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Campbellsvillian



THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI + FRIENDS OF CAMPBELLSVILLE UNIVERSITY



Monica Turk is hooded during the Carver School of Social Work pinning and hooding ceremony at Campbellsville Baptist Church on May 5, 2023. Hoods symbolize receiving your master's degree. photo/Alexandria D. Dalton

Campbellsvillian

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Office of the President

One of the great blessings of higher education is the cycle of seasons. We send out accomplished graduates to change the world, and moments later, we are welcoming the next generation of CU Tigers!

Indeed, Campbellsville University alumni are already making the world a better place. Students who found their calling through their CU experience are now living out that calling in places across the country and around the globe. We see it in places of education, ministry, culture, healing, business, and service.

And following in the traditions of those who came before us, CU continues to aim higher. With this edition of the Campbellsvillian, we announce our strategic plan, Foundations for the Future. This bold strategy for 2023-2028 is the vision of our entire CU community, shaped in planning sessions over the last year. It maps thoughtfully crafted initiatives to become a stronger, healthier, and even more transformative University.

Thanks for taking this moment to examine this edition and learn more about what is happening around CU. I hope you will become familiar with Foundations for the Future and join with us in praying for God's wisdom, strength, and blessing. We remain grateful for your partnership and encouragement as we step into a bright future.

With Appreciation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joseph Hopkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "J" and "H".

Dr. Joseph Hopkins, President

Meet Daniel Leathers, Director of Planned Giving

After high school, Daniel served eight years in the US Army in numerous positions and duty stations, including Military Intelligence, Special Operations and at the Pentagon. After the service, he attended Middle Tennessee State University receiving his BA in history, archaeology and classical studies. He is a Fellow of Charitable Estate Planning from the Charitable Estate Planning Institute. Over the next twenty years, he worked in various non-profits, including the Boy Scouts of America and the National Wild Turkey Federation. He also served as General Manager for Forcht Broadcasting in Campbellsville for two and a half years as well as serving as an on-air personality. Daniel has also worked consulting with numerous non-profits and has been a TEDx speaker about leadership.

Daniel is married to Cyndi, and their son David is entering his senior year at Campbellsville University in the Mass Communication Department. Daniel is currently working on his Master of Management and Leadership at Campbellsville University.



Meet Devin Hughes, Major Gifts Officer

Devin has been the Major Gifts Officer for Campbellsville University since January 2023. Prior to CU, he served as a Financial Advisor and Loan Officer. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Western Kentucky University. He is on the Board of Directors for the Campbellsville Chamber of Commerce and Campbellsville Kiwanis, where he is Vice President, and serves on Campbellsville Rotary. Devin also teaches children's ministry at Elk Horn Baptist Church. While serving his community is Devin's passion, his most cherished time is with his wife and son.



Impact Future Generations

COVENANT SOCIETY

A message from Daniel Leathers

The Campbellsville University Covenant Society is made up of loyal supporters who have made financial commitments in the form of bequests, life insurance policies, trusts or gift annuities. This commitment can take many forms; some include lifetime income for you. Our team can also help you with your estate planning needs and ideas with a focus on you, your family and your legacy. Each gift helps ensure the future success of the university and its students.

For a full description of how you can leave a legacy and ensure the future success of our mission, visit our website at <https://plannedgiving.campbellsville.edu/> or scan the QR code on this page.

Some of the more popular ways to give are through your Will or Living Trusts. However, you can also consider disinheriting the IRS by using beneficiary designations on your IRA or life insurance.

We have numerous ways to leave an impact while paying yourself a lifetime income through Charitable Gift Annuities (CGA) and our NEW Tiger Impact CGA.

The new Impact CGA allows you to donate your first few income payments back to CU. This increases your tax benefit and creates an immediate impact at CU.

Many people use their estate plan to fully endow a scholarship or give to the ones they already support.

Most people want to make a positive impact in this world during their lives. Those same people want to have a lasting impact on their family and community for generations to come. Please visit our website to read our articles, download our planning guide and learn how to maximize your impact.

I would love to talk to you about how you can create generational change in your family, impact your favorite charities and leave less to Uncle Sam. Feel free to call me at 270-789-5014 or email me at dleathers@campbellsville.edu.

Make a Big
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'WHO KNOWS WHAT'S NEXT?'



Joan McKinney steps into retirement after 42 years at Campbellsville University

A "family" photo was taken of the current Office of University Communications staff members and Joan McKinney's husband and daughter at Joan McKinney's retirement reception. From left are: Stan McKinney, Gerard Flanagan, Alex Dalton, Joan McKinney, Calen McKinney and Amber Meade.



Joan McKinney, center, receives the first Dave Walters Servant Leadership Award from Walters, left, and Josh Switzer.



The Office of Alumni and Public Relations/Communications staff and students decorated the entrance to the college/university each year at Christmas with real greenery. Here Joan McKinney works on the entrance to the Maple Trail.

By Gerard Flanagan, staff writer and photographer

For more than 40 years – 42 years to be exact – Joan McKinney was a constant presence on the campus of Campbellsville University, with thousands of events covered and photographed under her watch.

Many times, you could find her photographing or writing about those events herself.

Yet, for all McKinney did for Campbellsville University, she fully admits the university did just as much for her.

"My greatest joys of working at the university have been the friendships I've made with fellow staff and faculty and the friendships and relationships with students," she said. "I have become stronger in my faith, learned about students and their cultures and learned how to treat people equally."

McKinney, who officially retired Feb. 10, 2023, as director of university communications, said many people told her she would know the right time to retire, but she never quite believed that.

"But it really did happen that way," she said. "I just knew it was time when I decided in January 2023."

McKinney, who was also editor of the *Campbellsvillian*, earned a journalism degree from Eastern Kentucky University with a minor in English, and she had worked as a reporter and photographer for *The Advocate-Messenger* and *The Sentinel News*.

"I loved working with the magazine," she said. "I enjoyed doing *Tiger Tracks* because, usually, they are the first thing alumni look

at. They want to connect with their former classmates.

"I really enjoyed talking with alumni and getting information about what is happening in their lives."

McKinney came to what was then Campbellsville College in 1980 when her husband, Stan, was offered the position of news editor at the *Central Kentucky News-Journal* newspaper.

CKNJ company policy prohibited Joan from working under Stan, so she applied for a job in the Office of Alumni and Public Relations under Ginny Flanagan.

"She hired me even though I spelled her name wrong," McKinney said. "Misspelling people's names is a big no-no for me."

Despite the hiccup in the application process, Flanagan knew quickly that she had made a great hire.

"She was incredibly dependable and is incredibly intelligent and capable," she said. "I enjoyed working with her so very much."

Over the years, McKinney's office worked in sports, TV and was also in charge of the yearbook and Homecoming.

In 1982, their daughter, Calen, was born, and she would follow in her parent's footsteps with a decade-long career in journalism, plus a five-year career in public information, before joining the university's Louisville Education Center.

Stan became a journalism professor at Campbellsville University and eventually the first chair of the Department of Mass Communication. He retired in June 2022 but continues to teach as an adjunct.

"Our legacy runs for a long time at Campbellsville University," McKinney said.

Flanagan agrees.

"She's part of the fabric here," Flanagan



Kasey Ricketts, right, a former staff member in the Office of University Communications and a Campbellsville University graduate, helps Joan McKinney place a sign on the Turner Log Cabin porch for an alumni reunion in 2017.

said. "There's no question about that."

Diane Rogers, who worked with McKinney along with Flanagan, called McKinney one of her best friends, not just a colleague.

"She was very considerate of other people," she said. "She fit right in from day one."

McKinney's work ethic always resonated with Rogers.

"She didn't work by the clock," Rogers said. "She worked by the job. I don't know anyone more devoted."

Hundreds of student workers also worked alongside McKinney, such as Gary Andrew Stinson ('08), who has worked in public relations for several years.

"It's now 15 years later, and I can comfortably say that her style of teaching and coaching has led me to a career that I'm more successful at because of her," Stinson said.

Andre Geraldts ('97), another student worker under McKinney, feels the same way, saying, "Without her, I know I would not have been as good a journalist, I would not be as good of a writer, and I would not be as good of a person as I am today."

The students, McKinney said, motivated her over the years.

"Working with students who want to be journalists, photographers, or public relations leaders has been the greatest joy of my life," she said.

McKinney said she always sought to give students personal and professional guidance anytime she could.

"It's hard for students, especially freshmen, as they leave home for the first time," Joan said. "I hope I've been a mother and, to some, a grandmother to some of the students."

She emphasized accuracy in both writing and photography with her student workers and other important life lessons.

"I hope I've also helped them learn getting names when they shoot pictures, the importance of recycling, and writing handwritten thank you notes."

Campbellsville University, McKinney explained, helps its students in so many ways.

"All our students are God's children, and Campbellsville University allows us to share the Gospel with them," she said. "The university helps those students learn about finding and fulfilling their calling and achieving the university's mission."

McKinney received the first Dave Walters Servant Leadership Award in April.

She said her retirement has consisted of reading books – she's read 60 books at the time this story was written, with plans to read many more – enjoying more time to love on her two cats, Dexter and Greyson, working on flowers in her yard and also donating blood. Over the years, she has donated blood 136 times – a total of 17 gallons.

She also served as an election worker for the May primary elections.

"I've called in the election results for the Associated Press for several years, but it was

very interesting serving at the polls. I really liked doing it, and I hope to continue to do so," she said.

"Basically, I'm doing whatever I want, whenever I want. That feels good," she added.

She is a board member for the Campbellsville/Taylor County Chamber of Commerce and is working with the Leadership Program that has been reinstated.

She is also a member of The Brown Bag Book Club and Friends of the Library Group at the Taylor County Public Library.

"The library is a big love of mine. It is so important to our community. I go there once a day sometimes," she said.

She added, "I'm in the early stage of retirement. Who knows what's next?"

If you would like to connect with Joan, she can be reached via email at mcjoan23@gmail.com.

There will be a reunion for former workers in the Office of Public Relations/Office of University Communications from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 23, in Winters Dining Hall at CU's Homecoming. There will also be a time to acknowledge Joan's retirement from the university.



A PL

**By Gerard Flanagan,
staff writer and photographer**

Kiel Thorton has always loved to tell stories.

Growing up, Thorton, a 2010 Campbellsville University graduate, would spend much of his time creating his own spinoffs of the famous animated franchise Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles or starring in homemade films in the backyard.

Over the years, childhood moments evolved into a love of filmmaking and eventually Thorton's first film, "A Place Called Home."

The film tells the story of a dad who loses his wife in childbirth and must raise his two daughters by himself.

"Sometimes I reflect back on time, and I remember wondering if I'd get the chance to make a feature film, and I'm so thankful that I did," Thorton said. "But more so, I'm so grateful to have multiple extremely talented people come alongside me and say yes."

