

The CUMBERLAND Lawyer

Winter 2010



“Mr. Cumberland”

Arthur A. Weeks

Dec. 2, 1914–Aug. 22, 2009



From the Dean

The news of Dean Arthur Weeks' death saddened all of us in the Cumberland School of Law community. His commitment to the school was lifelong, and his contribution cannot be overstated. It is fitting that we dedicate the cover of this *Cumberland Lawyer* to the man who did more for this school than any other. The picture is unique, because it shows Dean Weeks standing next to Memory Leake Robinson, the person for whom the law school building is named.

Dean Weeks and those who came before him, whether in Birmingham or Lebanon, Tenn., provided the foundation on which our progress as a law school has been built. We have continued to maintain our reputation as one of the finest advocacy programs in the nation. We also have developed a world-renowned faculty, strong international programs, a state-of-the-art law library, and a group of students committed not only to excellence in the practice of law but to the betterment of our community as well.

This past October, Cumberland School of Law honored its seventh lawyer in residence, **Pat Dye, Jr. '87**. He is an alumnus who has proven his lawyering skills in the field of sports law. This issue also focuses on some other alumni who are in sports or sports-related fields. They epitomize the value of the school's legal education that equips graduates to be successful whether they decide to spend their time in the courtroom or the boardroom, or as owners of sports franchises.

We also feature some individuals who have dedicated either their personal or professional life to the world of sports. For example, read the story of one of my classmates from the Class of 1974, **Cecil Cheves**. Cecil shares my addiction to physical fitness but takes it to a new level. A few years ago, he ran a marathon a month for a year. We compete throughout the year

in triathlons, but when we compete against one another, he kicks my (insert word of your choosing). This past August, however, Cecil used his athletic prowess for a very good cause. To celebrate his 60th birthday, Cecil swam 60 laps, biked 60 miles and ran 60 miles as a fund-raiser for Honor Flight in Columbus, Ga. The group is part of a national organization that flies veterans of World War II to Washington, D.C., so they can visit the World War II Memorial. Cecil is a wonderful representative of the kind of lawyer our law school represents—the accomplished practitioner who is also a servant leader.

We hope you enjoy the stories that are told in this winter issue. We encourage you to send in your own stories so that we may know what is going on in your life and so that we can share your stories with your fellow alumni. Send your news to the editor of *The Cumberland Lawyer*, Lauren McCaghren, at lmccagh@samford.edu.

Please make sure to read the tribute to Dean Weeks on page 10. We are forever grateful for the contributions that he and so many others have made to our success.

For this issue that honors Dean Weeks, I want to end with a dedication. It comes from the dedication found in the eighth edition of Dean Abraham Caruthers' *History of a Lawsuit*, which was the leading legal text of its time and used by those who attended the law school in Lebanon, Tenn. The eighth edition was edited by Sam Gilreath and Judge Bobby Aderholt, who both taught at Cumberland School of Law.

"To the Alumni of Cumberland School of Law—those that now are, those yet to be and to the memory of those that are dead."

John L. Carroll

Dean and Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Dean Carroll breaks from his responsibilities as dean of the law school by participating in numerous triathlons throughout the year.

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These law school alumni have combined their enthusiasm for sports and their business talents, and are at the top of their game.

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Cover: Dean Arthur Weeks, right, stands with Memory Leake Robinson in front of the newly completed home of Cumberland School of Law, Memory Leake Robinson Hall. Weeks was responsible for the school's move from Lebanon, Tenn., to Samford University's campus in 1964.



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We need your help to make *The Cumberland Lawyer* useful to alumni. Send us your comments and ideas for alumni profiles, articles and ongoing features in addition to your personal alumni updates.

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Morgan County Honors Judge James E. Horton

Dean John Carroll was the keynote speaker in a ceremony honoring one of the most courageous judges in American history, **Judge James E. Horton Jr., Class of 1899**. The ceremony was held Aug. 28 at the Morgan County Courthouse in Decatur, Ala.

Horton was an Alabama circuit judge who presided over the trial of one of the Scottsboro Boys, Haywood Patterson. The Scottsboro Boys were wrongly convicted of rape in the 1930s amid an atmosphere of violence and racial hatred. Horton's ruling to grant Patterson a new trial was one of the most courageous judicial acts in all of American law. He knew setting aside the verdict would end his judicial career, because the citizens of the surrounding county would be outraged. The rule of law was more important to him.

"The eloquent words with which he began his oral opinion on the new trial motion speak volumes about what the rule of law means," said Dean Carroll. "He said social order is based on law, and its perpetuity on its fair and impartial administration. Deliberate injustice is more fatal to the one who imposes it than to the one on whom it is imposed. Judge Horton is a shining role model for all of us. We

should remember Judge Horton's favorite phrase, which he learned at his mother's knee—'Justitia fiat coelum ruat'—Let justice be done though the heavens may fall."

Horton's portrait and a plaque bearing a statement from his ruling in the case will be displayed in the Morgan County Courthouse. ☪

Law School Participates in National Pro Bono Week

Cumberland School of Law hosted the Birmingham activities for the first-ever National Pro Bono Celebration Oct. 25–31.

Cassandra Adams, director of the Cumberland Community Mediation Center and Public Interest Project, serves on the Alabama State Bar Pro Bono Celebration Task Force for 2009–10. She was responsible for coordinating all activities associated with the Birmingham celebration.

Activities included providing free services to assist senior citizens of the Birmingham area, assisting women at the Lovelady Center with legal issues, and a volunteer reception hosted by Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC.

The four clinics were a success, with volunteers serving more than 75 people

through the senior citizen clinics and more than 100 women at the Lovelady Center. ☪

Law School Extends International Influence

Cumberland School of Law is privileged to host three students from the United Kingdom during the fourth year of an exchange program with Norwich Law School at the University of East Anglia. These students are part of the law program at Norwich, which requires students to study abroad in another legal system for their third year of law school. ☪



From left, Nikki Kalamis from St. Martin, Guernsey, Ben Atkin from Hockley Essex, England, and Kaileigh Hazeldine from Brighton, England, are part of an exchange program with Norwich Law School in England.

Cumberland School of Law Hosts Gruber Award

The Gruber Prize was presented to Bryan Stevenson of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Ala., and the European Roma Rights Center in Budapest during a formal ceremony at Cumberland School of Law Sept. 24.

The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation is an internationally recognized foundation that annually awards five prizes in the fields of cosmology, genetics, neuroscience, justice and women's rights. The prize consists of a gold medal and \$500,000.

Stevenson said his share of the prize will be used to expand beyond the Montgomery-based organization's original mission, providing legal representation to poor defendants and prisoners, to include justice issues involving children, the growing use of incarceration, wrongful convictions and antipoverty efforts.

In a discussion after the award presentation, Stevenson talked at length to students and observers about the importance of providing effective legal representation to all in order to become a just society and to overcome a history of segregation. ☪



Students, staff and members from the community gathered in Cumberland's Moot Court Room to witness the 2009 Gruber Justice Prize Presentation. Cumberland School of Law was honored to host the event, which brought the school international recognition.



Cumberland School of Law Takes the Lead on DNA Legislation

Last month, Cumberland School of Law's Public Interest Program launched the DNA Legislation Research Project. Staffed by pro bono graduate fellows and law student research assistants, the research project requires the volunteers to review the records of more than 800 Alabama inmates to determine who has been convicted of a capital crime and is eligible under the recently passed Alabama DNA Legislation to file a motion to obtain

testing of the DNA evidence used in connection with their conviction.

"This is important work, and I am glad we have some graduates and students willing to do it," said Dean John Carroll.

The team is working with Lisa Borden, pro bono shareholder of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, and professor **LaJuana Davis** and CCMC director, **Cassandra Adams**. ☞



Law students Rachel Eidson, Eric Vinsant, Ginny Willcox, Angel Darmer competed in the Region 4 competition at the Florida State University College of Law.

Negotiation Teams Travel to Tallahassee

Twenty-four teams from the Southeast competed in the ABA Regional Negotiation Competition Nov. 7-8 in Tallahassee, Fla. The competition exists to promote greater interest among law students in legal negotiation, and provides a means for them to practice and improve their negotiating skills.

The law school sent two teams, **Rachel Eidson** and **Eric Vinsant**, and **Angel Darmer** and **Ginny Wilcox**, who advanced to the final round.

The school extends thanks to their coach, **Dean Corky Strickland**, and the students who worked with the team, **John Exum** and **Matt Davis**. ☞



Members of the 2009 DNA Legislation Research Project include, from left, Lisa Borden, Allison Miller, Rachel LaFleur, Alex Ulbricht, Margaret Culp, James VanCleave, Hannah Mebane, Benjamin Cohn, Stacie Irwin, Tim Cook, LaJuana Davis and Joshua Reif.

Law School Welcomes New Faculty

Professor Rusty Johnson became a member of the faculty Dec. 1. He holds an undergraduate degree from Duke University, and a master's and law degree from Columbia University. Following law school, Johnson clerked for United States District Judge Myron Thompson in the Middle District of Alabama and Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey, who is a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Before joining the faculty, Johnson was a practicing lawyer with the firm of Wiggins, Childs, Quinn & Pantazis. He is married to Tamara Johnson, who is an assistant United States attorney. They have two small children.



Rusty Johnson



Dayna Royal

Johnson will teach complex litigation, federal courts and law and religion among other things.

Professor Dayna Royal joins the faculty after practicing First Amendment law in Atlanta, Ga., for a Washington, D.C.-based firm. In private practice, she represented clients such as New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Sprint Nextel, and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* on a wide array of media-related matters. She

also specialized in complex commercial litigation and appellate advocacy in both federal and state courts.

Royal is an alumna of the University of Michigan Law School, where she graduated summa cum laude and second in her class. During law school, she served as a note editor on the *Michigan Law Review* and was inducted into the Order of the Coif upon graduation. Following law school, Royal clerked for the Honorable Rosemary S. Pooler, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Royal received her undergraduate education at the University of Florida, where she received degrees cum laude in broadcast news journalism and psychology. She is a member of the Georgia Bar.

Royal teaches Civil Procedure I and II, Media Law, and Criminal Procedure. ☞



MVP's of Sports Law

These Heavy Hitters Know What It Takes To Win

Viewed as one of the most glamorous jobs in the field, sports law also can be one of the most time-consuming and most demanding positions in which lawyers can find themselves. The sports world is fast-paced and unpredictable, and sports attorneys are required to know everything about the business. Here's a look at a few Cumberland School of Law graduates who bring their A-game to the table.

The Changing Face of Sports

Sports Business

Professor Robert Boland

When it comes to sports law, it would be “hard to imagine anyone who knows more about the field than **Robert Boland '95**,” said Dean John Carroll when he introduced him as the Cordell Hull Speaker in the fall of 2007.

Boland is professor of sports business at New York University's Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism and Sports Management, a principal with Washington Square Sports Consultants and a columnist for the *National Football Post*.

Boland was a 1984 U.S. Olympic Trials competitor in Greco-Roman wrestling. He lettered in varsity football and wrestling at Columbia University. He has since worked in many fields but describes sports management as the “toy department of life.”

“I have been a prosecutor, done criminal defense work, worked as the law clerk to a trial judge, been an administrative law



Robert Boland '95, right, regularly shares his knowledge of sports law in the classroom and in national media outlets.

judge and worked in a big corporate firm in antitrust litigation, but I was never as happy or as fulfilled as when I am working in sports,” he said.

He began his teaching career as an adjunct professor at NYU and transitioned to full-time when the Tisch Center launched one of the nation's first sports business-centered master's programs six years ago. Boland credits his Cumberland School of Law professors for giving him the ability to be a teacher.

“It has been the most important job I have ever had,” he said. “Teaching has made me a better practitioner and allowed me to transition from working almost exclusively as a player-agent to working in a variety of interesting areas of sports.”

Boland's recent endeavors include counseling a group trying to buy a National Football League [NFL] team and acting as of counsel to the firm of Premier-Stinson, which represents high-profile coaches including Pete Carroll at the University of Southern California and

Roy Williams of the University of North Carolina. He frequently appears on CNN and *Good Morning America* as an expert on legal and sports business issues, and continues to advise coaches, universities and pro teams on a variety of issues.

Boland is the first to admit that the world of sports can be tricky. "As sports have grown in complexity, and the monetary stakes have grown exponentially, the sheer volume of legal issues in sports have increased dramatically," he said.

Today's sports attorneys must be able to manage a myriad of issues, including labor relations, social media, inheritance and antitrust issues. NFL sports attorneys are keeping up with *American Needle v. NFL*, a case heard by the Supreme Court on Jan. 15. The case could be the most significant legal turning point in the history of American sports. (The case had not been heard at press time.) "If the NFL manages to persuade the Supreme Court that the league is a single entity competing with other providers of entertainment rather than a group of 32 separate businesses competing with each other, the landscape of the sports industry will be transformed," said Lester Munson of ESPN.com.

"What the Supreme Court decides ... could radically alter the relationship of sports and antitrust law and really limit the influence of labor unions in sports," said Boland.

Digomé's Roe Frazer

Roe Frazer '85 founded his company, Digomé, in 2008 to better meet the needs of fans and sports marketing organizations. Digomé, which means "tell me" in Spanish, is a sports and entertainment technology and software development company based in Nashville, Tenn. It delivers video-centric websites, online marketing services, social media expertise, and pay-per-view e-ticketing for live Internet-cast sports and entertainment events.

A self-proclaimed sports fanatic, Frazer is the "coach" of Digomé and has put together a dream team of the best in the business.

"I wanted to do something with technology, which I love, in areas that I love," said Frazer.

He opened Digomé's doors in February of 2008, and within one year, the company quadrupled its staffing and

encountered enormous success.

"I have always embraced technology to help handle business," said Frazer. "I am constantly looking at what is new, searching for the best of breed."

Digomé is at the top of the technological and online marketing curve with an unparalleled media player, live streaming capabilities, and an e-ticketing and provisioning system that allows for pay-per-view live and archival events over the Internet. Digomé just launched the redesigned Country Music Hall of Fame website and was recently nominated for a Nashville Music Award as a "music



Roe Frazer, right, and Thomas Gaines of Gaines-Gentry Stables stop for a picture in the paddock at Keeneland Race Track. Frazer's company, Digomé, is expanding its work to the thoroughbred racing and farms industry.

technology innovator." Digomé's CoachCal.com was featured prominently on ESPN.

