

TRADITION NEVER DIES:

A Celebration of the

TOOMER'S OAKS



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JAY JACOBS
Special to
Opelika-Auburn News

As much as our tradition of rolling the oaks at Toomer's Corner is about ball games and victories, it's really about much more than that.

It's about making memories. It's about genuine fellowship. It's about common bonds and shared values. In a word, it's about family.

Family is what I think of first when reflecting on what our tradition of rolling the trees really means. I will never forget returning to Auburn on a chilly November night in 2010 with my wife, Angie, and our girls after an unforgettable day.

We had just watched Auburn complete the greatest comeback in school history. It was a day I will never forget, a day that made our first National Championship in 53 years possible.

By the time we returned from Tuscaloosa, we thought we had surely missed the opportunity to share the joy of that victory with the Auburn Family. Even if the crowds had gone home, we could at least soak in that glorious sight of the oaks draped in white after an Iron Bowl win. Much to our surprise, as we got closer to the in-



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News

tersection of College and Magnolia, traffic stood still. There was no place to park. The party was still going strong.

I remember how great it felt to see the joy on the faces of Auburn men and women who knew we were now just one more rolling away from our date with destiny. Yet most of all, I remember sharing it with Angie, Haley, Meagan and Jayne. That's what I remember most.

I also remember heading to Toomer's Corner after a huge win over No. 2 Florida in 2006, when Tre Smith scooped up a blocked punt and flipped over the goal line, setting off an eruption in Jordan-Hare Stadium. It was one of the most exciting wins in Jordan-Hare Stadium history. Yet what I remember most is that both of my sisters were in Auburn that day. We all

celebrated together at Toomer's Corner.

The final rolling of the historic oaks at Toomer's Corner after the A-Day Game on April 20 will be a bittersweet time, but I know that the Auburn spirit will prevail. Long after the trees are taken down, indeed long after we are all gone from this special place, the tradition will carry on. Even the strongest of trees eventually die, but traditions rooted this deeply in the hearts of so many people never do. That is what makes Auburn special. That is what makes us different.

It is telling that when the university sought input from the Auburn people on future plans for Toomer's Corner, more than 10,000 responded. Their voices were heard. The future vision they helped decide will be unveiled at the "final

roll" after the A-Day game.

Yes, it is a bittersweet moment in our history, but Auburn University and the City of Auburn got it right when they planned not a somber farewell but a celebration of our uniquely Auburn tradition. What better way to celebrate the many fond memories we all have at Toomer's than a block party and one last rolling?

I want to thank the City of Auburn, the Tree Preservation Committee and the many men and women who worked tirelessly to save our trees and then chart a new course to keep our tradition alive.

Their work, and our very special tradition, will outlive us all.

War Eagle!
Jay Jacobs

Final roll celebrates Toomer's past, present and future

They are more than trees. More than oak. More than leaves, bark and roots.

Anyone who thinks otherwise never chucked a roll of toilet paper at them or watched a toddler dance in the double-ply foliage like it was snow.

Anyone who believes the famed Toomer's Corner oaks just provide shade never stood under them.

Anyone who believes those trees are just pillars of wood never peered down College Street on a fall afternoon or evening and watched grown men and women act like children, without a care in the world.

Anyone who believes they can be killed doesn't fully understand life.

See, there's more to this world than what you can see, hear, smell, taste or touch. There are memories. And those never die.

Tradition never dies, either. But it does change, adapt.

To say once those enormous oaks are pulled up and discarded that there will be no more Toomer's Corner would be to say that since Alabama and Auburn don't play at Legion Field anymore, there is no Iron Bowl.

Quite the opposite, really. Just ask David Housel.

Auburn's former athletic director remembers Dec. 2, 1989 vividly. It was the first time Auburn hosted Alabama. It was the first time Auburn's "home game" wasn't played in Birmingham.

It was the first time, in his words, that Auburn controlled its own "athletic destiny."

"Because if somebody else can tell you where you play your home games," Housel said, "you're not in control of your program."

Auburn 30, No. 2 Alabama 20. Next stop: Toomer's.

"It was a grand and glorious

night," Housel said. "And there was a camaraderie, a feeling of unity. Auburn talks about being a family, and on that occasion — Dec. 2, 1989 — it was true. There will never be another day like that. There will never be another feeling like that."

What, exactly, was it like?

Well, you had to be there. Plain and simple.

"If you have to ask the question, you'll never understand the magnitude of it," Housel said. "You had to live through years and years and years — 40 years — of being forced to play in Birmingham. Forty years of being ridiculed when you went to the stadium by the parking attendants, by the ushers, by the concession salesmen, and being told, 'No, Auburn's not good enough, Auburn's not big enough, to host the Auburn-Alabama game.'"

Finally, Auburn got its chance and it won. A "catharsis," Housel said.

Everyone rushed to Toomer's to celebrate.

While there might not be another night like that one in 1989, or the one on Jan. 10, 2011, what they meant to Auburn people will live on.

And that's what Auburn fans are gathering to celebrate today as they roll those century-old oaks for the final time. They come to celebrate the past, present and future.

They come to remember the great times that thousands and thousands shared before them, and bridge the gap so thousands and thousands more will follow in the years and decades to come.

As we prepared this special section, I heard and read so many sto-



MIKE SZVETITZ
Sports Editor,
Opelika-Auburn News

ries about Toomer's Corner and what it means to people.

It's not just about celebrating Auburn's latest win. It's about celebrating together with family and friends.

You don't have to tell an Auburn fan what to do or where to go after something big happens on campus or with one of their athletic teams. They just know. It's ingrained in them — part of their DNA.

It's just the way it was, is and will continue to be.

Those trees are symbols of the Auburn people and spirit, I'm told. And going into my 10th football season and seeing what "rolling Toomer's Corner" means to them, I fully understand it.