Regarding his time at Campbellsville University, Thorton said, "There are so many moments and times that I can reflect back on and see how that was a stepping stone to the next one, but it all boils down to some great people taking time to invest in students."

Once he arrived at Campbellsville University, Thorton immediately knew he was where he needed to be.

"That first semester, I excelled because the environment was so different," Thorton said. "I had faculty who cared about me."

One of those faculty was Dr. Jason Garrett, professor of communication, who described Thorton as one of his best students.

"He had a clear love and natural talent for film," Garrett said. "I knew that early on with a project he submitted because he did some fight choreography, and he not only

Though this scene didn't make the final cut, Kiel Thorton's film, "A Place Called Home," tells the story of a dad who loses his wife in childbirth and must raise his two daughters by himself.

ACE CALLED HOME

shot it, but he planned out the edits to the shots. That sort of natural talent is hard to find.

“There’s no surprise a feature film would come out of him following his time at CU.”

Dr. Judith Collins, professor of English, noted Thorlton had confidence and self-assurance, and he was always interested in providing thoughtful and intelligent insight in class as opposed to just getting good grades.

“I read an early draft of the screenplay for this film, and it has real depth and shows a keen eye for the power of motif and understatement,” she said. “I think Kiel has real promise as a filmmaker, and I also think the support of his brilliant wife, Elizabeth Harris Thorlton – not to mention her proofreading skills – will help to take him where he needs to go.”

Thorlton, who is also a film professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, explained he began writing the film on his own while still attending film school at Regent University while juggling a full-time job and raising a family.

“Often you hear, ‘Write what you know,’” Thorlton said. “I think we take that too far and look at our life like a movie, but there is truth in the statement. The things I knew intimately were growing up in the South and being a dad, and that became the basis of the film.”

Thorlton compares making a film to running a marathon. Many late nights,

long weekends and countless rounds of revisions, tweaks and edits went into producing the final product.

“It takes so much resilience to see something like this through to the end,” he said. “Even the writing process, I spent almost a year writing it because it takes time for ideas to flourish and grow. You can’t just slap something together and hope it works.”

Fundraising for the film was a long process, Thorlton explained.

script, hiring actors and crew members and determining a budget, lasted eight months, and post-production, which involves things like editing the footage and adding music and sound effects, took a year.

“Filming was great and smooth, mostly because of all the planning that went into the project,” Thorlton said.

Thorlton explained he didn’t have much nervousness until the film was finished.

“Looking back on it now, I can say I’m proud of what we put together, but I don’t



Kiel Thorlton, a 2010 graduate of Campbellsville University, works on the scene of his film, “A Place Called Home.”

“We knocked on doors, made phone calls and sent tons of emails for funding,” he said. “In the end, we did receive funding, not millions and millions, but enough to get it off the ground, hire some very talented people, and make sure everyone was fed.”

Production of the film lasted a month. Pre-production, which involves finalizing the

think the nerves of having other people watch it will ever go away,” Thorlton said.

Thorlton and his wife, Elizabeth, a fellow 2010 graduate of Campbellsville University, have four children: Johby, Fern, Michael and Maggie.

“He Has Prepared Me For This Day”

Frazier is president, vice-chancellor of the American University of Nigeria

By Gerard Flanagan, staff writer and photographer

A lifelong dream Dr. DeWayne Frazier says began on the campus of Campbellsville University more than 20 years ago has come to fruition.

Frazier was recently named the president and vice-chancellor of the American University of Nigeria (AUN).

“In God’s world, there are no accidents,” Frazier said. “I know this firsthand, being born to a 15-year-old mother. God prepares us each step of the way, and He has prepared me for this day.”

As president and vice-chancellor, Frazier will oversee the university’s main campus and lead the entire AUN brand, which includes K-12 schools, business centers, peace institutes and a printing company.

“The American University of Nigeria couples my academic background in international relations with my career of higher education and allows me to use my skills in both of these critical areas,” Frazier stated.

Frazier will inherit a staff of nearly 1,000 people, and he said, “I am blessed with this opportunity to be their leader.”

As an undergraduate at Campbellsville, Frazier interned in the British Parliament and took courses through Imperial College. Frazier also did public speaking, performed in plays, and was a four-year men’s soccer team member.

Frazier came to Campbellsville University on an academic scholarship and performance grant to play soccer.

After graduating from Campbellsville University with academic honors and as the 1998 recipient of the Political Science Award, Frazier attended the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce at the University of Kentucky, where he studied under career diplomats from the Department of State.

“All of these international connections, including three of my children being from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, I have always had a keen understanding and passion for other countries, especially African nations,” Frazier said.

Frazier has six children: Blaine, Zachary, Safari, Kiera, Sandrine and Moses.

Frazier also served in various leadership

roles at Campbellsville University, including associate vice president for academic affairs and director of international education.

Frazier said he received enormous support from the Campbellsville University community as a student.

“The campus was full of amazing people who had a wonderful servant heart about them, and they invested in me all the time,” Frazier said.

For his new job at AUN, moving from the United States to a different country has given Frazier and his family plenty of challenges.

“A move is always a bit of a challenge, but when you move out of the country, let’s just say it is multiplied times many exponents,” Frazier noted. “From having to set up U.S.-based health insurance for the children to handling the selling of a home and adequate storage for my belongings, it has been stressful and challenging.”

“Simple things become more complicated when you move to emerging democracies and outside the United States.”

The American University of Nigeria, where Dr. DeWayne Frazier has been named president and vice-chancellor, is in Yola, Nigeria.





DeWayne Frazier, front row, center, and his six children, sport green - the color that represents the American University of Nigeria. His children are, from left, front row: Kiera, Moses, Sandrine and Safari. Back row: Blaine and Zac.

For example, Frazier won't drive a car while at AUN. Instead, the university will provide a driver for Frazier.

"Establishing bank accounts and making sure I can transfer into my U.S. account and having my bills online has been a long process," he said.

In all of this, Frazier admits, without Dr. Frank Cheatham, there would be no President Dr. DeWayne Frazier.

"Not only was he a professor of mine, but he has been a lifelong mentor and like family to me," Frazier said. "He and Ms.

Shirley (Frank Cheatham's wife) are two of the most amazing people that I have met this side of heaven, and I am thankful each day for their love and support."

Cheatham, who served as Campbellsville University's senior vice president for academic affairs and oversaw Frazier when he was associate vice president for academic affairs, said Frazier has always been driven to be successful.

"It's no surprise that he has been very successful in the higher education arena," Cheatham said. "He is well-versed in

accreditation issues, development of academic programs, and fundraising."

"One of the rewards of serving at CU is the opportunity to be involved in the success of students like DeWayne Frazier."

Dave Walters, associate vice president for regional administration at Campbellsville University, said, "DeWayne Frazier was extremely dedicated to academics, excelling in the classroom while also being a very talented student-athlete. His leadership abilities were revealed as a resident assistant and through his involvement in several student organizations."

Frazier's faith in the Lord, Walters said, "has always been prominent and exhibited openly and abundantly in everything he does."

Campbellsville University, Frazier explained, is a place that changes lives, including his.

"Campbellsville is, was and always will be home to me, a place of family, and I cannot express how much I take the institution with me each step in my life," he said.




Dr. DeWayne Frazier poses for a photo with his mentor and close friend, Dr. Frank Cheatham, during Cheatham's final commencement as Campbellsville University's vice president for academic affairs in 2015.

Gwinn Thompson receives Leadership Award at 2023 Derby Rose Gala



photo/Alexandria Dalton



By Linda Waggener, freelance writer

Gwinn Thompson - Campbellsville University alum, teacher, author and Chair of the Derby Rose Gala scholarship fundraiser - was presented the CU Leadership Award at the 2023 event.

Vice President for Development, Benji Kelly, said, "Gwinn's desire is to always help students be successful. Her willingness to lead the Advancement Board and chair the Derby Rose Gala made her deserving of this award." Those thoughts were echoed by Development's Natalie Burdette, who said, "Gwinn has been a wonderful proponent for scholarship at her alma mater and has used her talents for such good."

Kelly, along with Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University, and his wife, Suzanne, presented the Leadership Award to Thompson during the Derby Rose Gala at Swan's Landing on April 21.

Kelly said the award has its roots in "the pioneering spirit that brought higher education and its succeeding growth to Kentucky."

The award is cast in bronze and depicts the great seal of Campbellsville University, consisting of an equilateral triangle that contains the words fellowship, leadership and scholarship.

"Following the university's legacy of more than a century of commitment to Christian principles in higher education, the Campbellsville University Leadership Award is presented to Gwinn Thompson in recognition of her entrepreneurial spirit," Kelly said.

This fundraising event has resulted in over half a million dollars being added to Campbellsville University's scholarship fund.

"Campbellsville University is very dear to my heart," Thompson said, "and it is my pleasure to give of my time to this great school. When I was a student, I observed people such as Al Hardy and Dr. Paul Horner leading by example, demonstrating their devotion for

Campbellsville College. Al continues that role today, and it is he who inspired me."

It was in 1993 that she was invited to join

CU's Board of Advisors, later the Advancement Board, which she now chairs. She said that after deciding to focus efforts on raising scholarship funds for CU students, the Derby Rose Gala was born in 2009.

It was up to the then board chair, Sara Curry, and Thompson to create the event. There was no previous event to pattern. The goal was to create a beautiful and elegant event that would bring people to campus. The first DRG was organized in just a couple of months.

"The first semiformal event proved to be a popular campus event," she said. "With the support of the Development Office, we have now hosted thirteen Gala events (Covid canceled 2020 and 2021) with featured speakers, including the jockey Pat Day, the writer Byron Crawford, and the President of Churchill Downs, among other notable individuals."

She said, "I have co-chaired each Gala and, this year, enlisted the help of CU's First Lady, who did a fantastic job. So much so that I have asked her to chair next year's Gala. She is an energetic and creative worker!"

Thompson graduated from Campbellsville College in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science in English with a minor in Sociology. As a student at the college, she was active in the music program (Campbellettes) and was chosen to represent CU in both the Mountain Laurel Festival and the Miss Kentucky Pageant.

Following graduation, she took a teaching position with Bullitt County Schools as she earned a Master's Degree from Western Kentucky University and a Rank I from the University of Louisville.

After retiring in 2003, she went to Real Estate School and became a licensed realtor. She works part-time as an appraiser for Bullitt County's Master Commissioner and has served on various community and civic projects. In addition to leading the Advancement Board, she serves on the CU Louisville Board of Visitors.