Whether in a daily recap meeting or at the local Flying Saucer, the staff of Digomé is always brainstorming ways to connect clients with their fans through online marketing and technology. According to their website, "every day is game day at Digomé."

"We're a very eclectic group," said Frazer. "It's like an episode of *Seinfeld* every day."

Frazer is at the head of marketing, sales, strategic partnerships and business. "Having a legal background gives me an advantage," said Frazer. "I have a much broader view of what has to happen in a business transaction to make it stick."

A typical weekly agenda for Frazer may include a college or NBA basketball game, a visit to a thoroughbred farm or

racetrack, a college football game, an NFL game, or in a studio with a band, with business meetings at each.

"The only other thing I could want to do at this stage in my life would be coaching an NBA or NFL team or major college program, and that's never going to happen," said Frazer. "This is about as close as I can get to my dream job."

All in the Family

Stan Logan from Southern League of Professional Baseball

Following the 2005 season, **Stan Logan '96** purchased the Birmingham Barons baseball team in Hoover, Ala., with his father and brother. The Barons are the Class AA affiliate of the Chicago White Sox and play in the South Division of the Southern League with the Jacksonville Suns, Montgomery Biscuits, Mississippi Braves and Mobile Bay Bears.

The Barons seemed like the perfect fit for the Logan family's first venture in sports management. "It's a team that I went to see quite frequently when I was a kid, so it's something that our family has always been a part of," Logan said.

He has watched the Barons through their franchise history as the incubator of the great 1970s teams of the Oakland A's,

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Stan Logan attends the 14th Annual Rickwood Classic during the Hall of Fame ceremony. The Rickwood Classic is one of the most popular events for baseball fans in Alabama and across the country.

All in the Family

Dye Is Cumberland Lawyer in Residence

As the son of a former professional football player and College Football Hall of Fame coach, it is not surprising that **Pat F. Dye, Jr. '87** became a successful sports agent. After witnessing many players routinely misguided by incompetent and unscrupulous agents, Dye founded Atlanta-based ProFiles Sports, Inc.

Though the company was initially started in the basement of his house, Dye now represents 45 NFL players, 13 of whom have been Pro Bowl selections. He has negotiated nearly \$2 billion in NFL contracts, and routinely speaks at

sports law seminars and law schools around the country.

Dye is willing to do just about anything for his clients. His office handles everything from coordinating travel and insurance for clients to organizing funerals and family reunions.

"All of it is adding value to our services and allows us to be more deeply entrenched into our clients' lives," said Dye. "We are very close to our clients, but we will be as involved or as uninvolved as they want us to be."

With more than 20 years in the profession, Dye has established a reputation

Dye spoke to several classes during his stay, including Gov. Brewer's Ethics course.



Pat Dye, Jr. is the son of College Football Hall of Fame Coach Pat Dye.

for being professional, honest and effective. In October, he was selected as Cumberland School of Law's 2009 Lawyer in Residence, and he shared his expertise with students on October 19-20, 2009.

Dye noted that the majority of his time is spent recruiting and negotiating. He said he doesn't have room to be star-struck; he has to maintain professionalism on all levels. He told students that in every business, especially one as competitive as sports, "You have got to be able to sell. Sell your firm, sell your services and sell yourself." ♪



Cumberland School of Law classmates **Jason Knight '87** and **Doug Dooley '87** join Pat Dye, Jr., right, and his father, Pat, at a dinner honoring Dye as the 2009 Lawyer in Residence.

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Vida Blue, Blue Moon Odum, Reggie Jackson and Michael Jordan.

Logan doesn't just enjoy the games these days, however. He oversees all aspects of operations and ensures that fans have the best experience possible. "We want our fans to leave with a smile on their face and have a great experience when they come to the ballpark," he said.

When he's not securing corporate sponsorships and ad revenues to cover yearly expenses, Logan manages personnel. He is very grateful for the communication skills his law degree gave him—both written and oral—which he uses on sales calls or meeting with various industry partners.

"The analytical skills are very finely tuned in a legal background," he said. "It enables me to wade through a lot of unimportant issues to what's important in a matter and be able to problem-solve more effectively. It helps tremendously in any business environment."

While Logan has a lot of fun and admits that many of his friends are jealous of his position, "They think that there's no work involved, that it's some kind of kid's fantasy-utopia, when in reality, there's a lot of work to it. The adage 'if you love what you're doing, it's not work at all' is very applicable to a sports team."

The Barons just completed a 92-win season, the best winning percentage in the franchise's history. Logan was there with his wife, **Julie '96**, and their sons, John, 5, and Jack, 2 ½. Next season, they'll add another member to their box, Sarah Alexandra, who was born Oct. 9, 2009.

"It's a nice feeling to watch these young guys who have dreams and aspirations of making it to the big leagues . . . and watching them fulfill those dreams," he said. "It certainly is fun to be involved in the little way that we are."

NFL Agent Worrick Robinson

When the Oilers moved from Houston, Texas, to Nashville, Tenn., in 1997, eventually becoming the Tennessee Titans NFL team, **Worrick Robinson '91** saw an opportunity he couldn't pass up. A long-time lover of sports, Robinson said, "it was very appealing to me to work with professional athletes on a day-to-day basis."

He immediately gained certification



An avid sports fan, Robinson always dreamed of working in sports law.

as an NFL agent, and began recruiting players to sign and represent. Reflecting back, Robinson said he "just went out on my own and didn't know anybody."

An established civil litigation and criminal defense attorney at Robinson, Regan & Young, P.C., in Nashville, Robinson soon realized that he had entered into a whole new ballgame. For two to three years, he traveled and recruited every weekend. He began building relationships with coaches, management personnel and members of teams, including the Titans.

There were high and low moments along the way, but as Robinson built his network of new friends, he also learned some valuable lessons. "As an agent, you were only as popular as your best client," he said.

He signed several players over the years, but "it was not until I started representing Adam 'Pac Man' Jones in 2007 that I really began to understand what was involved in representing a marquee football player, including dealing with the media when a difficult issue arises," he said.

It's no secret that high-profile players have greater needs, and their requests can be very time-consuming for an agent. "They want to speak or spend time with you every day," said Robinson. "It's hard to juggle the needs of a law practice, the needs of professional athletes and balancing a family in there also," he said.

If that wasn't enough, Robinson also serves as an adjunct professor at Belmont University, teaching sports law in their sports administration graduate program. He also has participated in numerous

interviews with media outlets such as ESPN, *Sports Illustrated* and *The Sporting News*.

Life is not all work and no play for Robinson. Each year, he attends the NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis, Ind., to talk with coaches and team management heads. On two occasions, he sat across the table from NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, and he has attended meetings at the home of Jerry Jones, owner of the Dallas Cowboys.

Some of his favorite perks, however, include attending practices and visiting the locker rooms of the Titans and the Cowboys before and after a game. "There are very limited opportunities to do that because of security and team privacy," Robinson said. "It's like being a kid in a candy store, especially if you are a sports fanatic."

Robinson considers himself an extended member of his client's team, and notes that he views each client in many ways like a son. "Everyone in the family feels the pain of the bad days," he said, "But when they do well, everybody in the family is happy and wants to celebrate."

Balancing the Love and the Game

Chris Murvin, Golf Channel



"I couldn't think of anything else I'd rather be doing right now," said Chris Murvin '80, who recently was promoted to senior vice president of business affairs for the Golf Channel.

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There's no doubt that many consider his current position a dream job, but it took **Chris Murvin '80** a while to find the perfect fit.

After an unsatisfying career in accounting, Murvin decided to enroll in law school. As a successful attorney in Birmingham, he had a client who was putting together a business plan for a cable television network called the Golf Channel. Murvin helped with the legal work, and as things progressed, he had the opportunity to go to Orlando, Fla., and help launch the channel, which went on air Jan. 14, 1995.

"I had absolutely no experience of how to run a television network," said Murvin. "I have benefited from a lot of on-the-job experience. Just like anything else, if you work really hard and become determined to master the subject matter, you can eventually get to the point where you feel very comfortable with your skills."

Murvin supervises the human resources and legal departments, and manages the administration of the network's existing contracts with major golf organizations, as well as its international partners. These include the PGA Tour, LPGA, USGA, PGA of America, Augusta National and the European Tour, as well as other significant contracts that impact Golf Channel business. He also is responsible for protecting the Golf Channel's trademarks, copyrights and other intellectual property, and overseeing the network's licensing and use of intellectual property from third parties.

"I had always hoped to be involved in a business outside of the general practice of law," said Murvin.

He still utilizes his legal training but is able to partner that with his passion for golf. "Being able to do things that I really love to do at the same time is a dream come true," he said.

Murvin tries to play golf at least a couple of times a week and competes in amateur events when the opportunity arises. "My goal the past three years has been to qualify for the USGA Senior Amateur Championship," he said. "I've come within a couple of strokes and am now practicing again, hoping that next summer I'll finally break through and qualify for the event."

Rarely, Murvin has the opportunity to play golf as part of his job. Some of those opportunities have allowed him to play

with the likes of Arnold Palmer and Payne Stewart just a couple of months before he died.

"Everybody thinks all I do is play golf. It's a hobby of mine, but I do it on my own time and not during the company time," said Murvin. "I face the same kind of challenges everybody else faces—budgets, a difficult economic environment—it just looks a little bit better because its golf."

Murvin likes to focus on the international aspect of his business, understanding of the numerous cultures that he has to deal with because of the Golf Channel's widespread distribution. "Every region has its own quirks and differences, and you have to learn how to deal in those different cultures," he said. "It's been a pretty big challenge."

That challenge will continue to grow now that golf has been reinstated as a sport for the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. "That has sparked a lot of interest from countries around the world to develop golf programs so they have qualified teams that are able to compete," said Murvin.

Above all, Murvin enjoys the people he gets to work with on a daily basis. "They're a great group of people," he said. "We all share a common love for the game and a desire to help it grow."

Bob Stallings

Bob Stallings '68 has found the perfect balance between work and play. A partner of Stallings & Stallings in Louisville, Ky., he has had his hand in minor league baseball since 1986—a hand that proudly wears a championship ring.

Stallings is one of six owners of the Louisville Bats, formerly the Louisville Redbirds. The AAA minor-league affiliate of the Cincinnati Reds is part of the International League. The team has played in the championship series twice, winning the coveted league Governors' Cup in 2001.

Stallings never expected he would own a minor league baseball team, much less be invited to own one by an opposing counsel's client. "He called me up, out of the blue, and invited me to participate in the purchase of the Bats," said Stallings. "I was very surprised when he called. He and I have become very good friends through the years."

Stallings and the other owners paid a record price for the franchise at the time,

and it has paid off in more ways than one. He has met many clients in the stands of a Bats baseball game and has developed many friendships he would not have had otherwise.

Stallings has never regretted his purchase and does whatever he can to help support the team. "The team pretty much runs itself," he said. "We say in the board room that it's our job to get people in the seats."

Stallings stays busy selling tickets, sponsorships and suites for each home game. He admits it has been harder since the slope in the economy, but the Bats always seem to draw a crowd. They have won the minor league attendance record every year since moving to Louisville Slugger Field in 2000. Still, Stallings and other board members work to keep things interesting for the fans with additional promotions each year, including dog nights and a highly anticipated Elvis Presley night for next season.

Stallings left his own mark on the field when he convinced the board of the Bats to put a statue of Paul Hornung, a Louisville native and golden boy of the Green Bay Packers, in front of Slugger Field, joining a similar statue of Pee Wee Reese. Stallings led a group of Hornung's friends to commission the statue.

Stallings continues to support players even after their retirement. He enjoys representing these professional athletes, and is constantly searching for ways to endorse them and help them succeed. He dedicated himself to this since the very beginning, when he came on board with the team.

Stallings' law degree has served him well over the years, opening the door for the Bats opportunity, and supporting him in his litigation and equine law practice. He has owned racehorses since he was in college and has found a way to merge his interest with his business.

Whether he's in the courtroom, enjoying the scene at Churchill Downs, or savoring a beverage at the ballpark, Stallings brings equal enthusiasm to each setting. 🍷



Students Compete in National Softball Invitational

Each spring, the North Grounds Softball League [NGSL] at the University of Virginia School of Law holds an annual National Law School Softball Invitational. Proceeds from the event are given to Children, Youth and Family Services, a local nonprofit charitable organization providing a range of services. More than 110 teams from law schools around the country travel to Charlottesville to compete in the three-day tournament for the title and yearlong bragging rights. The invitational is the largest of its kind in the nation and includes play at more than seven fields, a barbecue, parties and more.

Cumberland School of Law began attending the invitational in the spring of 2007 after **Cameron McEwen '07** gained approval from Dean John Carroll and Vice Dean Jim Lewis.

McEwen, now a deputy district attorney for Montgomery County, created the Cumberland Softball Club in the fall of 2006 to generate interest among students. The turnout was so great that tryouts had to be held to select who would compete

in the invitational. Two competitive teams were formed, and Cumberland School of Law has been participating in the tournament ever since under the direction of **Alan Kirk '09** and third-year student **Drew Herring**.

"The support from the student body was excellent," said McEwen. "I was especially impressed with several first-year students who wanted to participate and continue the success of the club for years to come."

Since that first year, funding has been provided by **Norris Injury Lawyers** and **Cory Watson Crowder & DeGaris**, who supply the team with uniforms and cover Birmingham softball league fees.

Carroll immediately agreed to sponsor the team, and the law school has covered travel expenses, tournament fees, lodging and food for the teams.

McEwen said that without the financial support of the law firms and the school, the teams never would have been able to compete in the tournament. "I am forever grateful for their support and

interest in the club's behalf," he said.

Participation has provided great national exposure for Cumberland School of Law. The school's teams have made the playoffs each year, beating out teams from the University of Virginia, the University of Michigan, Georgetown University, Harvard University, Boston University, William & Mary, and Rutgers.