It's not just an act, it's an anecdote. It's something you will tell your children's children about. Then, you can hand them a roll.

"You have to experience it," Housel said. "And Auburn has to matter for you to really understand and appreciate it."

Everyone has their favorite Toomer's memory. Everyone.

The BCS National Championship ... the night that will live forever in everyone's hearts and minds that was down there that night.

And some who weren't.

My father, who was at my house in Opelika that cold January night when Auburn beat Oregon in Glendale, Ariz., isn't an Auburn fan and had never been to east Alabama before we moved here in 2004, but that night even he felt the pull of Toomer's Corner.

He wanted to be down there to experience the history of the moment. Just like thousands of others.

It's a draw that can't be explained, just felt.

And while there will be some sadness felt today, there should also be some excitement for the new chapter in this great tradition.

Change is just a fact of life. Now, it's time to embrace it.

"All things human change," Housel said. "Those trees were going to die at some point — later rather than sooner, perhaps. But those trees, they're not what Auburn's all about. Auburn's a lot more than trees."

"Auburn people have been gathering at Toomer's Corner — they celebrated succession from the Union in 1861, they celebrated the election of President Barack Obama. Auburn people have been gathering at Toomer's Corner ever since there was a Toomer's Corner.

So none of that's going to change.

"And the trees? It hasn't been that long (that they've been rolled). In the late '70s, early '80s, they weren't rolling the trees, they were rolling the utility wires across Toomer's Corner. Then, when the city put those (wires) underground, then and only then, did they start rolling the trees."

"So traditions change. All things human change."

But Auburn will stay the same, Housel said.

"Auburn is more than two oak trees," he said. "It's been a great tradition there, but the time has come to move on and establish a new tradition."

A new tradition with the same spirit.

"The best," Housel said, "is yet to come."

MIKE SZVETITZ is sports editor of the Opelika-Auburn News. He may be reached at mszvetitz@oanow.com or 737-2513.

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Toomer's Corner has always been gathering place for Auburn people, fans

BY KRISTEN OLIVER
koliver@oanow.com

ness to some of the biggest celebrations the town and school have seen.

Thomas said she knew and grew up with the Lipscomb family, who were some of the original druggists in Auburn and one of Toomer's Drugstore's first owners.

"We used to go in there and always get lemonade," Thomas said. "They've always had the best lemonades."

Former Toomer's Drugstore owner McAdory Lipscomb told reporter Jackie Walburn of the Selma-Times Journal in 1978 that the rolling tradition started around the early 1960s.

Walburn quoted Lipscomb in 1978 saying, "It's stayed popular for whoopin' and hollerin' because of tradition and the 'small town atmosphere of Auburn.'"

One of the first known and organized celebrations at Toomer's Corner was in 1945, when students, faculty and townspeople alike gathered at the corner to celebrate the end of World War II.

"In the past, this was where people congregated to hear the news of the town, to discuss politics and college happenings," said Ellen Beard and Alice Cary Pick Gibson, former members of the Auburn Heritage Association, in the book.

As the school, first named Alabama Male College, The Alabama Polytechnic Institute and then Auburn University, grew in size and number, the nearby village grew as well, and Toomer's Corner was the place to gather dating all the way back to the late 1800s.

Main Street (what is now College Street) and Magnolia Avenue became the business district in the village, and

these streets were known even in the late 1800s for its oaks trees.

Up until the 1890s, livestock was free to roam the streets and owners often tethered their stock to whatever they could find along Magnolia and Main.

Eventually, new laws were put in place to protect the many oaks trees that lined the streets. It was unlawful to "willfully destroy any shade tree or fasten a horse or animal to any shade tree, awning, post or fence except regular hitching posts," according to the book.

Fines for violating such laws varied from \$1-10.

According to the book, one of the things that brought people to Toomer's Corner originally was war: Old Main, the original structure that would become Samford Hall, was used as a hospital during the Civil War. Later, ROTC and enlisted cadets would gather socially at the corner or stop at Toomer's Drugstore for a cola.

It's hard to pinpoint when the celebrations at the corner became primarily for athletic events, but these celebrations began well before the first rolling in the 1960s.

The 1908 Glomerata or Auburn yearbook, as it is still named, held the following poem:

"It is the common rendezvous just after every Auburn game.

Where soothing 'dope' doth freely flow, 'hot air,' cool bev'rage just the same.

And if we've won the victory, we sing and yell and squall;

It makes the 'children' laugh and play, to win a game of ball."



Submitted by AU Archives
This photo, taken in 1985, was most likely taken after the Auburn win over Georgia Tech, 17-14. By this point, the tradition of rolling the poles had moved to the trees.



Auburn University



Auburn University

For more historic photos of Toomer's Corner, see page 8 of this section.



Submitted by AU Archives
This photo, taken in the early 1900s, shows an old oak tree at the corner of College Street and Magnolia Avenue. Toomer's Drugstore is identifiable in the background on the right.



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Toilet paper floats in the wind during the rolling of Toomer's Corner after Auburn beat ULM in its 2012 home opener.

Official Toomer's mementos available soon



BY KRISTEN OLIVER
koliver@oanow.com

Auburn fans will soon have a way to remember the oaks at Toomer's Corner long after the trees are gone.

To commemorate the tradition of rolling the oaks, the university will be working with several licensed manufacturers to create mementos from the trees' wood following their removal later this month.

All royalties collected from their sale will benefit Auburn students through a special scholarship fund.

"This is a very special way for the Auburn Family to remember one of our best-known traditions," said Debbie Shaw, vice president for alumni affairs. "Generations of our fans have gathered beneath the oaks over the years, and it is fitting that future generations of students will benefit from the scholarships they will provide."

The trees will be removed from the corner on Tuesday, April 23. These official mementos made from the trees will be available within the next few weeks, and there are already commemorative apparel and merchandise available at retailers in time for A-Day.

