



# The Bagpipeline

THE NEWSLETTER OF PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

JUNE 6, 2003

## Fleximester journey through Colorado River basin offers experiences of a lifetime

By Hal Milam

From the deserts of Arizona to the snow-capped mountains of Colorado, two professors and a group of PC students experienced the awesome splendor and diversity of the American Southwest during a “fleximester” odyssey of discovery out west this spring.

According to biology professor Dr. Mike Rischbieter, who led the group alongside fellow biology professor Dr. Ron Zimmerman, the educational experience centered on the ecology, geology, and paleontology of the Colorado River basin in several states, including Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado.

Students who endured and learned from the adventure included Amy Autterson, Sean Bragan, Emily Cook, Will Glace, Ben Kacos, Michael Long, Libba Mattison, Lauren Newton, Barbara Stelling, and James Stetson.

The group’s three-week journey began with a flight to Las Vegas, Nev., where they took two rented vans to the Hoover Dam over the Colorado River into Arizona and over to the Sunset Crater National Monument northeast of Flagstaff, Ariz. From there, they ventured north to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, where they spent several days, including a grueling six-and-half-mile hike in the desert to Plateau Point overlooking the Colorado River.

“We all survived it,” Rischbieter said matter-of-factly.

The group then ventured northeast to the Arches National Park near Moab, Utah — home to a series of sandstone arches carved by time into the landscape of the eastern Utah desert. The next stop along their quest — Douglas Pass near Grand Junction, Colo. — provided an abundant number of finds, said Rischbieter.

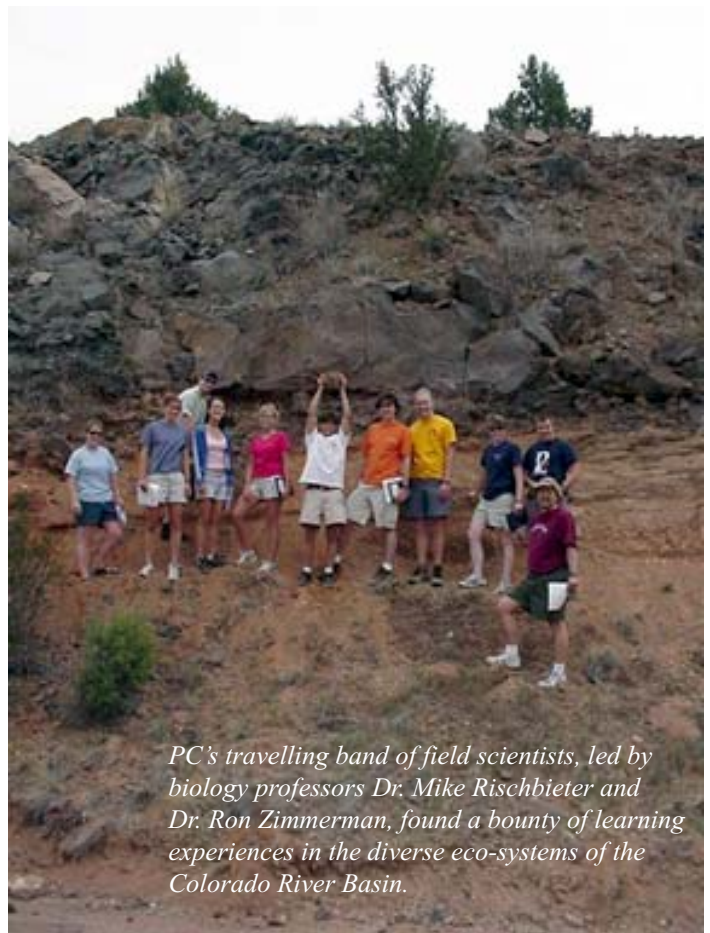
“We found an incredible number of reptile and fish fossils there,” he said. “And we definitely brought some of that back.”

Later, in the Ashley National Forest, also in Colorado, students experienced the amazing differences in ecological systems in the region, going from desert to snow-capped mountains and from scrub bushes to evergreen Douglas firs and spruce.

“We went from a desert environment to snow in a matter of hours,” said Rischbieter. “There were incredible contrasts.”

From there, they drove back into western Utah to a dig-it-yourself fossil quarry in the desert, where each person found their very own trilobite fossil and Bragan found a live rattlesnake.

It wasn’t the only frightening incident encountered by the adventurers during their quest for knowledge.



*PC’s travelling band of field scientists, led by biology professors Dr. Mike Rischbieter and Dr. Ron Zimmerman, found a bounty of learning experiences in the diverse eco-systems of the Colorado River Basin.*

“On the way to the Great Basin National Park in Nevada, we got caught in a sandstorm,” said Rischbieter. “We could barely see the van in front of us. That was one of the scariest things I’ve ever been in.”

