DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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Dixie State University Magazine is published biannually by the office of Public Relations and Publications in cooperation with the Dixie State University Alumni Association for all alumni and friends.

Cover photo by Wally Barrus
WE ARE DIXIE

D-QUEEN PAGEANT

THE GREAT RACE
MONDAY, APRIL 7TH
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Kickoff
Gardner Plaza

TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH
7:30 p.m. D-Queen Pageant
Cox Auditorium

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH
7:30 p.m. Juggler Charles Peachock
from America’s Got Talent
Gardner Ballroom

THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH
6 p.m. World Record!
Burns Arena

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH
5 p.m. Great Race
6 p.m. Carnival and BBQ
Hansen Stadium

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH
7 a.m. Whitewash the “D”
followed by breakfast under the “D”
7 p.m. Evening of Dixie
Eccles Main Stage
Midnight True Rebel Night
DSU Fountain

EVENING OF DIXIE
April 12th—7:00 pm Eccles Mainstage

RON & SUSAN GARNER
Dixie Spirit Award

KEN JOLLEY
Rebel Award

RANDY W. WILKINSON
Community Service Award

JOHN BLAKE
Big D/Roene DiFiore Award

For a full bios visit www.dixie.edu/alumni
On November 22, 2013, the DSU Board of Trustees unanimously passed a new policy banning the on-campus use of tobacco. The policy, which went into effect January 1, is part of the university’s effort to provide and promote a healthy and productive working and learning environment.

The new policy eliminates the use of all tobacco products anywhere on campus. The ban is enforced on all buildings and outdoor spaces owned, leased or controlled by DSU, along with all university-owned and-operated vehicles and private vehicles located on campus.

With the new Tobacco-Free Campus rule, Dixie State became the first public higher education institution in Utah to adopt such a policy. In addition, DSU joined an ever-growing list of nearly 1,200 college and university campuses nationwide that have become smoke and/or tobacco free.

The approval of the new DSU policy is the culmination of a three-year, student-driven study, spearheaded by DSU nursing students and former DSUSA health science program senators Joe Pate and James Seely. Both Pate and Seely gauged the opinions of students, faculty and staff while measuring the possibility of providing alternatives for existing smokers on campus, possible legal ramifications of banning the use of all tobacco products from campus, and other factors related to the implementation of a new policy.

The policy will prohibit the use of any and all forms of tobacco, including traditional cigarettes, electronic cigarettes and other vaporizing devices (including hookahs), water pipes, chewing tobacco, cigars and the use of cloves.

“We appreciate the opinions of all stakeholders on campus. It was vital for us to listen and we carefully..."
factored in their input,” said DSU Board of Trustees Chairman Steven G. Caplin.

In the coming months, Dixie State will roll out a comprehensive campaign to educate students, faculty, staff and visitors. The campaign will include on-campus signage provided through funding from the Southwest Public Health Department and the promotion of campus educational and cessation assistance programs. The programs will be offered to all students, faculty and staff who may desire assistance to end their tobacco dependency through the DSU Health and Wellness Center at little or no cost.

For more information, please contact the DSU Dean of Students Office at 435-652-7514. Visit www.dixie.edu/humanres/pol.html to view the policy.

Two new members joined DSU’s Board of Trustees: Dr. Christin Juarez Durham and DSUSA President Carlos Morgan.

Dr. Durham holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Brigham Young University and a post-doctoral master in clinical psycho-pharmacology from Alliant International University and has a private clinical and forensic practice in St. George. Morgan has served in student government since his freshman year and served as the DSUSA communication senator prior to his becoming student body president. He is a communication major with plans to attend graduate school.

Last fall, the Board of Trustees elected David Clark as it’s new vice chair. Clark, who has served on the board since May of 2012, replaced Jon T. Pike, who resigned his position after his recent election as the new mayor of St. George City. Pike will remain on the DSU Board of Trustees through the end of this appointed term in 2017.

Just in time for the holiday season, DSU students, faculty and staff teamed with United Way Dixie and other community partners for a special food drive event to benefit Dixie Care and Share, as part of DSU’s fall semester Campus to Community service project. The goal of the event was to put together 50,000 Mac ’N’ Cheese dinner packets to re-stock the shelves of Dixie Care and Share.

The DSU Gardner Center Ballroom was turned into a massive food-packing plant, and thanks to the collaborative efforts of nearly 400 volunteers, the goal of 50,000 dinner packets was met in less than three hours. The packets were created, packaged, boxed up and put on pallets for shipment to Dixie Care and Share.

Among the many community partners that took part in the event were Wal-Mart, Target, Zions Bank, The Spectrum newspaper and several local radio stations.

In an effort to cater to the academic and personal needs of its female students, Dixie State last January formally established a new Women’s Resource Center (WRC) on campus. The new WRC mission is to provide DSU female students (both traditional and non-traditional) with the opportunities and resources available on campus, and within the community, to fulfill their academic and professional development.