Fans should look for the specially designed Auburn Oaks officially licensed hangtag to ensure proceeds go toward the university's scholarship fund. The university will provide more information in the weeks to come regarding newly available merchandise.

'New' Corner will blend past and present traditions

BY KRISTEN OLIVER
koliver@oanow.com

With the imminent removal of the oaks at Toomer's Corner, many Auburn fans worry about the future of the tradition.

David Housel, former Auburn University athletic director and Auburn graduate, said it's hard for him to imagine Toomer's Corner being greater and more memorable than it has in years past.

He said two memories have stuck with him more than any, one being the 17-16 "Punt, Bama, Punt" win in 1972.

"And then, Dec. 2, 1989, Auburn 30, Alabama 20," Housel said. "Alabama's first trip to Auburn after they kept saying, no they'd never come, never come. Well they came. They were No. 2 in the nation. And it was a grand and glorious night."

Housel said he was at the BCS National Championship game on Jan. 10, 2011, so he couldn't celebrate the win at Toomer's. He said for him, no celebration could be better than that in December 1989.

"There was a camaraderie, a feeling of unity," Housel said. "Auburn talks about being a family. And on that occasion, Dec. 2, 1989, it was true. There will never be another day like that. There will never be another feeling like that."

The question many Auburn fans are now asking is whether or not that feeling will be affected by the imminent changes coming to Toomer's Corner. The final design will be revealed today, and Dan King, Assistant Vice President of Facilities at Auburn, feels confident it brings all the things people are looking for at the corner.

"This final design is not something entirely new," King said. "Of the last two you saw, it will either look like one of those two or a combination."

King said the two key features of the last designs were the things they wanted to be sure to include in the final design.

"We had a lot of feedback of the Christmas period that keeping the arches was most important," he said. "So that was in all the last designs. That was a given. With this last set, people liked aspects of both. A lot liked the tree-lined curving walkway ... a lot of people like that and the thought that you could sit on either side of that without being in the path was appealing to folks."

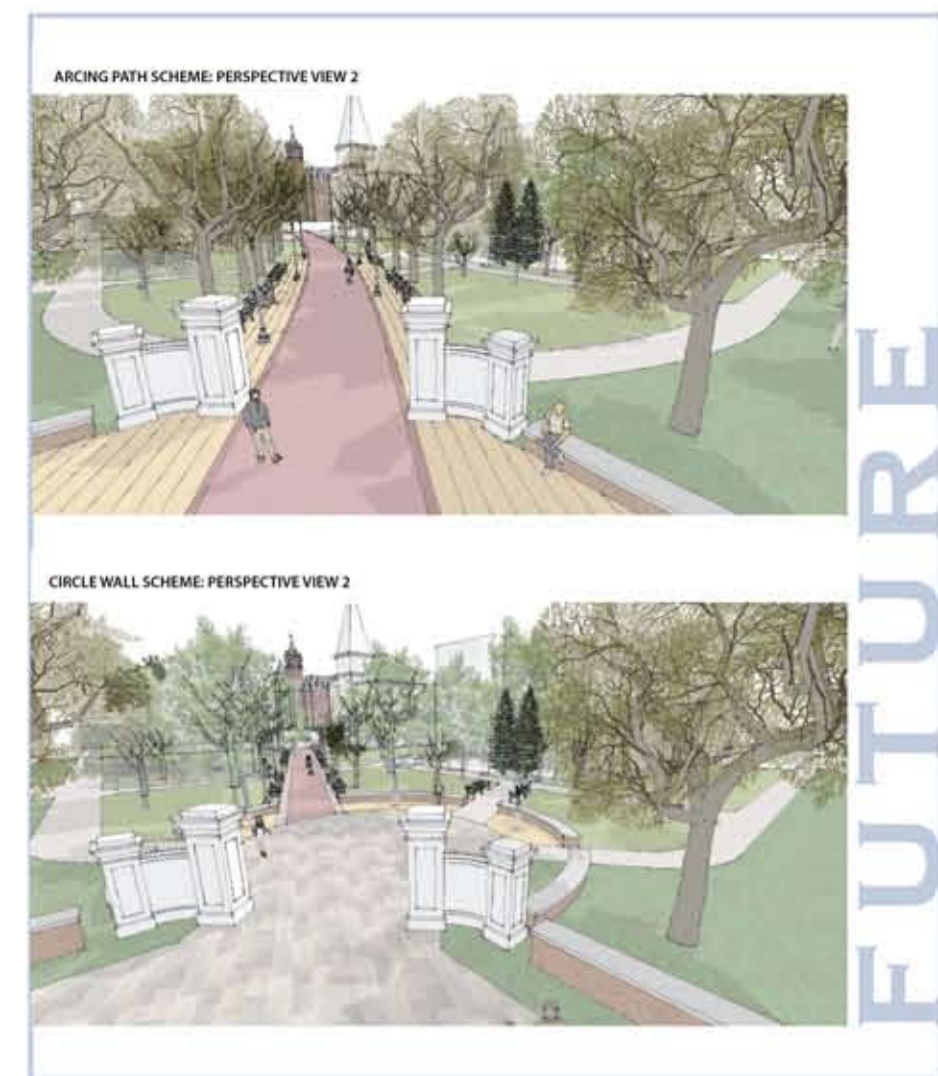
"Then on the Circle Wall scheme, people liked the ability to have a place right near Toomer's that might be shaded to hang out, eat lunch, read a book and just maybe spend 15 or 20 minutes without being in the plaza section right by the corner. Not that you'd be far away, but it's a little separate from that."

King said the two, low brick walls extending from the gates to the street will be in the final design as well.

Before construction on this design starts in 2014, a wiring system will be installing to be used for several years to come.

Three concrete poles would be placed near the white rock in the median on College Street and in the two landscaped islands in front of Toomer's Drugstore and the Bank Vault on the opposite sides of the corner to replace the ailing Toomer's Oaks, which are set to be removed Tuesday, April 23, days after the Tigers' A-Day football game and the trees' last rolling.

