



From the Arbor

@ Baker University...

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

Baker Gala and Auction a HUGE Success...

Just imagine the Westin Crown Center Ballroom in Kansas City awash in tasteful lighting and beautiful flowers while being laid out with china, silver, fine linen and crystal at the 48 tables set for the **Gala**. A pre-function room was set with dozens of silent auction offerings which were displayed on tables throughout the room. The items included vacations, sports and music memorabilia, artwork, fine wine and a multitude of other interesting gifts. The room quickly filled and became a maze as the ladies who were finely attired in evening gowns or cocktail dresses and the gentlemen in tuxedos worked hard to move about bidding and protecting bids previously made on the items that had been donated.

That is what the over 450 guests that attended the culminating event of the University's **150th** year of celebration encountered on April 19th. Inside the ballroom the guests dined on a delicious filet dinner with all the trimmings and afterward enjoyed video updates on the University along with a welcome from President Long and entertainment from the **Baker** Speech Choir and the **Baker** Chamber Singers. A Fund-a-Scholar auction was a huge success and was lead by Dr. Long's nephew, Brett Anthony, the M.C. and local NBC 41 weather personality. In all the **Gala** and Auction netted the University nearly \$100,000 for the Alumni Scholarship Fund which far surpassed the goal established by the committee.

"The purpose of the event was to celebrate **Baker's 150th** anniversary and raise money for the scholarship fund," said Lindsay Ferrell, assistant director of development and auction chair. "Through table sponsorships, ticket sales, the silent auction and the fund-a-scholar auction we exceeded our expectations and hopefully set the stage for future auction events."

The Alumni Association Scholarship is an endowed fund with **Baker**. The association annually provides current students from the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Professional and Graduate Studies, School of Education and School of Nursing with additional scholarship aid. Auctions held in the 1980's and early 1990's began the fund and license plate sales have also increased the fund through the past few years.

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Of Special Interest:

- *Recommend a student-
800-873-4282*
- *Alumni Office-
888-781-2586*
- *Make a donation
800-726-1554*
- *Create a planned gift or
create an endowment
785-594-8332*
- ***Baker Orange** on-line
www.thebakerorange.com*

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Alpha Chi Omega 100th...

It's still not too late to join with other Alpha Chi Omegas this May 16-17th in celebration of the sororities' 100th anniversary. Stag-night-(May 17th) dinner reservations are still available by contacting Lindsay Ferrell, **Baker** University, P. O. Box 65, Baldwin City, KS. 66006. Phone: 785-594-7866. Cost of the dinner will be \$30. Please join the other 200+ that have reservations to attend!

Dorm Construction Continues on Pace...



It has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words, yet somehow, I feel compelled to write a few anyway. :) This is the first picture known to exist of the new student residence under construction just north of and across the street from the Harter Union.

This view is from Southwest to Northeast. Workmen have been on the job daily continuing inside finish work that will allow the first students to move in for the beginning of school in the fall. With 190 beds in all, University officials are “a little more than interested” that the work is completed and that the move-in date will come and go without a major overhaul in the housing plan. If you plan to attend the Alumni Weekend activities you will have an opportunity to view it up close and personal...at least from outside!

Baker Trivia Question for May...

In what year did the Baker yearbook officially change it's name to the “Wildcat”? For extra credit...what were other names used for this annual publication prior to being renamed the “Wildcat”?

(As we are running out of storage space on campus, the winner of the Baker Trivia contest this month will have 438 odd copies of various years annuals delivered to their place of residence...just kidding!)

(The correct answers will be featured in the June Arbor.)

2008 Athletic Hall of Fame Class Selected...

As soon as we hear from two more prospective inductees I will be able to reveal the entire class for October 3rd's induction of the 2008 class of Athletic Hall of Fame athletes. More on this in the June issue of the Arbor.

Nearly 800 to Graduate...

Nearly 800 undergraduate, graduate and nursing students will be honored at four separate commencement exercises on the Baker campus this month.

