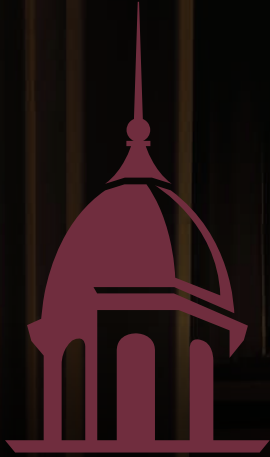


Summer 2022

SEASONS

The Magazine of Freed-Hardeman University



FHUNEXT

Thriving and Serving in Greater Ways

Pg. 14



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FHU NEXT



On the Cover:

President David R. Shannon and Chancellor Milton R. Sewell take a peek at Paul Gray Hall renovations, as Sewell shares memories from his days as a student in the iconic dorm. Part of the FHU NEXT campaign, Paul Gray is being renovated to meet growing housing needs and once again welcome students Fall 2022.

Find additional content, photos and videos at fhu.edu/seasons.



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YEAR IN REVIEW

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FHU CELEBRATES GRADUATES, AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP-LEADERSHIP MEDAL TO SWEATT

Approximately 340 Freed-Hardeman University students received degrees Saturday morning, May 14, at the school's spring commencement. In addition to baccalaureate and graduate degrees, 11 high school students enrolled in the university's early admission program were awarded Associate of Arts degrees.

FHU Board of Trustees Chair and TriStar Bank Chief Executive Officer Ted Williams delivered the commencement address. He encouraged graduates to emulate God in their lives. "God was a giver," he said. "He gave His Son."

Remembering the wedding gifts he and his wife Sharon received 36 years ago, Williams compared "everyday dishes" to the "the good china." The couple started with 12 plates in each set. Today they only have five of the everyday dishes, but the set of good china is still intact, he said. Only used two or three times a year, the good china survived, observed but not engaged. The everyday dishes engaged in the struggles of everyday living. "Be an everyday dish," Williams said. "Engage in this world; especially invest in your spiritual well-being."

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP-LEADERSHIP MEDALIST

FHU Provost and Vice President for Academics C.J. Vires presented the Faculty Scholarship-Leadership medal to Corey Sweatt, of Dyer, Tennessee. The award has been presented annually since 1938 to the student in the graduating class who possesses to the highest degree the following attributes: ability, quality of work, accuracy, love of knowledge and leadership.

Sweatt graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in history and in secondary education. He was a member of Alpha Chi and the Honors College and graduated with University Honors. A true servant-leader, Sweatt has served a variety of organizations dedicated to improving the lives of others, including the American Cancer Society, the Carl Perkins Center and Mid-South Youth Camp. In addition, he helped organize the inaugural FHU Servants' Day.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

To conclude the commencement program, FHU President David R. Shannon challenged graduates. He urged them to pray, serve, love and work like Jesus. "Live a life for His glory," he said, "and remember God loves you more than anyone else loves you." Quoting Isaiah 49:16, Shannon reminded them God said, "See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before Me."



COMME

STUDENTS COMPLETE HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS, COLLEGE DEGREES SIMULTANEOUSLY

Eleven students, dually enrolled at their high schools and at Freed-Hardeman University, received their high school diplomas and their Associate of Arts degrees this spring. The group began taking college courses in Fall 2019 when they were high school sophomores to jumpstart their academic careers.

They are a diverse group. Two of the students are home-schooled. They live as close as Henderson, Tennessee, and as far away as Bahrain, which is an island country in Western Asia.

Owen Osburn, a Chester County High School senior with enough college hours to be an FHU sophomore, said he chose to pursue a college degree while in high school to better prepare himself for further education. "I definitely feel like I have more experience with college work and with the responsibilities that come with balancing online schoolwork and a job," he said.

A former barista, Osburn now works at Edward Jones as a part-time branch office administrator. "Both positions have given me a lot of good experience and opportunities," he said. Next on his agenda is completing a major in finance and getting his real estate license during college. "I like to get different experiences to get a feel for different fields of work," he said.

High school students interested in participating in the dual enrollment program and working toward an associate degree must complete the dual enrollment application and have a qualifying grade point average. Applicants with a minimum GPA of 3.25 must also have an ACT score of 21 or SAT equivalent. The test score is not required for those who have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher. In addition, they must submit a proctored essay of 500 words and two letters of recommendation related to their academic ability.

This year's commencement marked the first time Freed-Hardeman has conferred associate degrees in approximately 40 years. The university eliminated the program in the 1970s, when it began offering four-year degrees. Although distance made it difficult for some of the graduates to attend the commencement ceremony, eight of them received their degrees in person.

Additional information about the early admission program and dual enrollment is available from Hailey Malone; her email address is hmalone@fhu.edu.



Enjoy the journey

COMMENCEMENT



category winners

Choreography and Blocking: 1. Xi Chi Delta, 2. Phi Kappa Alpha 3. Sigma Rho

Lyrics: 1. FHU Variants, 2. Chi Beta Chi, 3. Xi Chi Delta

Vocals: 1. Chi Beta Chi, 2. Xi Chi Delta, 3. Sigma Rho

Costumes: 1. Xi Chi Delta, 2. FHU Variants, 3. Sigma Rho

Props and Set Design: 1. Sigma Rho, 2. Xi Chi Delta, 3. Phi Kappa Alpha

Entertainment Value: 1. Xi Chi Delta, 2. Sigma Rho, 3. FHU Variants



NO GOING BACK

MAKIN' MUSIC 2022

Xi Chi Delta's "The Spirit of the Samurai" took home the sweepstakes trophy Saturday, April 9, 2022, at Freed-Hardeman's annual Makin' Music production. Sigma Rho's "Rumble at the Raceway" claimed the runner-up spot, while FHU Variants finished third with "The Sound of Sirens."

FHU Variants, comprised of students not affiliated with a particular social club, also won the Spirit of Makin' Music Award presented Friday evening.

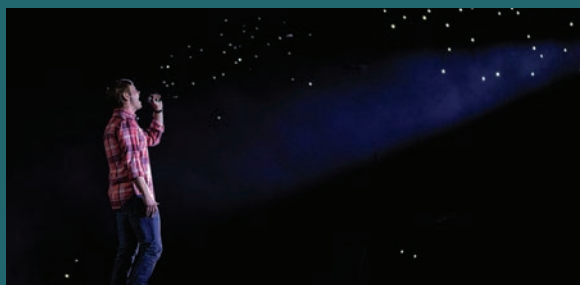
This year marked the 45th anniversary of Makin' Music. However, the previous two years were presented online to provide COVID-19 safety. The 2022 presentation was a return to normalcy and a packed house. In addition to Friday and Saturday shows, local elementary schools were once again treated to a free Thursday performance, a tradition that had

been discontinued in 2020 and 2021. The theme of this year's production, "No Turning Back," evidenced a clear determination to continue Makin' Music for a live audience.

"Makin' Music has been a student-run show from the beginning," Makin' Music Producer Tony Allen said. "We have student staff and student directors; students are the ones who make Makin' Music happen."

Suzanna Grady, Makin' Music student coordinator, announced that the show was being dedicated to Roy Sharp, retired administrator and faculty member. Sharp thanked students for the honor via live stream. FHU President David R. Shannon offered a prayer for Sharp, who has been facing health difficulties.







20 YEARS OF

Fine China and Fundraising



Tea for two — or maybe 350 of your closest friends?

Freed-Hardeman University Associates celebrated their 20th year of tea parties by serving a full afternoon tea to approximately 350 guests. The annual rite of spring returned to the home of N.B. Hardeman, long-time president of the university, for the first time in several years, due to a renovation of the Hardeman House followed by COVID-19 restrictions.

Approximately 25 volunteer cooks labored in FHU's commercial kitchens to prepare 1,200 scones, 1,200 tiny cucumber sandwiches and 600 small lemon-blueberry cupcakes, along with the other delectable treats.

At the national meeting of the Associates in August 2002, Laurel Sewell, national president, broached the idea of having a springtime event to replace the fashion show that the group had hosted for many years. Ideas were tossed around, with most of them focused on women-only

events. Debbie McLaughlin, now the national coordinator for the group but then a relatively new Associate and mother of two young children, told the group that women her age would be more likely to participate in an event their children could also attend. "Maybe something like a tea party," she offered. "Everybody just looked at me without saying anything," McLaughlin said.

