime Rivera (Gordon Military H.S. Class of 1956).

Now that we know this group of about 50 alumni have been keeping the Gordon lamp trimmed and burning, we will be staying in touch. ■



Fernando Fernandez (left), David Mari and Luis Guinot Esq.



Luis Guinot Esq. (left) and Alberto Oben, M.D.



Juan Martino P.E. (left) and Jaime Rivera

Making Room for the Future

Three New Residence Halls to Open in 2005



For too many years, Gordon students who wanted to live on campus were often turned away because the College didn't have the room. A typical semester began with a waiting list that only went to 100 because so few vacancies ever opened.

Part of the housing problem is the dramatic growth of Gordon College. The other part of the problem is too few dorm rooms. Currently the College can house approximately 560 students, a number that can fluctuate within the school year.

Happily, the College intends to add 459 beds by the beginning of Fall Semester 2005 with the building of three new student housing units where there is now a parking lot. The footprint of each building is a large V-shape with the V facing out on Memorial Drive and Gordon Road. This allows for landscaping which will separate the residence halls from the adjacent neighborhood and will provide an attractive green space. Each building will be 55,395 square feet and be three stories tall.

The College completed a Campus Master Plan, which was approved by the Board of Regents in 2002. That plan identified student housing facilities as one of the top three needs of the College. Subsequently, the College sought the services of Hendessi & Associates, LLC of Atlanta to complete a comprehensive housing plan. That report, completed in July 2003, included a study of the current housing facilities on campus as well as a market assessment.

Using the findings of these studies, the College will renovate some of the existing residence halls, and two housing units will be turned into office buildings. They are the Georgia House and Spencer House I. They housed 23 and 12 students respectively.

The College pursued a privatization approach similar to the model successfully used by other university system units in securing funding for the new buildings. The housing was then developed through a ground lease with the Gordon College Foundation using non-recourse tax-exempt bond financing. ■

Mr. Langford's TREES

80-year-old sentinals come down

The entranceway to Lambdin Hall on the Gordon College campus has been graced by two beautiful water oaks for almost as long as the building has been there. One of the pleasures of attending a May graduation on Lambdin Green was to sit under their rich, thick canopies. Surely the cadets were grateful to the trees for their shade when they had to stand in formation to undergo inspection.

But now they are gone, victims of old age and disease.