In 2012, she published a collection of oral history, *JOURNEY to the PAST: Willisburg & Tatham Springs*. She has since co-authored two books of poetry and a book on the early history of the Lincolns in Washington County. *THE LINCOLN FAMILY: ITS LOST & HIDDEN HISTORY*, with Jerry Coleman. It was selected for the 2022 Kentucky Book Festival. A third book of poetry is scheduled for publication.

Thompson lives in Mt. Washington, Ky., and attends Living Hope Church. She has a son, Todd, and is a proud grandmother of Gracie, age 6, and Kooper, age 2. She has two sisters, Jolene Lord and June Wigginton, who are also CU graduates and teachers.

THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023



Siu Ching Esa Tsoi of Hong Kong smiles with her diploma and a bouquet of flowers after her commencement ceremony. She earned a Fitness and Wellness Specialist Bachelor of Science degree.
photo/Hector Santana



...has seen change, has overcome change and will now go out into the world and inspire change.”

By Gerard Flanagan, staff writer and photographer

College graduates often receive a trove of compliments as they prepare to receive their diplomas, ranging from their strong work ethic to their talents, or perhaps their perseverance.

But, Dr. Hilda Legg, in her address at Campbellsville University's commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 6, in the Powell Athletic Center, gave the graduates a unique compliment, calling them “a bunch of fruit.”

“You are the fruit of your mother's womb, the fruit of your parents and family who have been parenting you,” Legg told the candidates for graduation. “You're the fruit of your teachers, your coaches, your principals, and you are the fruit of Campbellsville University.”

The university held three commencement ceremonies—one on Friday, May 5 and two on Saturday, May 6. Campbellsville University had 1,344 candidates for graduation in May and August.

Legg referenced Galatians 5:22, which lists the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, kindness and faith. The world, Legg explained, is in need of these fruits.

“The world needs more of that joy, love, sweetness, gentleness, goodness, and peace,” Legg said, “and you are those who can share.”

Legg told candidates for graduation, “I couldn't have imagined the opportunities in front of me that I have been given and blessed with,” she said. “...There's so much ahead of you that you can't even comprehend.”

Legg was most recently the Kentucky State Director for Rural Development in the U.S. Department of Agriculture during the administration of Donald J. Trump. Today, she works at Legg Strategies as a consultant on rural economic development.

In her address at the Friday ceremony, Dr. Michelle Tucker, dean of the Carver School of Social Work at Campbellsville University, said her pastor, Rev. Montel Richardson, discussed the uncomfortable stretches we face in life and how God can never fail.

“You see, God not failing, and the uncomfortable stretches are so evident throughout my life, especially when I think about my educational and professional journey,” Tucker noted.

After dropping out of college the first time, Tucker applied to what was then Campbellsville College but was denied due to her poor academic history. She was granted an exception after pleading her case.

Tucker soon discovered she had no financial aid left, but a few weeks later, a former employer called Tucker and said she would be receiving a cash payout from the company's stocks, which helped her pay for the last part of her education.

She was later offered a research assistant position at the University of Louisville, which included a salary and tuition.

Tucker reminded the graduates, “God's plan for your life is only just beginning. He has so much more in store for you. I encourage you to lean into those uncomfortable stretches and never forget that God can do all things... except fail.”

During his charge to the graduates, Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University, noted that Scripture contains numerous accounts of those who followed God's direction only to receive another calling or a refinement of the original calling.

“Think about Abraham, Moses, Jacob, or even the disciples and how God's plan was revealed step by step,” Hopkins said. “And how many in this room could testify that the calling upon their life today has evolved or shifted from that first moment of clarity?”

Responding to Hopkins' charge at the Friday ceremony, Jordan Amburgey, who received a Master of Music in piano pedagogy and performance, said, “Wherever we go, if we listen to God, He will guide our path, one He has set us on.”

Lauren Alexandra Phillips, who received a Bachelor of Science in Theater, said she and her



Aline Murerwa of Louisville, Ky., who received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, has her photo taken with President Joseph Hopkins after her ceremony. photo/Bienvenu “Moe” Mugisha



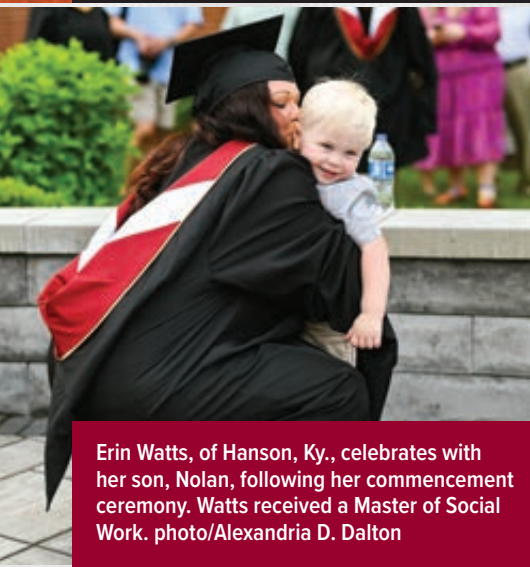
Chris Davis, second from left, director of grounds and assistant director of special projects at Campbellsville University, and his wife, Leslie, advertising and social media coordinator at CU, both of Campbellsville, pose for a photo following their commencement ceremonies along with their children, Pace, far left, and Parker, far right. Both received Master of Business Administration degrees. photo/Alexandria D. Dalton



Dr. Hilda Legg told the candidates for graduation to live a life of giving and to make the world a better place by exhibiting the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, kindness and faith. Legg gave the address at two of Campbellsville University's commencement ceremonies in May. photo/Hector Santana



Mustakim Hussain, of Sylhet, Bangladesh, shakes hands with Dr. Donna Hedgepath, provost and vice president for academic affairs, before Hussain receives his degree. Hussain received a Bachelor of Science in Biology. photo/Gerard Flanagan



Erin Watts, of Hanson, Ky., celebrates with her son, Nolan, following her commencement ceremony. Watts received a Master of Social Work. photo/Alexandria D. Dalton

fellow graduates must honor God in their actions, words and impact.

"Dr. Hopkins, on behalf of my fellow graduating students, I would like to accept your charge and state that the graduating class of 2023 has seen change, has overcome change and will now go out into the world and inspire change," Phillips said.

Responding to Hopkins' charge in the second Saturday ceremony, Ashley Denacia Simpson, who received a Bachelor of Social Work, read Proverbs 16:9: "We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps."

"Therefore, we must trust in Him to guide us through life," Simpson said.

Co-valedictorians, with their degree listed, are as follows: Mary Kate Cecil of Louisa, Ky. (Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, Primary-5, and Spanish); Angela Dawn Carman of Liberty, Ky. (Bachelor of Social Work); Victoria Danielle Marie Cox of Campbellsville, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication Area); Elinor Marie Keck of LaGrange, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in Marriage and Family Ministry); Mason Andrew Lee of Brandenburg, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in Health Education and Physical Education, P-12); Kate Proctor of Jamestown, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in Mathematics); Carly Brooke Sage of Louisville, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in Psychology); and Logan Wade Verble of Goreville, Ill. (Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration).

Co-salutatorians were Macy Jo Brown of Greensburg, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Accounting); Austin Lanham of Greensburg, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in General Business); and Lauren Alexandra Phillips of Campbellsville, Ky. (Bachelor of Science in Theater).

At Campbellsville University's December commencement on Dec. 9 in Ransdell Chapel, there were 668 candidates for graduation.

Dr. Donna Hedgepath, provost and vice president for academic affairs, gave the address at two of the three ceremonies.

"A great place to start your journey today is with love," Hedgepath said. "Graduates, my prayer for you is to not only love others but also to receive love by allowing God's love to be seen through you in your personal lives, your profession, and the everyday mundane."

Dr. Pat Cowherd, dean of the School of Business, Economics and Technology, addressed the candidates for graduation at the 6 p.m. ceremony.

"Go the extra mile in everything you do," she said. "Don't step over others to earn promotions or rewards. Earn your promotion or reward the old-fashioned way by being the best at what you do."

In his charge, Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University, said, "Commencement means beginning."

"In a world that settles for digital substitutes, telecommunication and virtual relationships, choose to be incarnate, alive, in the flesh with those around you," he said. "Take what you have gained here at CU, and be His hands, His feet, His tears and His heart to a world in need."

Three students responded to Dr. Hopkins' charge: Darionta JaForest Bell of Anniston, Ala., who received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration; Ephraim Michael of Tamil Nadu, India, who received a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science; and Jessica Lynn Andres of Shepherdsville, Ky., who received a Master in Marriage and Family Therapy.

Bell said, "As you plan for and strive to meet your next goals, remember that life is about the journey and the lessons you learn along the way. Also, be confident that wherever you end up, you are exactly where God has called you to be at that particular time."

Michael said, "As we commence into a new chapter of our lives, remember the moment and remember that you proved to yourself and everyone around you that you can persevere and win."

In her response to Hopkins' charge, Andes said, "Life is all about relationships and the quality of those relationships. Relationships with others, the relationship you have with yourself, and, for myself, the relationship you have with God."

Co-valedictorians of the December commencement were Abigail Grace Cissell of Lebanon, Ky., who received a Bachelor of Science in Biology; Jenna Sarah Croteau of Kanata, Ontario, who received a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science; and Emily Savannah Gordon of Lebanon, Ky., who received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Salutatorian was Savannah Faye Benningfield of Lebanon, Ky., who received a Bachelor of Science in Biology.



Jakob Zum Kolk of Germany smiles after his commencement ceremony. He received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. photo/Hector Santana



Mary Kate Cecil, center, of Louisa, Ky., receives the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Student Award. Cecil received a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education (Primary-5) and Spanish. Making the presentation were, from left, Dr. Donna Hedgepath, provost and vice president for academic affairs and Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University photo/Alexandria D. Dalton



Brianna Juarez and her daughter, Mya Harris, pose for a photo. Juarez, of Bowling Green, Ky., received a Master of Social Work. photo/Gerard Flanagan



Joining Ashley Albrektson after her ceremony includes from left, front row: Luke Albrektson (son), Carter Albrektson (son) and Taylor Albrektson (daughter). Back row: Bruce Johnson (father), Joyce Johnson (mother), Chris Albrektson (husband) and Aneka Albrektson (daughter). Ashley Albrektson, of Columbia, Ky., received an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing, and her family wore matching sweatshirts to show their support for her. photo/Gerard Flanagan



David Wray, far left, of Campbellsville, poses for a photo with his sister, Karen Brock, along with his niece, Grace Brock, and nephew, Jak Brock. Wray received a Master of Theology with Biblical Studies core. photo/Alexandria D. Dalton



Dr. John Chowning, center, executive assistant to the President for government, community and constituent relations at Campbellsville University, receives the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Community Award. Making the presentation were, from left, Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University, and Dr. Donna Hedgepath, provost and vice president for academic affairs. photo /Alexandria D. Dalton



James Fleming poses for a photo with his wife, Avis Fleming, both of LaGrange, Ky., following commencement. They received a Master of Theology and a Master in Marriage and Family Therapy, respectively. photo/Alexandria D. Dalton



Jordan Amburgey, of Campbellsville, Ky., gets a laugh out of the audience as he tells his story of how God turned a "hillbilly" into a piano player. Amburgey received a Master of Music in piano pedagogy and performance. photo/Alexandria D. Dalton



Keith

***By Gerard Flanagan,
staff writer and photographer***

Dr. H. Keith Spears, chancellor of university system advancement at Campbellsville University, retired effective July 1.

