

# WAKE FOREST

SPRING 2026

MAGAZINE

**A WEEK  
AT WAKE**

2

# A WEEK AT WAKE

By Kelly Greene ('91) and Katherine Laws Waters ('20)  
Photography by Lyndsie Schlink and Nick Fantasia

There is a magical week in the fall semester when everything stops feeling chaotic and starts coming together. We captured that week in September 2025.

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SUNDAY



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MONDAY



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TUESDAY



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# WAKE FOREST

MAGAZINE

2019 ROBERT SIBLEY  
MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR

SPRING 2026 | VOLUME 73 | NUMBER 2

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
**Chad Cheek (MBA '05)**

MANAGING EDITOR  
**Kelly Greene ('91)**

DEPUTY EDITOR  
**Katherine Laws Waters ('20)**

CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
**Hayes Henderson**

DESIGNER  
**Julie Helsabeck**

PHOTOGRAPHERS  
**Lyndsie Schlink**  
**Nick Fantasia**

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[magazine@wfu.edu](mailto:magazine@wfu.edu)  
[magazine.wfu.edu](http://magazine.wfu.edu)  
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**Class years:** Alumni have years of graduation in parentheses. A "P" indicates a parent of a graduate.

## FROM *The President*

**WAKE FOREST OFFERS** a truly unrivaled student experience — a transformational education that fosters character, leadership and innovation; and one's financial means should not be a barrier to access.

During my inauguration address, I called on Wake Forest to be a "catalyst for opportunity." In that call, I pledged my commitment to ensuring even greater access to the transformational education Wake Forest provides for our admitted students. The For Humanity scholarship initiative, launched in 2022, has already raised more than \$160 million for student financial aid and scholarships.

This is incredible, and we know we can and must do more to support our students — starting with those from our home state. This is why I am so proud that, in September, we announced the launch of our North Carolina Gateway to Wake Forest.

This initiative is a significant step forward in our mission to make a Wake Forest education more affordable for more families in North Carolina and to ensure the next generation of emerging leaders across our state can see themselves here. Beginning with North Carolina undergraduate students admitted for the fall of 2026, those with an annual family income of \$200,000 or less can attend tuition-free. Yes, there is more work to do to further expand access, but this bold move says clearly to prospective students: Wake Forest can be your home.

This is an important chapter in our history, supported by good stewardship of our resources and our deeply generous Wake Forest community; and built on a foundation of our shared values and our firm belief that Wake Forest's future lies in developing leaders of intellect and character who use their talents in the service of humanity.

I know firsthand how the choice of where to go to college can be shaped by a myriad of factors and just how influential the cost of attendance can be in that decision. For me, access to higher education changed everything. It opened the doors to environments where I discovered my passions and purpose, launching me on a career journey and ultimately to Wake Forest.

I believe in our mission and how this program will offer for thousands of North Carolina families and future Demon Deacons a pathway to Wake Forest.

Sincerely,  
**Susan R. Wente, Ph.D.**



President Susan R. Wente talks with junior Zinn Amos about his research on URECA Day.

## ON THE COVER

Photo by Lyndsie Schlink  
09/25/25 11:38am



09/24/25 6:25am

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**By Kelly Greene ('91)**

**and Katherine Laws Waters ('20)**

Photos by Lyndsie Schlink  
and Nick Fantasia

**AT**





09/23/25 7:10pm

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16

## **Do you remember that week in the fall semester when everything comes together? We captured it in September.**

Life on campus was in full swing, with business students spellbound by a standing-room-only lecture on character. Law students prepped for a “Love Island” mock trial. Engineering students tried out welding, and education students fashioned shadow boxes at the WakerSpace.

Volunteers at Campus Kitchen and Campus Garden put Pro Humanitate into practice through flurries of cooking and weeding, while Hit the Bricks organizers, faced with an impending storm, went into SWAT-team mode as they came up with a plan B for the annual Quad convergence that raises money to fight cancer in honor of football hero Brian Piccolo ('65, P '87, '89).

Friday brought URECA Day, with more than 100 undergraduates sharing their research findings through a sea of posters. Family Weekend followed with parents, soccer, performances, tailgates and football. Such a close game. So many treasured traditions.

With a month of classes under everyone’s belts, it was the optimal time to focus our lens inward on the ways students are living, learning, growing and giving back today — from the innovations in teaching we could never have imagined to the experiences that feel reminiscent of our own.

We invite you to experience a week at Wake.

23

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# SUN

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*The only thing  
missing from  
students' schedules  
on Sunday?  
Classes.*

17

24

09/21/25 6:11pm

September 21



# DAY



# AT NOON,

the field hockey team trounces Boston College 2-1 in Kentner Stadium. Next door, hikers returning from an Outdoor Pursuits backpacking trip to the mountains spill out of a van to air out their tents. By the water tower, intramural teams are playing flag football.

And everywhere, it seems, you can spot people huddled over laptops, fanning out from Z. Smith Reynolds Library to the Quad, Farrell Hall's living room and beyond.

One handful of students is harder to find. Tucked into the back corner of a parking lot just off of Polo Road is a side door, nearly obscured by dumpsters. Inside,

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 09/21/25 9:41pm

Campus Kitchen's Sunday night cook team quickly whips up pasta with shredded beef marinara in the University's catering kitchen. The meal will go to volunteers the next day at the DEAC Clinic, which School of Medicine students run for people who can't afford health insurance and don't qualify for government assistance.

Shift Leader Emma Lincks, a senior majoring in Health and Exercise Science, guides the team through the recipe, confident in the training she received a month earlier. They cook the beef in a giant skillet while boiling pasta in an industrial size pot; within an hour, they have packed to-go boxes in the refrigerator (with salads and fruit) and done the dishes.

"I saw Emma is a shift leader this year, so I signed up to work with her," says Samantha Servin, also a senior. Last year,



09/21/25 3:21pm

the duo did pick-ups together from The Fresh Market, one of Campus Kitchen's community partners. The group's goal is to collect food that otherwise would have gone to waste and share it with people who need it.

Juniors Mariama Bojang and Rosa Choi have joined them to fulfill a volunteer requirement for a sociology class in health inequality, through which they are learning about food insecurity in Winston-Salem. "I came for my class, but I think I will continue," says Bojang, who grew up in the Bronx but was born in Gambia.

Campus Kitchen's roots go back to 1999, when friends Jessica Jackson Shortall ('00) and Karen Stephan Borchert ('00) started Home Run, a

student organization preparing meals for Winston-Salem residents in need. Home Run evolved into Campus Kitchen, and Shortall helped expand it to dozens of college campuses across the country. Wake Forest's Campus Kitchen may be best known for TurkeyPalooza, through which untold numbers of undergrads have cooked several hundred Thanksgiving meals a year for people in need.

On this Sunday night in September, the students finish cleaning up and turn off the lights. Henry O'Malley, a sophomore from Chicago and co-leader of the shift, shuttles them back to campus in a van that will make several runs to local grocery stores to pick up surplus groceries the next day.

Emma Lincks ('26) transfers the cooked meat to a pan as Rosa Choi ('27), Henry O'Malley ('28) and Mariama Bojang ('27) watch.



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09/21/25 1:22pm



09/21/25 3:54pm

► Watch the sun set behind the Reynolda campus.



09/21/25 12:03pm

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09/21/25 6:55pm  
Farrell Hall





# MON

28

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# DAY

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09/22/25 8:30am



## September 22

*A football coach and a professor walk into a barbershop.*

*This is not a joke.*

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IN  
HIS

BARBERSHOP



09/22/25 12:43pm

Head Football Coach Jake Dickert has become a regular, swinging by the campus barbershop on a Monday last September for a trim before his weekly press conference. “We’re coming off a bye week, so we have a little extra time, and Dean always makes me look good,” Dickert says, referring to Dean Shore, one of two barbers who have cleaned up generations of Wake Foresters.

Across the room, Research Professor and Emeritus Professor of Physics William Kerr is in the chair that belongs to Lloyd Howard, who arrived in 1976. Back in the day, the shop was in Taylor Residence Hall. (It’s since moved across the Quad to Kitchin.) Kerr has been getting his hair cut here since the early 1970s, and Howard chimes in: “We grew old together!”

A quick walk around Reynolda Hall lands you at “Milkshake Monday” in Benson University Center’s food court. Vice President for Campus Life Shea Kidd Brown, or “Dr. Shea,” as students know her, holds a tray of cinnamon, chocolate and vanilla milkshakes. Students can wipe out the milkshake supply in 30 minutes, she says — just enough time for a “real-time pulse check.”





Barber Dean Shore  
trims up Head  
Football Coach Jake  
Dickert.

09/22/25 10:40am



09/22/25 6:32pm

This is “Week Five” of the fall semester, and she notices that students are feeling more settled in than a few weeks earlier, and that they’re looking forward to seeing their parents during the coming Family Weekend.

Milkshake Monday, and its counterpart, Wake Up Wednesday, have become highlights for students since Kidd Brown brought them to Wake Forest in 2022. “Even at an intimate place like this, it still can feel big,” she says, so she uses these check-ins to stay in touch. “I’ll say, ‘Hey, reach out to me. Let’s grab a coffee,’” she says. “Then I can take the relationships deeper to really get to know them on a one-to-one basis. It really helps.”

▶ See the action at  
Milkshake Monday,  
firepit “hangs”  
and more.



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At 5 p.m., students from the Black Student Alliance, started as the Afro-American Society in 1969 by Howard Stanback ('69) and Freeman Mark ('71), meet up at Campus Garden off of Polo Road. (Stanback, now deceased, went on to a successful career in academia, administration and social services; Mark became a founding partner at intellectual property law firm Mei & Mark.)

The student volunteers are ready to dig in, weeding and pulling up plants in the garden, which, at the end of a busy summer season, is ready to be cleaned up. The garden work is one of many service projects that BSA takes on each year, along with volunteering for Project Pumpkin, tutoring elementary school students and building desks for local children.

Junior Rhian Delgado, who came to the garden last year with BSA, says that working in the dirt together makes conversations with other volunteers — and potential new friends — more open, and you learn new skills along the way. “I think part of coming is not knowing what you’re doing. ... It’s a lesson every time we come,” she says.

Just down the street, about 20 School of Business alumni gather on this balmy night for a networking happy hour at Campus Gas, the longtime service station that John Clowney ('05, MSA '06), Ben Ingold ('05) and Will Volker ('05, MSA '06) transformed into a twinkle-light-filled watering hole in 2018. Their friendship dates back to freshman year in Bostwick Residence Hall. They reunited to start a hard cider business, Bull City Ciderworks, and then to transform a historic landmark —

09/22/25 5:33pm



Campus Garden intern  
Sidney White (left), a  
senior, and freshman Clara  
"Clci" Lee pull weeds.





09/22/25 6:07pm  
Campus Gas

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remembered by many Wake Foresters as the mechanic within walking distance — into a local spot for beer, wine, hotdogs and sandwiches.

Ingold stopped by with his 3-year-old daughter Bailey, who found a mid-century coffee table irresistible as a gymnastics platform. (“Watch this!” she implores. “Bailey, what have we said about shoes on the furniture?” her father responds.) He’s happy to give a quick tour of Campus Gas’s recent refresh as a collaboration among several vendors selling coffee and THC beverages along with the trio’s Bull City Cider and a new menu of tacos, burritos and quesadillas.

“We’re three friends who have done this together as the pandemic hit and people quit going out for beer,” Ingold says. “Now we’re spreading the overhead and bringing more options to the neighborhood.”

A hot topic at the happy hour: That afternoon’s talk at Farrell Hall by Tyler Shultz, who at just 22 risked his career and relationship with his family to expose the multi-billion dollar fraud perpetrated by Elizabeth Holmes and Theranos, her biotech company. Students, faculty and alumni crowded into the 400-seat Broyhill Auditorium in Farrell Hall, spilling into the aisles and along the walls.

“You are in the exact shoes that I was in,” Shultz told them. “And you can take this really unique moment in your life to either speak truth to power, or start a company, or get a new degree, change your field, move to a new country. There is some big, but calculated, risk that you can take in your life right now.”



09/22/25 5:43pm

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09/22/25 8:06pm



Junior Lydia Derris, Arts and Culture editor of the Old Gold & Black, gives an update at the weekly editors' meeting.



Suitemates Dallas Agnew and Eli Eckert play table tennis in Magnolia Hall.

09/22/25 10:30am



09/22/25 1:47pm



**Associate Teaching**  
Professor David Wren takes his "Problem Solving in Chemistry" class on a nature walk to find objects students can keep with them to help lower their stress levels before exams.





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09/23/25 4:03pm

September 23

09/23/25 6:00pm

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09/23/25 1:00pm

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*Do you remember  
the challenge  
of choosing  
your major?*

DAY

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# THREE PAIRS OF STUDENTS

09/23/25 5:50pm

**Counter-clockwise from top:** First-year Emma Townsend Satterfield, left, and sophomore Claire Moran sort pennies by year in the Office of Personal and Career Development to assess their best-fit majors; a laser-cut shadow box in the WakerSpace; first-year Luke Baugher discovers his career interests while constructing a tower.



09/23/25 2:11pm



work together Tuesday night on seemingly random activities: lining up a row of pennies by year, drawing a picture, doing a difficult logic puzzle, advertising basic items like pens or notebooks, using prompts to start a conversation and building towers with blocks.

But each station has a purpose. “Making a Major Decision,” an event hosted by the Office of Personal and Career Development, helps students find their place on the Strong Interest Inventory, a career assessment tool, and get a step closer to choosing their major.

For example, tediously organizing pennies might mean you’re a “Conventional” type, more likely to become an accountant, archivist or analyst. “I didn’t expect an activity like that to be exciting,” says first-



09/23/25 6:00pm

year student Shepard Adamson. “But I think that was fun! I’m going to ponder that.”

At the building-blocks station, some students stack them into a basic rectangle while others fashion a castle. “It was just fun to use your hands to create something,” says Luke Baugher, a first-year student. He’s never felt like he has an interest in engineering, so he didn’t expect to have much passion toward building a tower, he says. But “Realistic” types who enjoy such activities may want to consider careers as wildlife biologists, cartographers, military officers, chefs and more — leaving Baugher a lot of options for a major that’s a good fit.

These categories are intended to help students notice themes and patterns, rather than pointing them directly to a major, says Director of Career Education and Student Experience Amy Willard (MA ’17), who led the event. As a next step, she recommends that students meet with a

career coach or faculty member — or choose an introductory class in an interest they have identified.



Earlier in the day at the WakerSpace, the University’s workshop for makers since 2018, the smell of woodsmoke fills the air as an education class fires up the laser cutter to create shadow boxes.

Students are scattered around the space in various stages of the process, some meticulously adjusting computer files and others gluing their boxes together. Ali Sakkal, associate teaching professor of education and a 2021 WakerSpace Faculty Fellow, hops from student to student to help.

“When you add color to that, it’s gonna pop,” Sakkal says to one. “Is this too much glue?” another student asks. The laser machine buzzes in the background.





09/23/25 3:30pm  
Scales Fine Arts Center

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In the works: an ocean scene, a cityscape and figures still a mystery. “This (project) transfers to so many other things. It’s a process of trying, failing and trying again,” Sakkal says. “(It’s) sustained inquiry.”

At lunch time, laughter fills the basement of the Divinity and Religious Studies Building as a crowd floods in after the weekly 11 a.m. service in Davis Chapel. “Tuesdays are the hub of our social and in-person activities,” says Khelen Kuzmovich (MDiv ’13), academic program coordinator, of the lunchtime gathering started not long after the School of Divinity was founded in 1999.

Kuzmovich remembers the importance of this informal, open dialogue from her own experience as a divinity student. “Our program (is) very academic, but it touches on personal issues of faith and the way you grew up,” she says. “So often you need to have those conversations.”

“I like just being able to be vulnerable and be transparent and just bond over a meal,” says Isaiah Smith, a first-year divinity student. “You can bring different conversations to people ... and they’ll be receptive.”

Beulah Gullion, a second-year, adds, “I also really like that we get to hang out with our professors.” A few seconds later, John Senior, assistant dean of vocational formation and doctoral education, stops by their table for what turns into banter about strategy for the school’s intramural flag football team.

Left, Jasmine Logan (MDiv ’23), assistant director of programming in the Program for Leadership and Character, visits with April Spears (MDiv ’26) at the community lunch.



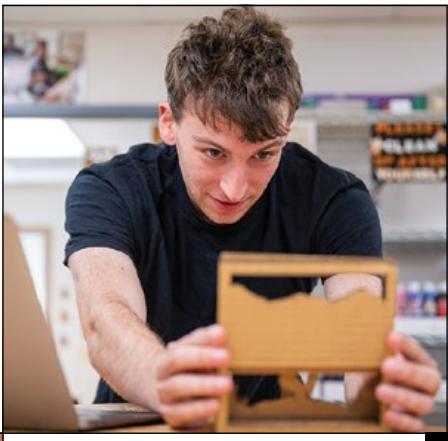
09/23/25 12:30pm

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09/23/25 5:23pm

Today's lunch features a faith community fair, with a handful of churches hosting information tables to help students find worship communities and internships, a school requirement. Olena Withrow (MDiv '25), a pastoral resident, ministry assistant and communications manager at First Baptist on Fifth, which alumni may remember as First Baptist Church, shares her experience: "In school, you can get very theory-heavy or get stuck in your head," she says. "So getting to continue some of that imaginative work while also being in a local community and figuring out how it works, and how it doesn't, has been really fun."



09/23/25 2:46pm

Senior Maxwell Dudak perfects his shadow box in the WakerSpace.

At 5 p.m. in one of Worrell Professional Center's wood-paneled courtrooms, an early round of the 2025 1L Trial Bar Competition gives first-year law students John Kaelber ('25) and Virginia Zanella a turn, respectively, as prosecutor and defense attorney in this year's mock criminal case: The State of Love Island vs. Miguel Harichi, based on a plotline from a popular reality-TV show.

"Anger, retaliation, murder," Kaelber opens. "That is what this case is about."

"Only one man truly had the motive, the means and the opportunity to commit this crime," Zanella responds. "We will be showing there is reasonable doubt, and plenty of it."

After multiple rounds of competition over the next week, Ellie Stamps and Cole Hastings ('23) advance to the final round, presenting their closing arguments before a panel of judges. Stamps wins the 2025 championship.

The Spirit of the Old Gold & Black practices a formation for Saturday's game.



09/23/25 4:38pm



Watch the goats at yoga, the rowing team at Salem Lake, laser cutting and more.



09/23/25 6:25pm



Sophomore Ella Shipman slips on welding gloves at the Innovation Studio.

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09/24/25 2:09pm

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# WEDNESDAYS

# DAY



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September 24

09/24/25 1:40pm

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# COMPETITION

09/24/25 4:35pm

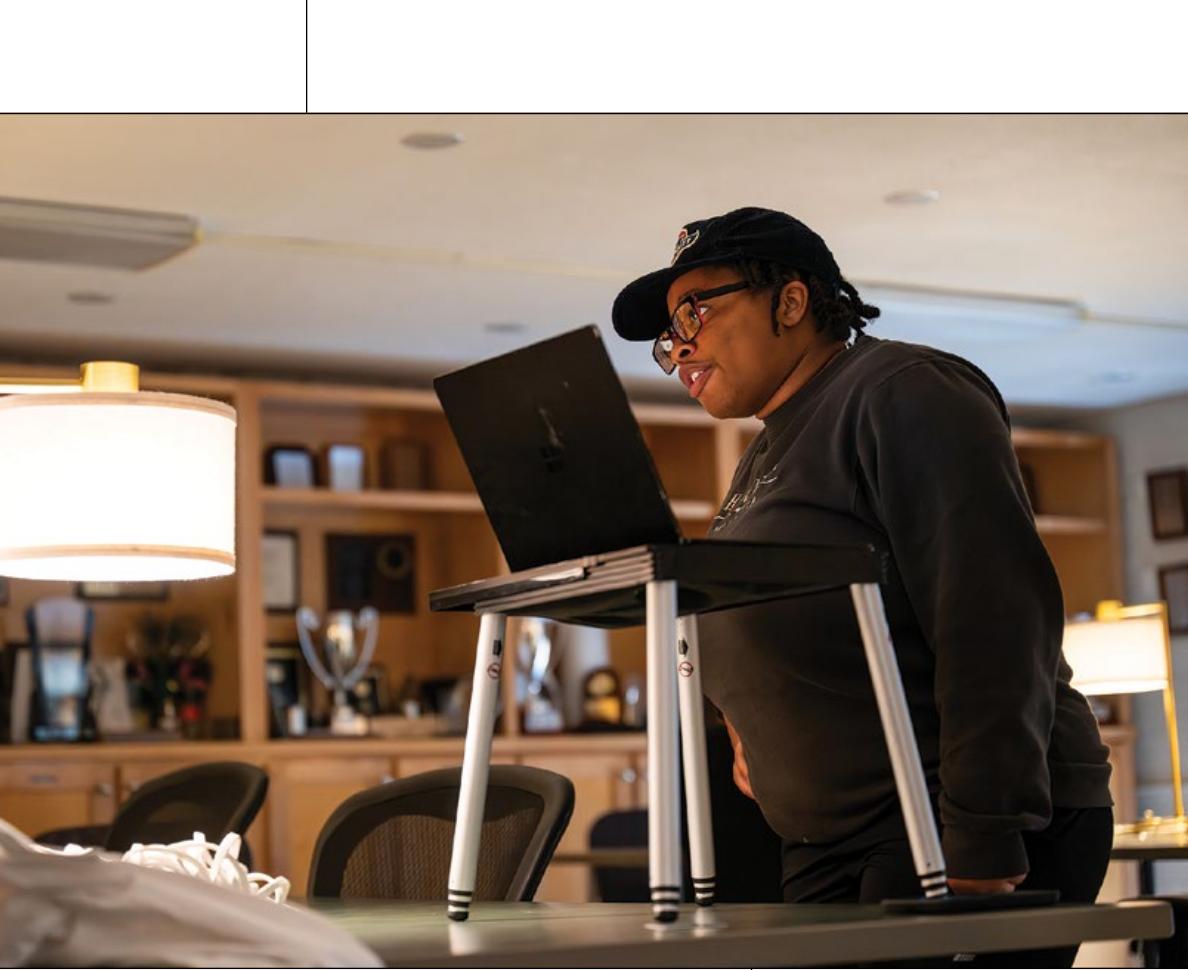


Justin Green ('99), head debate coach, leads a meeting before students disperse to practice.

at Wake Forest is almost as old as the institution itself, and today's team is doing its part to uphold the Demon Deacons' reputation as champions.

