

# KNIGHTLY NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Serving the Community Since 1951

Spring 2008

## Atlanta Chapter Mardi Gras Ball Draws Full House

**I**t was all that!  
And more!

The Atlanta Chapter of St. Augustine High School's Alumni Association drew over two hundred Mardi Gras revelers to the Kappa Center in Atlanta. The ball, held in mid-February, is a major fundraiser for the Atlanta Chapter.

St. Augustine Alumni, their spouses, and friends gathered around over forty lavishly decorated tables to eat, drink and celebrate Mardi Gras, New Orleans style.

"This year's ball was our greatest yet," said Lucien Parfaite, '81, incoming president of the Georgia Knights chapter. "We moved to a bigger facility this year

because we could see interest growing and the anticipated crowd swelling," Parfaite said.

Approximately forty Purple Knights formed the core of the Atlanta group.

"The number of Purple Knights who bought tables for the affair was astounding," Ray Tillman, '76, event coordinator said. "Forty two tables were sold. Couple that with the many New Orleanians living in Atlanta and you have a full house," Tillman said.

Tillman and his wife Georgia were the (elected) king and queen of the Mardi Gras Ball.

Live entertainment topped the evening off with the former lead singer of the group Pieces of a Dream taking center stage. D.J. Soul, a popular Atlanta disk jockey, rocked the Alpha Kappa Center

from 11:00 P.M. until 1:00 A.M.

"This was one of the greatest Mardi Gras balls I've ever attended," Paul Beaulieu, Alumni Director, said. "It was truly elegant and the St. Aug spirit and camaraderie filled the ballroom."

The alumni chapter members asked all alumni to consider making next year's ball.

You won't regret it!



Ray Tillman, '76 and wife Georgia, 2008  
Mardi Gras King and Queen

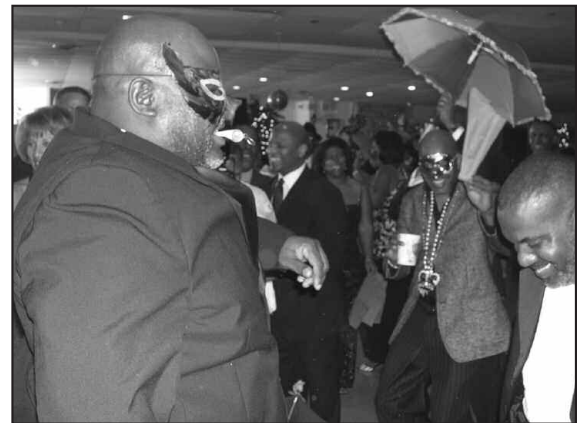


Robert Cooper, '84 and wife Phoenicia



From left: John Valteau, '84, Marlon Francois, '84,  
Wendell Hammond, '84

Happy Mardi Gras!!



# ANNUAL GIVING CONTRIBUTORS

January 1, 2007 to January 31, 2008

\* Special Recognition of Grand Club Members

Thank you to the following individuals, foundations and corporations who have made payments to the St. Augustine High School Annual Giving Campaign.

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*January 1, 2007 to January 31, 2008*

Many thanks to those who continue to pay their pledge and make contributions to the Capital Campaign.

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# Friends of St. Aug Fundraiser Nets \$10,000

The Friends of St. Augustine Inc., a non-profit organization committed to generating funds for St. Augustine High School recently donated \$10,000.00 to the high school as a result of a fundraising "super" Super Bowl football pool. The cost to participate in the pool was \$1,000.00 with each quarter paying \$20,000.00 to the winner.

Numbers for the pool were drawn at a reception hosted by Dr. Dwight McKenna, '58, at his Leah and George McKenna Museum of Art.

"The Super Bowl pool and reception was a huge success," said Wayne Wright, '62, a member of the Friends of St. Augustine, Inc. "I want to thank all who participated and made this contribution to St. Augustine High School possible," Wright said.

Funds generated by Friends of St. Aug go toward the funding of two \$4,000.00 per year scholarships named in honor of Fr. Matthew J. O'Rourke, S.S.J., first principal of St. Aug, and former St. Aug teacher and legendary basketball coach, George "Nick" Connor.