At 1 p.m. May 10, undergraduates of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies will be recognized. The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Wallace S. Hartsfield, vice president-at-large of the National Baptist Convention of America Inc., and past president of the General Baptist State Convention of Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.

At 4:30 p.m. graduate degrees candidates from the School of Professional and Graduate Studies students will be honored. Steve Doyal, senior vice president of Public Affairs and Communications at Hallmark Cards Inc., and Baker Board of Trustee member, will speak.

At 1 p.m. May 18, the University will recognize undergraduates from the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Education and School of Nursing. Michael J. Nolte, president of Nolte's Bridal Inc. and author of “Burned But Not Broken,” will be the speaker.

At 4:30 p.m., Baker will hold its final service for School of Education students receiving graduate degrees, including the University's first class of 13 (Baker's Dozen) doctoral students. Baker is the only private school in Kansas to offer a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership. Josh Anderson, a teacher at Olathe Northwest High School and the 2007 Kansas Teacher of the Year, will be the keynote speaker. He received his master's degree in school leadership from Baker. Congratulations to all!!!

Honors for Faculty Award Winners...

Baker honored a Faculty Hall of Fame inductee, two retirees and six professors on Saturday, April 26th at the Faculty Recognition Celebration in Lawrence.

Walt Bailey '62, became the 24th member of **Baker's** Faculty Hall of Fame. Bailey began teaching at his alma mater in 1965 and currently serves as special assistant to the president for the development of the arts.

Pablo LaRosa, assistant professor of Spanish, and Tony Brown, professor of psychology, were recognized for their contributions to **Baker**. LaRosa and Brown will retire after the 2007-2008 academic year.

Faculty award winners were Martha Harris '78, United Methodist Exemplary Teacher Award; Randy Miller, Distinguished Scholar Award; and Cynthia Appl, Distinguished Faculty Award.

Winners of the Faculty Incentive Program awards were Gwyn Mellinger, teaching and academic advising; Tim Buzzell, teaching and scholarship; and Ryan Beasley, teaching and service. Congratulations and thanks to all of these outstanding faculty members!!!

Students Present to Trustees...

A portion of the recent Board of Trustee meeting included an opportunity for Trustees to hear presentations from a selection of outstanding **Baker** students representing all four schools. I was fortunate to have the chance to listen in on several of the presentations and was just amazed by the depth of knowledge and the presentation skills of the students whose sessions I attended...(everyone of them would have received an "A" from me!) I sat in on the following: Witchcraft in early Britain; GIS positioning applications in history & geography; Original research on orange Tardigrades; Overseas study opportunities/outcomes; and a piano presentation of Music of French composers whose music has a nationalistic tone. It was such an educational and fun experience that I almost found myself wishing I was back in school! :)

The **Baker** Buzz...

CAS Student to Study at Oxford...

Kim Kilmartin, a graduating senior from Topeka has been accepted and will be studying at Oxford University in England next fall. At **Baker**, Kim is a member of Alpha Chi Omega, a four year member of the Student Senate where she served as president her senior year and was a member of the varsity soccer team for three years. She had a triple major in History, French and International Studies and found time to study overseas on an independent study program abroad. After earning her masters at Oxford in Medieval History, she would like to continue there in the PhD program and eventually teach and or do research at a university. Congratulations Kim—hope you don't have any problems with the language barrier in England!!! :)

Giving to Higher Ed Continues to Climb...

In 2007, U.S. Institutions of higher education raised \$29.75 billion in voluntary support, 6.3% more than in 2006. Foundations, particularly family foundations, played a major role in the increase. Another study by CNN has suggested that 3% of individuals polled regarding their use of the forthcoming Economic Stimulus Package rebate plan to give it to their favorite charity!

Wandering Wildcats Ready to Set Sail...