Spears informed the university's Board of Trustees of his decision during their April board meeting Tuesday, April 25. His retirement comes after more than 14 years of service to Campbellsville University.

Spears came to Campbellsville University in April 2009 after three decades of service at his alma mater, Marshall University and a two-year stint in West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin's Department of Education and the Arts. He began at Campbellsville University as vice president for graduate and professional studies, serving in that capacity from April 2009 to Aug. 2015.

"The first meeting of my first day at Campbellsville, I knew that I had made the right decision," Spears said. "I was encircled with a sweet spirit of Christian higher education. I am very pleased to have been part of the growth of this institution, made possible by the extraordinary faculty and staff, who never lost sight of CU's potential."

Spears also served in the roles of vice president for communication, senior vice president and assistant to the president before becoming the 11th president of the university in January 2021.

Spears, appointed the university's first chancellor in Feb. 2022, will retire as the former president and chancellor emeritus of Campbellsville University.

"The growth of Campbellsville University over the past 14 years has been nothing less than profound, and Keith Spears is largely responsible for the inspiration and creativity that built these programs," Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University, said.

"As a mentor, he has woven vision and innovative spirit into those of us around him. I am delighted that Keith will remain alongside us, offering counsel and guidance in his new role as a consultant."

During his time at Campbellsville University,

Spears RETIREMENT

Former president and chancellor emeritus of Campbellsville University, announces retirement

Spears was instrumental in developing the university's off-campus graduate business programs, taking the university to record-breaking enrollment years. He also oversaw the expansion of the university's Louisville Education Center and online programs.

Spears also helped Campbellsville University establish its presence on the West Coast by developing the Phillips Graduate Institute at CU's Los Angeles Education Center. He also took Campbellsville University into Canada by establishing the Windsor Education Center.

Spears developed the Campbellsville University Research Company, through which the CU System of partner institutions is being advanced.

Spears, with experience as a general manager of television and developer of four FM radio stations, has an extensive background in mass communication and broadcasting. He helped upgrade the radio and television facilities at the university's Department of Mass Communication. He also bolstered support for the CU Sports Network.

For several years, Spears oversaw the Office of University Communications and the university's radio and television stations, WLCU TV-FM.

"Keith is a champion of communications, and the Office of University Communications and the Mass Communication Department were beneficiaries of his expertise, knowledge and love of the area," Joan McKinney, who retired as director of university communications in February, said

"Keith is always thinking of new ways to make education better. He is one of five presidents for whom I served in my 42 years at Campbellsville University, and I am glad he was one of those presidents.

"He related to the students and strengthened the education offerings at Campbellsville. He is always up for a challenge."

Spears led the establishment of CU Global,

an online service to help international students in their home countries. He has recently initiated an academic project in the Dominican Republic to help individuals who cannot gain U.S. student visas obtain an American college degree. The initiative's projected start date is August of this year.

He also initiated the development of the Somerset Institute, a venture between Campbellsville University and the University of Somerset Foundation, increasing the presence of future programs in that part of the Commonwealth.

"Dr. Spears has pioneered change and innovation at Campbellsville University for the past 14 years," Dr. Donna Hedgepath, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said. "He has pushed the university to explore new ways of approaching higher education.

"It is easy for universities to fall into a rut of doing the same things the same way. Keith disrupted that mentality and helped to propel CU to new heights."

Spears, a native of Fort Gay (Wayne County), West Virginia, served three decades at his alma mater, Marshall University, in various capacities, from professor to vice president. He co-directed a \$100 Million campaign and established the award-winning "We Are...Marshall" brand, which led to a major Warner Bros. film project, "We Are Marshall," on which he was the chief consultant.

"Dr. H. Keith Spears is that rare higher education administrator who sees the bigger picture of what is not only possible but what needs to be happening," Dr. Chuck Bailey, radio/television production and management professor at Marshall University, said.

Bailey added that Spears has a unique ability to bring his vision to fruition.

"In the vast majority of cases, the results of his visions are better than most imagined or anticipated them to be," Bailey said.

In addition to a biology baccalaureate (Marshall University), two MA's in

communication (Marshall University and Central Michigan University), and a doctorate in higher education leadership (West Virginia University), Spears has two post-doctorate certifications, Harvard University's MLE Post-Doctorate Institute in Lifelong Education and Duke University's Governor's Center for Strategic Leadership. He has received numerous awards, including the Harvard MLE Leadership Award and the Administrator of the Year Award from The National Association of Academic Administrators.

Spears said that making a positive impact on students guided him during his time in higher education.

"To determine our impact on students, we need to focus on two days in the academic year, orientation and commencement," Spears said. "We must ask ourselves, during the interim years, have we made a positive difference in our students' lives?"

In private business, Keith Spears has owned and operated a video production firm and a public relations agency and was in the amusement park business in West Virginia and Indiana. He is a consultant on an international scale and serves on news editorial boards. He is an active member of several chambers of commerce. He is a deacon in his home church.

Dr. Spears and his wife, Rita Kelly Spears, a retired Marshall University adult-student advisor, have two sons and daughters-in-law, Dr. Eric Spears, a university administrator and professor at Columbus State University in Georgia, and Marina Spears, a professor of English professor at Middle Georgia State University, and The Honorable Jason M. Spears, a family court judge in West Virginia and Ashley Spears, a flight nurse with Air Evac. They have three grandchildren, Clara and Lucas, in GA and Amelia, in WV.



FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

CAMPBELLVILLE UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PLAN
JULY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2028



Encountering Christ in the Holy Land



Campbellsville University students, faculty and Campbellsville community members who journeyed to the Holy Land gathered for this group photo at Yardenit, the baptismal site on the Jordan River. From left, first row: Charity Powell, Kim Curry, Lauren Oliver, Dr. Eric Bruns, Jeff Gaines, Hillary Anderson, Cheri Simpson. Second row: Jenny Wray, David Wray, Stan Curry, Pam Hurtgen, Sheila Thomas, Elinor Keck, Karen Redford, Jane Wheatley, Randy McGuire, Hayden Dabney. Third row: Jana Oliver, Lindsey Hammers, Jenny McKinley, David McKinley, Anita Hall, Tracy Bruns, Dr. John Hurtgen, Elizabeth Wigginton, Lawson Embry, Trey Kissel, Dr. Shane Garrison, Ailene Foster, Greg Simpson. Fourth row: Michael Hall, Dr. Jason Garrett, Dr. Scott Wigginton, Caleb Wigginton.

CU Takes Trip to Israel and Jordan

By Elinor Keck, student news writer

Every two years, the School of Theology (SOT) at Campbellsville University makes a trip to the Holy Land to study biblical geography. The trip was delayed several years, but once the travel restrictions were lifted, 34 students and community members made the twelve-day trip to Israel and Jordan.

Dr. Scott Wigginton, professor of pastoral ministries and counseling and Master of Marriage and Family Therapy main campus liaison, has led such trips since 2010. Under Wigginton's lead, the SOT has visited Israel, Jordan, Greece, Turkey, Italy, and Egypt.

"We believe that the Holy Land represents, in a way, a fifth gospel. Being in 'The Land' gives us the chance to do more than read and study; we get to have an experience or adventure," Wigginton said. "Even more, we get to do it together with our colleagues, our students, other faculty, alumni, and with friends from all over the country."

Beginning in Tel Aviv, the group began their journey by traveling up the west coast on the Mediterranean, working their way back down to Jerusalem and then crossing the border into Jordan for the final couple of days. With over 100 biblical sites in Israel and only twelve days in the land, they traveled from location to location by bus, hitting as many as six sites each day.

"I truly feel like the Holy Land is the 5th Gospel," said Charity Powell. "The stories came to life, the sites became real, and my heart swelled as I got to walk in the places my Savior walked."

Powell has served as the program coordinator for diversity and community at Campbellsville University since November 2022. Although she has been to over 25 countries, this one felt different.

"The biggest difference in this trip was the purpose," Powell said. "Often, when I travel, it is to serve and spread the message of Jesus through service and showing the love of Jesus. This trip became one that revived my faith and allowed the Lord to minister to me. I spent a lot of the trip just repeatedly thanking Jesus."

Over the two weeks, the group saw Bethlehem, where Jesus was born; Capernaum, where Jesus conducted His

**Entering the
"Garden Tomb"
forever changes
how you celebrate
Easter Sunday.**

ministry; the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus walked on water and Jerusalem, where Jesus spent His final days. Sites from the Old Testament included Mt. Nebo, where Moses looked into the Promise Land; En Gedi, where David hid from Saul; and the Judean Desert, where the Israelites wandered for 40 years and the Dead Sea.

Hayden Dabney, junior educational ministries major and music minor at CU, has been waiting to go on this trip since it was postponed several years ago.

"I was able to be in the places that I have read about my entire life, and it made them so real!" Dabney said. "Now, whenever I think or read about these places, I will also be able to see them again. This greatly increases my faith and only helps me more

to know that God's Word is true!"

On day five of the trip, the group had the opportunity to be baptized in the Jordan River. Although most everyone had been baptized upon conversion, 20 chose to recommit their faith publicly where their Savior was submerged. The spiritual renewal the group experienced in Israel is one of the reasons that the SOT makes these trips a priority.

Wigginton explained what he hopes students take away from these trips: One, that they realize their professors enjoy investing in them; two, that they become more passionate about their walks with Christ; and three, that they come to appreciate the power of adventure and the part it plays in spiritual formation.

Powell shared, "I'm forever changed by getting to see the things He saw and understand His teachings in a whole new way. What an incredible God we serve! He is so good, and I'm forever grateful for the opportunity to be a pilgrim in the land where The Story began."



Russell is ready to Tussle!

Jacob Russell, a 2016 graduate, is the next Fighting Tiger football head coach

Jacob Russell was introduced as the next head coach for Campbellsville University Fighting Tiger football. Joining Russell were, from left, his children, Naomi and Cyrus, and his wife, Dannika. photo by Alexandria D. Dalton

By Gerard Flanagan,
staff writer and photographer

One of the most decorated players in the history of Campbellsville University Fighting Tiger football is coming home.