Before they were cut, Gordon College President Larry Weill wanted

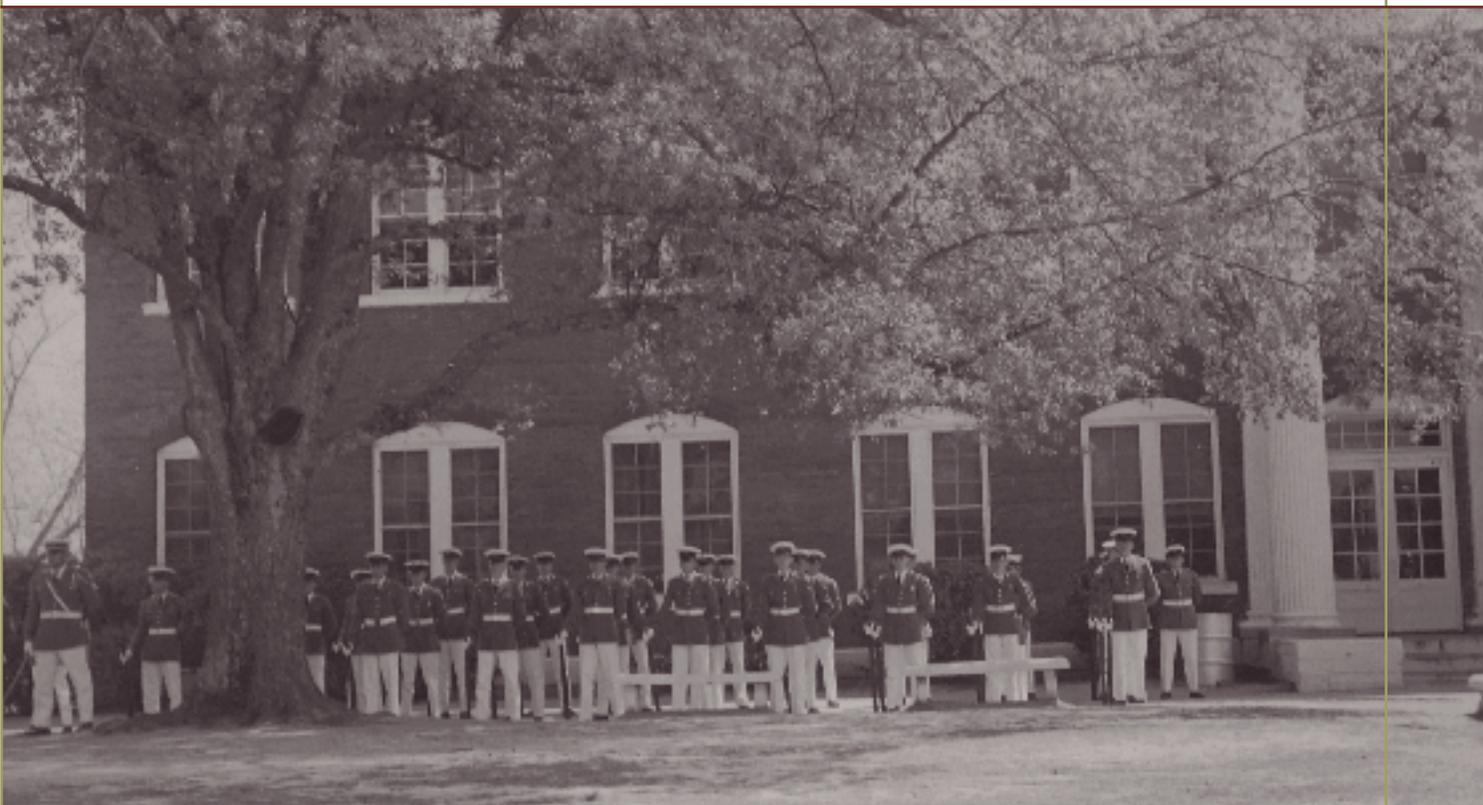
a definitive, professional diagnosis. It came on Feb. 4 with the visit of Jerry Walker, a certified arborist from Griffin, Georgia. After inspecting the two oaks and one other in front of the Hightower Library, the tree doctor fell into his bedside manner to deliver the bad news. All three needed to come down.

“This species of tree has an average lifespan of 75 to 80 years. These trees have lived well past this,” he said. “I don’t like to take down trees, but you have to think of the hazards here.”

According to a 1971 article in Gordon Military College’s newspaper,

The Reveille, Henry Grady Langford is responsible for planting the three water oaks, plus seven more. These he planted along the front of what was then the Sixth District Agricultural and Mechanical College. He didn’t give the newspaper an exact planting date, just that he did so as a boy, and he was paid \$20 for the job. The best estimate of their planting date is sometime shortly after the school’s founding in 1906.

Which means these venerable water oaks were closer to 100 years of age than 80. ■



Dewaine Bell



MAYOR

Barnesville, Georgia

PETER BOLTZ

EDUCATION Is The Ticket

Mayor Dewaine Bell knows the future of Barnesville and Gordon College are intertwined.

Mayor Dewaine Bell stops to think about the question.

“What made you want to run for mayor?”

Mayor Bell used to be an educator working for the Lamar County School District. Between working for the school district and being mayor, he served as the city’s municipal judge from 1991 to 2003. Somewhere in all this experience, was the answer, and it says something about the importance of education to Bell that he found the first part of his

he was involved with government, even before becoming municipal judge, then mayor. He remembers attending city council and county commission meetings, at times making presentations.

