

CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

FALL 2008



UWF **MAKING
ITS MARK**
on Northwest Florida

university news • alumni events • classnotes

contents...

UWF Connection's purpose is to keep alumni and friends in touch, informed and involved. The Connection is used to communicate with alumni, parents, donors and other friends of the university to inspire, foster and maintain interest in UWF.

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The UWF Connection is published semi-annually by the Office of Alumni Relations and the Office of Marketing Communications. Address changes can be sent electronically to alumni@uwf.edu.



President's Message



Dear UWF Alumni and Friends:

Think back for just a minute to your days at the University of West Florida. Remember your favorite professor, the rigors of academic life, the socialization, the friendships, the connections and the glorious graduation day? Here at UWF, we are still making those memories with a new generation of students. We are doing what we did back then; we are focusing on providing a quality education and working to contribute to the economic and cultural development of our region.

The University of West Florida now boasts more than 60,000 alumni, 25,000 of whom live and work in the region. But we want to do more; we want to grow! If we can educate more students we can truly make a greater difference. Will you help us tell the UWF story? Will you tell your friends, your families, your colleagues and your acquaintances about your alma mater? You know UWF is a special place. It is a place where we know your name, a place for personalized attention, unmatched field experiences and a place that will prepare you for the great adventures of life.

We hope that you will come home soon for a visit, and that we can count on your ambassadorship as we strive to continue to make a difference one student at a time.

Best Wishes,

Judith A. Bense, Ph.D.
President

About the Cover:

James Hosman, B.S.B.A., Marketing, '99 and M.B.A., '01, and John Hosman, B.S.B.A., Marketing, '00, and MBA, '02 are two of more than 20 individuals featured in the UWF Creating Great Futures for Northwest Florida Campaign that kicked off Sept. 25. The campaign highlights alumni and students connected to UWF by the impact that the university has made in their lives, as well as in the Northwest Florida community.



8 UWF alumna
Lenora Shilston
MA '85



8 Cover Story

UWF Making Its Mark on Northwest Florida: Shaping today's students into tomorrow's leaders, find out how UWF serves as an economic growth engine for Northwest Florida and provides an increasingly educated workforce to the region.

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Above: Christian Garman, '00, and Mollye Barrows '96, are two of the faces of the Creating Great Futures for Northwest Florida campaign launched Sept. 25.



6 UWF student plays at donor recognition dinner

in brief...

On right and below:

UWF College Reach-Out program (CROP) students take advantage of opportunities to connect with each other through various program events and community activities. Through educational workshops and mentoring, the UWF CROP program helps students prepare for future collegiate opportunities.



students receive instruction on preparing for high school, while tenth- and eleventh-grade students receive ACT instruction. Twelfth-grade students have the chance to earn up to six credit hours of

instruction at UWF during their residency program.

Actively involved in the Pensacola community efforts to better prepare students for success, CROP participants are involved in community and civic events that promote a positive message.

“Community involvement is essential for UWF to bridge the gap between the university and the Pensacola area,” said Rideau. “It helps the community establish ownership and school spirit that will go a long way to support the university’s efforts.”

During these events, CROP gives presentations about the college process and what UWF has to offer. In addition to collaborations with other UWF departments, CROP also works with several local organizations to refer services to families and co-sponsor community events.

For more information, contact Kismet Rideau at (850) 474-3421 or e-mail krideau@uwf.edu. ❖

Impacting Local Youth

Program Reaches Out to Middle and High School Students

UWF’s College Reach-Out Program (CROP) strives to prepare disadvantaged middle and high school-aged students for the rigors of post-secondary education. Improving educational motivation through services and activities, CROP provides after-school tutoring services, mentoring, financial aid and scholarship workshops, field trips and college visits.

“We enjoy getting out and connecting with the Pensacola community,” said Kismet Rideau, CROP coordinator. “We can see our impact and change by being involved in what the community is doing.”

CROP participants are encouraged to take advantage of the program’s services in order to become self-directed and independent learners. CROP also offers a summer residency program, focusing on the needs of students depending on their grade level. Eighth- and ninth-grade

Making a Difference

UWF Athletes Guiding Young Northwest Florida Stars

UWF athletes and their coaches will be working with the local Pensacola Big Brothers, Big Sisters chapter this year, mentoring local children and giving back the Northwest Florida region. Attending lunch time at local middle schools, while other athletes volunteer to bring children to sporting events, each athlete will consistently spend time with their little brothers or little sisters throughout the semester. UWF athletes will also be involved in the Sports Buddies program, which consists of training local children in a variety of different sports.

Working to bring teen students to campus, UWF Athletics is partnering with a local community service group called Chain Reaction, a teen-directed, teen-organized group for ages 13 to 18 that volunteers time throughout Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. The volunteers for Chain Reaction plan to donate their time and assistance to UWF this year by helping with game operations.

In addition to these organizations, the UWF Athletic Department will work with the Girl Scouts of America, hosting a field day for local girls scheduled for the spring semester. During this activity, UWF female athletes will take time to instruct the girls in different sports of their choice.

For more information, contact Matt Rowley, sports information director, at (850) 474-2140 or e-mail mrowley@uwf.edu. ❖



UWF athletes will work with various Northwest Florida community organizations including Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Girl Scouts of America, the Sports Buddies Program and Chain Reaction.



Working to improve the knowledge and abilities of business teams, UWF training solutions offers services to meet group learning needs.

UWF Training Solutions

Improving Workforce Skills through Education

In today’s competitive business environment, a highly skilled and productive workforce is a company’s greatest asset. Stakeholders benefit from quality training specifically tailored to improve the knowledge skills and abilities of a team. The Office of Continuing Education offers UWF Training Solutions, an array of services designed to meet a variety of group learning needs.

Using the most up-to-date technology and uniquely qualified instructors, UWF Training Solutions provides a technological assessment of an organization’s current and future needs and also provides pre-testing services to establish a baseline for improvement. Faculty and staff work with participants to determine the candidates who should attend training and which skills will be most beneficial for each individual.

After conducting a needs assessment, a team from UWF crafts a program to meet particular goals. Specific courses are developed for unique company needs. Employees will benefit from committed, value-added delivery excellence, a supportive learning environment and state-of-the-art facilities. Once the training ends, UWF Training Solutions will provide evaluations to gauge the effectiveness of the topic and the instruction. The summary report is

compiled by comparing pre-test and post-test results along with program evaluations completed by participants. This needs assessment, along with the training and evaluations, provides a boost for regional employers’ training dollars.

