

academics

With careful precision, sophomore Stephanie Lochala prepares a slide for class. Precision was a key element in the world of academia. Placing sixth, the Advertising Federation team combined ideas to make DaimlerChrysler the most-admired company in the world. The first Scholars' Day was held, displaying the work and talents in the different schools and divisions. In class, outside of class, and across the seas, students experienced a world in motion. *photo by S. Shupe*





MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO CHALLENGE STUDENTS

Who was Aristotle?
How do I interpret
this Scripture?

What kind of reaction does this chemical with this substance create? These questions were asked by the professors of various new CORE classes. With its second year underway, the CORE curriculum looked to improve and make changes to challenge the students and give a more well-rounded education.

A major change was the addition of classes such as Liberal Arts, Sophomore Readings, Junior Readings and Senior Seminar. These classes presented various topics such as philosophy, mathematics, science, theology and art. Liberal Arts was added as a connection between other fields of study so students would have knowledge outside their concentrated major. Freshman John Allison said, "The class really challenged me to think more deeply and broaden my knowledge of subjects other than my major."

Another change that proved successful in unifying the students' education was the change from Old and New Testament to Survey of the Bible and Biblical Interpretation. The change allowed students to not only learn facts from the Bible, but also how to interpret and apply it to their lives. Sophomore Shannon Parks appreciated this change because, "it changed the way I read the Bible. Now, instead of taking it to mean whatever I think, I now ask myself what did the author intend it to mean. This allows God to teach me what He wants me to know."

The students also began taking a laboratory once a week with their Physical Science and Life Science requirements. The courses previously were four days a week of lecture, but were changed to three lectures and a lab. Students were able to experience firsthand what they had learned in lecture. Sophomore Julie Tohlen said, "It was nice to apply the things taught in class because it helped me understand the concepts better."

The goal of the changes made in the CORE curriculum were higher levels of academic achievement with a broader knowledge of various topics. Students and faculty strived to improve the quality of education and create an environment that fostered higher learning.
story by Peggy Itschner





During Life Science, senior Kim Ward watches sophomore Adam Hicks compare a slide specimen with one in the book. The class helped students to understand the world in which they lived.

photo by B. Baxter



Dr. Byron Eubanks has a discussion with his Liberal Arts class during May Term. The newly formed class focused on the basics of modern philosophy and literature. *photo by G. Miller*

During Fine Art: Art, senior Eric Harrison takes notes from his text while listening to the professor. The class emphasized the appreciation for all types of art. *photo by G. Miller*

PREPARING GODLY MEN AND WOMEN FOR MINISTRY

The changes that faced the campus echoed throughout

the different schools and divisions. In the first year as the Pruet School of Christian Studies, the school proved to be going in a positive direction.

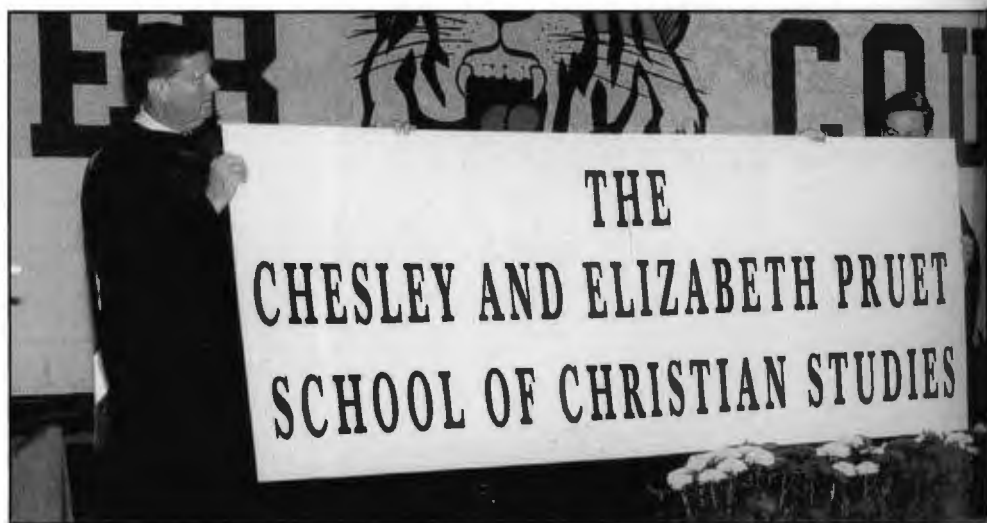
With a donation from Chesley and Elizabeth Pruet, the Board of Trustees named the school in honor of the couple. Along with a new name came several changes.

With plans of expansion, the School of Christian Studies was quickly becoming a popular major, which required more classroom space. With an increase in general enrollment and an increased number in majors, Berry Bible Building was not large enough for the class sizes. With the donation made by the Pruets, Dr. Andrew Westmoreland presented to the board of trustees a proposal to expand. "The generous donation by the Pruet's paved the way for an enlargement of the building," Westmoreland said.

In the process of rebuilding, several new offices were added as well as classrooms being remodeled. Also adding to the growth of the school was the addition of the philosophy and ethics department. The curriculum, taught chiefly by Dr. Isaac Mwase and Dr. Byron Eubanks, allowed biblical studies students to consider the principles within the ministry. "I felt that my philosophy class gave me a better insight about serving in the ministry and the ideals and practices of the church," said senior Michael Knight.

