UNIVERSITY RAISES AWARENESS OF CONSERVATION

Long known for their commitment to the community, Baker University students are leading efforts to raise conservation awareness in Baldwin City.

Earth We Are, a group of dedicated Baker students, recently sponsored a resource conservation summit as part of a nationwide effort organized by Focus The Nation. More recycling bins placed near student housing have resulted from the group’s actions.

"The individual recycling bins for the on-campus apartments have made a major impact on the amount that gets recycled, since we’ve had to double the number of large bins in the collection area in between Jolliffe and the apartments," said Sarah Romereim, Earth We Are president. Jordan Olsen, previous Earth We Are president, has noticed an upswell in student participation.

"Recycling on campus has improved this year," Olsen said. "People are now more aware of recycling than ever."

For more than two years, Olsen has gathered recyclables from five buildings on the south half of campus and sorts the discarded items. In the past year, 25.8 tons of paper, 8.3 tons of corrugated cardboard, one ton of glass, 1,000 pounds of aluminum, two tons of plastic and 1,700 pounds of steel have been recycled.

Olsen is thrilled that Baker provided a forum for students to discuss conservation and develop a recycling plan.

"I think it is important for students to have a voice about recycling and be vocal about it," he said. "When students talk and think about their recycling efforts and their environmental impact, it shows a little bit about their character, and also what will be done about it in the future."

Dr. Boyd has recorded surprising numbers in the past few years of how much we recycle of each material and has found that we have almost doubled from the amount recycled from last year in January," said Michelle Pressgrove, vice president of Earth We Are. "Team up with another recycling company in Lawrence has made the process more simple. Now we don’t have to sort at Dr. Boyd’s home or carry it up to Lawrence ourselves."

Before Baker hosted the Focus the Nation event, President Pat Long organized meetings to review the University’s current conservation and recycling efforts. Short-term and long-term solutions were discussed.

"The Focus the Nation event allowed us to expand the scope of this project to the local community and even the state level," Romereim said. "I think the event served to raise awareness about global warming and conservation issues in the community and even provided community leaders with some practical ideas that can be put into effect."

Student involvement remains critical in conserving resources, Romereim said.

"It is vital for students to play a role in all areas of college life that have an environmental impact," she said. "Students need to be aware of the broader consequences that even the smallest actions can have and make a conscious effort to conserve resources and recycle. The organizational aspect of the recycling program can always benefit from student involvement, as well. I know that the current recycling program couldn’t function without the student workers who do the collection and sorting of the recyclable materials."

NEW SPGS DEAN NAMED

Baker University has named Marvin L. Hunt as Vice President and Dean of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies.

Hunt is the assistant dean of Continuing Education at the University of Kansas. He also is director of the Academic and Professional Programs and director of Continuing Professional Education at KU and holds a faculty appointment in the KU Geology Center.

"President Pat Long and I are so pleased that Dr. Hunt will be joining Baker University," Provost Randy Pembroke said. "His entrepreneurial experience, academic background and communication skills will enable him to provide strong leadership in the future for the School of Professional and Graduate Studies and the University as a whole."

The School of Professional and Graduate Studies offers bachelor’s, master’s, a doctoral and non-degree programs to nearly 3,000 working adults throughout Kansas and Missouri.

"I look forward to facilitating growth in such a vibrant climate of educational innovation and entrepreneurship," said Hunt, who will assume his new role on May 1. "I am excited because education changes people’s lives, and Baker is helping to fulfill a great need for excellent business, management and liberal arts education in Kansas City, Lee’s Summit, Wichita and Topeka. I am also very excited to join Baker’s outstanding arts and sciences tradition."

At KU, Hunt directs a staff that manages continuing education programs in aerospace engineering, civil and mechanical engineering, law, sociology, public administration and many other areas. He recently was responsible for $4.5 million in contracts to offer short courses in the United States and internationally. Hunt also is a co-principal investigator for the Department of Labor’s WIRED initiative focusing on bioscience education in the Kansas City region.

In 2004, Hunt created the KU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute which offers courses to 600 people ages 50 and older in Topeka, Lawrence and Kansas City. He has attracted grants ranging from $75,000 through $1 million in endowment for projects in biosciences, communication disorders and adult learning. Hunt has undergraduate and master’s degrees from the University of Kansas in communication studies, and a doctorate in educational studies from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
SPORTS SHORTS

Houser leads two programs

One of Baker University's all-time soccer greats is leading both Wildcat programs in 2008.

Nate Houser, 1994, a two-time first-team All-American and Conference Player of the Year as a Wildcat, will oversee the men's and women's soccer programs after being named Director of Soccer. Coach of the women's team since 2003, Houser was promoted after men's coach Alan Koch assumed his position in January to return to his alma mater.

In 2007, Houser became the first soccer player inducted into Baker University's Athletic Hall of Fame. He played professional indoor and outdoor soccer from 1994 to 2006, including nine seasons with the Kansas City Comets of the Major Indoor Soccer League.

Senior shies for Baker women

Allie Heinzen finished her senior season strong on behalf of the basketball basketball player in Baker history.

With a 20-point performance on Jan. 26 against Avila, Heinzen reached 1,000 points in her career. Heinzen, a senior forward from Dr. S. Smith finished the regular season with 1,170 points to rank No. 4 all time on the Wildcats' career scoring chart.

During her senior year, Heinzen had 20+20+game and led the Wildcats with a 16.7 scoring average. She set the school record for rebounds in a season her junior season with 292.

Wildcat football to open at Tennessee-Martin

Baker University will open the 2008 season on Saturday, Sept. 6, against Tennessee-Martin in Martin, Tenn. The Skyhawks, of the Ohio Valley Conference, also have NCAA powers South Florida and Auburnd on their schedule.