For more information about UWF Training Solutions, contact Nicole Gislason at nicole@uwf.edu. ❖

Making the Connection

UWF Alumni Mentoring Program

Implementing an interactive way for alumni to reach out and give back to their alma mater, the UWF Mentoring Program is connecting UWF alumni with current students. The program, initiated by Alumni Relations and Career Services, allows UWF students allows UWF students to meet with alumni to ask for advice in their career fields of interest.

The program screens potential alumni mentors who are allowed to decide their level of involvement in the program. Students who have not declared a major or who are struggling with career decisions are asked to meet with a Career Coach before making contact with a mentor.

“Mentoring is a fulfilling way for alumni to give back to their alma mater,” said Patrice Friant, assistant director of Experiential Education in Career Services. “It costs you nothing but a little time.”

For more information, contact Patrice Friant, assistant director of Experiential

Education, at (850) 474-2254 or e-mail pfriant@uwf.edu or contact Missy Grace at (850) 474-3423 or e-mail mgrace@uwf.edu. To register as a mentor, visit myinterfase.com/uwf/mentor. ❖

Meeting and Sports Venues

UWF Hosts Groups on Campus

UWF’s impact on the community extends outside the classroom. Throughout the year, UWF plays host to numerous community organizations, groups and events that bring thousands of visitors. Providing meeting rooms and conference facilities for nearly every size, the University Commons hosted eight wedding receptions, six banquets, 24 non-profit group events, 24 corporate events and 10 K-12 school events during the past year. Conversations are underway to expand and enhance the building, based on the popularity of the venue.

On the field, local and regional sports teams take advantage of the UWF campus to host practices, games and tournaments through Recreation and Sports Services. Last year, UWF hosted four regional youth volleyball tournaments averaging 60 teams each, four regional youth basketball tournaments averaging 35 teams each and a regional cheerleading competition. These regional tournaments bring hundreds of young athletes and potential students to campus each year.

Youth sports camps offered by the Athletics department coaching staff cover a range of sports including baseball, basketball, volleyball, tennis and soccer. These camps offer fundamental skill training to campers, but also offer community families a valuable outlet for summertime activities for their children at a reasonable cost. This past year, the two weeks of summer volleyball camps provided more than 200 young athletes a chance to improve their skills while at the same time building strong community ties and promoting the university as an a higher education destination.

For more information, contact Alan Brian at (850) 474-2214 or e-mail abrian@uwf.edu. ❖

Helping Shape Tomorrow New Giving Societies Introduced

In recognition of UWF's 40th anniversary and the generosity shown by so many, the UWF Foundation has adopted new lifetime giving societies designed to honor UWF donors. The new cumulative giving societies are:

Harold B. Crosby Society - \$1,000,000 or more. Named after UWF's first president, Judge Harold B. Crosby, this society is created to honor the pioneering spirit that was needed to launch a new university. Judge Crosby not only had the courage to fight for an institution of higher education in the region, but he recognized the endless possibilities that an education could provide the residents of Northwest Florida. The Harold B. Crosby Society is in honor of those individuals who share these same qualities and who have invested in significant ways to the advancement of UWF with their gifts.

John C. Pace Society - \$500,000 to \$999,999. In July 1962, the Board of Control voted to build a new university in West Florida. John C. Pace's influence led the board in its choice of Harold B. Crosby as the first UWF President. The John C. Pace Society is in honor of those individuals most instrumental in the establishment and advancement of UWF through their contributions.

Founders Society - \$250,000 to \$499,999. The Founders Society represents the spirit of those who established the university through their dedication to a unique mission. Membership in this society recognizes individuals who are visionaries and exhibit tremendous leadership in their efforts to strengthen the university with their contributions.

Chambered Nautilus Society - \$100,000 to \$249,999. The university's founders adopted the chambered nautilus as its distinctive emblem. Just as the chambered nautilus signifies the deliberate pace and delicate design appropriate to a house of learning, its namesake society recognizes

quintessential commitment to philanthropy on behalf of UWF.

Charter Society of 1963 - \$50,000 to \$99,999. In 1963, following an eight-year campaign by prominent citizens in support of a degree-granting institution for the region, a tract of forest along the western shore of the Escambia River was named as the site of the future university. In recognition of the founding year of the university, membership in the Charter Society of 1963 recognizes generous and dedicated donors who have participated in the progress of UWF.

President's Circle - \$25,000 to \$49,999. Acknowledging the leadership provided by each of the presidents of UWF, this society recognizes the generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations that have made gifts to advance the university.

Donor Wall Unveiled at Annual Donor Recognition Dinner

UWF's most thoughtful and generous alumni and friends were honored Oct. 2, at the Annual Donor Recognition Dinner held in the University Commons Conference Center in Pensacola. President Judy Bense welcomed and thanked guests for their history of making a difference in the university with their generous contributions. Prior to dinner, Bense joined guests in the lobby for a reception and the unveiling of the university's new donor recognition wall. Highlighted were those individuals and companies whose generosity placed them in UWF's most prestigious cumulative giving societies. The donor wall is located in the lobby of the University Commons Conference Center and will be updated annually to recognize these generous giving society members. The university Jazz Combo played for guests during the reception and student harp major, Stephanie Wind entertained during dinner. ❖



1. John C. Pace Society member Helen Wentworth
2. Foundation Board of Directors member Ray Jones, Chambered Nautilus Society member Jane Seligman and Hilda Jones
3. Chambered Nautilus Society members C.W. and Marny Gilluly and Maritime Museum Committee member Dick Baker
4. Founders Society member John Switzer, President Judy Bense and UWF student ambassador Alexis Harper

Lasting Legacy Two Former Faculty Honored

Two endowed scholarships have been established in memory of former UWF faculty members: Marilyn Lamborn and Cliff Chang. Before she died, Lamborn, former director of Nursing, discussed creating the Alberta Reeves Lamborn Scholarship Endowment to be named in memory and honor of her mother and to benefit nursing students. During her UWF career, Lamborn recognized that a four-year Bachelor of Science in nursing degree was necessary to help address the shortage of nursing faculty, and she recognized that scholarships were valuable in helping students.

