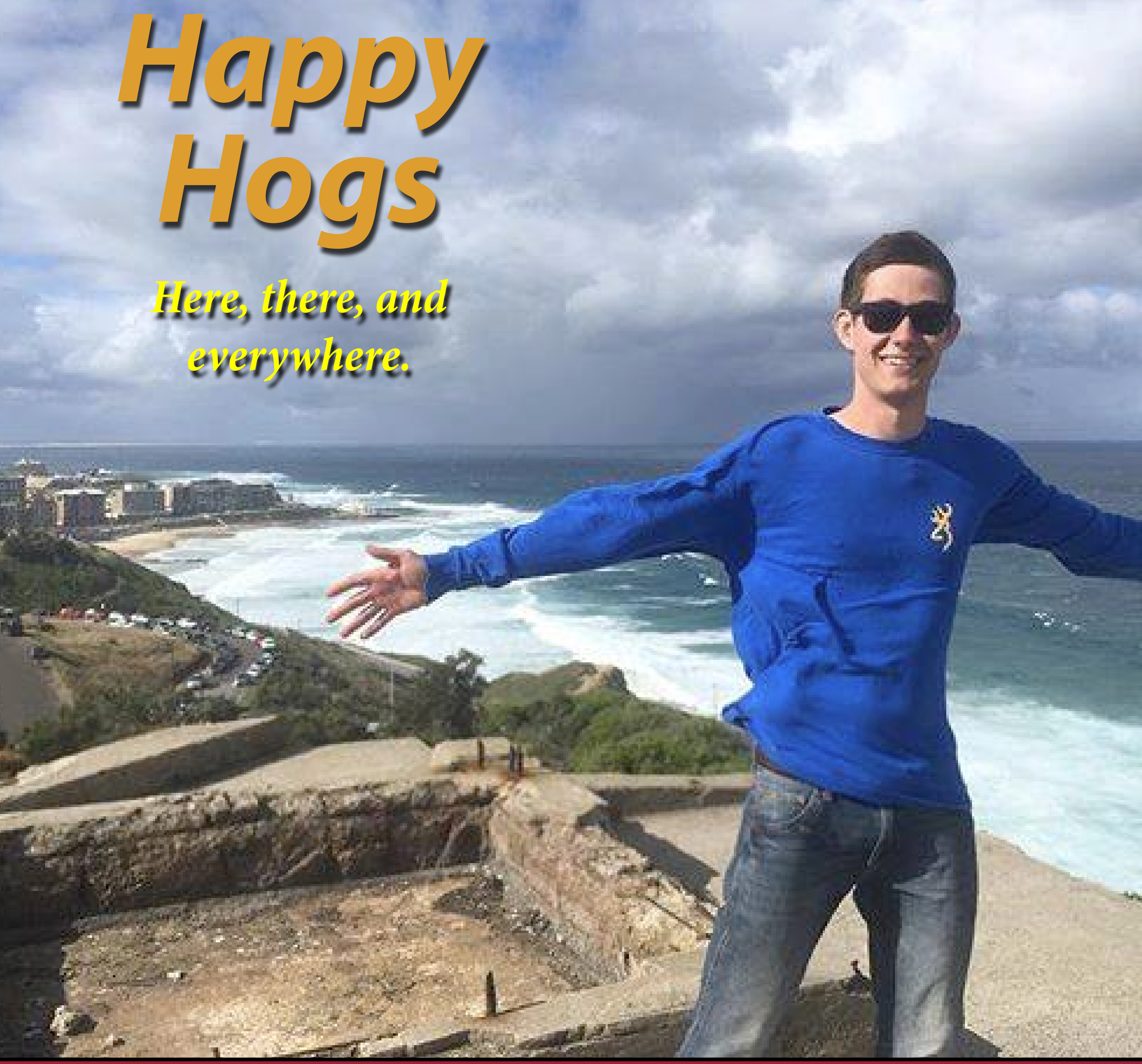
Issue 03 | Spring 2018

The Economic Elevator

Happy Hogs

Here, there, and everywhere.



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
1871
Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences

