Enjoying the Season

International students (left to right) Claresta Tasman of Suriname and Pankaj Bhatta of Nepal hang ornaments on a tree in Missions Plaza. The tree has ornaments by many international students on campus.

"And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger." ~ Luke 2:16

The simplicity of that ancient scene continues to inspire us. May you loved it. Carey was my second home and have a Christmas filled with the warmth and joy that Jesus gives.

Dr. and Mrs. Tommy King and the WCU Family

Sims named new Miss William Carey University

By Joshua Wilson

Advisor

Katie Sims, a sophomore business administration major from Purvis, was crowned Miss William Carey University 2015 at the annual WCU Scholarship Pageant on Nov. 20.

Sims, 19, was one of eight contestants competing for the title, which is a preliminary for the Miss Mississippi Pageant. Sims also won the preliminary talent award for her piano performance. The daughter of Allen and Karen Sims, Sims was crowned the pageant winner by Miss William Carey University 2014 Sarah Beth Sewell of Starkville.

Briania Exum, a sophomore business administration major from Aurora, Colo., was named first runner-up to Sims and preliminary evening gown winner. Second runner-up and preliminary interview winner was Kaylee Miller, a sophomore nursing major from Leakesville, Katie Sippel, a sophomore mathematics major from Mobile, Ala., was third runner-up and won the Amy E. Allen Cash Award for highest grade point average. The fourth runner-up was Rebecca Croker, a senior music education major from Vancleave.

Additionally, Danielle Moore, a freshman biology major from Tyldertown, won the Virginia Scott Spirit Award voted on by her fellow contestants.
WCU receives award for energy excellence

By Joshua Wilson
Advisor

William Carey University has saved approximately $405,000 through an energy conservation program and a partnership with Cenergistic, a national energy savings company, earning the university an Environmental Excellence Award presented by Dr. James Hatto, Cenergistic marketing consultant, on Dec. 11.

The energy conservation program has achieved 12 percent cost savings in 30 months. The program achieves its goals by examining all areas of energy use throughout the university, including heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, natural gas and electrical use, water and sewer and other forms of use. Conservation experts from Cenergistic have also worked with the university to help modify behaviors of staff, such as being more mindful of turning off lights and unplugging appliances when not in use, as well as assisting with utility rate structures, organizational development and construction management.

In order to implement and promote the energy conservation program, WCU President Dr. Tommy King appointed Scotty Fletcher, assistant men’s basketball coach, as energy specialist. Fletcher has worked with Cenergistic officials and with the university community to ensure that all energy is used as efficiently as possible. Both the Hattiesburg and Tradition campus in Biloxi have implemented the program.

Fletcher is able to track energy consumption by using energy accounting software. Current energy use is compared to a baseline period, allowing the calculation of the amount of energy that would have been used had conservation and management practices not been implemented. Fletcher is able to use this system to see the successes of the program as well as being able to correct areas needing attention.

"Reaching this level of savings at this stage of the program is a significant achievement," said Dr. William Spears, chair and founder of Cenergistic. "William Carey University has done an excellent job of implementing Cenergistic’s organizational behavior-based approach to energy conservation and maintaining productive efforts at all levels of the organization."

Spears added that a primary benefit of the Cenergistic program is that all costs come out of the existing utility budget, with savings projected to more than pay for the program. The additional savings can then be redirected to other parts of the university’s budget.

"The administration and all staff members are to be commended for clearly fulfilling their commitment to being good stewards of the organization’s energy dollars and the environment," said Spears.

J-Term courses to be held first week of January

By Joshua Wilson
Advisor

William Carey University will offer J-Term, an opportunity to earn full credit for a college class in a one-week period, from Jan. 5-9. Both the main campus in Hattiesburg and the Tradition campus in Biloxi will offer J-Term classes. Undergraduate classes offered at the Hattiesburg campus include World History to 1500, the Life and Work of William Carey, Introduction to the Old Testament, Introduction to the New Testament, Adventure Based Counseling and Basic EKG Interpretation for Nurses. The Life and Work of William Carey will also be offered as a graduate history course.