One year after the first class of BSN students graduated in spring 2006, Lamborn retired. During her retirement reception, family and friends honored her by making gifts to the endowment. Lamborn was named a UWF professor emeritus and died December 2007 after a long illness. Since Lamborn's death, family and friends have made her dream a reality and have fully endowed the Alberta Reeves Lamborn Scholarship. The Department of Nursing will award the scholarship with upper-level students in the RN Nursing programs being the beneficiaries.

"During her years in Nursing, Dr. Lamborn served as a mentor to so many nursing students," said her successor, Diane Gardner. "It is fitting that her legacy will live through this scholarship, and she will continue to help nursing students."

Chang, professor emeritus, served the UWF Chemistry Department from 1968 until his retirement in 2003. One of the original members of the Chemistry Department, Chang's teaching was recognized with the Teaching Incentive Program award. During his tenure, he conducted research, authored five books, numerous articles and papers and was active in the American Chemical Society.



Left: Chemistry professor Dr. Cliff Chang
Below: Nursing director, Dr. Marilyn Lamborn

In December 2006, Chang moved back to his home state of Hawaii. He died in October 2007 after a lengthy illness. Wanting to recognize his love of teaching and students, the family and friends of Chang, created the Clifford W.J. Chang Memorial Scholarship Endowment. Started at his retirement and fully endowed by family in June 2008, this scholarship will fund need based scholarships for students studying in one of the sciences.

"This new scholarship endowment not only honors a well-deserving faculty member in the Department of Chemistry, but also will provide opportunities for UWF to create next generation scientists," said Michael Huggins, chair of the Chemistry Department.

Endowing a scholarship is a meaningful way to honor or memorialize a friend or family member. It serves as a lasting legacy and provides scholarship support to UWF students in perpetuity.

For more information about how to make a gift to either of these scholarships, or to learn how to create an endowed scholarship, contact Martha Lee Blodgett, director of Development, at (850) 474-2712 or e-mail mbloedget@uwf.edu. ❖

UWF's Creating Great Futures Fundraising Campaign

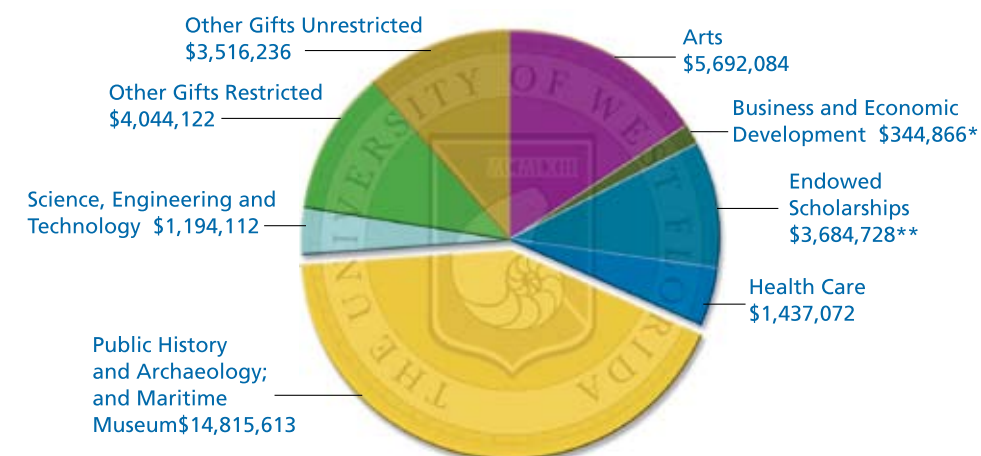
Thanks to UWF's generous alumni, friends, faculty and staff, UWF students are benefiting from enhanced educational programs and scholarship support. As of August 28, 2008, more than \$34.7 million has been raised toward the *Creating Great Futures* Campaign, the largest fundraising effort in the university's 41-year history. Since the campaign began July 2004, more than 6,400 alumni have demonstrated their loyalty to UWF by making a contribution to the campaign. Hundreds of UWF students will be impacted by this generosity for years to come.

To learn more about the campaign or to make a gift, visit uwf.edu/greatfutures or contact Lauren Smith, campaign manager, at (850) 474-3096 or e-mail greatfutures@uwf.edu. ❖

Creating Great Futures Campaign Progress

Gifts by campaign priority: July 1, 2004 – August 28, 2008

Campaign Total: \$34,728,832



*\$3M College of Business Campaign gifts NOT included
** Includes designations to all campaign priorities

UWF MAKING ITS MARK on Northwest Florida

University of West Florida students and graduates are proving every day the mark they are making on the Northwest Florida community. Whether it's a graduate student working with the UWF Community Outreach Research and Learning (CORAL) Center evaluating the Santa Rosa School District's Early Reading Intervention program or UWF students planning a "Project Green Shores Beach Clean Up" event, the enthusiasm to give back to the community has never been more contagious...

After four decades of working diligently within the community to build a prestigious regional institution that is dedicated to shaping today's students into tomorrow leaders, UWF is confident and eager to share all that it has accomplished as a university and in the Northwest Florida region. This fall, UWF launched its largest public awareness campaign "Creating Great Futures for Northwest Florida."

"Knowing who we are and telling our story, this campaign is going to be everywhere you look," said Judy Bense, UWF president. "It's the best campaign and it's the biggest campaign we've had in our history."

ECONOMY

\$650 Million: UWF's Yearly Economic Impact on Northwest Florida.

As Northwest Florida's only state-funded public university, UWF serves as an economic growth engine and with 25,000 graduates living in the region, provides an increasingly educated workforce to Northwest Florida. The university's new public awareness campaign aims to inform the region's citizens of the common connection they have with their university.

"We know how to provide a quality education," said Bense. "We know how to respond to regional needs and how to make a difference in our community. But people need to know that. We cannot afford to be the best kept secret in Northwest Florida any longer."

Two of the 25,000 UWF graduates that work in the Northwest Florida region, John Hosman, B.S.B.A., Marketing, '00, and MBA, '02 and James Hosman, B.S.B.A.,

Marketing, '99 and M.B.A., '01, have used their UWF degrees to create successful business careers. Founding members of Pensacola Young Professionals, a group aimed at attracting and retaining young talent, the Hosman brothers help inspire Pensacola's next generation of leaders to take responsibility for their community by working to improve economic growth, education and quality of life.

