

The Classes

“Carolyn Kinnard Ziffer, BA’52, was ordained as a priestess by the Temple of the Feminine Divine.”

extraVUganza

Homecoming*Friends Reunion*Alumni

2002 Vanderbilt Homecoming and Reunion

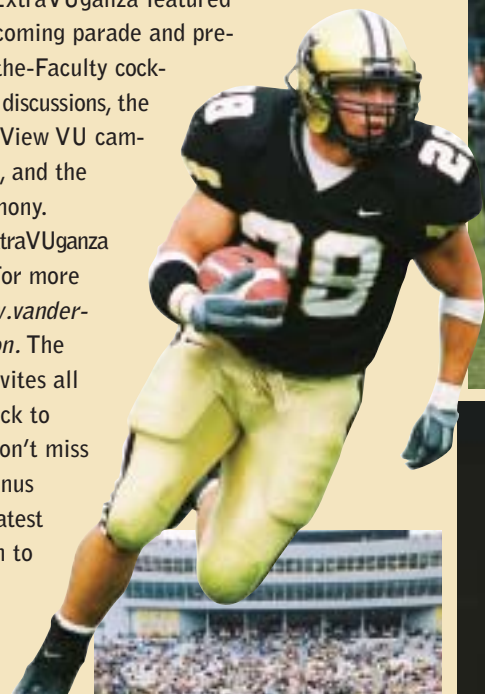
More than 2,500 alumni from all classes, colleges and schools were on hand for the inaugural extraVUganza weekend Oct. 25 and 26, 2002.

Rob Roy Purdy Field was transformed into “Tent City” for Reunion class parties, dinners and dances, all with a Hollywood theme. ExtraVUganza featured the traditional Homecoming parade and pre-game tailgate, Meet-the-Faculty cocktail hour, alumni panel discussions, the Chancellor’s Address, View VU campus-wide open houses, and the Quinq induction ceremony.

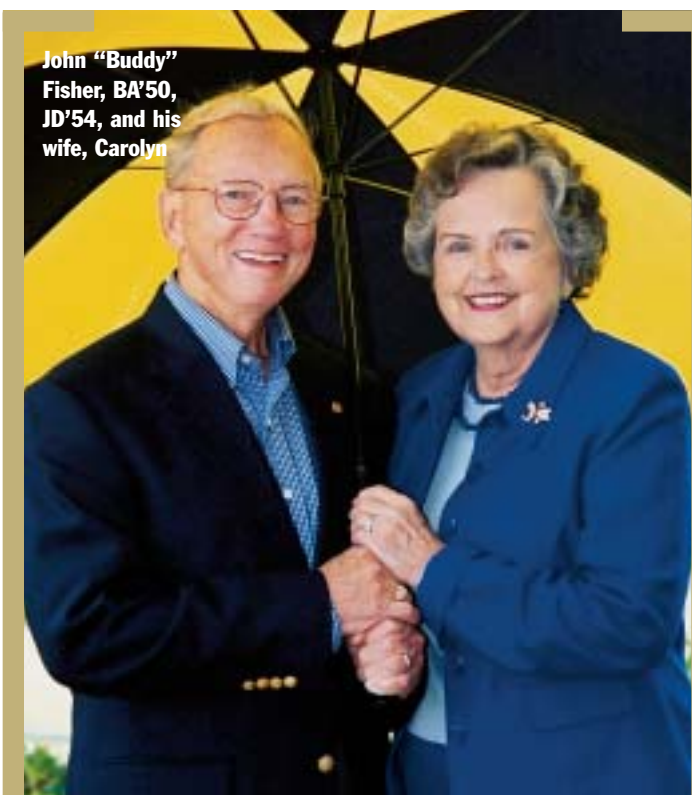
The second annual extraVUganza is Oct. 10-11, 2003. For more information visit www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni/reunion. The Alumni Association invites all alumni and friends back to campus for the fun. Don’t miss out on what one alumnus called “by far the greatest event I have ever been to at Vanderbilt.”

News for this section should be sent to Nelson Bryan, class notes editor, *Vanderbilt Magazine*, VU Station B 357703, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37235-7703, fax: 615/343-8547, or e-mail: vanderbiltmagazine@vanderbilt.edu. Please include your degree, class year and, when applicable, maiden name. You also can send us news or update your address and other biographical information electronically through forms on the alumni Web site at www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni.

[Please Note: Class Notes are only found in the print version of this publication.]



“**John S. Hatcher, BA’62, MA’63**, published his 14th book, a translation from *Persian and Arabic of the poetry of Tabirib*.”



John “Buddy” Fisher, BA’50, JD’54, and his wife, Carolyn

PEYTON HOGE

Dream Weavers

“When you go to Africa, you realize what a terrible struggle it is just for some people to exist,” says John “Buddy” Fisher. “The unemployment rate is around 45 percent, and women who have seven or eight children may provide their families’ only income.”