Like the time he helped a young man appeal his suspension from his city job. Bell made a presentation to the city council that not only lifted the suspension, but persuaded the city to pay the wages the young man lost while suspended.

With this successful appeal, Bell earned a

Even though he’s no longer a band instructor, the mayor can be talked into playing a tune on his alto saxophone.

answer in his teaching experience.

“As a teacher, I used to teach my kids that they need to be involved,” he said. And so

reputation for beating city hall. And while he personally doesn’t feel like he did anything but reveal the truth, his successful appeal to the



“The roles of mayor and trustee go together because like Barnesville, Gordon is going to grow too, and we want to make sure the College has what it needs to be successful, so Barnesville is successful too.”

council must have given him a taste for politics that he liked.

And this leads to another reason he wanted to run for mayor. Because he has a dream of a better life for everyone in Barnesville, and he has the ideas to make this dream come true.

“I want Barnesville to be a showcase city. I want it to be the city other cities come to to see how to do things,” he said.

This is a huge dream not because Barnesville is some little town wanting to become big, but because Barnesville is already feeling the influx of new residents, new businesses and more and more students at Gordon College, which Mayor Bell has many names for.

“A diamond in the center of the city. A beacon light, the heartbeat of the city.”

For Bell, the College and city are deeply

integrated so that the fortunes of one affect the fortunes of the other.

So it’s a happy coincidence that Bell is one of the newest trustees on the Gordon College Foundation, a group which oversees the management of \$5 million that is used to provide scholarships and support the College’s mission.

“The roles of mayor and trustee go together because like Barnesville, Gordon is going to grow too,” he said. “And we want to make sure the College has what it needs to be successful, so Barnesville is successful too.”

The prestige that Gordon College lends to Barnesville gets the attention of businesses and people looking for a place to live. “If we didn’t have Gordon, we’d really be searching for an identity,” Bell said. “Because of Gordon we are not just another average little town.”

Having the College in Barnesville is not just a matter of prestige either. It also makes the city and county an attractive place for industries to build because it insures them of a ready pool of educated employees. And he sees economic and population growth as large as Henry County’s coming to Barnesville and Lamar County.

But for his dream of a better life for all to come true, the city needs more than economic and population growth. It needs admission into the future, and for that, he said, education is the ticket. ■

ROXIE WILLIAMS PEUGH

Recognized for Distinguished Service



In 1961 when Roxie Williams Peugh graduated from Gordon Military High School she had no idea of the changes that would come to her beloved campus. Connell Hall was the new building on campus, and the student body numbered less than 1,000. Today there are more than 3,000 students on campus and Connell Hall is far down the list when buildings are placed in chronological order.

Gordon changed, but Peugh's love for her alma mater did not.

For years she worked to keep the alumni of Gordon Military High School and College connected through the "Gordon Survivors"—an organization that exists due to her efforts.

During the May 2004 graduation exercises Peugh's hard work was recognized when she was named the recipient of the Gordon College Foundation Distinguished Service Award. This award is given each year to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the College.

In his remarks, Foundation President Peter Banks praised Peugh for her tireless efforts to locate alumni.

"She has been successful in her efforts to show those who attended Gordon Military that they would always have a home at Gordon College," said Banks. ■

"Roxie truly is an unsung hero. She never wants to draw attention to herself, but she has worked tirelessly to keep the alumni of Gordon together. She is the person we go to when we want to find a classmate. I have known her since she entered Gordon one or two years after me, and I have enjoyed knowing her all these years. She does a very good job with what she has had to work with and I suppose you could say she gets the maximum out of everything that she does. I am very proud to call Roxie Peugh my good friend."

Eugenio "KIKE" Seda
Class of 1959



The automobiles pictured date this photograph of Wisebram's on Main Street between 1939 and 1940. Further down the street are Tampa's Cafe and the Gem theater.