Led by DSU Assistant Professor of English Dr. Florence Bacabac, the WRC will facilitate access to mentoring, counseling, academic advisement and support in all areas of education. From hosting monthly workshops and forums, to working with other campus service organizations, the WRC’s purpose is to assist DSU’s female student population succeed in completing their degrees. For more information on the new WRC, visit www.dixie.edu/WRC.
DSU ADVANCEMENT IN ASIA

DSU Vice President of Institutional Advancement Christina Schultz traveled to Asia in December as part of her division’s mission to develop educational and cultural exchange programs across the world. During her first stop in the ancient Buddhist kingdom of Bhutan, located in the Himalayas between Tibet and India, Schultz received a warm welcome from the Prime Minister, Tshering Tobgay. “By wonderful coincidence, the DOCUTAH icon, a raven, is also the national bird of Bhutan,” said Schultz. “This excellent omen of the raven resulted in a productive meeting during which the Prime Minister instructed his staff to initiate partnerships and form cultural ties with DSU.” At Mr. Tobgay’s request, a DOCUTAH Raven statue, designed by DSU alum Morgan Clements, is on its way to a place of honor in his office.

In Nepal, several universities were also enthusiastic to form relationships with Dixie. Dr. Sagar Raj Sharma, associate dean at Kathmandu University School of Arts, escorted Schultz through their Center for Art & Design in Kathmandu and their beautiful music school in historic Bhaktapur. Also visited were Tribhuvan University (the largest university in the world claiming around 600,000 students) and Pokhara University, which are eager to sign Memorandums of Understanding (MOU’s) regarding partnerships with DSU. In New Delhi, India, a “DOCUTAH Delhi” program is in the works, as well as discussions regarding faculty and student exchange programs with Dixie State University.
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DSU CAMPUS STORE  STATE STORE
DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY
Dixie State welcomed a new leader to its women’s basketball program when Catherria Turner was named head coach last spring. Prior to her arrival at DSU, Turner held assistant coaching positions at the University of Portland, University of Maine and Simpson (Iowa) College, before taking the head job at PacWest member Holy Names in 2012. Turner played collegiately at the University of Oregon for one season before playing three seasons at Oklahoma State.

After a slow start to the 2013-14 season, the Storm rattled off four-straight victories and won six of nine games overall as the calendar turned from 2013 to 2014, including an impressive three-game sweep during a tough Hawaiian road trip, to muscle their way into the thick of the PacWest race. Led by senior sharpshooter Haley Holmstead (23.0 ppg), Dixie wrapped up the regular season 13-13, which included an 11-9 conference mark and the No. 4 seed in the PacWest Tourney.

Dixie State tight end Joe Don Duncan posted arguably the best single-season performance of any football player in school history in 2013, which may lead to him taking the next step to an NFL career.

The senior from Corona, Calif., was named to the American Football Coaches Association Division II All-America first team after breaking his own DSU single-season records for receiving yards and touchdowns. Duncan caught 71 passes for 1,045 yards (14.7 ypr) and 13 touchdowns. In fact, Duncan became the first Dixie football player to ever post a 1,000-yard receiving season, and he led all Great Northwest Athletic Conference receivers with five 100-yard games.
Duncan’s efforts caught the attention of many NFL scouts who saw him in action at Hansen Stadium and at various GNAC stadiums. In addition, organizers for both the 2014 East-West Shrine Game and the 2014 Reese’s Senior Bowl took notice and invited Duncan to play in both postseason all-star games, which would have made him the first DSU player to ever be extended an invitation to play in either game. However, he suffered an injury in December and was not able to participate.

“This is a great honor for Joe Don to be invited to play in the Senior Bowl and East-West Shrine Game,” DSU Head Coach Scott Brumfield said. “When you look at the significance of these invitations, it puts Joe Don on an elite level competing against the best of the best NCAA Division I and Division II programs from across the country.”

Despite his injury, Duncan did take part in the 2014 NFL Combine in Indianapolis, Ind., February 21, and he did not disappoint. Duncan led all tight ends (at all collegiate levels) in the bench press with 35 reps of 225 pounds, the most by a tight end prospect at the Combine since 2006. His performance also made him and Dixie State University household names on both The NFL Network and ESPN throughout the Combine’s televised coverage.

Duncan anticipates being at full strength to show off his athletic abilities at his scheduled Pro Day this April in Corona, Calif. At press time, Duncan was rated as the seventh-best tight end prospect by CBSSports.com, and he is projected as a fourth-round pick in May’s NFL Draft. If selected, will become the first DSU player ever selected in the NFL Draft.

Dixie State University wishes Joe Don the very best of luck in the draft and in his efforts to make an NFL roster this summer.

The DSU men’s basketball team has once again positioned itself to make another deep run at the NCAA Tournament, thanks in large part to one of the hottest starts in school history. The Red Storm opened the season 11-0, a start that was catapulted by arguably the biggest win in school history, grant it an exhibition victory, a 71-70 triumph at UNLV first time out November 1. The 11-0 start also gained Dixie State national respect as the Storm was ranked as high as No. 7 in the NCAA D-II polls.

At press time, Dixie State entered the PacWest Tournament with a 21-5 overall record (15-5 PWC/3rd Place), which marked the fifth-straight year Head Coach Jon Judkins has notched a 20-win season. Led by senior Dalton Groskreutz and juniors DeQuan Thompson Zach Robbins and Jordan Rex, Dixie State is aiming for its fifth-straight PacWest crown and fifth-straight trip to “The Dance.”
In what can be deemed a true reversal of fortune, the Dixie State Women’s Volleyball team turned in a season to remember in 2013. Coming off a 7-14 campaign in 2012, second-year head coach Robyn Felder led the Storm to their most successful season in DSU’s D-II era with a 17-10 record in 2013, a 10-win turnaround from the year before.