At the Tradition campus, History of the Bible will be offered on the undergraduate level. The deadline to register for a J-Term class is noon on the first day of class, Jan. 5. To register, visit www.wmcarey.edu, apply online and click "Catalogs and Course Schedules" to view the J-Term schedule under the winter 2014 schedule.

For more information, contact the Hattiesburg Admissions office at (601) 318-6103 or the Tradition Admissions office at (228) 702-1815.

Madden to assume role as Cobbler editor in new school year

From Staff Reports

Adrienne Madden, a sophomore biology and chemistry major from Purvis, has been named the incoming editor-in-chief of The Cobbler student newspaper at William Carey University. Madden, currently the newspaper’s managing editor and general manager, will take over as the student leader of the newspaper in May 2015. She will succeed graduating senior Michael Coelho, a native of Niceville, Fla., and a member of the newspaper staff for four years.

"Adrienne is an excellent student leader and a quick learner," said Joshua Wilson, advisor of The Cobbler. "She has done great things for the publication and continues to do so." Madden said she is excited for the opportunity to lead the publication.

"It’s a big job, but also a big honor," she said. "I look forward to working with students and faculty and staff members to continue a great tradition of excellence."

The Cobbler is published eight times per academic year and distributed on both Carey campuses.

'Aesop's Fables' a big hit

William Carey University students (left to right) Rebekah Romack of Poplarville, Billy Burkes of Meridian and Xavier Martin of Hattiesburg act out a scene from "Adventures from Aesop’s Fables," an original play adapted by WCU employees Jeanna and Deanna Graves. The play ran Dec. 11-13 and garnered large audiences for each production. The play takes 13 of Aesop’s 284 morality stories and presents them for children.

The Cobbler is the newspaper of William Carey University. It has its origins in the 1920s when it operated as the Mississippi Woman’s College newspaper The Scissors. It was renamed in 1956 upon the name change to William Carey College. The Cobbler draws its name from namesake William Carey’s humble roots as a cobbler (a person who repairs shoes).
By Joshua Wilson

In 2009, Joel McKenzie opened his copy of the Hattiesburg American and rifled through its pages, eventually stopping at an article about William Carey University’s new College of Osteopathic Medicine. McKenzie, a lifelong resident of Foxworth in Marion County, had just started thinking about estate planning when he encountered the article. He had no desire to be remembered, but he was looking for a way to make a meaningful impact in his community.

McKenzie was curious about the medical college and started his research. He discovered via Carey’s website ways to give and contacted Dr. Scott Hummel, then-vice president for advancement.

A relationship was born because of the chance newspaper article.

“Carey had no connection to Carey, other than seeing the newspaper article,” said McKenzie.

Now, McKenzie has established a trust and pledged one of the largest gifts given by an individual in the history of Carey. According to now-Provost Dr. Hummel, the gift is also the largest gift given by an individual to the WCUCOM.

With assets in excess of one million dollars, the trust will eventually endow a professorship in the medical college and fund scholarships.

McKenzie has already given money to fund scholarships for medical students. The Lois S. McKenzie Humanitarian Restricted Scholarship, named in honor of McKenzie’s 91-year-old mother, is awarded each December as a part of her birthday celebration. The scholarship recipient, a student from south Mississippi who shows an interest in practicing medicine in Mississippi and working with the elderly, is selected by the dean of the WCUCOM.

The scholarship was awarded in 2012 to Dan Lynch of Seminary and in 2013 to Ryan Hagenson of Purvis. It was awarded in 2014 to Kerri West of Laurel.

Lynch was also selected in 2014 as the first recipient of the Joel W. and Lois S. McKenzie Medical Scholarship.

“The students at the WCUCOM are very impressive,” said McKenzie. “I was pleased with the scholarship recipient.”

McKenzie, who retired from production engineering after 27 years with Pennzoil Company of Lafayette, La., said he is amazed by the growth of Carey and especially the WCUCOM.

“It’s now fully accredited and it’s a great asset to Hattiesburg and south Mississippi,” he said. “The recent graduations (of the inaugural class) will have a far-reaching effect and a national impact.”