Afterwards, the travelers again encountered snow in the Nevada mountains, where they reached elevations of 11,000 feet above sea level. They also ventured to the north rim of the Grand Canyon for a look at the scenic vistas and to Bryce Canyon National Park for more looks at the amazing natural world in the American Southwest.

► See *Journey* on Page 3

# Alumnus returns to PC as athletic director

William Beeland “Bee” Carlton, a 1976 graduate of Presbyterian College, will return to campus this summer as the new director of athletics.

Carlton replaces Valerie Sheley who resigned her position in February. Dr. Richard Newman, chair of the physical education department, has guided the Blue Hose program as interim director of athletics for the past three months.

“We conducted a national search that generated a large number of highly qualified candidates to locate the proper individual to guide the direction of the PC athletic program,” said college president Dr. John Griffith. “That spoke to the quality of an athletic program that exists in a highly respected academic setting.

“Bee Carlton rose to the top of the process because of his strong personal commitment to athletics, his strong leadership and management abilities, and his commitment to academic integrity. He is a person of high energy who has a commanding presence and a quick wit. We are extremely excited about the skills that he brings to a Blue Hose athletics program steeped in rich tradition,” he added. “These are traits shared by Dick Newman, who stepped in and did a magnificent job of leading our program through a wonderful spring season.”

Carlton comes to PC from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, where, for the past six years, he has gained extensive athletic and academic administration experience. He is currently the director of systems engineering and operations research academic programs, managing a staff of more than 30. He has also served as the primary liaison between coaches, athletic administration, and academic administration for the execution of athletic programs. His duties have included competition coordination and ensuring that the academy’s student-athletes met university and NCAA eligibility standards.

“I am just overwhelmed with excitement about returning to the PC family,” Carlton said. “I am humbled and honored by this selection. It has been a dream of mine to be able to come back to PC and give back to the institution that means so much to me. I look forward to being able to reconnect with old friends and meet new friends. This is a great opportunity for me and my family. I am ready to roll up my sleeves and be a part of the team.”

The opportunity to lead a department of athletics - and to do so at an institution with high standards and lofty ambitions - was a tremendous attraction, Carlton said.

“Athletics is such an important part of learning life lessons as a young person. Being able to make sure that our young student-athletes have the opportunity to excel in all aspects of campus life plays a major role in their development as a whole,” he said. “My job is to make sure that each one of our student-athletes



**Bee Carlton**

from freshman to senior, from cross-country runner to softball player have the opportunity to learn the life lessons that PC offers.”

Carlton has served since 1997 as the head officer representative to the Army Sprint football team and is the former assistant officer representative to the NCAA Division I Army football team. He maintained close contact with student-athletes as the officer-in-charge of the U.S. Military Academy Fellowship of Christian Athletes, coordinating, supervising, and leading weekly devotionals, small group Bible studies, and Christian activities.

As the chairman of the West Point Golf Course Advisory Council, Carlton assisted the Army golf coach in ensuring the facility meets standards to support recruiting and competition for the program.

A 1976 graduate of Presbyterian College, Carlton was captain of the Blue Hose football team during his senior season. A three-year letterman, he was the first All-South Atlantic Conference player from PC.

In addition to his military credentials and PC degree, Carlton holds a masters degree in operations research from Georgia Tech and a Ph.D. in operations research from the University of Texas at Austin.

Carlton said the growth of the athletic department and the success of teams it fields in NCAA Division II was attractive to him as a candidate.

“When I was in school, the athletic department had six athletic teams. The expansion of athletic programs and the addition of quality athletic facilities brings great pride to the school, the community, and our student-athletes. It shows the commitment that the school has to athletics. The athletic facilities at PC are very impressive, even compared to the facilities that are here at West Point.

“Each of the athletic programs – from women’s soccer to golf – have given our athletic department and institution the national recognition that we love to see. Our objective is for our athletic teams to compete on the national level and consistently be successful on the field of competition.”

Carlton inherits a program with 13 varsity sports. PC coaches who were part of the search committee that brought him to campus said they are excited about the addition.

“As a coach, I am impressed with his leadership style,” said Brian Purcell, head women’s soccer coach and PC alumnus. “I’m excited about the opportunity to work with him and see what someone with his extensive background can do to improve our athletic department and lead us in the future.”

“As a alumna, I am pleased that PC was able to hire one of its own for such an important position at the institution,” added Leigh Irwin, head women’s basketball coach. “His personality and leadership skills will be a perfect fit for our athletic department.”

