The University of Arkansas’ Old Main timepiece is complete at last. The clock mechanism was installed on April 7, and is located on the 4th floor of Old Main, encased behind glass for public viewing. The clock was custom-made by Balzer Family Clock Works in Freeport, Maine — the only company in the United States that manufactures mechanical clocks of this type.

The original Old Main construction plans called for a functional clock in the south tower. Due to hard economic times, the clock was never purchased, and Old Main construction was considered complete in 1875. From 1928 until the 1970s, a dial was painted on the tower to give the impression there was a clock, but none ever existed.

Over the years, a number of alumni, students, friends, faculty and staff have expressed an interest in having a clock in Old Main’s south tower. In the spring of 2005, the Campaign for the Twenty-First Century Steering Committee elected to give such a clock to the campus, in recognition of the highly successful fund-raising campaign that raised $1 billion for UA students, faculty, programs and capital projects. Steering Committee members Julian Stewart, class of 1957, and Lewis Epley, class of 1961, led the fund-raising effort that garnered more than $200,000 toward the project.

The original Old Main bell, which has not functioned for many years, has been refurbished thanks to a gift by the Class of 2005, and is displayed alongside the clock mechanism. Plaques recognizing all contributors to the project are also displayed there.

Old Main is once again a spotlight on campus. While retaining many of the classic features of a bygone era, the building functions as one of the most modern academic buildings at the university. Its new climate control and security systems are the best on campus, and the entire building is wired with fiber-optic cable to link Old Main with the campus’ computer network. It is home to the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. Housed in the building are the Dean’s office, the Fulbright Honors Program, Giffels Auditorium, and the departments of anthropology, history, philosophy, political science and sociology.

The Balzer Family, clockmakers and watchmakers since 1970, have specialized in the restoration of tower clocks since 1985. Their emphasis is on restoration and the conversion of electrified mechanical clocks back to weight driven, pendulum regulated timepieces, as they were originally designed.

Over time, these timepieces have stood the test of durability and longevity of service and are still the best timekeeping system for tower clock application.

Sigma Nu Construction Begins

The Gamma Upsilon chapter of the Sigma Nu fraternity is getting a new home, and on April 5, students, alumni, friends, faculty and staff gathered to break ground. Sigma Nu alumni have raised more than $3.1 million in private funding for the 22,830-square-foot house.

Area Sigma Nu alumni include Chancellor John A. White and retired Tyson Foods Inc. Chairman Don Tyson, whose Tyson Family Foundation gave $1.6 million toward the facility. In total, nearly 300 alumni have contributed to the project.

During the groundbreaking, Tyson spoke fondly of his days as a Sigma Nu brother at UA in the early 1950s. He said, “Sigma Nu has always been special for me. To you new Sigma Nu brothers, have fun and enjoy your new house.”

The house will be owned by the university, and the financial contributions from alumni will offset the construction costs.
Board of Advisors Formed

The University of Arkansas has developed a Board of Advisors — an organization that will help guide the institution’s advancement and fund-raising efforts — to be chaired by Julian C. Stewart (B.S.C.E., 1957) of San Antonio, Texas, and Fayetteville.


Serving as the successor organizations to the National Development Council and the Campaign for the Twenty-First Century, Steering Committee that headed the effort that raised more than $1 billion, the board will play a critical role in the University’s advancement and fund-raising efforts, develop ways and means of expanding public awareness of the needs, programs, growth and development of the university; and Chancellor White in defining the institutional goals of the university, offer advice on external relations issues, advocate for the university with the state legislature, and help increase the University’s presence across the state of Arkansas and in other states and countries where highly successful alumni are concentrated.

The Executive Committee of the Board is currently tapping new members and membership should total around 60 people when complete. Membership will be composed of past volunteers as well as alumni and friends who have actively supported the University and its many programs.

Chancellor White, who will be an ex-officio member, said, “The Board of Advisors will serve as an important sounding board for significant decisions affecting the university and its future. It will advise the chancellor’s office and the administration, offices of colleges and schools and offices on many fronts from fund raising to external relations to institutional priorities.”

Timeless Philanthropy

O n February 5, 1949, Silas Hunt became the first black student in modern times to attend a major Southern public university when he was admitted without litigation into the University of Arkansas School of Law. Hunt was born in 1921 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and was the third of five children of Eliza and Will graduation in 1946, the couple was led to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where Dr. Powell taught and served as dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences from 1946-1979. In 1975, he served as acting chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. He then served on the Board of Directors of the University of Arkansas for 14 years from 1974-1986, serving as president of the board.

Mr. Powell’s contributions to the University of Arkansas were recognized in 1986 when the chancellor’s office created the Silas Powell Scholarship, a scholarship for minority students at the University.

Today, the Powell Scholarship is one of the largest endowed scholarships at the University, and it is the legacy of one individual’s vision and dedication to higher education.

Silas Powell Scholarship

The Silas Powell Scholarship is an endowed scholarship for minority students at the University of Arkansas. The scholarship was established in 1986 by the Powell family in honor of Silas Powell, the first black student to attend the University of Arkansas.