On Wednesday afternoon, debate team members enter Carswell 101, filling the room with excited chatter until Communication Professor of the Practice Justin Green ('99), head coach, calls the group to order. He starts with shoutouts, their ritual of appreciation: One student thanks a friend who helped him prep for an argument; another recognizes new team members who recently debated for the first time. They turn to logistics for the coming weekend's trip to the University of Kentucky for their second tournament of the school year. Packing lists include water bottles, energy drinks, protein bars and extension cords (lifelines for laptops full of notes and research).

At Green's cue, the debaters break into small groups and quickly scatter throughout the building to keep cramming; in two days, they will hit the road. In one room, Dimarvin Puerto ('24, MA '26), a graduate assistant coach, marks up a whiteboard while his group outlines



Junior Destiny Hale, who won the ACC Debate Championship last year, practices before an upcoming tournament.

09/24/25 5:03pm

arguments. In another, students circle up to talk through strategy. Back in Carswell 101, more debaters are heads down, typing vigorously into their laptops, most of which sport “Think Hard, Talk Fast. Yikes!” stickers. At the podium, a student runs through a speech, speaking with fervor as he packs as many words as possible into a few minutes.

These students have a legacy to uphold: Carswell Hall, the debate team’s home, is stuffed with gleaming plaques, trophies and dog-eared photos documenting 190 years of victory. The oldest extracurricular activity at Wake Forest, debate started on Feb. 14, 1835, with the Philomathesian Society and the Euzelian Society. The late Edwin G. Wilson (’43, P ’91, ’93), provost emeritus, once said, “Long before we played football, edited publications, acted, or sang, in fact almost before we studied, we of Wake Forest talked.”

Sophomore Harper Lindsay considers debate “fun and frustrating in the best way.”

(Update: Two first-year students, Grant Kinghorn and Will Porter, add to the collection of hardware by finishing as novice-division semifinalists in Kentucky.)



09/24/25 4:32pm

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09/24/25 9:30am

Preservation Librarian Craig Fansler discusses archival techniques with senior Chloe Patz in ZSR Library's preservation room.

Earlier on Wednesday, across the Mag Quad and Benson Courtyard, senior psychology major Chloe Patz is tucked away on the third floor of Z. Smith Reynolds Library, meticulously creating archival boxes during her work-study shift. These boxes will protect the library's rare books, a growing collection of around 70,000 items from the 13th through 21st centuries.

Stepping into the library's Preservation Room feels like walking back into an analog world. Except for one desktop computer, the room is lined with stacks of books, letterpress prints, framed photos and vinyl records, wooden and paper boxes and jars of paste. Worktables and machinery, including a giant paper cutter, dominate the room.



Craig Fansler, preservation librarian in the library's Special Collections & Archives, taught Patz how to create the boxes, cutting them precisely to fit their contents, rounding the corners, scoring folds and gluing them together with a barcode label. (OK, one tiny digital intrusion.) Patz calls the work "therapeutic."

Fansler has mentored dozens of students during his 32 years in the archives, and he displays many of their photos in the Preservation Room. "I've met so many good people through the years," he says, naming where some of his student assistants ended up in their lives and careers. "Like Chloe. She's going places!"



09/24/25 3:43pm

Assistant Professor Molly Kaderka prepares a painting created with several students in Scales Fine Arts Center.

09/24/25 9:59am

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09/24/25 2:51pm



Rocio Saucedo, a junior majoring in studio art and politics and international affairs, holds up a freshly welded creation in the engineering department's Innovation Studio at Wake Downtown. Alongside other students and a faculty member at Welding Wednesdays, she has suited up in a flame-resistant jacket, gloves and helmet. Sparks fly in the welding booth as they work on their creations. Several students are taking an art class creating linear sculptures – and now they can weld their works together. As the students push a puddle of molten metal along, they're uniting the disciplines of engineering and art, which have more similarities than some may think: a good weld means the finished product is strong and beautiful.



09/24/25 2:52pm



Faculty and staff, left, meet for a "Wednesdays with Wente" lunch in Reynolda Hall's Autumn Room. The conversation turns to the recently announced North Carolina Gateway to Wake Forest University, the previous weekend's inauguration of Bonita Brown ('94, JD '97) as chancellor of Winston-Salem State University, campus space planning and more.



09/24/25 6:43pm

Students who studied last summer in sub-Saharan Africa through the Rusty Johnson Study Abroad program share what they learned with René Johnson (P '26) at dinner in Reynolda Hall's Autumn Room. She established the program in 2023 in memory of her late husband.



09/24/25 7:10pm

Students pull out their cowboy boots for line dancing and mechanical bull riding at Wake Out West, an event hosted by Student Union on Manchester Plaza.



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Watch welders at work, debaters talk fast and students astride the mechanical bull.





09/24/25 10:28am



09/24/25 4:40pm

Above, a class taught by Fatima Hamdulay, an assistant teaching professor of Leadership and Character in Entrepreneurship, warms up with a game of Rock Paper Scissors and then reflects on what they learned from Tyler Shultz, who spoke Monday on "Theranos and Bad Blood: Risking It All to Do the Right Thing." Kimberley McAllister, below middle, the University's Vice Provost for Research, Scholarly Inquiry and Creative Activity, chats with faculty at the research celebration.

Faculty have many of their own traditions, including a new one started just last year by Kimberley McAllister, the University's first Vice Provost for Research, Scholarly Inquiry and Creative Activity.

In fall 2024, she gathered faculty and staff to celebrate the University's being awarded more than \$18 million, a record amount of outside funding for research and scholarly activities. This year, she is hosting another celebration, adding a challenge: Seven research rockstars have been asked to share their teams' projects in four minutes or less.

McAllister leads off by sharing that, in a challenging year in which researchers watched grant opportunities get delayed or disappear, Wake Forest still received \$14.1 million. Although the amount dipped from last year, it was higher than two years ago, "and I think that really deserves a round of applause," she says. "This community has been incredibly resilient and persistent in your attempts to do wonderful research and to navigate the changing world of research that we've been facing over this past year."

Some phrases that stand out from the researchers' short-and-snappy talks:

■ "This project was initiated by stressing out bacteria over several generations and forcing them to adapt to their environment in ways that an ancestral strain did not have to adapt to."

*—Rebecca Alexander (P '22, '25), Professor of Chemistry and Senior Associate Dean of Research and Community Engagement, introducing "Why does inactivating a bacterial gene help the organism?"*

■ "The next time you see a pretty purple flower, think about more than just how pretty it is, how that is probably a plant trying to protect itself from climate stress. And identifying more ... purple-pigmented plants can help us protect our food supply."

*—Gloria Muday, Charles M. Allen Professor of Biology, explaining "Revealing the Dynamics of F-Actin in Tomato Pollen Tube And Its Response to Temperature and Ros Biology"*

■ "We hope to understand whether or not females who are 50 or older with obesity may be able to prevent that development of knee osteoarthritis if physicians are able to also identify if they have low muscle power earlier on. Because ultimately we want folks to live not just longer, but to also live better." And as she wraps up just under the wire, she adds: "Whew, as a pregnant person, that was really hard!"

*—Paige Rice, Assistant Professor of Health & Exercise Science, sharing "Muscle Power as a Predictor of Knee Osteoarthritis in At-Risk Females, NIH"*

8

9

16



09/25/25 9:06am

# DAY

September 25

10

11



17



09/25/25 7:50pm  
Soweto Gospel Choir

19

24

09/25/25 2:11pm  
Wellbeing Center Living Room

25



09/25/25 1:45pm  
Wellbeing Center





# THE STORMY FORECAST

SEPTEMBER	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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turns out to be right. Hit the Bricks, the event where everyone spends the day running around the Quad to raise money to fight cancer, was originally scheduled for today. But the students in charge postponed, in hopes of avoiding a repeat of last year's relentless rain and slippery course.

The Army ROTC's No Fear Battalion gets ahead of the rain with a pre-dawn rope climb, but most of campus awakes to a downpour. So, instead of circling the Quad in soggy steps, they're breaking out umbrellas and seeking refuge at Campus Grounds, the student-run coffee spot on the Quad, and Smith's Cafe in Z. Smith Reynolds Library. (Yes, you read that right, alumni from the previous century — you can buy, and consume, coffee and pastries in the library.)

Parents are trickling onto campus for Family Weekend, and by evening, the skies clear just in time for the kickoff performance of this year's Secret Artists Series —



09/25/25 10:17am  
Campus Grounds

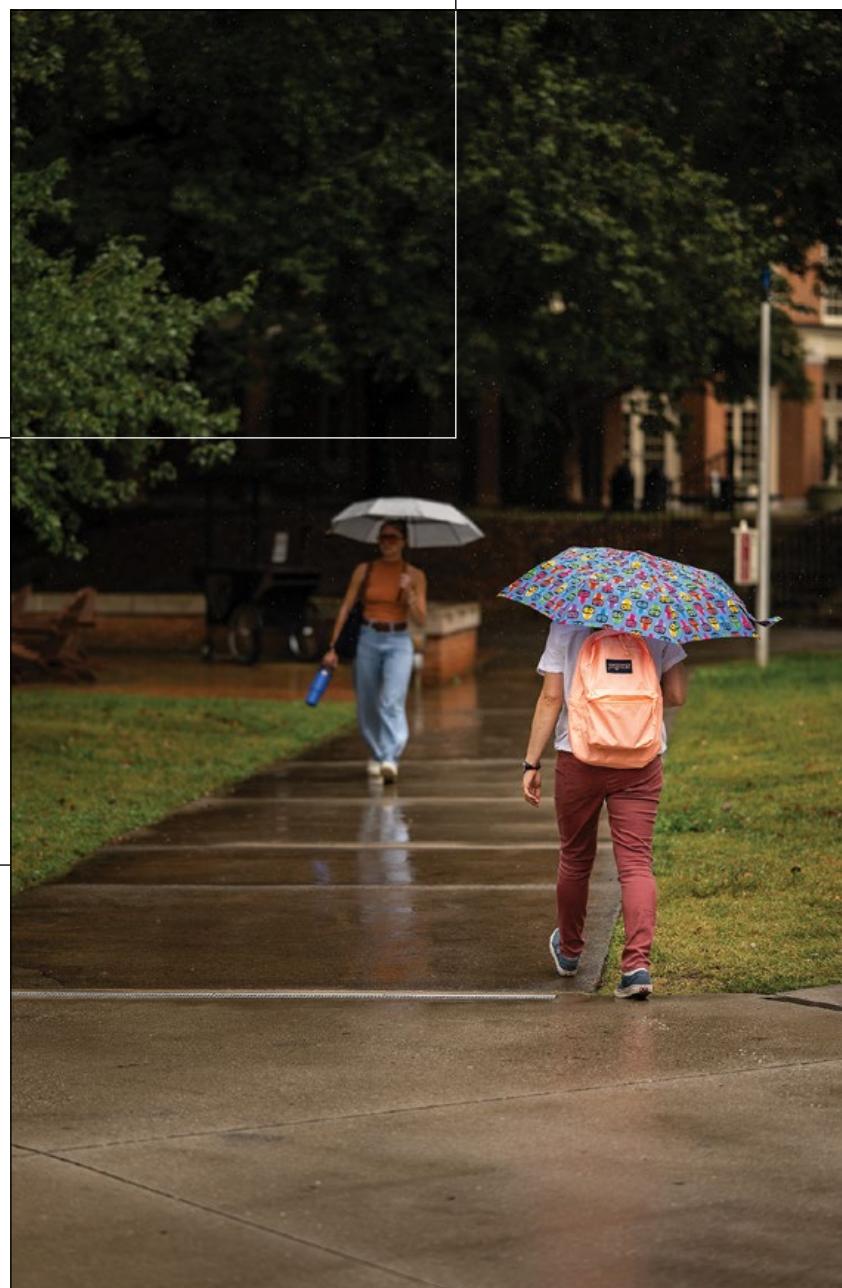


09/25/25 1:19pm



09/25/25 6:35am

SEPTEMBER	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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09/25/25 10:03am

the multi-Grammy-winning Soweto Gospel Choir, with a joyful program that begins with South African freedom songs before moving into traditional spirituals, classics and the music of icons ranging from Aretha Franklin to Leonard Cohen. Their percussion, choreography and soulfulness are a sight and sound to behold.

The spark for the Secrest series goes back at least to 1901 with a longstanding committee on “Lectures” that soon added performances, and eventually focused

exclusively on the arts, according to an account written by Carlton P. West, a history professor starting in 1928 and also College librarian from 1946-1975.

He writes about “older” faculty members’ recalling “with considerable appreciation” an appearance by Ida Tarbell, a pioneering investigative journalist who took on Standard Oil Co. Another memorable performance: “The play, probably by Shakespeare, was given in the old chapel, the only available auditorium on (the original) campus,



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excepting the church. The chapel had only a simple bare platform with absolutely no staging facilities, hence it was necessary to improvise dressing rooms by hanging sheets on either side of the platform. The result, perhaps unknown to the performers at the time, was a shadow show on either side of the open area in which the play was actually being performed. The effect had somewhat the quality of a three-ring circus."

Our librarian would hardly recognize what that series has become. Marion Secrest, a local performing arts patron, endowed it in 1987 in honor of her deceased husband, Willis Secrest, to enhance cultural education with appearances by both established artists and promising newcomers at no charge to students, faculty and staff. Past performers include a wide range of genres from Silk Road Ensemble, founded by cellist Yo-Yo Ma, to Carolina Chocolate Drops and Orchestre National de Lyon with Leonard Slatkin. Next up: Grammy-winning mezzo soprano J'Nai Bridges.



09/25/25 7:46pm  
Wait Chapel

▶ See scenes from  
Thursday and  
hear the Soweto  
Gospel Choir.



# WAKE FOREST

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09/26/25 8:51pm

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16



28

09/26/25 12:59pm

09/26/25 9:55am

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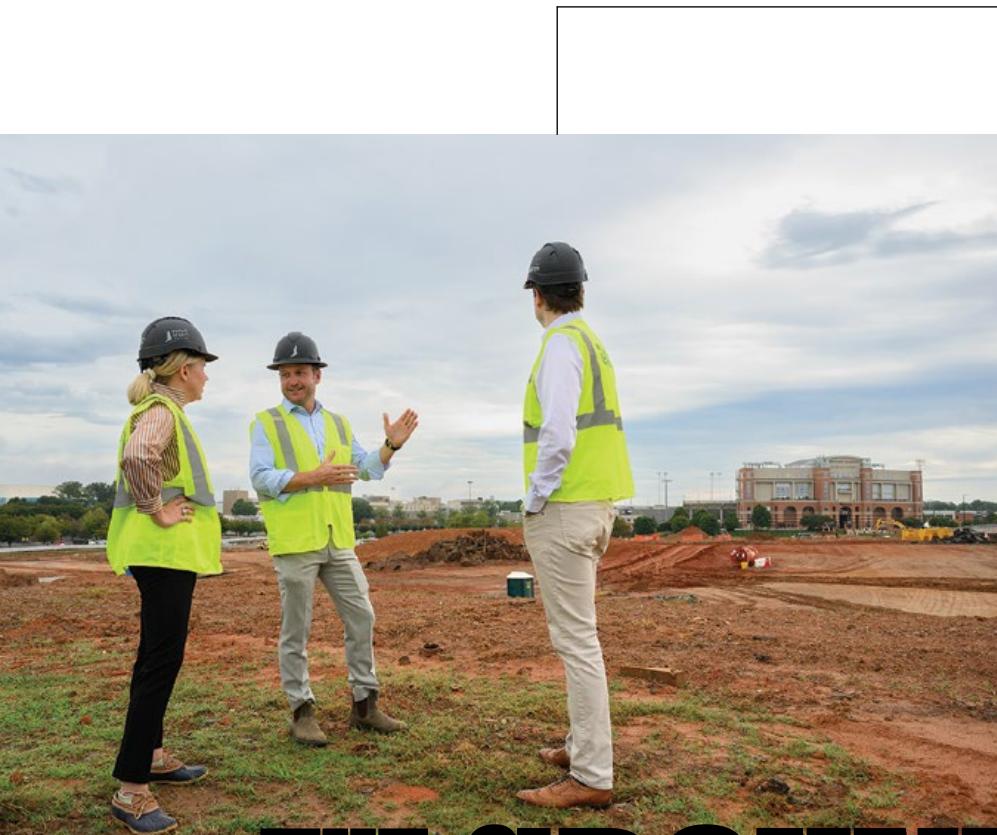


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24

# DAY

September 26



09/26/25 8:20am

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# THE GROUNDS DEVELOPERS

get an early start. Adam Parker ('10), Coleman Team ('09) and Jane Beasley Duncan ('07) don hardhats to survey the latest earth-moving at The Grounds, the 100-acre mixed-use development their firms are building next to Allegacy Federal Credit Union Stadium.

Intended as a gathering place for Wake Foresters and the wider community, the plans include a 130,000-square-foot office building and 42,000-square feet of shops and restaurants along with road improvements, a walking trail and the restoration of parts of Silas Creek, which they take in from the stadium's steps. Already, old businesses have been torn down, parking lots dug up, Deacon Boulevard rerouted and the creek uncovered.

The trio's next stop this Friday: providing an update at a meeting on campus of the Parents' Council — including details about their recently announced project, Creekside at The Grounds, a 229-unit furnished apartment complex for upper-classmen and graduate students, targeted to open in 2027. The amenity that wows parents and alumni most: a gleaming outdoor pool.

"This is the first time parents are coming into town, really, since we got started. I hope it doesn't rain," says Team, president and managing partner of Front Street Capital in Winston-Salem. He is developing

09/26/25 10:05am





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09/26/25 11:54am



09/26/25 12:04pm

Harriet Lyons presents a cupcake, above; Quin Wolters ('23), left, sustainability coordinator for Harvest Table Culinary Group, manages the microfarm; and William Young, below, whips up omelets.

09/26/25 11:33am



the sports and entertainment district with Parker, a senior vice president with Atlanta-based Carter.

As Parker, Team and Duncan, Front Street's director of marketing, gaze out at the newly uncovered Silas Creek, they spot a heron that has already discovered the shallow waters and protective, steep banks.

Later this morning, a line snakes out the door for lunch at the Pit, with greetings echoing around the room and hungry students piling their plates.

Recent entrees include made-to-order pho and fajitas, tapas and focaccia. In the mood for pasta or a Mediterranean bowl? Build your own at the "Pastabilities" or "Lemon and Olive" stations.

One wall holds a microfarm — a glass display case that grows fresh produce year-round without soil, saving an estimated 13,458 gallons of water in the past year alone. The Pit uses the greens, which range from kale to mint, red-veined sorrel and bok choy.

