



From the Arbor

@ Baker University...

Monthly news from Jerry Weakley, VP for Endowment and Planned Giving

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May, 2012

Numbers of Importance:

- Admissions 800-873-4282
- Alumni Office- 888-781-2586
- Make a donation- 800-726-1554
- Create a planned gift or create an endowed scholarship- 785-594-8332 or 913-449-9540 (Jerry Weakley)
- Baker Orange www.thebakerorange.com

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Men's Basketball Coach Named...

Following Baker's most successful season in men's basketball in many years it was not difficult to find a replacement for Coach Brett Ballard who announced in late March that he would leave Baker to re-join former fellow KU assistant coach, Danny Manning, at the University of Tulsa. Baker mounted an immediate search that netted dozens of quality candidates. Following a brief but effective search, the University announced that Sean Dooley, would become Baker's next head coach.

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Baker's Annual Report of Achievements...

This has been a remarkable school year across all four of Baker's colleges and schools. The other day while attending an Executive Committee meeting I reviewed a document that had brought together some of the most outstanding achievements and newsworthy events of the past year. While I have written about some of these in previous issues, I thought it might be of interest and value to list many of the great things that have occurred this year in one place and one more time. I hope you will take great pride in these accomplishments and achievements as do all of the students, faculty, staff and administration!!! **BAKER** was...

Named as one of the top 100 Best Values in Private Universities by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*. Baker had the highest ranking of any school in the Kansas City area.

Recognized as the highest-ranked Kansas school in the Midwest Regional category of the 2012 edition of the *U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges*.

Featured photo of King James Bibles in Quayle Collection on the cover of the December 2011 *National Geographic*.

Over 50 students have presented scholarly papers or competed at regional or national level.

20 faculty members published this year.

Students were accepted into prestigious intern and graduate programs, such as the University of Edinburgh, King's College and Oxford University.

Men and Women's Soccer, Wrestling, Cross Country, Indoor Track and Men's Basketball all advanced to national play.

47 NAIA Academic All Americans named to date.

9000 sq. ft. addition and total renovation of Mulvane Science Hall will provide new, outstanding science facilities for the University. Funding for the facility on target for completion July 2012. It is the largest successful fundraising effort in Baker's history. Over \$10.4M donated/pledged for the Mulvane Project. Largest single gift of \$3.5M received. Largest foundation gift in Baker's history of \$750K received.

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Dooley, an assistant coach at perennial NAIA basketball powerhouse Columbia College (MO), was named the 26th head coach in Baker University men's basketball history, by Director of Athletics Theresa Yetmar the last week of April. Dooley was introduced to the campus and Board of Trustees at a reception on the Baldwin City campus, Friday, May 4th.

Dooley is coming off four consecutive 25-plus win seasons and four trips to the NAIA National Tournament at Columbia, including one NAIA National runner-up finish.

"Sean is a great fit to lead our program," Yetmar said. "His work ethic, values and passion for mentoring student-athletes naturally align with our mission. Sean has provided strong leadership for winning NAIA programs and we expect our men's basketball program to consistently compete at a championship level."

Dooley previously served as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo. He was a part of three consecutive winning seasons with the Cardinals, including two NAIA DII National Tournament appearances. Before William Jewell, Dooley was the UMKC athletic department promotions coordinator in 2002-04 and served as the Instructional Learning Center supervisor at South Valley Junior High School in Liberty, Mo., in 2004-07.

"Coach Dooley will be an excellent ambassador for Baker both on and off the court," University President Pat Long said. "He will be immediately welcomed into the Baker family, and I am excited to watch as he builds on last year's success."

Welcome, Coach Dooley!!!

Responses From the April Arbor...

Jerry, thank you for your articles. They are well written and most of the time they take me to days gone by. I think I will pick up "Outcasts United" and read it based on your synopsis in this latest Arbor. Keep up the good work. By the way, I recruited Baker's starting running back Scottie Meyers (my nephew) and Luke Larkin (incoming freshman) so I am doing my part for Baker as best I can. Take care. Antonio Farias '91.

"Thank you for the book list. I'm a "reader" and I will attempt to try them all. I thought that I would get down to the campus for the special Zeta event, but it looks as though an illness of the friend I was going with will prevent it. We still love to recall our Baker Alaska trip. We will be ready for another "good" one next summer, so let us know!" Barb and Don Wardwell '59/'62.

This, That and More...

Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations...

Nominations for the Baker Athletic Hall of Fame may be sent to my attention: Mr. Jerry Weakley, %Baker University, P.O. Box 65, Baldwin City, KS. 66006. Please include as much information on career athletic achievements/honors/records, both while at Baker and in their amateur or professional career following school where possible. Any additional biographic information you can send that might assist the committee in their deliberations will be most helpful and appreciated. Information must be received by December 31st of any given year for consideration in the following year. Nominations may be made in three categories: As an athlete, in coaching or for meritorious service to the University's athletic program or for athletics and/or sports in general.