With an expansion of the building and addition to the curriculum, the school kept to its main focus: teaching men and women to serve in the ministry. One of the oldest academia on campus, the major of biblical studies itself was to prepare students to preach and teach the word of God.

With an expanding future, the Pruet School of Christian Studies continued to strengthen and encourage the purpose of the ministry. "What we teach and what the students learn are the basics of serving God in some way, shape or form," said Dean Scott Duvall. "Preparing Godly men and women to deliver the message or serve the spiritual needs of others is what we strive to accomplish. What we have seen is that very thing happening." *story by Sarah Huckabee and Gary Miller*



PLACING TALENT AND DEDICATION ON DISPLAY

Music, drama and art. These were the make-up of the

Jones School of Fine Arts. However, there was more to the school than just a name.

"The skills that I have gained from being involved in music at Ouachita prepared me to do well during my student teaching experience," said senior Mark Langley. Under this title, students learned several disciplines in performing, composing and teaching.

Learning worked hand in hand with performing. Music majors performed recitals or took part in the weekly performing arts class. Also, they were able to enter the National Association of Teachers of Singing competition, both regionally and state wide. "NATS gave me the chance to compete as well as gain performing experience," said junior Terri Grinage.

Displaying talent was also the key element for art majors. Through daily work on a sculpture, drawing or painting, art students put to use what they learned in class. "What the students learns in the classroom carries into their personal work," said Mike Jones, art professor. "Through the different mediums, students find their nitch and learn to improve upon it."

Senior art majors were able to showcase their work in a studio setting. For one week, one, two or several students hung their work in Mabee Fine Arts gallery. Opened to the school and community, the artwork gave worthy admiration to the talent. "By showing our artwork, we learn the element of preparation and sometimes gain feedback from professors and students," said senior Zack Stuckey.

For some, displaying talent moved outside the walls of the university. Those in performing ensembles traveled throughout the state, country and even the world. Members of the symphonic band, Ouachita Singers and Ouachita Sounds had the opportunity to share their abilities with others. The Sounds were invited to sing on a cruise ship. The experience was beneficial to the students. "Getting in front of people we don't know sometimes makes us want to work harder," said sophomore Robert Ramsey. "When we're in our comfort zone, it is easy. But being in a totally new environment pushes us to step up our performance." *story by Gary Miller*





Kim Kern, a junior, works on a painting during class. Art majors spent long hours preparing their work for displays. *photo by S. Shupe*



Junior David Buerman watches director **Dr. Craig Hamilton** during a concert. The symphonic band traveled during February to Texas high schools, performing their spring repertoire. *photo by B. Baxter*

Santa Claus, senior **Jeremy Bishop**, and members of the concert choir sing the closing number during Festival of Christmas. All performing groups took part in the the three-night event held in Jones Performing Arts Center. *photo by T. Robertson*

During the play, "How Mr. Mockinpott was Cured of His Suffering," freshman **Spencer Sutterfield** and junior **Stephen Boutwell**, on how exactly he could "cure" his suffering. The play was performed during the fall. *photo by R. LeMay*

INCORPORATING LEARNING THROUGH LECTURING

Unity, conflict and war. Beauty, music and creation. Service,

ministry, and leadership were all part of the Lecture 2000 series. The annual series is coordinated by a different office/academic division of the university each year and is meant to focus on subjects that have current interests to society in the new millennium.

