When browsing through the hundred years of University of Alabama publications archived in Alumni Hall, it becomes apparent that the issues reflect the world in which they were produced—the lifestyles, trends, technologies and social structures of their particular time. In this collection, take a walk through the decades of the University and the country, mirrored on the covers of the UA alumni magazine.

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The Illustrated Bulletins of the early 20th century were picture books of people and places at the University, sharing vivid descriptions of the growing campus. In 1917, President George Hutcheson Denny was featured on the cover of the Alumni News for the first time. He made several appearances through the years during his lifetime of service to the Capstone.
The 1920s issues of the Alumni News showcased the many new buildings on campus, including Nott Hall. Completed in 1922, the building then housed the biology department and the medical school, and today UA’s Honors College. Joe Sewell also made the cover; the starting second baseman for UA from 1918 to 1920 is the namesake of our modern-day Sewell-Thomas baseball stadium. He played 14 years in the major leagues then returned to coach Alabama baseball from 1964 to 1969, leading the team to an SEC Championship.
During the 1930s, the campus continued to expand, and the Alabama Union, first used in 1930, made the front plate. Today, that facility is named Reese Phifer Hall, and is home to the College of Communication and Information Sciences. Denny Chimes was also pictured on the cover for the first time, with the President’s Mansion in the background. The bell tower, which stands on the south side of the Quad, was dedicated in 1929 and named in honor of President Denny.

Football Coach Wallace Wade
UNIVERSITY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
COMMEMENCEMENT
MAY 10 : 11 : 12

THE SWEET SIXTEEN
PUBLISHED BY THE CLASS OF 1916 UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
VOL. 21
COMMEMORATING THE REUNION OF MAY 24, 1937
NO. 4

HAIL! HAIL! THIS GANG WAS THERE!

Well, folks, the 30th reunion of the Class of '16 has passed into history as the biggest and best of all. Twenty-one years after graduation, twenty-four members of the Class left their work or their families and journeyed back to the campus to hear “Roll” and other alma mater speeches, to partake of Candy’s and Dr. Van’s hospitality at lunch, to talk over old times, to read biographies and charming letters from absent members of the Class, to visit old scenes, to attend another annual dinner, to renew their loyalty to the University and to receive an inspiration from it. A great day it was, not only for the twenty-four members of the Class, but for the seniors whose wives and husbands also went along to see what it was all about. Together they saw a group which for the most part was slightly thicker in the middle and slightly grayer in the head, but as young in spirit as ever. They caught another vision of what makes the Class of ‘16 unique in the chronicle of the University.

That some of these rich experiences may be shared by the entire Class and her friends, is the wish of those whose congratulations have made possible this issue of “The Sweet Sixteen.”
Throughout the United States’ involvement in World War II, the Alumni News did its part by recognizing servicemen and women and returning veterans. One cover displayed two lieutenants greeting each other after returning from a prisoner-of-war camp, and others pictured officers and military parades. Special editions honored UA alumni who gave their lives while serving their country.
Several covers of the *Alumni News* in the 1950s showcased the University’s progress. Women’s dorms received a transformation, now with a smaller number of girls living together in shared units with a “homey” feeling. This was part of a concerted effort to enhance outside-the-classroom experiences, since two-thirds of college life is not spent in class. We took a last look at President Denny on a 1955 cover—he passed away on April 2 of that year.
As the world entered the technological era, the Alumni News reported on UA’s modernization in the 1960s, showing an early computer that was the size of a room, yet performed only basic operations. Another issue showcased new fields of research with a photo from a biophysical anatomy class. Also making the cover was a visit from “Lady Bird” Johnson, the first lady of the United States who had attended UA in 1931. She returned as the keynote speaker at a conference called Women and the Changing Community.
SPECIAL REPORTS

- University of Alabama in Birmingham
- Moonshooter—“Life with Uncle”
The Winter 1979 edition tackled an in-depth review of race relations in the years since James Hood and Vivian Malone first arrived in 1963, making their way around Gov. George Wallace’s “Stand in the Schoolhouse Door.” By the end of the 1970s, relations between blacks and whites were slowly improving at the University, according to the cover story. The greek-independent rivalry on campus was also featured, and at the center of the storm were rumors of “The Machine,” a speculated Greek organization that wields power over campus politics and activities.
In 1983, football coach Paul “Bear” Bryant was remembered on the cover of the Alumni News after his death on Jan. 26 of that year. Bryant had led the Tide to six national championships during his tenure at UA from 1958 to 1982. Another issue featured UA professors undertaking cutting-edge research to discover cures for hereditary disorders, symbolizing their efforts with a cover illustration of DNA. And in January 1986, the publication was renamed the Alabama Alumni Magazine.
"THE GIFT OF A LIFE UNSURPASSED"
A 1993 cover captured Gene Stallings’ 1992 football team in the jubilation following their national championship win. Stallings, who had served as an assistant coach under Bryant, returned to UA in 1990 to lead the program. The decade also brought national attention to the University when *Forrest Gump* became popular. A book about the character was published by alumnus Winston Groom in 1986, but the story reached its peak of popularity in 1994 when it was made into a movie.
People call him Winston Groom

December 1994-January 1995

E.O. Wilson’s Lifelong Fascination

February-March 1995
After Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast in 2005, hundreds of refugees found shelter at the Student Recreation Center, where the University opened its arms to those in need of a temporary home. In Fall 2005, one of the magazine’s most recognized images hit the mail—Alexa Stabler was pictured in the Bryant-Denny Stadium locker room, leading into an article about the daughters of Bear Bryant’s football stars who were now students at the Capstone.
Family Ties

- From the Generations
- Positively Young
- A Long Way From Home
ALABAMA ALUMNI
MAGAZINE

My Brother’s Keeper

- A Safe Haven
- Trying Times
- Our Favorite Teachers

winter 2005
Perfect Harmony

- The Entertainers
- A Common Connection
- Nothing but Net

A Delicate Balance

- Future Fuels
- Weather or Not
- The Hungry World

SUMMER 2006