DSU also got the job done in PacWest play, as the Storm won eight of their final nine league matches to place third in the conference at 14-6. That strong late-season surge also propelled Dixie State to its first-ever NCAA Tournament berth and a date with UC San Diego in the tourney’s opening round. Though the Storm dropped the match, 3-1, DSU has established a foundation to build upon in 2014 and beyond.

For her efforts, Felder earned PacWest Co-Coach of the Year honors, while sophomore libero Alex Anderson (Prescott, Ariz.), junior outside hitter Maddie Rex (Tucson, Ariz.) and sophomore setter Shelby Sorenson (Lehi, Utah) each earned All-PacWest honors.
“It has been a dream job for me, something I have totally loved,” Bunker said. “I am a little emotional about leaving.”

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Mark Houser is a man wears many hats. This southern Utah transplant originally from Pennsylvania but now deeply rooted in Utah’s Dixie serves as Dixie State University’s chairman of fine arts and director of DSU’s theatre program. Houser and his wife, Trish, attended Southern Utah University as undergraduates and fell in love with Southern Utah. After returning to Pennsylvania, they felt a constant desire to move back to Utah, but Trish had a corporate job in Pennsylvania and Mark was operating a business as a photographer, independent producer and consultant. They were comfortable where they were, but a change was in the air, and the land of Utah’s Dixie kept calling.

“We waited and prayed and waited some more for about nine years for the perfect opportunity to get back to the area,” Houser said. Suddenly, four years ago, an opportunity presented itself in the form of a job opening at Dixie State.

“One of my friends made me aware of a part-time position that would place in the Cox Performing Arts Center during the fall and spring months, and the Twilight Concert Series, held at Springdale’s O.C. Tanner Amphitheater during the summer months.

“It has been a dream job for me, something I have totally loved,” Bunker said. “I am a little emotional about leaving.”

And for those who have served with Bunker, the feeling is mutual.

“She is one of the most delightful people I know,” said Jill Sevy, a member of the Celebrity Concert Series board and guild. “She’s capable of doing almost anything but she makes it look easy. I know everyone feels the same way I do and just admire and respect her so much. She is quite an amazing woman.”

“We are so sad to lose her,” Sevy added. “I just can’t imagine the Celebrity Concert Series without her.”

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DIXIE SPOTLIGHT

by Cami Cox ’08

She has showed “Utah’s Dixie” to the Dixie Chicks and introduced countless other celebrities to the stunning backdrop of Zion Canyon and the red rocks of St. George? She’s become a fixture in the local community as Dixie State University’s concert manager and a city councilwoman for the city of St. George.

She is, of course, Gail Bunker.

Bunker reaches the end of two long roads this past year, as she simultaneously retires from Dixie State University and the St. George City Council. Saying goodbye to the two entities for so many years is bitter-sweet for Bunker (she’s been with Dixie State for 28 years and the City Council for a decade). As she begins the retirement chapter of her life, she anticipates that days once filled with booking agents, live concerts and City Council meetings will now be filled spending quality time with her husband, 12 children and 30 grandchildren. But the residents she’s grown served them through her work at DSU and on the City Council remain important to her.

“The relationship and friendship I feel with so many of our community members is probably the most rewarding and dear to me,” Bunker said.

In 1985, Bunker came on board at Dixie State University (then Dixie College), taking over the role of concert manager in 1989 she oversaw the college’s Celebrity Concert Series, which takes place in the Cox Performing Arts Center during the fall and spring months, and the Twilight Concert Series, held at Springdale’s O.C. Tanner Amphitheater during the summer months.

“It has been a dream job for me, something I have totally loved,” Bunker said. “I am a little emotional about leaving.”

Though she has met hundreds of performers from all around the world as Dixie’s concert manager, Bunker’s favorite memories revolve around the local people she has rubbed shoulders with over the years. rubbed shoulders with over the years.

“As I greet patrons coming to the concerts, I feel like they are dear friends, and those folks who have served on the series and guild boards are like family,” she said. “I truly will miss that part of the position.”

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Spring 2014

13
bring me closer to my lifelong goal of teaching,” Houser said.

So Mark applied for the job, was interviewed—and did not get it. Instead, he received a better offer.

“I was blessed with a better job out of the interview, which was pretty much a dream job: the audience development coordinator for DSU Theatre,” he said. “The job wrapped marketing and PR, teaching theater courses and the opportunity to mentor and pass my experience and knowledge along to amazing students.”

Mark and his wife finished four weeks’ worth of renovations on their Pennsylvania home in only six days, and their house sold the day after it went on the market. “We were in sunny St. George a week later!” Houser said. “It was too smooth a transition to not be a blessing—or a miracle, rather.

Houser is also a professional photographer; a motion picture producer and director; a small-business consultant for business startups, art and nonprofit organizations; a writer, with current projects including three novels, two screenplays and one stage play; and the volunteer executive director of an international mentor program he co-founded with a colleague back in Pennsylvania. In his spare time: “(I contribute) in any way I can to the film and arts scenes in the Southern Utah area,” Houser said.

If he wasn’t busy enough, Mark has three children at home: Sydney, Rowyn and Lyam. Balancing family time with work can be challenging.

“It’s hard to leave the outstretched arms and the reluctance to let me leave,” Houser said. But I also come to work and work as hard as I can for them. It is constantly confirmed to us that we made the correct choice and that we are in the best possible place we could be for our family, my career and to make an impact on the future of DSU.”