UofA DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

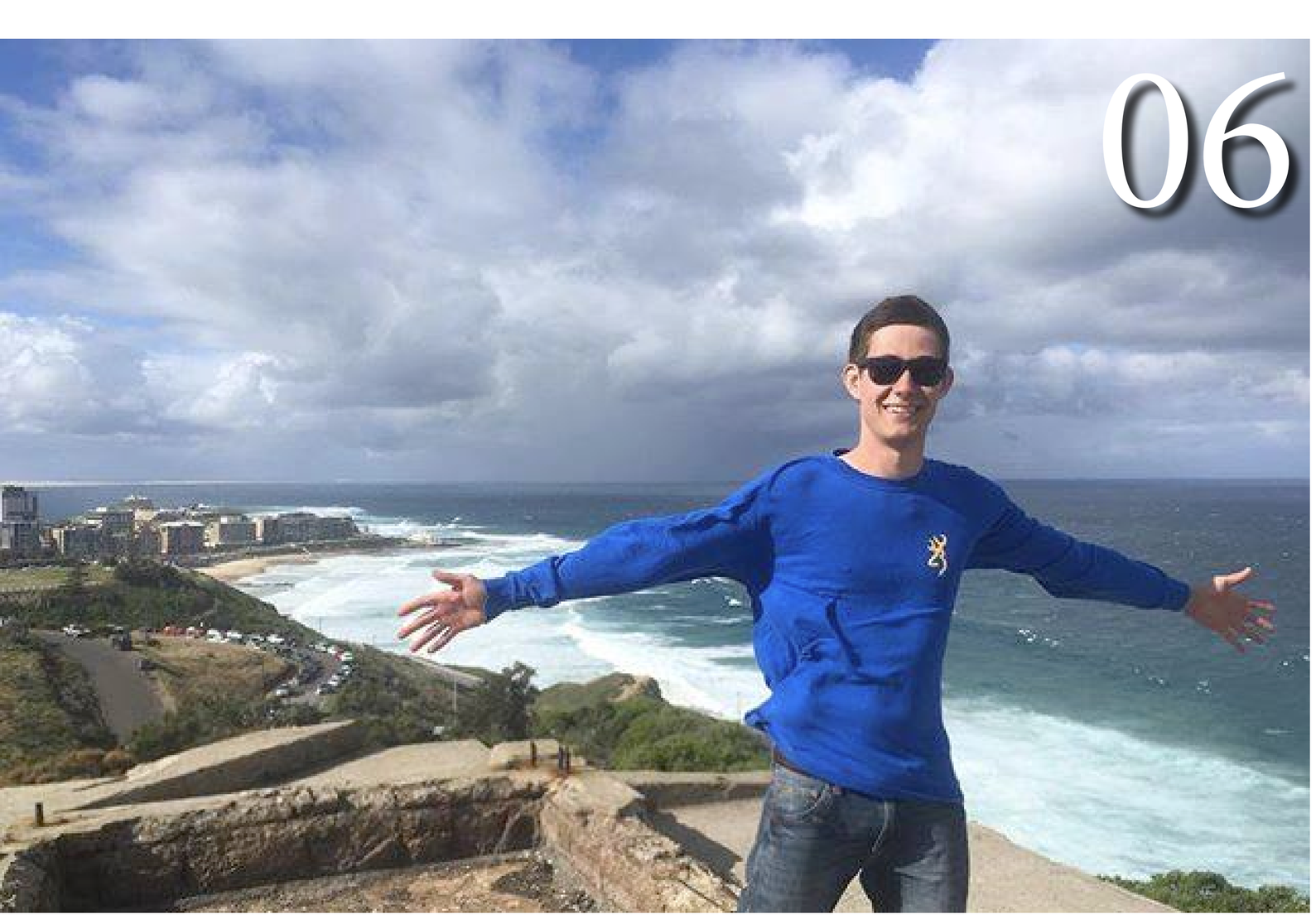
The Economic Elevator

Issue 03 | Spring 2018

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
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University of Arkansas System

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences
Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness



Editor-in-chief: Ryan Ruiz

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AEAB department chair: Robert Bacon

10

AEAB Grad Writes Book on Historical Tennessee Trial

Mac Campbell, a Bumpers College and School of Law graduate, is senior vice president of the Lincoln Policy Group in Washington, D.C. and a published author.

Matthew May Abroad

International experiences prove to be defining.

Contributors | 1

From the Department Chair | 2

Upcoming Events | 2

December 2017 Commencement | 3

2017 Thesis Defenses | 4

Alumni in EAAE Competition | 5

Matthew May Abroad | 6

Distinguished Alumni Award | 7

Mac Campbell, Published Alum | 10

Ahrendsen, Outstanding Int'l Edu. | 12

Ahrendsen, Hoyt H. Purvis Award | 13

Popp, Bumpers Service Award | 14

Division of Agriculture Honors | 15

Maloch, Marshall Scholarship | 16

Celebrating Halbrook | 17

The Backpage | 19

From the AEAB Department Chair



Robert Bacon
AEAB Department Chair

Welcome back to campus to all of our students, faculty, and staff. The new year is underway and with it comes many exciting changes.

The most far-reaching adjustment comes from a transition in departmental leadership. In late December 2017, Dr. Steve Halbrook stepped down from his position as department head to assume a role as full-time faculty. Dr. Halbrook led the department for over nine years, and as a colleague, I have witnessed his leadership and determination in growing the Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness department and faculty. Under his guidance, the department has flourished, and I look forward to picking up where he left off.

For those who do not know me, I am Dr. Robert Bacon. I joined the faculty of the Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences (CSES) department in 1984 as a wheat breeder, and in 2016, I accepted the role of CSES department head. When I was asked to assume Dr. Halbrook's role, I did not hesitate to undertake the responsibility because I knew Dr. Halbrook had successfully guided the department and everything was in order. In addition, as a long-time faculty member, I am well-acquainted with the AEAB faculty and know their abilities. Confident with the support of faculty and staff, I plan to continue the strengths of this department and intend to further the progress that already has been made.

Speaking of progress, our upward trend in enrollment continues. Our department is currently home to 304 undergraduate and 29 graduate students, marking a modest increase over the 2017 fall semester. Additionally, during the 2017 academic year, our department granted a total of 65 B.S. and 20 M.S. degrees.

The following pages highlight the achievements of our gifted students, faculty, and staff. I encourage everyone to take a peek at what your colleagues have been up to. I look forward to this new and exciting challenge and wish all tremendous success this semester.