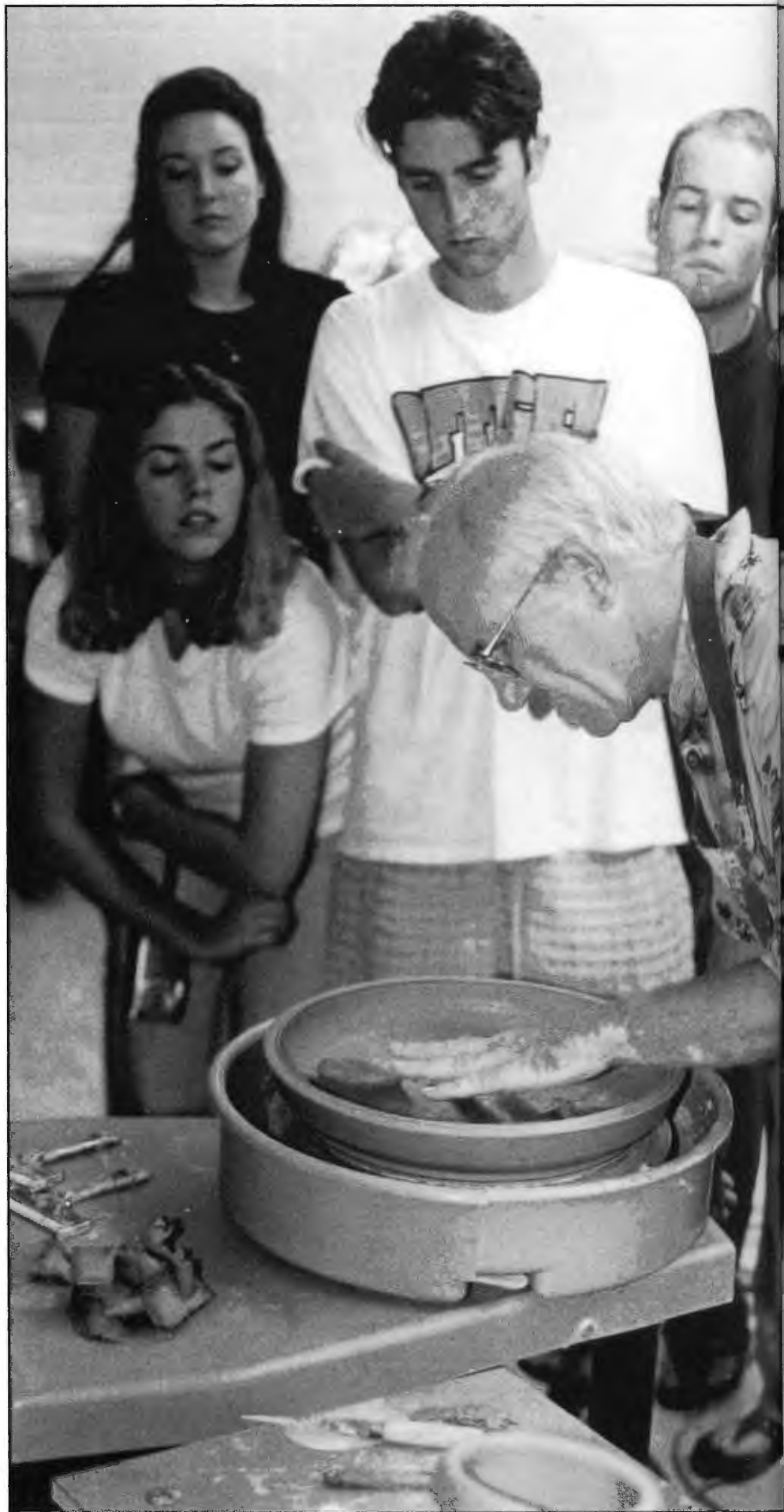
The Elrod Center coordinated this year's series with the support of personnel from the Servant-Leadership project. Each of the four featured speakers addressed the topic of servant-leadership. Various subjects included the theology of a servant-leader, leadership in the American War Between the States, and three unwise leaders in world history. "The whole concept behind the lecture series was to introduce to the campus what we were learning through the Servant-Leadership program," sophomore Kellie Blalock said. "Each speaker elaborated on the idea of willing to serve and able to lead, which is the program's motto. The lectures provided an overview of leading as a servant."

The Birkett Williams Lecture Series also sponsored lectures that sparked the interests of students. "At the beginning of the year a documentary film maker spoke. It was extremely fascinating. His work was entitled 'Prisoners of Hope' and it told stories of faith and survival of servicemen who were prisoners of war in Vietnam. I enjoyed it immensely despite the fact that I got extra credit," reflected sophomore Ben McDonald.

The Lecture Series honors the late Birkett Williams of Cleveland, Ohio, a 1910 graduate and benefactor of OBU. In 1977, Williams established a generous endowment to "extend the concepts of a liberal art education beyond the classroom environment," remarks Dr. Andrew Westmoreland. "We perceived the lecture series as the most efficient way to incorporate Mr. Williams' funds to reach the most students possible," said Westmoreland.

The lecture series had proved to be successful, for each session attracted a full house of both faculty and students. The series offered great learning experiences for students, and provided vital out of classroom learning by listening to and reflecting upon the scholars of the new millennium.

story by Kathryn Stewart





During ceramics class, guest ceramic artist Bob Howell gives a demonstration. In-class lectures and demonstrations allowed students to gain a new perspective on the subject. *photo by B. Baxter*



Speaking with Dr. Andrew Westmoreland, House member Jay Dickey explains some of his reforms. Guest speakers on campus often included political figures. *photo by B. Baxter*



Birkett Williams lecturer Bernie Hargis (third from left) visits with friends following a dinner. Hargis spoke of his career as a documentary film maker. *photo by J. Root*

ENDOWMENT ALLOWS SCHOOL TO UNDERGO CHANGE

With the aid of the Hickingbotham family, the School

of Business was able to add new features to improve the school. One of the improvements made was the enhanced MIS program. This year, instead of using Microsoft Office 97, students used Microsoft Office 2000. Using office 2000 enabled the students to work with newer programs. "By working with newer programs, it will help us find better jobs," according to senior Deondra Morris. "Although the curriculum and books are new, it's helpful to the students because these new programs are more up-to-date on new programs for future jobs."

Through Phi Beta Lambda and Students in Free Enterprise, students gained experience in the business world. Three business students were able to compete in the Arkansas Statewide Programming Contest sponsored by Acxiom Corporation. Placing second, the team earned its spot by solving four out of seven problems during the five hour contest.

Students interested in starting their own business found valuable information in a new course title Capstone Course, taught by Dr. Kent Faulk. According to Faulk, "The Capstone Course is a business simulation project that enables the students to see what it was like to run their own business." Students had to do everything within a business, including the payroll, bookkeeping-everything that keeps the business running smoothly. During the semester the students were given the chance to face several teams in a business competition. Faulk said, "The competition gives the students valuable experience in running a business and to see how their competition is doing."