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“Toni probably exemplifies the Dixie Spirit more than almost anyone I know,” Bunker said.
“Everyone adores Toni and loves being around her. She is friendly and unassuming and treats everyone as if they were her very best friend. Her infectious personality and laugh endear her to everyone she meets.”

Steve said that in addition to her official duties, Toni does many things behind the scenes that people never see—quietly helping students, professors and anyone else in need. “She is expressive, effervescent and filled with energy and kindness and love for people,” he said. “What’s amazing is she’s like that all day—to everybody.”

Toni’s Dixie roots run deep. Her great-grandmother, famed Utah author and historian Juanita Brooks, graduated from Dixie and, after receiving degrees at BYU and Columbia University, returned to Dixie to serve as dean of women and to teach, which she did for 40 years. Toni’s grandfather also taught at Dixie, as did her father, who was a math professor. Toni herself has taught organ performance at Dixie as an adjunct professor, and her son Nathan Caplin teaches adjunct history courses.

All but one of the Caplins’ children attended Dixie as students—and the daughter who didn’t met her husband at Dixie’s Institute, the same place where her parents met. “Dixie is deep in our veins,” Toni said.

“Performing those scares me beyond belief,” she said. “Being in a play, singing and dancing and acting doesn’t scare me. At least if they don’t like your singing, maybe they’ll like your costume!”

Peterson, who grew up in Colorado City, is married to Ken Peterson, who is the director of vocal activities at Dixie State. The two met and married while Lizzy was attending Mohave Community College. Now a student at Dixie, she has the unique opportunity to be taught by her husband as she finishes up her bachelor’s degree.

“He’s very good at treating me like his other students,” she said, adding, “But he says I’m his favorite student!”

A music major at DSU, Peterson recently played the lead role of Guinevere in the university’s production of “Camelot.” Though she started out as a quiet music student in the background of Dixie’s theater department, it didn’t take long for Peterson’s natural talent to shine through and catch the eyes of teachers and directors. “She is one of the most talented actresses I have ever worked with,” said Kelly Thomas, an adjunct theater professor at DSU.

Thomas, who directed “Camelot,” said when Peterson enrolled in her musical theater class a couple of semesters ago, Peterson blossomed into more than a singer—she became a performer.

“All of a sudden, she was like, ‘This is fun!’ and it took her to that next level and she wasn’t just singing,” Thomas said. “She was embodying a character.”

When auditions for “Camelot” came around in the fall 2013 semester, Thomas said she ultimately narrowed her list of actresses down to about five women who could potentially play Guinevere. Peterson emerged as the hands-down choice for that iconic role.

“I knew she was the one,” Thomas said. “She walked in and nailed that audition. She blew everybody away. There was not a doubt in my mind.” Thomas said Peterson has an innate ability to tap into the emotion and depth of a character when she’s performing, and that makes her a wonderful actress onstage and she is full of kindness and empathy, which makes her a wonderful person offstage.

“She’s a gentle soul. She reaches out and includes people,” Thomas said.

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As she pulls local audiences into her world as a performer on Dixie’s stage, Peterson has mastered her shyness in the theatrical realm. However, she said there’s still one aspect of performing that she finds very daunting: the semester vocal recitals she must participate in as a music major.

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To see Dixie State University senior Lizzy Peterson perform onstage, bringing characters to life and enchanting her audience, you’d never know she’s a very shy person in real life.

“When I’m performing in a musical, people would never guess that I’m really shy and I’m petrified of people looking at me,” she said. “Being onstage is totally different because you’re not yourself—you’re someone else.”

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As the little sister of Alan, Larry and Lynn Gardner, Louise Gardner Zeenati had no problem keeping up with her older, wrangling brothers, who affectionately referred to her as "Tweet." While talking about that name, Louise tossed her hands up and laughed. "I suppose I was always talking like a tweeter bird, so the nickname stuck," she said.

Louise embodies the Dixie spirit! She speaks, lives and breathes Dixie. Her eyes shone as she recounted her early years driving cattle from the family homestead on the harsh Arizona Strip to the cool pastures of Pine Valley Mountain.

With her "Dixie" DNA, Louise, like her forbearers, wanted a life that exemplified service. "I imagine it was all of the ‘Cherry Ames Nurse’ books I read," she recalled, ‘Cherry Ames Army Nurse,’ ‘Cherry Ames Student Nurse’... Cherry led a very exciting life that was full of service and adventure. I wanted to be a Cherry Ames." So she made a plan: She would take as many classes as Dixie Junior College offered in her field of study and then transfer to BYU to pursue a nursing degree. It was 1972.

The rodeo club and her classes kept Louise happily busy at Dixie, and it wasn’t until she enrolled in the nursing program at BYU that she realized nursing wasn’t for her. "I didn’t have a plan B, so I decided counseling would be a career where I could serve others."

Following graduation and a few years of working, Louise served an LDS mission to Scotland. On arriving home, she took her British pounds into Dixie State Bank and thought about picking up an application at the same time. When she didn’t see anyone she knew, she ignored her impulse and left empty-handed. A year-and-a-half later, the chairman of the bank, Truman Bowler, offered her a bookkeeping position for significantly less pay than her current counseling position. Louise explained she couldn’t accept the lower amount, the bank countered because she had a bachelor’s degree. Ultimately, accepting that position proved to be one of the wisest decisions of her life. Years later, she would reflect on that experience, which taught her three important lessons: "The first is you should always follow your impressions; second, that a college education is beneficial financially; and third, you should never accept a career just because it will make you more money." - Louise Zeenati

Louise’s love of banking was instantaneous. Rapidly learning the inner workings of the bank, she eventually advanced to overseeing the operations, financial department, investments and loans. In 1996, she, along with local businessmen, had the exciting opportunity to open a much needed community bank — The Village Bank and Trust.
Bank. For 17 years Louise deftly maneuvered the bank through its highs and lows as CFO. “Not only was Louise instrumental in opening the bank,” said founding member Grey Larkin, “her ability to know the character of people and their financial needs were incomparable.”

