the student foundation TILLS Vol. 6, No. 1 October 2009

BEAR DOWNS MEMORIES

by Robert Darden (Student Foundation, 1975-1976)

THE FIRST BEAR DOWNS, I believe, was held in spring '71. When I arrived at Baylor in fall '72, it was already an established fixture on campus. By spring '73, an entire weekend of activities—mostly competitions—sprang up around the 30- mile bike race. In my early years, I remember a golf jamboree (one of



the winners was a very handsome Ray Deaver), regatta, rowboat race, tugof-war, canoe race and sailboat race.

I don't remember much about the first two Bear Downs Bicycle Races I saw,

save for the numerous crashes. The corners were the hardest on the riders and that's where Student Foundation had obligingly placed bales of hay. Bear Downs was at Heart O'Texas Coliseum and was now a 50-mile (400 lap) race. I remember the guy who won the first two races only because his name was so perfect—Dale Gas.

In spring '74, the pre-race activities expanded further, with even more races on Lake Brazos and golf tournaments. That was the first year Baylor invited high school juniors to campus as part of "Gold Carpet Weekend," which culminated with a party in the Bill Daniel Student Center on Friday night—and, more importantly, all SUB activities (including bowling, pool and pizza!) were free for

the rest of us.

I also remember "Beard Downs." Dozens of Baylor faculty and administrators grew beards—which produced some memorable (Bob Reid, who won Best Full Beard), and some not-so-memorable (my psychology teacher, whose name I've long since mercifully downloaded), beards.

This may have been the first year that riders were grouped by their qualifying times, and a yellow caution flag came out whenever there was a crash. By now, I was well aware of Student Foundation. The StuFus asked a lot of clubs on campus to take children from the Waco State Home, Friday Night Missions and the Methodist

Home to the race, then out for Dr Pepper—or ice cream afterwards, which I thought was a great idea.

I became a member of Student Foundation the following year and remember even less about the events of Bear Downs-pre-race preparations didn't leave much time to observe what was going on. I remember the usual array of regattas and golf tournaments and helping guys off the slick HOT Coliseum floor after yet another wipe-out. What I remember best about that weekend was that my brother Steve was one of the stars of the Green and White football game that evening. This was spring '75, after Baylor's first visit to the Cotton Bowl in 50 years or so.

My senior year, alas, I was way too overcommitted to be much help in Bear Downs—I was editor of the *Round Up*, director (for the second time) of the Circle K Diadeloso Film and student teaching at University High School (Go Trojans!). I do remember "Pie Downs"—a particularly messy pie-eating contest—was introduced that year and Student Foundation billed the spring '76 Bear Downs as the "Bike-Centennial Race."

At some point, perhaps the summer after my senior year, Student Foundation offered the original Bear Downs bicycles for sale. The old bikes had

taken a pounding and the Foundation wanted new ones for spring '77. So I bought one and got many years of good service out of it (though never at Bear Downs speeds!) until I gave it back to Student Foundation when the new Foundation House was built.

Bear Downs was a wonderful activity. It raised a lot of money for Student Foundation scholarships, which is, after all, what StuFu is all about!



MEET LIZZY DAVIS (BA '07)—the new Troy and Betty Lou Mays Director of Student Foundation. While a Baylor student, Lizzy faithfully served in Student Foundation and eagerly stayed connected with the organization after she graduated. Leaving her position as a Development Associate at Baylor, Lizzy is thrilled to reconnect with her Student Foundation family as she leads students to become community-minded servants.

From the Director

FORTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP and service, I am amazed by Mr. Harlan's vision for Student Foundation 40 years ago and even more amazed to think of how it has been constantly achieved and expanded. Not only are Student Foundation members dedicated to building communityminded servants and leaders but they also are committed to finding new means of accomplishing that task.

Who would have thought that in 2009, we would have over a \$2.5 million endowment, be capable of giving away 110 \$2,000 scholarships and put on an event like Bearathon that is viewed as the "hardest half-marathon in Texas" and has generated enough funds to create the Bearathon Endowed Scholarship?

As we celebrate 40 years of service, I think particularly



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*OCTOBER 4	Foundation Dinner
OCTOBER 24	Homecoming Open House
OCTOBER 29	Bear Downs
*DECEMBER 4	Christmas Coffee
FEBRUARY 24	Baylor Pride
MARCH 20	Bearathon/5K
APRIL 23	Scholarship Banquet

*These events are only for current SF members

of our Student Foundation alumni and donors who formed this great Foundation and left us a wonderful and challenging legacy. This year, the students have set a goal to raise \$90,000 in current scholarships. They are determined to offset some of the economic burden of their fellow students. Today, I pray that you would consider how you can continue to serve Student Foundation. Thank you for your support of Student Foundation and its mission to support Baylor and her students.