With new and expanding programs, the School of Business was in a constant state of improvement. "The business school is growing by leaps and bounds," said junior Hunter Burroughs. "I have no doubt that the School of Business is one of the best." *story by Herbie Robison*





Dr. Robert Webster visits with graduating seniors from the Hickingbotham School of Business. The time of fellowship was hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Phil Rice. *photo by P. Rice*



After the Academic Awards Assembly, the business majors who were honored gather for a photo. The School of Business prepared students in fields such as accounting, finance, business administration and economics. *photo by P. Rice*

DIGGING INTO THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF LIFE

Occasionally in the storm of college life, there came an

eye of unsurpassed opportunity, a chance for undergraduate students to use what they had learned to do something of worth in the world outside of college. Students in the division of social science found that chance.

Seniors Katie Kirkpatrick and Amber Wilson, both political science majors, were given the opportunity by Dr. Hal Bass to go to Washington, D.C. to present the research they had accumulated concerning soft money in competitive congressional elections. "Soft money" was money used indirectly to aid a candidate in his or her campaign and was relatively unregulated.

"(Amber and Katie) did all the work," Bass said. Their mission was to discover the amount of "soft money" involved in this over \$8 million election. In addition to that, they also interviewed a number of people involved in the Dickey and Ross campaigns.

The trip to Washington, D.C. was particularly special to Kirkpatrick who said, "It was exciting for me to watch the culmination, to see this all through to the end ... I felt really honored to take part in this because most scholars such as Dr. Bass feared to involve undergraduate students in a matter such as this. Amber and I were some of the only undergraduates at the meeting, and we owe it all to Dr. Bass because he found the money for us to be able to go."

Digging into politics was only one area of the division. Students involved in the Pete Parks Center for Regional Studies archeological dig, centered around the Cobb House, uncovered useful information to learn about the past. "We have letters, but through the dig, we can learn about economic status, what was used in everyday life, what children played with and what they considered trash," said Dr. Trey Berry, associate professor of history and director of the Center.

The dig gave students a chance to "touch" history. The house was constructed around 1869 by a Methodist minister, James Cobb, and was the oldest in Arkadelphia still on its original foundation. Some items discovered at the site were a 18 karat gold ring and a flint spear point.

Sociology students gained a perspective on people as whole by studying their daily activities. This included spending a day with police officers. Psychology majors shared a similar fashion a study of the human mind. Several students were able to attend a workshop in which the presented papers.

story by Rachel LeMay and Adam Langley





Dr. Trey Berry explains life in the South, post Civil War. Berry taught history classes and was the director of the Pete Parks Center for Regional Studies.
photo by B. Jackson



During their trip to Washington, D.C., students and Dr. Hal Bass meet with Senator Mike Ross. The trip allowed both majors and non-majors to learn about the political scene in Washington.
photo courtesy of Dr. Hal Bass

Sophomore Brad Monk shifts through some dirt to discover a piece of an artifact. Students volunteered their afternoons in the fall to participate in the dig.
photo by T. Carter

LONG HOURS AND HARD WORK PAY OFF

Stumbling into bed during the wee hours of the night

was the life of a natural science major. Spending countless hours in class and in lab provided little time for sleep, but in the end, provided positive results.

Through labs, hands-on experience and work, students in natural sciences dedicated many hours to their major. In the afternoons, science majors were busy conducting various labs and experiments. The purpose of these lengthy, in-depth labs were to give the students experience in laboratory work. Junior chemistry major Kevin Burns said, "I feel like in labs, I learn more than I ever could in a classroom. I feel like a lab is just an extension from the classroom."

A new sect to the natural sciences and just as hard-working was the communications disorders majors. These students worked with actual clients in a clinical setting. Using basic communication skills, the majors met for a couple of hours each days with children and adults from the community. "I really gain so much from having actual people," said senior Lana Frensley. "If we only read and took tests, the information would basically do no good. Application is the key in this field."

Athletic training, also new to the division, practiced their work on the field. During any football, basketball or soccer game, an athletic trainer could be found on the sideline ready to assist the injured. "Sports medicine has and is an important part of our curriculum," said Terry DeWitt, assistant professor of the program.

Academic preparation was an essential to the dietetics and nutrition program. Stacy Freeman, assistant professor and coordinator, led the students in becoming well-rounded dietitians. "I strive to make the students realize that what we do can help prevent an early death or illness to someone," she said.

Because of the in-depth studies of natural science majors, these students were able to gain easy access to graduate and medical school. "Because of what I learn here at Ouachita, I know I will be that much more prepared for graduate school," Marcus Costner said.

story by Gary Miller





Another late night, senior Toren Morceno studies for an upcoming test in biology. The science library provided a quiet place of refuge for students.
photo by S. Shupe



During a football game, athletic trainers discuss an injury that occurred during the game. New to the division, athletic training gave practical learning by hands-on experience.
photo by J. Taylor

Working with a client, junior Rebecca Zellmer concentrates on verbal communication. Zellmer and other communication disorders majors spent many hours working with local clients.
photo by L. Bell

SUMMER SCIENCE PROJECTS LEND VALUABLE EXPERIENCE

Giving up their time during the summer vacation, 12 students

and faculty took part in research programs designed to broaden scientific exploration and knowledge. The \$50,000 Wagoner-Patterson Undergraduate Research project was sponsored by Dr. J.D. Patterson, Virgil and June Wagoner, and the Waggoner Foundation of Houston. Patterson was a 1947 graduate of Ouachita and Virgil and June Waggoner were 1948 graduates.