"One of the greatest aspects of the tournament is being able to network with future lawyers from around the country, and increasing the name recognition of Cumberland," said Herring.

The law school's teams also compete in city leagues to help promote the school locally.

Students are eligible to play all three years of law school.

"Softball is a great tool to expand friendships and professional networks within our school," said Herring. "One day, we may forget the individual plays and scores, but we will never forget our teammates." ♡



Remembering “Mr. Cumberland”

A Tribute to

Arthur A. Weeks

Dec. 2, 1914–Aug. 22, 2009

Advancing the practice of law was a way of life for Arthur A. Weeks, whether serving at the helm of a law school or spending time with students in the classroom. He had a passion for the law, and a countless number of lives have been influenced by his dedication.

Born in Hanceville, Ala., Weeks graduated from Howard College (now Samford University) in 1936. He received his law degree from the University of Alabama Law School and spent his initial postgraduate years serving in the Judge Advocate General’s Department of the U.S. Army during World War II. His last assignment before honorable discharge with the rank of captain was that of chief legal officer for Bremen, Germany, Enclave. Afterward, Weeks earned his master of law degree from Duke University Law School.

Weeks practiced as a successful private attorney before accepting the position of dean of Cumberland School of Law in 1948. He served as dean of the school for three terms, 1948–49, 1950–54 and 1961–72.

During this time, Weeks saw that the school was approved by the American Bar Association and became an accredited law school. He was the first dean of Cumberland School of Law at Samford University, and was responsible for the law school’s move from Lebanon, Tenn., to the Birmingham campus. He also oversaw the construction of Memory Leake Robinson Hall, and under his leadership, enrollment in the school grew from 61 students to more than 600.

During his tenure, Weeks emphasized quality. His deanship supervised the commencement of a Law Review, and an emphasis on student involvement in regional and national law school activities, including moot court competitions.

“Dean Weeks provided strong leadership through some of the most turbulent times in Cumberland’s long history,” said John Carroll ’74, who has served as Cumberland School of Law dean since 2001. “His superhuman efforts to succeed in the face of significant adversity and to keep our law school moving forward laid the foundation for the great law school we are today. All of us who proudly bear the title ‘Cumberland lawyer’ owe him a huge debt of gratitude.”



Though his years in private practice provided monetary means much greater than those in the teaching profession, it became clear that money was not the motivator for Weeks. He returned to teaching full time in 1972 but took a leave of absence in 1974 to help bring accreditation to Delaware School of Law. He was appointed dean and professor of Delaware School of Law (now Widener Law) at Widener University, and was later awarded an honorary doctorate of laws from Delaware School of Law.

In a 1974 issue of *Pro Confesso*, a former newspaper produced by Cumberland School of Law students, Weeks said that “No university or college can afford to run a second-class law school, because the basis of our society as it now exists is built on the law, and when law is misinterpreted, misapplied or misunderstood, it adversely affects the whole fabric of society. We cannot have freedom and liberty except as it exists under law, and we cannot have law

when our moral values disintegrate.”

It was this philosophy that aided Weeks in establishing a first-class law school at Samford and Widener. In an editorial of the 1974 *Pro Confesso*, an anonymous contributor wrote, “Dean Weeks spent his life striving for excellence. We at Cumberland are fortunate to have a man of his talents and capacities associated with us.”

It takes many things to build two law

schools, but possibly no ingredient is as much needed as the character of the individual leading the cause. Weeks is an example of the profession of law that all Cumberland School of Law constituents can call their own “Mr. Cumberland.”

In 1994, the Cumberland School of Law Advisory Board, under the leadership of members **Tom Donahoo '65**, **Newman Brock '70** and **Tom Woodruff '69**, created the Arthur A. Weeks Scholarship in honor of Weeks. The endowed scholarship provides need-based assistance to second- and third-year law students.

Among the memorials suggested by the family is the Arthur A. Weeks Scholarship, Cumberland School of Law, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Dr., Birmingham, AL 35229. Please call 205-726-2445 if you would like to contribute to this fund. ☆

The Student Experience Then and Now

Arthur Weeks' 16 years as dean brought great changes to Cumberland School of Law and helped create an environment of growth that has seen many changes since. Below is a glimpse of what life was like as a member of the law school family in 1948, compared to what life is like as a student today, more than five decades later.

1948

- Enrollment: 113 students
- Tuition: \$115 per quarter
- Full-time faculty members: 3
- Class loads limited to 9 hours per term
- Set curriculum, no electives
- Law 101 Introduction to Legal Procedure
- Uniform Commercial Code courses
- 6 hours of Practice Court required in each of three years
- No external competitions
- No Student Bar Association
- Two active legal fraternities, all-male: Green Senate Chapter of Delta Theta Phi, Cordell Hull Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta
- One law sorority: Iota Tau Tau
- Library consisting of about 14,000 volumes



The entire law faculty in September 1961, the first year in Birmingham, included, from left, Samuel B. Gilreath, Wooten Pearce, Bobby Aderholt, librarian Patricia A. Coffman, Dean Arthur A. Weeks and Bernard B. Bailey.

2009

- Enrollment: 481 students
- Tuition: \$29,556 per year (\$7,389 per quarter)
- Full-time faculty members: 27 (64 adjunct)
- Students must be enrolled in at least 13 and no more than 16 credit hours each semester
- International programs
- Joint degrees
- Involvement in eight regional and national competitions
- Active Student Bar Association with 18 elected officers
- State-of-the-art Beeson Law Library containing more than 200,000 volumes and more than 90,000 volumes on microfiche

SBA President Shares His Thoughts

*Roderick J. Evans, Class of 2010, is president of the Student Bar Association. He graduated cum laude from Samford University in the prelaw program with a political science major in 2007. He is a law clerk with Davenport, Lavette, & Cleckler, P.C. He recently answered several questions posed by **Bob MacKenzie '84**, chairman of the Cumberland School of Law Advisory Board.*

Why did you choose Cumberland School of Law?

I wanted to attend law school since I was a kid. I used to say that some day I'd be judge. Law school was a necessary step toward that goal. Cumberland was a good fit for me because I knew I wanted a school small enough where I could really make an impact and have a large support group.

What was the title of your law school application essay?

"I Press Forward." It was a testament to the struggles I've faced, but also my successes, because of my commitment to pushing myself. I was raised by a single mother, and she always pressed that true wealth was in the knowledge one can attain. She told my sister and me that economic hardships did not equate to intellectual inferiority, and she pushed us to work hard so that we might have a better future. I am very grateful for her example.

What has been the biggest adjustment for you in law school?

Coming straight from undergrad to law school, I quickly realized the material was not going to be handed to me; in fact, it's thrown at you. The biggest adjustment for me was learning to think like a lawyer.

Why did you run for SBA president?

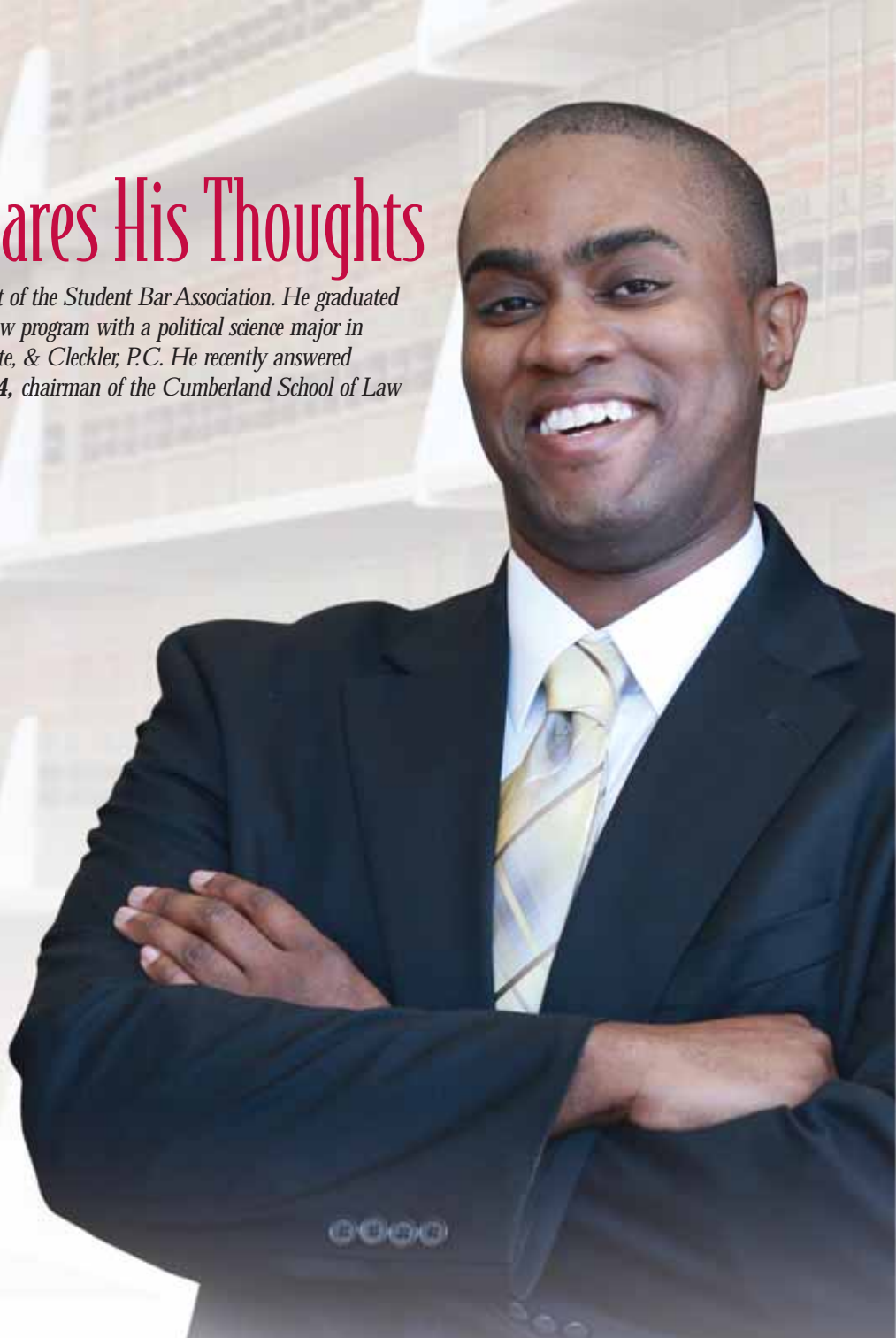
As a 2L, I served as a representative for SBA. Every time I am a part of something, I try to make it better. I thought back to when I came to law school and what I expected from SBA. I recognized that there were many opportunities to build up the SBA, make it run more smoothly, and to increase connections between students by holding the position.

In your opinion, what is the greatest challenge facing today's young adults?

How we define success. The "do just enough to get by" mentality comes to mind. It's so easy to become complacent with what you have and where you are. Society teaches us that if we get to a certain point or do one certain thing, we have reached worldly success, and that is all we are required to do. There is a false sense of what it means to be successful within our society.

What are your expectations of alumni?

As SBA president, I'm looking to develop mentoring programs for current students. We want to create opportunities for students to meet practicing alumni. I want alumni to take the time to talk to Cumberland students. ☺



Not Your Average Birthday Bash

Cheves Celebrates with a '60-60-60' Triathlon

by Shannon Cobb



Adapted from an Aug. 8, 2009, article by Chuck Williams, Columbus Ledger-Enquirer

Cecil Cheves, center, stops for a picture during his triathlon that brought attention to Honor Flight, an organization that helps World War II veterans fly to Washington, D.C., to view the memorial in honor of their service.

Most people celebrate their birthdays with traditional cake and ice cream. **Cecil Cheves '74**, a member of the Cumberland School of Law Advisory Board, typically celebrates his birthday by participating in a triathlon. But as his 60th birthday approached, Cheves decided to make a "grand statement of life" with what he called his "60-60-60 Triathlon": 60 miles of running, 60 miles of biking and 60 laps of swimming.

The accomplished lawyer first considered the idea when one of his running buddies suggested he do a 60-mile run for his upcoming birthday. An experienced runner and Ironman Triathlon competitor, Cheves had 40 marathons under his belt. The proposed challenge was double that of his longest run.

Instead of "just" running 60 miles, Cheves added 60 miles of biking and 60 laps of swimming.

"All of it is a personal inner challenge," he said. "But it has a lot of benefits. Aside from the obvious health benefits, it gives you self-confidence. And it's fun. You meet a lot of interesting people."

Cheves wanted to use the opportunity to bring attention to Honor Flight, a cause that helps World War II veterans fly to Washington, D.C., for viewing of the World War II Memorial placed in honor of their sacrifice for the United States. Helping

World War II veterans was a cause close to Cheves' heart as his father, grandfather and father-in-law all served in the war.

Cheves purposefully mapped out his route around Fort Benning, Ga., bringing further attention to veterans. After several training runs and bike rides, he decided on a four-loop course to comprise the 60-mile run and the 60-mile bike ride throughout Columbus and Fort Benning.

"There is so much joy we as human beings get out of physical exercise," said Cheves. "But sharing it with others is part of the joy for me."

Fully supported by members of his firm, Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford, P.C., and accompanied by his family and friends, Cheves embarked on the daunting feat just before 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7. He and 27 other runners began the first leg of the 60-mile run, leaving the National Infantry Museum to begin the nearly 24-hour undertaking.

Cheves completed the first leg of the triathlon in 15 hours and 27 minutes.

After an hour of transition, Cheves and a group of riders set off on the second leg: a 60-mile bike ride. In just 6 hours and 24 minutes, the group completed the second leg, and Cheves transitioned for the 60-lap swim in Lake Oliver behind his Green Island home. In an hour and 59 minutes, around 9:30 p.m. on Saturday,

Aug. 8, Cheves completed the grueling triathlon.

Though at times his body seemed to be rebelling against him, Cheves managed to push through to the finish line.

Kim Freeman, a friend and fellow triathlete who had joined Cheves on parts of the triathlon said, "He would get through it; then he was smiling again."

While some friends and family joined him on the journey, others were there to celebrate at the end, cheering him on and supporting his efforts all along. Bettye, his wife of 38 years, showed her support by jumping in, fully clothed, to finish the final lap with her husband.

