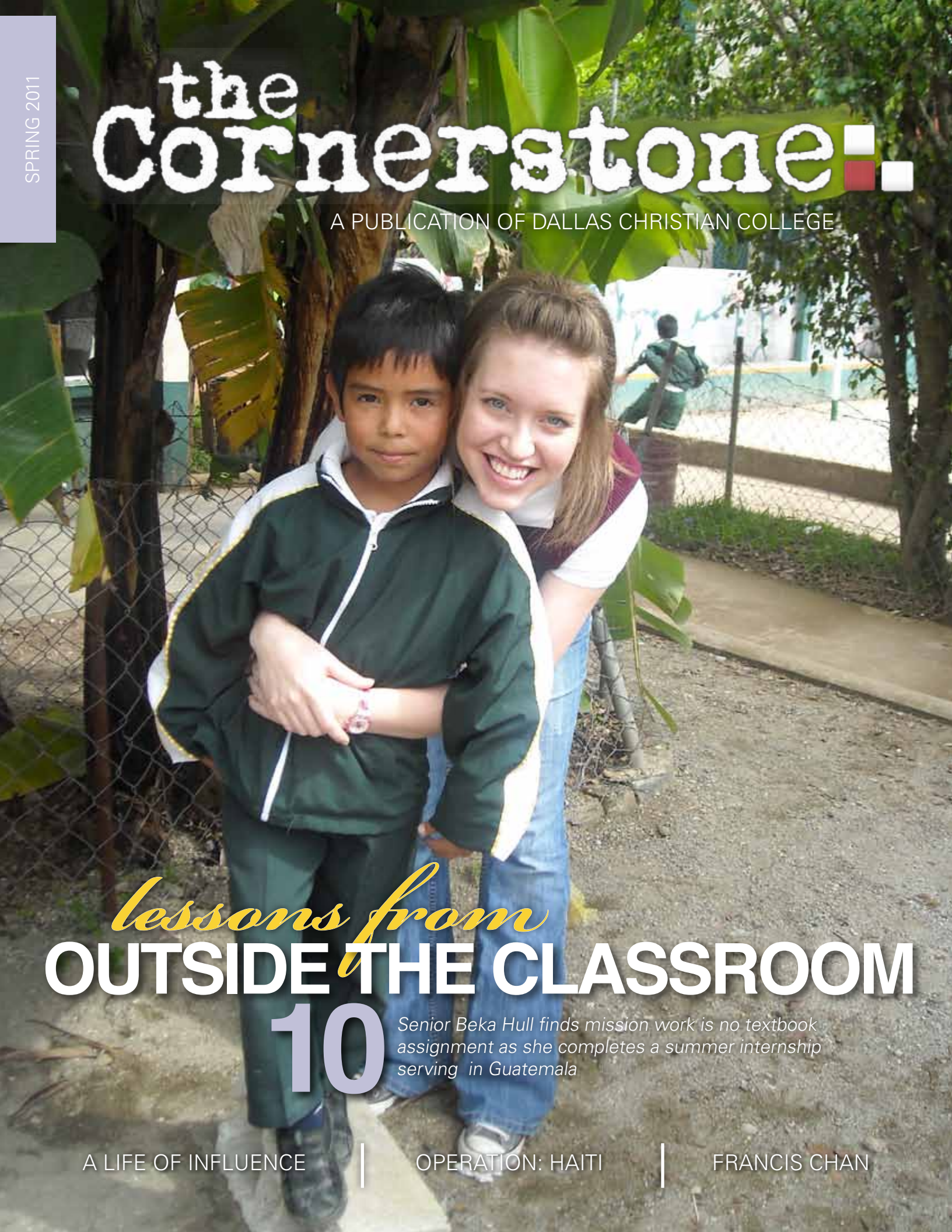


the Cornerstone

A PUBLICATION OF DALLAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



lessons from
OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM
10

Senior Beka Hull finds mission work is no textbook assignment as she completes a summer internship serving in Guatemala

A LIFE OF INFLUENCE

OPERATION: HAITI

FRANCIS CHAN

A Word From Dusty

Students Shine at DCC

Over the last month, I've paused a few times to reflect on how fortunate I am to work with a tremendous group of college students. But more than just good fortune – I have grown to love them very much. While true love doesn't need a reason, there does exist a long list of reasons why I love them.

WORSHIP

Each time that I am on campus for our chapel services, I am touched by the way these students worship our Lord. Many years ago a mentor told me that if a group of people can learn to worship together, then they can do anything together. And these students know how to worship. From my home congregation to the many churches I visit throughout the year and times of worship at the North American Christian Convention, I have the privilege of worshipping in diverse ways with many different groups of people. Let me tell you, there is something about the worship in our Barr Chapel that I just don't get anywhere else.

WORKSHIP

Not only do they know how to worship in the confines of a chapel service or in the classroom, but they also know how to put feet and legs on their worship. The day before I wrote this, our students joined together with our faculty and staff for a day of service in a couple of the poorest neighborhoods in Dallas. To see them sweat, smile, toil and pray for others brings joy to my heart... and to the lives they have touched. And this week is not extraordinary. Last year alone our students logged more than 33,000 hours of Christian service in Dallas and in communities around the globe.

ENTHUSIASM

During the summer months, most of our students are scattered throughout the country, or on overseas mission trips. But when they return in the fall, this campus comes alive. There is a constant hum of energy and enthusiasm on the campus that permeates everything we do. I look forward to it every year.

SMILES

It brightens my day to see the outward expression of Joy that manifests itself in the lives of our students. Even during the most challenging weeks of the year, I am amazed to see our students straining under the load, wearing a smile through most of it.