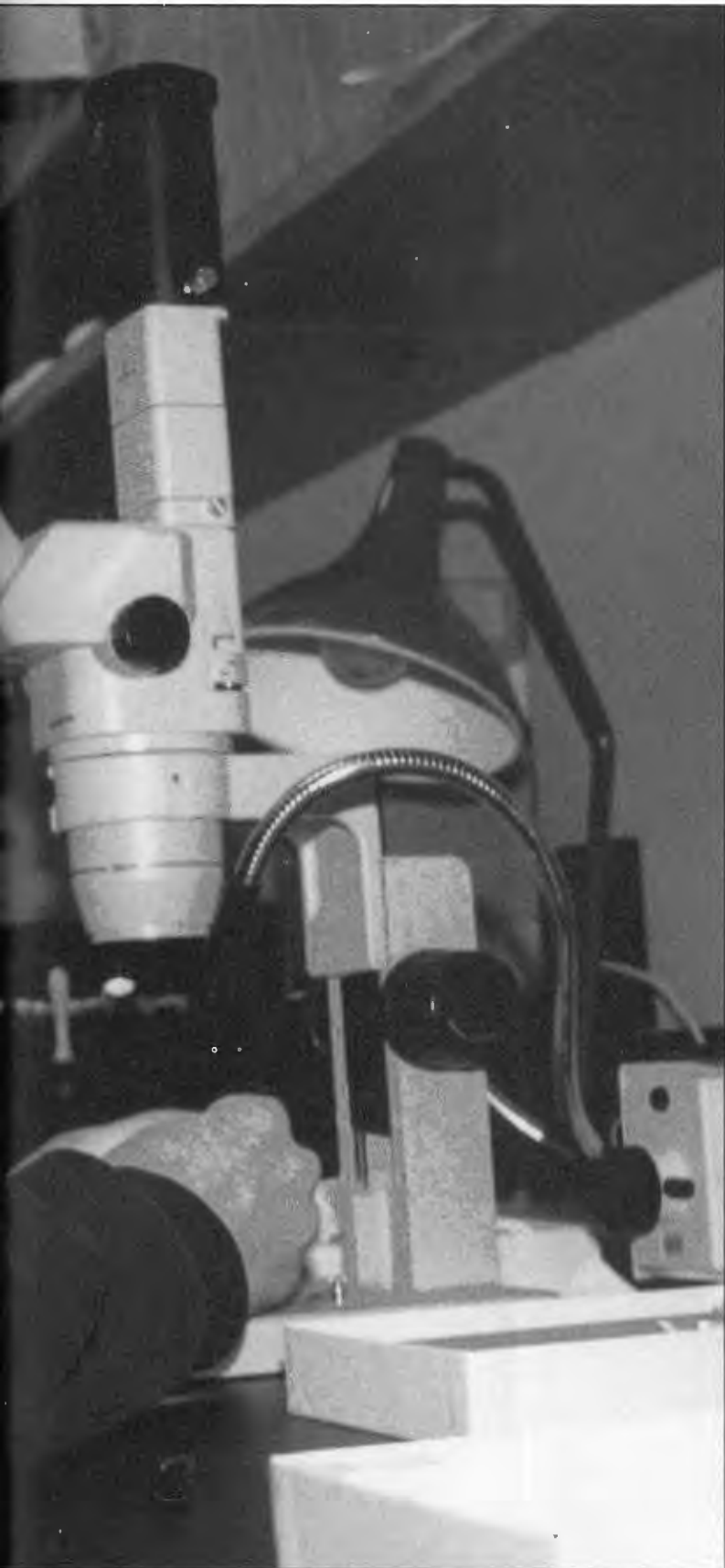
The projects chosen were selected by off-campus and on-campus science educators. The grants were given to Dr. Terry sergeant for studying "The Feasibility of a transparent World Wide Web Proxy Cache," Dr. Tim Knight for "Determination of the Toxicity of the Herbicide 'Round-Up' to *Vibrio fischeri* and *Eisenia foetida*," Dr. Marty Perry for "Molecular Dynamics Simulations of Cathepsin B:A Collaborative Study with R. Lila Compadre," Dr. Joe Bradshaw for "DNA Modification by Novel Water Soluble Metalloporphyrin System," Dr. James Taylor for "Cell Wall Modification of Developing Plant cells in Response to coriolis Force and the Disruption of Normal Gravitational effects," and Dr. Joe Jeffers for "The Life and Work of Frederick Sanger: Two-time Nobel Laureate in Chemistry." The students who accompanied these faculty members on the projects were Joshua Franklin, Grant Bennett, Michael Reding, James Kitchens, Torin Marrassino, and Nathan Livers.

Dr. Joe Jeffers, chair of the division of natural sciences, said, "Aside from the inherent classroom research skills being utilized in the conduct of the research projects, there is the element of collaboration between students and faculty that is invaluable to the learning experience." He also stated that because of the research projects "the students get to see how a hypothesis is developed, think through the possibilities, obtain results, and analyze the data."

