



From the Arbor...

@ Baker University...

Monthly news from Jerry Weakley, VP for Endowment and Planned Giving

PBS Films Special on Baker...



Baker President Dr. Lynne Murray Being Interviewed...

A national video crew from PBS was on campus late this spring to profile Baker University for its "In-America" series, which is narrated by James Earl Jones. We were thrilled to be asked to participate in this series and feel that it certainly will generate more brand awareness for Baker and especially the Baldwin City campus.

In addition to the one-on-one interview with Baker President, Dr. Lynne Murray, the film crew set up interview locations in various parts of the Baldwin City campus and encouraged interested students, faculty, staff and administration to stop by for on-camera interviews, comments and short statements.

Once the university receives word of the completion of editing of the piece and further receives broadcast dates we will share that information through any number of available means! So, be on the look out for that coming later this summer!

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Numbers of Importance:

- Admissions 785.594.7891
- Alumni Office 888.781.2586
- Make a donation 800.726.1554
- Create a planned gift or create an endowed scholarship- 785.594.8332 /913.449.9540 (Jerry Weakley)
- Baker Orange www.thebakerorange.com

Wildcat Watch...

See for yourself what is new on the Baldwin City campus by going to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ap4upvrGdSQ&list=UUpYdUtchg_j51KCM

Help Baker CAS Recruit its Next Class...

Please consider those among your family, friends, church or social activities groups who may have a student that would benefit from and find future success through enrolling at Baker's College of Arts and Sciences in Baldwin City. For more information, contact Kevin Kropf, Senior Director of Admissions, at 785.594.8327.



1970 Reunion Class Members: First row (left to right): Connie Campbell Hoyle, Vera Kochmeier Brecheisen, Dona Shaw Johnson, Pat Sievers Seager, Kathy Asel O'Bryhim. Back row (left to right): Ed Schneeberger, Donald Johnson, Ira DeSpain, Rick Schaffer, Dennis Seager and Jerry Weakley

Athletic Hall of Fame Opens Door to Five...

The 2015 Baker University Athletics Hall of Fame Class has been announced and the newest members of the esteemed group include former Baker Coach, Zach Kindler, Mike Ewing, '80; Tim Sheldon, '94; Christina (Billups) Brumley, '97; and Carlos Grace, '01. The five newest members will be inducted at the Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet at 6 p.m., Friday, Oct. 2, 2015, at the Overland Park Marriott, 10800 Metcalf Ave. The event will take place the day before the 'Cats take on Peru State. Kickoff for the homecoming game is 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 3, at Liston Stadium.

Zach Kindler served as Baker's head men's and women's cross-country and track and field coach from 2007 to 2014. He passed away on Aug. 4, 2014, after a sudden medical emergency. One of the most successful coaches in the history of Baker, his programs reached unprecedented heights in 2012-13 with an HAAC championship in men's cross country, men's indoor track and field, women's indoor track and field, men's outdoor track and field and women's outdoor track and field. He coached two national champions and was named HAAC Coach of the Year 15 times.

Mike Ewing was named to the All-HAAC football team three times and twice to the All-District 10 team. In 1980 he was named a first-team NAIA All-American. Baker also qualified for its first postseason bowl game in the BootHill Bowl during his playing time under the guidance and direction of fellow Baker Hall of Fame member Joe Girardi. After graduating, Ewing taught and coached for numerous years before moving into business with the Hersey Chocolate Company.

One of the greatest quarterbacks in Baker football history, Tim Sheldon played for the Wildcats in 1990-1993. He currently stands third all time in passing yards (5,584) and third all time in total offensive yards (6,214). He owns the Baker record for total yards in a season with 3,314 and passing touchdowns with 26 in 1993. He is a co-owner of a filtration company in Oklahoma City and Waterford, Michigan.

Christina (Billups) Brumley was an outstanding four-year starting goalkeeper for Wildcat women's soccer. As a freshman she helped lead Baker to its first winning season in program history with a 15-4 record. She was named the HAAC defensive player of the year her sophomore season and as a junior received honorable mention for the NAIA All-America team. Her senior season, she earned third-team All-America honors and represented Baker on the Umbro Select College All-Star team. After graduating she became a grade-school teacher in Nixa, Missouri.

Carlos Grace played football for the Wildcats from 1997 to 2000 and graduated in 2001 with a major in sociology. He earned conference and district first-team awards in 1999 along with designation as an NAIA first-team All-American. He also was voted the team MVP that same year. In 2000 he became one of Baker's only two-time first-team All-Americans along with the same designation at the conference and district level. He currently serves as a behavior specialist in Channelview, Texas.

Osborne Chapel Rededicated! Sanctuary Named for Dr. Daniel M. Lambert...