"It will be in the shape of a triangle, and we'll span two wires between the poles, 3 or 4 inches apart, which will help the toilet paper catch on the wire," said Kevin Cowper, assistant Auburn



city manager. "It'll be at the height of the traffic lights, so it'll be a pretty easy height for people to reach as well."

The structure will be erected this summer, Cowper said.

Cowper said several schemes were considered, but the city didn't want to do anything too expensive or extravagant for a temporary structure. He said the pole-and-wire design was chosen because it will cost the city less than \$15,000 and possibly allow more funds to go toward the permanent changes to the corner.

Cowper said the pole design

will most likely be used for more than just the coming football season — horticulture experts at the university are saying the new trees will need about three years to establish themselves after being planted before they will be able to withstand rolling.

Cowper said he believes the new structure will be a good way to blend the traditions of the past with the corner's needs in the future.

"That's actually how the tradition started (with rolling wires), so this is kind of going back to that tradition," he said.

“Once there was a
Tree...”

And it will forever live in our hearts.

With grateful hearts, we say thank you for memories that will last a lifetime.

CITY OF AUBURN PARKS AND RECREATION

These pictures are from 17 November, 2012 when Auburn beat Alabama A&M. It was the first time my girls were able to see Auburn and the Toomer's Oaks. I am deeply saddened that it will be the last time they ever roll the trees. Both of my parents went to Auburn, I went to Auburn—it was literally the only college I applied to, and I hope my kids will one day attend Auburn. I was born an Auburn Tiger and I will die one. My parents instilled in me the love and loyalty that leads me to yell War Eagle whenever I see a stranger with an Auburn shirt or hat pass by. When people give me a hard time about our bad football seasons or our bad losses, I feel sorry for them. I have to explain that Auburn isn't just winning or losing football, Auburn is a family. Auburn fans are people who have a connection to the school, either through family, friends, or their own personal attendance of the University. We carry our traditions with us and we carry our loyalty with us. We are not bandwagon jumpers, we are not sore losers or sore winners, we are not hateful, or aggressive to our opponents. We are the Auburn Family and we believe in Auburn and love it. WDE.

v/r,
CPT Ashley Coley
US Army, Ordnance Corps



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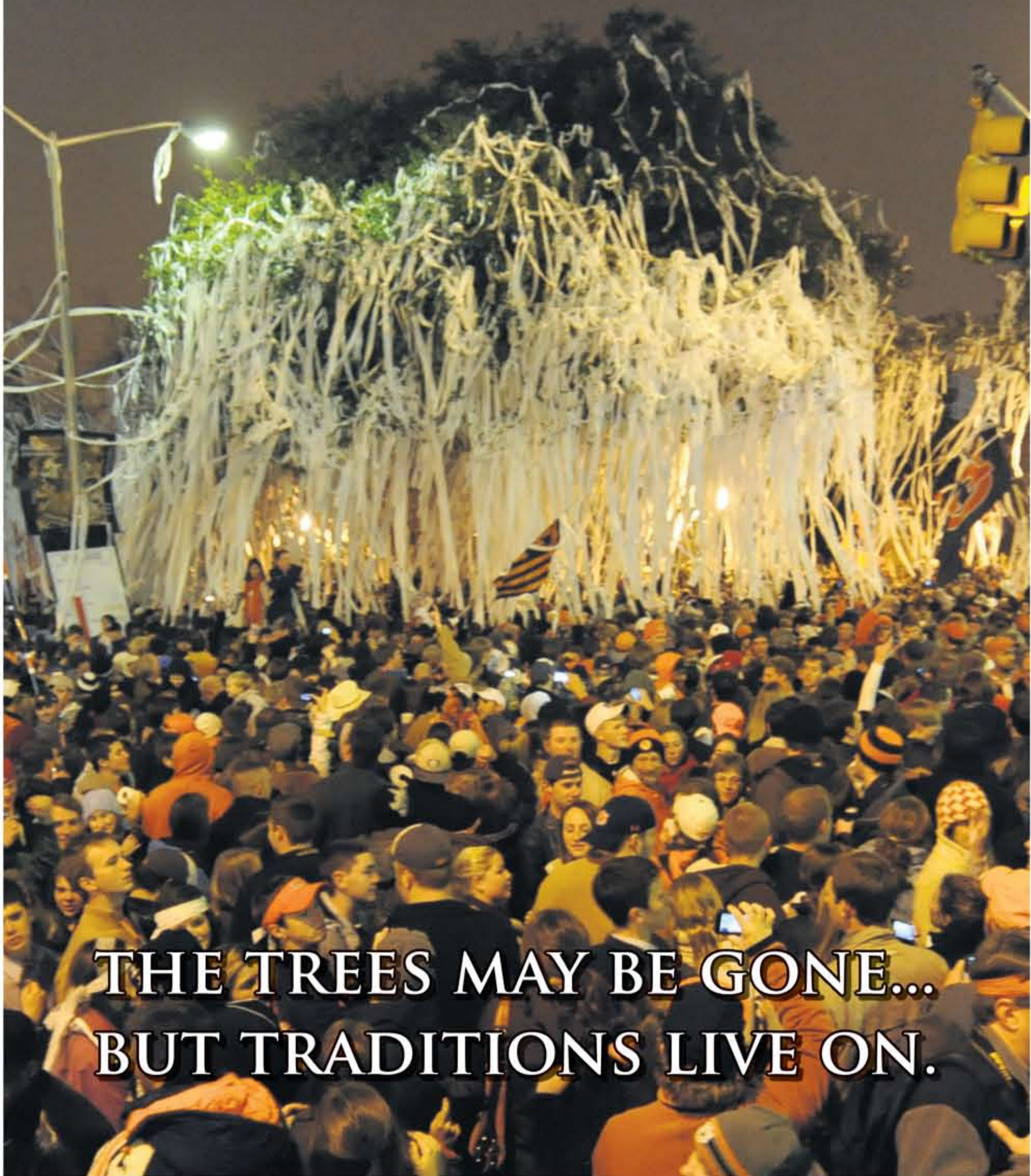
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TOOMER'S THROUGH THE YEARS



Submitted by AU Archives
This photo, taken in the 1950s, shows crowds leaving the old Tiger Theatre with Toomer's Corner in the distance.