The summer science project was valuable for both the faculty and the information they were able to gather, and to the students for the experience they were able to receive.

story by Alaina Huber





With careful precision, senior Grant Bennett places a trace amount of fluid into a testing machine. This allowed Bennett to determine the content of the fluid. *photo by J. Tohlen*

During his summer project, senior James Kitchens performs a titration. The experiment was used to test as well as neutralize pH levels. *photo by J. Tohlen*



Junior Nate Livers examines a live specimen using a high-power microscope. As part of his project, Livers was responsible for viewing different slide and determining their content. *photo by J. Tohlen*

STUDENTS LEARN TO BECOME BENEFICIAL EDUCATORS

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his

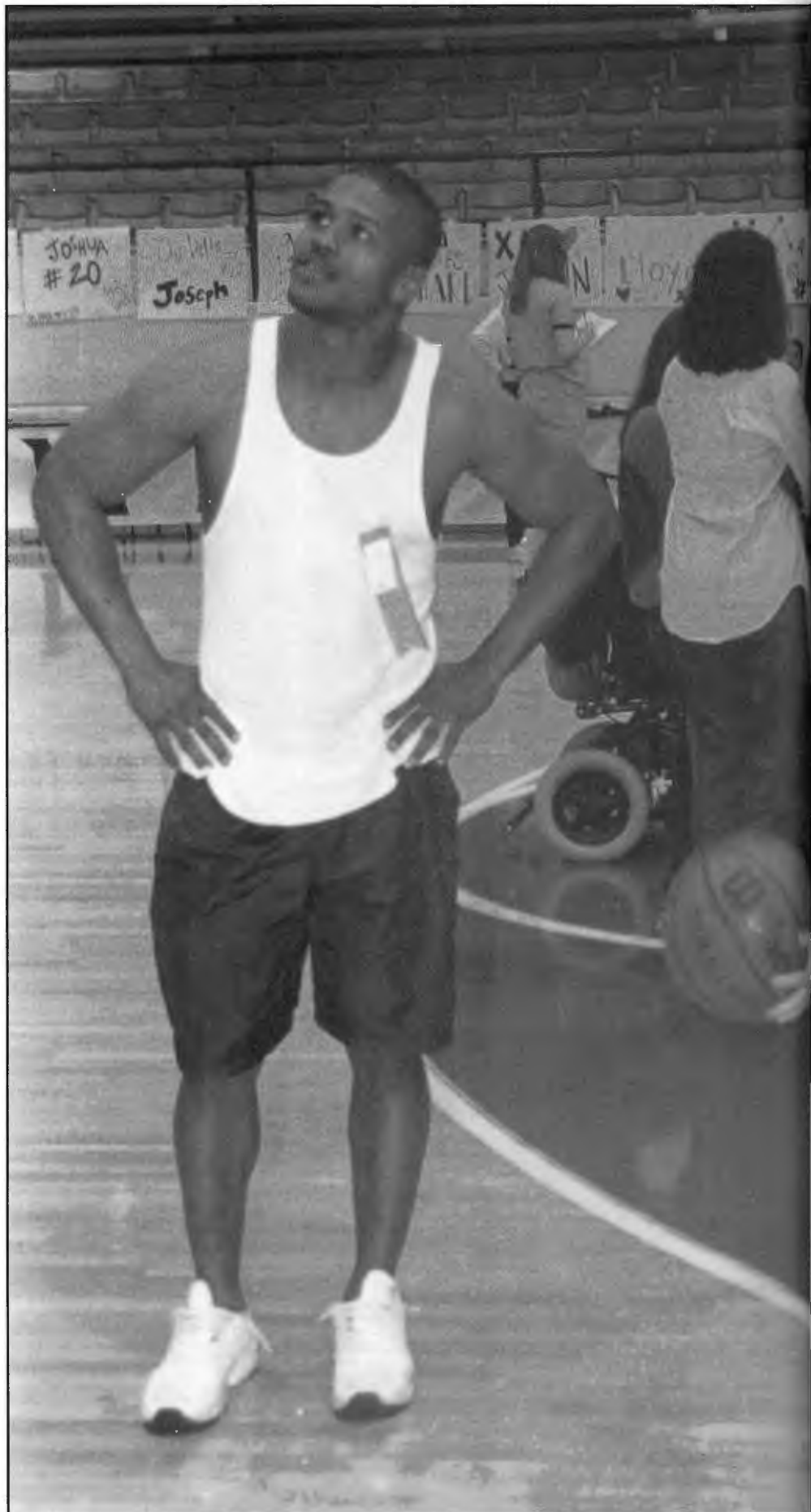
influence stops,” said American writer Henry Adams. There were many reasons why students of education wanted to become teachers. For some it was the joy of working with children, and for others it was a call to ministry. Junior April Mills said, “I love kids. I want to help them become who they are and contribute to society.”

Demands for teachers were greater than years before. Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland said, “Five years ago it was difficult to find students teaching jobs, whereas now, students graduate and have multiple offers. Teachers are getting higher salaries, more benefits and bonuses.” Westmoreland felt that the areas of Spanish, math and science were more in need, and lacked teachers especially in middle school and secondary education. The Division of Education prepared its students to meet these demands.

Graduating better educators was the goal in the Division of Education. Changes were made within the division, in order to improve the education program. As a student worker for Westmoreland for three years, Junior Vanessa Seals commented on the department’s development. Seals said, “Over the years I have seen many changes. There are a lot of new assets to the department, like the Wetherington lab and new faculty member Dr. Margo Turner.”

Additions to the department of education were made possible by an endowment. One of these was the Wetherington Resource and Learning Center, a lab available for education majors rather than having to use facilities at Henderson. Delicacies to the elementary education major were things like the new die-cut and lamination machines. The addition of a new classroom was also possible through the endowment.