Dr. Robert Bacon

Upcoming Events

- **AR Teacher Corps Deadline**
  Date: 3/4
  Time: 11:59 p.m.
  Location: N/A

- **Gilman Scholarship Deadline**
  Date: 3/6
  Time: Noon
  Location: N/A

- **Connecting Bumpers**
  Date: 3/6
  Time: 5:30–7 p.m.
  Location: N/A

- **IPSA Scholarship Deadline**
  Date: 3/31
  Time: Noon
  Location: N/A

- **Ready Razorback**
  Date: 4/28
  Time: TBA
  Location: Fayetteville Campus

December 2017
Graduate Student Commencement



From Left to Right: Dr. Halbrook, Dr. Popp, Isaac Engram, Matthew Coale, Lee Fox, Emily Hasenauer, Dr. Rainey, and Lauren Hodge (Patrick Schierlang not pictured).

The Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department of the University of Arkansas congratulates our students who participated in December 2017 Commencement!

2017 Completed Thesis Defenses



Roslina Ali

Advisors: Drs. Eric Wailes, Alvaro Durand-Morat, Jeff Luckstead, and Valerie Hunt-Whiteside (not pictured)

"Economic and Policy Evaluations and Impacts of the National Rice Development Policy Strategies in Malaysia: Self-sufficiency, International Trade, and Food Security"



Matthew Coale

Advisor: Dr. Lanier Nalley

"The Economic Benefits of the South African Agricultural Research Council's Wheat Breeding Program: 1992–2015"



Florence Wanjiru Muthee

Advisor: Dr. Eric Wailes

"Modeling the Impact of National Development Strategies for the East African Rice Sector"



From left, Francesca Allievi, Marei Houpert, Rina Vuciterna, Giordano Ruggeri, and Domenico Dentoni following the competition.

AEAB Grads Win Second Place at EAAE Case Study Competition

BY RYAN RUIZ

Marei Houpert, graduate of the Atlantis program and current public policy Ph.D. student, Rina Vuciterna, graduate of the AGECMS program, and Giordano Ruggeri, spring 2017 visiting Ph.D. scholar, participated in the European Association of Agricultural Economists Congress Student Case Study Competition.

Their response to the case study titled "The Thrive of Community Supported Agriculture Networks: Changing Global Systems or Enjoying Islands of Happiness?" earned them second place in the event.

(continued on page 6)

EAAE Case Study

continued from page 5

The case study competition, the first of its kind held at the EAAE Congress meeting in Parma, Italy, challenges students, researchers, and teachers to create and cultivate concrete solutions to issues that threaten the food-people-planet relationship.

Participants receive a short case study related to a challenging sustainability topic in food and agriculture and must present an analysis that addresses how to remedy issues that are at the center of current public debates.

Houpert cites the close, personal relationship with her teammates for the group's success. "We all have different backgrounds, but we all share a passion for agricultural economics. On top of that, we had great support from Dr. Luckstead," she stated.

Regarding the novel experience EAAE Student Case Study Competition, Houpert added, "It was a lot of fun to apply knowledge in a competitive setting, rather than regular assignments."

In addition to Houpert, Vuciterna, and Ruggeri's performance in the case study competition, Dr. Jeff Luckstead and Stephen Devadoss presented to the EAAE Congress their paper titled "Implications of CETA for Canadian, EU, and US Processed Food Markets." ▪



May in Australia pictured atop the first RAAF radar sight, which began operation in 1942.

Matthew May Abroad

Matthew May, agricultural business major, spent his fall semester studying at the University of Newcastle in Australia through the University of Arkansas exchange program.

The Institute for the International Education of Students (IES) surveyed alumni who studied abroad. IES survey results showed that participation in an international program was a defining experience that impacts an individual's life long after the program is over. Students surveyed after studying abroad have reported increased levels of self-confidence and experience higher degrees of success when furthering education or applying for jobs.

Our International Programs Office offers several study abroad opportunities. Click here to find out more details if you are interested in studying abroad. ▪



Young Alumni Award winners Danielle and Nate Lyman with Dr. Lanier Nalley and Dr. Steve Halbrook.

8th Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards

The Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department hosted its 8th annual Distinguished Alumni Award ceremony Friday, Oct. 20. This event was created in 2010 to highlight AEAB alumni's outstanding contributions to the state of Arkansas. Since this award's inception, it has been expanded to include a "Young Alumni" category, which notices the achievements of the future leaders of the agribusiness industry.

Recipients are nominated and selected on by department faculty. This year's Distinguished Alumni Award winner was Randall E. Pope, and the Young Alumni Award was awarded to Nathan and Danielle Lyman.

The event was hosted by Dr. Steve Halbrook and guest speakers included alumni Fendley Ragland and distinguished professor and L.C. Carter Endowed Chair Dr. Eric Wailes.

(continued on page 8)

Danielle Lyman

Young Alumni Award



Danielle Lyman is a Senior Director of Private Brands for Walmart U.S., responsible for the Service Deli and Fresh Bakery business. She drives quality, innovation, and strategic development for some of the most powerful brands in the world.

Danielle began her professional career as a Walmart merchant leading successful teams in the electronics, toys, and apparel departments. Danielle's passion for sustainability led her to take a short break from the business world to obtain a Master's of Science in Agricultural Economics from the University of Arkansas. Danielle put her newfound experience and knowledge to use when she returned to Walmart as a produce merchant. Danielle spent three years leading a broad cross-functional team in produce prior to her current role.



Nate Lyman

Young Alumni Award

Nate Lyman is a Senior Director of Merchandising Operations for Walmart U.S. He leads analytics and strategic development for the private brand food, consumables, and health and wellness business.