With hard
WORK, the Wisebrams

MADE THEIR OWN
LUCK

*The Personal Touch of
the Wisebrams*

PETER BOLTZ



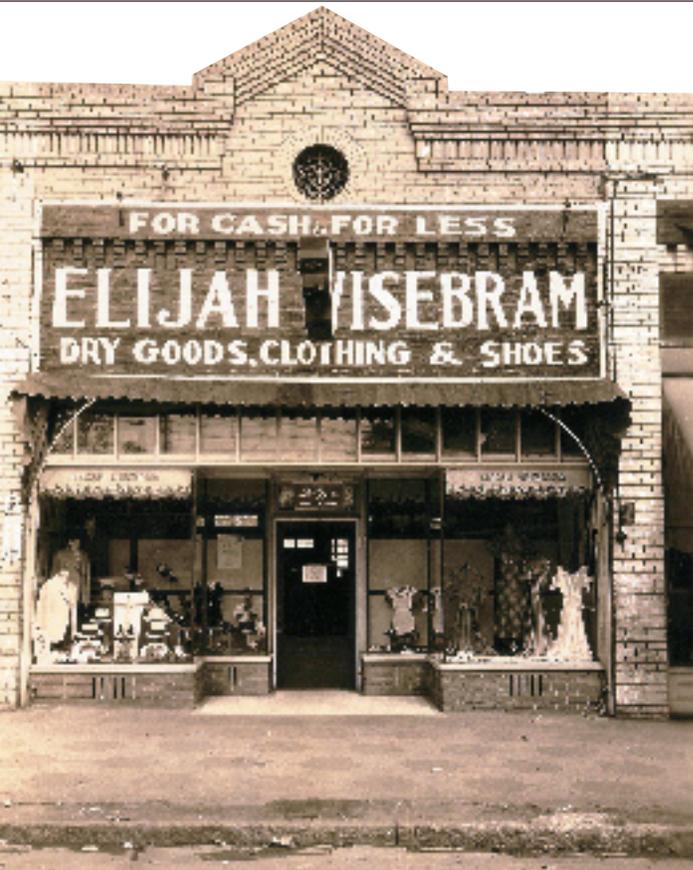
On his 90th birthday, Elijah Wisebram said,
“I have been lucky. I like people and people always liked me.”

You can read this attitude in his advertising. His very first ad “to the People of Barnesville and surrounding Section” on Aug. 14, 1919, read like a personal letter. “I will gladly show you everything and want to get acquainted with you. I know you will be pleased with our goods and prices. Yours very truly, Elijah Wisebram.”

A few months after his opening, the local press reported that he had “met with instant and rather remarkable success.” The story attributes Wisebram’s success to the numerous friends he made, the quality of his goods, his willingness to promote Barnesville and “to lend whatever assistance he can to advance the general welfare.”

The dry goods store survived the Great Depression and World War II. And when Elijah’s son Henry returned from service in the Army, he took over the business. For 79 years, Wisebram’s was a main street institution.

And to think that Elijah had to be talked into coming to the United States in the first place. But at age 19, in 1911, he left Russia to join his friend Abraham Bloom in Forsyth.



This is an undated photograph of Wisebram's after Elijah moved the store from the 100 to the 200 block of Main Street.

“I must be lucky...”



The calendar in the upper left corner of this photograph dates this interior shot of Wisebram's as November 1925, six years after the store opened.

“Stay for a year,” Bloom told his friend, “and if you don’t like it, go back to Russia; you won’t have lost anything.”

Ironic words, for Elijah gained everything when he stayed. With the death of his parents, he brought his brother and sister to live with him in Rome, Georgia, in 1914. In 1917 he earned his U.S. citizenship, and in December 1917 he entered the Army and fought in France. After his discharge in 1919, he sought, and found, a place where he could start his own business and make a home. At first he thought this place might be

Thomaston because a friend in Rome recommended the town to him. But when he visited it, he wasn’t impressed. Thomaston, without paved streets, was a muddy mess.