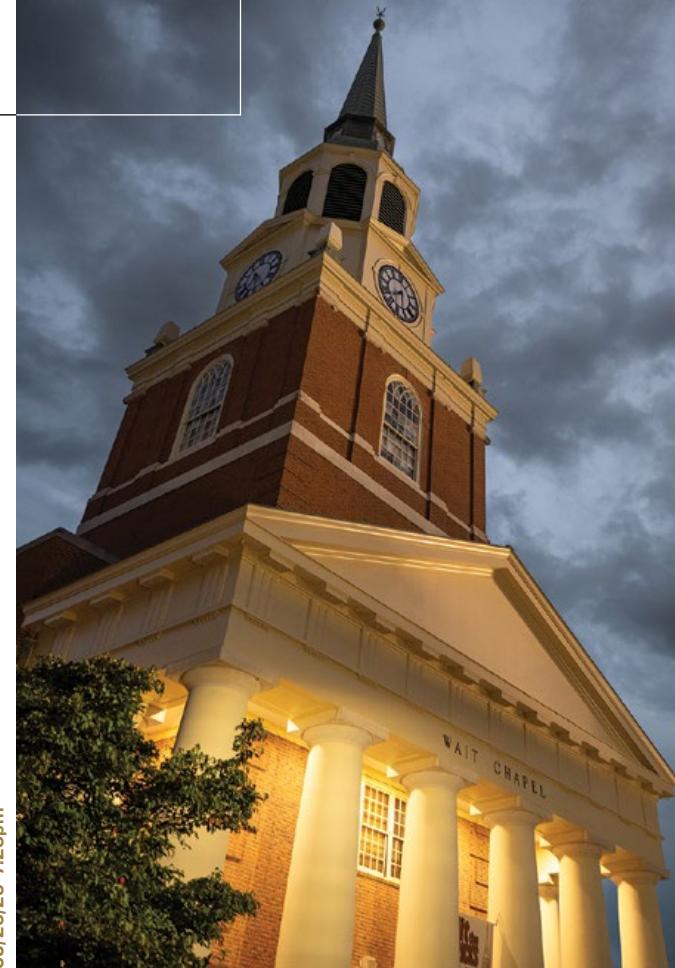
Alumni may find it hard to believe, but these days, the dining hall is so popular that students vie for "I Love the Pit" T-shirts. At the omelet station, William Young cracks eggs onto the hot griddle and adds spinach, tomato and peppers. "He's really good at them. If I see that he's over here, I'm coming," says Briana Brewer ('15, MA '22), director of player development on the football staff, while waiting in line.

As Young works, he talks with students about fantasy football strategy, and students give him advice on his game. "My pleasure, bro," he says after a student

09/26/25 7:28pm

thanks him for the food. "Have a good day, OK?"

One station over, Harriet Lyons whips up deli sandwiches and desserts, wearing gold and black eyeshadow to show school spirit, she says. Her favorite part of her job is meeting students from all over the world and seeing "how excited they get when they see different foods." She once introduced an African student to grits, a familiar food for Lyons, who grew up in North Carolina. She advised him: "Add butter and cheese."



After lunch, parents start arriving in large numbers, with hugs, reunions and introductions to new friends and favorite spots. Soon, they flock to the Sutton Center for URECA Day, where rows and rows of posters come alive with students sharing their research.

Nearly two decades ago, Wake Forest established the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Center to create opportunities for students to do research with faculty guidance. Today, more than 100 students from 30 disciplines explain their work, from sustainability in art supplies and modeling erosion using math to the accessibility of mosques in London.

Michael and Claudia Olivier brought flowers for their daughter, senior Neriah Olivier, who studied the racialization of queer intimacy in Herman Melville's "Typee" — using both of her majors, English and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies.



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09/26/25 3:07pm



09/26/25 8:36pm  
Reynolda Hall

"I have to admit that I only understand very little of what she is studying!" says Michael Olivier, a professor of molecular and internal medicine. "I've learned so much from her."

Claudia Olivier, the medical school's program director of training programs, says that watching her daughter take on this project has provided new insights into the student experience. "I'm so very proud of what she's done," she says.

For junior engineering major Julia Sullivan, researching ways to characterize damage in red blood cells using a process called dielectrophoresis is opening doors: She's presenting her findings this fall in San Diego at the Biomedical Engineering Society's annual meeting. She feels most proud of "just doing something new," she says. "I had never really worked in a lab."



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09/26/25 8:59pm

Wait Chapel's bells ring out across campus as Anthony Tang ('11), the University carillonneur, strikes the levers. Tang learned to play the carillon as a student.



09/26/25 11:42am



*Hear the 12-ton carillon and see Friday scenes ranging from dance and a cappella to URECA Day, sports and, of course, rolling the Quad.*



09/26/25 8:53pm



Head Coach Jake Dickert,  
left, urges on running  
back Demond Claiborne.



7

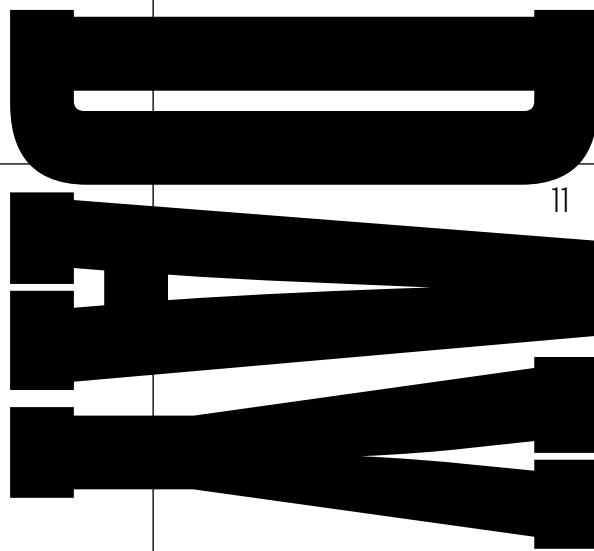
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# SATUR

09/27/25 1:19pm



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September 27



09/27/25 12:05pm



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# THE AROMA OF BACON AND BISCUITS



PHOTO COURTESY OF WAKE FOREST ATHLETICS

wafts through this morning's tailgates at Allegacy Federal Credit Union Stadium, where fans, including many Family Weekend entourages, are gathering to cheer on the Deacs against Georgia Tech.

Between the first and second quarters, a surprise unfolds on the field: What seems like an ordinary "Guess the Song Lyrics" game ends with Liam Chafin, an anesthesiology resident at the School of Medicine, getting down on one knee and asking his girlfriend, Alexandra Piazza, to marry him. "I felt famous," says Piazza, a labor and delivery nurse, reflecting on the proposal later. "Everybody was cheering for us."

The couple met online about three years ago while living on opposite sides of the Florida-Georgia line. After a few months of video calls, they met up for sushi in Jacksonville Beach, Florida. They were so engrossed in conversation that their parking meters expired, and they both found tickets on their cars at the end of the night.

It was soon clear that they were in it for the long haul. Piazza decided that when Chafin moved for his residency, she would go, too. And when they visited Winston-Salem on a snowy day, they felt that it

would be the best place “to grow our lives together,” Chafin says.

After they moved here last year, Chafin started mulling how to propose. He managed to find a day off when Piazza’s family would be in town. They wanted to go to the game that day, so how would he make a proposal work?

While he was still puzzling it through, Chafin flew home to Atlanta to let his parents know he was planning to propose. On the plane back to Winston-Salem, a stranger sitting next to him provided the answer. The seatmate had mentioned hanging out in a sports bar before the flight, so Chafin asked if he knew how to get on the scoreboard during a Wake Forest game.

“You should aim bigger,” Chafin recalls the stranger telling him. “You should aim to go on the field.” He passed along a phone number for Athletics. Chafin called, and the rest is history.

The crowd’s roar “was a very, very warm welcome into joining the Wake family, and we are so excited for what these next four years have to hold, and beyond,” Chafin says. The couple is planning a small wedding in Europe this spring.

The game concludes with an overtime loss by one point. As always, the loyal fans who stay till the end of the fourth quarter link arms and start to sway when they hear, “Dear old Wake Forest. ...” Even visiting parents know the words at the end: “Mother, So Dear!”



09/27/25 10:07am



COURTESY OF WAKE FOREST ATHLETICS



09/27/25 12:02pm



09/27/25 11:31am

09/27/25 10:30am



COURTESY OF WAKE FOREST ATHLETICS



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09/27/25 1:40pm



Liam Chafin proposes to his girlfriend, Alexandra Piazza, on the field.

09/27/25 12:50pm

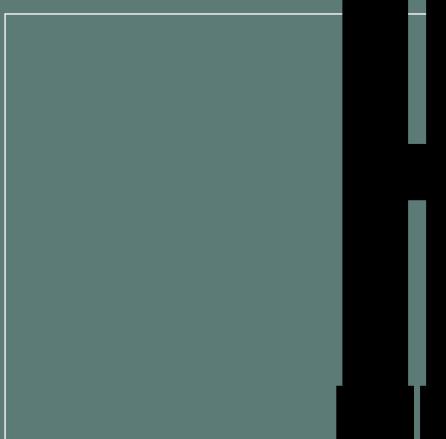


09/27/25 12:50pm

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09/27/25 3:18pm





Vice President for Campus Life Shea Kidd Brown hits the bricks to support cancer research.

21

10/1/25 10:23am

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16



28

10/1/25 11:15am

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Hit the Bricks, you may recall, was postponed due to rain, and it turns out the “exec team” made the right call. Wednesday’s weather is nothing short of glorious.

The students who sparked the Brian Piccolo (‘65, P ‘87, ‘89) Cancer Research Fund Drive back in 1980 could not have predicted the fundraising juggernaut it has become, with money raised through dunk tanks, fitness classes, pickleball — all leading up to the grand finale, “Hit the Bricks,” a daylong relay race around Hearn Plaza started in 2003.

This year’s student directors, seniors Theo Berson, Matt Winokur and Graham Whaley, started out as HTB “ambassadors” when they were freshmen. They organized their Babcock Residence Hall neighbors and friends, more than 100 students in all, into a team that raised \$15,000. Last year, they added freshman dorms as a competitive fundraising category. (Maybe not coincidentally, Berson and Winokur are entrepreneurship minors.)

This year, they have focused on recentering the event around Piccolo, a Demon Deacon and NFL football star, whose life was cut short at age 26 by cancer and whose story was captured in the movie “Brian’s Song.” So they reached out to the National Football League for a donation and invited Piccolo’s daughter.

Traci Piccolo Dolby (‘89) spends the day walking around the Quad with a team of “80s Baity’s Ladies” and her mother, Joy Piccolo O’Connell (P ‘87, ‘89, ‘97). Dolby’s son switched from hockey to football in college in honor of his grandfather, says the proud mother. She and her friends reminisce about Piccolo fundraisers of the past as they loop the Quad: “Remember when the Dekes did Rub-a-Dub-Dub, where they sat in a hot tub?”

Mike Ford (‘72), a student life administrator and campus leader for 36 years who has come out to watch, remembers one freshman at Hit the Bricks, around 2015, taking it all in and then exclaiming, “This is college!”

Ford, whose mother, First Lady Betty Ford, chose to go public in 1974 with her breast cancer diagnosis and treatment to raise awareness, agrees. “All these different groups, students, staff, faculty and even alumni come together. And in the spirit of Pro Humanitate. It’s our core. And that brings me great joy. ... This is all just volunteers who are trying to beat this disease and do it as a community.”

As the sun wanes, people make their way to the starting line for one final, silent walk around the Quad to remember those who fought, or are fighting, cancer. It’s a rare moment of complete quiet. The Piccolos and student organizers lead the way.



October 1

# BRICKS'

They stop in front of Wait Chapel. “If life with cancer teaches us anything, it’s the beauty of the present moment,” Chaplain Chris Donald tells the crowd.

Cancer survivor Raegan Burden, a visiting assistant professor, speaks next: “Thank you for running and walking and jogging because, right now, some cannot,” she says. “Thank you for contributing to much needed research. We won’t heal without it.”

The sun behind Wait Chapel’s columns casts long rays of light across the rapt audience as Traci Piccolo Dolby reminds the crowd how much the fund has grown. “It’s been a long time since this all began back in 1980, when I came with my mom to accept the check from the very first fund drive, which, believe it or not, was about \$3,500,” she says. While the money raised today will be a hundredfold, that first fund drive “was no less meaningful for us.”

As a student here, Dolby and her fellow Fideles society sisters raised money with a battle of the bands at Baity’s Backstreet Music Garden. She remembers watching “Brian’s Song” with her friends, passing a beach towel back and forth to wipe their tears. “Having lost my dad at just 3 years old, I didn’t have a lot of memories,” she says. “I felt like part of him was here with me every day.”

Dolby thanks today’s 2,200-some participants. “I do believe that’s the reason he was taken from us — so that we could do what we’re doing today to help all of these other people,” she says of her father. Studio art and economics major Kyan Patel (‘27) presents her with a painting of Piccolo wearing his No. 44 Wake Forest football jersey. More tears.

Finally, the tally the crowd’s been waiting for: Hit the Bricks has raised a record-breaking \$360,840!



10/1/25 5:52pm



*Check out the  
runners and  
more on a sunny  
Quad day.*



SEPTEMBER	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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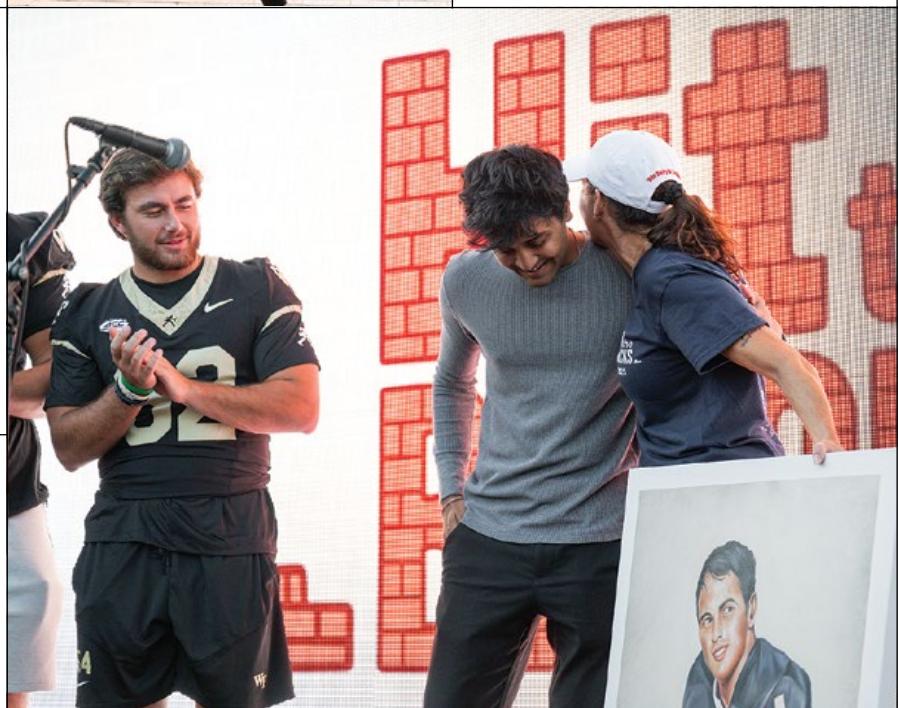
10/1/25 10:24am

Traci Piccolo Dolby ('89), above in the white baseball cap emblazoned with a red Solo cup, walks with her mother, Joy Piccolo O'Connell (P '87, '89, '97), and student organizer Theo Berson, among others.



10/1/25 11:16am

**FOR MORE PHOTOS FROM  
A WEEK AT WAKE, GO TO  
[bit.ly/weekatwakegallery](http://bit.ly/weekatwakegallery)**



10/1/25 6:24pm



The Hopkineses in 2020, when Larry Hopkins was awarded the University's highest honor, the Medallion of Merit.

The couple met in front of Wait Chapel in 1970 and were married for 47 years. They have two children, Michelle and David, and two granddaughters.

"Together, they modeled a life of service and strength. A life built on the belief that Pro Humanitate isn't just a motto — it's a way of being," said David Hopkins. "They didn't just love Wake Forest. They challenged it to be better. ... They mentored. They nurtured. They listened. Because for them, helping others wasn't optional — it was their purpose."

In her opening remarks, President Susan R. Wente emphasized the importance of honoring Wake Forest's history through the stories of those who have left the institution and community better than they found it.

"The crowd gathered here today represents just a fraction of the lives changed by two people named Beth Norbrey and Lawrence D. Hopkins," Wente said. "Two people who each — in their own right — embody lives of learning, discovery, character and leadership. Two people who have asked hard questions and courageously pursued the answers, who have given wise counsel, never stopped learning and have ceaselessly given of their time and talents to do good in the world."

A double Deac, Larry Hopkins was the first Black student to graduate from Wake Forest with a degree in chemistry. He then went on to earn his medical degree from the School of Medicine, becoming a prominent OB/GYN who delivered thousands of babies — including NBA star Chris Paul. The University awarded him its highest recognition, the Medallion of Merit, in 2020.

"The early '70s at Wake Forest were a time of exploration and revolution. Afros were a foot high, and skirts were a half yard long," Beth Hopkins shared at the dedication. "Initially, we were not welcome in any Wake Forest

# *A legacy of open doors*

Wake Forest dedicates a residence hall to pioneers Beth Norbrey Hopkins and her husband, Lawrence D. Hopkins. **By Kim McGrath**

**B**eth Norbrey & Lawrence D. Hopkins Hall isn't just a building, their son David Hopkins ('12, MA '15) said at the dedication of the residence hall on Oct. 25. "It's about legacy. It's about what it looks like to open doors for others, even when you had to break them down yourself."

Beth Norbrey Hopkins ('73, P '12) has had a decades-long career in law, education and community outreach, and was one of the first two Black female residential students at the University.

Her late husband, Dr. Larry Hopkins ('72, MD '77, P '12), a football star at Wake Forest, became a well-known physician who improved access and outcomes for women's and neonatal health.



Larry Hopkins was an early '70s football star, and Beth Norbrey Hopkins was Homecoming Queen. Football players and Vice President and Director of Athletics John Currie were among hundreds of well-wishers who joined her at the dedication of Beth Norbrey & Lawrence D. Hopkins Hall.

society, fraternity, cheerleading squad, on-campus parties and, in some cases, we were not welcome in the classrooms. Yet, we were not afraid, because we faced unpleasant situations together.

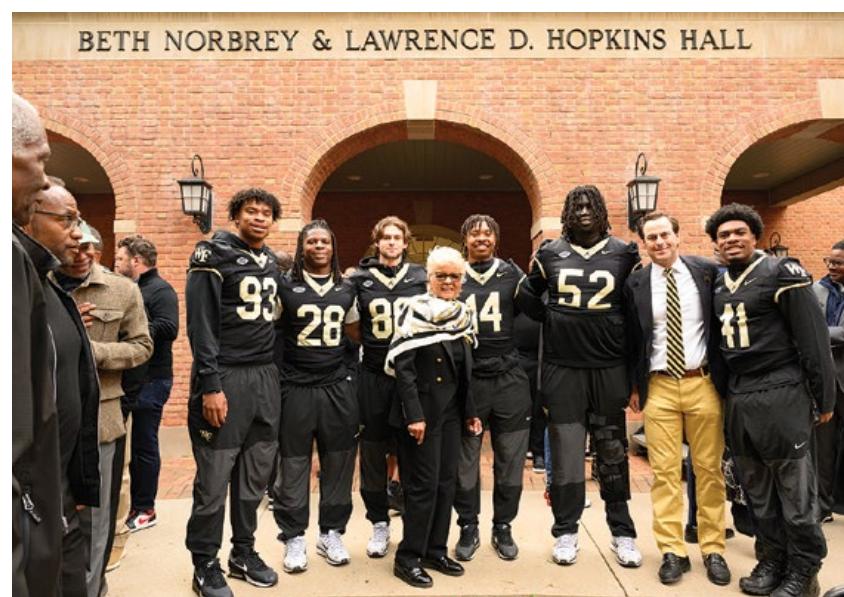
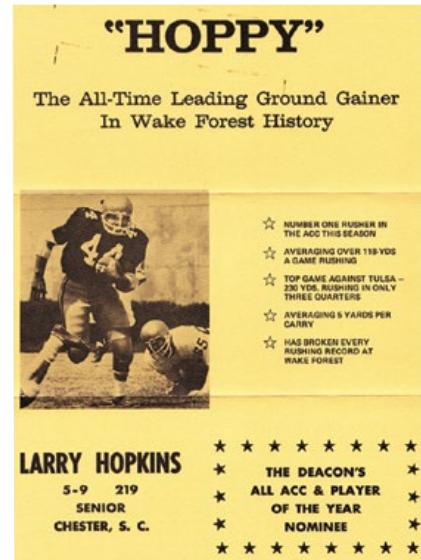
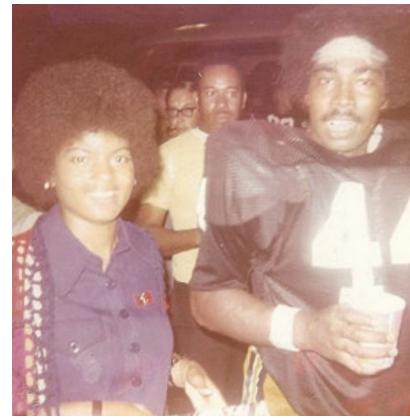
“We were warriors fighting for our place at Wake Forest, and we created a pathway for future students of all stripes. Proudly, Wake Forest has embraced the pathway of change and moved to create opportunities where all students here are treated with fairness, and there is the expectation of students working hard and serving humanity.”