A special rededication service was held on Saturday, May 16th on the Baldwin City campus in conjunction with several other activities on this year's Alumni Weekend. The service, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the construction of the traditional English chapel in Sproxtton, England, was originally planned to be held in conjunction with the inauguration of President Lynne Murray in October but was postponed due to the death of a Baker student.

The service featured former Baker President, Dr. Dan Lambert, retelling the history and his personal memories of just how this important campus addition was acquired, funded, transported and rebuilt here at Baker.

Following Dr. Lambert's presentation, Dr. Murray surprised him with the unveiling of an oil painting of Dr. Lambert while I read the message contained on the plaque, which reads:

"The Daniel M. Lambert Sanctuary...

The sanctuary of the Clarice L. Osborne Chapel is dedicated to and named in honor of President Emeritus Dr. Daniel M. Lambert, Baker University's 27th president.

Through his vision and tireless efforts this chapel was acquired, funded, moved and reconstructed on Baker's Baldwin City campus. Here, it continues to serve the spiritual needs of students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of this university since its reconstruction and original dedication in 1996, and its rededication this day."

May 16, 2015

The Rev. Dr. Ira DeSpain '70, who retired last year after many years on staff as Minister to the university, also was on the program and received official recognition of his having been granted emeritus status from the university for his service.

To watch the dedication in its entirety: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZRbhHea258&feature=youtu.be>

The Monthly Trivia: Memories from Previous Maple Leaf Festivals...

A Response from Paxton Williams '72... I have a pretty clear memory of the genesis of the festival. There were a number of things going on that eventually came together to become the current Maple Leaf Festival. First and most importantly, Baldwin's magnificent, giant elm trees were dying from Dutch elm disease. It was **Dr. Ivan Boyd** that came up with the idea to plant Maples all over town as replacements. He was the Boy Scout leader and saw the idea of selling saplings as a fundraiser.

Then the Commercial Club wanted to push the Maple tree idea and get everyone on board to try to increase commercial traffic and tourism in town.

At this same time there was a sportsman club established for the sole purpose of raising funds to lobby the state to build a fishing lake near town. It was called the Wakatauy Wildlife club... Waka for Wakarusa water shed and Tauy for the Tauy Creek watershed in Baldwin. My father (**Oscar Williams '32**) was president off and on during its short existence. This club eventually convinced the state to build the Douglas County State Fishing Lake and game lands, disbanding shortly thereafter. I remember helping run cables up and over large piles of trees and limbs as they lay in the future lake-bottom, to tie them all down so when the lake filled, they would become part of an important fish nursery.

Also, every **October, Baker** had a homecoming game, with a parade full of floats built by teams of fraternities, sororities and other clubs/activities, as well as the **Baker** marching band and queen candidates riding in convertibles. And, as a rule, Baldwin High School also had their homecoming the same weekend and played at the stadium on Friday night. So, the high school marching band, queen candidates, king candidates, etc., joined into this Saturday parade. It was truly a town-gown affair.

Several **Baker** professors also had ideas about all of this. **Dr. Boyd, Dean Ben Gessner, Dr. Charles Doudna, Karl Spear** and others wanted to expand the homecoming celebration to attract more alumni.

These separate ideas came together as the perfect storm to bring everyone together to start the Maple Leaf Festival. Its creation encouraged Baldwin residents to participate alongside college and high school counterparts while creating a more festive event for alumni and other attendees.

I participated in the first children's parade, the pre-parade, that started in front of the United Methodist Church and then to the downtown intersection and then east about a block. Needless to say, the festival was a huge success, and, while barely resembling the beginning years, it remains an **October** "go to" for many folks in the general area. It continues to grow in new and important ways every year.

Baker Football Set In Fall for ESPN3...

Heart of America Athletic Conference commissioner **Lori Thomas** recently signed and announced a historic partnership agreement with the Niles Media Group to televise HAAC football games for the 2015 season. All games will be available on ESPN3, as well as in the Kansas City area on KSMO-TV, an affiliate of the Meredith Corporation. Niles Media, located in Liberty, Missouri, will produce a 13-game schedule that will be carried live in the Kansas City area on KSMO-TV as well as on ESPN3 with a consistent kickoff time of 11:00 a.m.

All 12 teams will make at least one appearance on the schedule, while 11 of the 12 teams will have the opportunity to show off its respective campus with a home contest. With the conference introducing divisional play for the 2015 season, the final game of the schedule will be kept open as a "flex" selection, providing the opportunity to select a game with championship implications.

No. 16-ranked **Baker** will be featured on the televised game schedule twice — Saturday, Aug. 29, at No. 6 Grand View in Des Moines, Iowa, and Saturday, Oct. 24, against No. 9 MidAmerica Nazarene at Liston Stadium. Grand View is making its HAAC debut in 2015. The home contest against MidAmerica Nazarene will be the annual **Black Out** game, where fans are encouraged to wear all **black** apparel.