KINDNESS

We live in a harsh world. But in the midst of the rough and tumble of everyday life, our students are models of kindness. These are not "random acts of kindness"...they are intentional, treating others with love and respect.

DREAMS

Perhaps more than any other reason, I love them for their unbridled optimism and their dreams for the future. I love to hear them talk about their plans for making this world a better place. What's more, they have true faith that God will give them the opportunity to do so. It is from these mustard-seed-faith dreams that they will move mountains within the Kingdom of God.

Make no mistake about it, these are God's children. And there are none quite like them. Come see them for yourselves. Come Worship and Workship with us. Come see their enthusiasm and hear their dreams to live lives of influence.



DUSTY RUBECK
President

the
Cornerstone

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DALLAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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A student spends some quiet time thinking as part of "Meditation in the Park," an outside chapel service dedicated to giving students some alone time to focus on who God is and His works.



A group of DCC students and staff stand in front of the Reichstag building in Berlin, Germany, on March 2011. More than 65 students, staff, and friends of the College participated in trips to San Raymundo, Guatemala; Mexico City, Mexico; Moscow, Russia; Berlin, Germany; Chicago and Dallas, as part of Kingdom Week 2011.

This is the third Kingdom Week since the program was established by the Department of Student Development in 2009. The program encourages students to dedicate their spring break to serving and spreading the Word in communities around the world.


New VP for Academics

Paul Kissling, Ph.D., was appointed as academic dean and vice president for academic affairs on August 10, 2010. He replaces Ron Rife, who remains at the College as director of institutional effectiveness.

Kissling previously held a position as professor of Old Testament and research director at TCM International Institute in Vienna, Austria. He also served as vice president of academic affairs and professor for Great Lakes Christian College and has held numerous teaching and ministry positions throughout the years. He received his bachelor's in biblical languages from Great Lakes Christian College in 1980. Kissling also holds a Master of Divinity from Lincoln Christian

Seminary ('84) and a Master of Theology from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School ('85). He obtained his Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible from the University of Sheffield in Sheffield, England, in 1991.

Of his time at DCC, Kissling says he has enjoyed getting to know the faculty and the mentoring environment at the College.

"DCC offers an urban environment that is connected to the real world, but one in which you can learn from and be mentored by people who really know what they are talking about and who care deeply for you as a person. We are a community of faith in Jesus Christ and seek and help each other be forged into the image of Christ. There is an environment here in which people care about the community and the world and will lead students to have that same passion and vision." 



In Memory: Johny Kautt

Longtime alumnus and friend of the College, Johny Kautt went to be with the Lord on October 15, 2010. He was 74.

Never has and never will be a man who loves Dallas Christian College quite like our departed brother Johny Kautt. He held pulpits in Arkansas, Tennessee, and Texas, holding down radio ministries at each stop, and he held revivals in nine states, but he belonged at Dallas Christian College, studying and serving on all three of the campuses.


It all started when he drove down to Dallas from Grandview, MO, to begin his classes at DCC. Since then, he served his alma mater as professor, academic dean, trustee, and finally as director of alumni relations, from which he retired in 2007.

He created the Crusader Circle for athletes who distinguish themselves athletically, academically, and spiritually. And he promptly put his old teammate and

basketball standout, Walter Birney, in it as its first honoree.

Although he said he was retired, he kept making birthday calls from his home, and he made regular visits to campus to have a cup of coffee and go from office to office with the day's bit of news from the family (both the Kautt and DCC family).

Johny's legacy continues through his family: his wife Elma Faye (McKnight) Kautt ('77, '05), his children, David, Becky, and Jim, and ten grandchildren.

No one loved us, the family that is Dallas Christian College, like Johny. He will be missed every birthday. He will be remembered at every game when someone yells, "Cruuusaders." And he will make sure our already omniscient Lord hears every story there is to tell about all of us. 

iCards

New electronic cards to improve security on campus

The safety of students, faculty, and staff is a top priority at Dallas Christian College. In response to a recent campus-safety initiative, last summer, DCC installed electronic locks on the Administration Building's entrances, as well as on the entrances to the residence halls.

Winslow Hall, the women's residence hall, has two such electronic access points as an added precaution.


These electronic entry devices are accessed by iCards that have been issued to every student, faculty/staff member, and approved guest. In addition to access, the iCard doubles as an I.D. badge.

"The idea behind this new security measure is simple – access to a building

will be easier than ever for the right people at the right time, and harder and more traceable for the wrong people at the wrong time," Director of Student Life Eric Hinton said.

The Administration Building doors lock and unlock under customizable time zones while the residence halls remain locked 24/7. This electronic access system is just one of many steps that the College has and will continue to take to keep the Crusader family safe.

There are also other plans for the iCards in the future.

"The project over the summer was phase one. The next phase will allow students to use their iCards to track chapel attendance and also access to the meal plan in the dining hall," Senior Director of Administration Annie Blair said. 



Prominent NBA Coach Del Harris to Teach at DCC

NBA coach Del Harris will become part of the adjunct faculty at DCC. The notable figure will teach the course

Special Topics in Leadership starting this fall.

Harris has coached basketball at every level for over 50 years, including the national teams of Puerto Rico, Canada, U.S. and China. He has been a head coach for the Houston Rockets, Milwaukee Bucks, and the LA Lakers. He was named NBA Coach of the Year in 1995.

Harris attended Milligan College in Tennessee, where he graduated cum laude in 1959 with a degree in religion. He went on to receive a master's degree in history from Indiana University in 1965.