Jacob Russell is taking the reigns as the next head coach for the Campbellsville Fighting Tiger football team.

Russell, a native of Lawrenceburg, Ky., becomes the fifth football coach in the program's history. He was introduced during a press conference Tuesday, March 14, in the Powell Athletic Center.

His selection comes after a nationwide search that considered more than 80 candidates for the position.

Jason England, director of the Big Maroon Club and chair of the search committee, said, "Our search was extensive and thorough, producing many qualified candidates for the position. Jacob Russell, however, set himself apart as he brought ways to develop his staff and student-athletes on and off the field.

"His coaching style enhances our institution's mission and propels Fighting Tiger football to the next level."

Russell is a 2016 graduate of Campbellsville University, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Sport Management. He was a Fighting Tiger Football team member for the 2014 and 2015 seasons.

"Not many people get to have their dream job, and for me, I get to enjoy my passion for football and use that passion to impact the hearts of young men," Russell said. "I'm excited. This is going to be an unbelievable experience. My family and I are blessed to be here."

Russell laid out his expectations on the field for Fighting Tiger football.

"Our on-the-field expectations are to be great," Russell said. "It will be to win championships, to have a team that is exciting to watch, that competes at every single thing we do, both on and off the field in the classroom and community."

He is second in program history in career passing yards at 6,703 and second in career passing touchdowns at 66. He also holds the program record for passing touchdowns in a single season, throwing 38 touchdown passes in 2015.

"Jacob was a proven leader during his time as a player for the Fighting Tiger Football team," Jim Hardy, director of athletics at Campbellsville University, said. "Leadership qualities, a keen ability to recruit and develop talent and extensive knowledge of the game were what we sought in our next football coach.

"Jacob fits perfectly into our athletic mission of developing student-athletes academically, athletically and spiritually. He was very balanced and intentional in the way he would develop and grow these areas in his program. Jacob brings all of this to the table and is the ideal choice to lead this program."

Russell replaces Perry Thomas, who resigned as head coach of the Fighting Tiger football team after 15 seasons.

"We are grateful for the legacy of Coach Perry Thomas and his countless investments in our student-athletes," Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University, stated. "Coach Perry has led us through challenges and to championship levels of national distinction, but his greatest accomplishment had been building character in his players."

Hardy said he owes much of his growth as a person, coach and administrator to Thomas.

"Our journey together began in 1987," Hardy noted, "and I have seen firsthand the impact he has had on thousands of young people and coaches across Kentucky, which is simply remarkable."

Russell most recently served as head coach for the Kentucky Christian University Knights football team. Under his direction, the Knights improved nationally in every major offensive statistical category from Russell's first to his second season. The Knights also finished with the second-most points and yards in program history in the 2022 season.

Defensively, the Knights finished first in pass defense nationally in 2021 and were fourth in turnovers forced in 2022. They also finished fifth in the nation in defensive touchdowns.

"We are pleased to welcome back one of our own to Campbellsville University," Rusty Hollingsworth, vice president for student services and athletics, said. "Fighting Tiger football has a rich tradition of excellence, both on the field and in the classroom. As a former player, Jacob is the ideal candidate to continue this tradition and lead Fighting Tiger football to continued success on and off the field."

Russell was also the offensive coordinator, recruiting coordinator and quarterbacks coach for the Union College Bulldogs football team for two seasons. His leadership improved the Bulldogs' offense from 89th to 34th in points per game in the nation. They also went from 80th to 31st in total offense per game nationally. Russell established and oversaw a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) chapter at Union College. Before his stint at Union College, Russell served one season as the quarterbacks' coach at Webber International University in Babson Park, Fla.

He is a member of First Christian Church in Lawrenceburg. Russell and his wife, Dannika, have two children: Naomi and Cyrus.

"Not only is Jacob a leader on the field, but he is also a leader off the field with his Christian example," Hopkins stated. "Jacob has a heart for his players and their success in both the classroom and life.

"We are excited to have Jacob lead the program and to see the difference he will make in the lives of our student-athletes. I am excited about where we are going, to have a person who is a man of God and a man of family who understands our core values to be a champion of character, to be a champion in the classroom and on the field and in life.

"We're grateful for that kind of person to lead our program."

Kidwell 'excited' about the future of flag football at CU following inaugural season

By Gerard Flanagan, staff writer and photographer

When former football player and long-time football coach Chris Kidwell was offered the job as Campbellsville University's first women's flag football coach, one question popped into his mind.

"What? Is this a real thing?" Kidwell asked himself.

Soon, however, he discovered flag football was the fastest-growing female sport in the country, according to the NFL, and curiosity soon evolved into excitement to lay the foundation for Campbellsville University's 32nd athletic team.

In flag football, players wear flags that hang along their sides by a belt instead of physically tackling an opponent to the ground. Defenders "tackle" the ball carrier by removing one or both of their flags.

Campbellsville University's flag football team wrapped up its inaugural regular season with a 5-12 record heading into the national tournament in Atlanta back in May. Their season ended with a 6-0 loss to Warner University and a 32-0 loss to Midland University in the double-elimination national tournament. Of the ten teams competing, Campbellsville University was the only first-year team.

"Our team learned the game and continued to improve each time they took the field in practice and in competition," Kidwell said.

Kidwell has had his share of adjustments in moving from coaching tackle football to flag football.

"The biggest transition has been with teaching terminology and the fundamentals of the game," he said. "It has been fun going back to the roots of coaching and teaching the game."

The program's first-ever victory came on March 4 against Bryant and Stratton College on their home turf at Finley Stadium.

Kidwell said that while flag football is experiencing significant growth in states like Florida, Georgia and Nevada, it's not offered as a high school sport in Kentucky, which proves challenging in recruiting players.

Further, Kidwell noted that few universities and colleges nationwide field flag football teams, meaning his team frequently plays multiple games on the same day.

"You may travel to a location and play four games in a two-day period, which can be very difficult mentally and physically," Kidwell said.

Kidwell's expectations for the future of Fighting Tiger flag football are to "build on this foundational year and increase the awareness of the game of flag around the state of Kentucky."

"Having another year of experience with the girls that are returning and the new recruits coming in next year, it is exciting to see what the future holds for the Campbellsville University Lady Tiger flag football team," Kidwell said.

Alexis Thomas goes up for a catch against Cottey College on March 15 at Finley Stadium. Thomas holds the distinction of scoring the first touchdown in the history of women's flag football at Campbellsville University.



Chris Kidwell, Coach



Angeline Beecher fights both the rain and the defense to pull in a difficult catch against Warner at the national tournament in Atlanta.



Yanelly Quiros is all smiles after a successful play against Cottey College on March 15.



Jaycie Harper shows her excitement during a national tournament game against Midland.



Lady Tiger basketball head coach Ginger High-Colvin, center, and the Campbellsville University Lady Tiger basketball team celebrate in the locker room after taking down the No. 1 ranked Thomas More Saints 70-59 on Jan. 28, 2023 at the Powell Athletic Center. photo/Sports Information Department

GINGER HIGH-COLVIN NAMED WBCA COACH OF THE YEAR

By Gerard Flanagan, staff writer and photographer

Ginger High-Colvin, head coach of the Campbellsville University Lady Tiger basketball team, has enjoyed a wildly successful career at Campbellsville University and received numerous awards and recognitions.

Yet, when she received her latest recognition – the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association Coach of the Year – she chose to shine the spotlight on everyone but herself.

“I’m blessed to be surrounded by great players, coaches and trainers who work together to help our team succeed,” High-Colvin, who just completed her 16th season as the Lady Tigers’ head coach, said.

“Campbellsville is so special, and it’s great to see any special recognition come our way.”

High-Colvin also recently picked up her sixth Mid-South Conference Coach of the Year honor.

In her 16 seasons leading Lady Tiger basketball, she has compiled a 415-93 record and led the team to four conference tournament championships and seven regular season championships.

She also took the Lady Tigers to their only appearance in the NAIA National Championship in the 2014-15 season. The team also appeared in the NAIA Fab Four in 2016-17. The Lady Tigers have appeared in the NAIA Tournament in all but High-Colvin’s first season as head coach.

Jim Hardy, director of athletics, said High-Colvin has always been “one of the best in the nation.”

However, he added that her commitment to excellence goes way beyond her team’s performance on the basketball court.

“She invests in her student-athletes and pushes them to compete in and complete every aspect of their life,” he said. “It is a tremendous honor for Ginger and for our athletic department for her to receive such a prestigious recognition.”

High-Colvin came to then-Campbellsville College in 1986 to play basketball under coach Donna Wise. In 1990, she was named a Third-Team All-American and the KMAC Player of the Year.

She is also a member of the 1,000-point club at Campbellsville University and a member of the Campbellsville University Athletics Hall of Fame. She holds the record at CU for most assists in a season (1989-90), career and game.

High-Colvin also served as an assistant coach on Wise’s staff, and when Wise announced her retirement in 2007, High-Colvin succeeded her as the second head coach in program history.

High-Colvin has also coached in the high school ranks, leading the Campbellsville High School girl’s basketball team for seven seasons, which included five winning seasons, two 20th District titles and two appearances in the Fifth Region Tournament championship game.

Beauford Sanders reflects on journey to **1,000 WINS** as CU head baseball coach

WINNING
GAMES HAS
ALWAYS BEEN
SECONDARY



Beauford Sanders addresses his team after notching his 1,000th win as Campbellville's head baseball coach. The 1,000th win came in an 8-1 win against Freed-Hardeman on March 26. photo/Sports Information Department

By Gerard Flanagan, staff writer and photographer

In the summer of 1990, having just stepped down as head coach of North Greenville College's baseball team and looking for a job, Beauford Sanders received a call from a friend, telling him Campbellville College was looking for a head baseball coach. Sanders contacted Don Bishop, the then-director of athletics for Campbellville, told Bishop he was interested in the position and drove to Campbellville to interview. That July, he accepted the job and lived in North Hall for two months before moving his family to Campbellville in September.

Much has happened since for Sanders' Campbellville teams: 13 Mid-South Conference regular season championships, 11 conference tournament championships, 20 NAIA national playoff appearances, an NCCAA World Series title in 2018 and numerous facility improvements. Not to mention, Sanders picked up his 1,000th Campbellville victory this season in an 8-1 win against Freed-Hardeman on March 26. The veteran coach admits reaching the 1,000-win mark has "brought about a lot of reflection personally about the journey to get to this point."

"I feel very fortunate and blessed to have been a part of this," Sanders stated.

Sanders said winning games has always been secondary compared to making a positive impact on the over 1,000 players who have played Campbellville baseball under him, building relationships with those players and experiencing what it truly means to be a team.

"The reason we're here on this Earth is to help others and be salt and light for others."