Members of the Friends of St. Augustine, Inc. are Frank Gannett, '59, Raymond Heisser, '58, Alvin Richard, '61, and Wayne Wright.

# Cornerstone Club Gathers For NFC-AFC Championship Games

St. Augustine High School's Alumni Association's Cornerstone Club hosted the showing of the NFC-AFC Championship Football Games which determined which teams would meet in the Super Bowl. Donations to the

Cornerstone Club exceeded \$1,000.00, which goes to fund an annual scholarship sponsored by members of the Cornerstone Club.

"We appreciate the support of our alumni and friends for this annual Cornerstone Club event," said Lawrence Winchester, '55, president of the Cornerstone Club.

The Cornerstone Club consists of graduates from the 50's, 60's, and 70's. Graduates who are interested in joining the Cornerstone Club should contact the Alumni Office at (504) 940-5980.

*From left Gregory Gaines, '65, Cameron Gaston, '77, C. J. Charbonnet, '73*



St. Augustine High School says "Rest in Peace" to our friend and former coworker, **Jonathan A. Louis, '73**, Executive Director of Alumni Relations and Institutional Advancement. Jon worked with us Pre-Katrina in the Alumni and Development Office. He spent numerous hours spearheading a 6 million dollar Capital Campaign for the building of the new Warren and Hilda Donald Business and Technology Center and campus renovations. As we heard from his wife Many, "As many of you may have heard, Jonathan died on Fri.

*February 15, 6 months to the day of the accident. However, he did have the opportunity to come home for two weeks, without any complications. He was participating in his therapies, progressing very well, and determined to get on with our lives.*

*Unfortunately this will not happen. However, we all have many great memories of Jonathan." We will always remember Jon's hard work and dedication as we continue to build on his legacy - "The Proud Tradition".*



*From left: Ray Heisser, '58, Kenneth Arthur, '59, Macklin Simmons, '66*



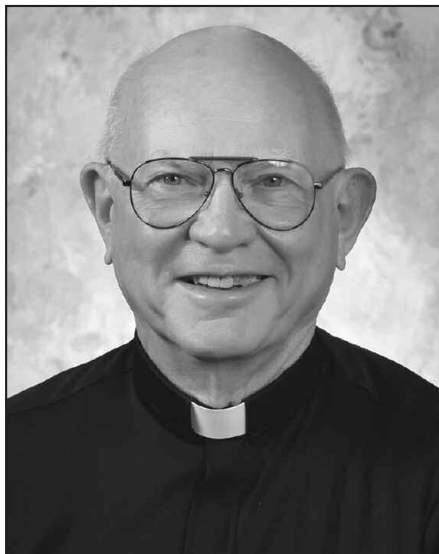
# 2008 HOMECOMING DATE SET

St. Augustine High School will celebrate its 2008 Homecoming October 11, 2008. The schedule of alumni activities includes the Alumni Homecoming Gala, Friday October 10th, the Alumni Father Charles Hall Award Luncheon, Wednesday, October 8th, and the Alumni Awards Ceremony, Tuesday October 7th.

This year, classes ending in “three” and “eight” will be celebrating their class reunions. Alumni interested in serving as class captains should contact the alumni office at (504) 940-5980.

## *Congratulations Fr. Atwood*

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Fr. Wilbur Atwood, SSJ, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. St. Augustine High School is very grateful for his many years of service as teacher, librarian and rector of the Josephite Faculty House. Ad Multos Annos.



*Fr. Wilbur Atwood, S.S.J.*

## *KNIGHTLY NEWS*

Knightly News is published by the St. Augustine High School Alumni Association and is mailed to alumni, faculty, friends, and educational institutions.

We welcome comments and suggestions of our readers as well as the submission of material for future publication.