Before starting his career at Walmart, Nate supported the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness as a research associate working with Dr. Lanier Nalley. His research in rice production economics and varietal optimization brought him to all corners of Arkansas and the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. He holds an M.S. in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness from the University of Arkansas, and a B.S. in Economics and a B.A. in International Relations from Michigan State University.



Randall E. Pope

Distinguished Alumni Award

Randall Pope was raised on his family's farm in Northeast Arkansas. Following two years of military service, he received his bachelor's degree in agricultural business from Arkansas State University and his master's degree in agricultural economics from the University of Arkansas. His diverse career spans several decades and has enabled him to do business across the world.

Randall joined the Real Estate Investment Department of The Prudential Insurance Company of America in 1977. During the next 13 years, he held functional and administrative assignments in Little Rock, Arkansas; Washington, North Carolina; Orlando, Florida; Newark, New Jersey; and Sacramento, California.

In March 1990, Randall was appointed Senior Vice President of The Prudential, where he was responsible for their $3 billion agricultural debt and equity investment portfolio. In March 1994, he became Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager for all The Prudential's real estate debt and equity investments, a portfolio of over $30 billion.

In January 1995, Randall became a principal and partner in The Westchester Group, a national asset and investment management company headquartered in Champaign, Illinois. At that time, he assumed the roles of President and Chief Operating Officer of the company. In this capacity, Randall was responsible for the day to day management of the company, asset and business strategy, asset performance monitoring and reporting, research, and underwriting of new investments, and all agricultural investment activity. In 2007, Randall started Westchester's first international investment initiative in agriculture when he began doing business in Australia.

In September 2010, TIAA-CREF acquired a majority interest in Westchester, and Randall became President and Chief Executive Officer of the company, responsible for all business and investment operations. Since that time, the company has grown to $8 billion of assets under management with a staff of 106 people in 17 offices around the globe.

Randall is a former professional member of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, a former member of the AgriFinance Magazine editorial advisory board, a Director of Partners for Agricultural Literacy, a frequent speaker at National and International Pension Fund and Agricultural Conferences, and a past member of the National Agricultural Credit Committee. He has been a frequent group leader at the Harvard Executive Agribusiness seminar and visiting professor at several agricultural colleges. ▪

AEAB Scholarship Donation

Donations from businesses and alumni are of tremendous benefit to the programs and facilities we provide. Donated funds go directly to the scholarships that we offer our students. All contributions, large and small, allow us to present an opportunity to scholars who have the intellectual but not the financial means. Please consider making a gift to our program today. ▪

DONATE NOW



Mac Campbell is senior vice president of the Lincoln Policy Group in Washington, D.C. and a published author.

Agricultural Economics and Law Grad Campbell Writes Book on Historical Tennessee Trial

BY ROBBY EDWARDS

Mac Campbell, a two-time graduate of the University of Arkansas with degrees in agricultural economics and law, has written a book about a historical murder case in Tennessee involving Andrew Jackson. *The Great Magness Trial: The Killing of Patton Anderson, the Trial of the Magness Family, & the Pursuit of Justice on the Tennessee Frontier* has been published by BrayBree Publishing, which focuses on books related to Southern history.

Campbell is senior vice president of the Lincoln Policy Group, a public policy consulting and lobbying firm in Washington, D.C. He earned his bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from the U of A's Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences in 1996, and earned law degrees from the U of A in 1998 and Georgetown University in 2003.

(continued on page 11)

Mac Campbell Writes Book

continued from page 10

The Magness trial was one of the most celebrated murder cases in early Tennessee history. The jacket description says: "David Magness shot and killed Major Patton Anderson in Shelbyville in 1810. His father, Jonathan Magness, and brother Perrygreen Magness were arrested as accomplices.

Though considered a violent drunkard, Anderson was a personal friend of Andrew Jackson, who exerted his considerable influence to avenge Anderson's death. The involvement of prominent figures such as Jackson, Felix Grundy, and Thomas Hart Benton heightened the public's interest in the trial's outcome. It tested the ability of jurors to carry out their duties in the face of powerful men seeking the conviction of the defendants.

"I was searching for documents that might confirm dates of my family's migration to Arkansas," said Campbell of what drew him to the case. "When I found original notes in the Library of Congress related to a trial involving my ancestors, it turned out there were several important historical figures involved. Because the notes had been misfiled for decades, they had not been deeply researched or incorporated into studies of American luminaries who were involved. I was inspired to write the story when I discovered the long-lost notes related to some of the legendary figures of our history."

That was just the starting point. Researching the case was the most difficult task in telling the story.

"I had to find other records to complete the story and put it in context," said Campbell. "It was fortunate some of the county court documents survived the courthouse burnings of the civil war, and I could obtain them from various places in Tennessee. Finding the documents was just the beginning. Reading and transcribing handwritten court documents from the early 19th Century is difficult and time-consuming."

"I was inspired to write the story when I discovered the long-lost notes related to some of the legendary figures of our history."

With Lincoln Policy Group, Campbell helps citizens exercise the fifth guarantee under the First Amendment—the right to petition the government for the redress of grievances.

"The legislative process is complex," said Campbell. "Congressional rules can be confusing and drafting good law is intricate work. I advocate for my clients before the government and help them understand how to be more effective advocates for themselves."

He said growing up around agriculture working on small farms in his hometown of Harrison and studying agricultural economics provided a strong foundation for his career.