One such player was Patrick Campbell, who played under Sanders

from 2003 to 2005. Campbell is the head coach for the Marion County High School baseball team in Lebanon, Ky., and is a math teacher at MCHS.

"He challenged you mentally and made you better," Campbell said. "He also cared about each player and their families. He opened up the mental side of baseball and life to me, being mentally tough when there are obstacles in the way."

"As he would always say, 'Improvise and overcome.'"

Baseball, Sanders explained, parallels life in many ways. In his long coaching career, Sanders has experienced plenty of gut-wrenching and euphoric moments, whether scoring a much-needed run with two outs or being on the losing end of a walk-off hit.

"You deal with so much adversity," Sanders said. "Adversity is something you're going to experience in your adult life in some way... You got to keep hanging on and holding on."

Jim Hardy, director of athletics at Campbellville University, described Sanders as a "great mentor."

"He is so much more than a baseball coach," Hardy said. "Beauford cares deeply for his players and shows it in so many ways that the rest of the world never sees."

Sanders believes God placed him at Campbellville University for a reason. He quoted Proverbs 27:17: "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

"God is always moving pieces, always putting different things in our path all the time for us all," Sanders said. "Early on, I said, 'This is where I'm supposed to be.' Through thick and thin, I always felt like God has had His hand on Campbellville University."

Woods named National Player of the Year, first Harrodsburg player to receive recognition

Oriona Woods, a senior from Lexington, Ky., was named the 2022-23 NCAA National Player of the Year in Joplin, Mo., at the NCAA National Tournament.

Woods, a guard for the Campbellsville University-Harrodsburg Pioneers women's basketball team, was named the Mideast Player of the Year in February. She is the first CU-Harrodsburg student-athlete to be named a Regional or National Player of the Year.

Woods ended her senior season as the nation's leading scorer at 29.0 points per game. She also pulled down 11.2 rebounds per game, good for fifth in the nation.

Including the postseason, Woods had three 40-point games in 2022-23, including 41 in the Mideast Regional Final and 43 in a national tournament game against North Central.

Woods has several notable achievements at CU-Harrodsburg, including being the first to reach the 1,000 club. She finishes her career with three NCAA National Tournament appearances (2020, 2022, 2023) and a 2022 Mideast Regional Championship.

Woods set two consecutive postseason institution records, scoring 41 points and grabbing 16 rebounds in the Mideast Region Final against Simmons, then scoring 43 points and adding 20 rebounds in her final game as a Pioneer at the national tournament against North Central, a career-high in both categories.

For her career, Woods averaged 21.7 points per game and shot 41.1% from the field. She ends her CU career with 1,886 total points.



ALUMNI RELATIONS



Hey Tigers!

CU Athletics has seen great success in the 2022-2023 school year. This year, we have seen numerous Mid-South Conference Champions, many Tigers become All-Americans, and several of our teams advance to the postseason and travel to their respective National Championships. It has been so exciting to watch all our student-athletes succeed both in the classroom and in the athletic capacity, and I hope that some of you have been able to get back on campus to join in on the excitement.

As we look forward to next season, we are so eager to see what all our teams accomplish. Our Tigers and Lady Tigers would not be able to achieve the successes they do without the support from our athletic alumni. We appreciate all you do, and we are excited to cheer on the Tigers alongside you in the upcoming year!

I hope to see each of you soon! Go Tigers!

Michaela Jarman,
Assistant Director of Alumni Relations,
Athletic Alumni Coordinator



Dear Alumni and Friends,

First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of our alumni who have continued to support our institution through various means, whether it be through donations, volunteer work, or simply spreading the word about the great things happening here. Your contributions have made a tremendous impact on our ability to provide a high-quality education to our students.

As we move forward, we are committed to maintaining strong ties with our alumni community. We have several upcoming events and opportunities for alumni to get involved, including Homecoming, which is set for September 23, 2023. We also encourage you to share your accomplishments and experiences with us so that we can continue to highlight the impact our alumni are making in their respective fields.

Once again, I would like to extend my gratitude to our alumni for their continued support of our university. We are proud of the work that we do here, and we are honored to have such a dedicated community of alumni behind us.

Sincerely,

Ashley Fox,
Director of Alumni Relations



Introducing... The Legacy Alliance

Vision: The Legacy Alliance seeks to fund scholarships for deserving Alumni family members while building friends across the Campbellsville University Community.

Be on the lookout for several fundraising events that will be held throughout the year to raise money for scholarships of alumni legacies.



To donate,
scan here

For more information, email
Ashley Fox at amfox@campbellsville.edu
or call 270-789-5149

TigerTracks

Editor's Note: Years of graduation or attendance at Campbellsville University are determined by the last year of attendance. For example, ('95) is a 1995 bachelor's graduate; (a '95) is someone who attended their last year in 1995; and ('95, M '20) is someone who graduated with a bachelor's or associate degree in 1995 and a master's degree in 2020; and (Ph.D. '22) is someone who received a Ph.D. degree.

1970s

HOMER GRAY ('70) is retired from the Breckinridge County Board of Education. At Campbellsville College, he was part of the men's basketball, cross country and track teams. He attends First Baptist Church in Hardinsburg and serves as a deacon in the church.

1980s



KELLY LYNN LINDSEY ('81) is employed as a math teacher for Fayette County Public Schools in Lexington, Ky. At Campbellsville College, she was a member of KMEA and Sigma Zeta.



RICK STANSBURY ('84) is an assistant men's basketball coach for the University of Memphis men's basketball team under Penny Hardaway. Stansbury spent 22 seasons at Mississippi State, the last 14 as head coach compiling

a 293-166 (.638) record while guiding the Bulldogs to the postseason 11 times, including six NCAA appearances. His 293 wins in Starkville are the most all-time among MSU head coaches and the 11th-most wins in the history of the SEC. Most recently, Stansbury led Western Kentucky to a 139-89 record (.610) across seven seasons. A Battletown, Kentucky native and Campbellsville University Class of 2003 Hall of Famer, Stansbury took over the Hilltoppers following a two-year stop at Texas A&M (2014-16) where he helped lead the Aggies to a SEC regular season championship and an NCAA Sweet Sixteen run in 2016. Stansbury's 16-year career as an assistant basketball coach began at his alma mater during the 1981-82 campaign as he progressed toward earning a double major in business and

physical education from Campbellsville College (now Campbellsville University). In 2003, Stansbury was honored by his alma mater as an inductee into the Campbellsville University Athletic Hall of Fame. In October 1999, Stansbury was honored by the Campbellsville Alumni Association as a proud recipient of the school's Distinguished Alumni Award.

1990s

REV. DAVID COZART ('93, M '13) is founder and chief visionary officer of the Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families (CCFF) in Lexington, KY. CCFF is a non-profit organization that seeks to improve child outcomes and enhance families and communities through increasing positive fatherhood engagement across Kentucky. Cozart is a member of the Campbellsville University Board of Trustees and serves as associate minister at First Baptist Church Bracktown in Lexington.



LARRY ASHLOCK ('97) is the new circuit court judge in Hardin County. Ashlock, who won the election for the seat, heard his first docket of cases in early January. He replaces Judge Kelly Mark Easton, who was elected to

the Kentucky Appeals Court. In addition to earning a Bachelor of Science in History from Campbellsville University in 1997, he also received a law degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 2000.



ANN DABNEY ('97, M '09) is a Clinician Talent Acquisition Partner with BluePearl Pet Hospital, a national network of emergency and specialty pet hospitals. She recruits veterinary oncologists,

internists, cardiologists and neurologists for placement in BluePearl hospitals across the country. She received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1997 and her Master of Business Administration in 2009. Address: 1103 Hampton Court, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

BETH FOSTER ('97) is a recipient of the Abraham Lincoln Scholarship at Gettysburg College. The scholarship is one of four academic merit scholarships offered by Gettysburg College. Recipients are selected during the admissions process and represent the top-ranking applicants based on scholarly achievement and grade point average. Foster is a former student worker in the Office of University Communications and later became news editor of the Central Kentucky News-Journal and other newspapers.



MAX WISE ('97) has been appointed as Senate co-chair of the newly formed Task Force on School and Campus Security. Wise was the primary sponsor of Senate Bill 1, a law passed in 2019 relating to school safety.

The Task Force on School and Campus Security will study and review the implementation of Senate Bill 1. It will examine access to mental health services within districts and determine if federal funds are available. Wise is a state senator for Kentucky's 16th Senate District, which includes Adair, Allen, Metcalfe, Monroe, Taylor and part of Warren counties.

TigerTracks



DEWAYNE FRAZIER ('98) has been appointed president and vice-chancellor of the American University of Nigeria. Frazier has over 25 years of experience in higher education and has worked in senior administration for 15 years. Frazier is the sixth president of the American University of Nigeria since its founding in 2003.



MATTHEW HARLESS (a '98) has started a podcast that reaches all over the world. Harless said, "We have reached well over 20,000." His website, www.matthewharless.com, contains more information

as well as podcast episodes. Harless' podcast features discussions on a wide range of issues. Harless has also started public speaking, as well as giving sermons and touring the country to share a message of hope.

2000s

HEATHER FUQUA ('03) is employed as director of human resources for the Louisville Regional Airport Authority, Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport and Bowman Field. With more than 15 years experience in the field, Fuqua most recently served as senior human resources business partner at Cushman & Wakefield. Previously, she also held leadership roles at MKSK, DONAN – Forensic Engineer, Fire and HVAC Investigations, and Spencerian College.

HEATHER DEAL ('04) is employed as director of development for Baptist Women in Ministry. Deal brings 15 years of experience in fundraising to the role, having previously served as director of development for Diana R. Garland School of Social Work at Baylor University. Prior to her time at Baylor she served in various fundraising positions for Habitat for Humanity NYC, the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, and Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of New York City.



JONATHAN D. GABY ('04) joined The Kleinger's Group, a top civil engineering, survey, and landscape architecture firm in West Chester, Ohio, as a marketing proposal specialist in October of 2022. The company

has worked with the Cincinnati Bengals, FC Cincinnati, University of Cincinnati, UC Health and numerous hospitals, universities and K-12 schools. After studying with faculty who have worked in organizations such as Procter & Gamble, Johnson & Johnson, Reebok, and United Airlines, he received a Master of Science in Marketing from The University of Cincinnati Carl H. Lindner College of Business in Dec. 2022.



BRANDON GUPTON ('05) has been named the head baseball coach for Taylor County High School. Guppton is employed at Taylor County Primary Center.

ALICE ANN HAISE ('05) is employed with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. At Campbellsville University, she was a member of BSU and involved in art and chorus.

EMILY JESSIE ('07) and her husband, Blake, will be going to Niger to serve as missionaries in July after serving 18 years at Greensburg Baptist Church. Blake had been senior pastor at the church for the past 15 years. Before that, he was the church's youth minister for three years. They will serve for two years and then come back to the United States for a few months and then return or another two years in the cycle.