After the meeting, Sewell approached McLaughlin and asked her to tell her more about her idea, and she asked her to present a proposal at the February 2003 meeting of the group. The response was mixed, but the group voted to try it for one year. The first tea party was held that April, with McLaughlin preparing "a goodly amount" of the food herself and going door-to-door borrowing teacups and teapots. She was assisted in food preparation by Sewell, who made all the tea party hat cookies. Kristen Hester Hicks attended the first tea party and asked, "If I join the Associates, can I be a member of the



tea party committee?" Her offer was accepted, and she has been McLaughlin's co-chair ever since.

Although there are no records of how many people were served that year, the tea party evidently did well enough for the event to continue. In 2006, the tea party brought in more than \$4,000 for scholarships. Ten years later, it raised more than \$10,000. In 2022, it has brought in more than \$16,000, with funds being added.

Once it was determined the tea party would be a recurring event, Kay DeLay and Phyllis Hester made it their mission to acquire china for the Associates. They went to antique stores and yard sales in search of cups, saucers, plates and teapots. They also provided cake stands, so no more borrowing and returning china!

After a couple of decades, the tea party has become a treasured family and community tradition that also supports students through vital scholarship dollars. When spring comes, family and friends welcome this beloved tradition with white tablecloths, fine china, hats, gloves, Victorian activities, sweet and savory dainties and gallons of specialty teas.

Adding to Shannon's DREAM TEAM

If a successful leader is, as leadership guru John C. Maxwell says, one who "finds the right place for others," FHU President David R. Shannon is on the fast track to building his dream team. Adding to the excellent lineup already in place, he has positioned three other men in the "right place." In addition to these three appointments, this issue details the appointment of former FHU Head Baseball Coach Jonathan Estes as director of intercollegiate athletics.



FHU NAMES BRASHIER CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, VICE PRESIDENT

Jason Brashier became the FHU Chief Financial Officer and Vice President for Financial Services in January 2022. Formerly, he was dean of the FHU College of Business and associate vice president for innovation, planning and assessment.

"Dr. Brashier has a thorough understanding of Freed-Hardeman's mission, the genuine respect of the Freed-Hardeman community, and the financial acumen to help move Freed-Hardeman to a higher level," FHU President David R. Shannon said. "I feel certain that Dr. Brashier, along with the talented team in financial services and human resources, will serve the university with excellence."

Brashier became dean of the College of Business in 2016 and associate vice president for innovation, planning and assessment in 2020.

He, his wife, April, and their five children attend North Jackson Church of Christ, where he serves as a deacon.

"When you combine Dr. Brashier's leadership and management successes, his familiarity with FHU, and his knowledge of higher education trends and finance with his intellectual acumen, humility and curiosity, you have an individual who is the right person at the right time to serve as FHU's next CFO," Dr. C.J. Vires, provost and vice president for academics, said.



BRUCE MCLARTY TO SERVE AS FHU'S MINISTER-IN-RESIDENCE

Freed-Hardeman University President David R. Shannon also announced the addition of former Harding University President Bruce McLarty as minister-in-residence for the 2022-23 academic year. McLarty will teach graduate Bible courses; mentor faculty and students; speak to various classes and clubs; serve on the chapel and lectureship committees; and consult with elderships, ministers and churches. Additionally, he will serve as an ambassador for the College of Biblical Studies and the university.

"I am thrilled that Bruce is willing to use his many talents, rich experience and heart for ministry to help FHU students develop their gifts for God's glory," Shannon said. "His journey as a minister, dean and university president has been filled with excellence, joy and humility, and he is beloved as a man of God."

McLarty and his wife, Ann, live near his parents on a family farm in Cookeville, Tennessee. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Bible from Harding, a Master of Theology from Harding Graduate School of Theology and a Doctor of Ministry from Ashland Theological Seminary. McLarty became the vice president for spiritual life at Harding in 2005, then dean of the Harding College of Bible and Ministry. He was president of Harding from June 1, 2013, through Nov. 30, 2020.

"Ann and I are thrilled to join President Shannon and the FHU family in helping students prepare for careers and lives of service for God. I am a preacher at heart with a desire to teach, preach, encourage and write, and this role will provide wonderful opportunities to serve the Kingdom in these ways."



TJ KIRK NAMED FHU VICE PRESIDENT

Chester County Middle School Principal TJ Kirk was announced as vice president for student services at Freed-Hardeman University by President David R. Shannon Wednesday, Feb. 9.

An FHU alumnus, Kirk earned two degrees from the university, a Bachelor of Science in education in 2006 and a Master of Education in administration and supervision in 2009. He has been employed by the Chester County School System since 2006. He became an assistant principal in 2012 and principal in 2017. Kirk began his duties as a vice president at FHU June 1.

Known for his strong relationships with students, Kirk led CCMS in being recognized as a Tennessee Reward School for Achievement for

the first time in history in 2018-19. In addition to his work with the school system, Kirk is a minister for the Jacks Creek Church of Christ.

Kirk and his wife, Shiradon Howard Kirk, have two daughters. Shiradon, an FHU alumna, holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees and teaches special education in the Chester County School System.

"We were looking for someone who understands the Freed-Hardeman experience, one who knows our traditions but is also a dreamer," Shannon said. "We believe TJ is that person. He has the education and experience for the job, but more than that, he is a strong leader and a faithful Christian."



FHUNEXT

*"So the next generation might know them
Even the children not yet born
And they in turn will teach their own children."*

Psalm 78:6



KINGDOM
ACADEMICS
EXPERIENCE
AFFORDABILITY

5 YEARS

\$100+
MILLION

Having recently celebrated 150 years of teaching young people "How to Live and How to Make a Living," Freed-Hardeman University looks confidently toward the future. To honor and celebrate the past, FHU has set forth a bold vision for the future. In the past year, FHU has successfully launched a five-year, \$100+-million campaign to answer the question of what's next for the venerable institution.

"We are building on our rich heritage and significant accomplishments to reach higher than ever before for God's glory," FHU President David R. Shannon said.

FHU NEXT, a comprehensive fundraising plan, is comprised of four vital areas:

- **KINGDOM,**
 - **ACADEMICS,**
 - **EXPERIENCE and**
 - **AFFORDABILITY.**
-



NEXT LEVEL: KINGDOM

➤ **TOTAL NEEDED: \$42,550,000**

"Our vision is larger than this world," Shannon said. "Our ultimate goal is to impact the kingdom and strengthen the church for His glory." Therefore, the campaign includes hiring the best Christian faculty and creating flexibility to meet market demands for new academic programs.

It also stresses growing the endowed scholarship fund as well as increasing accessibility for students of color. "To emphasize the importance of God's plan for man's salvation, a new birth through Jesus, we plan to incorporate a baptistry/fountain into one of the building renovations," Shannon said.



FHU FACULTY AT COMMENCEMENT, MAY 2022

AT-A-GLANCE OBJECTIVES

- ☐ Hiring the Best Christian Faculty
 - ☐ Meeting Market Demands for New Programs
 - ☐ Growing Endowed Scholarship Fund
 - ☐ Establishing Scholarship Fund for Minority Students
 - ☐ Incorporating Baptistry into Building Renovation
-
-



POTENTIAL BAPTISTRY/FOUNTAIN CONCEPT

NEXT LEVEL: ACADEMICS

➤ TOTAL NEEDED: \$11,250,000

New academic programs in emerging markets, such as robotics, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, computer analytics and computer engineering, will be part of the new ATPI Center for Digital Innovation, funded by the generosity of alumni John and Rosemary Brown.

Building on FHU's service to the church, a Doctor of Ministry is being established to provide a service-oriented terminal degree in ministry. Combining scholarship and research, the D. Min. will be directed in a practical way to help the church. The FHU NEXT campaign will provide faculty and scholarships for this endeavor. An upgraded photography studio, classroom and storage space are included for photography majors, one of FHU's fastest growing programs.

Brown-Kopel Business Center, the campus' most often utilized academic building, will be refurbished to enhance the learning environment for students. An endowment fund to provide seed money for new academic programs will be established so the university can better respond to market trends and student needs. In addition, the university's current software systems will be updated.