Submitted by AU Archives



Submitted by AU Archives
Auburn students, many of whom are cadets, celebrate at Toomer's Corner in 1938 after the Orange Bowl win over Michigan State. A bandstand was erected on the left for the celebration.



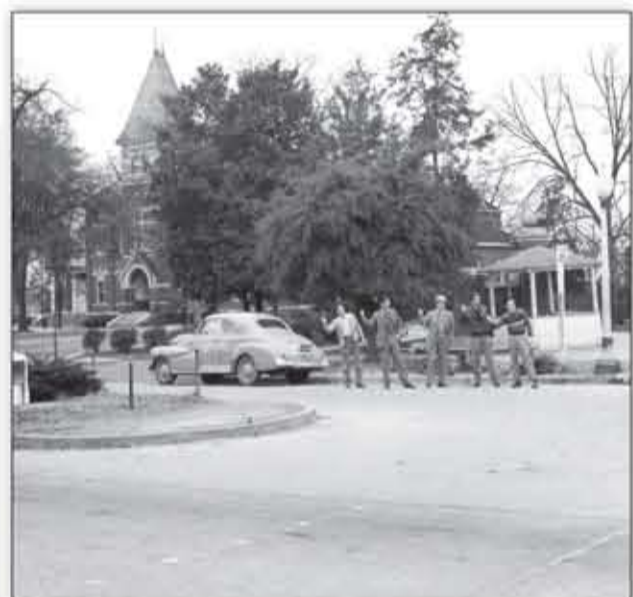
Submitted by AU Archives



Submitted by AU Archives



Submitted by AU Archives
Auburn students and villagers gather for a demonstration at Toomer's Corner. The date of this photo is unknown, but it was most likely taken in the 1960s.



Submitted by AU Archives
What could be a very young Toomer's Oak stands behind these Auburn villagers in 1946.



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File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Toilet Paper streams from the trees at Toomer's Corner during the Auburn football national championship celebration Jan. 22, 2011. Auburn went 14-0, winning the BCS title game on Jan 10, 2011, 22-19, over Oregon.



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Erin St. John leads a cheer under the trees at Toomer's Corner on Feb. 19, 2011 in Auburn.

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My husband and I watched the Championship game at a friend's house in Montgomery. As soon as it was over, we hit the road to Toomer's corner. It was the right place to be. It was after midnight and there was a fine mist, not raining, but the drops on the camera made it look like it was snowing. Pretty cool effects.

War Eagle!!
Gina C. Hunt

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As we say good-bye to the great **Toomer's Oaks**, we are reminded how much we love Auburn – the town, the university and, most importantly, the spirit.
War Eagle!



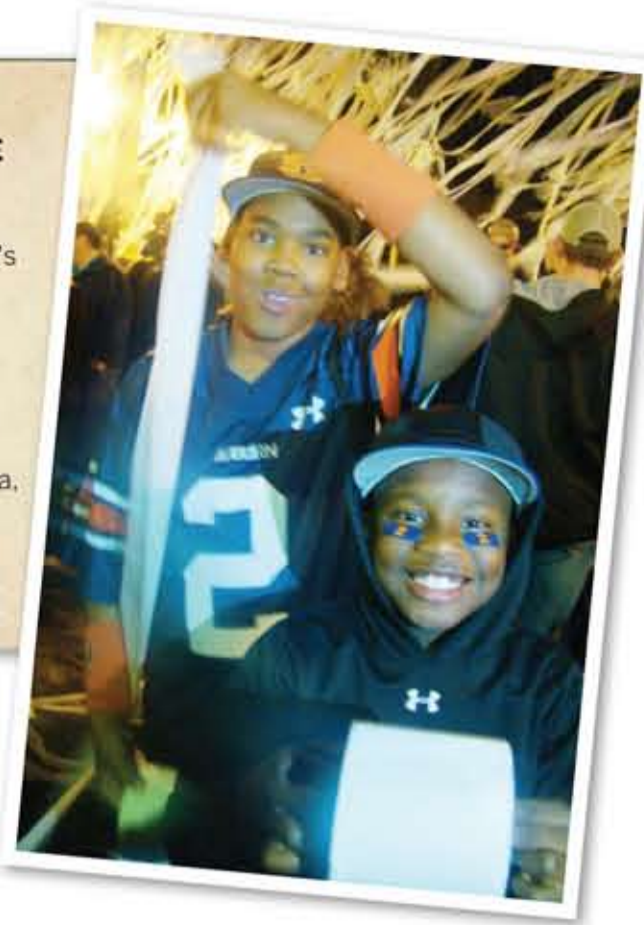
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GARRISON AND JUSTIN CELEBRATE

Brothers Garrison and Justin Brooks celebrate at Toomer's Corner after the Auburn Tigers led by Cam Newton in the victory over the Alabama Crimson Tide in dramatic fashion in Tuscaloosa, AL. Victory for the ages.....Warrrrrrr Eagllllllle!!!



GAGE'S FIRST ROLL

Having grown up in Opelika I had to take my son, Gage, to have his first 'roll' being his first trip to Auburn when he was a year old as we live in England. Each time we come to visit we go and see the trees. Breaks my heart they have to leave us.