"I was in FFA and competed in the state contests with enough success that I was recruited by Associate Dean [Charlene] Mooty to matriculate to [what was then] the College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences," said Campbell. "I can't count the times I have reflected on lessons I learned from Drs. Cochran, Dixon, Redfern, Goodwin Sr., Ahrendsen, and Wailes throughout my career. I believe a degree in agricultural economics may be the perfect degree for someone who wants to understand the political, practical, and economic impacts of the public policy ideas considered by Congress."

Campbell is also tied to the college's history. In April 1996, a dedication program was held on campus in honor of the college being renamed for Dale Bumpers, former Arkansas governor and U.S. senator. Bumpers was present with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman serving as the keynote speaker.

"I was the student escort for Secretary Glickman the day we dedicated the college as Bumpers College," said Campbell. "It was a fun perk, and I had a memorable day interacting with two of the wittiest politicians of our age." ■



Ahrendsen presenting a keynote address on farm structure and finance at the Large Farm Management Conference in Kiev, Ukraine.

Ahrendsen Wins Bumpers College's Outstanding International Education Award

Bruce Ahrendsen, a professor of agricultural economics and agribusiness, has been named winner of the Outstanding International Education Award for 2017 in the U of A's Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

Ahrendsen serves on the U of A International Education Advisory Council and is the Department of Agricultural Economic and Agribusiness representative on Bumpers College's International Programs Committee.

In 1998, Ahrendsen helped initiate the international agribusiness concentration of the master's degree curriculum in agricultural economics, which included an exchange program with the Scottish Agricultural College and later Ghent University in Belgium.

In 2008, he was part of a group awarded a U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) grant for $448,000 to establish and operate the Atlantis Double M.S. Degree Program.

The Atlantis Program allows students to earn master's degrees in agricultural economics from the U of A and a joint international master's degree in rural development (IMRD) from five leading universities in Europe. Students study in both the U.S. and Europe. Ahrendsen has been a member of the Management Board of the Atlantis and IMRD Programs, which is comprised of the consortium of five universities in Europe, the U of A, and universities in Spain, China, India, South Africa, Vietnam, and South Korea.

(continued on page 13)

International Education

continued from page 12

His nomination included the following comment from a student: "Although the exposure to different universities, teaching styles, and cultures is one the most stimulating aspects of the Atlantis Program, the movement among universities can also be difficult. However, Dr. Ahrendsen and others at the University of Arkansas created a welcoming environment to minimize any difficulty in transitioning to the university. Dr. Ahrendsen was persistent in making sure students received the information they needed and he was champion for any concerns they may have at the management board meetings. I am further convinced that many U.S. students only considered studying abroad after Dr. Ahrendsen was able to help them overcome their concerns of participating in an international program."

Ahrendsen also serves on the Board of the International Network for the MBA in Agribusiness and Commerce (AGRIMBA). AGRIMBA has developed and reviewed International MBA in Agribusiness programs at more than 10 leading universities in Central and Eastern Europe and Asia. He also leads intensive, real-time agribusiness case-based study weeks in in the International MBA program at the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine in Kiev, the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, and University of Zagreb in Croatia. ■



Ahrendsen presented with the Hoyt H. Purvis Award by Kim LaScola Needy, Dean of the Graduate School and International Education.

Ahrendsen Receives 2017 Hoyt Purvis Award

Bruce Ahrendsen is the university faculty recipient of the 2017 Hoyt H. Purvis Award for Service in International Education. The award, which recognizes a university faculty member for his or her outstanding service to the field of international education, was established to honor Purvis, a professor emeritus of journalism and international relations, for his contributions to and advocacy for international education at the University of Arkansas. He was the first recipient of the award which was begun in spring 2016. Ahrendsen, who has played a critical role in the development and operation of the university's Atlantis Program, was an obvious selection.

(continued on page 14)

2017 Hoyt Purvis Award

continued from page 13

The Atlantis Program allows graduate students to earn a master's degree in agricultural economics from the University of Arkansas and a master's degree in rural development, which is awarded jointly by Ghent University, Humboldt University, Agrocampus Ouest, University of Pisa, and the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra.

The Atlantis Program has enhanced the quality and reputation of the University of Arkansas, by attracting exceptional students from the United States and around the world to the U of A. Additionally, the program has brought international faculty to Fayetteville and has allowed U of A faculty to serve as visiting scholars at universities worldwide. He has also served as a faculty advisor to numerous international students over the span of his career at the U of A, many of whom have been sponsored by Fulbright Program scholarships, USAID scholarships, and other notable international scholarships.

"Dr. Ahrendsen has a passion for international education and has had extensive leadership experience and service in international education that has promoted mutual understanding between peoples of many nations and the University of Arkansas," said Leslie Edgar, assistant dean for student programs in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences. ■



Dr. Michael Popp receives his 20-Year Service Award.

Bumpers College Faculty Service Awards

BY ROBBY EDWARDS

Faculty members in the U of A's Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences were recognized with service awards recently at the annual faculty awards reception at Fayetteville's Hilton Garden Inn.

In addition to presenting Dr. Bruce Ahrendsen with the Outstanding International Education Award, interim dean Lona Robertson also recognized the long-term contributions of serveral other faculty in Bumpers College.

Dr. Michael Popp received the prestigious 20-Year Award, and Dr. Jennie Popp, interim associate dean of Honors College and AEAB professor, earned the Outstanding Honors Mentor award. ■



Interim dean Lona Robertson presents Dr. Nalley with the Jack G. Justus Award for Teaching Excellence.