AT-A-GLANCE OBJECTIVES

- ☐ New Academic Programs Added
- ☐ Endowment Fund Established
- ☐ Doctor of Ministry Degree Established
- ☐ Faculty and Scholarships for D. Min. Provided
- ☐ Photography Studio Upgraded
- ☐ Brown-Kopel Business Center Refurbished
- ☐ University's Software Systems Updated

FHU TO OFFER ENGINEERING MAJOR

The NEXT campaign includes the ATPI Center for Digital Innovation. New programs in engineering will join the current math, computer science, cybersecurity and pre-engineering in the center. Faculty and staff will walk with students in discipleship, exploration and creation in service to His purposes.

For months, new staff member Dr. Ben Clark has been working with the administration, faculty and staff on the building, curriculum and program plans for FHU's first 4-year undergraduate engineering degree. The goal is to begin offering a degree in computer engineering starting in 2024 and seeking accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as soon as possible after that.

Currently, the plans are making their way through FHU's internal processes. When that is completed, this information will be submitted to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges for approval.

In the meantime, the math and computer science department will begin offering robotics courses and make the university's Makerspace more available to students, faculty and staff for their own creative projects. Makerspace will be expanded when the ATPI Center is completed.

Funds for the ATPI Center were provided by alumni John and Rosemary Brown. The center's name honors their parents: Albert and Treva Brown and Phillip and Irene Kopel.

Visit tinyletter.com/atpi/ to sign up for the ATPI newsletter.



NEXT LEVEL: EXPERIENCE

› TOTAL NEEDED: \$31,250,000

FHU NEXT also will fund projects to move students' campus experience to the next level. The Wallace-Gano Dining Hall and Burks Student Center will be completely renovated to house the student center, bookstore and mail room. The second floor will be dedicated to the ATP Center for Digital Innovation. The facility will be renamed to honor Dr. Elizabeth Saunders, FHU's first Black graduate and its first Black faculty member, as well as an outstanding citizen of Henderson and Chester County.

A new dining hall will be constructed between the Gardner Center and Brown-Kopel Business Center. Chick-fil-A® will be in front of the newly constructed cafeteria, facing Main Street to accommodate both campus and community clientele.

Loyd Auditorium, home of daily chapel and almost every large gathering on campus, will be renovated. New seating, flooring and paint along with exterior improvements, additional restrooms and an elevator are planned for the building that was completed in 1976.

All residence halls will receive upgrades and improved parking. In addition, Paul Gray Hall is being totally renovated to meet the needs of FHU's record-setting enrollment. Since last fall's enrollment maxed out housing for men, plans call for completion of this project in time for Fall 2022.

To meet the long-standing need for additional exercise and recreational space, an outdoor intramural complex will provide fields for softball, soccer and flag football. An indoor intramural complex will include basketball and volleyball courts, as well as dressing areas, restrooms and a parking lot. The weight room will be enlarged.

Intercollegiate athletic projects already completed or underway include artificial turf and drainage for the baseball field, field and drainage improvements for the softball and soccer fields, refinishing of the basketball court, parking lot repair and additional, improved signage.



NEW BASEBALL FIELD TURF, COMPLETED AUG. 2021



PAUL GRAY HALL, JUNE 2022



WALLACE-GANO DINING HALL AND BURKS STUDENT CENTER, 2022

AT-A-GLANCE OBJECTIVES

- ☐ Wallace-Gano Student Center Renovated
- ☐ ATPi Center for Digital Innovation Constructed
- ☐ Facility Renamed to Honor Dr. Elizabeth Saunders
- ☐ New Dining Hall Constructed
- ☐ Chick-fil-A® Constructed
- ☐ Loyd Auditorium Renovated
- ☐ All Residence Halls Upgraded
- ☐ Paul Gray Hall Totally Renovated
- ☐ Outdoor and Indoor Intramural Complexes Constructed
- ☐ Weight Room Enlarged



PROPOSED DINING HALL, FEATURING CHICK-FIL-A®

NEXT LEVEL: AFFORDABILITY

› TOTAL NEEDED: \$16,500,000

To maintain tuition stability, additional gifts will be sought for the university's annual fund, Bible teaching program, the annual benefit dinner and the President's Council.

"This campaign and these projects were prayerfully considered," Shannon said. "They are based on three biblical principles: God is owner of all, Psalm 24:1; We are stewards, not owners, Matthew 25:14-30; and We are blessed to bless others, Galatians 6:10."



SCHOLARSHIP DONORS AND RECIPIENTS POSE AT THE ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON, APRIL 1, 2022



ASSOCIATES' EVENTS HELP FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Although the FHU Associates originally helped fund various campus projects, including a bus for student group travel and radio station equipment, their current focus is scholarships. Their endowed scholarship fund now stands at more than \$250,000, and the interest provides scholarships for three students annually. Additionally, they raise another \$65,000 for scholarships each year.

As a part of the university's NEXT campaign, the Associates have committed to raising an additional \$250,000 and building an additional endowed scholarship fund to help increase diversity. NEXT, the university's current \$100+-million campaign, is scheduled to end in May 2025.

AT-A-GLANCE OBJECTIVES

Gifts Sought for:

- ☐ Annual Fund
- ☐ Bible Teaching Program
- ☐ Benefit Dinner
- ☐ President's Council

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Officially announced in December 2021, fundraising for FHU NEXT has received tremendous support. Some projects have been completed, while others are in progress or in the planning stage. As of this printing, \$98.1 million has been contributed or pledged, while fundraising for future projects continues.

Fundraising for the following projects is complete: Dr. Elizabeth Saunders Center, ATPI Center for Digital Innovation, improvements for intercollegiate athletics facilities, Paul Gray Hall renovation and a comprehensive campus software platform. Renovations of Paul Gray are underway, with the intent of its housing students by Fall 2022.

The current fundraising priority is for improvements to Loyd Auditorium. Also, money is still being raised for the following: additional residence hall improvements, the annual fund, the Doctor of Ministry program, endowed scholarships, endowed minority scholarships and the fountain/baptistry water feature.

Future fundraising opportunities will include: outdoor intramural complex, intramural gym and parking lots, endowment for new programs, photography studio and Brown-Kopel Business Center improvements.

"Future students are depending on what we do today," Shannon said. "Generations are counting on us to help them develop their God-given talents for His glory. I firmly believe that when Christians join in faith and prayer, no dream is too great for us to accomplish."

\$98.1
MILLION
RAISED

FUNDRAISING COMPLETED

- ✓ Dr. Elizabeth Saunders Center
- ✓ ATPI Center for Digital Innovation
- ✓ Improvements for Intercollegiate Athletics Facilities
- ✓ Paul Gray Hall Renovations
- ✓ Comprehensive Software Platform
- ✓ New Dining Hall
- ✓ Chick-fil-A®

› TOTAL REMAINING:
\$15.7 MILLION

Student LIFE



DISC GOLF COMES TO FHU CAMPUS

Freed-Hardeman recently installed an 18-hole disc golf course on the south side of campus near the athletic fields. The course was made possible by a generous donation from former FHU President Joe Wiley, as well as contributions from the Office of Student Life and the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics.

The Chester County community has invested in the course, as well. Seven area businesses have sponsored individual holes to help with course maintenance and upkeep. Area residents are invited to play the course.

The university plans to utilize the course during the 2022-23 year by starting a club team for interested FHU students, and hosting disc golf tournaments to raise money for various campus initiatives. Those who want additional information regarding the disc golf course may contact Matt Barker, FHU instructor of communication, at mbarker@fhu.edu.



UPC ENRICHES CAMPUS LIFE

The University Program Council is a student-led organization to plan, develop, and present campus-wide programs for the student body.

All of these programs provide recreational, cultural or spiritual interactions and involvement. UPC events are free for FHU students. Past programs include hypnotist Jim Wand, comedian Henry Cho, Acrobats of Hebei China, iceless skating rink, UPC carnival, and concerts with Dave Barnes, Matt Wertz, Ingram Hill and Ben Rector. Monthly Coffee Houses provide musical entertainment performed by students. UPC also coordinates campus-wide devotionals throughout the week.

UPC is directed by Dean Tony Allen, who can be reached at 731-989-6055 or via email at tallen@fhu.edu.