While the passengers aboard the TV's famous "Minnow" were only planning for a "3-hour tour"...and got a lot more than that, the Wandering Wildcats are prepared to set sail on June 1st on the air-portion of their 15 day adventure to Rome, the Mediterranean, the Adriatic and several stops along the Mediterranean coast of Spain, France and Italy. In all there are 29 passengers traveling with the **Baker** Group including both current President Dr. Pat Long and former **Baker** President, Dr. Ralph Tanner. Details for next year's trip to Vienna and Salzburg that will be open to anyone will be announced in late **June**. Hope you will make plans to go with us!!!

New Greek Life/Health Director Named...

Brett Bruner, a graduate assistant for student leadership at the University of Central Missouri has been named to fill the job that has been open since the resignation of Bryan VanOsedale last summer. Bruner comes to **Baker** with outstanding credentials and a desire to make the Greek community much stronger through better recruiting that will potentially lead to more students taking advantage of Greek Life. All ten Greek chapters were represented on the search committee. Greetings and welcome aboard, Brett!!!

Events...

- May 6 Last day of classes
Graduating senior art show, 5 p.m.,
Holt-Russell Gallery-Parmenter Hall
- May 10 Commencement-SPGS under-
graduates, 1 p.m. Collins Center
Commencement-SPGS graduate
students, 4:30 p.m. Collins Center
- May 14 Wandering Wildcats Pre-cruise Social
6:00-8:00 p.m. Collins House
- May 16 College of Arts and Sciences class
reunion, Doubletree Hotel,
Overland Park, Kansas
- May 17 Alumni luncheon, 11:45 a.m.,
Harter Union
On-campus activities (all day)
- Alpha Chi Omega Reunion
Dinner, 6:00 Harder Union
- May 18 Commencement-CAS, SON and
SOE undergraduate degrees, 1 p.m.,
Collins Center
- Wall of Honor induction ceremony,
3 p.m., Case Hall
Commencement- SOE graduate
degrees, 4:30 p.m., Collins Center
- May 19 Deep and restful sleep for students,
faculty, staff and administration :)

More Information on Trivia Answer...

Brief description of Cadmium orange:

Pronunciation: **Kad-Mee-Uhm**

Cadmium sulfide can be made in various shades ranging from very light yellow to deep orange. It has very high hiding power and good permanence.

Word origin: The name "**Cadmium orange**" comes from Latin *cadmia* = zinc ore calamine, from Greek *kadmeia* = Cadmean earth, first found near Thebes, city founded by the Phoenician prince Cadmus.

Use: The pigment was used sparingly following its discovery (1811) due to the scarcity of cadmium metal.

Artificial variety of pigment: Precipitation of a solution of cadmium(II)-nitrate with sodium sulfide.

Source: Minerals: [greenockite](#) and [hawleyite](#)

April's Trivia Answer...

The question was: What is the official "shade" of **orange** that is **Baker's official color**???

And...for extra credit...With what one other University in the nation does **Baker** share the distinction of having the single color **orange** as its **official color**? **The Answers are: Cadmium Orange and Syracuse University.** Several persons had one answer correct...several had both answers correct including: **Dave LaFrenz '99, Jessica Wessel '06 and David Garrett '87.** I enjoyed the e-mail from **Dr. Robert Soulen '54** who remembers well his former chemistry professor, **E.J. Cragoe**, lecturing about the correct scientific composition of "**cadmium**". See Note below for more info:

Make Plans to Attend Alumni Weekend...

Alumni Weekend this May 16-17th would be a great time to visit campus and to reconnect with former classmates and friends. With the 200+ Alpha Chi's and all the members of the 12 classes holding reunions I will guarantee that if you attend, you will know several people. Even better, invite a friend or classmate or two to come with you. The reunion parties being held at the Doubletree Hotel in Overland Park are NOT just for those in the reunion classes—they are open to any former student or graduate. A visit to campus the next day would be a great way for you to take part in the last official activities related to **Baker's 150th** year of celebration. Be sure to visit the **Baker** web-site to get more specifics or contact **Debbie Papps** in the Alumni office for questions or to make reservations! **Debbie.papps@bakeru.edu** or 888-781-2586. Hope to see you on campus later this month!!!

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

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