In 2000, Fisher and his wife, Carolyn, signed up for a Vanderbilt Alumni Association safari to Kenya. A visit to Nairobi’s slums and to Nanyuki Spinners and Weavers, a women’s self-help project north of Nairobi, left a lasting impression on the Fishers.

The 200 women involved with the Nanyuki project were converting wool from local sheep into beautiful rugs and stoles—but they had a loan of nearly \$13,000 that, because of the falling Kenyan shilling, was taking most of their resources just to make payments.

The Fishers returned to their home and got their church, First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, Tenn., and the governing body of the denomination involved. The result: The loan has been paid off, and new color brochures advertising Nanyuki Spinners and Weavers have been printed to place in Kenyan hotels.

“Travel isn’t just about staying in fine hotels; it’s seeing what life is like for the people who live there,” says Fisher.



Max Notowitz, BA’52

PEYTON HOGE

A Promise Kept

“Promise me that if you ever have a chance, you will get a good education,” Max Notowitz’s mother wrote him in 1942. Notowitz read those words while in a Nazi labor camp. He was never to see his mother again. The youngest person in the camp, Notowitz was the only member of his Polish family to survive the Holocaust. Along with 31 others, he escaped by digging under barbed wire and hid in a forest for 21 grueling months. By then, only eight escapees were alive.

After making his way to post-war America, he worked in a New York factory and attended night school until relatives invited him to Memphis, Tenn. “I learned English in New York. When I came South I had great difficulty understanding,” he remembers. But he graduated with the highest scholastic average from Christian Brothers High School, then came to Vanderbilt, graduating Phi Beta Kappa in 1952.

At age 75, he still goes to his office at Equitable Life every day. He ran marathons into his 60s. And he recently became president of the Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South.

“ **Robert W. Cobb, BA’82**, took office as inspector general of NASA on April 22, 2002. ”



**James H. Morgan,
BA’69**

NEIL BRAKE

Taking Stock

A heart attack five years ago forced Jim Morgan to face his own mortality. As he recovered, Morgan and his wife, Peggy, began thinking about how they could continue making charitable gifts that were significant and anonymous after he retires from a successful investment career.

That desire led him to found a six-person investment firm, Morgan Semones, with the goal of profits earmarked for a charitable foundation. One of his greatest pleasures is Tuesdays—portfolio days “when five or six of us sit together all day, challenging each other, enjoying each other.”

“My passion forever has been the stock market and the economy,” adds Morgan, currently president of the Vanderbilt Alumni Association.

A history major at Vanderbilt, he says a long view of the national economy has served him well. “We are probably in a prolonged period of a different environment than many younger people remember. It will look and feel great at times, and then scare you to death. I tell young people that you don’t learn as much when things are easy and working well as when they’re tough and not working.”

“Saladin Patterson, MA’96, is a producer on the NBC Emmy Award-winning sitcom ‘Frasier.’”



Randy Smith,
BA’84, MDiv’88

NEIL BRAKE

Smith to Head Alumni Relations

Randy Smith has been named Vanderbilt’s associate vice chancellor for alumni relations. Smith has held several key roles since joining Development and Alumni Relations at Vanderbilt in 1996, most recently as associate vice chancellor overseeing the parents campaign, planned giving, principal gifts and regional development. In his new position he will oversee alumni relations, regional development, Reunion and the annual fund.

“My first job at Vanderbilt was as director of alumni education and travel, and I realized then how crucial it is to connect alumni with the Vanderbilt of today,” Smith says. “We’ll be looking for ways to increase the connections between Vanderbilt and its alumni—through programming that speaks to all ages and a variety of interests, through volunteer leadership to Vanderbilt, and through making the case that Vanderbilt continues to merit financial support.”

A Nashville native, Smith has served as pastor to Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations in Jackson, Tenn., and Kansas City, Mo. He is married to the Rev. Beth Pattillo, MDiv’90.

“**Laura Caudell, MEd’00**, spent the spring and summer traveling with President and Mrs. Bush as a part of the press advance staff.”

Sarah Morgan Wilcox,
BS’82



NEIL BRAKE

Mentone, R.F.D.

“We roll up the carpets at night here,” says Sarah Wilcox, BS’82, of tiny Mentone, Ala. The scenic mountain town numbers fewer than 500 inhabitants, but there’s a Vanderbilt alumnus everywhere you turn. Wilcox runs the Mountain Laurel Inn bed and breakfast. Robert Hammond, BA’71, runs Camp Laney, a summer camp for boys. Jean Thompson Corey, BS’79, teaches English at nearby Lee University but lives in Mentone, where her husband owns the hardware store. Mary “Poppy” Buchanan, BSN’61, and her husband, Richard, BA’57, MD’61, live in Nashville but spend much of their time at their second home in Mentone.

“There are transplants like me, including several artists—but also true locals born and bred on the mountain,” Wilcox says. “DeKalb County is known as the sock capital of the world—there are more than 200 sock factories around here.

“It’s laid back and unsophisticated and just naturally beautiful,” she adds. “We’re not making millions here, but we’ve got the lifestyle.”