UNIVERSITY HONORS MR. AND MISS FHU 2022

Mr. and Miss Freed-Hardeman University for the 2021-22 school year were announced Thursday, April 14, during a special chapel program. The student body chose CeCe Spencer, Martin, Tennessee, and John Allen Thomas of Columbia, Tennessee, as this year's ideal student representatives.

Spencer and Thomas were among eight finalists nominated by students, faculty and staff for the honor. Other contenders for Miss FHU were Anniston Butler, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee; Suzanna Grady, Murray, Kentucky; and Kayley Wadlington, Cadiz, Kentucky. Additional nominees for Mr. FHU were Noah Davis, Leander, Texas; Brooks Jackson, Florence, Alabama; and Cameron Miller, Winchester, Virginia.

Spencer, a family science major, is a member of Alpha Chi National College Honor Society and has held various offices in Phi Kappa Alpha Social Club. "The thing I appreciate most about Freed-Hardeman is the community it creates," Spencer said. "Every day, I am thankful to be a part of the FHU family, where we love, pray and care for one another." After graduation, Spencer plans to complete an internship with the Mount Juliet Church of Christ and enter graduate school to become a school guidance counselor. She is the daughter of the late Danny and Sherri Spencer.

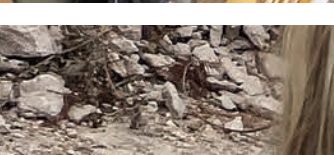
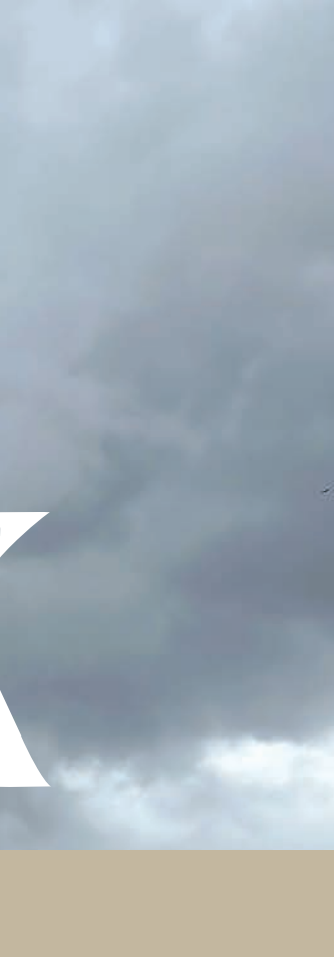
Thomas has held various offices, including chaplain and vice president, in Phi Kappa Alpha Social Club and represented his class in the homecoming royalty. He is majoring in biblical studies/youth ministry. Among the things he said he most appreciates about FHU are the family atmosphere on campus and the opportunities to grow his faith. His favorite memories include PKA's Charge and Recharge each semester, suite devos, Jungle Gym prayer nights, guys' retreats and Makin' Music. Following graduation, Thomas plans to marry his fiancée, Hannah Gillson, and begin a career in youth ministry. He is the son of John and Natalie Thomas.

The tradition of choosing two students as ideal representatives of the college began in 1940. "This event," Chris Ramey, director of alumni engagement, said, "allows the campus community to celebrate our students in general and especially those who best represent the ideals inherent in our mission."

SPRING BREAK

campaigns make a comeback





For decades, hundreds of Freed-Hardeman University students have spent their spring break doing good and spreading the Gospel of Jesus. After a hiatus caused by COVID-19, that tradition is returning as a part of campus life.

Prior to the pandemic, nearly 300 students participated in campaigns during each academic year, Kevin Moore, director of mission studies, said. In 2020, all campaigns from FHU were cancelled. "We are gradually recovering," he said. Last year, students participated in one foreign and 11 stateside campaigns with 134 persons affiliated with FHU participating. "So far this year, FHU students, faculty and staff have made disaster relief trips to Louisiana, Tennessee and Kentucky," Moore said. During the most recent spring break, FHU campaigners made four stateside and two overseas trips with 115 participants. "Other efforts were cancelled because of ongoing COVID-19 restrictions and concerns about the war in Ukraine," he said.

Spring break 2022 included a trip by 18 Xi Chi Delta Social Club members to Bayou La Batre, Alabama, where they led a worship service, helped with various service projects, assisted in teaching and caring for many children for whom the church provides care, worked in a leadership camp and taught people of all ages.

Twenty-seven members of Chi Beta Chi Social Club went to Costa Rica to knock on doors, conduct a VBS and help with work at a church camp. Lydia Todd, one of the student coordinators for the trip, said, "We all learned and gained so much from this campaign experience. Even

now, the congregation and translators from Sarchí still talk with us every day, and they have sent us pictures of visitors who are attending their worship as a result of the campaign." The group worked with 244 children from the schools, conducted 45 Bible studies and collected contact information for an additional 73 persons who are interested in a Bible study.

Thirty others associated with Chi Beta Chi worked with the church in Keizer, Oregon, and surrounding congregations to host a youth rally. They also provided manual labor for congregations without resources to do the work themselves. In addition to the work serving others, students learned about the mission field in the Pacific Northwest.

Junior and senior nursing majors, led by two members of the nursing faculty, Sarah Pierce and Linda Hodges, went to Santa Ana, Honduras. The group of 31 also included non-nursing majors and four alumni. Working with TORCH Missions, they provided medical care to approximately 600 individuals and helped to build two houses. In addition, they packed 100 food bags, distributed 100 water filters, handed out masks at the hospital, repaired a basketball court at a school for the deaf and built a playground at an elementary school.

Doug Burleson, assistant dean of the FHU College of Biblical Studies, led two groups to help with disaster relief in western Kentucky, an area hit hard by recent tornadoes. Workers included students and members of the Estes Church of Christ.





FREED-HARDEMAN HOSTS OPENING ROUND

After a 41-13 season in 2021, Freed-Hardeman softball spent the summer ranked #25 in the final poll of the year. With a majority of their lineup returning to play, the Lady Lions began their magical 2022 campaign with a preseason ranking of #15.

One of the biggest days for FHU softball came not from the diamond, but from the NAIA offices in Kansas City when, on May 2 it was announced that Morgan Stadium at Tucker Field would be one of 10 opening round sites. Amanda Cunningham had led FHU's attempt to land one of the opening round sites.

Henderson and Chester County laid out the welcome mat. "We have such a hospitable community,"

Cunningham said. "Our team sponsors, the Bramblett Group, FirstBank, The People's Bank and Besso's, all did a wonderful job of welcoming the teams," she said.

In addition to the sponsors, several other local businesses assisted in the planning stages: FHU, Chester County Mayor Barry Hutcherson, City of Henderson Mayor Bobby King, Southern Chic Spatique, Snookum's Steakhouse and Alliance Design Co.

Coach Todd Humphry's Lady Lions drew the top seed against three other conference winners. After #4 seed Friends (Mich.) University upset FHU in the first game of the tournament, FHU rattled off four wins in two days to win their second opening round championship and

punch their ticket to the final site in Columbus, Georgia.

After a one-day rain delay, the Lady Lions found themselves again fighting through the consolation bracket after dropping their first game to Indiana Wesleyan, 3-1. With their backs against the wall, FHU won consecutive elimination games before falling to Science & Arts (Okla.), five games short of winning the Big Red Banner.

Freed-Hardeman's record-breaking season saw the Lady Lions advance farther in the NAIA World Series than any previous FHU softball team. Post-season rankings put them at #5 in the

nation. The Lady Lions' hitting prowess was on display all season with several statistical totals ranking in the top 10 of the country. FHU was among the best in home runs (51), extra base hits (167) and total bases (794).

While FHU hitting scored runs in 59 of their 60 games, it was their pitching which rattled the opposition. The Lady Lions shut out their opponents 22 times, the second most in the NAIA. By holding their opponents to a .173 batting average, the Lady Lion pitching staff was the second best in the country. FHU's microscopic 1.22 earned run average was the fifth lowest in the nation.



HUMPHRY, GRAHAM NAMED COACHING STAFF OF THE YEAR

The National Fastpitch Coaches Association recognized FHU Softball Coach Todd Humphry and Assistant Coach Kaylyn Graham as the NAIA Region VI's Coaching Staff of the Year.