### **STAFF**

**Paul Beaulieu**

*Director of Alumni Affairs*

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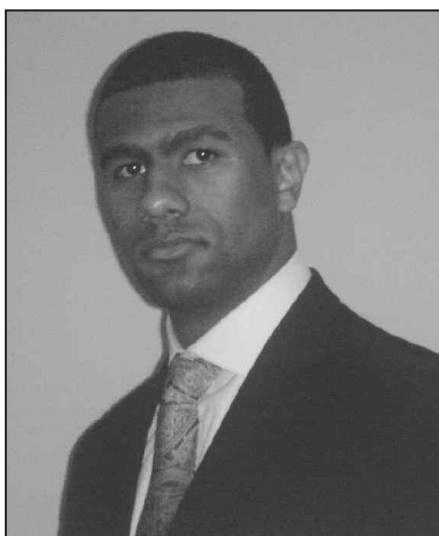
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## St. Aug Grad, Aulston Taylor Joins President's Staff

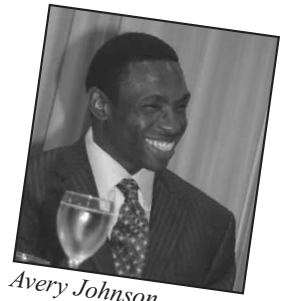
**A**ulston Taylor, class of 1998, has been named Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations for St. Augustine High School. Mr. Taylor's responsibilities include fundraising, marketing the school and interacting with alumni.

“One of my goals is to market the school's history and current talents to attract investors across the United States.” Taylor said. Aulston comes to St. Aug from ESPN where he last served as Account Executive.



*Aulston Taylor*

# San Antonio Spurs Honor Dallas Mavericks' Avery Johnson



*Avery Johnson*

In an emotional ceremony – complete with a video tribute and reflections by San Antonio Spurs luminaries – the Dallas Mavericks' coach, Avery Johnson, '83, had his No. 6 Spurs jersey unveiled in the rafters of the AT&T Center, alongside those of his pals David Robinson and Sean Elliott, who were in attendance.



*From Left: Mark Boucree, '85, Aulston Taylor, '98, Dallas Mavericks Head Coach, Avery Johnson, '83, H. Jamon Barrow, '91, Kenny Chenier, '81*

Of all the great moments he had in nine seasons with the San Antonio Spurs, Avery had no trou-

ble picking out his standout memories.

And "the shot" could do no better than tie for first.

"There was a family in San Antonio whose home burned down near Christmas,"

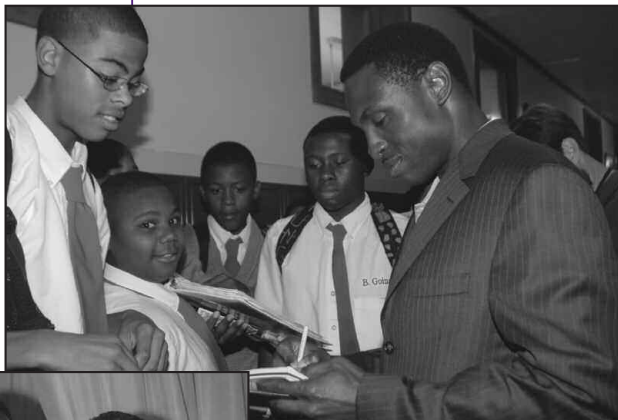
Johnson said. "And I took their kids Christmas shopping. I can remember holding that little boy's hand at Toys R Us. I would say moments like that – and that shot on the court – kind of encapsulated my career."

When the jersey was unveiled, Johnson got choked up, as he did several times during the 45-minute ceremony after the Spurs had beaten the Los Angeles Clippers.

Johnson said he hoped his career could be in some small way inspire others who aren't necessarily the biggest, fastest or prettiest.

## Avery Johnson Gala Nets \$25,000

The St. Augustine High School Alumni Advisory Board paid tribute to Avery Johnson, '83, head basketball coach of the Dallas Mavericks of the National Basketball Association. The gala, "A Tribute to a Native Son", was held in September at the Ritz Carlton in New Orleans.



*Avery and St. Aug students*

"In the essence of brotherhood and helping to secure the future of one of the most prestigious all male high schools in the country, we are grateful to those who attended this event for Avery," said



Kenny Chenier, president of the Alumni Advisory Board.