Lizzy Davis

Lizzy Davis, '07

Troy and Betty Mays Director of Student Foundation

DESTINATION: BALTIMORE

Excitement and honor was the vibe of the 2009-2010 Student Foundation Steering Committee on August 6, 2009, as they boarded flights destined for Affiliated Student Advancement Programs' (ASAP) national conference in Baltimore.

Completely student-run, the two-day conference connects student service organizations from universities around the nation. Daily student presentations showcase bragging points from the various groups-statistics that engender new aspirations for the coming year.

"ASAP offers fresh insight as to what other universities are doing-ideas for new opportunities to fundraise and serve the student body," reflected Lizzy Davis, Director of Student Foundation.

But Steering Committee members

Jared Dauenhauer, Alicia Fuhrman, Aaron Bryant, Elizabeth Waynick, Travis Stewart, DaviAnn Worthington, Brazos Fielder and Kaila Fagerstrom, did

more than receive—they had a lot of insight to contribute.

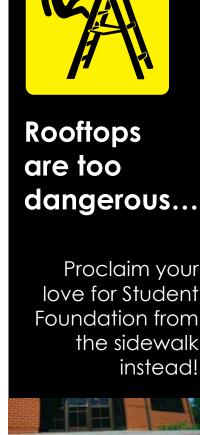
Humbled by the opportunity to share about Baylor University Student Foundation's annual events and goals at a national conference, Steering Committee members donned

> business professional attire and crafted compelling presentations.

> Mouths dropped open when Financial Affairs co-chairs, Travis and DaviAnn, reported that the Baylor Student Foundation consistently gives more than 100 \$2,000 student scholarships each year-and no other organization held an event comparable Bearathon in complexity immensity of fundraising.

In addition to accolades for the thriving program Baylor has upheld, the Steering Committee left ASAP with

professional experience, fresh ideas for the 2009-2010 school year and insight into the programs at peer institutions—making the conference an overall win!





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By Jared Dauenhauer, current co-president



LOOKING BACK THROUGH THESE past 40 years, it is very evident that God has given awesome blessings to Student Foundation. Since 1969, we have grown from 13 to 100 members, we have been fortunate to have great alumni support

to raise scholarships for students and, with the completion of the Ed Crenshaw Student Foundation Center just a few years ago, it is crystal clear that the Lord has had His hands over our organization. However, along with the tremendous blessings that come from being a Student Foundation member, there is also the privilege and responsibility of being a steward of all God has given to us. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus tells the story of the faithful and the evil servant, and in Luke 12:48 Jesus says this of all who serve Him,

"For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more."

For all that is graciously given to Student Foundation, God holds us accountable to do great things with the gifts we have, whether these gifts are donations from loyal alumni or the talents of our membership. I truly believe that the 2009-2010 Steering Committee has taken this principle to heart. When we set our goals at the beginning of the year, it was clear

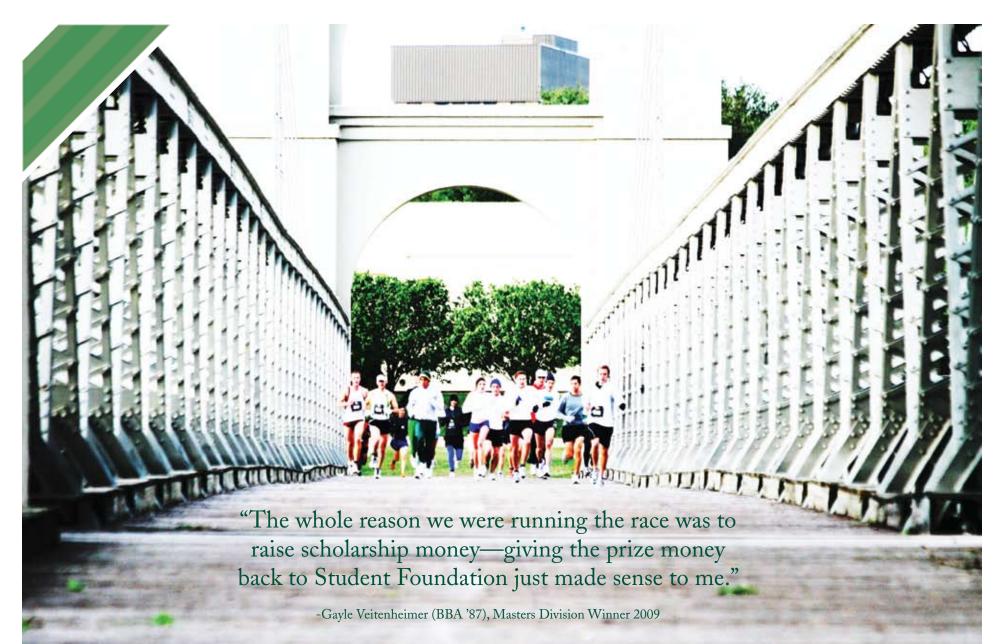


"We are relentlessly trying to improve and increase gifts in support of the students of Baylor University, and we will not fail these students."

that none of us were content coasting through the year. Our Steering Committee goals for the year ahead include: reintroducing Bear Downs to campus, increasing Bearathon from 900 to 1,500 runners and maximizing all our resources so that

we can give as many student scholarships as possible.