Three decades after Freed-Hardeman began playing intercollegiate softball, two of those first players are again at the softball field. This time around, though, they are not on the field. Instead, they are enthusiastic fans and proud moms watching their daughters compete as Lady Lions.

Lisa Graves Bradford and Beth Casper Harris attend virtually all Lady Lion games. Bradford has two daughters on the team. Emily, a pitcher, graduated this spring but plans to be a graduate assistant next fall, and Katelyn, also a pitcher, has just finished her freshman year. Right fielder Kennedy Harris, also a spring graduate, will play a fifth year while working on her master's degree.

In addition, infielder Allie Mitchell's dad, Jay Mitchell ('96), was a member of the Lion baseball team. He, too, attends many of the games. "I enjoy them all," he said. "I am always proud of Allie, but it was a thrill to watch her play for the same school I enjoyed playing for."

Lisa Bradford pitched in 1991, FHU's initial season, and in 1992. "In that first season, I think we played 12 games against anyone around who would play us," she said. Games were played on the intramural field without dugouts. "We were a team of girls who just wanted to play, and for some of us, it had been three years since we had played fastpitch," she said.

Beth Harris was the team's catcher, 1993-96. She mentioned the big change in facilities. "Today at FHU, they are amazing. The softball field and field house are among the finest," Harris said.

Some things remain the same — relationships. "I still keep in touch with some of those first teammates, including my awesome catcher Rayla Tucker Black, Denise Rogers Davidson and Coach Terry Weeks," Lisa Bradford said. "The love of the game, the bond the players share and having coaches who truly love and care about the girls have remained constant."

"One of the things I notice about this team that reminds me of my time at FHU is the closeness," Beth Harris said. "You spend so much time with the same group of girls that the bonds that develop are amazing."

Both moms have coached their daughters. "My parents both coached me most of my career," Kennedy Harris said. "My mom has been very influential in my career. I love to play something we both enjoy."

When Emily Bradford was beginning to play softball, her mom taught her to pitch, while dad helped coach her teams. "I didn't always listen," she said, "because she was my mom, but she has always been there to support and help me learn from whatever the situation might be."

Lisa Bradford also coached daughter Katelyn in league and travel ball. "My mom is very knowledgeable and full of advice when it comes to softball," she said. "However, the best advice Mom has given me has been from a character-building point of view. She has taught me how a teammate and a player are supposed to act, to respect my coaches, build up my teammates and, most importantly, to be a Christ-like player on and off the field."

As a first grader, Allie Mitchell didn't want to play softball. Her dad cut a deal with her. If she tried it for one year and didn't like it, she could quit. "Obviously, I loved it and have been playing ever since," she said. "Not only was he the one who introduced me to the sport, but he spent countless hours practicing with me every year."

Although Jay Mitchell says he gave his daughter lots of suggestions and "she was very kind to listen, I'm sure she didn't need or want any of it."

Allie Mitchell sees it differently. "I always look to him for suggestions about the game and my play. I probably never would have played if he hadn't pushed me to, and I would have missed so many great memories, friendships and a special bond between my dad and me."

"I was so excited when Kennedy expressed interest in attending Freed-Hardeman and playing softball," Beth Harris said. "I loved playing softball at FHU so much. I was eager for her to experience the same thing!"

As for Allie Mitchell, she thinks "It is very cool to say that I played college ball at the same place my dad did."

Seeing her daughters wear the maroon and white has been "indescribable," according to Lisa Bradford. "Every time I see them on that field," she said, "my heart bursts with pride and love for the game and for FHU and the bond the three of us share by having played for Freed-Hardeman."

FORMER BASEBALL PLAYER MEMORIALIZED

Freed-Hardeman University honored a former member of the FHU Lion Baseball team by naming a deck at Five Wells Field in his memory, April 9, 2022. Daniel Wallace, better known as D-Wall, pitched for the Lions 2012-14. A member of the Brownsville Police Department, he died Aug. 21, 2021, at a Jackson, Tennessee hospital after an on-duty medical emergency.

Wallace was a member of the 2012 team that won the TranSouth Athletic Conference Championship. A transfer from Jackson State Community College, he had played his high school ball at North Side in Jackson.

Named the D-Wall Deck, the area provides a place for students to congregate and enjoy the FHU baseball experience. The two-tiered deck is 36' long and 12' deep and can comfortably accommodate 30 fans. "It is made of composite material, so it will last for decades," Jonathan Estes, FHU head baseball coach, said. Although 12 chairs are available on the deck, fans may bring their own chairs.

Former teammate Drew Suttles suggested the baseball team find a way to honor Wallace, according to Estes. "We had wanted to construct a deck for quite a while, and this seemed the right time to do it," Estes said. "Many of his teammates

contributed during FHU's Day of Giving last fall to help build the deck."

Members of the Wallace family, as well as former teammates and coaches, attended the dedication.

"I knew from the get-go Daniel was going to be a big-time pitcher for us," Estes said. "But as good a pitcher as he was, he was a better teammate."

Wallace, who earned a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice from FHU in 2014, was a corporal with the Brownsville Police Department in West Tennessee. A member of the force for five years, he had recently been named the department's evidence technician and accreditation manager. The 29-year-old suffered chest pains while on duty at the police station. He was rushed to the hospital where he underwent multiple surgeries.

"Daniel was a great police officer, friend to many, father to two beautiful children, and a wonderful husband," BPD said in a statement. "Corporal Daniel Wallace will always have a special place in the hearts and minds of the Brownsville Police Department."

He is survived by his wife, Megan; daughter, Abby; son, Colson; mother, Susan; brother, Matthew; and sister-in-law, Jenny.



TRASK TO HEAD LION BASEBALL

Assistant Coach Jess Trask has been selected to lead Lion baseball. He has worked with FHU infielders and baserunners for the last four years. During that time, the Lions have produced three Gold Glove winners and led the Mid-South Conference in fielding percentage. Runners' 145 steals led the MSC and ranked eighth nationally.

"Jess is a tireless worker and we are confident he will build on our tradition. He is familiar with the program and has big plans to keep developing our players," Athletic Director Jonathan Estes said.



LION ATHLETICS



THREE COMPETE IN NAIA TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

For the first time in program history, three Freed-Hardeman runners competed for a national title in track and field.

Madison Grant became the first FHU female to qualify for the championship race. She also broke that barrier in the fall when she competed in the cross-country national championship race. She placed 22nd with a 1:36:25 half-marathon.

Nathan Mangrum's 10th place finish was the highest of any Lion in program history. He set a new personal record in addition to a new school record with a blistering 1:11:49 half-marathon finish.

Matthew Ray concluded his collegiate track and field career with a 47th place finish at 1:19:47. He has one more year of eligibility to compete in this fall's cross-country campaign.

TWO ATHLETES GARNER NAIA ALL-AMERICAN RECOGNITION

Two FHU basketball players received All-American honors. Graduating senior Kortland Martin was named to the NAIA All-America Third Team, while Alyssa May was recognized as an NAIA All-America Honorable Mention.

Martin scored 18.5 points per game at a 46% clip over his five-year career. This season, he averaged 20.2 points per game, leading the Lions to the NAIA National Tournament. To go along with his illustrious scoring career, Martin has also tallied a total of 459 assists, 157 steals, 423 rebounds, and 334 3-point makes. Martin finished 22nd in the nation in points per game and holds the school's all-time scoring record at 2,321 points.

LeMay collected 14.2 points and 7.4 rebounds per game for the Lady Lions. She led the team in both points and rebounds. She ranked 25th with 78 made 3-pointers, as well as 23rd in defensive rebounds (210). Ending the year with nine double-doubles, LeMay etched her name in Lady Lion history by crossing 1,000 career points earlier this season.





MARTIN WINS HEART OF A LION AWARD

Freed-Hardeman University's Kortland Martin received the 2022 Charlie Smith Heart of a Lion Award, presented annually to the senior intercollegiate athlete who is chosen by the entire coaching staff to best exemplify the strength and courage of a lion.

A 5'11" point guard from Humboldt, Tennessee, Martin led the Lions in scoring this year with 20.5 points per game. He shot 88% from the free throw line and 40% from behind the arc. His junior and senior years he was elected to the Mid-South Conference First Team by the opposing coaches. He was also named to the NAIA All-American Third Team.

