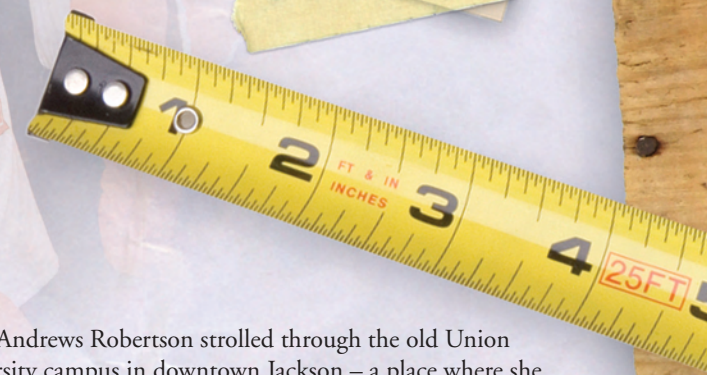


The Class of '59 toured the old campus during homecoming 2008.



Alumni and Friends See Union's New Look as They Remember the Past

EXTREME MAKEOVER UNION EDITION



Many alums came back to see the new buildings on campus. Above is one of 16 new residence life facilities and below is the newly renovated Student Union Building.



Sandra Andrews Robertson strolled through the old Union University campus in downtown Jackson – a place where she hadn't been in 50 years.

The memories came flooding back. She recalled the excitement of pledging Chi Omega her freshman year. An only child, Robertson said that day was special because it gave her a whole batch of sisters for the first time.

She pointed to the old women's dorm – Lovelace Hall – and noted how ill-fitting that name was for the building.

"It was anything but loveless, because there was all kinds of courting that would go on on the front porch," she said.

Robertson was one of the members of the class of 1959 who came to Jackson in November for Union's annual Homecoming celebration. As part of the weekend's activities, the class members took a tour of the old Union campus. Union left that site and moved to its present location in 1975.

"It gives you a lot of memories and support for Union University and how far they've gone in the last 50 years," said Jerald Hill, also a member of the class of 1959, who toured the old campus. "This is something you won't ever forget."

Homecoming 2008, "Extreme Makeover: Union Edition," gave alumni a chance to visit the Union campus to see how it has changed since the Feb. 5 tornado that wiped out most of the student housing buildings. Visitors to campus toured the new student housing facilities, reconnected with old friends and celebrated the achievements of a number of Union students and alumni who were honored during the weekend's events.

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Six new inductees were honored at the annual Sports Hall of Fame dinner during homecoming festivities: **James A. "Jimmie" Bryant, ('63)**, track; **Ronnie G. Giddens Jr., ('87)**, baseball; **Keith Reynolds ('77)**, baseball; and Jim Swope, men's basketball coach 1975-87. Two were inducted posthumously: Joe Guyon, football coach 1919-25; and **Lisa Hutchens ('83)**, basketball.

The Homecoming chapel service on Nov. 7 included a time of recognition for the class of 1959, in addition to the presentation of the annual Alumni Awards. Union history professor Stephen Carls received the Distinguished Faculty/Staff Award. Carls joined the Union faculty in 1983 and has been chairman of the history department since 1990.

Dr. Hutson E. McCorkle, class of 1955, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. A native of West Tennessee, McCorkle graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry and served in the U.S. Air Force while he completed a residency in oral surgery. He has been in the dental practice for 24 years.

At halftime of the Lady Bulldogs basketball game against St. Catharine College, Union President David S. Dockery crowed senior Rachael Moore as the 2008 Homecoming queen. Moore, an English major from Dyersburg, Tenn., is the daughter of Chuck and Jean Moore.

Other Homecoming attendants included:

- Andi Schreiber, freshman, from Murfreesboro, Tenn. She is the daughter of Mike and Angie Schreiber.

- Jessica Yates, sophomore, from Melbourne, Fla. She is the daughter of Jess and Bertie Yates.

- Natalie West, junior, from Memphis. She is the daughter of Don and Jana West.

- Tori Gill, senior, from Union City, Tenn. She is the daughter of Brock and Stacie Gill.

- Sarah Logan, senior, from Franklin, Tenn. She is the daughter of David and Terri Logan.

- Ashley Schreiber, senior, from Murfreesboro, Tenn. She is the daughter of Mike and Angie Schreiber.

In addition, Will Gruenewald and Elizabeth Walker were named Mr. and Miss Union. Gruenewald, a senior from Hendersonville, Tenn., is the son of Bill and Terrie Gruenewald. Walker, of Louisville, Ky., is the daughter of Doug and Virginia Walker.

"In every way, the 2008 Homecoming was a huge success, from Friday's 50-year reunion for the class of 1959 and the Sports Hall of Fame, all the way to Saturday's "Arts in the Park" celebration on the Great Lawn and two wins by the Bulldog basketball teams," said Gary Williams, Union's associate vice president for university relations and alumni services.

"Alums were very excited to see the new residence life facilities and the Carl Grant Events Center," Williams continued. "There was something new and different on the campus at every turn. The move three years ago from a winter Homecoming to a fall Homecoming schedule has been very well received by both alumni and friends of the University. There was something for the entire Union University family." ■



Rachael Moore was crowned 2008 Homecoming queen with her father, Chuck Moore, at her side.



Jonas Davis, son of Union alums Chad and Debbie Davis, enjoys "Arts in the Park" on the Great Lawn before the homecoming basketball game.

Save the date for
Homecoming 2009,
November 6-7