Harris has been named to four halls of fame, including Milligan College, Earlham College, the State of Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame. In February, at the


2011 All Star Breakfast in Los Angeles, CA, he received the Jerry Colangelo Award.

Harris is familiar with DCC, and was in fact, the speaker at the 2010 commencement ceremony, during which he said of DCC's education efforts:

"I saw first-hand the kind of effect DCC is having when your coach Charles Williams invited me to attend practice... What I saw there in the attitudes and work ethic of the players and in their prayers at the start and end of practice are testimonies to the education that is taking place here."

Harris also spoke of the meaning of influence and the importance of Christian leaders in our society.

"We need Christians to be aware of what our lawmakers and social engineers are doing, and we need to be of influence in those areas. In fact, we need to be these people."

The course will be taught on campus. 



JOHN IRVING

True Hoops

Men's basketball team heads to ACCA to defend championship title, makes second appearance at NCCAA

BY JOHN IRVING, SEAN O'CONNOR

The 2010 ACCA (Association of Christian College Athletics) national champions headed to the national tournament in Joplin, MO, Thursday, March 3, and almost came away as repeaters.

The Crusaders started off with an 85-60 victory over Arlington Baptist College. Sophomore Chris Guillory led the Crusaders with 22 points and 6 rebounds, while freshman Isaac Gonzales had 14 points and 13 boards. Senior Chevis High also scored 15 points. Junior Antoine Warren scored 16 points, 8 assists and 6 rebounds.

The Crusaders shot 54% from the floor.

On Friday, the team defeated Barclay College 77-63, shooting 46% from the floor.

A long dry spell on the offensive end of the court doomed the Crusaders as they played the Hillsdale Saints in the championship game Saturday night. The Saints prevailed 69-60.

This was the fourth meeting of the year between the two teams with each winning twice. The Crusaders were led by Antoine Warren's 15

points and senior John Burnett's 13 points and 7 rebounds.

It was the team's 30% shooting from the field that was at the forefront of the last game. Seventeen Saint turnovers were unable to offset the poor Crusader shooting effort, but the team's spirits remained high throughout the game.

At the NCCAA (National Christian College Athletic Association) Championship on March 10, the Crusaders opened the tournament against Ohio Christian University, the #5 seed. The first half was close and

went back and forth with DCC holding a one-point lead at the half. During the second half DCC began to show its superior quickness and pulled away from Ohio.

The Crusaders pushed the lead out to 20 at one point before putting the game on cruise and winning 76-62.

Next up for the Crusaders was #1 and defending National Champion Grace Bible College. The game was "the most anticipated and talked about game of the tournament."

The Crusaders dominated the first half again, using superior quickness and hot shooting to build a 13-point lead at the half. Grace was not used to being down to an NCCAA Division II school, having won 56 games in a row against other colleges within the division.

The Crusaders held the lead for most of the second half. During the last six minutes of the game, Grace began to push and eventually caught up. The Crusaders lost the lead in the final moments, but with some clutch free-throw shooting by Antoine Warren, the game went into overtime. In overtime, the game went back and forth, and DCC had a chance to tie it again but missed and ended up losing 69-67.

According to CCSN.com, which broadcast the game live, the game received over 1,000 views during the final minutes.

On the final day of the tournament, DCC faced the #2 seed and host school, Central Bible College. As the game began the physical and emotional release the night before was still being felt by the Crusaders.

However, to the credit of the team, they began to play with spirit and energy, matching CBC shot for shot. During the second half, fouls began to mount, and it took its toll on the Crusader bench as DCC finished the game with only four players on the floor.

The four that were left played vigorously, cutting a 12-point lead to 6 in the final minutes. The final score was 82-76, and the Crusaders finished in fourth place, one spot above last year.

With the Crusaders only losing one starter to graduation and head coach Charles Williams expecting another great recruiting class, the Crusaders anticipate going to the ACCA and NCCAA championships again next year. ■■



JOHN IRVING



JOHN IRVING

ACCA SPECIAL RECOGNITION

ACCA All-Tournament Team:

Antoine Warren (Jr.), Isaac Gonzales (Fr.)

ACCA All-American First Team:

Antoine Warren and Isaac Gonzales

ACCA All-American Second Team:

Anthony Tubbs (So.)

NCCAA SPECIAL RECOGNITION

NCCAA All-Tournament Team

Antoine Warren, Isacc Gonzales

NCCAA First Team All-American:

Antoine Warren

NCCAA Honorable Mention All-American:

Isaac Gonzales

Top of the class

Women's basketball wraps up the season with three top nationally ranked players, team sixth in the nation

BY BILL GARRICK

A new head coach and twelve new players were cause for both excitement and concern as practice opened for the women's basketball team in mid-September. With only four returning players, chemistry between the players was a big issue. The team was loaded with talent, but to get them to play as a team was going to be difficult.

The 2010-2011 schedule was rated by the Christian College Sports Network (CCSN) as the most difficult schedule in the nation. The Crusaders played six NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) schools that at the time were ranked in the top 20.

The first month of the season saw several different starting lineups as head coach Sean O'Connor tried to find a winning combination. By December, O'Connor was not just trying to decide on what players to start, he was trying to find healthy players to play. Injuries were making it difficult to field a team, and by January 5, the team had to travel to New Orleans to play with only eight players. Coming back from that trip proved difficult when three of those players had sustained injuries that would linger throughout the rest of the



From left, assistant coach Bill Garrick, Diedra Crescini, Tomika Willis, Emily Cain, Titan Chuma, Jessalyn Smith, Desiree Powell, Dawsonnick Lockett, Alison McGinnis, and head coach Sean O'Connor.

season.

The team played the University of New Orleans, an NCAA Division I school, not only in New Orleans, but a second time during a home game, which the Crusaders came close to winning, but lost late in the game 72-63.

Late in the season, the team played both Ozark Christian College and Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, losing to Ozark after leading most of the game, and splitting with Hillsdale.