Martin holds the school's all-time scoring record with 2,321 points, but he is more than a scoring machine. He also posted career totals of 459 assists, 157 steals, 423 rebounds and 334 successful three-point shots.

"Kortland is just a special young man. He isn't just a talented player; he is a special person," Lion Basketball Head Coach Drew Stutts said. One thing that makes him special is that he didn't mind playing different roles; he just wanted to win. "That attitude and approach speak to his character and the young man he is on and off the court," Stutts said. "Kortland is simply a winner."

LADY VOL COACH SPEAKS AT BENEFIT FOR INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Tennessee Women's Basketball Coach and former Lady Vol Kellie Harper headlined Freed-Hardeman University's 2022 Sports Advisory Council Benefit Dinner Friday, April 22, 2022, in Brewer Sports Center. More than 500 guests and intercollegiate athletes attended the event. The annual benefit raises funds for FHU's intercollegiate athletic program.

Harper told the audience she had grown up on a farm and learned to love hard work. That trait proved useful as a Lady Vol playing for the legendary Pat Summitt. She recounted those days on the court. Harper was the point guard for three national championship teams, 1996, 1997 and 1998. That team also won two Southeastern Conference titles and three SEC Tournament titles. Playing at Tennessee for Summitt impacted not only her own athletic career, but also her coaching career, Harper said.

Currently in her third year with the Lady Vols, Harper returned to Knoxville from Missouri State where she led the Lady Bears to a Missouri Valley Conference Tournament title and an NCAA Sweet 16 appearance in 2019. She previously coached at North Carolina State and Western Carolina, both of whom advanced to the national tournament. In her 17 years as a head coach, Harper has posted a 323-226 record. She received the 2019 Kay Yow Coach of the Year award and twice has been named the conference coach of the year.

FREED-HARDEMAN UNIVERSITY HONORS MCCUTCHEN'S SERVICE, ANNOUNCES ESTES AS NEXT LEADER OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Change has come to Freed-Hardeman University's intercollegiate athletic program. Long-time athletic director Mike McCutchen retired at the end of 2021-22 athletic competition. Baseball coach Jonathan Estes has succeeded him, FHU President David R. Shannon announced.

McCutchen was the assistant men's basketball coach under Lion Head Coach Charlie Smith, whom he succeeded in 1988. During his tenure, the team made its first-ever appearance in the NAIA national tournament in 1998. He became the athletic director in 2007.

"It has been a blessing to be a part of FHU — first as a student and later as coach and athletic director," McCutchen said. "I'm thankful for the opportunities I have had, and I look forward to seeing FHU athletics thrive in the future."

"My words fall short in expressing my appreciation to Mike McCutchen for the 35 years he served FHU. He has acquired and equipped tremendous coaches," Shannon said. "Under his leadership, student-athletes have been nurtured, the level of play has been competitive, and character and faith have been priorities."

Estes pitched three years for the Lions, 2000-02, earning all-conference honors each season. He holds career records

for ERA (2.72) and complete games pitched (25) at FHU. He spent three seasons in professional baseball with the St. Louis Cardinal organization.

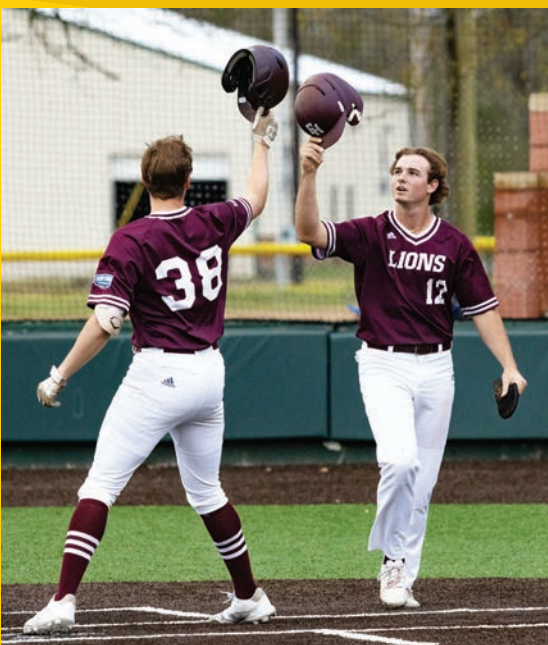
Estes became FHU Head Baseball Coach in 2009. His teams made seven national tournament appearances, with the 2018 team finishing as runner-up in the NAIA World Series. He became the assistant athletic director in 2018, where he spearheaded the fundraising to renovate the baseball field, including the installation of artificial turf. He

led efforts to bring the NAIA World Series opening round to Henderson in 2019.

"Jonathan is an example of what Christian coaches strive to become. He has led his teams to compete for national championships, while always encouraging them

to walk with the Lord," Shannon said. "I have full confidence in his competence, integrity and vision."

"What a privilege to serve the university, coaches, staff and student-athletes in this way!" Estes said. "Working with these individuals as we strive for excellence is special. I look forward to building upon the successes God has already granted FHU Athletics."



LION BASEBALL ENDS SEASON AT #22

With the final Coaches' Poll released, Freed-Hardeman Baseball will spend the summer at #22 after reaching the opening round of the 2022 World Series. The Lions began the season receiving votes in the preseason poll, cracking the top 25 on March 9 with a #22 ranking after a 14-5 start.

Receiving the #2 seed in the Oklahoma City bracket of the opening round of the NAIA World Series, the Lions were stunned in the first game of the double-elimination World Series opening round with a 7-6 loss to MidAmerica Nazarene (Kan.), forcing the Lions to fight through the elimination bracket. Playing twice on Tuesday, May 17, FHU first bested LSU Alexandria before requiring four hours to defeat Kansas Wesleyan 17-9 in a contest that did not finish until 11:30 p.m. local time. Needing three more wins to advance to Lewiston, the Lions fell to the Oklahoma City Stars to see their season come to an early, yet impressive end.

Though the FHU Hall of Fame member is moving from coach to athletic director, Estes remains confident in Freed-Hardeman baseball's future: "FHU Baseball is a unique place, where you can develop into the man God wants you to be while getting a first-class education and competing for championships. Those expectations won't change."

SOFTBALL

NAIA ALL-AMERICA:

Brittany Adair – *First Team Pitcher*; Sophie Dunavant – *First Team Catcher*; Chloe Winters – *First Team Pitcher*; Morgan Crawford – *Honorable Mention*; Kennedy Harris – *Honorable Mention*

NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES ASSOCIATION ALL-REGION:

Sophie Dunvant – *Second Team*; Kennedy Harris – *Second Team*

MID-SOUTH CONFERENCE:

Emily Bradford – *Champion of Character*; Brittany Adair – *Pitcher of the Year, First Team Pitcher*; Sophie Dunavant – *Player of the Year, First team Catcher, Gold Glove Catcher*; Morgan Crawford – *First Team Pitcher*; Chloe Winters – *First Team Pitcher*; Kennedy Harris – *First Team Outfield*; Anna Kate Norton – *First Team Infield, Gold Glove Third Basewoman*; Catherine Crabb – *Second Team Outfield*; Cassie Hayes – *Second Team Infield*; Allie Mitchell – *Honorable Mention, Gold Glove Shortstop*

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE:

Emily Bradford; Gracie Cooley; Catherine Crabb; Morgan Crawford; Sophie Dunavant; Kennedy Harris; Annalise Jarnagin; Brittan Jarrell; Allie Mitchell; Caitlin Mitchell; Anna Kate Norton; Destyni Strain; Chloe Winters

BASEBALL

NAIA ALL-AMERICA

Colton Huntt – *Honorable Mention*; Will McCall – *Honorable Mention*

MID-SOUTH CONFERENCE

Connor Creasey – *Champion of Character; First Team Relief Pitcher*; Colton Huntt – *Pitcher of the Year, First Team Pitcher*; Tyler Duskin – *First Team Pitcher*; Will McCall – *First Team Third Baseman*; Zach Sanders – *First Team Second Baseman; Gold Glove Second Baseman*; Mason Libla – *Second Team Catcher*; Christian Presley – *Second Team Outfielder*; Kent Rooklin – *Second Team Shortstop, Gold Glove Shortstop*; Sean Rooney – *Honorable Mention, Gold Glove First Baseman*; Alex Huey – *Gold Glove Pitcher*