Gregg Nibert, who coached the Blue Hose men’s basketball team to the NCAA Division II Sweet Sixteen this spring, said Carlton’s knowledge of PC coupled with his background at the U.S. Military Academy combine to make him a strong athletic director.

## Schedule for Greenville Dining Hall June 8-15

### Sunday, June 8

Breakfast – Closed  
Lunch – Closed  
Dinner – 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

### Monday, June 9

Breakfast – 7-8 a.m.  
Lunch – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, June 10

Breakfast – 7-8 a.m.  
Lunch – 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, June 11

Breakfast – 7-8 a.m.  
Lunch – 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

### Thursday, June 12

Breakfast – 7-8 a.m.  
Lunch – 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

### Friday, June 13

Breakfast – 7-8 a.m.  
Lunch – Noon to 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

### Saturday, June 14

Breakfast – 7-8 a.m.  
Lunch – Closed  
Dinner – 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

### Sunday, June 15

Breakfast – 7-8 a.m.  
Lunch – Noon to 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Congratulations to the following students who were initiated this spring into the Tau Psi Chapter of the biology honor society, Beta Beta Beta.

Sarah Bryant  
Allison Burns  
Ashley Cooke  
Jennifer Corpening  
Laurel Delaney  
Sean Eisshofer  
Lucas Faulkenberry  
Anne Gilmore  
Jeffrey Haigler  
Mary Douglass Hayne  
Lauren Hays  
Megan Hennigan  
Graeme Lauriston  
Mark McEntire  
Christopher Middendorf  
Matthew O,Leary  
Megan Owens  
Jessica Parker  
Aimee Sherman  
Benjamin Stein  
Sarah Woods

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## Journey, from Page 1

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All the while keeping field notebooks to record and capture their experiences.

“No question, being in the field is the way to go for natural scientists,” said Rischbieter. “It’s real and you can see it and touch it. There is nothing fake about it.”

There was also nothing false about the manner in which the voyage changed the student participants.

“One of the neatest things that happened was seeing how the students reacted when we got back to Las Vegas,” Rischbieter said. “When we first started out, they were a little reluctant to go and kind of wanted to stay and hang around Vegas. When we approached the city at the end of our trip, they commented on the ecological nightmare that Las Vegas represents – all the smog and the ills and evils of a city out in the desert where it doesn’t belong.”

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## Carlton, from Page 2

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“I feel that he will lead us and guide us with his great love and passion for PC and his strong leadership qualities,” Nibert said.

Carlton’s duties will include overall management of the athletic department and NCAA compliance issues. He will represent PC at South Atlantic Conference functions and through such college organizations as the Scotsman Club.

“Bee is an excellent fit for the college and the PC athletic program. We’re fortunate to have hired such a strong leader,”

said Alan R. Smith, director of the PC Scotsman Club and a former teammate of Carlton’s. “At the same time, Bee is also fortunate to step into a program that features some of the most talented and collegial coaches in the nation. I look forward to working with him on fund-raising for athletic scholarships through the Scotsman Club.”

Carlton and his wife, the former Laura Sholar, have three daughters, Leigh, Lindsay, and Claire.

# Harrison joins college admissions staff

By Hal Milam

Ivey Harrison remembers one person who greatly influenced her decision to come to Presbyterian College – an admissions counselor named Stephanie Winslett.

“She just had a personality that people gravitated towards,” said Harrison. “She made my college search a lot less stressful.”

Now, after following in Winslett’s footsteps as an alumna of PC, the 2003 graduate will also take a job in the college’s Office of Admissions as a counselor.

“It was not a tough transition into college,” Harrison said. “I know what the counselors did for me and what I wanted to do – help high school kids make the transition to college.”

And, so, Harrison makes an equally adept transition from college to the working world by serving as an ambassador for her alma mater and helping high school students make an important choice in their lives.

“We are basking in the luxury of having Ivey join us in the Office of Admissions,” said Dana Paul, vice president for



**Ivey Harrison**

enrollment. “She was a wonderful student assistant and an invaluable member of Stirlings.”

Working first in the financial aid office and later in admissions as a student worker, Harrison gained some firsthand knowledge about the process of recruiting students for PC. When she first came to PC, for instance, she said she knew little about credit hours and graduation requirements and has learned the importance of giving prospective students more than just a tour of the college’s facilities.

“It really helped me a lot in the training process,” she said.

Paul agreed.

“Ivey’s depth of experience coming into this job is phenomenal,” he said. “She really is not a neophyte. She’s off to a running start and that’s always an advantage starting with that level of experience as a new counselor.”

The Rome, Ga., native already understands, for example, just how important admissions is to the life of any college.