During the Southwest Division II Regional Tournament, which was hosted by the College, the Crusaders defeated Ozark in the semi-final 61-59 on two free throws by freshman Alison McGinnis. In the final game, Hillsdale was able to sneak back to Oklahoma with a come-from-behind win that was aided by a game-ending injury to freshman sensation Jessalyn Smith at the 10-minute mark of the second half, and the team lost the championship game 68-67.

As the season ended, DCC had placed 3 players on the nation's top 25

Power Players list. The number one power-player status was awarded to junior Titan Chuma, who averaged 16.9 points per game, and led the nation with 21.3 rebounds per game, as well as 4.5 blocks per game. Chuma was also ranked third in field goal percentage, 50.9%. She was named first team ACCA All-American, All-Region and All Tournament, as well as ACCA Academic All-American. CCSN also ranked Chuma as one of five All-American athletes, while the NCCAA ranked her as Academic All-American. She was the only player from the Southwest region to be named to the Academic All-American Team.

The number 17 status was awarded to Jessalyn Smith, who was number 2 in the nation in blocked shots (2.4) behind Chuma. Smith was in the top ten in rebounding (9.5) and averaged 7.2 points per game.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 9...

She was named ACCA Honorable Mention All-American, second team all-region, and was rated #5 Freshman in the Country by CCSN.

Alison McGinnis was ranked 25th player in the nation. After scoring 17 points in the regional semi-final, she was named to the All-Tournament team. She scored the winning points on 2 free-throws with 10 seconds remaining, while the rest of her points were scored in a record-setting performance of 5 three-pointers during the

game. She led the Southwest region in assists and was ranked fourth in the nation in assists, ninth in steals.

By the end of the regular season, the women Crusaders were ranked sixth in the nation by the CCSN and the NCCAA.

Coach O'Connor said, "Truly this is a year when we can all sit back and say, 'Just wait until next year!'" 📌

Soccer Takes Center Stage

Men's team wins NCCAA Regional Championship Game against Hillsdale 2-1

BY THIAGO GONCALVES

The 2010 soccer season was like a box full of surprises.

A completely new team was formed with only three returning players. With new faces, a new journey began, and the road was a bumpy one for the soccer Crusaders.

We had a very hard schedule, later to be called, "the toughest in the nation." Our team never found the back of the net until the sixth game, and we waited a whole month into the season to manage our first win. With a growing number of losses, we battled a lot of discouragement and even negative attitudes at times, but we never lost sight of hope.

Our first win at home came during Celebrate DCC/ Homecoming weekend. We managed an exciting 2-1 victory over NCAA's third division Millsap College and began our journey through the second half of the season.

Little did we know our "box of surprises" was filled with so many different emotions. We showed considerable improvement throughout the games, and at times we would even lead two or three quarters in the match, just to lose it in the final minutes. But even through this roller coaster, we never lost hope.

That same hope that carried us through the season moved us even closer as we approached the regional championship game against rival Hillsdale Freewill Baptist College in Oklahoma City, OK. The week of preparation for that game was something the team had never seen before. We experienced loss, gain, success and defeat, joy and frustration; but most importantly, we experienced renewed



hope.

Together, we learned to recognize the value of repentance and humility and the importance of having to depend on and trust one another.

Our hope became a reality on Saturday, October 30, when we defeated Hillsdale 2-1 on their home ground, with a golden goal during the first half of overtime. We achieved our goal by winning the regional championship and earning a trip to the NCCAA nationals in Florida for the first time in seven years.

Most importantly the team learned that hope and faith will always have the power to carry and transform us, even through the obscure moments of our lives. 📌

Lessons from Outside the Classroom

BY BEKA HULL

On June 13, 2010, I arrived in the Guatemala City airport, alone. I looked around for a minute and realized I had a problem. I knew absolutely no Spanish. I couldn't read any signs or understand anything being said around me. I felt lost and confused.

I had just become the "Americana in Guatemala." I didn't belong, and I certainly stood out, but thankfully, as I walked out of the airport, Abby Johnson, my friend and now team member, was there to greet me. And that day marked the beginning of our adventure as missionary interns.

The summer was a whirlwind of experiences and opportunities with missionary Lori Nij guiding us along the way. We taught English classes at Morning Glory Christian School every week to over 400 children. We helped with flood relief in the village of San Buena Ventura, which had been devastated by tropical storm Agatha just a few weeks before our arrival.



We attended church and spent time with the new and growing congregation in Sacsuy. We played with the children in our neighborhood and served as hosts of short-term missions teams. Oh! And we even learned to cook!

In a matter of a few short weeks, the people of Guatemala became our friends and our family. They

allowed us to be a part of their lives and work alongside them. We saw God's love transcend language barriers, overcome cultural differences, laugh in the face of poverty and tragedy, and change lives all around us.

As an intercultural studies major at Dallas Christian College, I had spent the last three years studying missions. I felt prepared. I was ready for whatever came my way in Guatemala, or at least I thought I was.

On the last day of our internship, as Abby and I sat on our neighbor's roof watching the sunrise, I realized



that I never could have been prepared or even ready for what God had to teach me, or the true reality of being a missionary. A classroom can only teach a person so much, but it's the experience of living it out that completes the lessons.

For every lesson I learned for myself that summer, Lori taught me five more as she mentored Abby and me. Many nights we'd find ourselves up late talking. She would tell us stories from her life, pour wisdom into ours, listen to us, and answer any question we had about anything at all, all the while teaching us practical knowledge we would need as a missionary.