"I love being involved in the community and trying to help make it a better place for my children," said John Hosman. "I hope that Northwest Florida will work to attract more business opportunities to the region. Ten years from now, I hope that we will have a thriving downtown and waterfront and one of the top education systems in U.S."

EDUCATION

56 percent of Santa Rosa and Escambia Teachers are UWF Grads.

Teaching and inspiring Northwest Florida's next generation, UWF alumna Lenora Shilston, MA elementary education, '85, and Stephanie Humes-Brown are two of the many UWF graduates who have dedicated their careers to fostering a love for learning in the Northwest Florida region. Shilston, who credits UWF with providing her the tools and the tenacity she needs to guide even the smallest stars lighting Northwest Florida's future, received the Florida Education Association's 2008 Teaching Excellence Award.

"It's an incredible feeling to get to teach

students at this stage in their lives," said Shilston. "I get to help set the tone of how they feel about education. They truly are little sponges and every day I get to watch the lights come on for them as they start to grasp what they're learning."

Like Shilston, Humes-Brown always had a love for teaching. After serving 20 years in the Army as a chief warrant officer, Humes-Brown took advantage of the Hometown Heroes Teach program, designed to help wounded and disabled military veterans receive their Florida teacher certification. Hired by the Holley-Navarre Primary School, as a first-grade teacher, Humes-Brown was the first Hometown Heroes Teach participant to be hired by the public school system.

Dedicated to helping military service members continue their public service through careers in critically needed teaching fields, Hometown Heroes Teach program participants receive their certification training through TeacherReady, a nine-month online program offered at UWF through the Institute of Innovative Community learning.



RESEARCH

Nine Historic Shipwrecks Discovered by UWF Students. 300 Waiting to be Found.

Across the disciplines, the number of research projects for UWF students continue to grow through opportunities with UWF faculty and research projects through the UWF Community Outreach Research and Learning Center. Opening its doors to graduate students to provide valuable opportunities for community-based research projects, the center enables students to become liaisons with community organizations, and students gain hands-on research skills while providing crucial information to local agencies.

Currently UWF students are working with Santa Rosa County School District evaluating the Early Reading Intervention program, examining the effectiveness of services used by the Independent Living for the Blind and determining factors that predict employability of welfare transition participants for Workforce Escarosa. Other projects include analyzing data from prisoners in work release programs through Pathways for Change and creating student achievement profiles for the Catholic Diocese of Pensacola. Graduate students of all career field interests have an opportunity to engage in community research projects through the CORAL Center.

One of the many research projects going on at UWF includes the autism research being conducted by Leasha Barry, associate professor of Special Education. Working with local children with autism, Barry is using Applied Behavior Analysis to piece together effective ways to teach children with disabilities improved communication and social skills.

"Autism Spectrum Disorder, associated with impairment of social interaction and communication, is widely considered a puzzle because its cause is still unknown," said Barry. "Through Applied Behavior Analysis, I am able to use the known principles of behavior to bring about positive change, whether it be teaching a child with Autism to tie his shoes or raise his hand in class to gain his teacher's attention."

Sharing her expertise with UWF and Northwest Florida, Barry leads the university's Board Certified Behavior Analysis program. Including intensive supervised

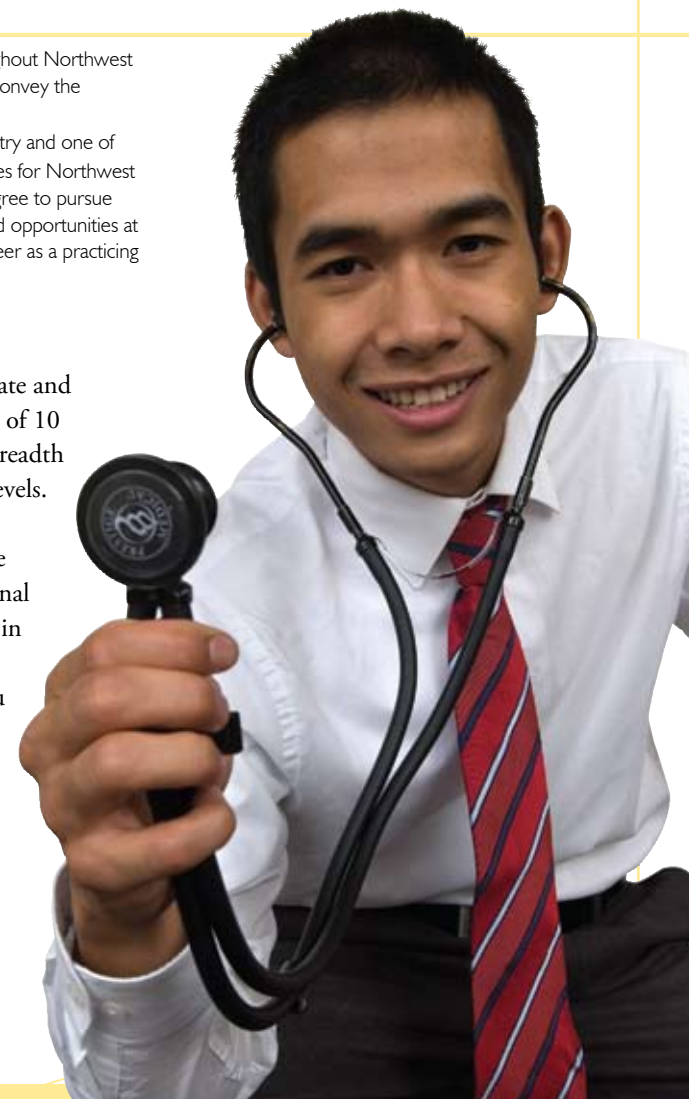


Above: Campaign billboards placed throughout Northwest Florida highlight UWF's key messages that convey the university's impact on the region.

Right: Thahn Nguyen, senior in biochemistry and one of the many faces of the Creating Great Futures for Northwest Florida campaign, plans to use his UWF degree to pursue medical school. Through his experience and opportunities at UWF, Nguyen is confident in his future career as a practicing ophthalmologist.

experience at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, the program is one of 10 worldwide approved to offer this breadth and depth of programming at all levels.