Butch Ritter to Retire...

Norton C. "Butch" Ritter is officially retiring from ministry in the Kansas East Conference. His retirement celebration will be at Old Mission UMC (5519 State Park Road, Fairway, KS 66205) on Sunday, June 24. Worship services will be at 8:15, 9:45 and 11:00 am. A BBQ lunch will follow shortly after noon and the program of music and memories will start around 1:30 pm. If you plan to be present for lunch, please make a reservation by contacting Kevin Hargett (klh4ku@kc.rr.com) by June 3. Butch was Baker's first official University Minister and served in that capacity from 1988-1991!

A Final Arbor Response...

"The next time you come through GA we should organize an alumni reunion! If you would have turned left instead of right at the Clarkston/Brockett exit in one mile you would have come to my house in Tucker, GA! It's amazing how many Baker grads have made it down this way." Malisa Anderson-Strait '99. (Editor's note: The Alumni Office will be looking into organizing an "After Hours" event in Atlanta in the near future...thanks!)

Baker Trivia Answer for April...

The Question: Name the first alumnus of Baker to be named a Rhodes Scholar...For extra credit, how many Rhodes Scholars have been from Baker???

The answer: (Some of this taken from Baker's web-site)...Warren Ortman Ault '07 was a member of the third class of Rhodes Scholars. He returned to Baker after Oxford but soon moved on to Boston University to establish the Department of History. He remained there for over 40 years. In 1969 he returned to Baker as Distinguished Visiting Professor for one semester. Warren was one of seven Ault siblings to attend Baker.

In 1910, Frank Baker Bristow, was selected a Rhodes Scholar. He began a law partnership in Salina. During his life, he also worked as a photographer and journalist before his death in 1968.

Raymond Donald Pruitt '33 was selected in 1933 to a Rhodes Scholarship. He continued his studies far beyond Baker and Oxford, leading to his status as a world-renowned cardiologist in the 1960s, including time as director of the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Minnesota.

In 1939, Donald Wayne Taylor '39 was selected as a Rhodes Scholar. Due to the oncoming war in Europe he was unable to attend Oxford as originally designed. His career was spent as a successful psychologist and educator. He acquired considerable prominence at Yale University, where he became chair of the psychology department in the division of social sciences.

The Rhodes Scholarship is the world's oldest and most prestigious international graduate scholarship. Rhodes Scholarships are awarded by and administered by a Rhodes Trust, under the terms of Mr. Cecil John Rhodes' will. The first scholarship was awarded in 1902 on the basis of academic achievement and strength of character. To date there have been more than 7,000 Rhodes Scholars.

Numerous responses were received...all with at least the first part of the question answered correctly. Answering were, Roger Boyd '69 (the first person to answer the question), Phil Tilghman '70, Steve Sublett '58 and David Bandre '92. Dr. Boyd and Steve Sublett both pointed out that 3 of 4 of the scholars had been Zeta Chis while at Baker!!!

Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Named...

Individual talent, individual records, team records and coaching success are all equally represented in the vitae of the four individuals named to the University's 2012 class of inductees to the Baker Athletic Hall of Fame. In alphabetical order they are:

Taylor Gill '83 was an Honorable Mention All-American his senior year at fullback where he carried the ball 240 times, at that time the most in a season in Baker history. He finished his career with 35 touchdowns (33 rushing, 2 receptions), with 3,049 rushing yards; again, at the time the most in Baker history. He was part of two teams that participated in Baker's first bowl game and first NAIA playoff game. Gill set several individual records while helping the team establish several team offensive records during a 32-9-1 run in four years.

Phil Hannon '86 had a highly successful collegiate athletic career at Baker where he earned post-season honors in two sports as a letterman in baseball and football. Following college, he played professional baseball with the Chicago Cubs organization from 1986-1990 before becoming a manager for two different teams for the Cubs at the minor league level. He returned to Baker in 2001 as head baseball coach where he continues to lead the Wildcat baseball team.

Coach Joe Girardi came to Baker from Lakeside HS in Pinetop, AZ to lead a Wildcat team that had languished for several years. In his four years at Baker he took the Wildcats to their first ever post-season bowl game (the Boot Hill Bowl) in 1978 and in 1979 defeated highly ranked Simpson College (IA) and William Jewell who was ranked #2 in the nation at the time. Many of Coach Girardi's players earned conference, district and all-American honors. His grandson, Alex Stebbins, will be a sophomore for the Wildcats in the fall of 2012.

Liesel Kirk-Fink '02 was one of the most outstanding female cross country and track and field athletes in Baker history. Over the course of her career (cut short by both studying abroad and illness) she set 11 total Baker records in her sports. In 2002, she was named the HAAC women's most valuable athlete. She was named an All-American in cross country in both her junior and senior years and an All-American in outdoor track and field her senior year where she finished 4th at the NAIA meet in the 5000m run. Congratulations to these four outstanding individuals!