I wouldn't trade those two months working and living with her for anything, and I know Abby would agree. After all, there's only one Lori Nij. In her, I witnessed what it looks like to be a woman of God, one who is a servant of Christ, a wife, and a mother, with faith that could move a mountain or even make the rain stop.

As Abby and I sat on that roof on that last day, we talked about how God had turned our worlds upside down. I don't know how long we sat there talking, but as we climbed down that ladder, we knew that after that summer, we were prepared and ready for whatever God has in store for us next. 📖

REBEKA HULL IS A SENIOR AT DALLAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MAJORING IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES WITH A MINOR IN YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY.

kingdomweek OPERATION:HAITI

AUGUST 2-11, 2010

BY SCOTT SPIES

This past August, a group of eight sponsors and students from Dallas Christian College answered the call to go and be the hands and feet of Jesus to the people of Haiti. The group worked with Frantz and Rhode Previl and the Haitian Impact Christian Ministries (HICM). During their ten days in Haiti, the team had the opportunity to assist with a medical clinic, distribute food to the needy, preach and teach, and lead seven VBS programs for the churches in and around Port-au-Prince. The members of the team included DCC faculty and staff, Jean Claude St. Juste and Scott Spies; students Nick Adams, Cassidy Barron, Joshua Hahlen, and Angela Hickman; DCC alumnus Andy Wineinger; and a friend of the College, Sherri Settles.

While the destruction and need were overwhelming at times, the sense of joy and hope inspired by faith that was displayed by the Haitian people was most encouraging. Here are some impressions of those who participated in the trip:

"Having lived in Haiti for almost half of my life, I must admit seeing for the first time the magnitude of the devastation caused by the January 12 earthquake was disconcerting. As I began to interact with the people in various settings, it encouraged me to see that in the midst of the destruction, there is a vibrant people, defying the restraining forces of nature and appreciating the gift of life despite the circumstances. I certainly could hear the words of Maya Angelou ringing loudly and clearly through each person with whom I interacted: 'I can be changed by what happens to me, but I refuse to be reduced by it.'" — Jean Claude St. Juste, assistant registrar and adjunct professor of business

"The most significant part of being in Haiti was staying at Las Cognites. We did a medical clinic with Dr. Luc and taught the children stories from the Bible. We hung out with the people all day, and got to know them and their families. Overall, I loved being able to worship our Savior together with the people of Haiti. I didn't want to say goodbye."

— Angela Hickman, senior



"Watching our brothers and sisters worship God in this time of great struggle was very inspiring. Here in America, many of us have no idea what it is to truly lose everything, and we don't seem to grasp the concept of praising God in both the hard times and the good. The people of Haiti were warm and inviting when we came to their churches and welcomed the opportunity for us to worship with them. As cliché as it may be, it really was a picture of what heaven will be like, with peoples of all nations and tongues all praising our God. It truly was an honor to share those moments with them."

— Joshua Hahlen, junior 📖

a life of SERVICE

DCC alumnus and long-time missionary Lori Nij was recently invited to the Presidential Palace in Guatemala City to be honored, on the National Day of Women, for forming and educating new leaders in Guatemala.

BY TAYLOR DUKE

You never quite know how what you say or do is going to impact a life. Lori Nij decided to dedicate her life to teaching the children of Central America after a mission trip to Mexico. When she was saying goodbye to the children, one of the girls asked, "If you go, who is going to tell us about Jesus?"

During Kingdom Week 2011, the participants of the Guatemala team had the opportunity to witness a nation recognize a foreign missionary for the work she and her team have been doing. On Wednesday, March 9, Lori Nij was invited to the Presidential Palace in Guatemala City to be honored, on the National Day of Women, for forming and educating new leaders in Guatemala.

Lori graduated as valedictorian from Dallas Christian College in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts, double majoring in Christian education and Biblical studies, becoming the first woman in DCC history to receive a degree in preaching. Likewise, she became the first woman to preach in a chapel service at the College. Lori was also the first recipient of the College's Person of Influence Award in 2006.

Afterwards DCC, she attended

Cincinnati Christian University to pursue a master's degree, but her studies were put on hold when she was called to the mission field.

Lori taught for six years at Colegio Biblico in Mexico. There, she fell in love with her husband, Queno, who had a strong commitment to return to Guatemala. After completing mission work in Mexico, the couple moved to Guatemala in October 1985 and began evangelizing among the community of San Raymundo, Queno's hometown.

Lori and Queno worked for 12 years building the local church, and when their involvement was no longer vital, they tried to build a new church, but were unsuccessful.

During this time, Lori's mission organization asked her to take over a preschool in San Raymundo that was not prospering. She was ready to return to the States; the mission board insisted. She wrote an impossible 10-year plan, which she carried out in only one year. She is now living out her dream of running a Christian school.

Morning Glory Christian School currently teaches approximately 450 kids, preschool through sixth grade.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 14...



Lori hopes by next year they will be able to teach through high school and eventually diversify the school to the equivalent of a junior college.

Everyone going to the ceremony met in the town square to ride the buses that would be taking Lori, her family, her teachers, 200 of her students, and the 12 DCC Kingdom Week missionaries on the 90-minute trip to Guatemala City. When we arrived at the palace, we were escorted into a large courtyard where the ceremony would take place. Three ladies who were invited to sit at the presidential table with Lori were long time friend, her housekeeper of 20 years Melba, and her mentee Beka Hull.

When asked about her rare experience of going to the palace and sitting at the Presidential table, Beka Hull was simply amazed. "After interning with Lori last summer, I knew without a doubt that she more than deserved to be there and receive that recognition. She is a faithful woman of God and her receiving this honor is a testimony to her life, family, and ministry."