Still intent on achieving his goal, he took a route through Barnesville on his way back to Rome. There he found “a clean, attractive little town with a paved square and a nearby railroad.” He set up his first shop at 106 Main St. next to what was then the fire station and is now Georgia South Barbecue. He eventually moved into the next block, taking up three store fronts, 214, 216 and 218 Main St.

In the depths of the Great Depression, Elijah's advertising shows an optimistic man fighting against the condition of the economy. In 1931, he ran a newspaper ad that stated the "present crisis could be ended quickly" if people would stop hoarding their money unwisely. To this end, he promised "extra large returns for the public's money in good clean dry goods, shoes and clothing." On Dec. 22, 1933, he thanked his customers for their "confidence and continued friendship," and he praised them for their "great stamina and fortitude in meeting and dealing with the destructive forces of depression. None will wish to dwell on the difficulties of the past when there is so much hope and promise in the immediate future."

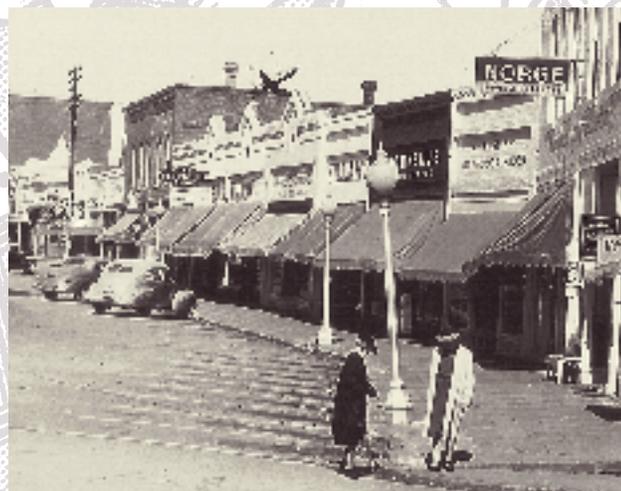
Meanwhile his son Joshua Henry Wisebram, born in 1923, was, as Henry put it, growing up in the store. He remembers being put to bed in the store because his parents regularly worked until midnight. He graduated from Gordon Military High School in 1940, then entered Gordon Military College, and then transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he stayed until May 1942. By that July, he entered the Army as an 18-year-old second lieutenant. After his service in the China-Burma-India theater of war, he finished his education at UNC-Chapel Hill with a bachelor of science in commerce.

Like his father, he went to war, came home and became a merchant. And like his father, he grew the family store by regarding his customers as his friends and selling the best merchandise at reasonable prices.

Henry also played a significant role as a member of Gordon Military College's board of trustees during its transition from a private military school to a part of the University System of Georgia. Since then, he believes the fortunes of Gordon have been "up, up and up."

Wisebram's closed its doors at the end of a going-out-of-business sale that started June 18, 1998, when Henry said, "It is time to rest after 50 years." He was 74 and the store was 79.

He and his father understood that their lives and livelihood were closely intertwined with the life of Barnesville. Such a relationship is certain to make one wise, especially after so many years. So it behooves us to consider something Henry once said: "Gordon is Barnesville and Barnesville is Gordon. United we stand, divided we could fall." ■



Breakfast with the President

President Lawrence V. Weill began a series of ongoing breakfast meetings in spring 2004. This series of informal meetings held on the campus in the Gordon College Foundation Room provide an opportunity for the president to learn more about the region. They also give community members the opportunity to learn more about the College and provide input into its direction.

Topics of discussion have ranged from changes in the HOPE scholarship program, campus growth, partnership opportunities with the K-12 community, and the sharing of resources. ■



Darrell Arrington of the Georgia Power Company's Zebulon office; Dr. Larry Weill; Betsy Hueber of the Thomaston-Upson Chamber of Commerce; Jimmy Pace, mayor of the City of Forsyth; Bobby Blalock, mayor of the City of Zebulon; and Ray Brinkley, Lamar County Commissioner, were among community leaders attending one of the "Breakfast with the President" meetings last spring.