In addition to training students for the classroom, the university motivated students spiritually. Students were educated and challenged with issues they would later be encountering, like prayer in public schools. The integration of Christian faith in education was important to education majors. “God has called me to be a teacher, but he has also given it to me as a ministry,” said freshman Shayla Coker. I want to give children the love and encouragement that Christ gives me, to show them the love of God.” *story by Meredith Welsh*





Helping out during the Special Olympics was one of the ways that physical education majors worked with school children. The games were held in the gym during the spring. *photo by B. Baxter*



Senior Jennifer Croft attends a field trip with her class from Perritt Primary. The kindergarten students attended Zoo Day in Little Rock. *photo by D. Root*



Heather Davison, a sophomore, reads to children at Perritt Primary's Family Night. The reading activities were provided by Corliss Cmith's Children's Literature class. *photo by D. Root*

HUMANITIES STUDENTS GAIN REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

The combination of literature, language & communications

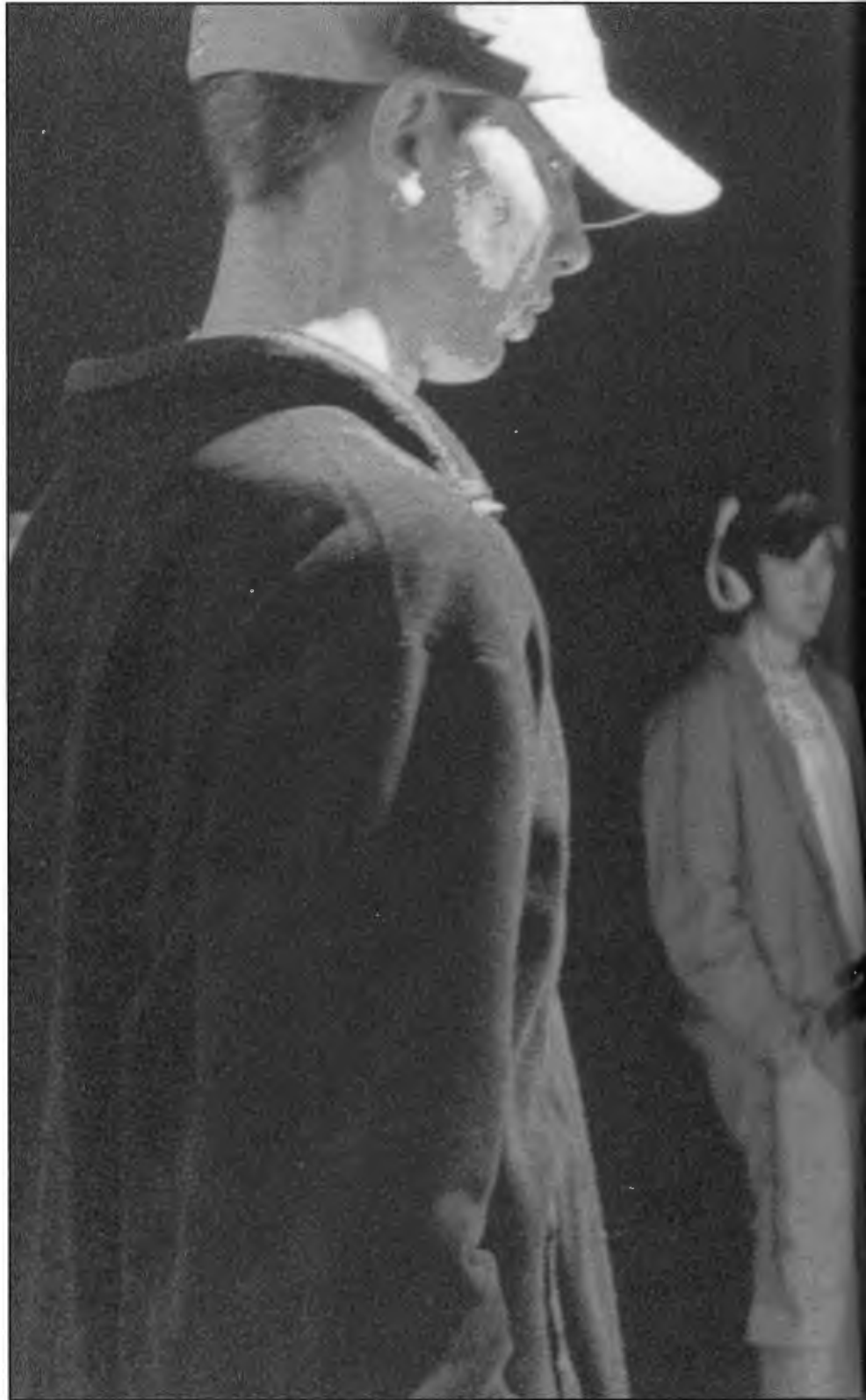
comprised the division of humanities. The diverse group studied four different areas—English, foreign languages, mass communications and speech communications. “My English classes have really opened up the world of classics to me,” said senior Mary Anne Weis. “It’s interesting to see society through the ideas of one person. Between freshman composition, British literature and American literature, an English student saw many ideas manifested in the works of a few people.”