When asked why she was chosen for this award, Lori said, "The reason they chose me is that my kids made an impression on them. They came and interviewed me, and I shared with them my dreams and visions of being a positive influence in those around us, and reaching out as the hands and feet and heart of Christ and letting His light shine, which always makes an impact in a dark world. So it's nothing personal but Christ shining through an empty vessel." Lori used the ceremony that was meant to honor her to tell people, "To God be the glory."

In the summer of 2009, a woman from California came to visit Lori at her home. At first Lori could not place who she was, but when the woman thanked her for teaching her about Jesus and changing her life so many years ago, Lori remembered that little girl from Mexico, and thanked her for being the one who changed her life. ■

TAYLOR DUKE IS A SENIOR AT DALLAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MAJORING IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, WITH A MINOR IN MISSIONS. HE IS TREASURER OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION AND A MEMBER OF THE SOCCER TEAM.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROB COURTNEY

Ahead of the curve

In the literary world, DCC alumnus Charlie W. Starr, '85, has stayed on top of the game

When DCC alumnus and Kentucky Christian University professor Charlie W. Starr isn't teaching classes, preparing to teach classes, studying C. S. Lewis, making movies with his film class, or supervising KCU's humanities program, he is busy writing articles and books. Starr writes a monthly column on Christians and Culture for *The Lookout*, has written numerous essays for books and journals, and has just published his fourth book, *King Lesserlight's Crown: A Children's Book for Grownups Too*.

Though he has published three other books, *King Lesserlight* is Starr's first foray into children's literature and into fantasy. He explains that "the best fiction communicates experiences. There are certainly themes in *King Lesserlight's Crown*, including self deception; the loss of heart that disappointment, sin, and the influences of the world (both natural and supernatural) can bring upon us; the importance of following longing to its fulfillment in Christ; overcoming fear and facing pain; and more. But these themes are ancillary to the imaginative experience which all fantasy literature is meant to evoke. G. K. Chesterton called this experience a lifting of the 'veil of the familiar,' a viewing of the world, even in its hardships, with eyes of wonder."

Starr's writing experiences



King Lesserlight is written as a children's book for more than children. It is a book parents should be able to read to their kids, ages 6-9, while children 10-12 will enjoy reading it on their own. At the same time, it is the kind of book English teachers could bring into a junior-high or high-school classroom to teach from or that older adults who love fantasy literature would enjoy. According to Starr, "fans of C. S. Lewis's Narnia should 'eat this up' at all ages."

Those interested in buying Starr's book can find it online by going to www.publishamerica.com, choosing the "Online Bookstore" tab at the top of the page, scrolling down to the search window at the bottom of the page, and typing in "Charlie Starr." To read some of Starr's articles and essays, visit his website at www.charliewstarr.com, where you can also find information on his other books. ■

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS. SEND US YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TELL US WHY YOU SHOULD BE FEATURED IN ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT IN THE NEXT CORNERSTONE.

translate into the classroom in several ways:

"I've found that writing professionally helps me teach students to write—I teach them what works, what I've learned that writers do and readers want. I've also learned some things about the creative process and about being a Christian who is also passionate about being artistic. This is experience I can pass on to our students in humanities and other programs who have similar desires."





Francis Chan

*Nationally recognized speaker
Francis Chan challenges listeners to
live radically for the Lord*

BY MATTHEW MEEKS

SHEILA TRAN

“Things change in life, but they don’t have to” was the opening line by Francis Chan to an audience that included DCC faculty, staff, students, and guests, October 9, 2010.

Mr. Chan’s message was closely related to his recent decision to step down from his senior pastor position at Cornerstone Community Church in Simi Valley, California. Instead, Mr. Chan has decided to relocate to Asia to minister to families who are boldly preaching the Gospel in the face of persecution.

Personally, his message could not have been timelier.

Lately I have found myself giving more thought to what it means to be dedicated to living for Christ: the idea of living both courageously and unashamedly for the Gospel.

“I lived for Christ and wanted nothing more than to see my friends saved. I pictured them in hell, and it was my desire to see them come to know the Lord,” Chan said of his years as a young student.

Immediately, I was taken back to my early years as a youth minister. I was not even old enough to drive when I was licensed and ordained. I, too, had grown up in the ministry. I was never afraid to share the Gospel and was consumed with a desire to see others experience the joy of salvation. So what changed?

Now in my 20th year as a

believer, my spirit was convicted.

As the son of a 35-year Baptist minister, grandson of 50-year veteran missionaries to Southeast Asia, and a student of undergraduate and graduate theological education, I was completely ashamed – both of my lack of faith and my complete failure to consistently and boldly share the good news with those around me.

“The problem is that we are either too educated, or we feel as though we do not have enough of it,” Chan said. He added that those of us with theological education

often live a safe life where faith is not required, and we leave our seminaries forgetting how to share the Gospel.

Those without theological education, he explained, make excuses that they are not knowledgeable about their faith and must pursue formal training.

“We are so fortunate as a nation, and the temptation of the American dream has caused so many ministers to slide into a protective mentality, defending our ministerial accomplishments and avoiding any radicalism in hopes that we might not lose it all,” Chan explained.

“We begin to look at what others do around us – living safely and comfortably in a world drifting into hell, instead of following the example of so many in Scripture who lived radically for the Lord.”

Chan asked why. At what point does Christ call us to be safe with the message of the Gospel? He explains that this thinking is the result of being of the world and neglecting the command in the Great Commission.

So how much faith do I have? What would I give up in this world to see one more soul in the Kingdom of Heaven? These are the questions that as a believer, I am forced to reconcile with my hesitancy to share the Gospel.

At some point we must quiet our fear to be loved by the world and replace it with the fear of God. The reality is that this world is in need of Christ, and God has called us to share our faith. Shouldn’t this be a natural response to receiving the greatest gift man could know – that while we were dead in our sins, He gave us salvation?