With her compassion and understanding of the local community’s financial health, Louise has extended those qualities to helping Dixie State University students achieve success. Serving as president of the DSU Scholarship Associates in 2008, 2009 and 2012, Louise helped establish the main fundraising event, Dixie’s Got Talent, which showcases the community’s talent and provides funding for approximately ten DSU needs-based students annually. “Louise is an outstanding leader,” said fellow board member Mary Esther Putnam. “She does a lot of legwork and has a lot of heart.”

“Looking back, the thing that appealed to me most about nursing was helping people, she states. Instead of looking after their physical health, I helped them look after their financial health.”

Whether she’s rounding up cattle or helping students saddle up with scholarship money, Louise loves having her finger on the pulse of the community. In essence, she has become the Cherry Ames she dreamed of emulating – Louise Zeenati Student Nurse – and there is no place she’d rather be than serving the college and community she loves.

Louise retired from The Village Bank on February 28th, 2014.
RIGHT MAN for the RIGHT TIME
A TIMELINE OF EVENTS

by Loren Webb ’77

“I came to Dixie to be helpful, and it worked out better than I could have imagined.”

– President Stephen D. Nadauld
President Nadauld has been the right man at the right time to articulate a vision for Dixie State University, chart a path for accomplishment and bring institution and community. We recognize and express gratitude for his professionalism, persistence and passion...

- Bonnie Jean Beesley, Utah State Board of Regents Chair

Nadauld and other College officials begin negotiating with the Board of Regents on benchmarks for achieving university status (more four year degrees, more diverse student body, more full time faculty, enrollment growth). If DSU meets those benchmarks, it can be designated a university.

“President Nadauld quickly united the stakeholders and outlined a brilliant strategic vision and pathway to University status.”

- Steven G. Caplin, DSU Board of Trustees Chair

“The notion of building the university took hold and people rallied around. We stand on the shoulders of those who were here before. There is an enormous sense of spirit and sacrifice of the community on behalf of education. It is an extension of the spirit the early pioneers who had to be committed, determined and resourceful.”

- President Nadauld

Utah Legislature votes to pass House Bill 61 which called for Dixie State College to attain university status and change its name to Dixie State University.

“Everyone helped make this happen. It was a true team effort.”

- President Nadauld

Construction begins on the Jeffrey R. Holland Centennial Commons.

“President Nadauld handed out AYB cards on campus which stood for ‘Are you building?’”

“The difference between a college and a university is the size and breadth of the offerings.”

- President Nadauld

President Nadauld has been a transformative leader for Dixie State University. Not only did he lead the transition to becoming a state university during challenging economic times, but he has guided the building of a physical campus that positively reflects Dixie’s growing mission.

- USHE Commissioner David Buhler
Peterson, who grew up in Colorado City, is married to Ken Peterson, who is the director of vocal activities at Dixie State. The two met and married while Lizzy was attending Mohave Community College. Now a student at Dixie, she has the unique opportunity to be taught by her husband as she finishes up her bachelor’s degree.

“He’s very good at treating me like his other students,” she said, adding, “But he says I’m his favorite student!”

President Nadauld was the perfect leader in a precarious yet opportunity rich Dixie season. He asked every Dixie employee to build and contribute. He allowed for big dreams that required borderline brilliant solutions.”

- Stan Plewe, former DSC Vice President

President Nadauld’s business expertise saved the day and helped Dixie not only survive, but thrive during a severe 17% state budget cut.

“on your mark . . .”
Hurrah

by Nancy Perkins ’76

Dixie State University President Stephen D. Nadauld is looking forward to a few simple yet exhilarating changes to his daily routine once he retires from his position at the end of the 2013-14 academic year.

No, he hasn’t planned a trip around the world to augment some of his travel memories, but his days will include things he hasn’t been able to do for nearly 60 years — ever since he began working at 12 years old, tossing newspapers to subscribers.

"I've got a very long list of things I'd like to do once I'm retired, and the best part of it is, it's my list," Nadauld says, with a hint of an adventurous glint in his eye as he contemplates his future beyond Dixie State University. "I think what I'm probably looking forward to doing the most is just organizing my day the way I want my day to be."

No one can fault Nadauld for wanting to see more of his grandchildren (there are 30, after all) or wanting to step back into the classroom at some point as an educator. Once retirement does take hold of him, however, Nadauld plans to indulge in another of his most deeply held passions.

"I'm going to do some fly fishing," he says with conviction. "I've always wanted to have a whole fall to myself, and this September to October I'm not going to be responsible for anything but going fly fishing. I already have a bunch of my friends lined up to go with me. We're going to have a great time."

Even so, Nadauld admits, leaving Dixie State University will not be easy. His obvious love for Dixie extends from the student body to the faculty, staff, alumni, community and a growing legion of DSU friends.