After the program, sophomore Ty Monroe spoke with Hopkins, who encouraged him to engage with the alumni, faculty and community leaders because their perseverance through racism and discrimination helped create the opportunities students have today.

"That perspective left me feeling both grateful and responsible: grateful for the doors their generation opened and responsible to use the resources and relationships we have now to support those who come after us," Monroe said. "As an RA, that reminder to connect, learn and pay it forward really stuck with me."

Hopkins was named Homecoming Queen in 1971. This year's Homecoming Queen, senior Chase Clark, said that "to follow in her footsteps is both humbling and deeply inspiring."

"As this year's Homecoming Queen and President of the Black Student Alliance, I feel profoundly connected to Professor Beth Hopkins' legacy," Clark said. "Her courage and determination paved the way for students like me to take up space with pride and purpose. She transformed what representation could mean at Wake Forest — showing that leadership, intellect and grace can coexist in powerful ways. I'm grateful to help continue the work she began in creating a more inclusive and empowering campus for all."



# *Creating Pathways for Future Students*

Beth Norbrey Hopkins ('73, P '12) reflected on her experience at Wake Forest at October's dedication of Beth Norbrey & Lawrence D. Hopkins Hall.

**G**ood Morning Trustees, Dr. Wente, administrators, my family and friends gathered here today. The tears have not stopped flowing as I am truly humbled by the dedication of this building in honor of my late husband, Dr. Larry Hopkins, and me. Thank you, Wake Forest, for this historic opportunity, which acknowledges not only the Hopkins journey but the journey of the students of color who preceded us and laid the foundation for creating great memories — and for my friends with whom I have enjoyed a 50-year friendship because of this institution. Also, I stand before you today because of His grace and mercy, and although the journey was not easy, I am thankful for the time spent here.

Larry Hopkins and I met in the spring of 1970 in front of Wait Chapel. We were married for 47 years, had two children, have two granddaughters, and Wake Forest was the bond that sealed our relationship. He loved the members of the 1970 championship (football) team and later was a compassionate doctor who loved delivering babies, teaching residents and providing medical care for all his patients irrespective of their economic status. The physicians in East Winston guided him during early days of practice here. Moreover, he was grateful to Baptist Hospital, the OB/GYN department in particular, and to Novant for allowing him to guide expansion of medical services to the community. Our friends, and the WSSU

and the Winston-Salem communities, welcomed him and supported his practice with great enthusiasm.

When I graduated from Wake Forest with honors, the law school did not accept me, noting that there already were "two of them." I was not mature enough to understand that a plan had been mapped out for me. I just had to wait my turn.

Often, I wondered why a guidance counselor from Panama City, Florida, sent Larry to a junior college in the mountains of North Carolina when there were so many options for him academically. Interestingly enough, he was not recruited by any team for football because his family had moved all over the country courtesy of his father's commitment to the Air Force. But divine

providence was at work. Larry always loved Lees-McCrae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina, where he was a running back and returned punts. In the spring of 1970, a Wake Forest football coach lured him away, we met and the rest is history. Had he not attended LMC, we would have never met.

When I entered Wake Forest, fresh from years of tumultuous civil rights struggles in Virginia, courage was my constant guide. There were about 18 Black students on campus in the yellow and red fall of 1969. My roommate Deb Graves (McFarlane) ('73) and I were the only two Black women who lived on campus initially, and the other two Black women, Linda Holiday ('73) and Awilda Gilliam (Neal) ('73), joined us the second semester. The number 18 included 11 Black athletes. We were all affirmative action students. You may have misgivings about that term. But you should not. At Wake Forest, affirmative action did not mean that standards were adjusted to accommodate us. It meant that this school dared to bring in academically talented Black students who would help broaden perspectives of students of European descent who were uninformed as to our accomplishments and stamina.

There was one Black professor, who taught in the religion department, and no Black administrators. Since we were



from the say-something generation, we encouraged changes in the look of the decision makers and helped to increase diversity in the faculty and student body.

There were three Blacks on the basketball team and eight on the football team. To provide a frame of reference for the entire ACC, Clemson had one Black on the basketball team, and he sat on the bench. And in 1970, when we upset Clemson at Groves Stadium, there were no Blacks on the football team. Imagine that!

While students today have the Snoop Doggs, Lil Waynes and 50 Cent, our world consisted of poets Paul Laurence Dunbar, Claude McKay, Countee Cullen, the infamous Langston Hughes who too sang America, and the four-lettered sports athlete, Phi Beta Kappa graduate and Broadway performer Paul Robeson. We were valedictorians, salutatorians and top 10% entering freshman.

The early '70s at Wake Forest were a time of exploration and revolution. Afros were a foot high, and skirts were a half yard long. Initially, we were not welcome in any Wake Forest society, fraternity, cheerleading squad, on-campus parties and, in some cases, we were not welcome in the classrooms. Yet, we were not afraid, because we faced unpleasant situations together.

We were warriors fighting for our place at Wake Forest, and we created a pathway for future students of all stripes. Proudly, Wake Forest has embraced the pathway of change and moved to create opportunities where all students here are treated with fairness, and there is the expectation of students working hard and serving humanity.

Wake Forest pushes the narrative of spiritualist John Wesley, who once said, "Do all the good you can by all the means you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, all as ever you can."

When I graduated from Wake Forest, I did not anticipate coming back ever, and now you all cannot get rid of me. All four of the presidents with whom I had the pleasure of engaging contributed to



**"Proudly, Wake Forest has embraced the pathway of change and moved to create opportunities where all students here are treated with fairness, and there is the expectation of students working hard and serving humanity."**

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my experience at Wake Forest. Dr. Ralph Scales was out front on the issues of equity and justice. One of my scholarship funds did not arrive on time for me to register. The Wake Forest treasurer at the time was sending me back to Virginia, and Dr. Scales, a member of the Cherokee tribe and an old-fashioned progressive, understood how it felt to be marginalized. He reached into a funding source, gave me a scholarship on site, and allowed me to register in a timely manner.

Dr. Thomas Hearn, a steady and compassionate leader, had a broad-based interest in fairness and creating opportunities for inclusion. He placed a high value on other people's culture and experiences and believed everyone who came to Wake Forest could be successful. He created a position for me in the Legal Counsel's office where I had the great experience to develop as an education attorney.

Dr. Nathan Hatch spearheaded the 50-year celebration of the 1962

enrollment of Ghana native Ed Reynolds ('64), who became the first Black full-time undergraduate to enroll at Wake Forest, and the outstanding 50th anniversary celebration in 2020 of my three colleagues and me integrating the Wake Forest residence halls. Universal student enrollment increased under his leadership as he strengthened institutional support for all students.

Challenges to academic freedom have created unprecedented storms through which Dr. Wente has guided us skillfully and with great dignity. She has maintained the university's reputation for doing what is equitable and doing what is right. She built upon the foundations of Wake Forest courageously as we confront a brave new world. She has led with integrity and insists that Wake Forest honor the principles of respect for persons who are derived from a plethora of cultures and economic experiences.

In closing, I owe a special thanks to the history department and law school faculties for providing valuable support during my time spent in each entity. I have a loyal group of friends who supported Larry and me through scores of projects and gave me strength and purpose following Larry's transition. Thanks to my USTA family for giving me the green light to make a difference, and thanks to my children, sister and Hill, Bowes and Norbrey relatives, and my Hopkins family who kept the sunshine in my life after Larry passed.

And so together our community will traverse through the current storms. Many of us have been working and praying for humanity a long time.

I ask that you sing for justice, that you run for fair play and that you shout for the greater good; as a Wake Forest and Winston-Salem community, we are not afraid. And as one of the spirituals of my ancestors asserts, there are days when I could not see my way, but I am not tired, yet. Wake Forest, you have created a glorious memory for my family, for me and for future generations. I will love this place forever.



**1** President **Susan R. Wente** plans to step down June 30, at the end of her fifth year as Wake Forest's 14th president. Wente, also a Distinguished University Professor of Biology and Biochemistry, wrote in an Oct. 1 message to the University community that she made the decision after discussions with University Board of Trustees leadership: "I believe now is the right moment to begin this transition. This is because Wake Forest is in a strong, stable and even enviable position among the nation's universities."

University Board of Trustees Chair **Jeanne Whitman Bobbitt ('79, MBA '87)** said in a news release that Wente "has positioned Wake Forest well for greater success, and after leading through a tumultuous time in higher education, she has earned our deepest respect and gratitude."

Under Wente's leadership, the University advanced toward becoming a model student-centered research university, with undergraduate applications increasing 70% in five years and philanthropic support setting records in the last fiscal year.

She is credited with increasing student access and affordability, including through the North Carolina Gateway to Wake

Forest University (more below); developing a new academic campus in Charlotte; renewing the Reynolda campus and revitalizing University property.

Following a sabbatical, she plans to return to her roots as a faculty member to focus on mentoring and advancing science in service to society.

The Board of Trustees started a national search for the University's next president, with Whitman Bobbitt and Vice Chair **Curt Farmer ('84, MBA '91, P '16)** as co-chairs of the Presidential Search Committee. Volunteer boards and councils, alumni, parents and families, faculty, staff and students have provided feedback in listening sessions. The search committee is using these insights to clarify the leadership qualities and experiences that best fit Wake Forest to identify and recruit candidates for interviews.

**2** Starting this fall, the **North Carolina Gateway to Wake Forest University** will provide free tuition to incoming undergraduate students from North Carolina whose families make less than \$200,000 a year. The initiative aims to create more opportunities for talented,

high-achieving North Carolina students regardless of family income by demonstrating the University's affordability.

The Gateway initiative "says clearly to students and families who may not have considered Wake Forest because of cost: 'Wake Forest is within your reach,'" says President **Susan R. Wente**.

For students with family income under \$100,000, financial aid will cover the cost of standard living expenses in addition to tuition. Students in families earning \$200,000 to \$300,000 will be eligible for financial aid covering half of their tuition.

Vice President for Enrollment **Eric Maguire** sees the initiative as a way to "allow families to see and understand their likely out-of-pocket costs from the beginning. That level of assurance and transparency will help more North Carolina families envision Wake Forest as a possibility."

Wake Forest meets 100% of demonstrated need for all admitted undergraduate students who are U.S. citizens, regardless of their family income. The North Carolina Gateway is part of a longstanding commitment to minimize student loans by increasing financial aid and scholarships.

**3** Construction started on a 130,000-square-foot Wake Forest office building next to Allegacy Federal Credit Union Stadium as part of **The Grounds**, a 100-acre mixed-use project being developed by Carter and Front Street Capital on University-owned land. The new building will bring together a number of Wake Forest offices, including Finance, Human Resources, Information Systems, Legal, University Advancement and University Marketing and Communications. Already, the developers have revitalized a neglected portion of Silas Creek, rerouted Deacon Boulevard and started building a 229-unit furnished apartment complex designed for students. Those projects, along with a 42,000-square-foot retail section with food, beverage and experience concepts, are expected to be complete in 2027.

**4** Boswell Presidential Chair in Neuroscience and Society **Kenneth T. Kishida** was named Wake Forest's fifth Wells Fargo Faculty Scholar. The Wells Fargo Foundation established a University endowment in 2011 to accelerate innovative and entrepreneurial research. Kishida is renowned for developing a method to measure brain chemicals in real time in humans, a breakthrough offering insight into the way brain chemistry shapes behavior, mood and mental health.

**5** **Sarra Alqahtani**, an associate professor of computer science, received a \$598,609 National Science Foundation CAREER award to create safety and security standards for collaborative, real-world artificial intelligence systems.

**6** **Shanna Greene Benjamin** was named Reynolds Professor of African American Studies. She is recognized for her intellectual leadership, innovative teaching and mentorship through courses including "Black Autobiography and Memoir" and "Radical Hospitality: Black Women, Culture and Cuisine."

**7** The College Board of Visitors recognized **Christa Colyer (P '18)**, Professor of Chemistry and the James and Courtenay Harton Faculty Fellow for Chemical Industry, with its 2025 Faculty Leadership Award. Associate Director of Academic Affairs **Anna Henley** received

its 2025 Staff Leadership Award for accomplishments including strong directorship of the Summer Session.

**8** Wake Forest ranks fourth nationally for study abroad participation, with nearly 86% of undergraduates receiving credit for study abroad in the 2023-24 academic year and summer of 2024, according to the **Institute of International Education**.

**9** Jazz saxophonist, composer and bandleader **Branford Marsalis** received the Maya Angelou Artist-in-Residence Award, attending several classes with students, where he discussed the creative process, playing for an audience and the difference between playing a piece accurately and from the heart.

**10** **Tanya Zanish-Belcher** was named executive director of the Wake Forest Historical Museum and continues as director of Special Collections & Archives and University Archivist at Z. Smith Reynolds Library. The museum is a cooperative effort of the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society and the University.

**11** Faculty recently receiving National Science Foundation awards include: **Hussein Abdeltawab**, assistant professor of engineering; **Patricia Clayton**, associate professor of engineering; **Amanda Jones**, associate professor of chemistry; and **Timo Thonhauser**, Wright Family Professor of Physics.

Other recent grant recipients include: **Eranda Jayawickreme**, Harold W. Tribble Professor of Psychology, from Templeton Religion Trust for "Clarifying the Constitutive and Enabling Elements of Covenantal Pluralism;" **Jessica Richard**, associate professor of English, \$350,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities for The Maria Edgeworth Letters Project; and education faculty **Casey Holmes**, **Dani Parker Moore** and **Adam Friedman** from the Library of Congress and American Historical Association for their project to examine the "African American Odyssey: A Quest for Full Citizenship."

**12** **Ana S. Iltis (P '24)**, Carlson Professor of University Studies and director of the Center for Bioethics, Health & Society, received the 2025 Distinguished

Service Award from the American Society for Bioethics + Humanities.

**13** The Department of Health & Exercise Science celebrated the 50th anniversary of what started as a cardiac rehabilitation program and broadened into **HELPs**, or Healthy Exercise & Lifestyle Programs. The initiative has worked with more than 8,000 participants, many in their 60s to 90s.

**14** The Wake Forest **Sports Hall of Fame** announced eight inductees for 2026: 2006 National Football Coach of the Year **Jim Grobe**, men's basketball All-American **Jeff Teague ('11)**, women's basketball legends **Dearica Hamby ('15)** and **Lisa Stockton ('86)**, field hockey great **Anna Kozniuk ('15)**, All-ACC football player **Brandon Chubb ('15)**, former men's soccer professional **James Riley ('05)**, and basketball pioneer **Gil McGregor ('71, P '16)**, who was the first Black North Carolina native to sign with a "Big Four" men's basketball program.

**15** **Roper Osborne Halverson ('76)**, who played women's basketball, golf and volleyball in the '70s, and **Charlie Davis ('71, MALS '97, P '96)**, the first Black men's basketball player named ACC Player of the Year, were Wake Forest's ACC UNITE Award recipients this year, recognized for breaking barriers while exemplifying Pro Humanitate.

**16** **Betina Wilkinson**, associate professor of politics and international affairs, received the 2025 Adaljiza Sosa-Riddell Mentor Award from the American Political Science Association and was selected to the APSA Council.

**17** **Julie L. Groves ('89, MALS '03)**, director of risk management, won the University Risk Management and Insurance Association's Distinguished Risk Manager Award.

**18** **Justin Esarey**, professor of political science and international affairs, won the 2024-2025 Becky Morton & Tom Carsey Political Methodology Mentorship Award from the Society of Political Methodology.

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GET TO KNOW

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# CHAD CHEEK (MBA '05)

THE NEW  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Last fall, the University welcomed Chad Cheek (MBA '05) as associate vice president of University Advancement strategy, marketing and communications and editor-in-chief of Wake Forest Magazine. A Winston-Salem native and highly respected leader in branding, design and community arts management, Cheek brings more than 35 years of industry expertise to the magazine. He has a proven record of launching and building brands, leading teams and directing graphic design and innovative communication solutions. He comes to Wake Forest after a nearly two-decade long stint as owner and managing director of Elephant In The Room, a boutique creative agency based in Winston-Salem.

As a passionate community advocate, Cheek has served for decades on various nonprofit boards. He also worked on a team to collaboratively design what is expected to be the largest piece of public art in Winston-Salem's history. He lends his strategic

vision to state-level arts nonprofit initiatives, serves on the executive committee of the North Carolina Arts Council Board of Directors and is currently president of the board of directors for the North Carolina Arts Foundation.

Cheek spoke with Assistant Vice President of Advancement Strategy, Marketing and Communications Elaine Tooley about his background and vision for Wake Forest Magazine moving forward. Here are excerpts from their conversation, edited for length and clarity.

**ELAINE TOOLEY:** I understand that Winston-Salem is your hometown. Tell us about growing up in Winston-Salem and being part of this vibrant community.

**CHAD CHEEK:** For as long as I can remember, Wake Forest has had a significant influence on how I have viewed the world and my role in it. The impact has been indelible.

Early in my career, I began to work in the community and was eventually invited to sit on various community boards. Board members — including Wake Forest faculty, staff and alumni — helped me understand clearly that volunteering and bringing expertise to nonprofit, community endeavors was just as important as the work we were getting paid to do. At the time, I didn't fully grasp the meaning of Pro Humanitate, but the idea of doing hard work on behalf of others resonated with me, and I continue to work on nonprofit boards to this day. I can also remember being 13 or 14 years old, sitting in the barber shop and meeting and talking with Muggsy Bogues ('87, P '09) on more than one occasion. It was neat for me to have the chance to sit and talk to Muggsy — a guy who was such a big deal for the basketball program that I was rooting for. What I remember most is how nice he was and how fondly he talked about his experience at Wake Forest and

what hard work meant to him. (Other Wake Forest basketball players came into the shop as well — Danny Young ('84), Delaney Rudd ('85), Anthony Teachey ('85), Derrick McQueen ('92), Rodney Rogers ('94, L.H.D. '22), Randolph Childress ('95, P '20) and Tim Duncan ('97).)

**ET:** You graduated with an MBA from Wake Forest School of Business.

**What made you choose to pursue your education at Wake Forest?**

**CC:** I had the good fortune of working with people who had decided to stay in Winston-Salem after getting a business degree from Wake Forest. They always showed up in unique ways that stood apart from our other colleagues, and it made a strong impression on me. When it was time for me to contemplate applying to business school, I looked at all the options available to me and decided that an MBA from Wake Forest was the *only* option. I decided to work really hard to get in, but I also remember making the decision that if I wasn't able to get into the MBA program at Wake Forest, I would not go anywhere. I wanted the ability to show up in conversations and try my hand at unique approaches to innovative problem-solving like I had observed for years by alumni of the business school. Ultimately, it was extremely significant for me to have the opportunity to earn a degree from the school that I rooted for my whole life.

**ET:** How did your experience at Wake Forest shape your career?

**CC:** I decided I wanted to get an MBA to confirm what I thought was true about business and strategy and leave behind the things that were not sound. I knew I had a lot I wanted to learn. I got everything I was hoping for and more. I came away from the experience truly knowing *how to think*. I was able to apply what I had learned to my own work and the work I would eventually

**"...I ALSO REMEMBER MAKING THE DECISION THAT IF I WASN'T ABLE TO GET INTO THE MBA PROGRAM AT WAKE FOREST, I WOULD NOT GO ANYWHERE. I WANTED THE ABILITY TO SHOW UP IN CONVERSATIONS AND TRY MY HAND AT UNIQUE APPROACHES TO INNOVATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING LIKE I HAD OBSERVED FOR YEARS BY ALUMNI OF THE BUSINESS SCHOOL."**

do for clients. Having the ability to go beyond simply identifying a problem to understanding how to deeply contemplate solutions from multiple angles has been an invaluable skill that I attribute to the strategic thinking that I learned from my professors and my classmates at Wake Forest.