Excluding transition time, Cheves finished the 60-60-60 triathlon in 23 hours and 50 minutes, just under his goal of 24 hours. He noted that what was even more fulfilling than his most significant endurance feat was the fact that about 40 of his friends and family showed up to share the moment with him.

"Cecil is truly, at the heart, one of the most inspiring people I have known," Freeman said. "He was so humble. When it was over and we were having fellowship, the focus was never on him or 'Look, see what I have done.'" 🌟

If you would like to contribute to Honor Flight, go to www.honorflight.com for more information.



Dean John Carroll welcomes the Class of 2012.



Alumni Association President Lenora Pate '85 addresses incoming students at a luncheon in Beeson University Center.

Orientation 2009

The efforts started in the fall of 2008 came to an end when 178 first-year students arrived on Samford's campus in August for the orientation picnic. The culmination of law fairs and forums, recruiting trips across the country, open houses, private visits, and the efforts of all the faculty, staff, alumni and current students led to a grand welcoming ceremony complete with a jazz band. Held on the Angel Patio outside the Beeson Law Library, members of the Class of 2012 met their professors, deans and fellow students for the first time.

The following day, formal orientation began with welcoming remarks from Assistant Dean for Admission Jennifer Y. Sims and Dean John Carroll. Both gave the class encouraging words and congratulated them on choosing the profession of law and Cumberland School of Law. Student Bar President **Roderick Evans** stressed the importance of students finding an activity or organization to help make the most of their law school experience. He encouraged them to seek knowledge from upperclassmen and any SBA member.

Professor Howard Walthall excited the class with his traditional recital on the

First-year students enjoy the orientation picnic.

history of the law school. He detailed many distinguished alumni who started their journey at Cumberland School of Law. He said the Class of 2012 was responsible not only for upholding this ongoing tradition, but also was privileged to follow in these footsteps. Students enjoyed Walthall's reenactment of Rascal receiving his doctor of canine jurisprudence, a fitting introduction to their new community environment.

Dean Carroll welcomed the students to Birmingham, a "vibrant city with a national and international legal

community, great art, great theatre and incredible restaurants even a law student can afford." He spoke of the Birmingham Pledge, and how each student would have the opportunity to sign the document that "represents a lot of the core values of our profession [law], diversity and respect for others and how you as lawyers can take a leadership role." Carroll reminded the class that the "best lawyers are the ones who treat each other with respect" and are not the kind that are "obnoxious" or "win at all cost."

Samford University President Andrew Westmoreland opened the formal orientation luncheon at the cafeteria in Beeson University Center. He told the new class that now was a "time of great change in [their] life" and reminded everyone, "all you will encounter here at Cumberland and Samford is as a result of the sacrifices made by the thousands of men and women over the years." Dr. Westmoreland



told each class member that as they “go about the changes that will affect [them] each day in this place, please know we are grateful for two things: your contribution to your time at this place and to God for getting you here.”

Lenora Pate '85, president of the Cumberland National Alumni Association and partner at Sirote and Permutt, P.C., was the featured alumni speaker. She told the group that there would be many “exciting times” at Cumberland School of Law and reassured them that the Alumni Association would support their efforts during and after their time at law school.

As the first full day came to a close, each of the 178 first-year student began to observe what Pate said: “You see what you are about to do is truly going to change you.” ☺

Class of 2012

Top Ten Undergraduate Schools

Auburn University
 Auburn University–Montgomery
 Birmingham–Southern College
 Samford University
 University of Alabama*
 University of Alabama at Birmingham
 University of Florida
 University of Georgia–Athens
 University of South Alabama
 University of Tennessee–Knoxville

Top Ten Majors

Accounting
 Business Administration
 Communication
 Criminal Justice
 Economics
 English
 Finance
 History
 Political Science*
 Psychology

Top Ten States of Permanent Residence

Alabama*	North Carolina
California	South Carolina
Florida	Tennessee
Georgia	Texas
Louisiana	Virginia

Entering Class Statistics

155/3.33	median
157/3.55	75th percentile
153/3.01	25th percentile

*most popular

Letter from Admission

Institutions of higher education were not immune to the economic pressures that have impacted the nation. However, the downturn in the economy proved profitable for law schools, as recent college graduates and the newly unemployed looked for opportunities to enhance their professional qualifications. As a result, last year’s applicants had an abundance of professional and personal achievements that uniquely qualified them to become members of the fall 2009 entering class.

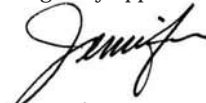
The Class of 2012 consists of 178 students who hail from 17 states. A number of first-year students had completed graduate degrees, and some served in the Iraq war before enrolling at Cumberland School of Law. Also in this class are missionaries, music producers, student athletes, Eagle Scouts and former Peace Corp members.

I had the opportunity to get to know these students, and while they have diverse backgrounds and interests, they are motivated by a common goal to become strong advocates and change the lives of others for the better. I am glad that in three years, these students will become the exceptional lawyers for which our law school is so well known.

Utilizing alumni, faculty and the admission staff, our office was able to attend more than 100 events last year. In addition to recruiting events, we focused our efforts this recruiting cycle on reaching students through e-newsletters and ads on the Internet. We also began initiatives to encourage more applications from students with multi-cultural backgrounds.

Our goal this year is the same as it has always been: to attract and enroll the most competitive entering class in the law school’s history. Your professional accomplishments are compelling evidence as to how completely a Cumberland School of Law degree prepares students for their future practice. I hope that you will continue to support our efforts by reaching out to them.

If you would like to become an alumni ambassador to prospective students in your area or to participate in a local recruiting event, please e-mail me at jsims@samford.edu. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.



Jennifer Sims '01
 Assistant Dean for Admission



Upcoming Admission Events

January, February, April and May (Open House every third Friday)

February LSAC Forums in Houston, Texas, Los Angeles and San Francisco, Calif.

Early Spring Diversity in Law Day

April 9–10 Admitted Student Weekend

August 15–20 Class of 2013 Orientation

August 20 Transfer Orientation

Please contact the Law Admission Office at lawadm@samford.edu or 1-800-888-7213 for more information about these events.

Dancing Through Law

Law Student Opens Dance Fitness Studio

Everyone knows that finding an appropriate balance between life and law school is important. Third-year student **Ashleigh Meyer** found that balance—and more—when fellow third-year student and friend **Kim King** introduced her to Dance Trance Fitness during their first year at Cumberland School of Law.

Dance Trance Fitness is a dance-oriented fitness studio that offers fresh music and routines for every class. It incorporates funk, Latin, jazz, hip-hop and other types of rhythm movement to the beat of music from all genres.

A lifelong dancer and former member of the University of Alabama Million Dollar Color Guard, Meyer immediately fell in love with the program and soon began to schedule her studies around the dance schedule offerings. Before she knew it, she had lost more than 90 pounds and had honed her time-management skills, and her grades were better than ever.

“Your first year of law school, you’re so focused on grades, and you’re so stressed,” she said. After she started Dance Trance, Meyer said, “life just got better. I was happier and had an outlet for stress.”

The effect certainly shows. Meyer seems to always have a smile on her face. Since she and King have become dedicated followers of Dance Trance, many other law students have followed in their footsteps.

“It’s is a wonderful way to end a busy day, a fun and easy way to work out,” said fellow third-year student **Stephanie Williams**.

Dance Trance studios promote an atmosphere of fun and energy. Decorated with bright colors, wall murals, a disco ball and strobe lights, it’s no wonder King describes it as a place where “people can



School



let loose, dance their hearts out, make awesome friends, and stay healthy and in shape.” Studios also host themed classes and holiday parties so members have an opportunity to socialize beyond classes.

Meyer found a “family away from home” with Dance Trance, but she realized that the end of her law school experience was fast approaching. Though she had plans to move home to Huntsville, Ala., after graduation, she wasn’t ready to give up the Dance Trance lifestyle she discovered in Birmingham.

While Meyer was discouraged about leaving the Birmingham studio, her

manager to keep Dance Trance Huntsville-Madison going while she focuses on her studies. She travels to Huntsville from Thursday to Sunday each week to run classes and events.

Meyer must balance schoolwork and running a business over 100 miles away. “I’m keeping up pretty well and I read for my classes every night,” she said. “I tend to do better when I’m busy.”

Meyer has applied some of her education toward her business already, drawing up contracts for employees and working with the city to get the business off the ground. She looks forward to

“It’s is a wonderful way to end a busy day, a fun and easy way to work out.”

Stephanie Williams

mother was looking to open her own business. In summer of 2009, Meyer presented the idea of jointly opening a Dance Trance Fitness studio in Huntsville. They purchased the franchise and found a studio space, and Dance Trance Huntsville-Madison was up and running by early September.

Though Dance Trance Huntsville-Madison has been open a only few months, Meyer’s dancing talents and her mother’s business sense have proven to be a winning combination. They have more than 50 registered members, and the numbers are rapidly rising.

Meyer is on schedule to graduate in May of 2010. Until then, she relies on her mother and their full-time studio

taking Law Office Practice and Management in her final semester.

After graduation, Meyer plans to move to Huntsville permanently and hopes to find a position with a local law firm. Though she would love to work with international adoption, she said that due to the economic environment, “I’ll pretty much take anything.” She is looking forward to comanaging Dance Trance Huntsville-Madison and being a lawyer full-time.

“I have a chance to live both my dreams—I can be a lawyer and a dancer,” she said. “Some people have to sacrifice their dreams, but because of my mom, my friends and my Cumberland experience, I get to have the best of both worlds.” ☺

Third-year law students Kim King and AshLeigh Meyer, center, pose with other Dance Trance Huntsville-Madison studio instructors.

To learn more about Dance Trance Huntsville-Madison, go to www.dancetrancehm.com.



PLAY BY THE RULES

Housed in the attic of Cumberland School of Law is a national, award-winning, legal education program for youth. The Alabama Center for Law and Civic Education [ACLCE] has been headquartered at the law school for nearly 20 years and directs several law education programs such as Teen Court, Street Law and Play by the Rules [PBR]. PBR is a national project to educate youth on state-specific laws relevant to youth.

National Project Director **DeWayne Pope '93** was one of the first volunteers when ACLCE started in 1990. A law student at the time, Pope was an active volunteer in Street Law, a program that focused on training law students to teach general law concepts to teenagers.

The center soon recognized there was a greater need for law curriculum in Alabama classrooms.

"In seventh grade [in Alabama], teachers have to teach Civics," said Ponya Parks, a former educator who is now executive director for the center. "One of the components was Alabama law, but there wasn't a textbook." The center kept hearing from teachers who were struggling with how to teach the law component in Civics. "That is where the idea [for PBR] came to be," she said.

"Law-related education has a big impact on juvenile delinquency" **DeWayne Pope '93**

The author of several law articles and former managing editor of the *Cumberland Law Review*, Pope was asked by the ACLCE director to be on the team of original writers to create a state-specific legal book for youth education. With help from other Cumberland School of Law alumni and students, he created the book *Play by the Rules: Alabama Laws for Youth*.

The book is part of a free, two- to three-week program provided to teachers. The present PBR program is based on a 72-page, question-and-answer, illustrated book and teacher's guide that addresses more than 200 laws relevant to today's youth. The student book is designed for use by middle school students in public, private and home schools, by incarcerated youths in the juvenile justice system, and by youths in community settings such as scouting or church youth groups.

Essentially, the book provides teachers with a curriculum that fulfills everything they are required to cover on Alabama law.

Since its inception, the PBR Program has been utilized in 100% of public schools in Alabama, more than



Since 1990, the Play by the Rules staff has been dedicated to educating young citizens in civic knowledge in law and government. With programs in four states and one U.S. territory, the PBR staff stays very busy.

100 private schools and in the Alabama juvenile courts as a diversion program. More than 450,000 copies of the student book and more than 12,000 teacher's guides have been distributed in Alabama.

By learning about the law, procedures, terminology, personal skills and consequences, PBR empowers youth with the knowledge and skills needed to be better citizens.

"Law-related education has a big impact on juvenile delinquency," said Pope. "That's what our program was built to do. PBR enforces positive behaviors and attitudes toward the law, and teaches them what they can and can't do, and what the consequences are."

Kids like the PBR program because of its interactive activities. "It's not just sitting down and studying and rote



HITS A HOME RUN

memory. It's active learning," said Parks.

Parents like it because they get to be involved in the legal education process. Outreach to parents and the community plays a large role in the PBR program. During the program, parents and other family members are involved in "Taking Home the Law" lessons.

"We're developing a parent guide to go with the book," Pope said. "While students may learn about the law and citizenship in school, the PBR program also attempts to find ways to have it reinforced at home with meaningful activities."

It is believed that the program has affected more than 1.5 million people, including students, parents, grandparents and siblings, since its inception.

Because of the initial success of the PBR program in Alabama, Pope, Parks and the former director of the center began to write proposals for the development of a prototype adaptation of the PBR book. They began promoting it to see how much interest there was from other jurisdictions.

So much interest was expressed that in 2007, the center received a grant

from the Department of Justice for \$1.2 million. As a result, they were able to produce state-specific versions of PBR for Connecticut, Texas, Nevada and the U.S. Territory of Guam.

Despite current economic conditions, the PBR national project received \$350,000 in funds from the Department of Justice in August to continue adapting the program for more states. The center is working on adaptations for Hawaii and Tennessee while awaiting additional funding for the printing of the books.

Parks and Pope acknowledge that there are other programs available that teach general legal principles, but they

School of Law and the Samford community have done for the ACLCE. Law students have played an integral part in the adaptations of the Alabama PBR book to the specific laws of other jurisdictions.

"Some of the backbone [of the PBR program] is Cumberland students," said Pope. "They were very instrumental in the research."

The ultimate goal of the national PBR project is to have all 50 states, the District of Columbia and all U.S. territories participating.

The PBR program won the American Bar Association's Law Day 2001 Outstanding Activity Award and

"It's not just sitting down and studying and rote memory. It's active learning," *Ponya Parks*

assert that PBR is the only law-related education program of its kind to provide jurisdiction-specific, law-related education. Other states have online or print publications that have some of the same content as PBR, but none combine the comprehensive student handbook, teacher and community training, teaching methodologies and parental involvement of the PBR program.