Chan closed with a story about a time when he and his college friends were gambling at a casino.

“I had lost nearly all my money. But with two dollars left, I put it all on the table, and my money continued to double until I found myself at a place where the stakes were too high to continue to put it all on the line.”

He explained that it is difficult to take steps of faith when the stakes are high.

“When the cash gets bigger and bigger, you don’t want to bet it all... and that’s what changes in life, as well. You have more to lose.”

Would we continue to risk it all if a million dollars were on the line? Would we live obediently by obeying

the call to spread the Gospel and share truth, no matter how great the stakes?

Perhaps the real question is this. If we say we believe in Christ, the Hope of Glory, but nothing in our hearts compels us to share these good news with the world, then how strong is our faith? We must sincerely pray that He gives us more of it.

As Jesus said, “Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.”

Lord, let it be done in us. 🙏

He explained that it is difficult to take steps of faith when the stakes are high. “When the cash gets bigger and bigger, you don’t want to bet it all... and that’s what changes in life, as well. You have more to lose.”

FRANCIS CHAN IS AN AMERICAN PREACHER AND NOTED SPEAKER. HE IS THE FORMER PASTOR OF CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH IN SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, A CHRISTIAN CHURCH STARTED BY CHAN AND HIS WIFE.

HE IS ALSO THE FOUNDER AND CHANCELLOR OF ETERNITY BIBLE COLLEGE AND AUTHOR OF THE BEST-SELLING BOOK, *CRAZY LOVE: OVERWHELMED BY A RELENTLESS GOD*.

MATTHEW MEEKS, BS '04 (DALLAS BAPTISTS UNIVERSITY), M.Ed . '07 (DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY) IS THE DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT AT DALLAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

TO LISTEN TO FRANCIS CHAN'S MESSAGE, OR OTHER PREVIOUS CHAPEL SPEAKERS, VISIT THE WEBSITE AT WWW.DALLAS.EDU/STUDENTLIFE/CHAPEL.

NEWS FROM

Nexus: Church Planting Leadership

Dallas Christian College launched Nexus: Church Planting Leadership in January 2005. We thought our readers would appreciate a quick update on the ministry's development.

WHAT IS NEXUS?

Nexus is a North American mission ministry that exists to make disciples by starting new churches and developing young leaders. Nexus is a ministry department of DCC.

WHAT DOES NEXUS DO?

Nexus starts more churches, more often, in more places, among more people groups, with more leader care, so more people can be saved.

WHAT IS GOD DOING THROUGH NEXUS?

- More Churches – Nexus director, Dr. Phil Claycomb, has helped launch 24 new congregations in our region since 2003. Seventeen of these congregations have been launched since 2005. Of these projects, 85% are thriving and growing.
- More Often – We have averaged 4 new church plants per year since 2007. This year we have 8 emerging projects in advanced stages of development.
- More Places – We work in suburbs, urban centers, and rural areas. We have also expanded into the neighboring states of New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Kansas, and Missouri.
- More People Groups – Our churches target Anglos, Hispanics, African Americans, and even a group of Nepalese refugees who are being relocated to Texas by the United Nations.
- More Leader Care – We provide church-planting couples and young leaders with coaching, mentoring, training, and community. We also offer older churches a turn-around seminar we call "ThinkNext."
- More People Being Saved – over 2,500 people attend Nexus congregations each week. The majority of the individuals were not involved in a church family prior to joining their new church.

WHAT'S NEXT?

We are trusting God to help us plant 8 more churches in the next 2 years. The next 8 projects are targeted in Fort Worth TX; Cabot AR; Hot Springs AR; Arlington TX; Lorena TX; Oklahoma City OK; Bossier City LA; and Las Cruces NM.



Nexus Outreach Map

INTERESTED IN STARTING A CHURCH?

Nexus is looking for entrepreneurial leaders who have a passion to reach lost people. We'll guide you through the process – helping you find partners and providing you with Leader Care (coaching – mentoring – training – community.) **Is God calling you or someone you know?** Please contact Dr. Claycomb (Director) pclaycomb@dallas.edu, 972.632.7020, or Greg Garcia (Associate Director) ggarcia@dallas.edu, 832.595.7676.

OKLAHOMA CITY (SUBURBS)

Brace yourself – God is doing something special in OK! This is a partnership between two Christian Church groups from north of the Red River (the Oklahoma Christian Church Planters and the Northeastern Oklahoma Evangelistic Association) and Texans who live south of the Red River. The partners have raised \$150,000 to start the church. We will select the exact target community after we have identified and assessed the church-planting couple.

BOSSIER CITY, LA

Christview Christian Church recently decided to become a Legacy Church – they chose proactively to shut down and let a new church start, using their facilities. The partners include the Louisiana Evangelistic Association, Golf Course Road Church of Christ in Midland, TX, Church Development Fund, and Nexus. The community is made up of transplants from all over the country and provides an excellent opportunity to start a new church that will play a lead role in starting more churches in Louisiana. 📍

"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing..."
Isaiah 35:1-2a

BY BONNIE GRAEM

A stunning picture - an eye-catching abundance of blooming flowers adorning the dreary landscape of a desert. Trimming rose bushes can produce many pretty spring rosebuds.

That same trimming process can also produce many ugly scratches. Those scratches come from big, sharp thorns on the older stem sections, stems that are thicker and colored gray, stems that have weathered many years as they faithfully carried the nutrients needed for beautiful blossoms.

New stems are still bright green with only tiny thorns or without any hurtful thorns at all. New stems need the older stems as their place to sprout. Old stems need the new sprouts to keep the bush thick and full. Together, from the same roots, both old and new stems create a plant with abundant blossoms.