**ET:** What were some key experiences that shaped how you have guided teams of marketing and communication professionals?

**CC:** One of the things I can distinctly remember about the experience is being challenged by one of my business school teammates to work harder on a group assignment. It was early in our working together as a cohort, and my first effort in the assignment was not up to par. He discreetly pulled me aside and challenged me to step up and pull my weight, highlighting that I was a valuable member of the team and I was being counted on. He pointed out that I was there for a reason, and I was capable of more than I had just given. That encounter had a profound effect on my work ethic in the program. It also showed the importance of holding teammates accountable even when it created the necessity of having tough conversations. That same teammate of

mine happens to now be an assistant professor of practice at the School of Professional Studies.

**ET:** As you look to the future, what is your vision for Wake Forest Magazine?

**CC:** I would categorize the vision in two distinct ways. First, I hope to protect and preserve the great legacy of this magazine to beautifully tell compelling stories of phenomenal alumni exemplifying Pro Humanitate in the world at large. Second, I want to expand our ability to tell stories in even more dynamic ways while increasing access to the content beyond the ways we are currently. I'm also excited to explore opportunities to transport the great things happening on our various campuses to our growing community of Wake Foresters around the world.

**ET:** Is there anything else you would like to share with the Wake Forest community?

**CC:** I would love to hear from readers! I want to understand not only what people enjoy but also any ideas or suggestions that folks may have as we seek to contemplate how to make the magazine even better. Please feel free to reach out to me at [editor@wfu.edu](mailto:editor@wfu.edu).

# New fund continues “our greatest tradition” — the bond between the student and the teacher-scholar

By Rob Daniels

**MILLIE, A WONDERFULLY PLAYFUL** 9-month-old Goldendoodle, jumps into the lap of her mom, Allie Kleinman Lowe ('17), to insist on some attention before Lowe starts talking about the professor who inspired a special gift.

“Mary Dalton shaped my Wake Forest experience,” says Lowe. “She wasn’t just a professor. She was a mentor, a guide — someone who really saw her students and supported them.”

So, within just a few months of graduating, Lowe committed \$100,000 to create the Mary M. Dalton Fund for Excellence in Communication, an endowed vehicle that will benefit the academic department that defined the donor’s education and the honoree’s work. Lowe is one of the youngest alumni to make a statement of this magnitude, which includes more than money: It will deliver perpetual honor to an exceptional teacher-scholar.

The gift continues the chain of what Provost Emeritus Ed Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) called “our greatest tradition,” the bonds of scholarship and mentorship between faculty and students. Dalton ('83) got hooked on communication studies in the classroom of Julian C. Burroughs ('51, P '80, '83), now deceased, a professor emeritus of speech communication who taught everything from public speaking to play production to radio and television from 1958-94.

She learned everything she could from Burroughs, who hired her as an adjunct instructor while she earned a master’s degree and doctorate at the Uni-

versity of North Carolina Greensboro. Dalton soon became a full-time faculty member and would attract the intellectual curiosity of her own generations of Wake Foresters.

Lowe, who grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina, didn’t know what she wanted to study — until she found something called media studies in Carswell Hall.

“That would have never been on my radar if not for Mary Dalton,” Lowe says. “It was just starting out back then. But I could see how deeply she cared and how much thought she put into her teaching — in and out of the classroom.

“There is a warmth to Mary Dalton. I took as many classes as I could with her. Everything she taught, I wanted to take. I often found myself staying after class, eager to talk with her about all kinds of things.”

Dalton’s classes are heavy on student participation and other personal touches. For example, she requires students in COM 120 (Introduction to Critical and Creative Media) to write observations in notebooks and turn them in for periodic review. That way, they’re not spending every moment in front of a screen of some sort.





Professor of Communication Mary Dalton ('83), above left, found her calling in classes taught by Professor Emeritus Julian C. Burroughs ('51, P '80, '83). She received the Donald W. Schoonmaker Faculty Prize for Community Service in 2015 from then-President Nathan O. Hatch (L.H.D. '21), above right. Dalton chats with first-year students outside Luter Residence Hall, below left; Allie Kleinman Lowe ('17), with her husband Matthew Lowe, below right, made an endowed gift of \$100,000 in Dalton's honor.

As for the subject matter — whether film or TV or written communication — Dalton believes the courses provide benefits beyond proficiency in trivia contests. They make you think and feel, not just absorb information. And she suspected that Lowe was a good fit for any assignment that required students to put their hearts into it.

"She was quiet but determined," Dalton says. "She was a dedicated student. Even more important to me, she is steadfast and kind. I value both of those qualities highly. Kindness most of all."

Lowe says she reaps the benefits of Dalton's interactive classes every day. Her communication major, in conjunction with minors in entrepreneurship and journalism, prepared her for a series of multi-faceted jobs in Greensboro-based family businesses in commercial and residential real estate development, hospitality and related fields. She has worked in business management, recruiting and human resources for Daly Seven, which builds, owns and manages more than 45 hotels in the Carolinas and Virginia. She now works for PARC Cos., which has a portfolio of commercial and multi-family development projects.

Lowe earned a master's degree in hospitality from New York University and holds Professional in Human Resources (PHR) and Certified Hotel Administrator (CHA) certifications. The hard work is paying off, putting her in a place to consider expressing her appreciation in the form of an endowed gift. Lowe put no limits on how the department can use the funding to enhance its offerings and student experiences. But she did have one requirement: The name had to honor Dalton and not the donor.

"It goes back to my parents, who have done most of their donations anonymously," Lowe says. "My faith has always guided me to give quietly and with purpose. My intention wasn't recognition; it was gratitude."

Lowe agreed to waive her anonymity in the hope that her gift will inspire others.

Departmental funds are vital to the health of a broad academic experience because students have a deeper pool of interests than previous generations. In 2003, half of Wake Forest's graduates declared the requisite single major — and nothing else. In contrast, 85% of the Class of 2025 graduated with a second major or at least one minor. That means

all departments have more students needing to take multiple courses.

And Dalton's specialty has become Wake Forest's most declared major in the past decade. "Communication is an incredibly versatile field because it connects to everything we do. It can be applied to any career or setting," Lowe says.

These days, she works remotely from the Ann Arbor, Michigan, home she shares with her husband, Dr. Matthew Lowe, an oral and maxillofacial surgery resident at the University of Michigan. Theirs is a good life rooted in strong values, backed by higher education and enhanced by Millie and a 3-year-old Goldendoodle, Remy.

They don't take it for granted. "I chose an endowed fund because of the impact it could have not just for that time but for generations to come," Lowe says. "I wanted my story to be woven into the ongoing Pro Humanitate narrative of Wake Forest — not just as an alum but as someone who contributes to its future."

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To learn more about endowed funds, please contact [giving@wfu.edu](mailto:giving@wfu.edu)

# CLASSNOTES



*Do you remember how it felt when you were sitting in class, and suddenly what your professor was saying seemed to come into sharper focus, and everything clicked? The adrenaline rush from a lightbulb moment — sparked by a teaching scholar who was truly invested in expanding your understanding — is what so many of us treasure about our time at Wake Forest.*

*Michael Lamb, the F. M. Kirby Foundation Chair of Leadership and Character, senior executive director of the Program for Leadership and Character and associate professor of Interdisciplinary Humanities, provided that experience for many alumni who attended his featured lecture on "Friendships of Character" during Homecoming.*

*We are so fortunate to continue to have opportunities like this, where we can learn, reflect and share while exploring how virtues like empathy, kindness, humility and hope shape friendships — and how Wake Forest can continue to educate the next generation of leaders to find common ground and create community.*

*We want to hear from all of you, fellow alumni, about your own lightbulb moments at Wake Forest. What continues to draw you back to campus? What do you value most that your time learning and living here brought to your life?*

*Part of what I value about Wake Forest is how deeply community and service have always been intertwined with our education. This spring, we hope you join us for our collective opportunity to give back together — Pro Humanitate Days on March 21-29.*

*I remain grateful for all of the lightbulb moments and the many ways we give back to Wake Forest. As always, Go Deacs!*

**— Shelley Slaughter Holden ('00, JD '03, P '29), Winston-Salem President, Wake Forest Alumni Council**

## Pro Humanitate Days: Coming Soon!

[bit.ly/ProHumanitateDaysAlumni](http://bit.ly/ProHumanitateDaysAlumni)

Save the date for Pro Humanitate Days, our annual days of service, March 21-29. Alumni, families, students, faculty, staff and friends around the world will come together during this special time to take action for humanity. You can participate with a group in your local community or on your own.

The idea of a dedicated day of service, now stretching across eight days, came about in response to alumni regularly checking in after natural disasters to see if the Alumni Engagement team was organizing a way for us to help. Many of our community partners have stayed constant throughout the years, with new ones added along the way, often through deep relationships with alumni already involved on boards or as employees.

These days, hundreds of alumni participate in about 50 projects around the country. Some alumni turn into longtime volunteers or board members following their introduction through our days of service.

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Have a question? Contact the Alumni Engagement Office at 800-752-8568 or [alumni.wfu.edu](mailto:alumni.wfu.edu)

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

[bit.ly/Deacontravel](http://bit.ly/Deacontravel)

Join fellow alumni on a journey this year:

**Flavor of the Italian Alps,** May 23-31

**Galapagos Islands — Western Itinerary,** June 16-23

**National Parks and Lodges of the Old West,** July 31-Aug. 8

**Discover Southeast Alaska,** Aug. 7-14

**Kenya Safari: The Big 5,** Sept. 2-12

**Around the World by Private Jet,** Sept. 13-Oct. 3

**Bordeaux to Lisbon,** Oct. 1-12

## PERSONAL AND CAREER ADVICE

[alumni.opcd.wfu.edu](http://alumni.opcd.wfu.edu)

No matter where you are in your career, Wake Forest has a team ready to help you navigate your personal and professional journey. Check out the wide range of resources available through the Alumni Personal & Career Development Center, many of which you can access virtually.

### LEARN Model: Get Started

Follow a self-directed, personal learning framework to develop professionally and take the next step in your career.

### Connect with a Career Coach

Ask a quick question through an online form or set up a 30-minute appointment for alumni career coaching assistance.

### Recent Graduates

Register for Year One (How to make the most of your first year after graduating) or Your First Five (the areas you need to master in your first five years).



Pinnix (JD '73)



Olson ('77, PhD '81, DSc '03)



McCanless ('78)



Vaughan (JD '79)



Burnette ('81, JD '84)



Richardson ('83)



Higdon ('85, JD '89)

## 1960s

**Fred Morrison (JD '63)** was honored by the North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission with a resolution of appreciation for his 32 years with the commission. Morrison retired in 2023 as senior administrative law judge after 37 years in the Office of Administrative Hearings and 60 years practicing law. He lives in Raleigh.

Pogue Distinguished Chair. He was awarded Wake Forest's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2022. More at [bit.ly/2Cq9wY4](https://bit.ly/2Cq9wY4)

**George McCanless ('78)** retired after 13 years as president and CEO of United Way of Central Georgia in Macon. Before joining United Way, he spent more than 30 years in the newspaper industry, including as publisher of The (Macon) Telegraph. He now works as development director for the nonprofit Center for Integrity in News Reporting. He and his wife, Rebecca McCanless, live in Forsyth, GA.

**Steven Pixley (JD '78)** received the Alex R. Munson Professionalism Award during the 2025 Pacific Judicial Conference from the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. He has tried many cases in his more than 30 years practicing law in the Pacific region. He was also chief of litigation and acting attorney general for the Federated States of Micronesia.

**Don Vaughan (JD '79)** received the John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina State Bar. Vaughan is a criminal defense attorney in Greensboro, NC, with more than 35 years of experience, and an adjunct professor in the School of Law.

**John C. Richardson ('83)** is director of facilities and exhibits at The Children's Museum of the Upstate in Greenville, SC, with a satellite location in Spartanburg, SC. The museum, the seventh largest children's museum in the country and 10th largest in the world, was the first children's museum to be recognized as a Smithsonian affiliate. Richardson previously held the same role at the Miriam P. Brenner Children's Museum in Greensboro, NC.

**Rob Barrett (JD '85)** was named a trustee at Spartanburg (SC) Methodist College. Barrett is general counsel, chief compliance officer and corporate secretary for Spartanburg-based J M Smith Corp., which supplies products and services to independent pharmacies and long-term care facilities. He lives in Duncan, SC, with his wife, Angela Barrett.

**Henry Heidtmann ('85)** is co-creator of DumpTruck Media, an educational technology partnership featuring The SandBox, a secure podcast network for middle school students to find their voices. Heidtmann is in his 39th year as a technology specialist at Summit School in Winston-Salem. He lives in Lewisville, NC, with his wife, **Julie Marie Heidtmann ('89, MAEd '94)**, who also teaches at Summit.

**Robert "Bobby" J. Higdon Jr. ('85, JD '89)** joined Baker Donelson law firm's government enforcement and investigations group as a shareholder in the Raleigh office. He is a former U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

**Richard LaBarge (JD '85)** is slowing down after 40 years as a trademark lawyer for Marshall, Gerstein & Borun in Chicago. To spend more time with his two grandsons, he "gave up the corner

## 1970s

**David Doda ('71)** wrote "No Offense, No Defense, No Hope! How an Old-School Coach Transformed a College Football Team of Perennial Underdogs and Won a Championship for the Ages," recapping the 1970 Wake Forest football team's success. Doda, a tight end on the team, lives in Brookfield, VT, with his wife, **Nancy McIntyre Doda ('74)**. More at [bit.ly/DavidDoda](https://bit.ly/DavidDoda)

**Jane Crater Hiatt (MAEd '72)** received the Mississippi Governor's Arts Award for her patronage of the arts. Hiatt is a past director of The Arts Alliance of Jackson & Hinds Counties and the Mississippi Arts Commission and was interim director for the Mississippi Museum of Art. She now lives in Alpharetta, GA.

**Costi Kutteh ('73)** was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest award for service. Kutteh, now retired, was mayor of Statesville, NC, for 20 years. He and his wife, **Teresa Currin Kutteh ('73, MAEd '74)**, a retired school counselor, have lived in downtown Statesville since 1983.

**John "Jack" L. Pinnix (JD '73)** was named to the North Carolina Bar Association's Legal Practice Hall of Fame. He is a senior immigration attorney and co-founder of the Raleigh-based firm Allen & Pinnix P.A. He is the first immigration attorney to receive the honor.

**Eric Olson ('77, PhD '81, DSc '03)** received the 2025 Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize from Columbia University for discoveries that revealed the biological causes of Duchenne muscular dystrophy and paved the way for new treatments. Olson founded the Department of Molecular Biology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where he is the Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Science, the Annie and Willie Nelson Professor in Stem Cell Research and the

## 1980s

**Katherine "Kat" Burnette ('81, JD '84)** wrote a thriller, "Killing Her Sharply." Her debut novel, "Judge's Waltz," won a Pinnacle Book Achievement Award and a Feathered Quill award. Burnette's short fiction has appeared in the Mystery Tribune, Sky Island Journal, Maudlin House and the moonShine review. She and her husband, **Tom Burnette (JD '84)**, live in Oxford, NC.

**John Martin ('81)** was named Lawyer of the Year for medical malpractice law (defendants) in the Wilmington, NC, area in the 2026 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington.

**Andy Avram ('82, JD '90)** was named Lawyer of the Year for workers' compensation law (employers) in the Charlotte area in the 2026 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Becky Garrison ('83)** wrote "Gaslighting for God: A Satirical Guide to Save Yourself from Spiritual Narcissists." She lives in Troutdale, OR.

**Wake Forest Magazine** welcomes Class Notes submissions from alumni. There are three ways to submit information:

**ONLINE:**[magazine.wfu.edu/submit](https://magazine.wfu.edu/submit)**EMAIL:**[classnotes@wfu.edu](mailto:classnotes@wfu.edu)**STANDARD MAIL:**

Wake Forest Magazine  
1834 Wake Forest Road  
PO Box 7205  
Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7205

**Andrade**  
(‘88)**Hoffman**  
(JD '90)**Dixon**  
(JD '92)**Sager**  
(‘93)**Connors**  
(JD '95)**Hall**  
(‘98)**Morton**  
(‘03)

office and asked the firm for an of counsel role," he says. "They've instead surprised me with an offer of the title of partner emeritus."

**Sean Dail (JD '86)** retired in 2016 after 28 years as a legislative analyst with the North Carolina General Assembly, where he drafted bills, committee substitutes and amendments. Since retiring, he has traveled to Cuba; South Africa (twice); England; Scotland; nine of the 27 countries in the European Union; western Canada; and the Alaskan interior. He is looking forward to visiting eastern Europe this fall.

**Jody Reedy Andrade ('88)** preached on "Dinner with a Prophet" on Day1's weekly broadcast on Sept. 28. Day1 features Protestant preachers from mainline denominations and airs on more than 200 radio stations. Andrade is a transitional pastor in the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, where she works with congregations experiencing change.

**Glen Sanginario ('89)** was named director of credit and collections for Resource Label Group in Franklin, TN.

## 1990s

**Pat Flanagan (JD '90)** was named Lawyer of the Year for litigation (labor and employment) in the Charlotte area in the 2026 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

**Anne Marie Goslak ('90)** was named to Golf Digest's Best Teachers in Every State list for North Carolina. She was one of two women, along with **Nicole Dorthe Weller ('94)**, included on the list of the 20 best golf instructors in the state. Goslak was also listed as an LPGA Top 50 Instructor worldwide for the eighth consecutive year. She played on the women's golf team at Wake Forest and lives in Wilmington, NC.

**Dana Hoffman (JD '90)** was named a fellow of the International Society of Barristers, an honor society that promotes trial by jury and an independent judiciary. Hoffman is a shareholder at Young Moore in Raleigh with more than 30 years of experience as a trial attorney focused on defense litigation for clients in transportation, long-term care and electric utilities.

**Mary Alice Dixon (JD '92)** wrote a poetry collection, "Snakeberry Mamas: Words from the Wild." She says the poems "carry you into a magic world

of owl-women, magnolias and the memories of dead mothers alive in the heartwood of trees." She lives in Charlotte.

**Sterling Griggs ('92)** wrote his first book, "It All Begins Today," a novel set in coastal North Carolina about a family grappling with death and building new family bonds. Griggs is a teacher in Wilmington, NC, where he lives with his wife, Kellie Griggs. They have four children.

**Bruce Buchanan ('93)** wrote his first novel, "The Blacksmith's Boy," a young adult/new adult "swords & sorcery" fantasy novel. Buchanan is a communications writer for an international law firm and a former journalist. He lives in Greensboro, NC, with his wife, Amy Joyner Buchanan, and their teenage son, Jackson.

**Catherine Hogewood Fowler ('93)** was named director of Elevate, NC State University's post-secondary education program for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She previously worked for two decades at UNC Charlotte supporting state agencies that provide services to youth with disabilities.

**Heather M. Sager ('93)** was named chair of international law firm Ashurst Perkins Coie's U.S. labor and employment practice group. A partner in the San Francisco office, Sager was named one of the 100 most influential women in Bay Area business by the San Francisco Business Times and one of California's top labor and employment lawyers by the Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journal.

**Ed Southern ('94)** edited a book, "The Devil's Done Come Back: New Ghost Tales from North Carolina," in which 15 of the state's authors, including Southern, retell ghost stories. The Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance named it a bestseller. Southern is executive director of the North Carolina Writers' Network and lives in Winston-Salem. More at [bit.ly/DevilishDelights](http://bit.ly/DevilishDelights)

**Nicole Dorthe Weller ('94)** was named to Golf Digest's Best Teachers in Every State list for North Carolina. She was one of two women, along with **Anne Marie Goslak ('90)**, included on the list of the 20 best golf instructors in the state. Weller played on the women's golf team at Wake Forest and lives in Leland, NC.

**Sinclair Bell ('95)** was named a 2026 fellow by The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery of Art. As the Samuel H. Kress Senior Fellow, Bell will research "Aethiopians in Roman Art and Society: Race, Representa-

tion and Social Practice." Bell is a professor of art history at Northern Illinois University.

**Manning Connors (JD '95, P '24)** was named deputy head of litigation for Syngenta, a leading agricultural science and technology company with global headquarters in Basel, Switzerland. Connors lives in Greensboro, NC, home of the company's North America crop protection business.