Parks is extremely grateful for what Cumberland

the Civic Mind Award for Outstanding Projects in Law and Civic Education.

Currently, Alabama ranks number one in civic education. ⚾

For more information on the Play by the Rules program or the Alabama Center for Law and Civic Education, go to www.pbronline.org or www.aclce.org



Play by the Rules extended its reach to the U.S. territory of Guam in fall 2008. The program is taught in most seventh-grade classrooms across the island.

Letter from the Director of Alumni



Miller

Many exciting times come with fall at the law school. Students are back in full force, and alumni events start picking up. We had a busy fall full of great events. We honored our generous donors at the annual Donor Dinner with more than 65 alumni and friends. We held well-attended events in Atlanta, Ga., Memphis, Tenn., Daytona Beach, Fla., and Columbiana and Gadsden/Anniston, Ala. We continue to see how special Cumberland School of Law is to our graduates.

This October, we also honored our eighth lawyer in residence, **Pat Dye, Jr. '87**, with a dinner at The Club. He taught a few classes, and faculty and students received hands-on

attention from a graduate who chose a different field than law. Dye practiced law before becoming a sports agent, which illustrates for students that all kinds of prospects are available to them.

The Advisory Board met Oct. 22–23, beginning with a wonderful dinner hosted by Vivian and **Ernie Cory '81**. Much was accomplished at the meeting the next day, and we hope to bring these changes and exciting things to you soon. After the meeting, we moved into the Great Room (which many remember as the Old Library), for lunch with students. More than 100 students attended and had direct contact with many esteemed graduates. Students talked with practicing lawyers, judges and friends of the law school without having to schedule an interview, and they were very appreciative of the opportunity.

We have many exciting events scheduled for spring, including Reunion Weekend 2010, March 26–27, for the classes of 1970, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00 and '05. Mark your calendars now so you can be a part of this special weekend. If you have any questions about your reunion, please contact the

Alumni Office at 1-800-888-7248 or lawalum@samford.edu.

Don't forget, if you have announcements or any class notes you would like to have published on the website, in *The Cumberland Lawyer*, or in the new monthly e-newsletter, *Cumberland Connections*, e-mail them to Assistant Director Lauren McCaghren at lmccagh@samford.edu.

Thanks as always to all of our alumni and friends who have helped us this year with interviewing prospective students, speaking at events, volunteering to help in many additional ways and supporting us financially. It is alumni such as you who keep the school great.

Mary T.

Mary T. Miller
Director of Alumni



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6



7

1. Dean John Carroll and his wife, Susan, right, thank Vivian and **Ernie Cory '81**, who generously hosted the fall Advisory Board Reception in their home.
2. From left, **Bob MacKenzie '84**, Anise Friedman and **Marda Sydnor '80** enjoy good food and good company at the Advisory Board reception.
3. **John Floyd '88**, second from left, meets with current students at the Advisory Board Luncheon which was sponsored by Lightfoot Franklin & White, LLC; Starnes & Atchison, LLP; and White, Arnold & Dowd, P.C.
4. From left, **John Bennett '69**, **Jim Floyd '83** and **Herman Russomanno '75** socialize at the law school's reception at the 2009 Florida Bar Annual Meeting.
5. **Paul Plant '74**, second from left, talks with current students at a luncheon following the Advisory Board Meeting.
6. **Bob Stallings '64**, right, meets with current students after the luncheon.
7. **Billy Bates '81**, left, enjoyed conversation with current students at the Fall Advisory Board Luncheon.

Law School Welcomes Hutchens

David R. Hutchens joined the staff of Cumberland School of Law Nov. 1, 2009, as senior advancement officer. Raised in Montgomery, Ala., he graduated from Samford in 1994.

His first professional position was in technology at SouthTrust bank. In 1997, he began his fund-raising career at the American Cancer Society in Birmingham. He served five years as executive director of the Jefferson-Shelby Chapter before moving to his final position as major gifts officer for the Mid-South Region.

Hutchens has worked with annual campaigns such as Hope Lodge, which provides temporary housing for families of patients receiving prolonged cancer treatment; solicitation of gifts to underwrite cancer research; and special events supporting education about cancer. In his 12-year career with the American Cancer Society, he raised or supervised the raising



Hutchens

of more than \$12 million.

As senior advancement officer for the law school, Hutchens will help organize and strategize fund-raising efforts associated with the

Campaign for Cumberland as part of the larger Campaign for Samford. The Campaign for Cumberland includes \$6.7 million in scholarship endowment, \$5 million in endowed faculty support, \$2.5 million in program support and \$750,000 in capital needs.

Hutchens and his wife, Tricia, have three sons. ☪

Ferretti Receives Medal of Excellence



From left, Vice Dean James Lewis, Professor Michael Floyd and Dean John Carroll (right) present the American Bankruptcy Institute Medal to Daniel Ferretti '09.

On Aug. 28, Dean John Carroll, Vice Dean James Lewis and Professor Michael Floyd presented the American Bankruptcy Institute Medal to **Daniel Ferretti '09** to commemorate his excellence in the study of bankruptcy law. In addition to his outstanding work

in Bankruptcy and Business Bankruptcy courses, Ferretti has two bankruptcy law publications to his credit.

Ferretti recently joined the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Group at Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C., in Birmingham. ☪

Upcoming Alumni Events

Cumberland Law Week, March 1–5

Rascal Day, March 4

Advisory Board Reception, March 25

Advisory Board Meeting, March 26

Advisory Board Lunch, March 26

Reunion Weekend, March 26–27

Nashville, Tenn., Alumni Reception, April 8

Jacksonville, Fla. Alumni Lunch, TBD

Montgomery, Ala., Alumni Luncheon, April 22

Dothan, Ala., Alumni Dinner, April 29

Fort Myers, Ala., Alumni Reception, May 5

Fort Lauderdale/West Palm Beach, Fla.,

Alumni Reception, May 6

Florida Bar Annual Meeting and Reception

in Boca Raton, Fla., June 23–26

Alabama Bar Annual Meeting and

Reception in Destin, Fla., July 14–17

For more information about these and other upcoming events, go to <http://cumberland.samford.edu>.

Answering a Need

Law School Coaches Recent Graduates on Opening Their Own Practices

Each year, Dean John Carroll makes countless visits with alumni and constituent groups, giving updates on the proceedings at the law school and answering questions. One question has remained prevalent over the past year: “How is the job market affecting recent and upcoming graduates?”

Though most of the members of the Class of 2009 have jobs, the job market remains more challenging than in past years.

Carroll decided that steps needed to be taken by Cumberland School of Law to help recent and future graduates. He approached Lavone Warren, assistant dean for continuing legal education [CLE], and asked her what could be offered. CLE offers scholarships to those who are in need of assistance, but Carroll wanted to take it a step further. He spoke with Jeff Price, director of career services, about means by which Price’s office could provide assistance.

Together, they developed a series of three CLE programs on setting up a law practice, client relations and a few areas of practice that might be suitable for beginning lawyers. The programs were designed to provide recent graduates with guidance on starting their own law practices economically and without additional support. The programs were available to anyone who wanted to attend, but it was announced that the registration fee would be waived for current students, members of the Class of 2009 and members of the Class of 2008 who were not yet established lawyers. CLE credit was available for the programs.

Warren talked to several alumni who had a solo or small firm practice to gather some ideas about good subject matter.

“I was really impressed by the way our alumni wanted to assist our students and recent graduates,” said Warren. “They were very positive about the fact that you can make a perfectly good living having your own solo practice.”



Judge Lichtenstein addresses CLE participants on opportunities for practice in District Court.

Warren, Price and Carroll established that the first seminar would be about how to set up a practice with limited funds. Laura Calloway, director of the Practice Management Assistance Program of the Alabama State Bar, was one of the first speakers identified for the seminar. Not only does she offer a service where she provides support to lawyers who are setting up their practices, but she is also very knowledgeable in locating free resources that assist in setting up a practice.

Charlie Waldrep '76 shared valuable information about networking and client development, while **Elizabeth Ann French '07**, who recently set up her own practice, talked about the ins and outs of the process.

Two practice areas in which new attorneys often work were identified through the alumni feedback. “Beginning a Wills/Estate Planning and Probate Practice (Including GAL Appointments)” was the title of the second seminar, led by Professor Alyssa DiRusso, Hon. Sherri Friday of the Jefferson County Probate Court and **Joshua Andrews '08**.

The final CLE seminar gave tips on how to build a practice and cultivate business in criminal law and district court practice. The seminar was presented by Hon. David N. Lichtenstein of the District Court, 10th Judicial Circuit, and Nancy M. DeVaney, a local attorney.

The entire event series was planned over a short period to quickly meet the needs of alumni. E-mail was the primary form of publicity to shorten the timeframe further. Since the CLE office usually uses print communication to publicize an event, Warren did not know how many would respond.

More than 30 people signed up for each seminar, exceeding all expectations. Attendees were primarily members of the Class of 2009, but several current students took advantage of the programs.

“It was great to have some insight from practicing attorneys on how to begin your own practice with a limited budget,” said Paul. “I didn’t previously know about some of the free assistance offered by the Alabama State Bar, such as Case Maker and the library offered by the Practice Management Assistance Program.”

Each of the sessions was recorded and is available in the Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library for those who were unable to attend the sessions. The CLE office also will mail DVDs of the sessions to any members of the Class of 2009 who were unable to attend. ♪

You may contact the CLE office at lawcle@samford.edu or 1-800-888-7454. Go to <http://cumberland.samford.edu/cle> for upcoming CLE programs and online courses.

Career Services Expands Efforts

The Career Services Office markets Cumberland School of Law students and alumni to employers. It provides students and graduates with the information, resources and skills that give them a competitive advantage in the job search, the interview room and the workplace. As the recession continues, the office has expanded its efforts to help students and alumni adapt to the realities of the more challenging legal job market. Career Services has instituted several new and expanded programs and initiatives for the 2009–10 academic year.

In October and early November, the office joined with the Department of Continuing Legal Education to cosponsor a series of free CLE programs for recent graduates who are considering solo or small firm practice. The programs were entitled Establishing a Law Practice, Beginning a Wills/Estate Planning Practice (Including GAL Appointments), and Building Your Practice: District Court and Family Court. (See the article on page 22.)

Career Services continues to increase the number of government and public interest employers attending the school's annual Public Service Career Fair. This year, the school will

seek to add more employers from Atlanta, Ga., Nashville, Tenn., and other cities.

Additional "Lunch with a Lawyer" programs are being added to teach students about various legal practice areas and day-to-day issues that arise in those areas. These programs enable students to more quickly choose a field of practice, set career goals and start building a résumé.

In November, Career Services hosted the Institute of Internal Auditors' Student Night. Students met with several employers that hire individuals to perform tax, compliance and other auditing work.

The office also is presenting more educational programs that reinforce job search skills and promote job opportunities in fields in which employers are hiring. Students also may subscribe to an e-mail alert service that notifies them of legal job openings in the federal government.

Career Services sends students weekly e-mail messages announcing federal judicial clerkship opportunities throughout the country. The office hosted the

Hon. Karon Bowdre '81, U.S.

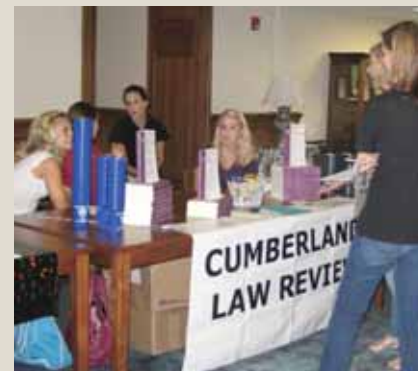
District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, and her judicial law clerk, **Summer Davis '09**, for this year's Judicial Clerkship Forum.

The office recently published a 22-page Employer

Recruiting Guide, and more than 3,500 copies have been disseminated to alumni and employers throughout the South. More than 5,000 employers



Alyce Spruell, vice president of the Alabama Bar, speaks at a "Lunch with a Lawyer" program.



Members of the Cumberland Law Review participate in the Student Organizational Fair with Career Services.

have been invited to participate in fall and spring on-campus interviews and job fairs. The office also has established an online repository of résumé books that enable employers to review résumés of students and alumni who are seeking work.

Director Jeff Price and Associate Director Anne Marovich regularly travel to Southern cities to develop hiring markets and to establish an alumni network to advise students and new graduates seeking to settle in the area. Several more trips are being planned for the spring. Please contact the office at 205-726-2797 if you have suggestions or would like to meet with them. ☺



Members of the Women in Law organization participate in the Student Organizational Fair with Career Services.

Faculty and Staff Notes

Through Nov. 6, 2009

Cassandra Adams was named to the Alabama State Bar Pro Bono Celebration Task Force 2009. She hosted a Canadian delegation visiting various programs and industries in the United States on May 14, sharing information on Cumberland School of Law's Mediation Center and Public Interest Project. She also spoke at the Alabama State Bar Leadership Forum on the Homeless Experience Legal Protection [HELP] Program, which provides pro bono legal assistance and other services to the homeless in the Birmingham area.

Adjunct professor **David M. Benck**, vice president and general counsel of Hibbett Sporting Goods, Inc., taught a seminar at the annual meeting of the Association of Corporate Counsel in Boston, Mass., the week of Oct. 19, 2009. He taught corporate counsel how to address the legal benefits, risks and liabilities companies face in coping with the emergence of social media networks.

Albert Brewer received the Bailey Thomson Award from the Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform Foundation for his work on behalf of constitutional reform over the years. Brewer began his work for constitutional reform during his tenure as Alabama governor during 1968-71.

John Carroll attended the confirmation hearings for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor as a guest of Alabama Senator Jeff Sessions. He was a speaker at the American Bar Association Deans meeting in Chicago, Ill., in August on the topic of "Value-Based Deaning." He also moderated a panel at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools on the Strategic Use of Academic Support at the



Adams



Brewer



Carroll



Davis



DeBow



Denning



DiRusso



Greene



Greene



Langum

annual meeting in Palm Beach, Fla.