"UWF's program in Applied Behavior Analysis has benefited the community by providing professional level education for people to work in our community as board certified behavior analysts," said Barry. "You can see our graduates in action by visiting the Autism Society of the Panhandle's summer 'Kids for Camp,' Escambia Westgate School or by talking with families who receive services from our graduates or the local service agencies that employ our graduates."



Feature continued on back cover

Alumni Ambassador Program

The UWF Alumni Ambassador Recruitment team is a group of alumni volunteers that devote their time to assisting the Office of Undergraduate Admissions in recruiting the best and brightest students to UWF. Since the program debuted this fall, the UWF Alumni Ambassador Recruitment team has had 40 alumni volunteers become alumni ambassadors. Alumni volunteers attend college fairs and area receptions in their hometowns. Volunteers are asked to commit a minimum of six to 10 hours per year. For more information on the program or to volunteer for your area for fall 2009, contact alumni@uwf.edu.

“I feel it is important to give back to the university that gave so many opportunities to me. I would never have known about UWF had someone not shared its story with me. Hopefully, by sharing my university experiences and explaining what makes UWF such a great school, perhaps at least some prospective college students will take a chance on a school they might not have heard of or considered attending.”

Robert Lee, 2008 Alumni Ambassador



Alumni Chris Scheer, '01, and Katie Scheer, '01, center, with Orlando area admitted students and their families.

Orlando Area Send-off

The Orlando area alumni hosted a send-off event for incoming UWF freshmen from the Orlando area Aug. 17. Forty-two people attended the event, including 35 incoming students and their families. The students enjoyed the opportunity to meet each other before heading to Pensacola and were able to hear positive UWF experiences shared from by UWF alumni. Alumni Relations would like to thank Doug Stelzer, '81 for hosting the event and to Luke Van Blaricom, '00, '02 for organizing the event.

Upcoming Alumni Events

- January 15**
DC Area Alumni Event
- February 26**
Atlanta Area Alumni Event
- March 19**
Tallahassee Area Alumni Event
- April 3-4**
Festival on the Green, Pensacola
- May 14**
Emerald Coast Area Alumni Event
- June 3**
Tampa Area Alumni Event
- June 4**
Orlando Area Alumni Event

Check the alumni Web page for current event information at alumni.uwf.edu.



Sandra Rush, '91 M.Ed educational leadership, '74 BA elementary education, featured above in snapshots from a Creating Great Futures for Northwest Florida television spot, brought Montclair Elementary School from an "F" to an "A" school.

Alumni Spotlight

Implementing new strategies and priorities to enhance academic student achievement, Sandra Rush, principal Montclair Elementary School, increased Montclair's school grade for the 2007-2008 year from one of the lowest "F's" in the state to an "A." Passionately dedicated to the faculty, staff and students of the school, Rush uses the Continuous Improvement Model, which has been instrumental in providing an effective process to increase students achievement.

*“Every child deserves the best education possible,” said Rush.
“We’re shaping the leaders of tomorrow.”*

Rush has reduced out-of-school suspensions by providing a time-out program and an in-school suspension program. She also works to provide opportunities for students and teachers to review Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) data and set goals for the school year. In her second year as principal, Rush continues to strive and maintain an environment that motivates and meets the needs of every student.

Rush earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education and master's degree in educational leadership from UWF and has worked in the school district for 35 years.

Alumni Homecoming Tailgate Party

Despite the rain, many alumni, family and friends came out to support UWF Athletics on Oct. 17. During the homecoming game, the UWF Men's Soccer team tied Alabama-Huntsville 1-1.



UWF National Alumni Association—Second Annual Scholarship Classic



1. UWF Recreation Team: Amy Robinson, Matt Ruckman, Jeff Schmitt and Missy Pritzel
2. Second place team: Lt. Cmdr. Rob Denton, Lt. Col. Ken Devero and Capt. Marcus Hannan
3. A UWF alumni team looks on while their team member tries to get on the green.
4. First place team: Scot Thomas, Jimmy Williams, Kip Smith and Mark Kirchharr
5. Player Greg Kirby
6. UWF VP for University Advancement Dr. Dean Van Galen, past UWF Foundation Board Member Britt Landrum and NAA President Tim Haag
7. Third place team: Mike Parsons, Joe Nizuel, Alex Holets and KC Etheredge, UWF alumni director
8. NAA President Tim Haag watches on as Todd Olesiuk tries his hand at putting.

Twenty-two teams teed off Sept. 26 at the second-annual Alumni Scholarship Classic at the Scenic Hills Golf Club in Pensacola. Thanks to the Chambered Nautilus sponsor GEICO, participants enjoyed a day of golf and Alumni Relations was able to raise close to \$7,000 for student scholarships. Congratulations to the winning team of Scot Thomas, Jimmy Williams, Kip Smith and Mark Kirchharr. Be sure to save the date for next year's tournament, Sept. 25, 2009.

Thanks to the following sponsors that helped to make the event a success:

Breeze Promotions • Chartwells • Coastal Moving • Follett UWF Bookstore

Goldring Gulf Distributors • Morette Company • Saltmarsh Cleaveland & Gund • Sandy Sansing Automotive

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Kenneth Benoit, BA music education, was appointed the first director of the New Music Ensemble at Broward Community College's north campus. Benoit's composition "Prelude and Imitations" was also recently performed at the Contemporary Music Festival at Sam Houston State University. He lives in Hallandale Beach.

75

Patricia Roberts, BA social work, received approval from the United States Patent office for her Polymodal Biological Detection System which improves targeted pest detection and greatly reduces pesticide usage. She lives in Gulf Breeze.

77

Evelyn Cesarotti, BS nursing, was recently appointed director of Graduate and Advanced Practice Programs at Arizona State University (ASU). Cesarotti also recently wrote a Graduate Nurse Practitioner program that was approved for fall 2009 admissions at ASU.

81

Kevin Callahan, BA special education, was mobilized to active duty in the Navy Reserve. Callahan will serve in Afghanistan for one year as deputy director of Intelligence for the International Security Assistance Forces in Kabul.

84

Jim Farrell, BA theatre, was recently named the director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Milwaukee Repertory Theater. He received his MFA in performing arts management from the North Carolina School of the Arts in 2007.



