Five alarm chorus line
Campus organizations took to the steps of Callaway Academic Building this spring for the long-standing May Day tradition of Step-Singing. Above, Mallory McDorman ’09 belts out a solo as her Kappa Delta sisters provide the back-up vocals. Kappa Delta won the large-group category competition, and theatre honorary society Alpha Psi Omega took the small-group trophy at this year’s event, held as part of Family Weekend.

Exchange program bears fruit
Clara Kim and Ayaka Nakazato, the first two students to attend LaGrange under an exchange agreement with Seigakuin University in Japan, both recently graduated from Seigakuin, which is located in a northern suburb of Tokyo. Signed in 2005, the agreement opened the door for student and faculty exchanges between the two schools and provided the impetus for new Japanese language classes at LaGrange. This spring, Japanese officially became a new minor at the College. Pictured are Ayaka, left, and Clara with one of their Seigakuin professors.

Storytellers entertain
Azalea audience
The College hosted some of the nation’s premier storytellers at the 11th annual Azalea Storytelling Festival, which was held at Callaway Auditorium the weekend of March 2—4. The award-winning festival’s Saturday morning concert drew 600 story lovers who heard from an array of artists that included longtime favorite Donald Davis, Southern icon Kathryn Tucker Windham and multitalented Andy Offutt Irwin. Pictured is Sheila Kay Adams entertaining the Azalea audience.
Robert L. “Bob” Johnson, CEO of Charter Financial Corp. and a LaGrange College trustee, was named in the March 19 issue of the Atlanta Business Chronicle as the top-performing CEO in Georgia in the category of “companies with annual revenue of $99 million or less.”

Charter operates nine full-service branches on the Interstate 85 corridor from LaGrange, Ga., to Auburn, Ala. The Chronicle reported that a $100 investment in Charter during its initial public offering in October 2001 would have grown to more than $500 by September 2006.

Johnson named top CEO

Alumnus named to hall of fame

LaGrange alumna Edith Lenora Foster ’26 was inducted posthumously into the Georgia Women of Achievement Hall of Fame during a ceremony held at Wesleyan College in Macon, Ga., on March 15.

An English teacher in high schools throughout Georgia for several years, Foster was asked by the Georgia State Department of Education to join a special program to develop a model rural library system.

In 1944, she established the Carroll-Heard County Regional Library System, which later became the West Georgia Regional Library System. A rural library pioneer, Foster converted a station wagon into Georgia’s first bookmobile, established libraries in elementary schools and set up the first library for blacks in the state.

Foster passed away at the age of 90 in 1996.

History students grab awards

Professor of History Dr. Joe Cafaro took a dozen of his students to Nashville, Tenn., to present papers at the Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, where they competed against students from a number of schools, including Vanderbilt University and the University of Tennessee.

When the awards were announced, LaGrange students had won two of the three Outstanding Paper honors given to undergraduates. The LaGrange winners were Matt Peek ’07 for his paper titled “The Papacy as Antichrist: Martin Luther’s Polemic Against the See of Peter” and Bill Stikes ’07 for his paper titled “The Impact of Cavour and the Crimea on Italian Unification.”

“Our ability to travel to this conference, which involved an overnight stay, would not have been possible without the generous support of the Undergraduate Research Fund,” Dr. Cafaro said.

Gulley signs climate commitment

Earlier this year, President Stuart Gulley became one of the first 53 signatories to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, a high-visibility effort to address global warming by garnering institutional commitments to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions, and to accelerate the research and educational effort of higher education to equip society to re-stabilize the earth’s climate. By mid-May, more than 200 presidents had signed the agreement, and the goal is to have 1,000 or more signatories by December 2009. A major public summit of signatory institutions will take place in Washington, D.C., on June 11 and 12.

Bearden elected accounting group VP

Associate Professor of Accounting Cindi Bearden was elected vice president of the Georgia Association of Accounting Educators at the group’s February meeting, held at Brenau University in Gainesville, Ga. The Association’s mission is “to form a close relationship among accounting instructors in the various colleges and universities in Georgia; advance the standards of instruction in those institutions; and form a close relationship with members of the accounting profession.”

Students assist seniors

On April 16, the LaGrange College Delta Mu Delta Honor Society conducted a computer literacy class for the Troup County Senior Citizens Center. The students worked with the seniors primarily on using Microsoft Word and Excel, but also branched out into other areas. The class is one of the community service projects Delta Mu Delta sponsors each year. Above, Christie Cullin ’07 helps Bob Turner with a computer question.