He was one of the presenters at the Judicial Roundtable Program of the Sedona Conference in October. The Sedona Conference is a nationally recognized legal think tank that focuses on complex litigation and issues relating to the discovery of electronically stored information. Carroll is one of six national board members.

Carroll also visited the University of Western Ontario School of Law in London, Ontario, Canada, in September. He met with Canadian judges, students and faculty, and lectured to a class in Canadian evidence law. This visit is part of the ongoing development of a relationship between Cumberland School of Law and Western Ontario.

Carroll was elected to the American Law Institute Sept. 21. In October, he presided over a mock employment discrimination trial at the offices of the Burr & Forman firm.

Staci G. Cornelius, a lawyer with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker LLC, was named an adjunct professor at Cumberland School of Law for fall 2009.

LaJuana Davis and **Wendy Greene** served as panelists for the 5th annual Fred Gray, Sr., Civil Rights Symposium at the Jones School of Law in Montgomery, Ala., in October. The topic of this year's symposium was "The Obama Effect on the Legal Profession."

Mike DeBow gave talks on globalization and social justice at the conference "Environmental Stewardship: A Program for Religious Leaders," conducted by the Foundation for Research on Economics and the Environment in Gallatin Gateway, Mont., Sept. 16-17.

Brannon Denning participated in a panel discussion on the recent Supreme Court decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller* and the impact on state and local gun control efforts Aug. 3. He also was the Constitution Day speaker for the local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter at Emmett O'Neil Library in Mountain Brook, Ala., Sept. 17. His article, "*Heller*, High Water(mark)?" coauthored with Glenn Reynolds, was recently published in *Hastings Law Journal*. Denning, **Marcia McCormick** of Saint Louis University School of Law and **Jeff Lipshaw** of Suffolk University Law School of Law coauthored a manuscript entitled "Becoming a Law Professor: A Candidate's Guide," and it has been accepted for publication by the ABA's press.

Alyssa DiRusso presented "Assessing Lawyering Skills" at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools Aug. 4.

Bob Greene moderated four panels at the annual seminar of the Environmental Law Section of the Alabama State Bar held in Sandestin, Fla., June 19-20. He taught a course in international environmental law to Ethiopian law professors at the Akaki campus of Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia July 20-31. The course was part of a capacity building program to strengthen the Ethiopian legal education system.

Wendy Greene presented a paper on George Schuyler's Harlem Renaissance novel, *Black No More*, on a Law and Literature panel Aug. 3 at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools. She also presented a paper on Schuyler's work during a roundtable discussion on Law and Literature in addition to presenting her



Nelson



Ross



Royal



Smolin



Strickland



Stoddard



Walthall



Warren



Young

paper, "Putting it in Context: Words, Race and Title VII," at the annual Law and Society Association conference in Denver, Colo. She presented her paper, "Racial Equality at Crossroads: Redressing Race Discrimination in the Workplace during a 'Post-Racial' Moment," at the Fourth Annual Colloquium on Current Scholarship in Labor and Employment Law Sept. 26, sponsored by Seton Hall University School of Law.

Herman N. "Rusty" Johnson, Jr. joined the faculty of Cumberland School of Law Dec. 1. He began teaching in the spring 2010 semester. He received his undergraduate degree from Duke University and his law degree from Columbia University. He clerked for Judge Myron Thompson in the Middle District of Alabama and Judge Martha Daughtrey on the Sixth Circuit. He was a lawyer with the firm of Wiggins, Childs, Quinn, and Pantazis, LLC, in Birmingham.

David Langum's 2006 book, *Antonio de Mattos and the Protestant Portuguese Community in Antebellum Illinois*, is being published by the Presbyterian Church in Portugal in a Portuguese language edition. Langum spoke in Funchal, Madeira, Oct. 31 and then assisted with the book launch in Lisbon Nov. 3.

Leonard J. Nelson III's new book, *Diagnosis Critical: The Urgent Threats Confronting Catholic Healthcare*, was published in June by Our Sunday Visitor. In the book, Nelson foresees the future of Catholic health care.

Adjunct professor **Gary Pate** traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina, the week of Oct. 26 with the United States Paralympic Wheelchair Rugby team. Judge Pate was

selected to work with the team in preparation for the World Cup next year in Vancouver, Canada.

Bill Ross, a nationally recognized expert on the U.S. Supreme Court, is a frequent op-ed columnist for *Jurist Magazine*, an online legal journal published by the law school at the University of Pittsburgh. His article entitled "Should Obama Nominate a Justice Without Judicial Experience?" may be viewed at <http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/forumy/2009/05/should-obama-nominate-justice-without.php>.

Dayna Royal's article on OSHA preemption of state "guns-at-work" laws, "Take Your Gun to Work and Leave It in the Parking Lot: Why the OSH Act Does Not Preempt State Guns-at-Work Laws," 61 *FLA. L. REV.* 475 (July 2009), received favorable mention on the Workplace Profs Blog. She presented her most recent paper, "John and Kate Plus the State," recommending greater legal protections for children appearing in reality television shows, to the faculty of the John Marshall School of Law in Atlanta Sept. 9.


David Smolin participated in an online forum sponsored by *The New York Times* on international adoption in May. He also was interviewed as an expert for a story done by the English version of Al Jazeera on intercountry adoption processes. In October, Smolin spoke to a class at Harvard Law School titled Art of Social Change: Child Welfare, Education and Juvenile Justice," which has an enrollment of about 100 students. The class session was titled "The Crisis in International Adoption: Two Sides of the Debate." The other speaker was Professor Paulo Barrozo of Boston College Law School.

Henry Strickland delivered bar exam review lectures for BarBri in 10 cities in Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Wisconsin.

Belle Stoddard was reappointed by the Alabama Supreme Court to the Alabama Pattern Jury Instructions [APJI] Committee—Civil for a term ending in 2012. The committee is rewriting the APJI into plain English and also updating jury instructions to conform to current appellate court holdings. Stoddard noted that new technology brings new problems for the APJI, such as mistrials because of jurors Googling questions and Twittering jury verdicts.

For three years, **Howard Walthall** has served as reporter to a joint Drafting Committee of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws [NCCUSL] and the American Bar Association that prepared an act that brought into one statute provisions common to all or most forms of business and nonprofit entities. He participated in a presentation of the act at the annual meeting of NCCUSL, where it was approved. He also assisted the Alabama Bar Association Legislative Task Force, chaired by **Jim Pratt '78**, in preparing a white paper on state constitutional issues in connection with the call of a special session of the legislature to consider enactment of an occupational tax for Jefferson County. The research and analysis provided in the white paper, of which Walthall was the principal author, and copy of which was provided to Gov. Bob Riley and to the legislative leaders, helped shape some of the procedures in connection with the legislation now being considered by the Alabama Legislature.

Lavone Warren was elected to the Executive Committee of the Association of Continuing Legal Education. This honor will bring additional recognition to Cumberland School of Law. Warren is assistant dean for continuing legal education.

Deborah Young presented "Alternative Teaching Methods: Using Simulations to Enhance Substantive Courses" at the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning Summer Conference at Gonzaga University School of Law in Spokane, Wash., June 23. 

FOCUS ON FACULTY

Goodwin Completes Work on McElroy's Alabama Evidence, Sixth Ed.

It took four and a half years, but Professor Bob Goodwin now holds the Sixth Edition of *McElroy's Alabama Evidence*, the two-volume book that he coauthored with Charles W. Gamble.

"I knew it'd be a lot of work," said Goodwin. "I didn't realize just how much work it would be!"

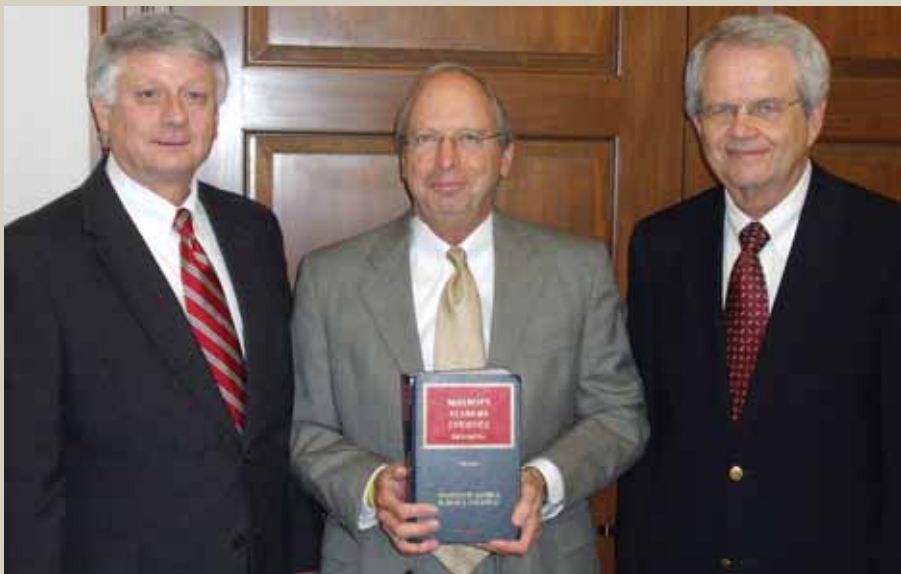
Of the five previous editions of *McElroy's Alabama Evidence*, three were authored by Gamble, Dean Emeritus and Henry Upson Sims Professor Emeritus of Law at the University of Alabama School of Law. Gamble, who had already begun work on the Sixth Edition, asked Goodwin, the J. Russell McElroy Professor of Law at Cumberland School of Law, to coauthor this edition in the fall of 2006. Recognizing what a highly respected treatise the book is, Goodwin immediately agreed, backed by the support of his family and Dean John Carroll.

"Professor Goodwin is particularly well positioned, with his strong background in the history, development and application of evidence rules, to continue this work," said Cherie Feenker, acquisitions librarian for Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library.

Originally intended for use as the course book for Law of Evidence in Alabama law schools, *McElroy's Alabama Evidence* has since become known as the bible of trial practice and has sold more copies than any other treatise on Alabama law.

"*McElroy's Alabama Evidence* has long been a standard for Alabama lawyers," noted Feenker. "Not only is it scholarly, but it is of immense value to the practitioner."

Alabama Rules of Evidence became effective Jan. 1, 1996. The Fifth Edition of *McElroy's Alabama Evidence* addressed these rules and discussed what change, if any, each rule made to preexisting Alabama law. Alabama courts are in their second decade under the Alabama Rules of Evidence, and the Sixth Edition follows recent developments and appellate case interpretation.



Bob Goodwin, left, and coauthor Charles Gamble, right, present Dean John Carroll with one of the first copies of the Sixth Edition of *McElroy's Alabama Evidence*.

Gamble and Goodwin note in the Preface that many of the rules have not yet been interpreted, and that they have taken it upon themselves in these cases to "present federal law in light of the Alabama principle that decisions of a jurisdiction from which one adopts a rule are persuasive authority in how the adopting jurisdiction's courts interpret the rule."

"When you write something, you want to be sure you get it right," said Goodwin. "Once it's out there and your name is on it, you can't bring it back. You want judges and lawyers to be able to rely on it, so you take extra care and extra time."

Divided into two volumes, the Sixth Edition is 2,694 pages with an index, a table of rules, and a table of cases. The largest edition to date, it maintains the original format, which Judge McElroy adopted with the permission of Dean McCormick from *McCormick on Evidence*.

Released in July and published by CLE Alabama, the Sixth Edition of *McElroy's Alabama Evidence* is one of their bestselling books. More than 1,100 copies have been printed.

Though the book is published, Goodwin's work has not slowed. The Third Edition of his casebook, *Criminal and Scientific Evidence*, was also just released, and he is finishing up the teacher's manual to accompany that book. During breaks between his evidence and criminal law courses at Cumberland School of Law, Goodwin works on updates for the Sixth Edition of *McElroy's Alabama Evidence*.

"I have learned so much from this experience," he said. "When you tackle something like this, you find you can do things that perhaps you might not think you could have done."

Though Goodwin has accomplished a great deal with this publishing, he said the greatest thing he took away from the experience was the friendship he developed with Gamble. "Not only is he incredibly knowledgeable, he is a kind and caring person," said Goodwin. "I'm proud to be associated with this project." ❧

The Sixth Edition of McElroy's Alabama Evidence can be purchased at www.clealabama.com.

Class Notes

Through November 6, 2009



Baker



Beardsley



Elmer



Etzler



Miller



Morse



Romano



Scotnicki

1966

Red Wilkins serves as president of the Marion Military Institute Board of Advisors and is a principal in the law firm of Wilkins, Bankester, Biles, and Wynn, P.A.

1967

H. Chervis Isom of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, was named as a leading practitioner in real estate by *Chambers USA*.

Douglas L. McWhorter was recognized by his peers as one of Birmingham's Top Attorneys. He practices with the firm of Dominick, Fletcher, Yeilding, Wood & Lloyd, P.A.

Ben Strand won the McCain-Abernathy Memorial Award, which recognizes him as an outstanding juvenile judge for his legislative skills in his attempt to have legislation enacted by the Tennessee Legislature that benefits the judiciary. It is awarded by vote of the Executive Committee of the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. He has been a juvenile judge since 1998. He is also the general sessions and probate court judge for Jefferson County, Tenn.

1969

Edward P. Meyerson of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, was named as a leading practitioner in litigation by *Chambers USA*.

Jim Morgan of High Point, N.C., received the North Carolina State Bar's Distinguished Service Award Sept. 17. A former state representative, he now works as a local attorney. He is a Distinguished Alumnus of Cumberland School of Law.

Frank M. Young III, chair of the Litigation Practice Group of Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, and leader of the firm's international law practice, was appointed as an adjunct professor at the University of Alabama School of Law for the fall 2009 term. Young, who continues in the active practice of law with Haskell Slaughter, taught "International Business Transactions," an upper-level course addressing transaction skills and commercial analysis in international transactions.

1970

William Brown of Miller Martin, PLLC, in Chattanooga, Tenn., was confirmed by the Tennessee General Assembly to serve as one of 13 members of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission.