**Sanjay Saha ('95, MD '22)** pursued his long-time dream of becoming a physician after nearly two decades as a hospital executive, including at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist. He earned his medical degree at Wake Forest in 2022 and completed an internal medicine residency at the Medical University of South Carolina, where he now combines clinical practice with administrative leadership. He says he enjoys seeing patients and serving on the executive leadership team of the academic medical center.

**Brian David Hall ('98)** was named principal digital strategist for fraud intelligence at Q2 Software Inc., a digital banking software company based in Austin, TX. Hall lives in Charlotte.

## 2000s

**Katie Venit ('01)** wrote two picture books for children: "Forts," a national bestseller about the places children hide, play and dream, and "Cassini's Mission: A Spacecraft, a Tiny Moon and the Search for Life Beyond Earth." She is an instructional designer for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

**Peter Wolf ('01)** volunteers on the patient advocacy committee of the International Cardio-Oncology Society, which promotes cardiovascular health for patients undergoing cancer treatments. Wolf was a three-year Hodgkin's lymphoma survivor when he enrolled at Wake Forest; 20 years later he had heart disease caused by cancer treatments. He lives in Winter Park, FL.

**Vishak J. John ('03)** was named one of America's Leading Doctors in retina surgery by Newsweek. John is an adult and pediatric retina surgeon and managing partner at Vistar Eye Center in Roanoke, VA, and a faculty member at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. Before moving to Roanoke in 2017, he worked at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Eye Center in Winston-Salem. John and his wife, Sandy Chacko, a dentist, established the John Family Foundation Scholarship at Wake Forest. They have two children.

**Amanda Morton ('03)** rejoined law firm Ice Miller as a partner in the real estate, environmental and energy law practice group in the Indianapolis, IN, and Naples, FL, offices.

**Anna Warburton Munroe ('03, JD '09)** was included in the 2025 North Carolina Super Lawyers magazine and in The Best Lawyers in America in family law. Munroe is a shareholder at law firm Allman Spry Leggett Crumpler & Horn P.A. in Winston-Salem.

**Adam Dovico ('04)** and his wife, **Jaclyn Heintz Dovico ('05)**, opened a direct pediatric care practice, Joyful Pediatrics, in Greensboro, NC. Jaclyn, a pediatrician, and Adam, an educator, offer a whole-child care model.

**Kim Gay Smith ('04)** completed the Liberty Fellowship, an 18-month leadership program to improve communities in South Carolina. She is the founder and CEO of Health Evolve Technologies, which promotes innovative technologies to improve the health and wellbeing of women and families.

**Benjamin Worley ('04)** was named to its 2025 Top Financial Security Professionals list for South Carolina by Forbes. He is a wealth management adviser with Northwestern Mutual. He lives in Greenville, SC, with his wife, Courtney Worley, and their three children.



Munroe ('03, JD '09)



Smith ('04)



Jackson ('05)



Lawrence-Reid ('05)



Koesters (JD '10)

**Chris Brown ('05)** was promoted to director of attorney recruiting at Morgan & Morgan law firm. He lives outside of Athens, GA, with his wife and three daughters.

**Jaclyn Heintz Dovico ('05)** and her husband, **Adam Dovico ('04)**, opened a direct pediatric care practice, Joyful Pediatrics, in Greensboro, NC. Jaclyn, a pediatrician, and Adam, an educator, offer a whole-child care model.

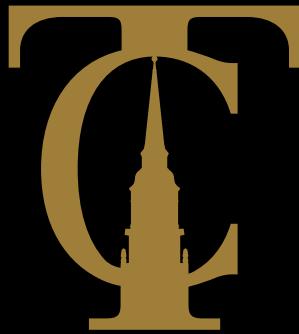
**Laura Kacewicz Jackson ('05)** wrote a children's book, "The Busy Beast," about the importance of free play in childhood. She hopes the book will help children and families talk about overscheduling and, she says, "maybe slow down a bit."

**Naomi Lawrence-Reid ('05)** founded Doctoring Differently, a digital media company that educates physicians about innovative, non-tradi-

tional jobs and career strategies through online courses, seminars and conferences. After practicing in an academic pediatric emergency department for three years, she explored other career options for physicians, such as being a traveling doctor, providing expert testimony and consulting for tech and pharmaceutical companies. Her experience inspired her to start her company. A pediatrician and graduate of University of Massachusetts Medical School, Lawrence-Reid was featured in Forbes last fall. She lives in San Diego.

## 2010s

**John David "JD" Koesters (JD '10)** joined Baker Donelson's government enforcement and investigations group as a shareholder in the Raleigh office. He is a former assistant U.S. Attorney.



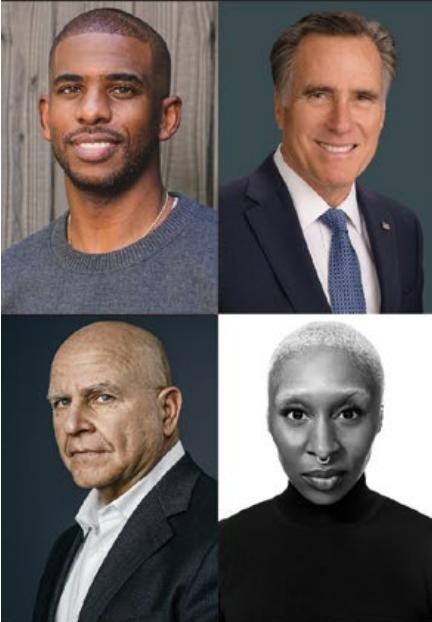
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# 30<sup>TO</sup>FACE

## SPEAKER FORUM

### 2025-26 SEASON



SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

**CHRIS PAUL**

NOVEMBER 6, 2025

**MITT ROMNEY**

FEBRUARY 6, 2026

**LT. GEN. H. R. McMaster**

APRIL 15, 2026

**CYNTHIA ERIVO**

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**Nick Corak (MAEd '12, MA '20, PhD '25)** joined Wake Forest's Department of Mathematics as an assistant teaching professor. He lives in Winston-Salem with his wife, **Kate Douglass (MAEd '12)**, and their sons, Graham and Max.

**David Ayers (MSL '16)** joined NC State University's College of Education as an associate professor of community college leadership. He received the 2019 Senior Scholar Award from the Council for the Study of Community Colleges and is an editor of *Community College Review*.

**Ashley Hamati ('16)** was accepted to a gynecologic oncology fellowship at the University of South Alabama.

**Martha M. Schull ('17)** joined Roberts & Stevens in Asheville, NC, as an associate attorney. Her practice focuses on healthcare litigation, medical malpractice and healthcare regulation.

**Carly Gordon ('19)** is a lecturer in the department of chemistry and biochemistry at Auburn University. She is one of the founding members of the Alabama Chapter of the American Chemical Society's Women Chemists Committee.

## 2020s

**Eli Hardin (JD '21)** was named assistant county attorney in Rowan County, NC. He lives in Salisbury.

**Jessica Hardee ('22)** earned her JD from Duke University School of Law alongside her husband, William Knight. She joined the Southern Environmental Law Center in Chapel Hill, NC, as an associate attorney.

**Erin Greene (MA '23)** won a blue ribbon in the Carolina Classic Fair for her apple decorated like singer Chappell Roan, which she calls the "Chappell Apple." Greene's "Cowboy Carter" potato, decorated as Beyoncé, took third place. More at [bit.ly/FairRibbons](http://bit.ly/FairRibbons)

**Nick Kurtz ('25)** was unanimously voted as the 2025 American League Rookie of the Year by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. He was drafted 4th overall in the 2024 MLB Draft by the Oakland Athletics.

**Lydia Joy Lazar-Ayers (MDiv '25)** is a chaplain resident at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist in Winston-Salem.

## Marriages

**David Pearce ('87)** and Ginnie Hester-Smith, 7/26/25 in Wrightsville Beach, NC. They live in Wilmington, NC.

**Benjamin Russell McKaig ('12)** and Lindsey Wuerfel, 10/4/25 in Columbia, SC. They live in Winston-Salem, where Lindsey is an assistant director for market readiness and employment at Wake Forest. The wedding party included Christopher Campos ('14).

**Hanna Book ('13)** and David Scheinberg, 8/31/25 in Nashville, TN, where they live. The wedding party included Landon Bauman ('13), Hannah Waddell Davis ('13) and Caroline DeCelles ('13).

**Skyler Elizabeth Marker ('14)** and Martin Haley Steren, 9/7/25 in Milwaukee. They live in Arlington, VA.

**Annie Bray Hines ('15)** and Gray DePasquale, 4/12/25 in Boone, NC. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included Ariel Hawley ('15), Kelly Lynch ('15) and Alex Trevisan ('15).

**Alexa Erb ('16)** and Aaron Dockser, 7/19/25 in Easthampton, MA. They live in Boston. The wedding party included Andrea Anderson ('16), Sarah Fine ('16) and Heather Sullivan ('16).

**Daniel Wheeler Walsworth ('16)** and Ashley Marie Christianson, 10/7/25 in Nebraska City, NE. They live in Denver. The wedding party included Grant Spencer ('16) and John McLaughlin ('16), who officiated.

**Raine M. Craft ('18, MSA '21)** and **Elizabeth M. Turner (MSA '22)**, 10/24/25 in Winston-Salem. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included William von Behren ('18) and Julie Dodson ('21, MSA '22).

**Derek Vela ('18)** and **Madeline Katsarelis ('20)**, 4/5/25 in Clearwater Beach, FL. They live in Charlotte.

**Madeline Paige Baxter ('19)** and **Wilbert O'Brien Limehouse ('21)**, 5/25/25 in Charleston, SC. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included Carly East Holtzschue ('18), Leeden Rukstalis ('19), Becky Swig ('19), Haley Silverman ('19), Jessica Baker ('19), Lauren Burns ('19), Sophie Hollis ('19), Tommy Fitzgerald ('19), Jack Beyer ('20), Logan Foster ('20) and Matthew Ballard ('21).

## Births

**Susan Emery Lawson ('04, MBA '09)** and Andrew Walker Morrison, Charlotte: a son, Walker Mitchell Morrison, in August. He joined his sister, Edie (4).

**Johanna Blue Wrenholt ('06)** and Michael Wrenholt, Durham, NC: a son, Nathan Dane Wrenholt, in July. He joined his brother, Logan James (2).

**Austin Hester Creviston ('09)** and Bryan Creviston, Charleston, SC: a daughter, Margaret Grayce Creviston, in May.

**Nick Corak (MAEd '12, MA '20, PhD '25)** and **Kate Douglass (MAEd '12)**, Winston-Salem: a son, Graham Eli Corak, in May. He joined his brother, Max (4).

**Kelly Rumbaugh Patel ('12)** and Chirag Patel, Dallas: a son, Bodhi Walker Patel, in July. He joined his sister, Amaya (2).

**Thomas Nash Rusher ('12)** and **Zena Colleen Zweber Rusher ('13)**, Raleigh: twin sons, Andrew Thomas Rusher and Bennett Kane Rusher, in July. They joined their brother, Nash (3).

**Yodeline Guerrier Ford ('13)** and **Antonio Ford ('14)**, Oviedo, FL: a son, Alexander Jamarcus Ford, in May. He joined his sister, Josianne (7), and brother, Antonio Jr. (5).

**John Philip Rotchford ('13, MSA '14)** and **Laura Hiznay Rotchford ('13)**, Bernardsville, NJ: a daughter, Charlotte Lynn Rotchford, in August.

**Joseph E. Murphy (MSM '14)** and Alexis L. Murphy, Naperville, IL: a daughter, Everly Ann Murphy, in August. She joined her sister, Avery (2).

**Celia Elizabeth Quillian ('14)** and Neil Edward Bancherosmith, Atlanta: a daughter, Celia Brian-a Bancherosmith, in September.

**Brennan O'Brien ('16)** and Lucy O'Brien, Durham, NC: a son, Asher Seamus O'Brien, in August.

**Maddie Wilder Powell ('19)** and **Owen Powell ('19)**, Raleigh: a son, Wilder Daniel Powell, in September.

## Obituaries

**Martha Bunn Tyson ('48)**, Aug. 22, 2025, Florence, SC. She worked for H&R Block for nearly 40 years.

**Bernard Franklin McLeod Jr. ('49)**, Sept. 26, 2025, Fuquay-Varina, NC. He was a real estate developer, trader and investor. He established the Bernard F. McLeod Jr. Scholarship at Wake Forest. Survivors include his granddaughters, **Hannah McLeod Parks ('10)** and **Hilary McLeod Squire ('14)**.

**Robert Alvin Orr ('49)**, Sept. 3, 2025, Cullman, AL. He served in the U.S. Army and worked in Christian education publishing at what is now Lifeway.

**Robert Keith Black ('50)**, Sept. 6, 2025, Burlington, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and retired as professor of art at Atlantic Christian College.

**William "Bill" Harvey Cole ('50)**, Oct. 11, 2025, Williamsburg, VA. He served in the U.S.

Navy during World War II and in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was an auditor for the Defense Contract Audit Agency. He was a founding member of Wake Forest's chapter of Sigma Chi fraternity. He was preceded in death by brothers **Ray Cole ('50)** and **Jim Cole ('51)**.

**Richard Tipton McNeil Jr. ('50)**, Aug. 9, 2025, North Wilkesboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was president and manager of a bottling company.

**Martha Delores Wilkins ('51)**, Sept. 24, 2025, Spindale, NC. She was a hospital laboratory technician.

**Charles Lynwood Thaggard Sr. ('52)**, May 8, 2024, Fayetteville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and worked in sales and management at Southern Resin Inc.

**Norma Lattimore Koch ('53)**, Oct. 11, 2025, Troy, NC. She was a high school biology teacher. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Joseph Koch ('55)**.

**Janet Matthews Lakey ('53)**, Sept. 3, 2025, Midlothian, VA. She was a kindergarten and second grade teacher for 36 years.

**Lowell Dallas Lee ('53)**, April 26, 2025, Vaughan, NC. He was an American Baptist minister for almost 40 years.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Wake Forest Magazine publishes obituaries of alumni, faculty, staff and friends that include their involvement with the University, military service, primary profession, family members who are alumni and scholarships they endowed at Wake Forest. We generally do not include degrees from other schools, hobbies or community service, honor society memberships or family members who are not Wake Forest alumni.

**Robert "Bob" Lowry ('53)**, Aug. 6, 2025, Cary, NC. He was a member of Cary Presbyterian Church and Masonic Lodge #198.

**Lynda Jane McGinty ('53)**, Aug. 26, 2025, Belmont, NC. She taught in elementary schools and with the Department of Defense Dependents Schools.

**Clyde Harold Cook Jr. ('54)**, July 20, 2024, Wilkesboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and retired from the Internal Revenue Service.

**Doris Mitchell Golder ('54)**, Aug. 14, 2024, Charlotte.

## RONALD "RON" EDWARD DEAL ('65) Life Trustee



Ron Deal, a life trustee who established an undergraduate scholarship fund, died Sept. 21, 2025, in his native Hickory, North Carolina. He was 82.

Survivors include his wife, Sandra Butler Deal, children Eddie Deal ('88) and his wife Jennifer Sundberg Deal ('87), and Anne Deal Bradshaw ('94) and her husband Patrick Bradshaw, along with seven grandchildren, including Jack Temple ('22, MSM '23), Sam Deal ('22) and Sara Bradshaw, a Wake Forest sophomore.

After graduating from Wake Forest, Deal joined his family's upholstery manufacturing business, Highland House. In 1989, he cofounded upholstered furniture line Wesley Hall and led the company for nearly 30 years. He served on the University Board of Trustees for 23 years and was named a Life Trustee in 2008. He was president of the Alumni Association in the 1970s.

Deal and his wife supported the School of Medicine and funded the Deal Family Scholarship Fund for undergraduates from Hickory and surrounding communities. They also endowed an early childhood literacy program, The Little Read, through Lenoir-Rhyne University in memory of their daughter, Sara Deal Temple ('91).

**Bruce Crawford ('55)**, Sept. 17, 2025, Hendersonville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and worked for General Electric for 36 years.

**Frank A. Read Jr. ('55)**, Aug. 11, 2025, Louisburg, NC. He served in the National Guard and was a contractor, builder and property manager. Survivors include his wife, **Rose Dennis Read ('52)**.

**Robert Arthur Sawyer ('56)**, May 22, 2024, South Londonderry, VT. He was a teacher and coach.

**Herbert Doyle Smith ('56)**, Dec. 21, 2024, Dalton, OH. He served in the U.S. Army and was a CPA, corporate auditor, hospital controller, real estate agent and author.

**Curtis Harold Blackwell ('57)**, Sept. 13, 2025, Sherrills Ford, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy and retired from Nucor in Charlotte.

**Philip Lee Deaton ('57)**, Dec. 14, 2024, Janesville, WI. He served in the U.S. Army and was the Janesville city manager.

**Howard Erwin Glenn Jr. ('57)**, Sept. 17, 2024, Newport News, VA.

**Magdalen M. Metz ('57)**, June 13, 2024, Norwalk, CT. She was postmaster of Wingdale, NY.

**Tommy Lee Teague ('57)**, Oct. 1, 2025, Greensboro, NC. He was president of Teague Auto Supply in Greensboro. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society and established a scholarship fund in the School of Business. He was preceded in death by his brothers, **O.B. Teague Jr. ('49)** and **John E. Teague ('53)**.

**Andrew Johnson "John" Borders Jr. ('58)**, Sept. 16, 2025, Sandusky, OH. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and was a chemist at DuPont for three decades.

**Robert Leland Crouch Jr. ('58)**, Dec. 25, 2024, Trinity, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force and worked in the furniture industry.

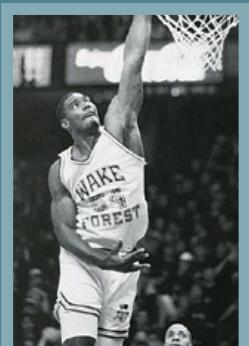
**Archie Wade Morris ('58)**, Oct. 30, 2025, Greensboro, NC. He played football at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Navy. He owned a windshield-glass replacement company.

**William "Bill" Lee Pegram Sr. ('58)**, Sept. 27, 2025, Greenville, SC. He played football at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Air Force. He retired from R&L Carriers in Piedmont, SC. Survivors include son **William L. Pegram Jr. ('82)**.

**James L. Powell Jr. ('58)**, April 13, 2025, Franklin, TN. At Wake Forest, he was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity, freshman class president and Baptist Student Union state president. He was a chaplain in the U.S. Navy Reserve and a Southern Baptist pastor.

**Jimmy Lynn Taylor ('58, MD '62)**, Sept. 16, 2025, Youngsville, NC. He served in the U.S. Public Health Service on a Sioux reservation before opening his own medical practice.

## RODNEY ROGERS ('94, LHD '22)



Rodney Rogers was one of the most gifted and transformative athletes to ever play basketball at Wake Forest, but the second chapter of his life will perhaps be his greatest legacy. After a 2008 dirt biking accident left him paralyzed from the shoulders down, he showed how to live with purpose, courage and dignity.

Rogers, who died Nov. 21, 2025, is survived by his wife, Faye Rogers; children Roddreka, Rydeiah, Rodney II and Devonte; and his mother, Estelle Spencer.

Forever No. 54 to Deacon fans — his retired jersey hangs in Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum — he was 54.

Rogers lived with his wife in Timberlake, North Carolina, near his hometown of Durham. "The last 18 years have been both challenging and profoundly blessed," Faye Rogers said. "Through every moment, Rodney remained a light — positive, motivated and full of the quiet strength that inspired everyone around him."

In a 2017 profile in Wake Forest Magazine, Cherin C. Poovey (P '08) wrote: "The mortal tapestry that is Rodney Rogers is woven from threads of grace: character, courage, kindness, determination, humility and compassion. His power isn't just a physical presence but a spiritual one. He is a man who, despite overwhelming personal challenges, maintains his own courage, hope and dignity while inspiring others to find theirs."

Rogers grew up in a housing project in Durham and became known as the "Durham Bull" for his imposing size and athleticism on the basketball court. He made an immediate impact at Wake Forest — electrifying fans with thunderous 360-degree dunks — and was ACC Freshman of the Year.

He fueled Wake Forest's rise into one of the top basketball programs in the country, leading the Demon Deacons to three straight NCAA appearances, including a Sweet 16 berth in 1993. That same year, he was named ACC Player of the Year and a second-team All-American and was drafted ninth overall by the Denver Nuggets in the NBA draft.

"It's easy to focus on his extraordinary talent, but ... he was every bit as remarkable as a human being," said former Head Coach Dave Odom. "He faced life exactly as it came and made the very best of every moment. He was a joy to watch as a basketball player, but he was an even greater man."