Nadauld himself is a Dixie State University fan of the first order, a cheerleader, booster, champion, defender and every other descriptive noun one can think of without being a bore. His office shelves are laden with photos of campus construction projects, footballs, trophies, souvenirs and other Dixie memorabilia.

"My passion is not skydiving or something like..."

Behind him is a whiteboard at the ready with financial figures jotted down and an architectural scale model is on display nearby of the 80-foot-tall clock tower being built just north of the Holland Centennial Commons Building. Nadauld is keeping a close eye on the clock tower's progress, which he believes will be seen as a "light of learning" on campus for generations to come.

"Nadauld himself is a Dixie State University fan of the first order, a cheerleader, booster, champion, defender and every other descriptive noun one can think of without being a bore. His office shelves are laden with photos of campus construction projects, footballs, trophies, souvenirs and other Dixie memorabilia."

Dixie State Magazine
that; my passion has been for education and what it can do for our young people," Nadauld says. "If you believe in the ultimate ability of a young person to find themselves, to learn and succeed, then this is a magical place because that is what is happening here at Dixie."

Nadauld attributes much of that magic to the way Dixie State University faculty members care about the education of their students.

"We have really inspirational faculty members; it makes a difference," he says. "So many young people come here and don't have a lot of confidence in their academic abilities, but because of the personal approach of our faculty, they find out they can be a success. I think we add enormous value to these young lives. We add value in really dramatic ways."

"My passion is not skydiving or something like that; my passion has been for education and what it can do for our young people."

Dixie State University's next president must also want to see the institution improve, expand and bless as many lives as possible, Nadauld says.

"Dixie is for students. Dixie is for learners. If you love that association and that learning process, and you love to see kids succeed and provide for their families and know they have accomplished something, then you get impassioned. That's what this place is all about and we do a good job at it!"
Although Nadauld's tenure at Dixie State University is beginning to wrap up, he's loath to set a firm departure date. He has agreed to stay on as DSU president until his successor has been named and is able to take office.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed being president of Dixie," he says. "There hasn't been one day where I got up and went to work and wasn't glad to be here, although I have laid awake some nights worrying. The associations I've made here are very tender, very special."

Marilyn Lamoreaux, who serves as Nadauld's assistant and worked in student government with him at Brigham Young University back in 1967, says it best when she contemplates saying goodbye to her long-time friend later this year.

"What a joy it has been to work with President Nadauld," she says. "He is inclusive and kind and a wonderful person to know. It's really been great to go full circle with him like this. I am going to miss him and Margaret very much."
When Dixie’s newest academic vice president drives into the administration parking lot, heads turn. At first glance, one could easily assume the “I-Rok” Dixie license plate attached to the muddied-up red jeep belongs to a DSU student, but when the unassuming and confident VP hops out of his vehicle, he quickly transitions from avid rock seeker to addresser of academic matters for Utah’s newest university.

Dr. William “Bill” Christensen, the approachable former dean of the Udvar-Hazy School of Business and Communication, came to Dixie State with a lengthy list of business experience and academic credentials.

Born in Boise, Idaho, Bill’s family moved to Tempe, Ariz., where he attended Tempe Union High. Following graduation, he attended Brigham Young University before serving an LDS mission to Japan. After his mission, he earned a bachelor’s degree in East Asian studies and an MBA in management science from California State University, Hayward. In 2000, he received his Ph.D. in business administration from Oklahoma State University.

In the business world, Bill held management positions at one of “the Big 5 of the business world” — Arthur Andersen Business Consulting — as well as Clark Material Handling Company, the Whirlpool Corporation and was director of purchasing for Mercruiser Mercury Marine. He has authored many articles in various peer-review journals.

“Bill brings to his new position a unique combination of experience from both the business and academic worlds,” says Stella Callagee, assistant to the former dean. “Coupled with his deep caring for each individual — faculty, staff, students and community members — this makes him an effective leader for the new university.” Bill chuckles when he reflects on his former position in the School of Business, acknowledging that things ran quite flawlessly “if I did whatever Stella said!”

In his transition from dean to vice president he has become keenly aware of the “need to protect what we have. There are so many great things we can do — that’s what gets me up in the morning.”

When it comes to action-packed weekends, Bill’s wife, Robin, is right alongside him — whether he is serving as president of the Dixie Desperados, a cowboy action shooting club, or maneuvering his jeep over a rock in Sand Hollow State Park.

When it comes to maneuvering the university, Bill simply states, “the barriers that were there before we obtained university status are now gone. The gate is now open which allows us to go places we haven’t been before.”
For 103 Years

students have looked to Dixie as a beacon of learning

Join others within our community by giving $103.00

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Make your gift online today at: dixie.edu/giving
On Feb. 16, 2013, Gov. Gary Herbert signed a ceremonial copy of House Bill 61, granting university status to Dixie State College. This year, we mark the one-year anniversary of Dixie State University.

Dixie is still the same great school that each of you attended with more than 100 years of traditions and academic excellence. From the days of the old campus and Sam Brooks to today, the spirit of Dixie lives on. The alumni office strives to build upon the legacy established by so many before us in maintaining and building upon the Dixie Spirit.

Each year, the university expands and improves, and we encourage alumni everywhere to take a moment and see how they can participate to make the institution even better. I suggest that you get involved in D Day this year. The Great Race is a tradition that has happened on the Dixie campus for several years now. Not only is it fun to watch, it is fun to participate in. A carnival and BBQ are held afterward at Hansen Stadium, and we invite you to come and bring your family. It is free and your children will have a blast!