Division of Agriculture Honorsd Accomplishments in Research, Teaching, and Extension Endeavors

BY FRED MILLER

High achievements in research, education, support, and other efforts were recognized during the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture and Bumpers College Agriculture Awards Luncheon. The annual event, held this year at the Division of Agriculture's new Don Tyson Center for Agricultural Sciences in Fayetteville, honors outstanding work of division faculty and staff toward supporting and improving agricultural industries and life in Arkansas and beyond.

Lawton Lanier Nalley, associate professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, was recognized for his innovative teaching and course design with the Jack G. Justus Award for Teaching Excellence.

The John W. White Awards, the centerpieces of the awards program, were presented to three individuals and one team. The Discovery Farm Team received the John W. White Outstanding Team Award. The team is led by Mike Daniels and Andrew Sharpley, both professors in the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences. Other members of the team include Barber, Brye, cotton agronomist Bill Robertson, agricultural engineers Chris Henry and Karl VanDevender, and agricultural economist Jennie Popp. ▪



Maloch Receives Marshall Scholarship

Victoria Maloch, a 2017 Honors College Bumpers & AEAB graduate with a bachelor's degree in agricultural business and a minor in agricultural communications, has been awarded the nationally prestigious Marshall Scholarship.

She will pursue a master's degree in evidence-based social intervention and policy evaluation at Oxford University beginning in the fall. Maloch, who is from Magnolia, is one of just 43 students nationally to earn the Marshall Scholarship.

"I am very honored to be selected as a Marshall Scholar and excited about attending the University of Oxford. The program at Oxford will provide me with the basic framework to be successful in public service and the public policy arena," Maloch said. "With an abiding interest in rural issues and plans to eventually hold political office in the U.S., it is important that I have knowledge of a variety of topic areas and their intersection with social policy. This is an amazing opportunity."

University of Arkansas Chancellor Joe Steinmetz wrote a faculty letter of support for Maloch for the award after she had taken his honors seminar Flagship U.

"Victoria's joy in studying agricultural policy and issues related to higher education is palpable and contagious," said Steinmetz. "She will make an outstandingly singular Marshall Scholar, one who will flourish at Oxford while bringing a very different perspective to the table because she evaluates policy and service through the lens of agriculture and rural populations. I had no doubt she would be selected. This will be an amazing experience for her, and it will be good for our state when she returns to work in Arkansas."

Maloch points to Steinmetz and other faculty who have provided valuable assistance along the way, including professors Jill Rucker, her thesis chair; Jennie Popp, her adviser both in honors and agriculture; Lona Robertson, interim dean of Bumpers College, who insisted she apply for the Truman Scholarship; and Jeff Miller, whom she credits with helping prepare her to run for National FFA Office.

Maloch graduated *summa cum laude* last spring and has been a Harry S. Truman Scholar, was secretary of National FFA for a year, received Bumpers College's John W. White Outstanding Student Award, interned with the White House Domestic Policy Council, was named Outstanding Senior in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, and has served on the Student Alumni Board and with the Volunteer Action Center.

She currently works as a Truman-Albright Fellow in the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, where she serves as a staff member for the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services.

UA has produced eight Marshall Scholars with the last two coming from Bumpers College: Maloch (2017) and Mike Norton (2014). UA has also produced eight Truman Scholars since 2012 with three coming from Bumpers College - Sam Harris (2017), Maloch (2016) and Norton (2012). ▪



Celebrating Dr. Steve Halbrook!

Dr. Steve Halbrook was appointed head of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness in 2008. After serving in this role with distinction for nine years, in late December 2017, Halbrook decided to step down from his post as department head and assume a role as full-time professor. Over the years, Halbrook has gone to tremendous lengths to elevate the status of the department and to mold it into the prestigious, top-tier educational unit it is today.

To commemorate his numerous achievements and to express the collective gratitude of the faculty, staff, alumni, and students, this article will reflect on the career and contributions made by Steve Halbrook.

Halbrook joined the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness in July 2008. He earned his B.A. in Economics from the University of Arkansas, a Ph.D. in Economics from Iowa State University, and a J.D. from the Drake University School of Law. He is admitted to the practice of law in the District of Columbia.

Prior to his current position as department head, he served as vice president of Farm Foundation in Oak Brook, Illinois, worked as an economist for two federal agencies, served as executive vice president of the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board, and had his own law practice. He has worked with all facets of the agricultural community, bringing producers, agribusiness, academic, government, and community leaders together to examine critical policy issues.

Additionally, he has done extensive work on biofuels and structural change in the agricultural sector. He has worked on numerous policy issues ranging from consumer credit to dairy marketing regulation. Halbrook is the immediate past president of the American Agricultural Law Association and has served on the governing board of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association.

Since his appointment as department head, Halbrook has made momentous strides to further the department across numerous strata. Under his watch, student enrollment in this department has boomed. In his first semester as department head, enrollment numbers totaled 182 combined undergraduate and graduate students. At the end of his tenure, the combined enrollment reached 327 students, representing an increase of almost 80%. Along with the expansion of enrollment, grant dollars surged in this department as well, accumulating millions of dollars over Halbrook's incumbency. This grant money, the lifeblood of all departments and institutions, has funded countless research projects that contribute to the economic and environmental well-being of the state of Arkansas and the world as a whole.