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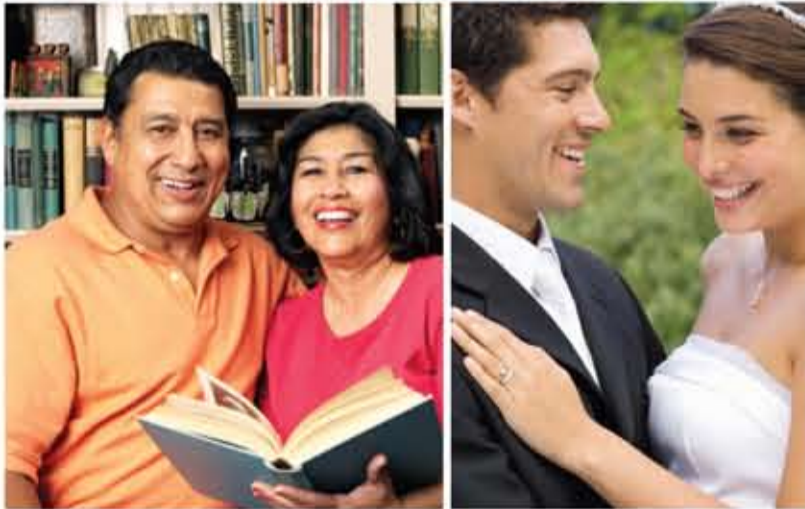
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which will live on
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FROM THE COVER

File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
 Auburn fans celebrate the win at Toomer's
 Corner following a win in the BCS
 Championship Game at 17-16 in downtown
 Auburn on Jan. 10, 2011.



Even though the
 trees will be
 gone....
 the
SPIRIT
WILL REMAIN!



photo courtesy of Robert Noles

WAR EAGLE!!!



**From Mayor Gary Fuller,
 Opelika City Council &
 City Employees**



TOOMER'S WITH MR. PENNY!
Another Auburn victory - 2010 season



LIFETIME FAN

Our daughter has grown up an Auburn fan her entire life. She will be attending Auburn University this fall. She will never have the opportunity to roll Toomer's Corner as a student. We will all cherish the memories we have made through the years. And we will all look forward to the new traditions and becoming an even stronger AU family.

WAR EAGLE!
Randy, Donna, and Mary Elizabeth Brock

A FRESHMAN SHARES ANOTHER BIG WIN WITH HIS BROTHER

Our youngest son, Chase, followed in my footsteps and those of my twin brother in living his early lifetime dream of being an Auburn Tiger. Though he has been to many football games at Auburn and celebrated before under the Toomers Oaks, the look on his face in the photo taken in 2010 next to his older brother, Logan, says he now celebrates as a full fledged member of the Auburn family and will live with the wonderful memories of victories, past and present, forever ...as a Tiger.

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5-inch 7-inch 10-inch

ITALIAN SUB

Stacked Italian Ham, Genoa Salami, Provolone Cheese, tomatoes, lettuce, red onions, Olive Oil & Oregano

TURKEY SUB

Lean Turkey Breast, Provolone Cheese, tomatoes, mayonnaise, lettuce, red onions, Olive Oil & Oregano

CHICKEN SUB

Grilled marinated Chicken Breast Strips, lettuce, sliced tomatoes, mayonnaise, Olive Oil & Oregano

CHEESESTEAKS

5-inch 7-inch 10-inch

MY CHEESESTEAK

Create Your Own Customized Cheesesteak!

Grilled Extra Lean Steak plus:

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Your Choice of any of the Following Items:

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(Chicken Can Be Substituted For Steak)

THE ORIGINAL

Hot-off-the-grill extra lean steak, grilled onions, White American Cheese

THE PLAIN JANE

Hot-off-the-grill extra lean steak, White American Cheese

THE MUSHROOM

The Original with grilled mushrooms

CHEESESTEAK SUB

The Original with lettuce, tomatoes, Olive Oil & Oregano

CHEESE CHICKEN

Grilled marinated Chicken Breast Strips, grilled onions, White American Cheese

WINGS

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6 wings 20 wings
10 wings 50 wings

CHICKEN TENDERS

CHICKEN TENDERS & FRIES

Served with honey mustard dressing



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FUTURE TIGER

Nine-year-old Courtney L. Sickler of LaGrange, Ga., signals who's No. 1 at Toomer's Corner Sept 19, 2004 after Auburn defeated defending national champion LSU and Nick Saban 10-9 on a last minute fourth-down TD pass from Jason Campbell to Courtney Taylor. Auburn would go 13-0 and win the SEC and Sugar Bowl championships but finish No. 2 to USC in the final polls. Courtney said Auburn was the Peoples Choice national champion and that's all that matters on The Plains! Courtney is the daughter of Scott J. Sickler, Auburn '85 and will be a freshman member this fall of the Auburn class of 2017. She will study veterinary medicine.



I remember being a kid growing up in Auburn and after every win my family would walk to toomers oaks with tissue in hand and school spirit in our hearts!!!! WAR EAGLE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!THE MEMORIES SHALL LIVE ON!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Ashley James
Phenix City



CELEBRATING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 9 MONTHS PREGNANT