Rogers retired from the NBA after 12 seasons and moved back to Durham, where he became a heavy equipment operator for the city. After his accident, he established a foundation to support individuals with spinal-cord injuries. He received Wake Forest's Distinguished Alumni Award and an honorary doctorate in 2022.

"I have always admired how Rodney approached life after his accident," said classmate Jennifer Richwine ('93), executive director of the Wake Washington Center. "He could have given up. He could have been bitter. He could have raged at the world. Instead, he was the epitome of grace and good humor. ... He epitomized Pro Humanitate through a life he never wanted or imagined."

**Stephany "Step" Painter Alphin ('59)**, Aug. 20, 2025, Winston-Salem. She and her late husband, **Bob Alphin ('59)**, established the Robert L. Alphin and Stephany P. Alphin Athletic/Academic Excellence Scholarship Fund and The Doug Bailey Urban Ministry Scholarship. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Charles Nathan Dempsey ('59)**, Aug. 3, 2025, Louisa, VA. He was a member of Theta Chi fraternity at Wake Forest and an elementary school principal for 35 years.

**Joan Golden Fox ('59)**, Dec. 6, 2024, Lake Worth, FL. She was an artist and member of the Southern Handcraft Society.

**Betty Greene Jenkins ('59)**, Sept. 21, 2025, Greensboro, NC. She taught composition and literature at UNC Greensboro and Greensboro College.

**Luther Ellis Ledford Jr. ('59)**, Aug. 24, 2025, Pink Hill, NC. He worked at First Citizens Bank for 38 years. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Shirley Turner Ledford ('59)**.

**Colan Douglas "Doug" Long ('59)**, Aug. 23, 2025, Colfax, NC. He retired as department head of real estate and insurance at Guilford Technical Community College.

**Robert "Bob" Porter McNairy ('59)**, May 18, 2025, Mount Pleasant, SC. He was a partner with McGlagrey & Pullen in Charlotte for more than 30 years.

**Robert Martin Talbert ('59)**, April 30, 2025, Powhatan, VA. He was professor emeritus at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he taught history, philosophy and religious studies for 32 years.

**Wilbur F. Woodall Jr. ('59)**, July 3, 2025, Lenoir, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve and trained school bus drivers with the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

**Vivia Jean Cox ('60)**, March 27, 2025, Evansville, IN. She was a retired music professor at Oakland City University.

**Raymond "Ray" Eugene Ebert ('60)**, Sept. 17, 2025, Winston-Salem. He was the University carillonneur for more than 20 years. He served in the U.S. Army and was the organist at Centenary United Methodist Church in Winston-Salem for 40 years.

**Harold Gene Hall (JD '60)**, Sept. 28, 2025, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve and was a lawyer.

**Janet Crutchfield Hamilton ('60)**, April 20, 2024, Williamsburg, VA. She was a laboratory technologist. Survivors include her husband, **John Hamilton Sr. ('60)**.

**Thomas "Tom" Waddell Hill ('60)**, Sept. 29, 2025, Asheville, NC. He was a civilian physicist for the U.S. Air Force and a defense department subcontractor.

**Stephen "LaMarr" Ingram ('60)**, Dec. 21, 2024, Metairie, LA. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Navy and worked for IBM for three decades.

**Douglas "Doug" Clifton Lackey ('60)**, Sept. 7, 2025, Louisville, KY. He served in the U.S. Army as a chaplain's assistant and was a volunteer firefighter and teacher.

**Hillary Harriet Jones Rhodes ('60)**, Sept. 28, 2024, Lexington, NC. She was a teacher for 30 years.

**Nancy Lee Detweiler ('61)**, Aug. 25, 2025, Morehead City, NC. She was a Disciples of Christ minister.

**Sally Lawana Seagroves Evans ('61)**, Aug. 6, 2025, Virginia Beach, VA. She was a high school world history teacher for 30 years and a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Kassiani "Kathy" Papadeas Glenn ('61)**, March 30, 2025, Tarpon Springs, FL. Born in Athens, Greece, she survived the Nazi occupation during World War II and the Greek Civil War, which inspired her to become a social worker with foster children and community groups. She was also a United Church of Christ missionary in the Philippines. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Frank C. Glenn ('61)**.

**Herbert Charles Marsh Hoover (JD '61)**, Aug. 9, 2025, Blairsville, GA. He was treasurer of Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternity at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Army. He retired as corporate counsel for Bank of America, formerly NationsBank. Survivors include his wife, **Betty-Bruce Howard Hoover ('61)**, three children and five grandchildren.

**James "Jim" Newton Lanier ('61)**, July 17, 2025, Asheville, NC. He was on the Wake Forest football team and served in the U.S. Army for 22 years. He was president and chief operating officer of First Command Financial Services and a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Letha Mae Mullins ('61)**, Oct. 30, 2025, Kingsport, TN. She retired from Standard Oil.

**Gerald William Rudelitsch ('61)**, July 23, 2024, Aitkin, MN. He played football at Wake Forest and in the NFL. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was a cattle and horse rancher.

**William "Bill" Dennis Brewer ('62)**, Aug. 11, 2025, Gloucester, VA. He was a member of Sigma Pi fraternity at Wake Forest. He was a materials research scientist at NASA for 40 years and received the Exceptional Service Medal. Survivors include his wife, **Sandra Bright Brewer ('60)**, and daughters **Kelli Brewer Sabiston ('86)** and **Kori Brewer ('91)**.

**Linda Brady Burgess ('62)**, March 3, 2025, Fuquay-Varina, NC. She was a decorator and designer.

**Hubert "Hugh" Everett Jr. ('62)**, Oct. 7, 2025, Mechanicsburg, PA. He was a retired sales manager at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

**Gaither "Bryant" Garner Jr. ('62)**, Sept. 19, 2025, Hampstead, NC. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was a founding partner of Alliance Display and Packaging.



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**Martha Ann Hayes Kittrell ('62)**, Oct. 7, 2024, Ellisville, MS. She was a teacher and secretary.

**Myra Carpenter Slate ('62)**, Jan. 6, 2025, Raleigh. She was a retired teacher.

**Lydia Spivey Williams ('62)**, Jan. 20, 2025, Charlotte. She retired from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library after 35 years. Survivors include her husband, **Charlie Williams ('66)**. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Linda Setzer Carpenter ('63)**, March 23, 2025, Granite Falls, NC. She volunteered at her church and taught health classes.

**Barbara Anne Funderburk ('63)**, Feb. 25, 2025, Monroe, NC. She was a former state regent of the North Carolina State Society of Daughters of American Colonists.

**Robert Thomas Mylod ('63)**, Nov. 5, 2024, Lewes, DE. He was a pastor and chaplain.

**Ray Markham "Mark" Smith ('63)**, Oct. 26, 2025, High Point, NC. He was a member of Sigma Chi and Alpha Phi Omega fraternities at Wake Forest and later a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society. He was a financial services executive and a college professor. Survivors include his wife, **Carolyn Holoman Smith ('62)**, and daughter **Laura Smith Williams ('91)**.

**Doris Keith Stanley ('63)**, Sept. 3, 2025, Raleigh. Survivors include granddaughter **Holden Stanley Clark ('18)**.

**James Michael Broach Sr. ('64)**, Sept. 29, 2025, Hudson, NC. He served in the North Carolina National Guard and was retired from Singer Co. and Hickory Springs Manufacturing.

**John Michael Carroll ('64)**, Oct. 20, 2025, Johnson City, TN. He worked in telecommunications and marketing. A member of the Wake Forest Alumni Council and the Wake Forest Legacy Society, he established The Carroll Family Scholarship and Carroll Family Football Scholarship.

**Larry Dean Farrell ('64)**, Nov. 3, 2025, Greenville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps for more than two decades and was a prison chaplain.

**Joyce Groome Ferguson ('64)**, Aug. 18, 2025, Wilmington, NC. She was president of the Women's Government Association at Wake Forest and professor of communication at UNC Greensboro.

**James "Jim" Kenerson ('64)**, Oct. 24, 2025, Summerville, SC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a postal inspector.

**Jonathan "Jon" Henry Witherspoon ('64)**, Oct. 6, 2025, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army as an intelligence officer. He retired in 2007 as president and publisher of the Winston-Salem Journal after a 43-year career that also included working as a reporter, copy editor, human resources director and general manager.

**Mary Ann Stallings Farrior (MA '65)**, Aug. 23, 2025, Smithfield, NC. She was a teacher.

**Louis "Lou" Johnson Howard Jr. ('65)**, Aug. 12, 2025, Wilmington, NC. He was an All-ACC baseball player at Wake Forest and a baseball coach in Wilmington for 29 years.

**Ronnie Olin Long ('65)**, Aug. 29, 2025, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Air Force and worked in insurance and automobile sales.

**Michael Hagen "Mickey" Walker ('65)**, June 1, 2024, Burlington, NC. He played football at Wake Forest and was an assistant coach after graduation. He later coached high school football.

**David Arvine Clarke Jr. (JD '66)**, July 9, 2025, Angier, NC. He was an administrative law judge for the U.S. Department of Labor and an appeals judge for the Benefits Review Board.

**Stephen L. Fisher ('66)**, Oct. 4, 2025, Abingdon, VA. He was a professor for 35 years at Emory & Henry University and founder of its Appalachian Center for Community Service.

**Michael "Mike" Shepherd Greene ('66)**, Aug. 7, 2025, Port Saint Lucie, FL. He served in the U.S. Army and was director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Mitchell "Mickey" Carroll Spivey ('66)**, Aug. 25, 2025, Rockingham, NC. He was a small business owner. He was preceded in death by his brother, **John Hubert Spivey ('69)**.

**Shirley Dianna George Amen ('67)**, Oct. 26, 2025, Winston-Salem. She was a registered dietitian for Novant Health. She was preceded in death by her husband, Professor Emeritus of Biology

## PHYLLIS TRIBLE (D.DIV. '97)

### Retired Associate Dean of the School of Divinity and Founding Faculty Member

*Editor's Note: School of Divinity Dean Corey D. B. Walker wrote this tribute to Phyllis Trible (D.Div '97), who died Oct. 17, 2025, in New York. Her obituary from the New York Times is here: [nyti.ms/4qNcH1A](https://nyti.ms/4qNcH1A)*



We mourn the passing of Dr. Phyllis Trible, a towering figure in biblical scholarship and a cherished member of the Wake Forest University community.

Dr. Trible's pioneering work in feminist biblical interpretation reshaped theological studies and continues to inspire new generations of scholars, students, and faith leaders. From her early years as assistant and associate professor of religion at Wake Forest (1963-1971) to her role as a founding

faculty member and associate dean of the School of Divinity (1999-2002) and University professor (2002-2012), Dr. Trible's intellectual brilliance and profound faith shaped our institutional identity. In recognition of her pioneering scholarship and enduring contributions to the academy, Wake Forest University awarded her an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1997.

She presided over the opening worship of the Inaugural Convocation of the School of Divinity in 1999, marking the beginning of a new chapter in theological education at Wake Forest University. She shaped intellectual life at Wake Forest through the annual Phyllis Trible Lecture Series (2003-2013), which brought leading scholars to our campus to critically engage and reflect on the significant scholarly contributions of feminist thought and theology.

We are truly thankful for Dr. Trible's extraordinary life, scholarship, and faithful witness — a legacy that exemplifies our mission of "justice, reconciliation and compassion" and uniquely embodies our university motto, *Pro Humanitate*.

## OBITUARY

Ralph Amen, and their son, **Eric Amen ('81)**. Survivors include daughter **Katherine Amen ('81, MALS '92)** and son **duWayne Amen ('81)**.

**J. Thomas "Tom" Bashore (JD '67)**, Aug. 19, 2025, Lutherville, MD. He was a retired associate pastor for administration at First Presbyterian Church in Richmond, VA.

**Ruth Shipp Cromartie ('67)**, Sept. 4, 2025, Virginia Beach, VA. She was a crisis counselor with the city of Norfolk, VA.

**John Montgomery "Monty" Hogewood ('67)**, Aug. 29, 2025, Birmingham, AL. He led fundraising and development initiatives at Samford University for 25 years, including a decade as director of development at the McWhorter School of Pharmacy. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society. Survivors include his wife, Connie Hogewood; son **Mark Hogewood ('90)**; granddaughter **Anna Hogewood Cole ('21)** and her husband, **Jackson Cole ('22)**; brother **Ashley Lee Hogewood ('61, JD '63)** and his wife, **Wanny Wagster Hogewood ('62)**; and nephew **Lee Hogewood (JD '90)** and niece **Catherine Hogewood Fowler ('93)**.

**Robert "Richard" Shouse ('67)**, Sept. 19, 2025, Kernersville, NC. He retired from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

**Eric Steven Clark ('68)**, Aug. 30, 2025, Linwood, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a financial planner.

**Samuel "Sam" Booth Currin III ('68, JD '71)**, Oct. 15, 2025, Lumberton, NC. He was a district attorney who retired from the State of North Carolina after 30 years.

**Newton Wardlaw Scott III ('68)**, Sept. 12, 2025, Haw River, NC. He played basketball and ran track at Wake Forest. He worked at Wachovia and retired from his family's appraisal business. Survivors include his wife, **Sandra Young Scott ('66)**.

**Stephen "Steve" Young Sweet ('68)**, Sept. 1, 2025, Concord, NC. He was a Vietnam veteran and owner of an income tax business. Survivors include his wife, **Carolyn Lewis Sweet ('68)**, brother-in-law **Jasper L. Lewis Jr. ('65)**, sister-in-law **Anne Haynes Lewis ('65)** and nephews **W. Lee Lewis ('90)**, **Richard Lewis ('92)** and **James Drury Lewis (JD '00)**.

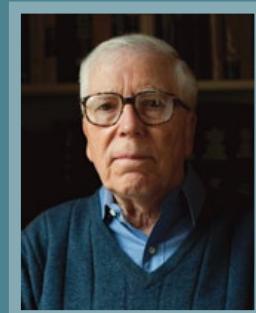
**Emily Jane Wade ('68)**, July 29, 2025, Chantilly, VA. She was a member of the Fideles society at Wake Forest. She was a nurse in the burn care unit at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas.

**Carolyn Fuller Biddix (MA '69)**, June 9, 2025, Salisbury, NC. She was a math and physics teacher and worked in complex cost accounting.

**John Michael Baker ('70)**, Aug. 26, 2025, Scottsdale, AZ. He was a foreign service officer and management officer for the U.S. Information Agency.

## JAMES P. BAREFIELD

### Professor Emeritus of History



Jim Barefield was a Wake Forest original. For more than 40 years, his infectious love of irony and humor both in literature and in life, his quick wit and idiosyncrasies, his innate charm and intellect, and that distinctive raspy voice endeared him to legions of admiring students from Tribble Hall to Venice.

Barefield, who was 91, died Oct. 28, 2025, in Winston-Salem.

A native of Jacksonville, Florida, Barefield grew up in Atlanta and Birmingham, Alabama. He graduated from Rice University and earned his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University after conducting research in England on a Fulbright scholarship. He found a home at Wake Forest in 1963 and never left.

When Barefield retired in 2004, former student Rogan Kersh ('86) wrote of the "profound respect, gratitude and — yes — love" that so many of Barefield's students felt for their professor and mentor. "True teachers — those who touch students' lives in deeply meaningful ways both in and beyond the classroom — are as rare as they are cherished; countless former Barefield students know him as a prime example." (Kersh was Provost of Wake Forest from 2012 to 2022 and a political science professor until 2023.)

Barefield helped build Wake Forest's interdisciplinary honors program and the study-abroad programs at Casa Artom in Venice and Worrell House in London. He mentored merit scholarship recipients and advised those competing for prestigious postgraduate scholarships including the Rhodes and Fulbright. Even after he retired, Barefield continued conducting interviews with prospective students for the undergraduate admissions office. He received Wake Forest's highest honor, the Medallion of Merit, in 2017.

For decades, Barefield reveled in teaching the cornerstone honors classes, "The Ironic View" and "The Comic View," in the Tribble Hall classroom later named the Barefield Honors Seminar Room or at his home nearby, often over Coca-Cola and Mint Milano cookies.

"Before Jim, I had never known anyone who actually got happier when things went awry," wrote Joy Goodwin ('95). "In situations that would make a normal person cringe — say, a cloudburst at an outdoor wedding — Jim could scarcely contain his merriment."

Barefield directed the Casa Artom program for years and took students to Venice six times, more than any other professor, beginning in 1973, two years after the program started. In the early years, no one was better suited to develop the program, cultivate relationships across the city and temper the antics of young college students, while introducing them to Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa's "The Leopard."

"They were the best days in our lives. We were young, foolish and blissfully unaware, but we had Jim Barefield in the house," Steve Duin ('76, MA '79) wrote. "I don't know that the program, or many of us, would have survived without Wake Forest's storied history professor." More at [bit.ly/BarefieldDuin](http://bit.ly/BarefieldDuin) and [bit.ly/BarefieldGoodwin](http://bit.ly/BarefieldGoodwin)

**Robert "Bob" Bulkowski ('70)**, Aug. 17, 2025, Colts Neck, NJ. He owned and operated a fertilizer manufacturing company.

**James "Jim" Walter Kyle ('70)**, Nov. 1, 2025, Kenilworth, IL. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and ran his own financial management business. Survivors include daughter **Julia Kyle Newton ('02)**.

**Paul Savage ('70)**, June 28, 2025, San Francisco. He played football at Wake Forest. He built a swimwear company in Hawaii, worked in commercial real estate and ran a bed and breakfast.

**Grady Franklin Chatman Jr. ('71)**, Jan. 25, 2025, Yadkinville, NC. He was a supporter of the Boy Scouts of America. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Marie Simmons Chatman ('62)**.

**David Ballinger Palmer ('72)**, Aug. 27, 2025, Raleigh. He was a member of Sigma Pi fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and worked in construction and retail management.

**Michael Henry Blatt ('73)**, Oct. 30, 2025, Woodlawn, VA. He was a high school English teacher and basketball and tennis coach before working in insurance and financial sales and sales management.

**Gary "Alan" Moon Sr. ('73)**, Sept. 10, 2025, Aberdeen, NC. He led Aberdeen Coca-Cola and Mid-South Food Service Inc. for 50 years. Survivors include his son, **Gary Alan Moon Jr. ('12, MA '16)**, and his sister, **Diana Moon Adams ('78)**.

**Martha Joan Wiseman Smith ('73)**, Sept. 18, 2025, Lancaster, PA. She taught French for 30 years.

**Gregory Phillip Luck ('74, JD '82)**, Nov. 2, 2025, North Wilkesboro, NC. He was a lawyer for more than four decades and a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**James Joseph "Jay" Murphy III ('74)**, Aug. 2, 2025, Staten Island, NY. He played football at Wake Forest. He worked in the shipping industry and was founding president of Wilmington (DE) Stevedores.

**William "Bill" Bailey Campbell ('75)**, Aug. 9, 2025, Kernersville, NC. He was a magistrate for more than three decades in Forsyth County.

**Peter Kentfield Holm ('75)**, Oct. 1, 2025, Indianapolis. He played basketball and golf at Wake Forest and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. He worked in sales and fundraising.

**Mark S. Rose Jr. (MAED '75)**, July 24, 2025, Winston-Salem. He was a Methodist minister and a counselor.

**Kenneth "Ken" Claude Sharp ('76)**, Sept. 12, 2025, Charlotte. He was global leader of assurance services at Grant Thornton LLP in Charlotte and a past member of the School of Business Board of Visitors. He was also a member of the

## GORDON EUGENE "GENE" BOYCE ('54, JD '56) AND PATRICIA "PAT" ALPHIN BOYCE ('54)



Gordon Eugene "Gene" Boyce ('54, JD '56), a North Carolina trial lawyer and assistant chief counsel to a U.S. Senate committee during the Watergate scandal, died Oct. 28, 2025, in Raleigh. His wife of more than 70 years, Patricia "Pat" Alphin Boyce ('54), died Nov. 27, 2025, also in Raleigh. Both were 93. The

couple established the Gene and Pat Boyce Law Scholarship and the Gene and Pat Boyce College Scholarship at Wake Forest, and the dean's suite in Worrell Professional Center is named in their honor. They were members of the Legacy Society. Their generosity provided a host of students with the opportunity to attend Wake Forest.