I hope you will attend their induction on October 5th!

Alumni/Campus Activities...

May 18...Annual Golf Tournament-Prairie Highlands G.C. Gardner, Ks. 7:30 a.m.

Reunion Classes Reception/ZTA Centennial Reunion...Sheraton Overland Park,...5:00 p.m.

19-20...Alumni Weekend/Commencement

For more information on the above activities: 888.781.2586 or alumni@bakerU.edu.

June, 17-29, 2012...Italy, Croatia, Greece and Turkey cruise with the **Wandering Wildcats**.

October 5...Athletic Hall of Fame Induction and all Sports Banquet

6...HOMECOMING...

Highlights Continued from Page One...

HLC reaccreditation process successful with recommendation for maximum of 10 years of reaccreditation.

Official naming of the liberal studies program, *Quest*, thanks to a contest funded by Trustee Jared Grantham, M.D. '58. Planning toward future *Quest* model at each of the schools and the college continues.

Ed.D program new concentration in Higher Education Leadership developed to meet the needs of postsecondary educators in our region. Long term bonds refinanced allowing for increased cash flow and continued positive DOE ratios.

Denious Hall renovated to house new von Riesen Welcome Center and Mather Admission and Financial Aid Offices. Open house was held Friday, May 4th.

The former Phi Mu House leased and updated to provide an outstanding Alumni Center.

Two classrooms recaptured in Constant Hall to meet the needs of students and faculty.

New faculty offices and student spaces developed as a result of the relocation of Admission and Financial Aid offices. **What a Year!!! Congratulations to everyone at Baker!!!**



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May Trivia Question...

The 32nd Candlelight Vigil was held on the CAS campus in Baldwin City the first week of **May** sponsored by and organized by members of Mungano.

The Question...Name the founding faculty member for the CAS organization-Mungano.

For extra credit...what year was this organization first recognized as a campus group on the Baldwin City Campus.

(Answers will be featured in the **June Arbor**.)

Commencement Services Set for all Schools...

700 total graduates will depart **Baker's** four schools and colleges beginning Saturday, **May 12th**. The first service honors 219 undergraduates of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies while the 2nd service that day will hood 142 graduate program graduates. On Sunday, **May 20**, the University will hold services for the 177 undergraduate degree recipients from the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Nursing and School of Education. A final service later that same day will be for the Graduate School of Education where 136 individuals have completed their programs including six who will receive the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership Degree. All services will be held on the Baldwin City Campus in the Collins Sport and Convention Center. Congratulations, graduates!!!

Have a Great Month of **May!**
I'll write again in **June...**

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The Gift of Property/Land...

Having recently completed a letter of understanding with an alumnae donor who will be transferring ownership of a parcel of property by gifting it to Baker later in the summer, I thought it was a great time to write in this month's issue about the advantages of such an arrangement to both the donor and certainly, the University.

Many friends of Baker through the years have benefited from having made a gift of land or a gift of land with a building or other structure. There are three main benefits for such a gift. First, there is a charitable deduction, normally for the fair market value at the time of the gift. Second, if the real estate has appreciated, the gift to a qualified public charity bypasses or avoids entirely any capital gains tax. Finally, and not unimportantly, is the opportunity to discontinue paying property tax on either the improved or unimproved property once the property is gifted to the charity.

The combination of a substantial charitable deduction and a bypass of capital gain is an excellent double benefit. Many donors who sell other property or have substantial income will be able to use this charitable deduction to reduce their income taxes.

There are several reasons why you might consider a gift of property. You may have recently sold another property and could use the charitable deduction. If you have commercial or rental real estate, eventually your rental income increases while your depreciation is gradually reduced. With increased rents and reduced depreciation, you may have a very substantial income tax problem.

For the University a gift of property as described above provides an opportunity to use the property for expansion of the University or to sell the property and benefit from the cash sale for a purpose predetermined by the donor...such as the establishment of a Memorial Endowment or Scholarship.

For more information on gifting property to Baker please contact me so we can discuss the opportunities

Please contact me at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu or call me at 785-594-8332 (office) or 913-449-9540 (cell).



Jerry L. Weakley
VP Endowment & Planned Giving

P.S. * The Above information is provided only for your consideration and should not be construed as “Legal or Tax Advice”. You should always consult your own professional advisor before acting upon this or similar information.

As Dr. James Chubb '22 used to say when he visited classmates and alumni while on the road for Baker... “Please remember to leave something for Baker in your will!”...and if you do please let us know your plans!

For more timely information on this and other Planned Giving issues please visit our web-site location at <http://bakeru.giftlegacy.com/>