McKenzie said his decision to leave his estate to Carey was based on the university’s mission and its promising growth.

“It’s amazing the way the school has moved forward,” he said. “From the medical school to the newly-announced physical therapy program, there’s a lot of good things going on that mean much for this area.”

He said the process of leaving his estate to the university was not as intimidating or as difficult as one may think.

“It wasn’t hard to do,” said McKenzie. “Once I contacted Dr. Hummel, we went through the process and I learned that I could leave the university a meaningful gift when I’m gone that doesn’t cripple me now.”

Dr. Hummel said potential donors often do not realize the ways they can contribute.

“There are planned giving opportunities that people don’t know about or haven’t considered,” he said. “These can have a huge impact on students and the future of the university.”

McKenzie said he is confident in his decision to leave his estate to Carey.

“The medical school is something south Mississippi needed very, very much,” he said. “I’m just glad I can help its progress.”

Neither Steve nor I were very surprised about our daughters’ decisions to come to Carey for college because this has always been kind of a second home for our family. We were very proud of them,” she added.

Being so involved with Carey’s campus provided us with a unique experience for Shanna and Lindsay Knight as they got to know people whom they would later see from a different standpoint as students at Carey.

“Every time I run an errand or do something on campus, whoever is working will say things like ‘I remember when you were born’ or ‘I remember when you were this tall’ and I find it so funny because sometimes I don’t even know who I’m talking to, but they know me and have known me my whole life,” said Lindsay Knight.

Throughout Coach Knight’s career at Carey, the family has also seen growth within the men’s basketball program. Under Knight’s direction, the team has made many national tournament appearances, won several regional titles and won one divisional title.

“The men’s basketball program has had many, many great achievements through the years in terms of winning games. However, I think our greatest achievements have been off the court. The basketball staff has had the opportunity to positively impact young men and women and teach them values they can carry out into the world once they leave Carey,” said Coach Knight. “I take special pride in my players when they receive their degree knowing how important their education is to their future.”

With Coach Knight at the helm pouring his dedication into his players and nurturing them both athletically and academically, the program has grown to earn the respect of its peers.

“One of the things that makes Steve such a great person and coach is he’s always treated his athletes as an extension of our family. He gets up each morning and goes to work with that in mind day after day, year after year, decade after decade. I think his success is an extension of that philosophy. Many of his former players from over the past 32 years continue to call him periodically to check up with him, tell him how they’re doing and talk to him about his influence on their lives,” said Regina Knight. “One of his players, Andreea Leslie, really did become part of the family when he married our daughter Shanna. Now they have three sons who will grow up as Carey fans as well.”

The Knights have also been through major hardships with the university, such as the heavy damage the university sustained during Hurricane Katrina. Likewise, they have also witnessed exponential growth as the university has moved to promote continuity and build new residence halls, classrooms, athletic facilities and a new theatre.

“There’s been so much growth and improvement to our campus as we have improved facilities and technology, increased academic offerings and enhanced our marketability under our forward-thinking administration,” said Coach Knight. “Carey makes you feel so at home and it’s been a great place to get my family involved at throughout the years. It has such a positive, Christ-centered environment that I couldn’t think of a better place to work or for my family to grow around.”

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and New Year... Thanks for reading! – The Cobbler advisor and staff

NEWS

Marion County native leaves estate to Carey

McKenzie gift one of the largest gifts in history of institution

Photo by Joshua Wilson

(continued from front)
Celebrating Christmas at Carey

1. During an evening of festivities celebrating Christmas on Dec. 5, Carey students enjoy the annual Christmas meal along with members of the faculty and staff and guests.
2. Jason Barton, son of Daniel Barton and Instructor of Nursing Jenna Barton, places a present under a Christmas tree during the vespers worship service.
3. Carey students hold candles in Chain Garden following the vespers service.
4. Carey students enter the annual Christmas festival on Ross-Johnson Lawn under a pouring of ‘snow.’ Students, faculty, staff and guests enjoyed many activities at the festival, including roasting marshmallows, playing games and socializing.
5. Wing Chi Siu, an international student from Hong Kong also known as ‘Gigi,’ discusses Christmas customs in her country during vespers.