1971

Jimmy Rane, president and CEO of Great Southern Wood Preserving, Inc., was named chairman of the Bradley Byrne campaign for governor of Alabama.

1973

Thomas W. Sterling of Pittsburgh, Pa., retired in April from U.S. Steel after a 40 years. He was senior vice president—administration and a member of the Executive Management Committee.

1974

Charles H. Booth, Jr., received the 2009 Pro Bono Award for Mediation at the annual meeting of the Alabama State Bar Association. He is in solo practice with emphasis on arbitration and mediation. He is listed in the Alabama State Bar roster of neutrals for mediation and for arbitration, the American Arbitration Association panel of neutrals for mediation and for

arbitration, the Alabama State Court of Civil Appeals Panel of Neutrals, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama panel of mediators, and the Better Business Bureau Panel of neutrals for both mediation and for arbitration.

Christopher P. Brewer of Poyner Spruill, LLP, became a partner in the firm's Raleigh, N.C., office.

Cecil Cheves celebrated his 60th birthday Aug. 5 by running 60 miles, biking 60 miles and swimming 60 laps at the Infantry Museum in Columbus, Ga. (See article on page 13.)

Julian Mann III is chief administrative law judge for the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings in Raleigh, N.C.

Gary McAilley announced that he will not seek reelection for his 12th Judicial Circuit district attorney position. His retirement from more than three decades in public service was featured in an October issue of *The Enterprise Ledger*.

Lee Thuston of Burr & Forman, LLP, was recognized as a leading lawyer in Alabama in the 2009 edition of *Chambers USA*, America's Leading Lawyers for General Commercial. He was also listed in an August issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal* as one of Birmingham's Most Influential business leaders.

1975

Miles McGrane was appointed as a board member of the Park City Performing Arts Foundation in Park City, Utah.

continued on page 28



Garfinkel



Hunter



Lansdon



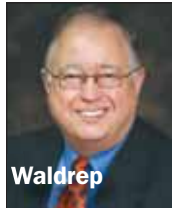
Li



Mann



Stephens



Waldrep



Watters



Young



Zobel

Anthony Underwood accepted an appointment as senior director, contract administration, for a *Fortune* 125 Company, Express Scripts, Inc. He will supervise a staff of 10 attorneys and M.B.A.'s executing daily program and contract administration.

1981

Walker H. Bramblett was elected chief magistrate in January 2009.

Gary Miller announces the opening of Miller Hester Eisele in the Maitland, Fla., area at 429 S. Keller Road, Suite 310. He focuses primarily on commercial and residential transactional law, with many lender and other institutional clients.

1982

David A. Garfinkel joined the Jacksonville, Fla., office of GrayRobinson, P.A., as a shareholder in the Family Law practice group and was recognized in *Florida Trend* magazine's Legal Elite.

Brian D. Lockerbie of Brian D. Lockerbie, P.C., in LaGrange, Ga., was named a regional vice president of the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association representing the 8th Congressional District.

Carol H. Stewart of Burr & Forman, LLP, was recognized as a leading lawyer in Alabama in the 2009 edition of *Chambers USA*, America's Leading Lawyers for General Commercial.

1983

Michael Choy of Birmingham is chair of the Alabama Ethics Commission. The managing member of the law firm Choy Lichenstein, LLC, was first appointed by Gov. Bob Riley in 2005.

Lew Garrison of Heninger Garrison Davis created a legal marketing website, LegalTube.com, which allows users to screen videos of potential attorneys.

Tom Hale, along with Terry A. Sides and G. Meador Akins, has formed Hale, Sides and Akins, LLC. The firm is located at 400 Berry Building, 2015 Second Avenue North, Birmingham, Ala.

Bill Hyland will present his new book, *In Defense of Thomas Jefferson*, at Samford University March 25.

continued from page 27

1976

Segundo J. Fernandez of Oertel, Fernandez, Cole & Bryant, P.A., was named to Best Lawyers in America.

Wayne Morse, Jr. of Waldrep Stewart & Kendrick was selected as a monthly contributor to the Litigation Counsel of America's monthly publication, *LCA Commentary*, which is published online and e-mailed to all LCA Fellows and Associate Fellows. He also was featured in the Aug. 21 issue of *Birmingham Business Journal* for his stance on how social media affects human resource policies and employment law issues.

Charlie Waldrep, a founding member of Waldrep Stewart & Kendrick, LLC, was unanimously elected judge advocate for American Legion Post #171. He will advise the post regarding all legal matters as well as interpret the bylaws and constitution of the legion.

1977

Joseph A. Fawal of Fawal and Spina was elected as a 2009 board member for the Alabama Law Foundation.

Jack Neal, a shareholder of Sirote & Permutt, was accepted to American Arbitration Association's roster of neutrals for arbitration and mediation. He also was selected to become a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He focuses his practice on general and commercial civil litigation, mediation, and arbitration.

Carol Sue Nelson of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C., was recognized as a leading lawyer in Alabama in the 2009 edition of

Chambers USA, America's Leading Lawyers for Business. She was reappointed by the Alabama Supreme Court to its Standing Committee on Rules of Conduct and Canons of Judicial Ethics.

E. Ham Wilson was appointed Montgomery County commissioner by Gov. Bob Riley.

1978

Mary Lynn Bates of the Jefferson County Court Mediation Project facilitated a meeting Aug. 15 at the Sheraton Downtown in Birmingham. The meeting was sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control to help the agency decide its strategy for making the H1N1 (swine flu) influenza vaccine available in the United States last fall.

Robert Pitt Lane is an attorney with Funderburk Day & Lane, Phenix City, Ala.

Pat Meadows was promoted to criminal division deputy chief for public corruption in the office of Northern District of Alabama U.S. Attorney Joyce Vance.

1979

James Anderson was featured in the *Montgomery Advertiser* May 3 for winning the Jimmy Hitchcock Memorial Award as a high school senior. Anderson and his brother, Charles, are the only brother duo to receive the Hitchcock Award.

1980

Anthony A. Joseph of Maynard, Cooper and Gale, PC, has become a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in America.

1984

Timothy C. Campbell was elected to the position of Bay County Judge in 2008.

Paul Cavender of Burr & Forman, LLP, was recognized as a leading lawyer in Alabama in the 2009 edition of *Chambers USA*, America's Leading Lawyers for Litigation.

Scott Donaldson recently taught Advanced Evidence at the National Judicial College. Judges from across the country attended the four-day course. Donaldson is a circuit judge in Tuscaloosa County, Ala.

Melissa Posey Furman and John P. Furman announce the opening of Furman & Furman, LLP, at 17764 Fox Branch Drive, Loxley, AL 36551, 251-228-1744.

1985

Beverly P. Baker, a shareholder in the Birmingham office of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C., and the firm's nationwide chief diversity officer, was named to the *Birmingham Business Journal's* "Top Birmingham Women." She

also was elected a fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers.

Leslie R. Barineau, managing partner of Barineau & Barineau in Birmingham, was elected to the Alabama State Bar Board of Bar Commissioner for the 10th Judicial District for a three-year term beginning 2009. She serves as vice president of the Birmingham Bar Foundation and on the Board of Directors for the United Methodist Children's Home.

Robert L. Broussard was appointed district attorney of the 23rd Judicial Circuit of Alabama in May by Gov. Bob Riley. Prior to his appointment, Broussard spent 21 years as a career prosecutor with the Madison County District Attorney's office, serving as deputy district attorney. He has prosecuted thousands of cases ranging from drug possession to capital murder.

Lise-Kirsten Scholer Higgins was selected as director of the Personnel and Employment section at New Jersey State Parole Board. She supervises the Human Resources, Employee Relations and Equal Employment Opportunity units. She also provides Prevention of Harassment in the

Workplace training at the New Jersey State Police Academy.

Rand Key was elected to the South Montgomery County Woodlands Chamber of Board of Directors for a three-year term.

Lenora Pate served as a panelist for the *Birmingham Business Journal's* "Obama Heath-Care Plan: How Will It Impact Alabama?" Breakfast panel Sept. 2 at Samford University. She was featured in the Oct. 9 issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal* for her views on the 1901 Alabama Constitution's impact on business in the state.

Richard E. Smith, a partner with Christian & Small, LLP, coauthored the second edition of the *Alabama Liability Insurance Handbook*, now called *Allen's Alabama Liability Insurance Handbook*, with John W. Johnson II.

Terry A. Sides, along with Tom Hale and G. Meador Akins, has formed Hale, Sides and Akins, LLC. The firm is located at 400 Berry Building, 2015 Second Avenue North, Birmingham, Ala.

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In Memoriam

John Carter Clary '74 died Oct. 11, 2009, in Albuquerque, N.M. A nonsmoker, he had been diagnosed with lung cancer. His sudden death followed a pulmonary embolism.

John Bell Cunningham '43, age 89, of Ridgetop, Tenn., died Feb. 21, 2009. He worked for Maryland Casualty Company. He was in the U.S. Navy during World War II and later in the Navy Reserve.

Anselm Dees died Sept. 9, 2009, at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Jackson, Miss.

James Burton Denman III '73 of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., died May 15, 2009.

John Hatton Leath, Jr. '47, age 88, of Lake City, Tenn., died Aug. 8, 2009. He was retired from the federal government. He was a World War II and Korean War era veteran, and a Mason.

Robert Wyeth Lee, '78, age 55, of Birmingham, died Aug. 16, 2009. His law practice centered on workers compensation, civil litigation, and mediation at trial and appellate levels. He was coauthor of *Alabama Workers' Compensation Law and Handbook*.

M. Mark Mendel '56 died Aug. 26, 2009, at his home in Radnor, Pa., after a long battle with heart disease and failing kidneys. He was a specialist in medical malpractice and public utilities law. He practiced in Philadelphia.

Drew S. Pinkerton '78, age 56, of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., died Sept. 8, 2009, of cancer. He was a criminal defense attorney and partner in the firm of Anchors, Smith Grimsley. He was a former chief assistant state attorney and chairman of the Judicial Nominating Commission for the First Judicial Circuit.

John Richardson Rucker '34, age 93, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., died July 10, 2009. He served as state senator from 1977 to

1989. He was elected speaker pro tempore of the Tennessee State Senate.

Jason Smith '01 died Oct. 31, 2009, after a long battle with cancer. He was the assistant district attorney for Houston and Henry counties in Alabama.

John Snow Thrower, Jr. '82 died Nov. 2, 2009.

Robert Wharton III '34, age 94, of St. Simons Island, Ga., died Oct. 10, 2009. He joined Delta Air Lines in 1936. During World War II, he was named director of personnel and later helped develop the personnel policies that became a hallmark of the company. After retiring from Delta with 25 years of service, he worked 25 years at Sea Island Golf Course in St. Simons Island. He was active in Kiwanis.

C. Nicks Williams '81, age 57, of Charlotte, N.C., died Nov. 3, 2009. He served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Western District of North Carolina. ♠

1986

Robert G. Bugge is director of legal services—Asia Pacific for Nuance Communications, Inc., in Sydney, Australia.

Davis Malone was approved by the Alabama Senate as a trustee for the University of Alabama System.

John Miller was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and assumed command of the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in November.

Anne Pope, federal cochair of the Appalachian Regional Commission, provided the commencement address for Alderson-Broaddus College in May. During the ceremony, she was presented with an honorary doctor of laws degree.

R. Wendell Sheffield of the Jefferson County Court Mediation Project facilitated a meeting Aug. 15 at the Sheraton Downtown in Birmingham. The meeting was sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control to help the agency decide its strategy for making the H1N1 (swine flu) influenza vaccine available in the United States last fall.

1987

Jeannie Bennett Cole serves under **Robert L. Broussard '85** as assistant district attorney for Madison County, Ala.

James E. Hall II is seeking the Lauderdale County district judge seat in 2010. He has served as municipal judge for 15 years in Florence, Lexington and Killen, Ala.

Phillip W. McCallum of McCallum, Methvin and Terrell, PC, was selected vice president of the Alabama State Bar Association for 2009–10.

Jim McFerrin was featured in a September issue of *The Birmingham News* for his work winning an occupational-tax lawsuit on behalf of Jefferson County taxpayers. The win could result in a refund of as much as \$37 million for taxpayers.

Hallie L. Zobel announces the opening of Bailey Zobel Pilcher, PLC, at 610 South Maitland Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751,

407-622-1900. Zobel was recognized for her outstanding pro bono service in 2008 by the Florida Supreme Court, the Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Bar and the Florida Pro Bono Coordinators Association.

1988

Kenneth Alan Barlow, Jr. was elected as an Orange County judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida.

Bill Foster was elected mayor of St. Petersburg, Fla.

Joe Hilley released his new book, *What the Red Moon Knows*, as an e-book on amazon.com.

Rebecca Dinnie Laurent joined RichardsonClement, PC, to concentrate in litigation and appellate work. A former partner with the former Lange Simpson Robinson & Somerville, Laurent recently returned to the practice of law.

Thomas Methvin was ranked at No. 3 in Litigation: General Commercial in the state of Alabama in the 2009 edition of *Chambers USA* guide. He was presented with the Sheena Diane Ayers Humanitarian Award for his longtime work with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Aug. 29.

1989

John L. Collar, Jr. serves as the legislative liaison for the Family Law Section, State Bar of Georgia. He recently formed a domestic relations and family law firm, Boyd Collar Nolen & Tuggle in Atlanta, Ga.

Deane K. Corliss, partner of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP, was recognized by *Cambridge Who's Who* for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of health-care law.

Richard Davis of Starnes & Atchison was selected for inclusion in the 2009 edition of *Alabama Super Lawyers* magazine for his environmental litigation practice. Only 5 percent of Alabama lawyers are named to *Alabama Super Lawyers*. *Super Lawyers, Corporate Counsel Edition* also recognized Davis for his environmental litigation practice.

1990

Steve R. Burford joined the Birmingham firm of Ritchey, Simpson, Glick and Burford, PLLC, as a partner.

1992

Charles M. Elmer, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, was a featured speaker at the 2009 Employment Law Update presented by the Alabama Bar Institute for Continuing Legal Education Nov. 20 in Birmingham. He spoke on "Employee Benefits: COBRA, HIPAA, Genetic Discrimination and Pension Plans."