(continued on page 18)

Celebrating Halbrook

continued from page 17

In keeping up with rising enrollment numbers and the high research output demands of an R1 institution, Halbrook was responsible for bringing on a wave of talented and committed faculty members. The quality of these faculty hires is demonstrated by the performance metrics by which faculty and departments are judged. Compared against similar departments in the nation, the Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department of the University of Arkansas ranks among the highest performers in terms of published research, grant dollars, citations, and awards.

On the topic of growing the department, Dr. Rodolfo Nayga, Distinguished Professor and Tyson Chair in Food Policy Economics, states: "I think Steve [Halbrook] was instrumental in getting more resources to the department, especially new faculty positions. I came aboard a semester or so after Steve and since then, we've had several hires including Kent [Kovacs], QQ [Huang], Jeff [Luckstead], Di [Fang], Alvaro [Durand-Morat], Nathan [Kemper], and Brad [Isbell] in the research and teaching side. We have a relatively productive department that is ranked highly nationwide in research productivity, citations, and grants on a per faculty basis. He also was a champion in promoting the department to university administrators and various stakeholders."

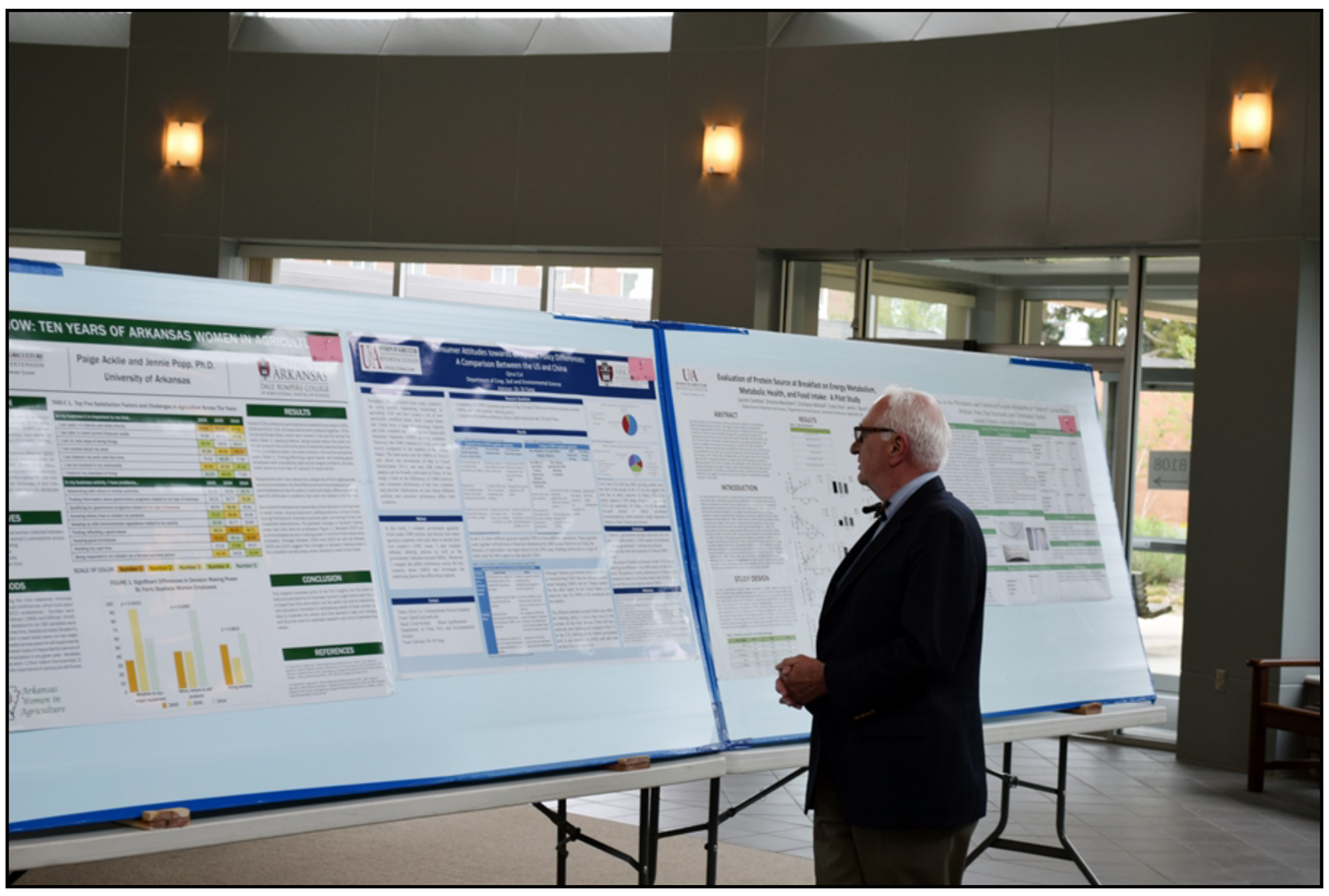
"He also was a champion in promoting the department to university administrators and various stakeholders."

Halbrook's contributions extend beyond sheer dollars and cents. Not to be overlooked, he made a conscious commitment to the soft skills that true professionals employ. Halbrook was dedicated to building a sense of camaraderie in the department and made himself available to support the department emotionally as well.

The advances of this department as a result of Halbrook's efforts will last for years to come and will be expressed in the endeavors of current and future students.