Tradition Winter Festival delivers Christmas joy

By Jessica Boyette
Campus Life Editor

On Dec. 6, students, families, faculty, staff and alumni were invited to partake in fellowship and festivities as the Tradition campus celebrated its annual Winter Festival with music, food and games.

Hattiesburg’s Jazz Knight Quartet directed by Jim Pierce traveled to provide Christmas music for the festival.

“This was such a nice touch to the event and everyone enjoyed hearing their favorite Christmas tunes,” Administrative Dean for Tradition Jerry Bracey said.

Carey’s Alumni Office provided refreshments and Christmas-themed desserts for the guests and Director of Alumni Relations Cindy Cofield attended the festival to welcome back alumni to Tradition and share with them tidings of great cheer and Carey’s growth.

For families in attendance, the festival featured a hayride, football toss, one-legged bag race and tug-of-war. A face-painting booth, bouncy houses and a go-fishing booth game with candy and prizes were set up for the small children in attendance. The highlight of the festival was when Santa made an appearance, giving the children an opportunity to write down their wish lists and talk to Old St. Nick.

In addition to games and activities, Carey students were also encouraged to join in the season of giving by donating children’s books and toys.

“It’s always a pleasure to be part of an event like this because it’s such a unique opportunity for students, faculty, staff, alumni and their families to bond over the true meaning and Carey tradition of Christmas,” said Bracey.

By Joshua Wilson

1. Photos by Joshua Wilson
2. Staff Photo
3. Director of Alumni Relations Cindy Cofield receives a "letter from Santa" from Tradition employees Cassandra Conner and Pam Crowley.
By KRISTY SINGLETON
Staff Writer

Joe Garvin, former Carey physical education teacher and coach, has seen a huge success in his 15-year community service endeavor, The Ball Project.

The Ball Project is an annual Christmas season event where balls and sports equipment are donated to help children in need through the Salvation Army.

Garvin began his career and started working toward his vision for this project at Carey where he taught physical education classes for nearly 10 years. Through these classes, Garvin and his students decided to fulfill their calling by beginning a donation project to provide children in need with sports equipment.

"The first year of The Ball Project, faculty and students donated 672 balls and I was transferring the balls around using my Chevy Blazer. I just remember opening the door to my truck and all these balls falling out and going everywhere," said Garvin. "It was such a humbling experience to already see so much involvement in the infancy of my project."

Since then, The Ball Project has managed to donate 12,000 balls along with other sports equipment to deserving students throughout the 15 years since the project was started.

"At Carey, I was fortunate to be surrounded by accomplished athletes and people who were willing to step up and help less fortunate children," said Garvin. "I was touched that so many people were willing to support me and this project in helping provide children with sports balls during the Christmas season."

This is a very low-key project with only 100 letters going out each year asking for support from various entities. Every year, 100 percent of all supplies donated to The Ball Project are given away, mostly through connections with various serving agencies and churches. Garvin has received many replies from children who received balls reporting their gratitude and stating that the balls and equipment have made a great impact in their lives.

While many of these donations have been given away in south Mississippi, The Ball Project has also reached out to help children in over 10 foreign countries such as Chile, Honduras, Mexico, Russia, Costa Rica and Haiti.

"It is important for these children to know that the donations come from the love of God. Supporters of The Ball Project are making such a big difference in the lives of others and I’ve been very fortunate in having some people who have supported me and made a difference since the project started. I know I can count on them and that shows me just how worthwhile this project is in the community," Garvin said. "Carey is not only the home of The Ball Project; it’s my home, too. Carey made a huge impact in helping this project get started and has touched the lives of many children. It's all just been an amazing blessing which God has touched and used in a way none of us ever imagined.”

Donations to The Ball Project can be sent to The Ball Project, P. O. Box 16951, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 30404. Garvin can also be contacted to pick up donations at 601-666-6068.

By Kristy Singleton
Staff Writer

The Winters School of Music produced Irving Berlin’s White Christmas, the Broadway version of the famous movie, from Dec. 11-13 at Carey’s Smith Auditorium.