Whitewashing the D is a tradition that started in 1914. You are invited to be a part of this great tradition and have breakfast under the D overlooking beautiful St. George. That evening will feature an Evening of Dixie at 7 p.m., which includes entertainment, awards and meeting with other alumni and friends of Dixie. Stay involved with Dixie State. We love and appreciate all of you. Keep the RED SAND between your toes!

-Kaylnn Larson, ’94, Alumni Relations Director
ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

HANK SMITH

He has taught seminary for 12 years and in the Department of Religious Education at Brigham Young University for the past three years. He is a favorite speaker at Especially for Youth, Best of Especially for Youth, BYU Education Week and Time Out For Women. Hank has published three books and 11 talks, and his most recent undertaking, the DVD “Hank Smith Live,” was released at Deseret Book before Christmas.

After graduating from Dixie State, Hank completed his MBA at Utah State University and recently finished his Ph.D. at BYU in December. Hank’s favorite memory of Dixie State is meeting his future wife, Sara.

“Any success I have in my life can be traced back to marrying her,” he said. “In that way, my time at Dixie was the most important time of my life. She and her parents are my best friends.

“Sara and I still talk about lessons we learned from incredible instructors like Philip Lee, Nate Staheli, Joe Green (I don’t think I’ve worked harder for an A than I did in his class), and Max Rose (he made a 7 a.m. chemistry class more fun than you can imagine. Instructors like Dr. Staheli and Dr. Rose were able to see past all my weaknesses and flaws to what I could become. I was blessed to sit in their classrooms and I try to give my students a similar experience.”

Hank and Sara were both born and raised in St. George, Utah. Sara is the daughter of Rod and Marlene Savage, and Hank’s parents are Mike and Cyndy Smith (Cyndy worked at Dixie State in the Business Department for many years). Hank and Sara are the parents of five children: Maddy, 9; Mason, 7; Elijah, 4; and identical twin boys, Rockwell and Steele, 1.

TRAVIS & WHITNEY MORGAN COX

Travis Cox, ’10, and Whitney Morgan Cox, ’10, moved to Los Angeles in 2011. While attending Dixie State, they fell madly in love with each other and acting. They attribute most of their acting obsession to Professor Varlo Davenport. Since moving to L.A., Whitney and Travis have had tremendous success.

“The hardest thing about making it in Hollywood is the time it takes to establish yourself as an artist,” Whitney says. “There are so many actors out there and it takes a lot of time and dedication to push your way through the crowd.”
Whitney won the Irene Ryan National Acting Award at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival in Washington, D.C., in 2010.

Travis is shooting a feature film in Tahoe, Calif., and Whitney just wrapped production on a “Criminal Minds” episode. She plays a young women who was tragically attacked and asked to participate in a cognitive interview to help recall more details of her ordeal and assist investigators in catching the bad guy.

“The experience itself was incredible! Not only shooting the episode, but the doors it has started opening for me. I am so excited about the next few years,” she exclaims.

Right now, they are in the middle of pilot season, when studios are casting their upcoming shows and new, reoccurring characters for the shows that are already past their first season.

“I have by no means reached my acting career goals, but I am well on my way, thanks to the amazing theater program created by Varlo theater program created by Varlo Davenport, Michael Harding, Brent Hanson and Brent Innes. It changed our life. We will always be grateful to them and Dixie for helping us find our passion,” Whitney says. “We are so proud to be Dixie alumni. It is an amazing institution with so much to give its students!”

Brant Nikolaus, ‘05, has wanted to be a doctor for as long as he can remember.

With his medical degree at the Mayo Clinic completed and his five-year residency in orthopedic surgery now at the halfway mark, Brant reflects on the journey to his dream.

“I am forever grateful for Dixie State and the integral part it played in my educational and career goals,” he says. “Looking back, I recognize all the amazing professors at Dixie State, the University of Utah and the Mayo Clinic that helped me get where I am today.”

Brant started his time at DSU in college-level chemistry labs, while a junior at Snow Canyon High School in Santa Clara. He graduated high school as the valedictorian in 2001 and headed to a semester at Dixie State — a school he knew would provide a solid educational foundation and had the added benefit of being close to home and affordable. Only days after returning from an LDS mission in Brazil, Brant returned to Dixie State.

“They were so great about getting me back on track with my academic goals; it was like I hadn’t been away at all,” he says.

Brant graduated Summa Cum Laude with an associate’s degree in 2005. He credits his experiences at Dixie State for landing a full academic scholarship at the University of Utah as well as a research internship through the American Heart Association in cardiac development. Brant is quick to give credit to Dixie State for preparing him for upper-level courses.

During Honors College, Brant researched spinal cord development using the zebra fish model. His research led to authorship on a number of scientific journal articles and second place for all undergraduate poster presentations. He graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Dual Honors Degree from the College of Science at the University of Utah in May 2008.

Brant continues at the Mayo Clinic and after residency plans on specializing even further by completing a yearlong fellowship in one of the areas within orthopedic surgery.

“I am very fortunate to be where I am today, training with some of the brightest and well known orthopedic surgeons in the world,” he says. “But I would definitely not be here without the help of my amazing wife, Katie, and our three kids: Ali (6), Gavin (3) and Olivia (9 months). Katie started this journey with me at Dixie State.”
Jennifer Bringhurst, ‘08, graduated from Dixie State with her AAS in radiography. She continued her education in Logan, and in 2010 passed the board exam in nuclear medicine while working at the Logan Regional Medical Center.