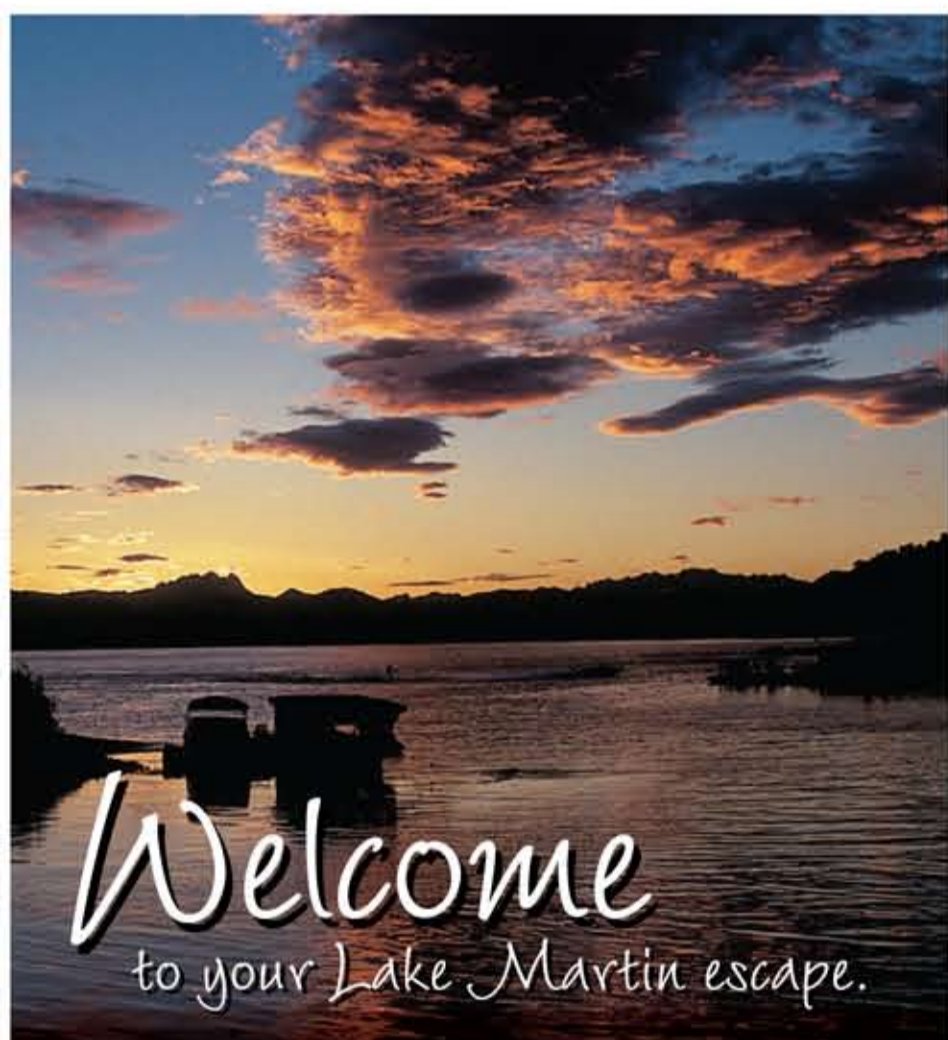
While my husband was in Arizona at the game, I woke up my 16 month old son and we rolled Toomer's together. This was such a fun night knowing that our "family" was celebrating the National Championship miles apart but connected with those wonderful trees!

Elyse Corbitt

AUBURN VS. GEORGIA 2010

Fans rolling the Toomer's Oaks after beating Georgia in the final home game of the 2010 season. The Tigers went on to win the National Championship.

Andy Rodgers



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My 9 year old after Auburn and Miss St. game 2011.
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Hannah and Sara Jo celebrate at Toomer's 2010 National Championship



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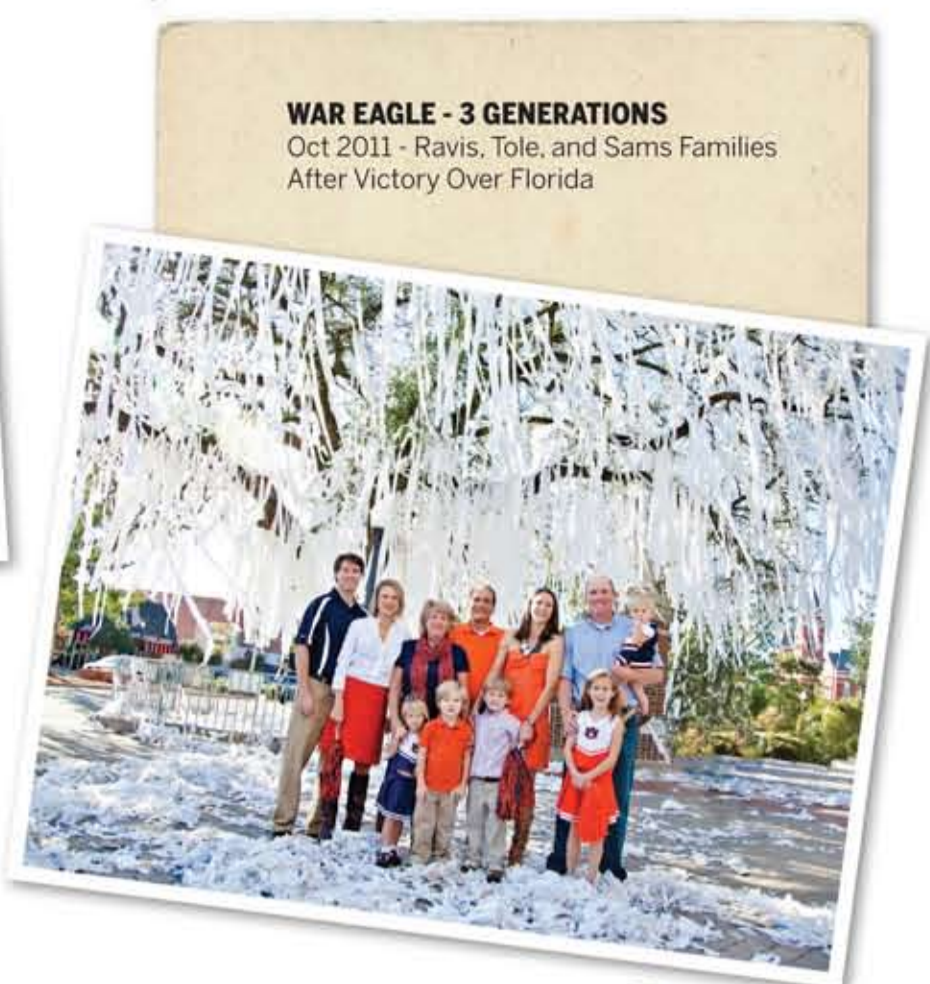


"REFLECTIONS"

Photo taken by Shirley Bartels, December 24, 2012

We have been "Auburnites" since 1967. "Reflections" is "our" story. Truly, Toomer's Oaks, The Roll and the "War Eagle" cry will be remembered and will live on forever.