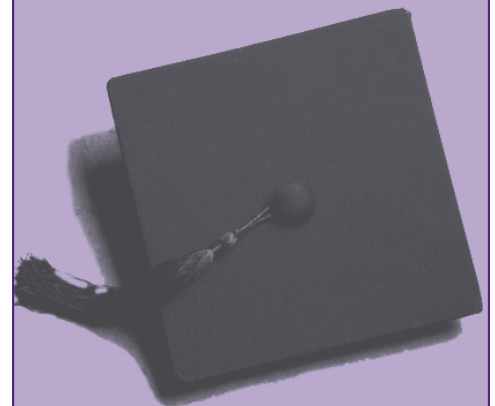
The event, which was also a fundraiser, netted \$25,000.00. The proceeds will be used for scholarships by the Alumni Advisory Board.

*Avery receives Award from then Councilman Michael Darnell, '69*

## SCHOOL GRADUATION SET FOR MAY 21, 2008

St. Augustine High School will hold its graduation exercise, Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 3:00 P.M. at St. Joseph's Church, 1908 Tulane Avenue.

The class of 2008 is the 54th graduating class from St. Augustine High School.



# KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

**Mr. Derek D. Bardell, MLA, MA, '92**, was inducted into the Xavier University of Louisiana Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. Derek was also named to the 2007 Gambit Weekly Magazine's 40 Under 40.

**Mr. and Mrs. H. Jamon Barrow, '91**, are the proud parents of Angelle Monai Barrow born on Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 12:01 pm weighing 5lbs, 11oz.

**Coach Clifford E. Barthé, '76**, and the St. Augustine High School Basketball Team were featured in the Times Picayune for their outstanding 2007-2008 season. Quoting Coach Barthé and his players, "*It's been a tough road back for St. Augustine, paved with hard work and sacrifice*". Congratulations to the Purple Knight Varsity Basketball Team who became the District 10-5A Champions.

**Burton E. Burns, '71**, was also featured in the Times Picayune for his outstanding work as Associate Head Coach and Running Backs Coach for Alabama's Crimson Tide under the leadership of Coach Nick Saban.

**Ronald V. Burns, '69**, President and CEO of BMG Enterprises, which includes Quick Courier Services and Global Parking Systems, has been named the Sugar Bowl Committee's President for the 2008-09 year. Burns, a Sugar Bowl member since 1984, becomes the organization's 51st President. He is the second African-American President in the organization's history. His uncle, Dr. Leonard Burns, served as president in 1994.

**Mr. Wayne D. Carriere, '81**, a recent author of the book, "*Inspirational Perspectives of a Katrina Storm Victim*"; published by Llumina Press, Ingram, and Baker & Taylor.

**Mr. Errol G. Duplessis, '57**, is the chief architect and the President and Chief Executive Officer of Lake Rawlings. He is a certified PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer. He has taught scuba diving since 1978 and has been with the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) since 1995.

**Mr. Jamel C. Fleming, '04**, was awarded the Intel Scholarship for the 2007-2008 Academic Year to help with educational expenses at Bethune-Cookman University.

**Mr. and Mrs. Derek M. Frick, '85**, are the proud parents of Zachary Mikal Frick born on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 at 12:50 pm, weighing 7lbs, 7oz.

**Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Henry George, III, '97**, are the proud parents of twins, Theodore Henry George, IV (boy) and Carin Clark George (girl) born at Piedmont Hospital on September 19, 2007.

**Mr. Eugene B. M. Green, '07**, has earned the Boy Scouts of America's highest honor. He has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout (earned by only 5% of the boys who start scouting).

**Darius "Deezle" Harrison, '93**, has an impressive music career and has worked with artists, such as, Troy Hudson, TQ, Lil Wayne, Destiny's Child, Donald Harrison, Tavis Smiley and Johnathan Demme. He has his own record label, "Drum Major Music". He also has six platinum records under his belt and a Grammy Nomination.

**Bro. Herman Johnson, OP, '72**, was elected in September 2007 by the friars of St. Anthony of Padua Priory as their 20<sup>th</sup> Prior. This is the first time in the 791 year history of the Dominican friars that a cooperater brother has been elected a local superior.