Being good stewards means that we are relentlessly trying to improve and increase gifts in support of the students of Baylor University, and we will not fail these students. The end of Luke 12:48 says that only more will be asked of those who have been faithful and the more responsibility God allows and the University gives us, the more we will be able to further our mission. It is an amazing gift to be a part of an organization whose singular goal is to serve students rather than its membership. It is truly a blessing to work alongside a diverse group of dedicated students, whose talents and strengths have made Student Foundation an exemplary presence on campus over the past 40 years.



BEARATHON 2009: THE RUNNERS

It was cold. And it was windy. But that didn't seem to scare off runners of all types from showing up to cover 13.1 miles of Waco terrain this March. In fact, out of more than 700 registrants, Bearathon 2009 drew half of its participants from outside of Waco—47 of those were from out-of-state—each with their own reason, experience...and story to tell.

MASTERS WINNER GIVES IT ALL BACK.

When Gayle Veitenheimer (BBA '87) of Fort Worth crossed the Bearathon 2009 finish line as winner of the Masters Division, she already knew what she would do with the \$300 in prize money: return to sender.

"It was a no-brainer," Gayle said. "The whole reason we were running the race was to raise scholarship money—giving the prize money back to Student Foundation just made sense to me."

As a Baylor alumna, Gayle not only shares the common bond of being a Baylor Bear with her son, Ben—now a sophomore—they also both have the experience of being scholarship recipients. In other words, giving back to college students really hits home in the Veitenheimer family.

"As a student I don't think it dawned on me how much a college education really costs," Gayle said. "But as a parent you realize that every dollar counts."

"I was never a part of Student Foundation while in school, but it stands out. It's an easy place to give to because you know that your gift's going where it needs to be."

Will Gayle give Bearathon another run for its money next year? "I'll be there next spring, and I'll be prepared for those hills."



BEARATHON'S "BIGGEST FAN."

Wacoan Mitch Deskins knows about pounding the pavement. As founder of Team Striders—the marathon training segment of Waco Striders Running Club—he's made it his business to know which races are "good ones."

And that makes us proud to report that Bearathon gets two thumbs up from Mitch...repeatedly.

"Bearathon is the best-run race around," Mitch said. "I'm its No. 1 fan; I plan my spring schedule around it."

And while Mitch has run 13 full marathons since 2006 and "too many

halfs to count," Bearathon will always hold special meaning for Mitch, as it was the first long-distance race in his running career.

"There's so much support from the volunteers who are cheering you on, and that uplifts you."

-Mitch Deskins, Waco Striders

"I used to be a short-distance runner, and when I ran Bearathon as my first distance race, it almost killed me," Mitch laughed. "But it got me hooked."

Mitch suggests that training for the Bearathon also helped him catch his stride again after winning a battle with cancer.

His favorite part of the course? The water stops. "There's so much support from the volunteers who are cheering you on, and

that uplifts you," Mitch said. "The general consensus of the Waco Striders is that it's one of the best organized and most fun events our area has to offer."

What are Mitch's veteran words of advice for potential runners?

"Just get out there and do it. Never be intimidated by distance. You never know until you try."

FATHER AND SON SHARE THE EXPERIENCE.

For Rick and Brett Allen of St. Louis, Missouri, Bearathon 2009 was more than a race. It was a bonding experience between father and son and the halfway mark in their training for a full marathon they had committed to complete together.

"The Bearathon was a step in our journey, both personally and in our development as runners, training for another race," Rick said. "It was really rewarding to see my son start to realize that he could do it—he could go a distance that was farther than what he's ever gone before."

Brett, who was a Baylor freshman at the time of the race, began running "for kicks," but it developed into something more meaningful.

"Training for distance running became a good way to still do things with my dad," Brett said. "Even though we're 900 miles apart, we started talking on the phone everyday to ask each other how the daily run went."

It came as a surprise to Brett, when after he'd registered for the race, both his parents decided to hop on a plane and join the Bearathon experience: his dad, running the 13.1 miles side-by-side alongside him, and his mom, Kristi, took part in the 5K Fun Run.

Was it worth the flight?

"It exceeded our expectations in both how challenging it was and how much fun we had," Rick said.

"To know it's going to a great cause is awesome," Brett added. "I guarantee I'll run it again next year, and, if all goes according to plan, dad will run it, too."