ALICIA WREN HALEY ('09) has been named assistant principal at North Jackson Elementary School in Glasgow beginning with the 2023-24 school year. Haley has served as an elementary school counselor at North Jackson since July 2020. She was formerly a middle school counselor from 2009 to 2020. She was also an assistant cheer coach at Campbellsville University from 2009 to 2011.

2010s

KIEL THORLTON ('10) has produced a film titled, "A Place Called Home." The film tells the story of a dad who loses his wife in childbirth and has to raise his two daughters by himself. The film is now streaming on Amazon, Apple TV, Vudu and other outlets.



WHITNEY I. PAUL ('11) is employed with the Caverna Independent School District where she serves as the Director of Student Achievement. She oversees curriculum implementation, instructional practices, as

well as all state & district assessments across the district. At Campbellsville University, Paul was a member of the Campbellsville Tiger Marching Band (Colorguard), and an active member in organizations associated with the School of Education.



TYLER HARDY ('12, M '17) has been named principal of Campbellsville High School. He is a 2006 graduate of Campbellsville High School and has worked for Campbellsville Independent Schools for

10 years, including seven teaching English, one year at iEagle and two years as assistant principal at Campbellsville High School. Hardy said, "What a blessing it has been to grow up in the same hallways that I'll now have the opportunity to lead as the CHS Principal. I'll be forever grateful for the support and mentorship I've received from so many here at Campbellsville Independent Schools."

ZACH LaFOLLETE ('12) is employed as the executive director of Magnolia Springs East in Louisville, Ky.



CARRIE TRUITT (M '14) has been named the executive director of Camp Horsin' Around, a Central Kentucky non-profit organization that provides an outdoor camp adventure for children whose health is compromised or

with special needs. Truitt, of Lebanon, KY, also serves on the Board of Education for Marion County Public Schools in Lebanon. Truitt has experience in non-profit management, corporate and donor relations, and fundraising. Previously, she served in leadership roles with Hosparus Health, the Arts Council of Mercer County, the Art Center of the Bluegrass, and the Ephraim McDowell Health Care Foundation.



MARY KUTTER OSBORNE ('14) wrote a song that was featured in an episode of Catfish: The TV Show. She is a country music artist and songwriter whose songs have over 100 million streams. She's had songs

recorded by different artists and placed in national commercials, hit movies, and television series.

JESSICA TINSLEY CAIN ('16) has been named the cheerleading and dance head coach at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tenn. She spent four years at Campbellsville University where she helped Tiger Cheerleading to the Mid-South Conference Championship in 2015 and three Runner-Up finishes. The Tigers also placed at the NCA Collegiate Nationals twice during her time claiming fifth in 2013 and seventh in 2015. During her time at Campbellsville, she was named Academic All-Mid-South Conference three times and was the Mid-South Conference Cheerleading Champion of Character during the 2014-15 season.



JACOB RUSSELL ('16) is the new head football coach for the Campbellsville University Fighting Tiger football team. He was a member of the Fighting Tiger Football team for the 2014 and 2015 seasons. He is

second in program history in career passing yards at 6,703 and second in career passing touchdowns at 66. He also holds the program record for passing touchdowns in a single season, throwing 38 touchdown passes in 2015. Russell and his wife, Dannika have two children: Naomi and Cyrus.

JESSE HARP ('17) has written a book titled, "One Day Closer." A synopsis of the book says in part, "Using rhyme, rhythm, metaphors and imagery, I grapple with the highs, lows and curiosities of being a 26-year-old woman, rediscovering myself along the way." The book is available for purchase on Amazon.



SKYLER HUNT ('17) has been promoted to loan officer at Citizens National Bank in Somerset. He has been employed with Citizens National Bank for 6 years, and has worked as a credit analyst, loan processor and

lender. He is a Board Member for the Pulaski County Habitat for Humanity and alumni of the 2019 Class for Leadership Kentucky Elevate. Skyler is a member of First Baptist Church Somerset.

MARY-KATE NICHOLS ('17) has moved to Mississippi, where she taught 3rd grade for three years and second grade for 3 years. She received honor of being named Teacher of the Year at her school for the 2021-22 school year. She and her husband, Will Nichols, were married June 5, 2021, and they are expecting their first child, a boy, in September 2023. At Campbellsville University, Nichols was involved with the College Republicans, Class Government as a senior senator, Education Club and Resident Life.

2020s

CALIEB RAY ('20) is the new elementary social emotional learning and student support facilitator for the Colon Community School District in Colon, MI. He is also a wrestling coach for the district. Ray is a registered behavior technician.



JAMES L. PRUITT III ('21) is employed with the American Cave Conservation Association (ACCA), a nonprofit membership organization whose activities and proceeds are dedicated to the conservation of caves

and related resources across the nation and around the world. At Campbellsville University, Pruitt was a member of Phi Alpha Theta and the Campbellsville Tiger Marching Band.

ENGLAND BLYE ('22) has been named head dance coach for Taylor County High School and Taylor County Middle School. She is also a family advocate and instructional assistant at Taylor County High School. At Campbellsville University, she was involved with the dance and cheer teams.

LISA PITTMAN ('22) is a notary public (state-at-large) in Kentucky. She is also a Kentucky Colonel. She has been employed at Humana since 2004.



TORI COX ('23) is the editor of the LaRue County-Herald News in Hodgenville, Ky. Cox graduated as a co-valedictorian at the May commencement.

ALI STEELE ('23) has been named an exceptional/ special education teacher at Russellville High School in Russellville, Ky.

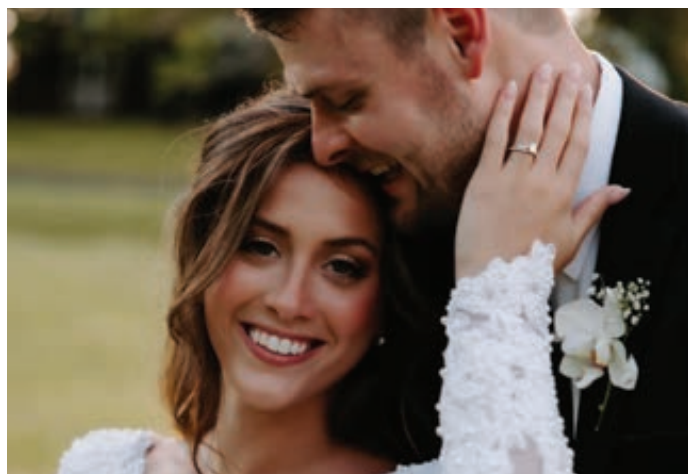
TigerTracksWeddings



KENDALL RIDDLE EVANOFF ('17) and Connor Evanoff were married March 25, 2023 at the Caldwell Chapel in Louisville, KY. Mrs. Evanoff is the Athletic Eligibility Coordinator at Campbellsville University. She received a Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication. Mr. Evanoff is the property manager at Eden Companies in Lexington, KY.



ABBY KELLY PARKER ('11) and her husband, **CHRIS PARKER ('16)**, were married Nov. 5, 2022, in Asheville, N.C. Parker is a regional recruitment counselor in the Office of Enrollment at Campbellsville University. Mr. Parker is employed for Murray-Calloway County Hospital in Murray.



CALEB WIGGINTON ('18) and **MADISON SHEPPARD ('22)** were married May 13, 2023 at Sheppard's home. The ceremony was in the front yard, and the reception was in the backyard. Mrs. Wigginton works remotely as a business development representative for Trella Health. Wigginton is student pastor at First Baptist Church in London. Wigginton will be attending The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville to pursue his Master of Divinity, and they will be moving to Louisville.



OLIVIA BATCHELOR ('17) married Zac Menser on April 6, 2023 at Legare Waring House in Charleston, SC. Mrs. Menser received a Bachelor of Science in Christian Missions with a minor in biology from Campbellsville University. She went on to complete her doctorate in occupational therapy from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2020 and is currently in the process of completing her Masters of Theology with an emphasis in theology and disability from the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. She is a pediatric occupational therapist. Zac serves as the Youth and Associate Pastor at Post Oak Baptist Church in Russellville, KY, where they reside.

TigerCubs



MIKAYLA OLSON ('15) and **DALTON OLSON ('15)** announce the birth of a son, Jax Arthur Olson. He was born November 6 at 11:30 p.m. at MercyOne Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa, weighing 8 pounds and 7 ounces. He was 21 ½ inches tall. At Campbellsville University, Mrs. Olson was a member of the golf team. Mrs. Olson is program director at First Tree – Central Iowa, a youth development organization that teaches life skills and healthy habits through the game of golf. Olsen is accountant at QCI.



LAURA DAY ('15) and her husband, **BLAKE DAY ('16, M '17)**, announce the birth of their first baby, a girl. Aniston was born Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023, at 9:44 a.m. at TJ Sampson Hospital in Glasgow, Ky. She weighed 8 lbs. and was 21 inches long. Mrs. Day is the head coach of the CU Dance Team. She and Blake also own The White Orchid Florist and Gifts in Campbellsville, Ky.



DUSTIN GRAVES (M '16) and his wife **JACQUELINE GRAVES ('14)** announce the birth of their daughter, Kennedy Renae Graves. Kennedy was born March 29 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. Dustin teaches K-1 special education at AJ Lindeman Elementary School in Erlanger, Kentucky. Jacqueline is Staff Attorney at Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, Kentucky.



JORDAN ALVES ('13, M '15) and his wife, **MORGAN ('19)**, announce the birth of a daughter, LeeAnn Taylor Alves, born April 19 at the University of Missouri Women's and Children's Hospital. She weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. and was 19.5 inches long. Jordan is Associate Director of Mizzou Broadcast Operations/SEC Network at the University of Missouri. Morgan is a pharmacy tech at Neighborhood LTC. They reside in Columbia, Missouri.



ANGEL NICOLE BRIDGES ('18) and fiancé Aaron Anderson announce the birth of their second child, a daughter, Allessandra Xiomara Armani Anderson, who was born Feb. 8th at 7:35 a.m. She was 6 lbs. 11 oz and 18 in long. She was born at Chi Saint Joseph Health East in Lexington, Ky. They live in Russell Springs.

To send in a Tiger Track,
update your information
or connect with fellow
graduates, contact
Ashley Fox by email at
amfox@campbellsville.edu
or call 270-789-5149.

In Memoriam



Heilman, director of development, passes away at 64

By Gerard Flanagan, staff writer and photographer

Those who worked with Tim Heilman, director of development at Campbellsville University, remember him as happy and always wearing a smile on his face.