Although stepping down from his role as department head, Halbrook will assume a role as professor for the Fall 2018 semester. His course Food 101: Economics, Ecology, Sociology, and Politics of Food will introduce students to the evolving relationships between food and humankind. In this course, students will explore the ecological and political costs of food and consider contemporary questions about our food systems.

The Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness thanks Steve Halbrook for his innumerable efforts during his tenure as department head. ■



Halbrook reviews research displays in the AFLS Building submitted by students in the Bumpers College's Honors Student Board Poster Competition.

The Backpage

The Backpage contains blurbs contributed by our audience—including current students, alumni, and others. Letters to the editor are welcome, but they are limited to 200 words. The author's name will be printed with the letter. Additionally, letters should not contain obscene or libelous language. Submitted letters are printed pending editorial approval.

Submissions should be contributed to the editor-in-chief:

Ryan Ruiz
ryanruiz@uark.edu
218C AGRI BLDG.

***The Economic Elevator's* Purpose.**
To broadcast University of Arkansas' AEAB Department news to the community.

Corrections.
The Economic Elevator corrects its mistakes. If you believe the *The Economic Elevator* made a mistake in this or a previous issue, please let us know by contacting the editor-in-chief at ryanruiz@uark.edu

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Snail mail: 1 University of Arkansas / Fayetteville, AR 72701 / AGRI BLDG.

RIDDLES

1. I have keys but no locks. I have space but no room. You can enter but not exit. What am I?

2. What word in the dictionary is spelled incorrectly?

3. Two people are playing chess. They play five games. Each person wins three games. How?

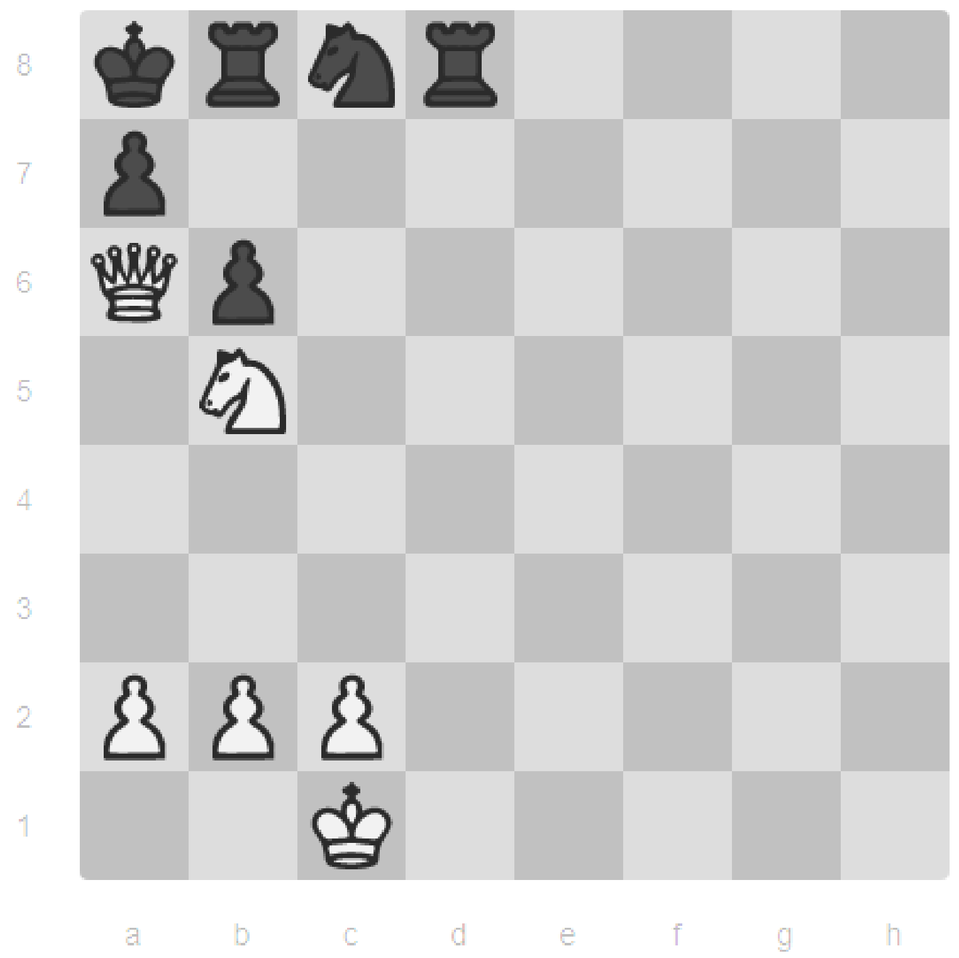
4. What belongs to you but others use it more than you do?

5. What do you see once in a year, twice in a week, and never in a day?

PUZZLES

1. A milkman has 2 empty jugs: a 3 gallon jug and a 5 gallon jug. How can he measure exactly 1 gallon without wasting any milk?

2. White can put Black in checkmate using *one* move. What is that move?



RIDDLE ANSWERS: 1) A keyboard. 2) Incorrectly. 3) They weren't playing each other. 4) Your name. 5) The letter "e."
PUZZLE ANSWERS: 1) The milkman must fill the 3 gallon jug, then empty the contents into the 5 gallon jug. Next, the milkman fills the 3 gallon jug before pouring two gallons into the 5 gallon jug, filling it. The milk remaining in the 3 gallon jug is precisely 1 gallon. 2) Move White's Knight from B5 to C7 (Nc7#).