Candice Dedeke Aledo, TX

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Where are they NOW?



CAROL KENT (BA '75, MA '76) DALLAS, TX

Carol Kent credits the mentorship of beloved and longtime Student Foundation Director Bill Harlan with leaving a mark (of character) that has lasted long after her days as a StuFu member were over.

"Bill taught me an awful lot about commitment, follow-through, how to motivate a group and how to work with individuals," Carol said. "Those are lessons you don't sign up for or get out of a college class."

And they have served her well. With a 20-year career in higher education, a long (and continuing) stretch of volunteerism and her role as director of Baylor's Women's Network, Carol continues to lead others back to the experience that shaped her own life.

And now this former co-president of Student Foundation is leading in other ways, too. Elected to the Texas House of Representatives, Carol serves House District 102 in the Dallas area where she lives with her husband, David (BA '75, JD '78).

"The leadership skills I gained from Student Foundation gave me a commitment to be concerned about others in a larger realm—to step up and hopefully do some good things, in this case, for the state of Texas."



BROOKS ALLEN (BA '88)
MAUMELLE, AR

Service—a core Student Foundation principle—overflowed into Brooks Allen's career. As a trauma consultant for Synthes Orthopedic, Brooks serves surgeons every day by helping them choose the best equipment for their patients.

But there's more—when Brooks hung up his green-and-white striped jersey after serving on the Campus Promotions committee and as Student Foundation co-president, he couldn't have known that one day he would relive his experiences vicariously through his daughter, Kate, who just finished her second year in Student Foundation.

"I see and hear in my daughter's life that she has similar experiences and is blessed just as I was. I'm thankful Student Foundation is still there serving students and making a difference in the lives of people," Brooks said.

It was her dad's stories that led Kate to Student Foundation, but Kate who led her dad back to Baylor. Now, Brooks, his wife, Kathy, and their four children, Kate, Patrick, Mary Grace and Davis, hope "to give back consistently, to be involved even once Kate is gone from the University because it is such a great place."

JILL MASHBURN

(BA '95)



"Student Foundation planted a seed in me of what it can be like to bring a diverse group together to work toward a common goal," Jill Mashburn said. "And I wanted to replicate that experience in my own life."

And she did...without even waiting for the end of college. Halfway through her senior year, Jill established an aptly named coffee shop on the edge of Baylor's campus: Common Grounds.

"Because of what I experienced through friendship and community in Student Foundation, I wanted to create a place where people can become richer by sharing ideas of faith and life through a common experience," Jill said.

Citing her years in Student Foundation as the place where her own leadership skills were developed, Jill continues to incorporate those values in the way she trains her staff.

Common Grounds has now passed the decade mark of fulfilling Jill's vision—serving not only a great brew of gourmet coffee, but also as a "gathering and resting place" for both Baylor students and the Waco community.



MADISON HARRIS (BBA '04, MACC '04) DALLAS, TX

Communication added to financial fluency gained on the Financial Affairs committee in Student Foundation equal the skills Madison Harris uses everyday as controller for Capital Analytics.

"In the business world, it's important to be able to go up to someone and carry on a conversation—Student Foundation did a great job of preparing me to meet different people across all aspects of life and be able to communicate well," Madison commented.

While at Baylor, Madison had the rare privilege of being in Student Foundation for three years, investing in students' lives by raising scholarship funds. Now, living in Dallas, Madison and his wife, Lauren, love giving back to "keep the Baylor spirit alive."

"I love it when the Student Foundation members visit me...I know I can go online and donate...but I enjoy visiting with them," Madison said. "It's fun to hear all that's going on, a trip down memory lane for me."



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GIVE to Student Foundation scholarships and help past dreams become bright futures.

BECKY MEANS thought she knew what was up next after high school. College. Campus life. A new world of opportunity.

But when her father was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy, everything changed. Instead of going away to school, Becky started working, taking classes only when they fit into her schedule and she could afford them.

Then she got a job at Baylor...and found scholarship support could make her old dream a new reality. A Student Foundation scholarship helps her be the full-time student she had always hoped to become...more than five years after the dream was set aside.

"I never thought Baylor would be in my future—it was a dream that was past," Becky, a junior journalism major from Waco, said. "I just count my blessings to have this opportunity."

For more information on how to invest in students like Becky, please contact Lizzy Davis, Troy and Betty Mays Director of Student Foundation, at (254) 710-3498 or Lizzy_Davis@baylor.edu.

Ever wonder which storage box your Student Foundation jersey is in? Or ever wished you could still wear your jersey to Baylor events?

We have the solution!

For a limited time, Student Foundation is offering a Student Foundation alumni jersey! For a \$500 gift to the Student Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund, you can be one of the first to receive an alumni jersey. Please contact Lizzy Davis at 254.710.3498 for more details.