Professor of Music Dr. Connie Roberts was director of the production and Assistant Professor of Music Jeremy Morgan conducted the orchestra. The musical is set in post-World War II show business and featured Austin Williams as Bob Wallace, Ben Salters as Phil Davis, Bethany Fagan as Betty Haynes and Kristy McNair as Judy Haynes, the musical’s lead roles, and Dean of the School of Music Dr. Don Odom as General Henry Waverly. The musical highlighted the vocal, instrumental and theatrical talents at Carey by pulling together a 25-student cast composed of actors, singers and dancers and a 20-member student orchestra, bringing together three different disciplines.

All costumes, props and the set itself were made by students at Carey. The school musical, traditionally held in the spring by the Winters School of Music, was moved to Christmas time this year to accommodate the content of the show, which is about two soldiers and what people were willing to step up and help less fortunate children," said Garvin. "I was touched that so many people were willing to support me and this project in helping provide children with sports balls during the Christmas season."

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By Taylor Lindemann
Staff Writer

Carlos Casilla has been involved in music and desired to use this gift since he was 5 years old, a passion and dedication of which few people can boast, and is now a piano and vocal performance major. He is currently applying to graduate schools around the country to pursue his master's degree in which he wants to in- vestigate conducting and separation from his family hasn't been easy on him, Casilla takes pride in the fact he has been able to thrive independently during his time at Carey.

"Being in the music school at Carey has been one of the best things that has ever happened to me," Casilla said. "Not only do I have great teachers and mentors, but I also have great friends, who are more like family to me.”

By Miranda Rester
News Editor

Carlos Casilla was born in Panama, moved to the United States when he was 5 years old, and is now a piano and vocal performance major at the School of Music.

"The faculty treated me as if I was family before I even came here," Casilla said. "That was a big factor for me, since I was moving away from my home."

Although the 1,500 mile move and separation from his family hasn't been easy on him, Casilla takes pride in the fact he has been able to thrive independently during his time at Carey.

"The whole show was composed from the ground up in two short months, with preparations for the musical beginning in October. The production brought together both seasoned performers and new performers. While the musical was intended to remind the audience of the White Christmas film from their childhood, it was also a chance for Carey’s students to have fun.

"It was such an amazing experience. Everybody involved gave such a high level of energy for every performance. I’m so grateful for all of the hard work the people involved gave to make this production a reality," said Dr. Roberts.
Men's basketball team off to hot start

By Michael Coelho
Editor-in-Chief

Fall has given way to winter, and as football season winds down, basketball is entering full force. Expectations are high once again as Carey men’s basketball looks to build on their national success of the past two seasons.

This year’s team, led by recently announced Mississippi Hall of Fame Head Coach Steve Knight, is coming off one of the most successful seasons in team history. The 2013-2014 Crusaders posted a 28-3 record, including a perfect 18-0 conference mark, which culminated in the Crusaders capturing the Southern States Athletic Conference Tournament Championship. For the second consecutive year, the Crusaders advanced to the NAIA National Tournament in Kansas City, Mo., and will look to advance more in 2015.

So far the Crusaders are off to a hot start. An 8-1 record including two conference wins has the Crusaders ranked fifth overall heading into the heart of the season. With last year’s senior heavy group out of the equation, plenty of new faces, including an influx of local talent, compose a majority of the Crusaders roster.

Amongst the team’s top scorers are a trio of Jones County Junior College transfers with Mississippi roots. Former Bobcats Donta Pittman (Waynesboro), Cory Jackson (Biloxi) and Leo Garrett (Brookhaven) are all averaging double figures for the Crusaders. Former SSAC foe Reshad Bickham leads the Crusaders in scoring, averaging 12.4 per game.

Women’s basketball enters prime of schedule

By Michael Coelho
Editor-in-Chief

After narrowly missing the conference tournament a year ago, the Lady Crusaders are looking to build and reach the postseason in 2015. The Lady Crusaders have failed to post a 600 record since the 2011-2012 season and will need to turn around a disappointing start to reach the conference tournament.

