

## BREAKING NEW GROUND



In recent weeks the Mississippi State family has had the pleasure of witnessing many of its young men and women finish their degrees and accept long-sought after college diplomas. After sitting on both sides of the aisle, so to speak, I can honestly say that it is almost as gratifying to watch a graduation ceremony at Mississippi State University as it is to be part of one. Both instances have left me with a sense of hope for the future and a renewed admiration for my alma mater.

In the decade that has passed since I received my diploma, Mississippi State University has grown in so many ways that it would take far more room than I've been allotted in this article to describe them. New academic buildings have sprung up seemingly overnight, and older ones have taken on new faces inside and out. The Sanderson Center has taken the place of the tin gym, and our athletic facilities have become competitive with any in the nation. The MSU family has done its utmost to make sure that this campus is an attractive, student friendly, academically and athletically competitive institution. MSU has succeeded.

While new and improved facilities will forever be a priority, our immediate focus is on education and making sure that the ind

viduals who come to teach and study at MSU have the support that they need to succeed. To address these needs, the university has launched State of the Future: The Mississippi State Campaign. As the name implies, the focus is on the future of this university, which is of course, our students and our faculty.

Both the College of Forest Resources and the College of Veterinary Medicine have set lofty goals in this campaign. The College of Forest Resources has set a goal of \$14.75 million, while the College of Veterinary Medicine intends to reach \$19.7 million. The majority of these funds in each college will go towards endowed scholarships and fellowships, as well as endowed faculty positions. These funds will allow us to maintain and recruit top educators and students. Both the CFR and the CVM have reputations for excellence in their fields, and in order to maintain and grow that reputation, it is vital that we all become involved in the State of the Future.

Jeff Little

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College of Forest Resources  
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### CVM Establishes Pegasus Partners Endowment Fund

The Pegasus has been a symbol of the College of Veterinary Medicine for 30 years, but the flying horse's history extends far into the past.

From the tenth to the eighth century, B.C., the Pegasus graced Greek and Roman art objects. During the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, the winged horse became a symbol of poetic inspiration and artistic creation.

To the College of Veterinary Medicine at MSU, the Pegasus represents a passion to improve the health and well-being of animals for the benefit of the animals, their owners, industry and society. This is achieved by providing compassionate, world-class

health care and diagnostic services, while also training students and veterinary professionals and encouraging them to embrace and perpetuate the college's vision.

The Pegasus Partners Endowment has been established to help the College of Veterinary Medicine build a solid foundation for our enrichment activities. Funds raised will help attract top students and faculty, support new research endeavors and enrich the college's innovative programs. One of the first contributors to the endowment was Dr. James A. Brett of Montezuma, Ga., a member of MSU's CVM class of 1983.

"I am very grateful for the education that I received from MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine," Brett said. "Supporting this fund is a way for me to give back and help provide stable funding for the college."

The goal for the endowment is \$2.5 million. Only the interest earned on this account will be used to assure an annual resource to enhance college-wide activities. With the MSU Foundation's spending rate of 4 percent, the college will generate \$100,000 annually from the new fund.

Contributions of \$10,000 or more in gifts and pledges will qualify donors as Pegasus Partners. These gifts can be made in annual installments over a three- to five-year period. Each donor will receive a Pegasus Partner statue and an engraved nameplate on the college's donor recognition wall.

For more information on the Pegasus Partners Endowment and how you can become a Pegasus Partner, contact Jeff Little at (662) 325-8151.

## Wild Turkey Group Expands Conservation Efforts

In 1990, a group of Jackson-area sportsmen concerned about the future of the wild turkey in Mississippi formed the Greater Jackson Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

Led by passionate turkey hunter Boyd Burrow, the chapter soon became one of Mississippi's best fund-raising conservation organizations.

Upon Burrow's sudden, unexpected death in 1996, the organization's annual golf tournament was renamed in his honor. One of the goals for the Boyd Burrow Memorial Wild Turkey Scramble became raising funds to create a scholarship in his name. "People knew Boyd, even if he didn't know them," said Bobby Cleveland, a close friend of Burrow. "That's just the type of person he was. The man ate, slept, drank, talked, and lived for turkey hunting. His dedication to turkey hunting and conservation was overwhelming and well represents the chapter's efforts to preserve the turkey hunting tradition."

In 2004, after a successful fund-raising year, the Jackson chapter achieved another one of its goals with the creation of the Boyd Burrow Greater Jackson Chapter NWTF Endowment Fund in MSU's College of Forest Resources and the Boyd Burrow Greater Jackson Chapter NWTF annual scholarship.

"Boyd would have really appreciated this," Cleveland said. "He would want to help young people with the same love of nature as he had."

Through its scholarships, the Greater Jackson Chapter of the NWTF hopes to continue enhancing wildlife habitat and to ensure the long-term sustainability of conservation efforts in Mississippi. At the same time, the scholarships pay homage to Boyd Burrow, the "turkey guy" who believed in society's obligation to appreciate and conserve our wildlife heritage.

To learn more about how you can establish an endowed scholarship in the College of Forest Resources, contact Jeff Little at (662) 325-8151.

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## Researcher's Legacy Lives on at MSU

The home of one of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' most generous donors is filled with mementoes of a life filled with world travel.

Winifred B. Hartwig has lived a long and fulfilling life. At age 93, she remembers every painting and statue that decorates her home in Greenville and the stories that go along with them. Hartwig tells of paintings she acquired while traveling with her husband Edgar in Brazil and Argentina, and of statues from India and Egypt carved from wood and stone.

"The people of these countries were always so nice to us," Hartwig recalls. "I think it was because they knew Edgar was doing his best to help them."

Edgar E. Hartwig, who died in 1996, spent most of his life conducting research on soybeans, trying to increase their yields and profits. He was a researcher at MSU's Delta Branch Research and Experiment Station in Stoneville, where he became renowned worldwide for his success as a soybean breeder. This success eventually earned him the moniker "the father of soybeans" in the Southern United States. However, in addition to his many years of service at Stoneville, Hartwig also shared his specialized expertise with the developing agricultural regions in countries such as Egypt, Brazil and India, where he taught them how to grow the protein-rich legume.

"Edgar loved the work he did," said Hartwig. "Mississippi State was very good to us, and I wanted to show my appreciation and give something back."

When most people give to a university, they will give a little here and there. Some may even give more to specific academic areas, but few make substantial gifts. Hartwig, on the other hand, has made a generous bequest of her entire estate. The bequest will be used by Mississippi State to honor and continue her late husband's lifelong work in soybean research by establishing an endowed chair, as well as graduate assistantships, in the college's Department of Plant and Soil Sciences.

In addition to supporting soybean research, Hartwig also has created a Fund for Excellence in her specific field of interest, human sciences. Earnings from the fund will be used to provide student scholarships, as well as general support for the faculty, staff and students in the School of Human Sciences.

For more information on contributing to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, please contact Jud Skelton at (662) 325-0643.

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

SUMMER

2005