The ‘Wildcats’ home opener is Sept. 20 against Lindenwood-Belleville. Kickoff is 6 p.m. at Lawson Stadium.

CHENRGS HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IN L.A. AREA

For more than 30 years, Baker alumni Andrew Cherng, 1970, and his wife, Peggy Tsiang Cherng, fe 1968, have been at the forefront of the Asian business community in Los Angeles. The couple, who have more than 100 Panda restaurants located in Los Angeles County, Los Angeles County, have raised funds and services for the community through their generous support of both the Major Indoor Soccer League.

Southern California has been a special place for the Cherngs, who have more than 100 Panda restaurant locations in Los Angeles County. Los Angeles County, Los Angeles County, recently honored the couple for their contributions by naming them a recipient of the 2008 City of Angels Award and inducting them into the Los Angeles Business Hall of Fame.

"This award is so meaningful to us because Los Angeles County has been the site of so many milestones," Andrew Cherng said of the Angel Award. "All of our restaurant locations can be traced back to Los Angeles County because the company's true roots are right here."

Christie Davis, CEO of the L.A. Coastal Area Chamber of Commerce, said the Cherngs have been vital members of the community.

"Andrew and Peggy have done so much to benefit this area, from providing jobs to about 2,300 local residents to donating immeasurable amounts of food, time and financial support to L.A. County schools and non-profits each year," Davis said. "They put their all into everything they do, and they have made a difference in many, many lives."

Sophomore wins world championship

Baker University has a world champion on the Baldwin City campus.

Sophomore Jade Niccum of Oakley won the 2007 World Championships Duck Calling Contest Thanksgiving weekend in Stuttgart, Ark. after outcalling a field of 70 competitors from 39 states.

Niccum brought home $8,000 and a War Eagle duck eagle duck medal worth $15,000 for his efforts.

"A week before the contest, I was blowing two or three hours a night, breaking everything down, blowing certain notes over and over," Niccum said ESPNOutdoors.com. "I just try to be myself. I've been blowing the same routine since I was in the intermediates. I do a routine in my head before I go up on stage and I look up. Both my grandpas are up there, so I watch out for them, and hopefully they're watching out for me too.

For Niccum, the World Championship was a dream come true.

"It was a total shock," Niccum said. "Going in, I didn't really think I was going to win. I thought it was anybody's ballgame. Everybody's really good, and anybody can win on a given night."

President's dinner and awards ceremony Friday, May 16

College of Arts and Sciences Class Reunions


Doubletree Hotel at Corporate Woods, 10100 College Blvd., Overland Park, Kan.

Tickets are $31 per person.

Medallion Presentation to the Class of 1958 – 5:30 p.m.

For graduates of the class of 1958 and their guests.

Registration and Social – 5–7 p.m.

Dinner – 7 p.m.

Celebrate Alpha Chi Omega Centennial Reception in the room adjoining the Ballroom

Center of Excellence Center

Nov. 15 Avila, 1 p.m.

Nov. 8 at MidAmerica Nazarene, 1 p.m.

Nov. 1 Missouri Valley, 1 p.m.

Oct. 4 Graceland, 2 p.m.

Sept. 27 at Benedictine, 2 p.m.

Sept. 20 Lindenwood, 6 p.m.

School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony – 7:30 p.m.

Grace Episcopal Cathedral, 701 SW Eight Ave, Topeka, Kan.

Saturday, May 17

Registration – 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Harter Union Lobby Information Center

Campus Tours & Oral History Interviews – 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Vice of Walking Tour available

Harter Union

Reservations required RSVP to alumni@bakeru.edu or 1-888-781-2586

The Alpha Delta Sigma Annual Meeting – 10:30 a.m.

McKinley Recital Hall, Omnis Musical Arts Building

Reception for Award Recipients – 11 a.m.

Collins House

Alumni Luncheon – 11:45 a.m.

Seating begins at 11:30; Tickets are $15

Allen Dining Room, Harter Union

Class Photos – 1:30 p.m.

Class of 1933, 45, 48, 51, 58

Annual Alumni Association Board Meeting – 2 p.m.

Pulliam Hall

Memorial Service and Endowment Dedication – 3 p.m.

Clarice L. Osborne Memorial Chapel

Co-op, Co-opette, Independent Dinner – 6 p.m.

Campus Center

STAG Dinners – 6 p.m.

Greek Houses

If you have questions, contact Alumni Relations at 1-888-781-2386

Sunday, May 18

Baccalaureate Service – 9:30 a.m.

First United Methodist Church

Brunch – 10:45 a.m.

Allen Dining Room, Harter Union

Class of 1958 prepare for Commencement March – Noon

Comstock Center

Commencement – 1 p.m.

College of Arts and Sciences, School of Nursing, School of Education Undergraduate Degrees

Receiption – 2:30 p.m.

For all undergraduate, graduates, family members and friends.

Harter Union

Commencement – 4:30 p.m.

School of Education Graduate Degrees

Alumni Weekend Registration

Return this form with payment by May 1 to Office of Alumni Relations, Baker University, FOG Box 50, Baldwin City, KS 66013-0050.

Please print your name and names of your guests and class years, if applicable, as they should appear on name tags.

First Name Last Name Maiden Class Year

Phone ____________________________

Account # ______________________________

Total Enclosed $____

Form of Payment:

check endorsed ( payable to Baker University)

v Visa

Q Mastercard

Q Discover

Q American Express

Exp. Date

Reservations cannot be guaranteed without this form.
During Baker’s sesquicentennial celebration, the Alumni Office requested nominations of 150 alumni who have excelled in their professional, personal and civic lives. Thrilled by an overwhelming response, these alumni will be highlighted on Baker’s new Web site later this spring at www.BakerU.edu.

**Coming Soon**

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