Heavenly Father, whether old or young, may we always stay faithful to showing others Your beauty. May the thorns of living never distract from the gladness we find because of You. May we daily be reminded of the rejoicing and singing that comes from unity with You and each other. Amen. ¹ 📖

BONNIE GRAEM, BM (MILKINI UNIVERSITY), M.M.E. (UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS) IS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC AT DCC. SHE WAS APPOINTED TO THE FACULTY IN 1971.

¹ First published in the devotional booklet, *Reaching Higher*, published by Valley View Christian Church in Farmers Branch, TX.

alumni updates

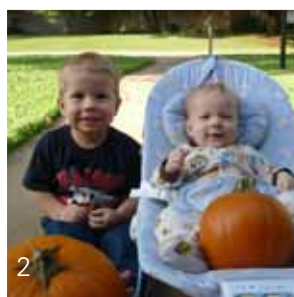
'77 **D. Lloyd Thomas**, '77, co-authored a book earlier this year, Marriage Enrichment for Geographically Separated Couples. Written with the military deployed and at-home spouse specifically in mind, the book can benefit anyone who is married to improve his/her marriage. The book is published by Xulon Press.

'07 **Courtney Burton**, '07, married Jacob Holden on July 3, 2010. They make their home in Yukon, Oklahoma.

'10 **Jennifer Porter**, '10, and husband Russell, announce the birth of their son, Josiah (1), and the adoption of daughter, Cassie. Josiah was born June 12, 2010, weighed 9 lbs, 2 oz, and was 21 inches long. Sister Cassie was adopted in February.

'03, '05 **Jason Duke**, '03, **Michelle (Worth)**, '05, and big brother Caden welcomed Tucker (2) on June 29, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs, 5 oz and was 20 inches long.

'08, '07 **Chris Haney**, '08, and wife **Andrea (Featheringill)**, '07, announce the birth of their son, Samuel (3). He was born July 29, 2010, at 12:28 a.m., weighed 7 lbs, 2 oz, and was 20.5 inches long.



Altar of Satan taken from Pergamum.

Ihm also taught a course on evidences to the house-church leaders, who are converting the course into the Azerbaijan language. He was also able to teach at the Caspian Sea Academy, which teaches the English foreign workers. Then he traveled near the Iranian border and gave a talk on the power of story to religious workers gathered from around the country for a weekend seminar.

Jerran Jackson, Adjunct Professor of Ministry

The Lookout Magazine published two articles by Jackson, "Is It Okay to Be Jealous," in April of this 2010 and "A Single-Minded Life" in July.

James Johnson, Adjunct Professor of Science

Johnson has published numerous articles in *Acts & Facts*, a magazine published by the Institute for Creation Research, since February of this year.

Caleb Kaltenbach, Adjunct Professor of Ministry and DCC Board of Trustees Member

Kaltenbach will serve on the North American Christian Convention (NACC) Continuation Committee in July 2011. He will also be the main speaker at the Mississippi Christian Youth Convention in February 2011.

Bruce Long, Associate Dean of Distance Learning

Long served on the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) site team that visited the School of Urban Missions in Oakland, California, October 5-8. He served as the academic evaluator. Mr. Long is in his second year of service on the ABHE Commission on Accreditation.

Danny O'Connell, Adjunct Professor of Business

The O'Connell family is expecting their third child due in March 2011. They have a son Daniel who is three and a daughter, Mary Abigail, who is 19 months.

Jane Reynolds, Director of Library Services

Reynolds participated in a two-day garage sale for the mission organization CAM, located in Dallas, raising \$6,800. She also coordinated a blood drive for Carter Bloodcare at her church, Lake Ridge Bible Church in Mesquite, TX.

Stanley Seat, Adjunct Professor of Business

Seat has been elected to serve on the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants National Exempt Organization Taxation Technical Committee.

Frank Sherwin, Adjunct Professor of Science

In September, Sherwin and John Morris published a book entitled *The Fossil Record*. Book information can be found at www.icr.org.

faculty news

Mark Berrier, Professor of Bible

Berrier traveled to Manchester, NH, to Rottingham Christian Church the third time in late April 2010 to finish a seminar on Revelation. He also went to West Amarillo Christian Church for a seminar on the Gospels and to Tulsa for a seminar on the Psalms. Since June 2010, he has been filling in each Sunday at Central Christian Church in Sherman, TX.

Jennifer Ciobanu, Adjunct Professor of Worship Arts

In May 2010, Ciobanu toured the Czech Republic in the production of the operetta "Polenblut," sponsored by the Americke Jaro Festival which features American musicians and promotes American music. In August, she was awarded the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of North Texas, and in addition to her teaching at DCC, is now also teaching voice at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Harley Ihm, Adjunct Professor of Ministry

In June 2010, Ihm spent 2 weeks in Azerbaijan, where he was invited to teach a course on Middle Eastern archaeology at the International Learning Center, where English is taught to primarily Muslims who speak Azerbaijan and Russian. The course focused on the Istar Gates of Babylon, the city gates from Miletus, and the

Let us know about the milestones in your life - weddings, births, retirements, honors, publications, and awards. Send your updates to run in *The Cornerstone Magazine*, delivered to more than 3,500 of your DCC friends and family. Email the editor at stran@dallas.edu or mail your letters to **The Cornerstone Magazine, Dallas Christian College, 2700 Christian Pkwy., Dallas, TX 75234-7299.**

DALLAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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Students work at a home in South Dallas on Thursday, March 24 as part of spring service day. Twice a year, the DCC family dedicates a day to community service in the inner city.