ESPN3 is ESPN's live multi-screen sports network, a destination that delivers thousands of exclusive sports events annually. It is accessible online at WatchESPN.com, on smartphones and tablets via the WatchESPN app and streamed on televisions through Amazon Fire TV and Fire TV Stick, Apple TV, Chromecast, Roku, Xbox 360 and Xbox One. The network is currently available to more than 99 million homes at no additional cost to fans who receive their high-speed Internet connection or video subscription from an affiliated service provider.

I look forward to filling the stands on **October 24**. We know the **'Cats** will do their part to make this a memorable occasion!!!

Alumni/Campus Activities...

Stay in Touch...and Get Engaged with BU!!!

Common Abbreviations Used in the Arbor...

From time to time I am reminded by readers that I have used an abbreviation for one of Baker's schools or other common word particular to our school and the meaning of such is lost on that reader. So, to help prevent future uncertainty, let me place before you a few of those abbreviations:

CAS=College of Arts and Sciences (The Baldwin City Campus)

SOE=The School of Education (undergraduate programs on the Baldwin City campus, graduate programs at various locations and online)

SPGS=The School for Professional and Graduate Studies (Off-campus undergraduate and graduate programs as well as online offerings)

SON=School of Nursing (located in Topeka, Kansas in conjunction with Stormont-Vail HealthCare.)

HAAC=Heart of America Athletic Conference



Can You Identify Any of These Former Students?
See Trivia Question Above for Details...!

Trivia Question For Summer of 2015...

The Question: The picture located on this page in column one at the bottom was provided with a request from Dr. Frank C. Leitnaker Jr., '49, for anyone to identify those pictured. It is from the 1946-1948 period.

The Answers: Will be featured in the next issue of *From the Arbor*...

If you have a question or a topic that you believe would make a suitable "Monthly Trivia Question," please send it to me at:

jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu



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Facebook

Friend the Baker "Official" Facebook site and receive all the news as it happens on the university's several campuses, athletic fields or with students/alumni!!! Friend us today!!!

Have a great **Early Summer**...

I'll write again in **Late Summer**...

Jerry L. Weakley '70/MBA '92

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Baker is proud to be accredited by and affiliated with the United Methodist Church.



The End of Baker's Fiscal Year...

Just a few scant days remain in the fiscal year of 2014-2015. If you have been intending to send a gift to the university for inclusion in this year's President's Report, NOW would be a GREAT time to do it!

You may use a university-provided self-addressed envelope (from one of our earlier mailings), your own envelope, or you can go online to: <https://www.bakeru.edu/give> and make a gift through Baker's secure website.

Thank you for your continuing support of Baker...[YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!](#)

New Estate and Planned Gifts Announced...

The university wishes to thank and is so very grateful to the following for the two estate gifts newly received and the planned gift that will one day greatly benefit Baker.

The Radisch Estate Gift: We have just this past month received an estate gift totaling more than \$150,000 from William, '51 and Pat Radisch of Kernersville, North Carolina. Bill was a science major at Baker and enjoyed attending reunions of his class through the years. Pat, though not a Baker graduate herself, loved Baker and welcomed me into their warm and lovely home in North Carolina on many occasions. This gift was left unrestricted and will, among other items, be used to help fund an important piece of equipment in the science laboratory.

The Mary Jane Zelsman Endowed Scholarship: I was recently informed of the passing of a very special lady whom I had grown so fond of through the years, Mary Jane Zelsman, '39, of Whittier, California. At the time of her passing, Mary Jane was 99 years of age and was still living with help from friends on her own in her family's original home in Whittier. The scholarship will be created once the disbursement from her estate's proceeds arrive this summer. The estimate from the trust officer places the disbursement in the range of \$350,000-\$450,000. The scholarship will benefit future generations of Baker students who are preferably studying/majoring in music. Mary Jane was the accompanist for the music department while she was in school.

The President's Vision Fund: This incredible newly formed and signed planned gift calls for the establishment of one of, if not THE, most creative endowment fund in the university's history. The planned gift will eventually flow from the estate of George Schrader, '53, who is the former city manager of Dallas, where he continues to live. George, a former member of the Baker Board of Trustees, has designed a plan for future Baker presidents to fund any number of specified avenues in which the university may further its educational mission through creative and innovative programs that increase excellence in, among others, teaching, excellence in scholarship and excellence through cultural events. The fund's use will be entirely the choice/decision of the then current president of the university based upon his/her vision for the school.

As Dr. James Chubb, '22 used to say when he visited classmates and alumni while on the road for Baker... "Please remember to leave something for Baker in your Will!"...and, if you do, send a copy of your plan to us! Or, call me to discuss the BEST way for you to achieve your goals for Baker's future! 785-594-8332.



Jerry Weakley
VP-Endowment/Planned Giving