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

Hunter Beecham; Quin Bennett; Matthew Carver; Connor Creasey; Chris Goodrich; Alex Huey; Colton Huntt; Cam Jennings; J.P. Key; Evan Koob; Nathan Lewis; Dawson Massengale; Christian Presley; Kent Rooklin; Sean Rooney; Zach Sanders; Graham Scott; Jack Smith; Ryan Stark; Rudy Tucker; Justin Whitman; Aidan Young

WOMEN'S GOLF

MID-SOUTH CONFERENCE

Sara Browning – *Champion of Character*

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

Camille Blaylock

MEN'S GOLF

MID-SOUTH CONFERENCE

Wes Graham – *Champion of Character*

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

Bowman Blocker; Jameson Powell

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

Addi Burchett; Tori Ford; Taylor Gorrell; Carlee Heffington; Mackenzie Horton; Annalee Jenks; Ruth Jenks; Jalen Johanson; Brooke Joordinson; Olivia Lanius; BrittLeigh Lawson; Leeza Martin; Ashton Miller; Jess Musselman; Lauren Taylor

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Logan Davis – *Champion of Character*

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

Daniel Arnhold; Eliha Baker; Dylan Bowman; Jamison Brock; Eli Combs; Logan Davis; Aaroon Dykes; Jacob England; Sean Janiec; Keegan Maguffee; Nathan Mangrum; Jonah May; Matthew Ray; Trevor Roberts

NEWS *from the* PRIDE



FHU SPRING ENROLLMENT RISES TO NEW HEIGHTS

Enrollment at Freed-Hardeman University continues its upward trajectory with an all-time high spring total of 2,112 students, according to FHU President David R. Shannon.

The university has set enrollment records each semester since Fall 2019. This year's record-setting spring total includes 1,654 undergraduate students, 33 more than Spring 2021, and 458 graduate students, a 4% increase over last spring.

Residence halls are almost at capacity with 1,102 students living on campus. That is the highest number of residential students since 2006. Fall to spring retention numbers remained "steady and strong," Vice President for Community Engagement Dave Clouse said. Spring enrollment saw a 94% retention rate.

"FHU has now experienced six consecutive semesters of steady growth over the equivalent semester of the previous year," Shannon said. "We give thanks to God for these wonderful students and for all who have helped us as we strive to glorify Him in all we do."

FHU COLLEGE OF BUSINESS HOSTS WOMEN OF INFLUENCE CONFERENCE

Freed-Hardeman University's College of Business highlighted the contributions, opportunities and challenges for women in business with a half-day conference Tuesday, April 19, 2022. Approximately 120 attended the conference which had been planned by 12 students from the special events management class. Students involved in planning the event include: Brittany Adair; Samuel Cox; Jack Early; Elijah Ellis; Raine Estes; Mason Libla; Lydia May; Mason Minor; Lilly Pendleton; Sydney Phillips; Philip Wallace.

"The Women of Influence Conference explored the impact of women on the world," Kristen Roberson, FHU instructor of marketing, said. "It featured women leaders in business, faith and community service. We considered the impact of women during every stage of life. Sessions addressed such issues as life balance, intentional influence and legacy leadership."

Lauren Fitzgerald, managing partner of The Mom Complex and an FHU alumna, was the keynote speaker. Her topic was "Legacy Leadership." A leader in consumer behavior, Fitzgerald works with global companies to help them innovate for and connect with their consumers. She is a recipient of Forbes' GenNext Award and Marketing to Moms Full Circle Award.

Ten additional speakers included the following: Emily Wilkerson Baker, Chattanooga, Tennessee; Lisa Bennett, Columbia, Tennessee; Peggy Tidwell, Columbus, Ohio; Amanda Box, College Station, Texas; Dawn and Jason Bramblett, Henderson, Tennessee; Jarlecia Jones, Memphis, Tennessee; Jana Travis Connor, Charlotte, North Carolina; Kathy Moore, Kennesaw, Georgia; and Sheerah Davis, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

FHU's College of Business offers the Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting, business analytics, finance, management, marketing and sport administration. The College of Business also offers a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) and a dual B.B.A./M.B.A. College of Business academic programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs.





UNIVERSITY HONORS EIGHT RETIREES

Freed-Hardeman University honored eight individuals who have retired from the university with a special chapel program and a reception April 20. These employees provided a total of 185 years of dedicated service to FHU.

Honorees included the following faculty and staff: Conita Fader, secretary in the counseling and Doctor of Behavioral Science programs, 25 years of service; Greg Holloman, mathematics instructor, 5 years of service; Tonya Hyde, administrative assistant in the office of community engagement, formerly known as university advancement, 20 years of service; Mike McCutchen, athletic director, 35 years of service; Deborah Mercer, housekeeping lead employee, 19 years of service; Dr. Kippy Myers, chair of Department of Interdisciplinary Studies and assistant dean of College of Arts and Sciences, 24 years of service; Julia Pankow, housekeeping tech, 10 years of service; and Redonna White, director of administrative systems, 49 years of service.

"Through their dedicated service, these individuals have brought encouragement, enlightenment and opportunity to many of us and to thousands who went before us," Vice President of Community Engagement Dave Clouse said. "We honor them for their years of sacrifice and devotion to their work."

ATS REAFFIRMS ACCREDITATION FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

The Association of Theological Schools/Commission on Accrediting has reaffirmed the accreditation of Freed-Hardeman University's Graduate School of Theology for the next ten years, until March 31, 2032. FHU President David R. Shannon was notified by a letter from James Moore, ATS Director of Accreditation.

The reaffirmation followed a November 2021 visit from a four-member ATS team. They had reviewed a document of nearly 1,000 pages before interviewing administrators, faculty, staff and students. In addition to the 10-year reaffirmation, ATS approved all graduate programs currently offered through the FHU School of Theology, including the newly launched Doctor of Ministry program which begins this fall, according to Dr. Justin Rogers, director of FHU's Graduate School of Theology.

FHU also offers four master's degree programs: Master of Divinity in New Testament, Master of Arts in Old Testament, Master of Arts in Ministry and Master of Arts in Pastoral Care and Counseling.

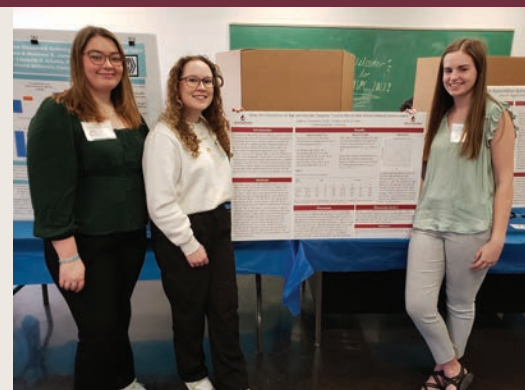
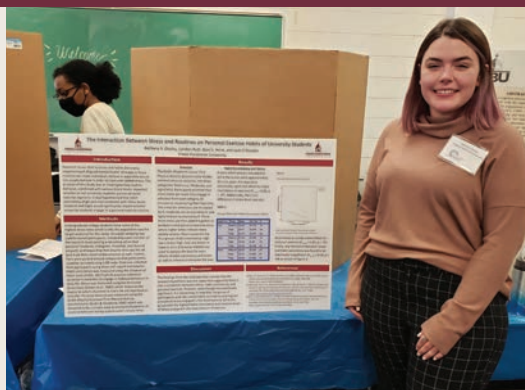
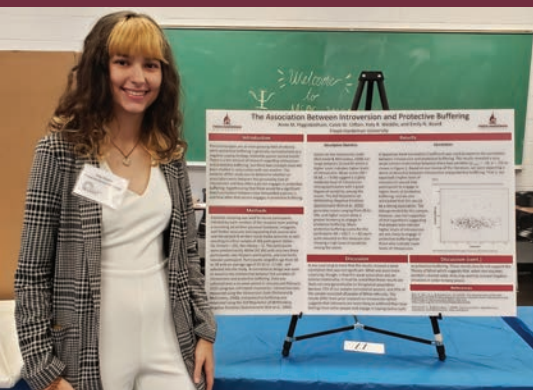
The ATS committee encouraged FHU to maintain the following distinctive strengths of the program: longstanding commitment to the priority of biblical studies and faithful adherence to the doctrinal distinctives of its primary constituency, the churches of Christ; the helpfulness and timeliness of library staff in responding to information requests; the spirit of collegiality among faculty and administration; the progress made by FHU in promoting faculty scholarship; and the significant resources made available to the Graduate School of Theology by virtue of its being embedded in a growing university with much larger financial, human, library and technological resources.