C. Timothy Gary, former senior vice president and chief operating officer of Gordian Health Solutions, Inc., a Nashville, Tenn.,-based subsidiary of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, will serve as a partner in Adams and Reese's Nashville office, focusing on health care, business strategies and government relations.

David B. Hall, a shareholder in the Birmingham office of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, was named leader of the firm's Transportation practice group.

Judy P. Hamer, vice president and general counsel of Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, has been recognized by *Cambridge Who's Who* for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of health-care law.

Corinne Lockett is president of the Fairfax Bar Association in Northern, Va. She is an attorney in the Fairfax County Attorney's Office.

1993

Robert V. Cornish, Jr., a securities lawyer, joined Dilworth Paxson's Washington, D.C., office as Of Counsel.

Michael C. Skotnicki, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, was a featured panelist at the Alabama Appleseed Foundation's "High Cost Credit Summit" Sept. 24 at the Alabama Archives and History Building in Montgomery. He discussed the need for payday lending reform in Alabama.

1994

Mark Bajalia, a shareholder and managing member of the Brennan, Manna & Diamond, was selected as one of Florida's Legal Elite in the field of commercial litigation according to *Florida Trend Magazine*. He was appointed to serve as chair of the Jacksonville Bar Association's Professionalism Committee and cochaired a Professionalism Symposium in August. He was selected to participate in HandsOn Jacksonville's Blueprint for Leadership Class of 2009 and also serves on the its board of directors and Development Committee.

Births

Shannon and Matt Abbott '00, a daughter, Elizabeth Hardy "Libby," born Aug. 21, 2009. They also have a son, Reed Matthew, who was born Oct. 24, 2007.

Jennifer and York Craig '97, a daughter, Annie Whitaker, born July 8, 2009.

Frank and Charlotte Ecker Davis '97 of Annapolis, Md., a son, Jackson Michael Dunlop, born Dec. 1, 2008. He joins his twin sisters, Savannah and Courtney, 4.

Daniel Harrell '06 and **Emily Johnson Harrell '06**, a daughter, Leighton Emory, born Oct. 8, 2009. They also have another daughter, Josie, 2.

Julie Coleman Kegley '01 and **Thomas Kegley '01** of Atlanta, Ga., a son, Edward Riley, born April 10, 2009.

Wes and Emily Baggett Prater '03, a son, Elijah Allen, born June 16, 2009.

Ann and John Roth '02, a daughter, Frances Jones, born June 18, 2009. She joins her sister, Peyton.

Keri Mason Roth '01 and **James M. Roth '99**, a daughter, Ella Reagan, born May 27, 2009. ♀

Malcolm Harrison was appointed by Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour to take the oath of office for Hinds County circuit judge. He will serve out the term of former Hinds County Circuit Judge Bobby DeLaughter.

Tod Hyche, an attorney with Smith Moore Leatherwood, LLP, was elected as a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. He is one of only 31 attorneys in South Carolina named as a fellow.

Leigh Mattox announces the opening of Leigh Mattox, Attorney at Law, at 4500 Valleydale Road, Suite 200-A, Birmingham, AL 35244, 205-637-3072.

1995

Nolan Awbrey of Hare Wynn Newell & Newton, LLP, was featured in the Oct. 9 issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal* for his comments on legal concerns during the current economic environment.

Mary Ann Etzler was appointed to serve on the board of the George C. Young Central Florida Inns of Court, and was appointed vice president of the nonprofit Christian Service Center. Last February, she was one of 30 individuals accepted to the Political Leadership Institute. In June, she was installed as president for the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers.

Michael I. Fish, a founding partner of Birmingham-based Fish Nelson, LLC, was appointed chair of the American Bar Association's tort, trial and insurance practice workers' compensation and employer liability committee for a one-year term.

Bentley Hines Patrick of the Jefferson County Court Mediation Project facilitated a meeting Aug. 15 at the Sheraton Downtown in Birmingham. The meeting was sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control to help the agency decide its strategy for making the H1N1 (swine flu) influenza vaccine available in the United States last fall.

1996

Brandy M. Lee joined Leitman, Siegal, Payne & Campbell, PC, as a shareholder.

Stan Logan, managing partner of the Birmingham Barons, served as a featured

speaker for the Birmingham Rotaract Club in July.

1997

Nolanda Bearden, owner of architecture firm NHB Group, was featured in an October issue of *The Birmingham News* for the \$1 million restoration of the historic Famous Theatre. Her firm was selected to design the \$530 million domed stadium to be built next to the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex.

James Childs Jr., an attorney at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP, was elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Biotechnology Association of Alabama.

Michael A. Fritz, Sr. and **David B. Hughes** announce the opening of Fritz & Hughes, LLC, 7020 Fain Park Drive, Suite 1, Montgomery, AL 36117, 334-215-4422.

Craig Stephens was featured in a September issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal* for his stance on the lasting impact of the recession on investments and strategies.

1998

Norman Orr was featured in a September issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal* for his stance on the lasting impact of the recession on investments and strategies.

Juan C. Ortega started The Ortega Firm, LLC, 501 Church Street, Mobile, AL 36602, 251-441-0990.

Lloyd Peoples, deputy chief of the U.S. Attorney's Office Civil Division, was one of four prosecutors who convicted former Birmingham Mayor Larry Langford in the October bribery case.

1999

Brian Collins announces the opening of Collins & Downey, PC, at 2021 Morris Avenue, Birmingham 35203, 205-324-1834.

Leslie J. Horton of the Jefferson County Court Mediation Project facilitated a meeting Aug. 15 at the Sheraton Downtown in Birmingham. The meeting was sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control to help the agency decide its strategy for making the H1N1 (swine flu) influenza vaccine available in the United States last fall.

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David R. Mellon, a shareholder with the law firm of Sirote & Permutt, was invited to serve on a panel of speakers before the Greater Shelby County Chamber of Commerce.

Thomas P. Sinclair joined Leitman, Siegal, Payne & Campbell, PC, as a shareholder.

2000

T. Paul Barnett serves under **Robert L. Broussard '85** as assistant district attorney for Madison County, Ala.

T. Scott Kelly was appointed committee director for the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division [YLD]. A shareholder in Ogletree Deakins' Birmingham office, he previously held the position of Chair of the YLD's Labor and Employment Law Committee.

V. Michelle Obradovic coordinated attorneys and mediators who facilitated a meeting Aug. 15 at the Sheraton Downtown in Birmingham. The meeting was sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control to help the agency decide its strategy for making the H1N1 (swine flu) influenza vaccine available in the United States last fall.

Tracey Clemmons Smith of Gwin Steinmetz & Baird, PLLC, was elected a member of the firm. She focuses on defense insurance litigation, with an

emphasis on trucking and commercial transportation claims, insurance bad-faith claims, product liability and food litigation.

2001

Champ Crocker, a practicing attorney in Cullman Ala., accepted the chair of the Cullman County Democratic Party.

Chris Glover of Montgomery, Ala.-based law firm Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C., was named its newest shareholder. Glover practices in the firm's Personal Injury Section.

Tiffany Johnson of the Robert Simms Thompson Law Firm in Tuskegee, Ala., was unanimously appointed to serve as city judge by the Tuskegee City Council.

Jeffrey Miller was named a shareholder of Sirote & Permutt, PC.

Andrea Anderson Roberson is lead contracts manager with the Georgia Department of Community Health. She lives in Alpharetta, Ga., with her husband, Reginald, and children, Asjia and Aaliyah.

Latanishia D. Watters, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, was named as assistant diversity director of the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division for 2009-10. She also was selected for the 2009-10 class of Leadership Birmingham. Watters was a featured speaker at the American Bar Association's annual meeting in Chicago, Ill. She was announced as president-elect

of the Junior Board of Girls Inc. of Central Alabama.

James Arthur Woods, Jr. of Chattanooga, Tenn., is an assistant U.S. attorney with the Department of Justice.

2002

Robin Beardsley was named a shareholder of Sirote & Permutt, PC, and was announced as new member of the Junior Board of Girls Inc. of Central Alabama. She also serves as chair for the Civility and Professionalism Subcommittee of the 2009-10 Defense Research Institute.

Jennifer Nunnelley, president of Redmont Properties in Birmingham, was named to the *Birmingham Business Journal's* "Top Birmingham Women" in the May 1, 2009, issue.

Hilary A. Wayne joined the Atlanta firm of Isenberg & Hewitt as an associate.

2003

Morris Lilienthal joined Martinson & Beason, PC, as an associate.

Blake L. Oliver is a partner with Adams, Umbach, Davidson & White, LLP.

2004

Marc Keahey was elected to the Alabama State Senate in District 22. He previously served three years in the Alabama House of Representatives. He is a partner at Keahey Law Office in Grove Hill, Ala.

Richard Pearce and Christy Friday Pearce live in Lexington, Ky., where he is an associate attorney with Grant, Konvalinka and Harrison, P.C. They have a daughter, Adelaide Grace, born in September of 2008.

Michael E. Short is a partner with Adams, Umbach, Davidson & White, LLP.

Kathleen M. Weiderman is employed as a senior privacy analyst at the Department of Homeland Security/ FEMA-Front Rowe in the Privacy Branch. She serves as privacy policy specialist to counsel, clarify and ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations and other Privacy Act policies, and collaborates closely with the Office of Chief Counsel and DHS to analyze system privacy policy compliance documents.

Busby Chairs ABA Section

Ginger Busby '90, a partner in the Birmingham office of Burr and Forman, LLP, recently become chair of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section [TIPS] of the American Bar Association.

TIPS is known as the source of knowledge and leadership on trial practice and critical issues of justice that involve tort and insurance law. It is the only national professional group to unite plaintiff, defense, insurance and corporate counsel to advance the civil justice system.

The section has more than 32,000 members and 34 general committees that focus on substantive and procedural matters. TIPS also has a variety of standing committees and task forces, such as the Corporate Governance Task Force and the

Contingency Fee Task Force, to ensure members have a voice in ABA policy and are informed on the latest developments affecting their area of law. TIPS further enriches the tort, trial and insurance fields of law through CLE programs, comprehensive periodicals, cutting-edge publications and innovative online resources.

Previously, Busby served as vice chair, as well as secretary and diversity officer for TIPS, and has been a member of the TIPS Council. In 2009, She served as the section's director of the National Trial Academy, which is held annually in Reno, Nev. She has taught at several trial academies, including the Alabama Defense Lawyers Trial Academy. ♡

2005

Mary E. Cash announces the opening of the Law Offices of Mary Cash at the Mountain Brook Center, 2700 U.S. Highway 280 East, Suite 210W, Birmingham, AL 35223, 205-322-1449. Founder of YP Birmingham, she was featured in the August issue of *Birmingham Magazine*.

Steven Eversole was featured in the May 2009 issue of *Birmingham Magazine* for founding his practice, Eversole Law, with his wife, Lindsey.

John Ashley Neese joined the firm of Feld, Hyde, Wertheimer, Bryant & Stone, P.C., as an associate and was selected as the 2009–10 president of the Hoover Rotary Club.

2006

Tullie Patterson Soileau married David Soileau in January. She works at the Social Security Administration Office of Adjudication and Review in Birmingham.

2007

Bains Fleming of Norman, Wood, Kendrick, Turner was named service director for the Rotaract Club of Birmingham board for 2009–10.

Lindsay K. Haynes joined the office of the Tennessee Attorney General following clerkships with **Judge William B. Cain '58** and Judge Andy D. Bennett on the Tennessee Court of Appeals. Haynes will focus her practice on complex tobacco litigation matters.

L. Michael Higgins, Jr. joined the law firm of Calihan, Brown, Burgardt, Wurst & Daniel, P.A., in Garden City, Kan., as an associate practicing in the areas of workers compensation, insurance defense and criminal defense.

J. Heath Loftin joined the Montgomery, Ala., office of Reynolds, Reynolds & Duncan, LLC, as an associate attorney.

Stephanie Mays of Maynard Cooper & Gale, PC, was announced as new member of the Junior Board of Girls Inc. of Central Alabama.

Jennifer Reid of Huie Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP, was named a member of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Alabama Chapter Leadership Class of 2009. She also was announced as new member of the Junior Board of Girls Inc. of Central Alabama.

2008

Mu'min F. Islam, esq., announces the opening of his practice, MFI Law Group, PLLC, at 1448 South Street, Suite 200, Philadelphia, PA 19146, 215-735-2357.

Justin Kelly of Burr & Forman, LLP, is event chair of the Junior Board of Girls Inc. of Central Alabama.

Bryson Miles Kirksey joined the Tennessee firm of Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel as an associate in the tax and estate planning practice.

2009

April McEachern Helms joined the Birmingham firm of Starnes & Atchison, LLP, as an associate.


Wes Hunter is an associate at Hand Arendall in the firm's litigation section.

Hannah B. Lansdon joined the firm of Tanner & Guin, LLC, as an associate in its Tuscaloosa, Ala., office. Her practice areas include domestic relations, growing business, health care and workplace law.

Lisha X. Li joined the firm of Burr & Forman, LLP, as an associate. She will work in the firm's Litigation and Product Liability practice groups.

Jeremiah Rogers joined the Birmingham firm of Starnes & Atchison, LLP, as an associate.

Anthony Romano joined the firm of Burr & Forman, LLP, as an associate. He will work in the firm's Financial Services practice group.

Megan Stephens joined the firm of Burr & Forman, LLP, as an associate. She will work in the firm's Litigation and Product Liability practice groups. 

Send Us Your News!

We would love to hear what is going on in your personal and professional life. There are several ways in which you can get in touch with us. Send your updates to

Alumni Office
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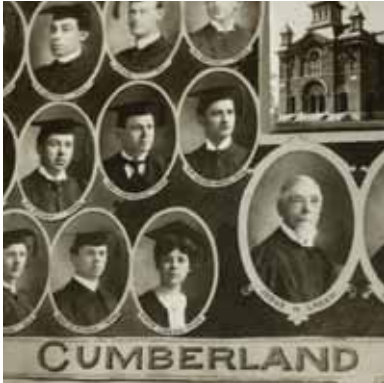
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