"I never saw Tim when he wasn't cheerful, even when facing health issues," Natalie Burdette, director of annual giving and Heilman's colleague in the Office of Development, said. "He was a pleasure to work with for many years!"

Heilman, 64, had served as director of development since 2014. He was born April 12, 1958, to the late E. Bruce and Betty Heilman, 1949 and 1948 graduates of Campbellsville College, respectively. He passed away on Feb. 16, 2023.

His daughter, Corey, was a 2007 graduate of Campbellsville University. "It was a pleasure to have Tim in the Office of Development," Benji Kelly, vice president for development, said. "Working for his parents and daughter's alma mater gave him such joy. He was professional and opened so many doors for Campbellsville University."

"He was so proud of the Heilman legacy that started here at Campbellsville University."

Heilman was a graduate of the University of Richmond and was a walk-on kicker for the university's football team. Heilman's father served as president and chancellor of the university.

Heilman's professional career included positions in banking and finance as well as roles in Advancement at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, St. Paul's College in Virginia.

In addition to his daughter, Heilman's survivors include his sisters, Bobbie Murphy, Nancy Cale, Terry Sylvester and Sandy Kuehl; his former wife, Karen McGill; and a son, Patrick Heilman.



Scholar, Author, and Inspiration Dr. Damon Eubank leaves a legacy in the students of Campbellsville University

By Ariel C. Emberton, Freelance Writer

"There is a hole I don't know if I can fill, but I am so glad I met him," Dr. Wendy Wood, Professor of History at Campbellsville University, said regarding the late Dr. Damon Eubank. Dr. Damon Eubank, Professor of History at Campbellsville University and chair of the Department of Social Science, died March 31, 2023, at 63.

Eubank taught various history classes at Campbellsville College and then University over 33 years. He touched the lives of thousands of students, some who went on to follow in his footsteps of teaching and others who are political leaders today.

Wood, who started teaching at Campbellsville University in 2007, worked alongside Eubank for over 15 years, and the two remained close after his retirement. Wood said, "He was a great man, he was kind, and he would pray for everyone. He was forgiving, loving, humble and caring." Wood also had Eubank during her masters' classes and said, "He just loved teaching history, and I miss him every day."

Max Wise, Kentucky State Senator and Campbellsville University alumnus, is also one of the few to have Eubank as a professor and work alongside him as a colleague. "All of his classes were pure joy," Wise said, but he favored Eubank's History of the West class, as did many other students.

Like many students who walked through the Alumni Building, down to the basement and into the last classroom on the right, room 107, Wise and thousands of other students witnessed first-hand the knowledge and passion Eubank had for history and his students, as well as the infamous 'Eubank Shuffle,' which usually occurred when he got really excited about a topic. While his classes were deemed by many "challenging," his students loved Eubank. Wise said, "I have always said that the best professors in our lives are the ones who had challenging classes." Wood said, "He never understood how much his kids loved him." Once during a class being taught by Wood, Eubank came dressed as King George and the students were captivated by his willingness to be funny without even meaning to.

Wise said, "As a student and then later as a faculty colleague, I loved nothing

more than sitting in his office and carrying on conversations."

Dr. Joseph Hopkins, president of Campbellsville University, recalled how Eubank could tell a story but could also listen when needed by others. "Damon Eubank's legacy is using his passion for history to weave promise and purpose into the lives of his students. What a tribute to a life well lived, a story well told, and souls well loved."

Kaity Wolfe, a 2014 alumna and Senior Professional Staff Member for the U.S. House Oversight and Accountability Committee, said, "Dr. Eubank was incredibly kind to me while I was a student, even though I didn't have him in class." Wolfe recalled Eubank helping her brainstorm ideas for other classes. "He didn't have to help me... but genuinely had a heart for seeing students succeed."

"He was an inspiration," the late Logan Johns, a 2020 alumni, said. Johns had Eubank in class for four years at Campbellsville University, and the two often spoke about life, goals and what was in store for the future. Johns often said Eubank inspired his students and showed them that nothing is impossible. Eubank was published on many levels and was the author of two books. According to those who knew him professionally, he could have gone anywhere, but "CU was his home." "CU gave him a home and purpose and allowed him to build a legacy," said Wood.

Eubank came to Campbellsville College to pursue his undergraduate degree in history and is a 1981 alumnus. His college roommate and best friend of 45 years, Dr. Scott Bryan, spoke at his memorial and said, "He was a dedicated husband and father, an outstanding scholar, a man of God, a one-of-a-kind professor and friend, and he will not be soon forgotten." Eubank received his Master of Arts in College Teaching in History from Auburn University in 1984 and his Ph.D. in History from Mississippi State University in 1989.

He was awarded the Distinguished Professor of the Year Award in 2009.

Eubank married Lori Jadwin in 1987, and they have two children: Lorin Eubank Borntager, of Gainesville, Ga., and Micah Eubank, of Campbellsville.

**Author's Note: I had Dr. Eubank for many classes as a student, and he truly was an inspiration. It is an honor to write one more paper for him.*

Obituaries 2023

1930s

FRANCES SMOTHERS ('36) April 2, 2023, Marion County, Ky.

1940s

CLELL RIFE "C.R." MEARS ('46) Feb. 22, 2023, Summersville, Ky.

RACHEL LENORA JACKSON LEWIS ('47) March 6, 2023, Jackson, Tenn.

1950s

JUNE ELISE ADAMS ('50) Jan. 21, 2023, Bardstown, Ky.

REV. CURTIS H. WARF ('50) March 4, 2023, Pierce, Ky.

EVA MAE MOSER ('52) May 2, 2023, Shepherdsville, Ky.

BETTYE JEAN KINCHELOE ('54) May 16, 2023, Campbellsville, Ky.

LEWIS CAMPBELL GORE (a '58) Jan. 6, 2023, Elizabethtown, Ky.

1960s

HAROLD RAY ARMSTRONG ('62) Nov. 3, 2022, Shepherdsville, Ky.

REV. DR. RICHARD A. DEBELL ('62) Dec. 12, 2022, Carrollton, Ky.

FREDERICK WAYNE "FREDDIE" HODGES (a '65) April 10, 2023, Bonnieville, Ky.

TERRY L. BLACK ('66) Feb. 1, 2023, Louisville, Ky.

HOLLIS DEHART ('66) March 3, 2023, Richmond, Ky.

SHERMAN GAYLE YORK ('67) March 3, 2023, Albany, Ky.

WANDA SUE CAULK McHARGUE ('69) Jan. 15, 2023, Bedford, Ky.

DONNA FAYE HEDGES ('69) Jan. 27, 2023, Jackson, Tenn.

KAREN ROSE TAPP ('69) Jan. 6, 2023, Elizabethtown, Ky.

1970s

LEONA GAY LESTER O'BANION ('70) Nov. 27, 2022, Olathe, Kan.

BILLY RODGERS ('73) April 28, 2023, Columbia, Ky.

ALLEN DWAYNE THOMPSON ('73) March 20, 2023, Liberty, Ky.

DR. H. RAY ENGLAND ('74) Jan. 9, 2023, Greenville, Ky.

DANNY LOGSDON ('76) Feb. 13, 2023, Horse Cave, Ky.

ANNA JANE ELMORE WALKER (a '77) Feb. 12, 2023, Green County, Ky.

PAULA KAY LOSEY ('78) May 27, 2023, Cincinnati, Ohio

1980s

JAMES BERNARD "JIMMY" LIVERS ('80) Nov. 2, 2022, Louisville, Ky.

KEVIN INTHAVONE SENGKHAMYONG (a '84) March 16, 2023, Hartford, Ark.

JOHN THOMAS AYERS ('86) March 11, 2023, Winston-Salem, N.C.

TERESA LYNN WHITAKER LYONS ('88) Feb. 20, 2023, Elizabethtown, Ky.

2000s

CARRIE DIMPLE THORNTON ('01) April 14, 2023, Campbellsville, Ky.

DONNA MARIA "OLE MAW" FACKLER ('05) July 24, 2022, Brandenburg, Ky.

2010s

JAMES CHRISTOPHER "JIM" HARRIS ('19) Feb. 14, 2023, Junction City, Ky.

2020s

LOGAN ERIC JOHNS ('20) May 6, 2023, Campbellsville, Ky.

ROBIN LYNN WILSON RUTLEDGE ('22) Jan. 6, 2023, Magnolia, Ky.

DANNY DALE SALLEE SR. ('22) Nov. 14, 2022, Harrodsburg, Ky.

Faculty/Staff

DR. DAMON EUBANK, March 31, 2023, Campbellsville, Ky.

TIM HEILMAN, Feb. 16, 2023, Richmond, Va.

LEO FRANKLIN WEDDLE JR., Feb. 9, 2023, Somerset, Ky.

Full obituaries can be found online at [Campbellsville.edu/Alumni/Campbellsvillian/](https://campbellsville.edu/Alumni/Campbellsvillian/)

Remember When

Photos provided by the A.B. Colvin Baptist Collection and Archives, Montgomery Library, Campbellsville University.



Miss Maple Trail - Letta Downey



President Davenport playing pool with some students circa 1970



Valentine Queen - Jackie Ward
Escort Jack Geurin



Guess Who?

This issue's Guess Who? are of two students who received the honor of Mr. and Miss Campbellsville. The photo was taken in 1962. Send your guesses to Amber Meade at almeade@campbellsville.edu.



Last issue's Guess Who? was of two men who were celebrating the groundbreaking for a new Campbellsville College men's residence hall on March 20, 1995. The two men pictured are Dr. Paul Conco, former executive vice president, and Marc Whitt, former vice president for communications and marketing. Congratulations to several for making correct guesses!

Scrapbook



Trips with students were exciting for the McKinneys as Stan and Joan pose for a photo during a Washington, D.C. trip with students in the summer of 2019.



Tiago Pinheiro, a student employee from Brazil, who was a photographer in the Office of University Communications, holds Jonah Galito's hand along with Joan McKinney. Jonah is the son of Campbellsville University alumna Anne Galito who was a full-time employee in the office.



Joan McKinney is an avid reader, and she met one of her favorite authors Sue Grafton, left, at Carmichael's Bookstore in Louisville in November 2011. Grafton, a Louisville native, wrote the "alphabet series" featuring private investigator Kinsey Millhone. Grafton died in 2017 with Y is for Yesterday as her last book. Z was never written.



Excitement reigned supreme as new computers were received in the Office of Communications and Marketing with Marc Whitt, vice president, in the center. Rebecca Ballard Colvin, left, a Campbellsville graduate, and Joan McKinney show their happiness with the computers.

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Glenna Bacon, left, a student employee during the Alumni and Public Relations days, catches up with former staff members at a President's Club dinner. Joining Bacon were, from left, Ginny Flanagan, Joan McKinney and Diane Rogers, who worked in the office with Bacon.