Additional information about FHU's Graduate School of Theology is available online at fhu.edu/gradtheology, by calling 731-989-6622 or emailing grad-theology@fhu.edu.



FHU STUDENTS VISIT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Through the FHU Criminal Justice Program, 12 students took a trip to Washington, D.C. with faculty members Stark Davis and Brian Bundren. Visits were taken to the national monuments, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, numerous Smithsonian museums, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon and the National Gallery of Art. Highlights included question and answer sessions with Senator Marsha Blackburn on the Capitol steps and with Congressman Mark Green in his office. Students took a critical look at the security of national officials and structures including the tumultuous environment around the U.S. Supreme Court.



REGIONAL PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCE SHOWCASES WORK OF FHU STUDENTS

Five Freed-Hardeman University psychology majors made poster presentations to the Mid-South Psychology Conference at the University of Memphis Saturday, April 2, 2022. The posters reflected 15 months of research.

Students making presentations included: Katy Weddle, "Introversion/Protective Buffering;" Bethany Ousley, "Habits/Stress/Exercise;" Emily Perkins, Katie Carter and Kailey Schroeder, "Age/Gender/Trust." Carter is a junior, while the other students are seniors. All are enrolled in the capstone course in psychology.

Approximately five years ago, FHU reorganized the psychology curriculum to emphasize undergraduate research, according to Chris Creecy, assistant professor of psychology. Already, one student has published an article in a peer-reviewed journal, and these five students were chosen to make presentations at a regional conference. "Students are showcasing these projects at graduate school interviews and in securing spots in competitive programs," Creecy said.

FHU GRADUATE RECEIVES SLEDGE FELLOWSHIP

Brinton Eldridge, a recent graduate of Freed-Hardeman University from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, has been awarded a Sledge Fellowship by Alpha Chi National College Honor Society to assist with his first year of graduate school.

A summa cum laude graduate, Eldridge earned a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry and a Bachelor of Science in mathematics. He was also an Honors College Scholar with University Honors. In addition, he was president of FHU's chapter of Alpha Chi.

Eldridge's honors thesis was titled, "Quantitative Characterization of Fano Resonance in Au:Ag Plasmonic Systems." Jim Barr served as the faculty supervisor for the research project that became Eldridge's honors thesis, part of which he submitted as his writing sample for the Alpha Chi scholarship competition.

Two Sledge Scholarships are awarded annually. The fellowship is named for Robert W. Sledge, who served on the national council of Alpha Chi for more than two decades, including 12 years as president.





FIVE SCIENCE MAJORS PARTICIPATE IN SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM

Five undergraduate science majors began a six-week summer research program May 15, on the campus of Freed-Hardeman University. The students will focus on researching the enzyme topoisomerase II, a critical enzyme in the cell that serves as a cancer drug target.

The students are designing, performing, analyzing and interpreting research experiments focused on this enzyme. They are learning about protein and DNA purification, enzymology, structural biology, research methods and design, and data analysis and interpretation. Students also are hearing from other researchers via Zoom presentations and discussions to help foster career exploration and gain a deeper appreciation for the research process. They are exploring how faith and science come together through interactions with Christians working in various areas of science.

The students are Emma Baxter of Humphreys, Missouri; Clay Durham of Paris, Tennessee; Daniel England of Henderson, Tennessee; Lauren Fielding of Fayetteville, Tennessee; and Jessica Musselman of Riner, Virginia. All five students are rising seniors and are in training toward health professions and/or graduate training.

The summer program is led by Director of Undergraduate Research Joe Deweese, professor of biochemistry. The program is supported by funds from the FHU College of Arts and Sciences, the FHU Department of Biological, Physical, and Human Sciences and the Discovery Institute Center for Science and Culture.



Romantic ENGLAND

Twenty-two travelers, including students, alumni and friends of FHU, created lifelong memories and bonds during the Romantic England Tour led by John and Debbie McLaughlin May 27-June 11, 2022.

This trip, planned for every other year, offers a mix of big-city excitement and rustic-village charm. The itinerary includes three days (and plenty of free time) in London, visits to York in northeast England and Bath in southwest England, and a stop at Chatsworth House, a stately home featured as Pemberley in a popular adaptation of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice." The group also spends time hiking and



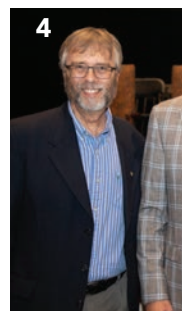
walking in two of England's favorite outdoor areas, the Lake District and the Peak District, and explores picturesque villages, wanders beautiful gardens and has afternoon tea in the historic city of Bath.

This tour is open to alumni and friends, in addition to students. More details about the impactful and diverse FHU Abroad programs for students, alumni and friends can be found at fhu.edu/abroad.

YEAR IN *review*

SCENES FROM FALL 2021

1. Welcome Home; 2-3. Interface; 4. Convocation; 5. Lion Walk;
6. Bobbie Solley Center for Excellence in Teaching Ribbon Cutting;
7. Tolling of the Bell; 8. UPC Carnival; 9. Wayne Scott Appreciation Day;
10. Ethics Colloquium; 11. President's Council; 12. Club Mixer





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SCENES FROM FALL 2021

- 13.** University Servants Day;
- 14.** FHU Theatre presents "The Feed;"
- 15.** Alpha Chi Induction;
- 16.** Russo Tournament;
- 17.** University Scholars Day;
- 18.** Pumpkin Carving;
- 19.** Fright Fest;
- 20.** Couch Heritage Walk;
- 21-23.** Homecoming;
- 24.** FHU Theatre presents "Burnt Part Boys"

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SCENES FROM FALL 2021

- 25.** Carl Perkins 5K;
26. Benefit Dinner featuring Jeff Foxworthy;
27. Brew Off; **28.** Education Pinning Ceremony;
29. Christmas Gala; **30-31:** December Commencement

SCENES FROM SPRING 2022

- 32.** Chick-fil-A® Announcement in Chapel;
33. Honors Scholarship Competition;
34. Dr. Milton Sewell's 80th Birthday;
35. FHU Theatre presents "Tartuffe;"
36. Alpha Chi Induction





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SCENES FROM SPRING 2022

37. Pi Day; 38. Retirement Reception; 39. FHU Theatre presents "Smokefall;" 40. Associates' Rummage Sale; 41. UPC Carnival; 42. Endowment Scholarship Luncheon; 43. Durrington Award Winners; 44. Poetry Competition Winners; 45. Benson Hall Dorm Program: Meet TJ Kirk; 46. Dickson Nurse Pinning Ceremony; 47. Henderson Nurse Pinning Ceremony; 48. Education Pinning Ceremony; 49. May Commencement





KURT WARNER

2022 BENEFIT DINNER
DEC. 2 | LOYD AUDITORIUM

Thank you! Because of you, students' lives have been changed. Your generosity, along with others who have supported the FHU Benefit Dinner, has helped raise more than \$32 million to fund thousands of student scholarships during the past 58 years.

We look forward to hosting you Friday, Dec. 2, as we welcome Super Bowl winning quarterback, Kurt Warner. Learn more at fhu.edu/giving/dinner, or call 800-FHU-FHU1, ext 6017.



FREED-HARDEMAN
UNIVERSITY

THANK YOU FOR A SUMMER FULL OF



fun and memories!



The **WINN** *Fight*

RUSH 2022 | OCTOBER 7-9
FHU.EDU/RUSH

save the date for
HOMECOMING

NOV. 11-13, 2022

2022-23 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 13 – Welcome Home
August 17 – Tolling of the Bell
September 29 – University Servants' Day
September 30-October 1 – Church Leadership Workshop
October 7-9 – RUSH
October 28 – University Scholars' Day
November 11 – ALUMination Day
November 11-13 – Homecoming
December 10 – Commencement
February 5-9 – FHU Lectureship
April 14-15 – Makin' Music
May 13 – Commencement