Saying Goodbye and Hello

Gordon College Professor Bill Day wielded the College's new mace at the graduation on Lambdin Green on May 8, 2004. Day, a professor of

English, was ending his service to the College, whereas the mace was just beginning its service. ■

Gordon President Larry Weill charged a committee of faculty in April 2003 to create the new mace, the symbol of the College's authority. ■





Alumni Association ESTABLISHED

Hope McDaniel, a 2004 graduate, is welcomed to the Gordon Alumni Association by Gordon College Foundation member, Cyrus Neuner. For the past two years President Weill has welcomed the new graduates to the association, which will be formally launched this fall.

If you attended Gordon Military High School, Gordon Military College, Gordon Junior College or any one of the other official names the school that has existed here for more than 152 years has held, then we consider you one of us – an official member of the Gordon College Alumni Association.

September 2004 marks the official launch of the organization serving under the Gordon College Foundation as an advisory association with its own board. Members representing the Gordon Military alumni as well as university system alumni will be appointed by the president to guide the organization.

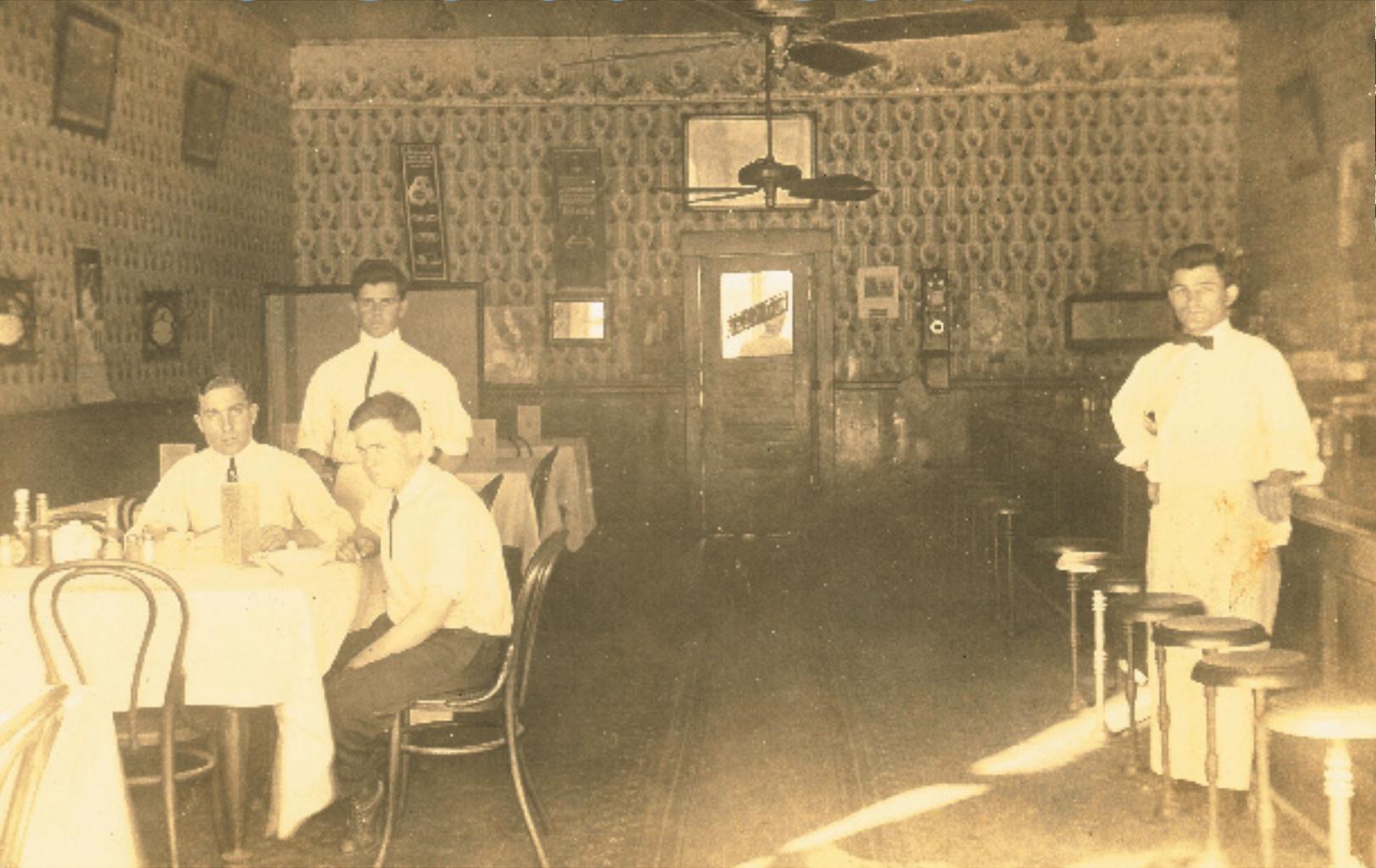
A student alumni association is also being formed in the fall with its president and vice-president serving on the alumni association board.