Sally (Kornek) Kreuscher, '02

BA communication arts, and her husband, Karl, welcomed their first child, Kegan Edson July 22. They currently live in Estero where Sally is a child protective investigator supervisor for the Florida Department of Children and Families.



Andretta White-Jenkins, '89

BS management, and her husband Antoine, welcomed their son, Andrew Alexander, July 17. They also have a daughter, Alicia Jenkins, 3.

Kenneth Ford, '84 MS system science, was awarded the American Advancement of Artificial Intelligence's Englemore Award. It is considered the premier award for excellence in the field of artificial intelligence. Ford is currently the chief executive officer of the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition in Pensacola.

87

Tom Bell, '87 MPA, '76 BS management, has been promoted to vice president with Pensacola-based commercial real estate firm New America International (NAI) Halford. Bell joined the firm in 1999 after a 15-year career as executive director of the Home Builders Association of West Florida.

90

Lee (Eichhorn) Conroy, BS computer information systems, and her husband Bruce Conroy, '90 BS computer information systems, recently relocated to Houston, Texas after living in San Francisco Bay Area for 16 years. Lee and Bruce have worked for Chevron since graduating from UWF. Lee is currently managing a multi-year information technology program to implement new software applications for Chevron's Downstream Supply Chain. Lee and Bruce have three children, Brendan, 10, Kevin, 8, and Caroline, 6.

Cynthia Williams, '90 MPA, '88 BS biology, joined the West Florida Regional Planning Council as a senior planner working in the Economic Development and Land Use Division.

91

Carol Tschida, BA international studies, was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the United States Army. Tschida is currently serving in Iraq, where she has been selected for Battalion Command.

92

Jeff Brazwell, BS marketing, was appointed branch general manager within Konecranes' Brazilian team. In his new role, he is responsible for the development of Standard Lifting and Service Business based in São Paulo, Brazil. During the past nine years, Brazwell has worked for one of Konecranes' U.S. companies running the Latin American export department. Brazwell and his family now reside in Sorocaba, Brazil.

George Hughes, M.Ed, completed his first year as a third-grade teacher in Williamson County, Tenn. He graduated from Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville with a master's degree in teaching and has been rehired for the current school year as a fifth-grade teacher.

93

Heather (Young) Luke, BA social work, and her husband Brian, welcomed home their third child, Madison Leigh, in February. Maddie was born in China in 2003 and joins older brothers Austin Lee and Carson Lee. The couple lives in Odenton, Md.

94

Sharee Rich, '94 MBA, '84 BS management, joined Pensacola-based Landrum Human Resources Companies, Inc. as the company's new controller. Rich previously worked for 10 years with the Sinclair Broadcast Group.

Susan (Casper) Smith, BA communication arts, moved to Phoenix, Ariz., after working as a television reporter for ABC Action News on WFTS, Channel 28. The award-winning anchor-reporter has worked for four Tampa area television news outlets in the past 11 years. Casper looks forward to spending time with her 3-year old twins and husband Sidney, an architect hired to help expand a Phoenix children's hospital.

96

Justin Donovan, BA psychology, has recently joined Whitman and Whitman Insurance Agency in Pensacola. Donovan is responsible for new commercial business production and sales.

Jessica George, BA communication arts, recently accepted a position as a recruiter with Navy Federal Credit Union located at their headquarter offices in Pensacola. George helps to oversee the recruiting efforts for all locations and positions globally. Navy Federal is the largest credit union in the world, ranked as Fortune Magazine's "Top 100 Companies to Work For."

Prior to accepting the position, George worked as regional recruiting supervisor for Enterprise Rent-A-Car, where she worked for seven years.

97

Christine (Marano) Allen, BA health, leisure and sports, was accepted to the University of Central Florida where she will pursue her masters of science in modeling and simulation. Allen has worked in health/fitness management, program development and training for the past 10 years.

98

Michael Hausfeld, BSBA management, joined the law firm of Michles and Booth. Previously practicing as a trial attorney, Hausfeld focuses on serious personal injury, wrongful death and medical malpractice. He is scheduled to sit for the Alabama Bar in 2009.

Michael Waddell, MA communication arts, authored *Toy Box Leadership: Leadership Lessons from the Toys You Loved as a Child*. For more information on Waddell's book, visit toybox-leadership.com.

99

Dennis Reynolds, M.Ed educational leadership, was certified by the American Botanical Council and the National Training Institute as an herb information specialist. Reynolds is also currently pursuing a doctor of natural health degree from Clayton College of Natural Health. He currently lives in Milton.

00

Ashley Anderson, BA psychology, was hired as the staffing specialist with Wakulla County pre-kindergarten in Crawfordville. Anderson will assist children ages 0 to 5 years and their families in receiving exceptional student education services. She will also coordinate Special Olympics training and competitions for



Virginia Frazier, '07 MBA, and her husband, Andrew, welcomed a son, Ethan Drew March 7. He is their first child.

Wakulla County. Anderson is entering her ninth year with the school district. She received her master's degree in social work from Florida State University in 2004 and became a licensed clinical social worker, as well as an infant and toddler developmental specialist in 2007. Anderson also provides counseling to children and their families part-time at a private practice.

Anthony Cooley, '00 M.Ed educational leadership, '89 BA elementary education, was named the Panhandle Area Education Consortium's (PAEC) April Employee of the Month. As project manager and Florida Diagnostic Learning Resource System technology specialist, Cooley provides assistance in the appropriate use of a variety of technologies in nine PAEC districts. He lives in Bonifay.

01

Holly (Sipos) McCarroll, BA criminal justice, was promoted to judicial services supervisor in the probation department of Bridgeway Center, Inc. McCarroll has been with Bridgeway for three years.

Tristessa Osborne, BA interdisciplinary social sciences, was promoted to vice president, business development, at Covenant Hospice. Osborne is responsible for the development of an integrated marketing division, research utilization for strategic planning and development of business relationships and growth opportunities of patients and families in the Covenant Hospice area.

03

Ashley Cottle, BSBA marketing, married Brandon Ulmer June 28 at the City Club of the Palm Beaches in North Palm Beach. She is employed by Hidden Oaks Middle School in Palm City as a math teacher. Her husband is self-employed in Jupiter as a civil engineer. The couple currently lives in Jupiter.