**Yuri Jones, '07**, performed in Hollywood, CA, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual White Carpet Christmas Charity Fundraiser on Thursday, December 20, 2007, a benefit for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Los Angeles.

**Noah Mason, '03**, earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Communication Major. He is also a Dean's List student, was awarded the Clifford Tyree Scholarship, the American Commons Club Scholarship and was inducted into the Phi Alpha Theta Fraternity (History). He participated in Leadershape and volunteered with the Denison Community Association A-Team Committee. Noah is

currently a grad student at Auburn University and the recipient of an Assistantship.

**Rashaad M. Nance, Sr., '96**, is the proud father of Rashaad M. Nance, Jr.

**Justin T. Nicholas, '00**, has the position of Student Government President for Delgado Community College, City Park Campus. He recently presented Fr. Joseph Doyle, SSJ, with several gifts when Fr. Doyle offered the Invocation and Benediction at Delgado's Commencement on December 14, 2007.

**Randall J. Pannell, '90**, and Lori Bevolette's marriage was solemnized on October 27, 2007 at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church. Fr. Michael Jacques, S.S.E. and Fr. Jeffery Ott, O.P., '84, were the con-celebrants. The couple will reside in New Orleans.

**Conun G. Pappas, '07**, has completed his first semester on the Dean's List at Manhattan School of Music. He had a chance to play with Donald Harrison at the Blue Bay Jazz Festival in St. Croix, V.I. and the Cayenne Jazz Festival in French Guiana. He also performed with his trio at engagements in New York and New Orleans during the holidays.

**Darrin Pierce, '86**, has successfully won presidency for the Local Union 513, Dallas International Airport. He will represent Dallas (DFW), Austin (AUS), Houston (IAH), Albuquerque (ABQ) and New Orleans (MSY). He will also represent fuelers and title 2 mechanics.

**Rev. R. Tony Ricard, M.Th., M.Div., '82**, of Two Knights Publishing Company was the keynote speaker at the National Catholic Youth Conference in Columbus, Ohio, November 2007.

**Otis C. Robinson, Jr., '71**, holds the position of Senior Telecommunications Analyst, Installation and Maintenance at Abdullah Al Mubarak Air Base in Kuwait City, Kuwait for General Dynamics IT.

**Mr. Kael Louis Saloy, '04**, was named the first "*Mr. Dillard University*" at the Dillard University's Coronation Ball.



# IN MEMORIAM

Shane M. Bailey, '03  
Jarrett A. Bazile, '97  
John Brunious, Jr., '58  
Gregory J. Carson, '82, son of Marion J. Carson, '55  
Perry G. Dominguez, '81  
Charles G. Duplessis, '75  
Ernest J. DeFuentes, '56  
George L. Degrange, Jr., father of Gary M. Degrange, '73, Wayne M. Degrange, '81, and Wendell M. Degrange, '81  
Jules E. Frederick, Jr., '65  
Walter N. Ferrier, Jr., '66, father of Walter N. Ferrier, III, '89  
Joseph W. Goings, father of Reginald E. Goings, '83

Rita G. Heisser, mother of Raymond "Ray" Heisser, '58 and Verdell J. Heisser, '63  
Jonathan J. Louis, '73  
Joseph Osceola "Wydell" Misshore, Jr., father of Wydell M. Misshore, '77  
Miriam H. Reimonenq, volunteer, St. Augustine High School's Alumni Office  
George Robertson, '86  
Daisy Stewart, mother of Henry E. Stewart, '59, Larry J. Stewart, '62 and grandmother of Brian A. Stewart, '83  
Brandon "Bruno" Williams, '97  
Clifford L. Woods, Sr., father of Clifford L. Woods, Jr., '58  
James Wagner, Sr., father of James Wagner, Jr. '80 and grandfather of James Wagner, III, '08

## Crawfish Boil

**Date:** May 24, 2008  
**Time:** 2:00 - 6:00 P.M.  
**Location:** St. Aug Dining Hall.

Ticket prices are \$15.



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