The alumni association will offer opportunities for social and professional growth and help friends to

reconnect. There will be no dues. Several reunions are already being planned and Rhonda Toon, director of advancement, is seeking volunteers to organize reunions, assist with mailings, and identify events and people in photographs donated to the College.

The Class of 1954 Golden Anniversary Reunion held a “Night of Memories” event on the Gordon campus Sept. 18, 2004. This reunion served as the kick-off event for the association. Please complete the enclosed card or contact the advancement office at 770-358-5124 for further information. ■

The Gordon Cafe



Joe Burousas, right, and three unknown men strike a pose in the original location of the Gordon Cafe in the corner of the Odd Fellows Hall nearest the train depot. Joe would later move his cafe to the other corner of the building.

and the **CANDY KITCHEN**

For 20 Years Joe Burousas Fed Barnesville

PETER BOLTZ



At one time

one of the most happening places in Barnesville was the Gordon Cafe. When Gov. Gene Talmadge came to town in the 1930s and 1940s, he stopped in to see the owner, Joe Burousas. People driving to and from Florida on Highway 41 would stop at the Cafe for their first time and then make it a regular stop in their yearly travels. The train depot was right next door, so passengers found it convenient for food, relaxation and news, while waiting for their journey to resume. Gordon cadets and coeds frequented the place, and why not? After all, it was the Gordon Cafe, not the Barnesville Cafe. It was a node along a line of communication before the prevalence of radio and television, and news came and went with every stop of the train and motor car.

The story of the Gordon Cafe begins with Soterious Manthos "Joe" Burousas in 1925 in the 1884 Odd Fellows Hall Building in downtown Barnesville. Working with his sister-in-law's husband, Charlie Antonio, and his wife's brother, Pierre Rastello, Joe started the cafe in the corner location nearest the depot. Not long after, he moved the cafe to the other corner and made the old location into the Candy Kitchen. Eventually he took over management of the hotel located on the second floor.



On the right, Joe Burousas as a young man, ready to start his own business. The man on the left is unidentified.

Joe's son, Jimmie, still lives in Barnesville and remembers the Cafe and the Kitchen. He said the Kitchen was for the working people, whereas the Cafe was for tourists. Gordon students would also go to the Cafe. Candy was indeed part of the Candy Kitchen's wares, handmade by Joe and Charlie, but pretty much the two places served the same things – after all, they shared a common kitchen in the back of the building.

“A hamburger from the Kitchen cost five cents, whereas the same hamburger cost ten cents in the Cafe,” Jimmie said with a smile. “The only difference between the two was

that in the Kitchen it was served on a bun and in the Cafe it was served between two slices of bread.”

During the Great Depression, the Cafe picked up a new clientele, the down and out.

“My father never turned a single one away,” Jimmie said. “He must've given away thousands of meals.”