Cary Gagnet, BA primary education, married Brian Mowry March 8 at the Naval Aviation Memorial Chapel in Pensacola. She is currently a kindergarten teacher and her husband is a United States naval aviator. The couple currently lives in Jacksonville.

Andrea Siebar, BSBA management, married Brian Watson, '05 BS health, leisure and sports, March 8 at St. Mary's Catholic Church. She is a regulatory analyst at Gulf Power, and he currently manages the personal training department for Omni Health and Fitness. The couple lives in Pensacola.



Aleya Garrett, '02 BA psychology, was selected as the "2008 Case Manager of the Year" by the Florida Association of Aging Services Providers (FASP). The award was presented at the 2008 Florida Conference on Aging recently held in Orlando. Garrett currently works as a social services lead case manager at Council on Aging of West Florida. Garrett joined the agency in 2005 as volunteer coordinator for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. After being selected as a consumer services manager, she was promoted to case manager, and in June 2008, was promoted to the position of social services lead case manager.

Heidi (Elicio) Torres, MPA, '01 BA criminal justice, was promoted to vice president of Quality Performance Services with Bridgeway Center in Fort Walton Beach. Torres has been with Bridgeway for five years.

Stuart Wiggins II, '03 Ed.S educational leadership, '86 BS business teacher education, '81 BA accounting, has taken the position of facilities director of the Jackson County School District after previously serving as transportation director. He lives in Marianna.

04

Sheldon Bernau, MA accounting, joined Saltmarsh, Cleaveland and Gund as a staff accountant in the Tax and Accounting Services Department. Bernau assists in performing business valuations and litigation support projects.

Deborah Douma, '04 MSA, '03 BA communication arts, was named director of institutional research and grants at Pensacola Junior College where she was most recently the director of grant development and special projects.

Sadie Liebunguth, BA interdisciplinary social sciences, was named "Teacher of the Year" by the Juvenile Justice Education Enhancement Program for the Florida Department of Education.



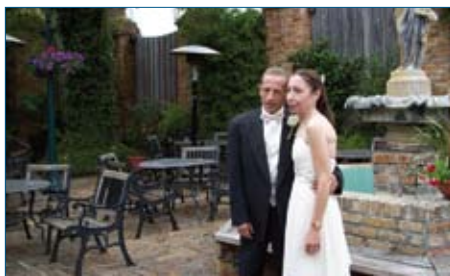
Stacy Garrett Hopper, '98 BSBA, and her husband Lance, welcomed their daughter, Sarah Jane, July 28. The Hoppers also have a son, Ryan, 2. The family lives in Crawfordsville, Ind.

05

Erin Hirsh, MS health, exercise science, married Daniel Kinzer May 24 at First United Methodist Church in Pensacola. She is currently a reading specialist at the International School of Curacao, and her husband is a history/philosophy teacher at the International School of Curacao. They currently live in Curacao, Netherland Antilles.

Catherine Hopkins, M.Ed educational leadership, was appointed the director for the Louisiana State University's Women's Center. Prior to coming to LSU, Hopkins served as a residence hall director at the University of Arkansas. Hopkins is pursuing her doctorate of education in higher education from the University of Arkansas. Her dissertation will focus on faculty perceptions of student academic dishonesty.

Marc Lamotte, '05 M.Ed educational leadership, '98 BS health, leisure and sports, married Mary McDonald April 27 on the beach in St. Simons Island, Ga. He is currently employed by the Campus Life Division at the University of Georgia. His wife also works at the University of Georgia as assistant to the president. The couple lives in Athens, Ga.



Margaret (Martin) Parker, '97 BS nursing, married Richard Parker of Pensacola, April 12. The ceremony and reception were held at Apple Annie's in Seville Square. They live in Pensacola.

Keith Little, MS health, leisure and sports, was hired as Pensacola Junior College's assistant coach for the men's baseball team. Little, a former PJC baseball player, will rejoin head coach Bill Hamilton. Little's responsibilities include day-to-day operations, scheduling practices, monitoring academic progress and oversight of the softball program's transition from the PJC Milton campus to the main campus.

06

Matthew Abbott, BA criminal justice, was named Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office "2007 Sworn Employee of the Year." Abbott has received a number of awards, including the Sheriff's Office "Life Saving Award," since joining the department in 2006.

Harry Calisch III, BS biology, was accepted into the Class of 2012 at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine, Mobile. Aaron Epstein, BS hospitality, recreation and resort management, recently graduated with his Masters of Science in sports administration with a marketing minor from Mississippi State University. Epstein accepted a position as a professional services recruiter for Aerotek, Inc. in the Pensacola office. He recruits for clients from Fort Walton Beach to Mobile.

Merian Milton, BA social work, was promoted by Covenant Hospice to a community educator position. Milton is responsible for marketing Covenant Hospice services to physicians, facilities and the Marianna community. Prior to her new position, Milton served as a social worker for Covenant Hospice.

Kristoffer Poore, BA communication arts, was named conceptual art director for idgroup, a Pensacola-based consulting and creative firm. Poore will oversee print, online, multimedia and e-marketing campaigns for idgroup clients.

Matthew Speed, BSBA accounting, was named vice president of Regions Morgan Keegan Personal Banking after spending the last two years as a business banker with the company.

07

Courtney Cook, BA social work, joined Alzheimer's Family Services as their client services coordinator.

William Hemme, BS mathematics, received his commission as an officer in the United States Marine Corps after completing Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Va.

Ashley Jones, BS biology, married Shelby Thorsen April 26 at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Pensacola. Jones will continue her education to pursue a career as a physician assistant and her husband is currently serving for the United States Coast Guard. The couple currently lives in Corpus Christi, Texas.



Angela (Dunaway) Madden, '05 BS system science and Terry Madden, '05, BSBA management information systems, welcomed their first child, Trace Cameron Madden, born on April 24. They live in Pace.

Whitney Vaughan,

BA communication arts, joined the Fiesta of Five Flags as the public relations and marketing coordinator. Vaughan is responsible for managing all public relations activities and marketing as it pertains to all events of the Fiesta organization. Prior to joining Fiesta, Vaughan began her career in the government sector at the West Florida Regional Planning Council.