As a student at Wake Forest, Gene Boyce was student body president, head cheerleader and Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity treasurer. After serving in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, he became a trial lawyer in Raleigh. In 1973, he played a historic role as assistant chief counsel of the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities during the Watergate investigation. His team's discovery of the White House audiotaping system eventually led to President Richard Nixon's resignation. (More at [bit.ly/WatergateCommittee](http://bit.ly/WatergateCommittee))

Boyce returned to his home state, becoming a prominent lawyer and longtime member of the Wake Forest Law Board of Visitors.

Robert D. Mills ('71, MBA '80, P '04), a retired associate vice president of University Advancement, remembers the couple as "gracious people, loyal alumni and leaders of the college and law school. Together, they raised a terrific Deacon family as well."

As an undergraduate, Pat Boyce was secretary of the student body; a member of Tassels, a women's honor society; Magnolia Festival queen; and a cheerleader alongside her then-sweetheart, Gene.

While raising the couple's children, Pat Boyce volunteered with a number of community organizations, including the Junior Woman's Club and Raleigh Jaycettes, and as president of what was then called the Wake County Bar Association Auxiliary. She was a member of the Wake Forest Alumni Council and later went back to school to earn a paralegal degree at Meredith College.

Her family wrote in her obituary of her "warmth, beauty, intelligence and inner strength," and of her love for travel alongside her husband.

Survivors include their children: Cathy Boyce Howard ('79) and husband Buddy Howard ('79); Dan Boyce ('81, P '15, '19) and wife Betty Boyce (P '15, '19); and Laura Boyce Isley ('89, JD '92) and husband Philip Isley; and grandchildren including Robert Boyce ('15) and Sarah Boyce ('19). Gene Boyce was preceded in death by his brother, Worth Boyce ('52, MD '55, P '75). Pat Boyce was preceded in death by her brother, Bob Alphin ('59).

Wake Forest Legacy Society and established the Ken and Gail Sharp Scholarship Fund with his wife, **Gail Beam Sharp ('76)**, who survives him.

**David Wayne Smith (MBA '76)**, Aug. 22, 2025, Dunwoody, GA. He worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

**Henry Vance Ward Jr. (JD '76)**, Sept. 7, 2025, Raleigh. He was a lawyer.

**Brinton "Brint" Douglas Wright (JD '76)**, Oct. 18, 2025, Greensboro, NC. He was a lawyer and pioneer in adoption law.

**Gordon Wilkinson Folger (MAEd '77)**, Sept. 12, 2024, Raleigh. She led the career counseling center at Meredith College. Survivors include her husband, **Lee Folger III (JD '77)**.

**Richard "Vaughn" Hayes (MBA '78)**, Sept. 17, 2025, Winston-Salem. He retired as senior vice president at Lowe's Companies Inc., where he worked for 39 years. He was on the Wake Forest School of Business Board of Visitors and received the Judson D. DeRamus Distinguished Alumni Award in 1985. A member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society, he established the Vaughn and Frances Hayes Scholarship Fund.

**Lawrence Talton Dark III (JD '79)**, Aug. 3, 2025, Nebo, NC. He played rugby at Wake Forest. He was an assistant district attorney and a lawyer in Morganton, NC. He was preceded in death by his father, **L.T. Dark Jr. (JD '49)**.

**Joy Storms Grady ('80)**, Aug. 18, 2025, White Lake, NC. She was a grant writer and nonprofit leader for three decades.

**Penelope "Penny" Holt Megginson Beaver ('81)**, Aug. 9, 2025, Dallas. She was a dental hygienist at her father's dental practice in High Point, NC. She was preceded in death by her father, **L.P. Megginson Jr. ('50)**.

**Catherine "Cathy" Louise Crawley ('81)**, Oct. 8, 2025, Roanoke, VA. She was an actuary. Survivors include her son, **Joseph Drewry "Drew" Thies ('13)**, and her father, **Joseph Thomas Crawley Jr. ('57)**, and brothers **Tom Crawley ('84, P '07)** and **Jim Crawley ('84)**.

**Robert John Becker Jr. ('82)**, Sept. 13, 2025, Gastonia, NC. He was a congressional staff member, military and veteran's specialist and district director for North Carolina's 9th Congressional District.

**Mark Thomas Eskew ('82)**, Aug. 21, 2025, Chapel Hill, NC. He worked in banking and renovated homes.

**Douglas "Doug" Robert Goldstein (MBA '83)**, Oct. 20, 2025, Martinsville, VA. He was a consultant in business development and marketing in the adhesive and films industries.

**Karen Bruton (MBA '84)**, Sept. 6, 2025, Brentwood, TN. She was a certified public accountant and corporate controller who founded an investment company and a nonprofit, Just Hope International.

**Andrew "Andy" Wayne Lax (JD '85)**, Sept. 1, 2024, Cornelius, NC. He practiced law for nearly 40 years.

**Mark Halliday Reaves ('85)**, Aug. 6, 2025, Winston-Salem. He was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest. He was a sports marketing executive at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. and Sports Marketing Enterprises.

**Andrew David Payerle ('86)**, Oct. 28, 2025, Adamstown, MD. He was an IT specialist.



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The Wake Forest Legacy Society is a growing cohort more than 2,000 strong, all dedicated to supporting the school they love. From bequests to charitable gift annuities and everything in between, when it comes to gift planning, you have many options. We'd love the chance to discuss them with you.

**Shaida Horner (JD '99), Associate Vice President, Gift Planning, at [hornersj@wfu.edu](mailto:hornersj@wfu.edu) or 336-758-4696**

Please visit [wfugift.org](http://wfugift.org) to learn more about including Wake Forest University in your estate plan and lifetime membership in the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

**Bianke Rosemarie Wagon (MS '87)**, July 26, 2025, Columbus, GA. She was a laboratory manager for Columbus Water Works and a chemistry instructor at a community college.

**Leo "Carl" Wilkerson Jr. ('87)**, Aug. 29, 2025, Winston-Salem. He was a photographer, composer, author and caregiver to his wife, Pattie Thomas, who survives him.

**Nancy Sabol Chase ('88)**, Sept. 29, 2025, Greensboro, NC. She worked in trust administration with Wachovia and Wells Fargo's The Private Bank.

**Elizabeth "Liz" Clement Coss (JD '89)**, Sept. 30, 2025, Charlotte. She was an attorney for 30 years. Survivors include her husband, **Dave Coss (JD '88)**.

**Robert Jacob "Jake" Hallberg ('91)**, July 17, 2025, Charlotte. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity at Wake Forest.

**David Owen Cress ('93)**, Sept. 5, 2025, Ridgeland, MS. He was a teacher and director of innovative schools for the Mississippi Department of Education.

**Becky Salisbury Verrone ('94)**, Aug. 11, 2025, Florence, AL. She was a speech-language pathologist.

**Troy Christopher Funk ('95)**, July 22, 2024, Lexington, NC. He worked in the IT department at the University of Hartford.

**Erin Susanne McFarland Jelinek ('98)**, Oct. 11, 2025, Atlanta. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority at Wake Forest. She founded Twin City Style in Atlanta. Survivors include her husband, **Jake Jelinek (JD '98)**, sister **Kerri McFarland Ohlandt ('00, MAEd '06)** and brother-in-law **Todd Ohlandt ('00)**.

**Susan Evans Mangin (MSA '99)**, Sept. 17, 2025, Richmond, VA. She was dedicated to her husband, **Christopher Mangin Jr. ('99, MSA '00)**, and children.

**Alvin Laverene Williams (MBA '01)**, Sept. 17, 2025, Winterville, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was an auditor for oil and gas companies in Texas.

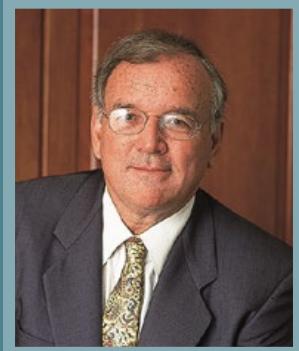
**Christopher "Chris" Michael Wood ('08, JD '12)**, Oct. 1, 2025, Chicago. He was director of global tax controversies at McDonald's Corp.

**Timothy "Tim" Paul Enfield ('13, MSBA '20)**, July 29, 2025, Austin, TX. Growing up with cerebral palsy inspired him to start the Think Alive Foundation to help teenagers with disabilities achieve their goals. He was a business intelligence and data analyst at Apple Inc.

**Michael Craig Aper (MA '15)**, Feb. 16, 2025, Prescott, AZ. He served in the U.S. Army in Afghanistan.

**Stephen "Wilson" Powell Jr. ('16)**, Aug. 26, 2025, Denver. He was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest and a consultant with Capgemini.

## JOSEPH WILLIAMSON LUTER III ('61)



### OBITUARY

Joseph Luter III, whose gift to the University led to the naming of Luter Residence Hall in the 1980s, died Aug. 28, 2025, in Palm Beach, Florida.

Luter, who was 86, was the retired chairman and CEO of Smithfield Foods. He is survived by his wife, Karin Fyrwald Luter, four children and six grandchildren, including Jordan G. Gurkin ('14).

Wake Forest toward the construction of Benson University Center and Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum and for the athletics program. In recognition of his gift, the University named what was then still called "New Dorm," completed in 1971 as the first coeducational residence hall, in memory of his father, Joseph W. Luter Jr.

Joe Luter III served on the University's Board of Trustees from 1987 to 2001 and on the Babcock Graduate School of Management Board of Visitors. He received Wake Forest's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1982.

A native of Smithfield, Virginia, Luter joined Smithfield Packing Co., founded by his father and grandfather, in 1962, shortly after his father's death. Four years later, Luter was named president at age 26. He sold the company but regained control in 1975, saving it from bankruptcy and leading it to become the largest pork processor in the U.S.

"Whatever success I've had would not have been possible without my Wake Forest education," he said at the time he made his \$1 million gift.

## Friends, Faculty, Staff, Students

**Jay Rusty Crutcher**, Aug. 22, 2025, Santa Fe, NM. He was a saxophonist and award-winning composer who taught a digital sound and music online course with Professor of Computer Science Jennifer Burg.

**Ann Crawford Cunningham**, Aug. 19, 2025, Winston-Salem. She retired in 2020 as an associate professor of education, specializing in educational technology and instructional design, after more than 20 years at Wake Forest. She was passionate about global education and started a study-abroad program in New Zealand. She was the driving force for many years behind the Emerging Teachers Leadership Network conference for alumni teachers. Born in Alexandria, VA, she lived across the United States and internationally during her childhood. She graduated from Erskine College and received her master's degree and PhD from the University of South Carolina. Survivors include her daughter, **Bailey Pittenger ('13, MA '15, MDiv '26)**.

**Janine B. Cutchin**, Sept. 14, 2025, Burlington, NC. She worked at the Lam Museum of Anthropology at Wake Forest in the 1980s.

**Jude Thaddeus DeAngelo**, Nov. 18, 2025, Syracuse, NY. He was a Franciscan friar of the Our Lady of the Angels Province and pastor of Assumption Parish in Syracuse. From 1997 to 2010, he was a campus minister at Wake Forest and later a campus minister at The Catholic University of America.

**Nancy Marlene McArthur Hayes**, Oct. 23, 2025, Winston-Salem. She served in the U.S. Army as a secretary at Fort Dix, NJ, and was a human resources specialist at Wake Forest. Survivors include son **Mark Hayes ('96)**.

**David McVey Pennell**, Aug. 15, 2025, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a maintenance plumber in Wake Forest's athletics department.

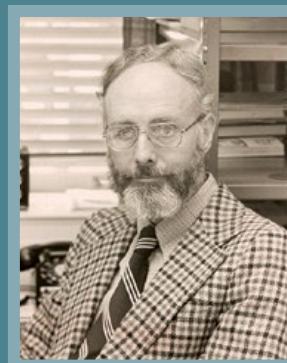
**Lillian Britt Shelton (MALS '06)**, Oct. 21, 2025, De Leon Springs, FL. She was the longtime director of the Secrest Artists Series until retiring in 2013 after nearly 28 years at Wake Forest. As a young girl, she lived in different parts of the country and was a dancer and played the harp. After graduating from college, she briefly pursued a theater career in New York. She moved to Winston-Salem in the 1980s with her husband, Rev. Thomas Shelton, and was hired as an arts presenter for the Secrest series in 1985. She was named director in 1998 and enhanced students' appreciation of the performing arts while bringing world-class soloists, orchestras, ensembles and dance groups to campus.

**William "Bill" Robert Shotton**, Sept. 16, 2025, Pinnacle, NC. He retired as construction manager in Facilities and Campus Services in 2009 after more than 15 years with Wake Forest.

**Ralph Burnett Tower Jr.**, Oct. 16, 2025, Winston-Salem. He retired in 2014 as Wayne Calloway Professor Emeritus of Taxation in the School of Business after 34 years at Wake Forest. Tower joined what was then the undergraduate School of Business and Accountancy in 1980 and was instrumental in developing the school's nationally recognized accounting curriculum. When he retired, he was recognized in the Commencement program "for his joy in teaching; for his genuine concern for student learning; for his contributions to the literature of the accounting discipline; and for being a collegial professor, mentor and friend." A native of Ohio, Tower grew up in West Virginia and western New York. He received his undergraduate degree and PhD from UNC-Chapel Hill and an MBA from Cornell University. He taught briefly at Emory University before joining the Wake Forest faculty. He wrote numerous books and journal articles and made frequent presentations at national and international conferences. His passion for travel took him to Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and across North America. Survivors include his daughter and son-in-law, Lauren Camden and Matthew Camden, and two granddaughters.

## RICHARD C. BARNETT ('54)

### Professor Emeritus of History



Richard Barnett, possibly the last of the generation of Wake Forest professors who graduated on the original campus and taught on the Reynolda campus, died Oct. 10, 2025, in Winston-Salem. Barnett, who was 93, joined the faculty in 1961 and retired in 1994.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Tribble Barnett ('55). Survivors include daughter Amelia "Amy" Carlton Barnett ('81) and

spouse Peggy Graves; son Colin Warwick Barnett; granddaughter Molly Katherine Barnett; and brother-in-law Harvey Holding (P '84). His late father-in-law, Wake Forest President Harold W. Tribble (LLD '48), led the move from the town of Wake Forest to Winston-Salem in 1956.

Barnett taught British history and was history department chair. At the Worrell House in London, his courses included the history of the British aristocracy and the history of London. He also wrote "Place, Profit, and Power: A Study of the Servants of William Cecil, Elizabethan Statesman," a 1969 book that examines the careers of 118 commoners who worked for Cecil.

"Professor Barnett was a gentleman and patient scholar. I have only great memories of being his student in Worrell House," said Jon Scott Logel ('90).

The Old Gold & Black named Barnett "Professor of the Year" in 1970 for making a speech to faculty advocating for students' rights, specifically for "intervisitation" among the sexes. Gray Lawrence ('70), then president of the Publications Board, said at the time that "Barnett was an obvious choice as professor of the year. He is very interested in everything that goes on in the University, whether or not it has anything to do with the history department. He stood up for the students when few others would."

Barnett was recognized with the Donald O. Schoonmaker Faculty Award for Community Service in 1995.

Former students remembered Barnett as a wonderful teacher. "(He) epitomized the values of Wake Forest," said Richard Butt ('88). "I will always remember him as a quiet and kind man with an extraordinary knowledge of English history."

Barnett grew up in Davenport, Florida, and Asheville, North Carolina. After graduating from Wake Forest, he earned a master's degree and Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He served in the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Corps for two years and taught at what was then Gardner-Webb College before coming to Wake Forest in 1961.

"He was a caring person who loved history and sharing it with others," said Ron Caviness ('69). "He contributed so much to his University and his church in service and work."

# Friendships made while playing Frisbee on Poteat now power runs for freedom

By Claire O'Brien ('11)

**W**HEN YOU THINK OF Wake Forest, what comes to mind? The Quad. The Demon Deacon. But probably you think first of your friends — your college classmates, roommates and teammates.

I think of the friends I met playing Ultimate Frisbee. Chance brought us together — we gathered on Poteat Field as uncertain freshmen, little knowing that Ultimate would become the defining activity of our college years, or that we would forge bonds of friendship that would last decades.

But something clicked at that first practice; Lauren Dayton ('11), Hope Nardini Malloy ('11), Mallory Mosher ('11), Kasha Patel ('12) and I spent countless hours over the next four years playing Ultimate. We would dash to the lower Quad between classes to "throw around." We traveled to tournaments around the country, as far as Colorado, Texas and, in one ill-advised road trip, Florida. My happiest college memories are of evening practices on Water Tower Field, chasing the disc as dusk fell and Wait Chapel shone its golden light against the deepening blue sky.

The sport made me feel vigorous and alive; I loved spending hours outside, running. And I loved spending time with my Frisbee friends.

That hasn't changed, though our lives look different now. Our responsibilities have grown. We no longer spend nights and weekends (or any time at all, really) playing Frisbee. But we have remained committed to our friendships, supporting each other through all the joys and challenges of post-college life, from career milestones and growing families to surgeries and the loss of loved ones.

And we are still running together, more than 18 years since we first met on Poteat Field.

We ran a half-marathon this October, traveling from California, Missouri, Illinois, Washington, D.C., and North Carolina to tackle 13.1 very hilly miles in Louisville, Kentucky. Race day was the culmination of months of planning, because completing the run was only part of our goal: We also worked to raise funds for The Linda Nor-

grove Foundation, a charity that supports education, health and child care for women and children in Afghanistan.

Linda Norgrove, a Scottish aid worker, was kidnapped in 2010 in Afghanistan and died a month later during a rescue attempt. Her parents started the foundation to continue her work.

I had formed a connection with the

foundation last year after reading about its efforts to help women suffering under the Taliban regime. Along with my sisters, Rose O'Brien ('18) and Anne O'Brien, I organized a remote "Run for Freedom" to contribute to the cause (chronicled by Wake Forest Magazine at [bit.ly/ClaireOBrien](http://bit.ly/ClaireOBrien)).

This year, Lauren suggested we repeat the "Run for Freedom" as a team half-marathon — and aim to raise \$8,000 to help Afghan women and girls. Hope, Mallory and Kasha immediately agreed.

It is a cause close to our hearts. The Taliban have banned women and girls from most education, employment and even public spaces. The bitter unfairness of these gender-based restrictions is particularly potent for us, because we recognize how our own lives have been shaped by our educational opportunities — including our time at Wake Forest, which fostered our intellectual interests in subjects ranging from chemistry and accounting to philosophy, history and English literature. That academic foundation propelled us into careers in journalism, consulting, advertising and the law.

It is unconscionable that similar opportunities are being denied to Afghan women and girls based on their gender. And it is an outrage that the discrimination of the Taliban regime extends into the health care space, causing Afghan women and girls to lead shorter, less healthy lives.



Kasha Patel ('12), Mallory Mosher ('11), Claire O'Brien ('11), Hope Nardini Malloy ('11) and Lauren Dayton ('11) ran a half marathon as a fundraiser for Afghan women.

As we sweated through the 13.1 miles, we drew strength from one another as well as from the humbling courage of women and girls thousands of miles away. Our effort was consistent with Pro Humanitate, our shared commitment to improving lives beyond our own.

We have not solved an international crisis. But we exceeded our goal by raising more than \$15,000 for the foundation. That money, which included donations from old Frisbee teammates and other Wake Forest alumni, will fund gynecological and orthopedic surgeries for 15 Afghan women and girls.

When I think of Wake Forest, I'll always remember the Quad, the Demon Deacon and my days playing Frisbee — but I'll also think about what I can do next, and the power of friendship to lead us toward a better world, one step at a time.

—  
*Claire O'Brien, a partner at Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP, a Greensboro, North Carolina, law firm, sits on the board of Greensboro Beautiful Inc. and is engaged in community efforts to end homelessness. She and her sisters share a lifelong commitment to humanitarian work. They moved to Winston-Salem as children when their parents, both doctors and medical school professors, took jobs at what is now Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist.*



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## A Season Slathered in Excellence

Wake Forest defeated Mississippi State 43-29 in the Duke's Mayo Bowl on Jan. 2 at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, finishing the year 9-4. The Demon Deacons celebrated the win with the bowl game's tradition of dousing Head Coach Jake Dickert — along with his children — in 4.5 gallons of mayonnaise.

Freshman Koredell Bartley thrilled

fans with a 100-yard kick return for the game's first touchdown. Senior quarterback Robby Ashford was named MVP after securing his first career five-touchdown performance against the Bulldogs.

"I just think back to a year ago today when we actually had our first portal visits. We brought in over 40 new players," Dickert said after the game.

"The guys that were here accepted everything that we wanted to do. I think we laid a tremendous foundation. Nine wins is really special, and I'm proud of these guys."

The victory capped off the greatest debut season by a first-year coach in Wake Forest history. In December, Dickert signed a long-term contract to continue as head coach.