Men searching the country for work packed the trains that came through Barnesville, and when the train stopped, they walked over to Joe Burousas's place. It didn't matter their color or the condition of their clothing, Joe had a sandwich and bowl of soup for them all. Too embarrassed by their unem-



One of the most happening places in Barnesville was the Gordon Cafe. When Gov. Gene Talmadge came to town in the 1930s and 1940s, he stopped in to see the owner, Joe Burousas. People driving to and from Florida on Highway 41 would stop at the Cafe for their first time and then make it a regular stop in their yearly travels.

DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION, THE CAFE PICKED UP A NEW CLIENTELE, THE DOWN AND OUT. "MY FATHER NEVER TURNED A SINGLE ONE AWAY," JIMMIE SAID. "HE MUST'VE GIVEN AWAY THOUSANDS OF MEALS."

ployment, they showed up at the kitchen door in the back.

Jimmie, who was born in 1917, still recalls that some of the men who came to the kitchen door did not look down and out. In fact, they were dressed really fine. Nevertheless, they came to the Cafe's back door, same as those dressed in tatters. "They must have lost everything," he remarked, except the clothes on their backs.

During the Cafe years, the Barnesville police station was a brick structure, more a cubicle than a building. It was located on the median strip between the two sides of Main Street in the 100 block, right in front of the Cafe. Jimmie recalled that the police didn't have a car, so if they got a call, they'd come over to the Cafe and ask Joe to drive them out. At closing, Joe would leave the keys to the Cafe with the police so the night shift could get coffee.

Jimmie Burousas displayed some of his father's restaurant acumen when he returned to Barnesville after serving with the Marine Corps. He enrolled at Gordon College to enter the cadet pilot training program. While there in 1941, he started his own food business in the basement of what is now Lambdin Hall. He called it the College Canteen.



In 1941, Eric McLendon and Kiki Burousas had their picture taken in front of the Gordon Cafe. At that time Greyhound Lines sold tickets out of the cafe.

Joe Burousas died in 1944, but the Cafe stayed in family hands until 1946, when the business passed through several owners.

One of them, Amos Brown, learned how to cook as a boy working for Joe. When he took over the Cafe, he changed the name to Tampa's Cafe.

"I always knew him as Amos," Jimmie said. "Some people say he picked up the nickname because he liked Tampa cigars, but I think he got the name because he liked to travel to Tampa, Florida."

Even though Amos owned the cafe only a short while before selling it, new owners kept the name Tampa's Cafe. Amos went on to run the food services at Gordon College.

"It still gripes me that name stuck," Jimmie said. "It was known as the Gordon Cafe for longer." ■

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In 1950

the Gordon Military College **Bulldogs** were the
Georgia Junior College **Champions** winning 8, losing 1.



First row: 60 Boyd Outz, 50 Bill Barber, 61 Tommy Guillebeau, 75 Boyce McKinney, 67 Keith Nickolsen, 79 Max Bond, 68 Bill Nevins, 64 Doc Askew, 80 Hal Jones, 81 Buddy Bradberry, 76 Warren Edwards.

Second row: 52 Ben Perkins, 57 Ken Panton, 23 Louis Jerger, 59 Hugh Owensby, 65 James Sanders, 70 Rudolph Osbolt, 58 "Tut" Carter, 18 Ed Stewart, 51 Jack Truitt, 69 Bob Wallace, 56 Billy Ray.

Third row: Coach Gene Shelton, 83 Dave Mobley, 66 Billy McKenzie, 72 Larry Livingston, 35 Billy Wayne Jones, 62 Lewis Johnson, 74 James Cochran, 55 Bob Kicklighter, 54 Leonard May, Manager Harrison Gooch, Coach Jim Franko.

Tell us what's new about yourself.

Class Notes We would like to stay informed about what's new in your professional and personal activities so we can share your news with other alumni and friends in our Class Notes section in next year's magazine. Please mail, fax or e-mail your news. Fax: 770. 358. 5191 E-mail: rhondat@gdn.edu.

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