The Powell Scholarship is available to students who meet the following criteria:

- Be a junior or senior in good academic standing
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Be enrolled in a degree-seeking program
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0
- Demonstrate financial need

The Powell Scholarship is renewable for up to four years, but recipients must maintain a GPA of 3.0 each semester to continue receiving the scholarship.

Silas Powell Scholarship has made a significant impact on the lives of many students at the University of Arkansas. Since its establishment in 1986, the scholarship has provided financial assistance to hundreds of minority students, enabling them to pursue their academic goals and attain success in their chosen fields.

Timeless Philanthropy

The University of Arkansas is committed to supporting the education of all its students, regardless of their race or ethnicity. Through the Silas Powell Scholarship, the University of Arkansas has demonstrated its commitment to diversity and inclusion, and has helped to create a more equitable and inclusive community for all students.

In 1991, the University of Arkansas established the Silas Powell Scholarship Fund, which is used to support the Silas Powell Scholarship and other scholarship programs at the University.

The Silas Powell Scholarship Fund has raised millions of dollars through the support of alumni, friends, and other members of the University community. The fund has received contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations from around the world, including the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

The Silas Powell Scholarship Fund has also received support from the University of Arkansas Alumni Association, the University of Arkansas Foundation, the University of Arkansas Athletics Department, and the University of Arkansas College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

The Silas Powell Scholarship Fund has also received support from the University of Arkansas Alumni Association, the University of Arkansas Foundation, the University of Arkansas College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and the University of Arkansas College of Business.

The University of Arkansas is committed to providing a world-class education to all of its students, and the Silas Powell Scholarship Fund is an important part of the University’s efforts to support its students and their families.

The Silas Powell Scholarship Fund is a testament to the University of Arkansas’ commitment to diversity and inclusion, and to the generosity and support of its alumni, friends, and other members of the University community.

The University of Arkansas is grateful for the support of its alumni, friends, and other members of the University community, and is committed to continuing to support the education of all its students, regardless of their race or ethnicity. The Silas Powell Scholarship Fund is an important part of the University’s efforts to support its students and their families, and the University will continue to work to ensure that all of its students have the opportunity to achieve their academic goals and attain success in their chosen fields.

AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology

S cientific and technological advancements have had a profound impact on society, changing the way we live, work, and learn. The AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology program is designed to bridge the digital divide and provide students with the tools and resources they need to succeed in today’s increasingly digital world.

The AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology program provides funding to programs and initiatives that connect students with technology, with a focus on increasing access to high-speed internet and digital devices. The program supports a wide range of projects, from providing computers and internet access to underserved communities to funding after-school technology programs.

The AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology program has supported numerous projects and initiatives that have had a significant impact on the lives of students and their communities. Some examples include:

- Providing computers and internet access to underserved communities
- Funding after-school technology programs
- Supporting STEM education initiatives
- Providing professional development opportunities for teachers

The AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology program is an important part of the AT&T Foundation’s mission to make the world a better place by advancing the potential of people and society.

The AT&T Foundation is committed to supporting innovative programs and initiatives that connect students with technology and help close the digital divide. The Foundation is proud to support programs that help students succeed in the 21st century, and looks forward to continuing to support this important work in the years to come.

AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology is a testament to the Foundation’s commitment to education and innovation, and to the power of technology to transform lives and communities.

The Foundation encourages anyone interested in learning more about AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology to visit the Foundation’s website or contact the Foundation directly. The Foundation is always looking for new ways to support students and their communities, and welcomes input and ideas from anyone interested in making a difference.

AT&T Foundation Connects Students with Technology is an important part of the AT&T Foundation’s mission to make the world a better place by advancing the potential of people and society. The Foundation is proud to support programs that connect students with technology and help close the digital divide, and looks forward to continuing to support this important work in the years to come.

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Three University of Arkansas buildings have recently held topping out celebrations to recognize upcoming facilities on campus.

The U of A Law School held a topping out ceremony on February 15 to celebrate phase-one construction of the new University of Arkansas School of Law building. Roger McDaniel, president, Nabholz Construction Ozark Division and Howard W. Brill, interim dean, University of Arkansas School of Law spoke to ceremony attendees about the project.

On April 6, representatives from the University of Arkansas and J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc. gathered to celebrate construction of the J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc. Center for Academic Excellence. This facility will serve as a technical resource for students and faculty in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering and the Sam M. Walton College of Business.

U of A leaders and benefactors celebrated the completion of the Willard J. Walker 75,000-square-foot building’s frame at a topping-off ceremony on April 21. Once complete in 2007, Walker Hall will house the Sam M. Walton College Graduate School of Business. Increased prices of materials throughout the region have driven up costs of the project, and UA officials hope to raise the remaining funds for the state-of-the-art graduate facility by fall 2006.

In Scandinavian countries, the evergreen was considered a good spirit. When a building was erected, an evergreen was placed on the highest point of the structure to ward off evil spirits. In the 19th century, as the people of northern Europe came to America, they brought with them not only their construction skills but also their customs - in particular, the topping out of new buildings with the evergreen tree. Even though the meaning has changed somewhat, this tradition continues as a way to celebrate the completion of a difficult phase of construction and to symbolize thanksgiving for a safe project.

Attendees of topping out ceremonies leave their mark by signing a beam before it is lifted into place, signifying the close of phase one of construction.