Jonathan Williams, BA criminal justice, completed the police academy and is an officer in the Chesapeake Police Department in Virginia. Williams is in the application process to attend UWF's Master of Science Administration/Criminal Justice program.

08

Jessica Bousquet, BA communication arts, is engaged to 1st Lt. Brian Miller. The couple will be married Nov. 8 at the Little Flower Catholic Church in Pensacola. She is employed by Countrywide Bank in Fort Walton Beach and her fiancée is an F/A-18 pilot for the United States Marine Corps in Beaufort, S.C.

Victoria Bush, BSBA marketing, is engaged to Craig Pitts, who is currently attending UWF pursuing a bachelor's degree in finance. The couple will be married May 9, 2009, at St. Mark United Methodist Church of Pensacola.

Christina Marcilliat, BS health education, is the new varsity volleyball coach for Gulf Breeze High School. Marcilliat also coaches ninth-grade basketball and teaches physical education. She and her husband are also expecting their first child early next year.

In Memoriam:

Jim Spooner, former UWF baseball coach, died Sept. 13 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Spooner is survived by his wife Carolyn and daughters Lindsay and Jamie. Spooner, 62, was unable to attend the dedication of the UWF baseball field in his honor on Aug. 22 before the Pensacola Pelicans game due to health problems. Friends, family, former baseball players and baseball fans gathered at Pelican Park on the UWF campus to dedicate the naming of Jim Spooner Field. At the request Coach Spooner's former baseball players, the UWF Board of Trustees voted to name the baseball field honor of Spooner's UWF baseball legacy. In addition to naming the field, a \$100,000 endowment is being established in his honor that will provide support for UWF's baseball program for years to come. The Jim Spooner Baseball endowment has already received gifts and pledges from former players and friends in excess of \$57,000.

In his 23 seasons at UWF, Spooner compiled a 688-521-1 (.572) record, including 16 winning seasons in 23 years. During his final three seasons, Spooner led the Argos to a 96-64 (.600) overall record. More than 20 Spooner players including seven members of the 1989 NAIA World Series team, have signed professional contracts.

Spooner played at Edison Community College and Florida State University and received his bachelor's degree in social studies education in 1970 from FSU. He received his master's degree in administration and supervision from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La., in 1975.

To learn more about the Jim Spooner Baseball Endowment, contact Martha Lee Blodgett, director of development, 850-474-2712 or e-mail mblodget@uwf.edu.



1. Sharon Hess Herrick, board of trustees member and Mike Jeffcoat, UWF baseball coach, unveil a picture of the Jim Spooner Field scoreboard at the Aug. 22 dedication ceremony attended by friends, family, former baseball players and fans at UWF's Pelican Park. 2. Coach Jim Spooner, pictured with two UWF baseball players on the mound at UWF's Pelican Park.

Unissa King Moore, '08 BA special education, is teaching English I and English I Honors freshmen courses at Bradford High School. A previous exceptional student education paraprofessional of Bradford County for more than 10 years, she has triplet sons, who are seniors this year and twin daughters in the eighth grade.

Margaret Anne Pierce-Fain, BSBA accounting, joined the public accounting firm of Bloomer, Geri and Company, CPAs and Business Consultants as staff accountant.

Timothy Roberts, '08 MA history, '05 BA history, was named site manager of historic Arcadia Mill in Milton, which once was one of the largest industrial mills in the world. Roberts will work to promote the site as a historic and educational resource in Santa Rosa County and create a comprehensive plan to further interpret the site using both archaeological and historical resources.

Degrees

Sheila Harris, '03 BSBA management, received her Master of Science degree in administration,

public administration from UWF in May 2008. Harris was also promoted to grants and special projects manager for Santa Rosa County.

Terence Milstead, '93 BA English, earned his doctorate in Urban and Regional Planning from Florida State University. Milstead will serve as a visiting lecturer at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C.

In Memoriam

71

Wayne Schwerin, BA accounting, died Oct. 28, 2007. Schwerin worked as a certified public accountant until his retirement in 2003.

Paul Sewell, '71 MBA, '69 BA management, died July 23 in Tallahassee. He was the former program director of Radiology at Tallahassee Community College.

74

Arthur Andrews, BS marketing, died Aug. 25 in Sunbury, Ohio. Andrews worked as an account representative for UPS.

Linda Decker Leonard, BA psychology, died May 30 in Panama City.

76

Richard Linton, BA sociology and BA economics, died Aug. 9 in Pensacola. Linton was a former instructor at Pensacola Junior College and UWF.

03

Jamie Thompson, BA criminal justice, died Aug. 1 in Gulf Breeze.

Estate Gifts—Since July 1, 2004, numerous alumni and friends have notified UWF that the university is included in their estate plan. As a part of the *Creating Great Futures* Campaign, the estimated value of these future gifts is in excess of \$7 million dollars. These generous individuals are making plans to endow scholarships, enhance facilities and strengthen programs. If you have included UWF in your estate plan, or if you need information on estate planning, contact Martha Lee Blodgett, director of Development, at (850) 474-2712 or e-mail mblodget@uwf.edu.

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH continued from page 9

57,367: The Hours Volunteered Yearly in Northwest Florida by UWF Students.

This past summer alone, UWF students registered and completed more than 13,500 service hours through Volunteer UWF! Diligently working from April through August, Student Orientation leaders, Argo Camp leaders and Student Transition Program students volunteered their time to welcome incoming students to UWF campus life. In the Northwest Florida region, many UWF students volunteered their time working with local organizations including the Junior Humane Society, Shelter House in Fort Walton Beach, Area I Medical Examiner's Office and Sacred Heart Hospital.

Through Volunteer UWF! students have the opportunity to gain experience by performing volunteer work, independent field studies and work studies with local agencies such as Habitat for Humanity and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Volunteer UWF! has more than 21 local organizations serving as "community partners" for volunteer projects around the area. Students also have the opportunity to take advantage of the Alternative Spring Break Program, a non-profit organization that seeks to train, assist and connect campuses and communities in promoting quality alternative break programs that inspire lifelong active citizenship. ❖

"The people that we help, across the board are always in shock that college students would sacrifice their spring break to provide community service, but we don't look at it as a sacrifice; it's something we all are very passionate about and it's a part of who we are as UWF students."

Brandi Wahl, UWF student and Alternative Spring Break president