“Admissions has a lot to do with the whole school,” she said. “It really is that important to the entire institution.”

Harrison will work primarily with students throughout South Carolina and said she is both excited and a little nervous about the “travel season” this fall as she takes to the road and actively recruits future Blue Hose. Even as she takes to the road on that quest, she plans for PC to remain home for a while.

“I would like to stay here for a long time,” she said, adding she would eventually like to become a guidance counselor and help high school students plan their future from another angle.

## College examines Blue Dot sticker system

The Greek system that your parents knew has changed!

In response to fervent litigation against Greek letter organizations, national chapters and their insurance carriers have demanded new standards for risk management. In response, colleges and universities have struggled to establish policies that conform to recent case law and the demands for stringent risk management required by national organizations.

PC is no different. To survive in this hyper-litigious time, and to accommodate a now-universal agreement from all Greek organizations to register social events beforehand, provide security, and ensure against underage drinking, the college adopted the Blue Dot sticker system.

Recommended by a Greek Life taskforce created by president Dr. John Griffith, the Blue Dot was implemented during the 2002-2003 academic year with three goals in mind – to ensure that Fraternity Court is a safe environment where students feel welcome to engage in social activities, to reduce liability for Greek letter organizations while ensuring compliance with risk management guidelines established by insurance companies and national organizations, and to generate funds that will be used to improve the Greek community through educational initiatives.

Here is how funds were spent during 2002-2003:

- Security officers — \$5,626.38
- Speakers – \$4,450

- Greek Leadership Retreat — \$423.34
- Training for Intervention Procedures — \$1,600
- Alcohol Awareness Week activities — \$283.02
- AlcoholEdu education course — \$2,000
- Band and social event at Fraternity Court — \$2,000

The balance of funds remaining from the Blue Dot purchases is \$9,903.53.

This year, the college focused its spending from the Blue Dot on producing responsible members of the Greek community. While some Greeks may have preferred that all of the funds be spent on bands or improvements to the fraternity houses, this was not the program’s main purpose, according to Marc Shook, assistant dean of students for Greek and residence life.

The money that is left in the Blue Dot account will go to funding needs that are identified by the Greek community. Funding priorities voiced by the Interfraternity Council include repaving at Fraternity Court, installing new front doors on fraternity houses with key punch locks, and re-keying the fraternity houses. The college will accomplish these goals during the summer as time and funding allows.

# Bagipeline Bonus!

*More stunning pictures from the biology department's Fleximester trip to the American Southwest*



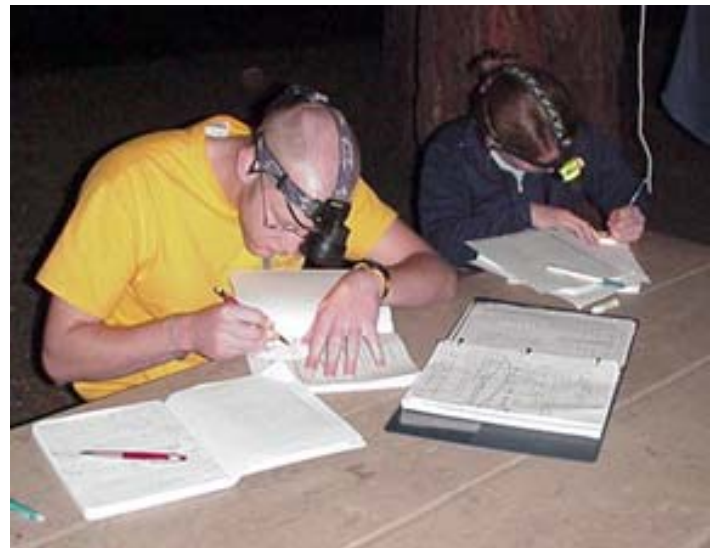
*Sean Bragan poses for effect inside a dinosaur museum in Utah.*



*Students climb cliffs high above the Colorado River.*



*Hours away from desert conditions, the group enjoyed a snowball battle in the Rocky Mountains.*



*Students were also scientists as they routinely recorded their observations and experiences in field notebooks.*

**Photos courtesy of Dr. Mike Rischbieter**

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## Blue Dot, from Page 4

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According to Shook, nearly 600 students purchased a Blue Dot during the 2002-2003 year and said, when implemented properly, helps monitor those who are allowed admission to registered events, while keeping Fraternity Court open to those in the college community who support the Greek system by purchasing a sticker. The success of the Blue Dot, he said, is

contingent upon its acceptance by the organizations that enforce it.

Shook said the college will continue to examine the Blue Dot system and that it will be a major topic of discussion during this summer's meeting of the Greek Advisory Board.