Two years later, she was selected to work as a volunteer on the USNS Mercy, the traveling Navy hospital. Boarding the ship in Guam and traveling to Indonesia, the Philippines, Cambodia and Vietnam, she was responsible for x-raying patients for tuberculosis before they could enter the hospital. She was awarded for her hard work, dedication and renewal of procedure.

The lessons she learned while volunteering on the USNS Mercy were life changing, as were the lessons she learned at Dixie State. They have influenced her work ethic and caring attitude.

Jenni now works at the Ogden Regional Medical Center as both an x-ray and nuclear medicine technician. She also works for Weber Applied Technology as an instructor in their radiography program.

Aaron Meadows, ‘13, graduated from Dixie State University in integrated studies with an emphasis in Human communication and psychology.

Following an internship with the Nordstrom Company in Las Vegas, Aaron applied with the Fanzz Sports stores as a buyer in Salt Lake City, the same company that owns and operates the Jazz. Aaron is now a buyer/product manager for three leagues: the NCAA, NHL and MLS.

When he started at Fanzz, the company operated 95 stores across the United States. In October 2013 Fanzz acquired the Just Sports Company, which operates 27 stores in the northwest U.S. Aaron is now buying merchandise for 122 stores in 22 states.

Howard Vivian Frei
(March 19, 1920-August 11, 2013) Santa Clara, UT

H Kenneth Nelson
(July 10, 1937-August 25, 2013) St. George, UT

Margaret Cottam Erickson
(May 16, 1944-August 28, 2013) St. George, UT

Braydon Ellsworth Nielsen
(June 2, 1977-September 3, 2013) Washington, UT

Dwayne M Sullivan
(September 17, 1931-September 3, 2013) Hurricane, UT

George Iliff Andrus
(April 4, 1940-September 5, 2013) St. George, UT

Henry Harris Kind
(October 3, 1920-September 7, 2013) St. George, UT

Dale Hall

Jennie Kartcher Gowers
(December 6, 1899-September 12, 2013) Washington, UT

Cleon Ona Davies
(April 5, 1941-September 17, 2013) Giddings, TX

Martin Haynie
(July 25, 1967-September 10, 2013) St. George, UT

William Wesley Sullivan
(April 10, 1935-September 19, 2013) St. George, UT

John Ballard Hafen
(December 10, 1921-September 22, 2013) Santa Clara, UT

McRay Wood
(March 21, 1948-October 1, 2013) Cedar City, UT

John W. Hail
(December 16, 1950-October 3, 2013) Salt Lake City, UT

Joseph Lynn Gubler
(January 9, 1935-October 6, 2013) La Verkin, UT

S. Arthur Gregerson
(January 5, 1928-October 10, 2013) North Salt Lake, UT

Ethan Allen Bundy
(April 17, 1949-October 13, 2013) St. George, UT

Donald C. Whittaker
(March 16, 1928-October 14, 2013) Santa Clara, UT

Mark Buhanan
(May 17, 1983-October 18, 2013) Santa Clara, UT

Cheryl Lou Smith Heaton
(May 18, 1965-October 20, 2013) Washington, UT

Shelley Barney
(November 28, 1962-October 28, 2013) Salt Lake City, UT

Taisha Starr Bakker
(December 31, 1987-October 3, 2013) Salt Lake City, UT

Beverly Moody Covington
(October 7, 1929-November 3, 2013) Cedar City, UT

Susana Heaps
(October 8, 1969-November 4, 2013) Inglewood, CA/South Jordan, UT

Gary Wayne Munn
(November 28, 1951-November 9, 2013) New Harmony, UT

John Earl Magleby
(October 17, 1945-January 9, 2014) St. George, UT

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For additional information about Liberty Mutual and our car and home insurance, please contact us at 800-824-9400 or visit us at libertymutual.com/dixiastate.
Dear Alumni and Friends of Dixie,

D-Week is just around the corner and what a great time to reminisce about days past. When Mrs. D wrote the song “Just for Now,” could she have imagined that a “clock in the church tower” would one day be on campus? It’s true! We will soon have our own clock tower thanks to the hard working efforts of President Nadauld and countless others. The light in the clock tower will never grow dim and will be a “beacon of light” for the campus and the community.

Come home for D-Week and stroll along University Avenue. Visit old friends and enjoy the festivities. See the progress on the clock tower and stop by the Alumni House. There is always something to do in Dixie. It is and always will be the same “Dear Old Dixie.”

- Hal Hiatt, ’93, DSU Alumni President
Beacon of Light symbolizing the “torch of knowledge” to those seeking an education.”

- President Stephen D. Nadauld

Join us for the University Tower Dedication
Thursday, April 10th 7:30 p.m.
Tower grounds on the DSU Encampment Mall
Inspire future generations by purchasing a University Tower paver and leave your legacy in stone.

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Celebrity Concert Series
Beverly Goodrich
Bookstore/Clothing Supervisor
Robert Reed
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Daphne Selbert
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Joan Smith
Public Relations/Publications
A very special thank you to former DSU magazine editor Joan Smith for 25 years of wonderful Dixie publications.
“Getting acquainted with the Dixie Spirit and tradition has been such a delight to us. It has been a joy to be associated with the people and spirit of this community.”

– Dr. Stephen D. Nadauld
17th President of Dixie State University