

# The Heritage News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

CHRISTMAS EDITION

A PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE BAPTIST COLLEGE

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## CHRISTMAS THANKFULNESS

**B**ridging “the Gap” was the message that Dr. Tom Wallace delivered to the folks gathered at the recent Heritage banquet. He spoke of various gaps in society, but one of the most critical was the gap in student tuition versus the cost of educating a Bible college student at Heritage.



We appreciate all those who attended, and the many who



*Autumn Banquet*

during and after the banquet gave to help “Bridge that Gap.”

Few students in Christian ministry could ever afford the cost of their education. Those of us who are interested in the

next generation must step forward to make up the difference. Many friends of Heritage have come to understand this truth.

At this Christmas time we are genuinely thankful for all the prayers and support of our friends.

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### SPECIAL EVENTS FOR YOU AT HERITAGE

- *Spring Semester Begins*  
January 20, 2010
- *Choir Seminar*  
February 19 & 20
- *Children’s Ministry Conference*  
March 12 & 13
- *College Day*  
April 16
- *Graduation Week*  
May 3 - May 7
- *Wednesday Rally*  
Dr. Shelton Smith  
May 5
- *Graduation Banquet*  
Dr. Phil Hulgin  
May 6
- *Commencement*  
May 7

## The President's Perspective



Several years ago, my brother and I had the chance to minister in Alaska during the winter months. That was our first invitation to Alaska, and I was excited to be there just a few weeks before the start of the great Iditarod dogsled race.

On the last leg of our flight from Salt Lake City to Anchorage, the stewardess spoke to a stocky gentleman behind me and assured him that his dogs were onboard. I was excited that behind me sat a real life, dogsled musher. I looked up over the seat and asked the man if he was entered

into the Iditarod. He acknowledged he was, and I followed up with a second question: "Have you ever done very well in the race?" I knew I had asked the wrong question when people in the same row started looking at each other. The man only spoke one line: "My name is Rick Swenson."

That is all he had to say for anyone from Alaska to know the answer to my question - for Rick Swenson, still to this day, is the all time winner of that famous 1049 mile dogsled race. He is known as the "King of the Iditarod", and his name simply says: "I have won this long enduring race 5 times."

At 59 years of age, Rick Swenson has completed 26 Iditarod races, and he is signed up for Iditarod XXXVIII this winter.

Endurance...yes, that is the life of a musher. Endurance should also be the trait of a Christian. "I've fought a good fight" says Paul. Another place is recorded "I press toward the mark." The Christian life is not a dash, it is a marathon. The Christian life is not a weekend seminar, it is a lifetime commitment to Christ.

Name recognition...that may never in this life happen for the Christian. But the One we serve has the greatest of all recognition. "And his name shall be called Wonderful...and thou shalt call his name Jesus."

P.S. Although, because of our departure my conversation with Rick Swenson was brief, I sure am glad that I had a gospel tract in my pocket that day.



## Helping in the Orient

**O**ur ministry in China began 27 years ago when the Lord laid the burden of this vast region of precious souls on the hearts of my wife, Melody and myself.

Heritage became a part of my life when in the late 1980's Dr. Russell Dennis, Sr. helped me finish the needed Master of Arts to assist in my ministry in China as an English teaching missionary.

We went over to China as fledgling missionaries, and God has helped us to spend 25 years in teaching the Chinese and in pastoring churches in three locations. The people are so needy and very steeped in their mystical religions, yet with time and patience the Gospel does reach their hearts.

Only a few years ago, Heritage again was a great help in furthering my influence in the country. I called Russell Dennis, Jr., and spoke to him about the need for higher level documentation for my ministry. This came at a very critical time, and Heritage assisted me by bestowing an honorary Doctor's degree. This degree, which may seem a small thing to some, proved greatly beneficial to our ministry.

Although I was thousands of miles away, I heard of the challenges to the college. I called several times to encourage the administration, and I thank the Lord that men have committed themselves to continue this important ministry.

Heritage still remains a help to us. Some people may think of this college as only training young people...but I am an example of the benefits a good Bible college can be to others in the Lord's work.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your work and ministry is vital and a great blessing to so many!

In Christ,

Dr. Wayne Purcell  
[waynepurcell@gmail.com](mailto:waynepurcell@gmail.com)



*He who does most, lives most. He who lives most, gives most.*

*- Eddie Rickenbacker*

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## Meet Our Students

**C**assie Surface was saved in 2005 during a revival in her Christian school. That summer, at Hoosier Hills Baptist Camp she surrendered to full time ministry, and began planning to serve the Lord with her life.

A couple of years later Cassie, as a part-time student at Heritage Baptist College, married her husband Justin, and together they have continued to serve the Lord.

Justin has three more semesters before he finishes his Bible degree, and Cassie has gone on to become a full time student. The

SWS (student wife scholarship) has allowed her to continue her studies.



Along with her classes, Cassie helps in the local Christian school, and looks forward to the day that she can use her education degree in a full time manner.

“We are so thankful for our preacher, Pastor Kent Kirchmeyer, our church, and for all those who have made our training experience at Heritage Baptist College such a blessing.”

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### Children's Ministry Conference

Do you want to have exciting Sunday School and Children's classes? Plan to attend and send your teachers to learn proven ways of successful teaching and presenting the Gospel. Better teaching = Interested students.

**Date: March 12 - 13**

**Time: Friday evening and ½ day Saturday**

**Place: Heritage Baptist College**

**Speaker: Dr. & Mrs. Bobby Brown**