Learning about the world was part of the division’s studies, as well as communicating in another language. “We are very excited about some new opportunities and possibilities for our students,” said Spanish professor Nona Anderson. Several students are getting the opportunity to study abroad and use the Spanish skills they learned. In addition to Spanish and French, students were offered Russian, Chinese, Japanese and German. “The Chinese classes I took prepared me for the culture and language shock I experienced when I went to Hong Kong for a semester,” said senior Lynn Libbey.

Students in the mass communications department were prepared for their field through hands-on experience. Students had the opportunity to study in print media, broadcast media, public relations and advertising. One of the classes offered was Advertising Federation, which was a national advertising competition. This year’s case was a globalization plan for DaimlerChrysler. The team gained experience in the realm of advertising and placed sixth out of 17 schools at regionals. “AdFed was a taste of what working in an advertising company would be like—fast-paced and stressful!” said senior Emily Watts, student director of the group.

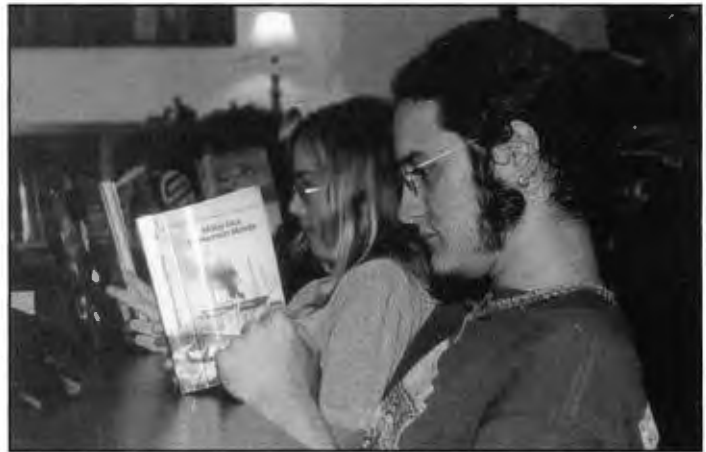
Using an everyday field were those students in the speech communications department. Dr. Roy Buckelew and Dr. Steve Phillips worked hard to ensure that the classes were both educational and relevant to the student’s life. “Speech is an everyday thing,” said Buckelew. “We try to base our curriculum on that fact and prepare our students to be good speakers with clear and precise thoughts.”

Within the division, students were taught what it took to be a communicator in all spectrums. The departments worked to create sharp English professors, fluent linguists, creative media personnel and prolific speakers by creating real-world opportunities both in and out of the classroom. *story by Tiffany Thomas*





Senior Jason Manuel watches his monitor during a taping of the "Ouachita" show. Part of the mass communications curriculum was gaining hands-on experience. *photo by T. Robertson*



Senior John Fogleman scans the text to answer a question in class. Reading and understanding the classics were a basic element in the English curriculum. *photo by S. Shupe*

Sharon Cosh, ESL instructor, explains part of the English language structure to a student. As part of the foreign languages, English as a second language helped to teach international students the language. *photo by R. Kibbe*

PRAISING GOD WITH THEIR MINDS

Her bag had been easy to pack: clothes for the weekend, the essential personals—C.S. Lewis, J.R.

Tolkien, and Dorothy Sayers. Weekend conferences were common, but few required items such as these. And this was what she loved. Senior Lori Bailey, and other members of the Pew Society, looked forward to being at Baylor University listening to popular writers and musicians discuss both new and old topics on religion and the arts.

The Pew Society, existing on campus as only one of 12 in the nation, was dedicated to fostering Christian intellectualism. Pew's meetings and events were open to all students regardless of their field of study, GPA or social clique.

Throughout the fall semester, a group of 10-20 students and a handful of university professors met at the home of English professors Doug and Amy Sonheim each Friday for lunch. At the weekly meetings, named 'TGIF,' a student or professor presented a topic and led a discussion. Conversations on graduate school, culture and scholarship as it related to Christianity were most frequent. In addition, meetings included prayer for other Christian scholars at Ivy League schools. "Here it is easy to be a Christian and a scholar," said Pew sponsor Dr. Amy Sonheim, "but at other schools, like Yale it is more difficult for them."

Led by professors Dr. Johnny Wink and Dr. Jay Curlin, Pew members attended Art and Soul 2001 at Baylor. Students submitted one-page creative works on various topics of faith, religion and the arts in October to be considered for the four-day conference in February. Bailey was given the opportunity to read her short story titled "I'm Happy" at the event.

In close relationship with Pew, the Pew Younger Scholars Program sponsored three students, paying for their GRE study materials, graduate school applications and research pursuits. An advisory board made up of faculty and staff who had expressed their own interests in Christian intellectual pursuits selected Bailey and seniors Josh Franklin and James McGuirk for the scholarship.

The Pew grant was set up to support and encourage aspiring scholars in the humanities, social sciences and theological disciplines who would eventually carry Christian perspectives into the secular arena. Sonheim recognized the importance of Christian thinkers as well, saying, "Their studies can be a ministry. They can praise God with their minds." *story by Paul Rayburn*





Students gather for a "TGIF" sessions at the Sonheim's home. These meetings were used to discuss intellectual topics of interest. *photo by R. Kibbe*



Dr. Tom Greer lectures to the Pew Society at one weekly gathering. Several professors were invited to share with the students. *photo by R. Kibbe*

Senior Bonnie Montgomery and junior **Dacus Thompson** listen intently to the topic of discussion. *photo by R. Kibbe*