Yes. War Damn Eagle!
The Bartels



WAR EAGLE - 3 GENERATIONS

Oct 2011 - Ravis, Tole, and Sams Families
After Victory Over Florida



"Ginny Brown Daniel, AU class of 1994, and husband David Moore were among those celebration an Auburn win at Toomer's Corner about five years ago. David brought his "toilet paper thrower" — made of a paint roller and a leaf blower! The toilet paper fit on the paint roller, and then all you had to do was press the button on the leaf blower and toilet paper flew 'way up in the trees! It was said that David and his invention were on the television news!"

Helen W. Brown, Class of 1960
Ginny Brown Daniel's grandmother

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FIRST TIMER

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2010 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CELEBRATION



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Auburn fans Jennifer Wallz, left, of Opelika and Jason Carlise of Alexander City kiss to celebrate the win at Toomer's Corner following a win in the BCS Championship Game at 17-16 in downtown Auburn on Jan. 10, 2011.

File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Auburn fans celebrate the win at Toomer's Corner following a win in the BCS Championship Game at 17-16 in downtown Auburn on Jan. 10, 2011.



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File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
The Opelika-Auburn News had an extra edition at Toomer's Corner following a win in the BCS Championship Game at 17-16 in downtown Auburn on Jan. 10, 2011.



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Auburn fans celebrate the win at Toomer's Corner following a win in the BCS Championship Game at 17-16 in downtown Auburn on Jan. 10, 2011.

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File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Shane Kite, of Opelika, uses a homemade blower mechanism to send toilet paper streaming to the trees at Toomer's Corner during the Auburn football national championship celebration Jan. 22, 2011. Auburn went 14-0, winning the BCS title game on Jan 10, 2011, 22-19, over Oregon.



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Hannah (left) and Sarah Gehman, sisters from Alabama who now live in Pennsylvania, throw toilet paper in the air at Toomers Corner during the Auburn football national championship celebration Jan. 22, 2011. Auburn went 14-0, winning the BCS title game on Jan 10, 2011, 22-19, over Oregon. The family drove down specifically for the celebration.



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Brad and Jack (son) Hayes enjoy hanging out at Toomer's Corner after Auburn's win over ULM to open the 2012 home season.



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WAR EAGLE!



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Fans hug the trees at Toomer's Corner
on Feb. 21, 2011.



File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Jan. 1, 2009 — Wisps of
toilet paper flap gently on
the Toomer's Corner oaks,
having been tossed the night
before to usher in the new
year in a distinctly Auburn
fashion.

File Photo | Opelika-Auburn News
Momentos left behind
at Toomer's Corner
on Feb. 21, 2011.

Rest easy, Auburn...

Davis Todd was born at
EAMC on April 11 at 6:23 p.m.
He weighed 9 pounds and
14 ounces. Congratulations,
Whit and Leslie Wisner!



new beginnings are great!

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Chrissy Williams and Lynn Vaughn continue Merle Norman's tradition of female entrepreneurship



Lynn Vaughn and Chrissy Williams,
Merle Norman Cosmetics



At Merle Norman Cosmetics, we believe in “in” sourcing. From a humble kitchen in California, Merle Norman Cosmetics started as, and continues to be, an American company. For us, “Made in the USA” is not just a cliché. It is a literal translation of who we are. Founded by an American born and bred woman who paved the way for female entrepreneurship, we are a family-run business.

The Auburn Merle Norman store, located in the Hamilton Place Shopping Center-next to Publix, continues this tradition of female entrepreneurship. It is owned by Chrissy Williams and managed by her sister Lynn Vaughn. At Merle Norman, we believe in our “Try Before You Buy” philosophy. They make it a priority that you find the right cleanser, toner and moisturizer that work for your skin type with a free Skin Assessment at Merle Norman. Their expert Beauty Consultants can target problems from acne to wrinkles. It starts by diagnosing your individual needs.

The Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio located at 2415 Moore's Mill Road, Ste 255, Auburn, AL received the “Gold Medallion” award for meeting Merle Norman's standards of excellence for customer service. The “Gold Medallion” program addresses consumer demands by identifying Studios that meet their expectations of personal service, knowledgeable Beauty Consultants and pleasing atmosphere. These award-winning Studios set the standard of service and quality among the 1600 independently owned, retail outlets in the United States and Canada. “Our Gold Medallion Program distinguishes Studios that meet the highest standards of excellence Merle Norman represents,” said Jack Nethercutt, Chairman of the Board and President of Merle Norman Cosmetics. “We're delighted to present the Gold Medallion Award to Chrissy Williams's Studio, which offers unsurpassed personal service.”

“As the Owner and proud recipient of the award, I'm honored to be recognized as a Gold medallion Studio,” says Chrissy. “Being customer-oriented is the best way to compete in business, and I'm excited that Merle Norman Cosmetics recognizes my Studio as one that meets the expectations of my customers.”

Both Chrissy and her sister Lynn have been blessed with great careers and family. Chrissy is married to her husband Trinity Williams and they have 3 children: sons Trent and Trevin and daughter Prather. “My sister, Lynn, really deserves the credit for getting the Merle Norman store open, she pushed me to keep going until it was done”, Williams said. Lynn is married to David Vaughn and they have 4 daughters: Bentley, Bailey, Corley, and Keeley. Lynn has worked for Chrissy throughout the years. Both sisters love spending time with their families and enjoy going on trips to the beach.



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