The Lady Crusaders have a 2-5 record through their first seven games, which includes a 0-2 conference mark. The Lady Crusaders have had to cope with a difficult exhibition schedule in addition to their tough start as they played three straight games against NCAA Division I opponents South Alabama, Southern Miss and Louisiana Monroe.

The tough scrimmage schedule may prove to be beneficial for the team as they will likely build on their performance as they move into the heart of the conference schedule.

When the Lady Crusaders return to action on Jan. 2, the Crusaders will dive into a string of eight consecutive conference games. This will be a critical stretch for the team if they hope to remain in contention for the conference tournament at the end of the season. The Lady Crusaders will be the beneficiary of a four-game home-stand during this stretch, where they will likely capitalize on their home-court advantage.

Shania Posey led the way for the Lady Crusaders, averaging 9.9 a game to this point in the season, which includes a season high 14 points against AUM. Tiffany Sims has put together the highest scoring game for the team to date as the senior dropped 20 in a Lady Crusader win against Tougaloo College back on Nov. 17.

Soccer players earn postseason awards

By Michael Coelho
Editor-in-Chief

The Carey women’s soccer team capped off another successful season as they managed to advance to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Tournament in Orange Beach, Ala., for the second consecutive year. Despite losing to Northwood University (Fla.) in the round of 16, Claudia Saucedo and Osama Gyamfi-Kumaning picked up postseason awards for the Lady Crusaders.

The NAIA named Saucedo and Gyamfi-Kumaning third-team All-Americans on Dec. 8. Both players were also named to the Southern States Athletic Conference All-Conference team and Saucedo was honored as the SSAC’s Player of the Year. Saucedo, a senior from Miami, Fla., led the Lady Crusaders in goals and assists as well as scoring the eighth most goals in the entire country.

Originally from London, England, Gyamfi-Kumaning was a late addition to the Crusader roster and a welcome addition to the team’s midfield. She was also named to the SSAC All-Tournament Team and will return to Carey next year as a senior.

On the men’s side, senior Andri Jonsson received honorable mention honors for the Crusaders. The senior captain capped off an impressive career for Carey, including being named to the SSAC All-Freshman team in 2011 and twice placing on the All-Conference team.

Upcoming Games

Men’s and Women’s Basketball:
- Jan. 9 – College of Coastal Georgia (5:30 and 7:30 p.m.)
- Jan. 10 – Brewton-Parker College (3 and 5 p.m.)
- Jan. 15 – Belhaven University (5:30 and 7:30 p.m.)
- Jan. 17 – Martin Methodist College (2 and 4 p.m.)

Baseball:
- Jan. 30 – Missouri Baptist University (doubleheader, 3 p.m.)
- Jan. 31 – Missouri Baptist University (1 p.m.)

The Lady Crusader softball season starts Feb. 10 in a doubleheader against Spring Hill College.

All above games are at home.

For more information and complete schedules, visit Carey Athletics at www.careyathletics.com.
Downtown's Lucky Rabbit offers flea market-esque environment

By Morgan Marfisi

Win a $10 gift card to Common Grounds! All readers are eligible. Email cobblesgtaf@wmcarey.edu with the answers to the below quiz. The first two to email the correct answers win!

1. Which member of the Knight family graduated from WCU in 2007?

2. Who was runner-up in the 2015 Miss WCU Pageant?

SUDOKU

Sudoku is easy to play and the rules are simple. Fill in the blanks so that each row, each column and each of the nine 3x3 grids contain one instance of each of the numbers 1 through 9.

4 3 5 6
5 9 2 1
6 7 8 4
9 6 1 5

3 7 5 6
4 9 2 1
6 3 7 5 1
7 4 2
The Study Travel and Excavation Program, also known as “STEP,” is a travel program that embraces a student-oriented study of biblical lands along with archaeological excavations of biblical sites. The small excursions held during the weeks of spring and trimester break and the week following the end of the spring term are led by Dr. Daniel Browning Jr., professor of religion, who adopts an active exploration study approach as he leads students into the depths of the Mediterranean.

“We currently rotate between Israel, Greece, Italy and Turkey. All of these countries have biblical connections and a wealth of other historical sites,” said Dr. Browning. Currently, Dr. Browning is adding Jordan to the program’s array of destinations.

Students actively engage themselves both academically and physically during the STEP excavations as they climb ruins through desert.

“We focus on archaeological sites and try to see recent work and understand how certain new discoveries are changing what we know or think about the past,” said Dr. Browning.

Last May, students found themselves in Turkey marveling at sights such as the tunnels of Horvat Tabaq. One of the goals of the trip is to mingle with natives of the country. For example, while in Turkey, the students befriended locals and then enjoyed a feast with new friendships lit under candle and flashlight after experiencing a power outage.

“We do offer course credit for these trips, typically two three-hour classes to coincide with one of the 11-to-17 day trips. However, academic work is required beyond mere participation, but the trips are designed to maximize the experience and the learning from the travel sites and experiences,” said Dr. Browning.

The STEP program allows students to transform what they absorb in the classroom into a life-changing tangible reality. Along with the archaeological elements of each trip, travelers are able to grasp a fuller meaning of biblical text.

“Understanding a biblical story is easier if one can see the physical situation and get into the mind of the biblical characters,” said Dr. Browning.

Dr. Browning hopes more scholarship opportunities will arise in the future so deserving students who cannot necessarily afford a trip abroad will have the chance to relish in the program’s travels. Dr. Browning has a passion for the program and a desire for it to prosper.

“If you want to travel and learn about our biblical and historical heritage while seeing a lot of things and getting tired and dirty doing it, it is a great fun learning experience,” said Dr. Browning.

Students can contact Dr. Browning if interested in participating in the Study Travel and Excavation Program.

Professor leads students to foreign lands

By Carrie Lammers
Staff Writer

The Study Travel and Excavation Program, also known as “STEP,” is a travel program that embraces a student-oriented study of biblical lands along with archaeological excavations of biblical sites. The small excursions held during the weeks of spring and trimester break and the week following the end of the spring term are led by Dr. Daniel Browning Jr., professor of religion, who adopts an active exploration study approach as he leads students into the depths of the Mediterranean.

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Carey donates shoeboxes

By Jessica Boyette
Campus Life Editor

Carey participated in the charity Operation Christmas Child, a branch-off program of Samaritan’s Purse, by donating a total of 420 boxes filled with items such as soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste and toys to spread God’s love to a child overseas. This is the second year Carey has participated in the Operation Christmas Child charity.

The BSU worked with various other Carey organizations to fulfill the needs for the boxes. Some organizations collected money to cover the $7 shipping fee for each box, while other groups collected specific items to go inside the boxes. After all the requirements had been fulfilled, the BSU hosted a packing party to assemble the boxes and prepare them for shipping.

This year, Hattiesburg campus beat their goal of producing 300 boxes by producing 307 packed boxes. The Tradition campus produced 113 boxes.

Organization Spotlight

Sigma Tau Delta

Purpose: An English honor society.

Admission requirements: 3.0 overall GPA, 3.0 English GPA

Sponsor: Dr. Marsha Newman (manewman@wmcarey.edu)

Recently inducted: Jonna Bonnette of Hattiesburg; Jessica Boyette of Biloxi; Ignacio Cerda of Seminary; DeAnna Edwards of Ovett; Mahry Ely of Raleigh; Joseph Goss of Picayune; Sean Laird of Gulfport; Talor Lott of Pearl; Juliana Oswalt of Hattiesburg; Houston Cole Saxon of Lumberton; Nigel Simmons of Picayune; Alyson Speights of Hattiesburg; Gunner Stewart of Petal; and Bethany Truett of Meridian.

Fourteen students were inducted into Sigma Tau Delta during the winter term induction ceremony on Dec. 12.

Photos by JOSHUA WILSON

Top: Carey student Blake Baxter poses in one of the Second Jewish Revolt tunnels of Horvat Tabaq. Bottom: Carey students Chris Hobdy and Spencer Hollingsworth stand on the fortress of Hyrcania just after sunset.

Photo by JOSHUA WILSON

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Photo by JOSHUA WILSON