Homecoming 2006, held Oct. 6-8, was unlike previous Homecomings on the Hill. Attendees could see the difference, smell it—even taste it. Omnipresent in the celebrated traditions of years past was a fresh electric hum of anticipation that increased in volume as the hour grew near for the unveiling of the weekend’s new centerpiece: Panther football.

“Football changed the timing and venue of just about everything, but it also brought with it excitement and activities that will be enjoyed for years to come,” said Martha Pirkle, Director of Alumni and Family Relations. “I think it’s probably safe to say that in terms of turnout, this was our most successful Homecoming ever.”

Heavy with the scent of charcoal, hamburgers and brats, the air around Callaway Auditorium signaled the arrival of one of the most popular Homecoming customs football has engendered.

“Tailgating was a real highlight,” Pirkle said. “It introduced an extra dimension to the whole Homecoming experience—a perfect opportunity to socialize and reconnect.”

In addition to tailgating, the Alumni Convocation made its debut on the Homecoming itinerary. Held at Callaway Auditorium, the event offered a time to recognize the classes in reunion, plus several alumni award winners.

Another Homecoming-first that premiered on Oct. 7 along with Convocation, football and tailgating was a 5K run/one-mile walk. Early risers began the event at 7 o’clock and traversed through LaGrange’s historic Hillside area and the College’s south campus, which has now become the Homecoming nexus.

The annual Homecoming Parade offered an opportunity for spectators to enjoy a treasured tradition in a new setting. To accommodate those gathered for tailgating, a new route took the parade down Dallis Street, which lies between Callaway Stadium and the Auditorium.

During halftime of the gridiron contest, Nichelle Ortiz ’07 was crowned Homecoming Queen and the cheerleaders won the parade float competition. And though the Panthers did not carry the day in their game against Washington University in St. Louis, they did make it exciting, scoring three touchdowns in their 31-21 loss.

The weekend concluded Sunday with the morning LaGrange College Community Memorial Service in the Chapel and the afternoon Sports Hall of Fame induction in the Student Center.
Dr. Noel F. Burt

Newly inducted Wall of Outstanding Alumni member Dr. Noel Burt ’78 continued his education in the years after leaving LaGrange, eventually receiving a Ph.D. from Georgia State University in 1996.

After serving 10 years as a United Methodist minister, Dr. Burt joined the private sector and now works as chief human resources officer for Moses Cone Health System in Greensboro, N.C.

He is an active member of Christ United Methodist Church in Greensboro and also donates his time to the Boy Scouts of America and the Workforce Development Board in Greensboro.
Annette Cone-Skelton

A member of the LaGrange Class of ’64, newly inducted Wall of Outstanding Alumni member Annette Cone-Skelton earned a B.F.A. from The Atlanta College of Art in 1968.

After spending several years as a gallery director and fine-arts consultant, Cone-Skelton co-founded The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, a collecting museum dedicated to the promotion of Georgia artists.

An artist herself, Cone Skelton serves on the Arts Leadership League of Georgia’s leadership cabinet and on the board of directors of the Metropolitan Atlanta Arts and Culture Coalition.

Clockwise from top left, Matthew Mitchell ’99 tees off at the Tom Dukett Golf Tournament. Mayre Lou Wise Campbell ’46 shares a moment with Bob Kienel, husband of Betty Lewis Kienel ’46. Those assembled at the table for the Class of 1956 enjoy lunch. Gathered are, clockwise from bottom left, Michael ’56 and Lee Hale Brown ’55, Sara Adams Carter ’56, Jerry Carter, Dave Simons, Barbara Bennett Estes ’50 and Hilton Estes ’56. The cheerleaders show off their float, which was announced as the parade float competition winner at halftime of the game. Cheerleading homecoming court representative Lydia Odom ’67 smiles while cruising on the new parade route, which traveled up Dallas Street between Callaway Auditorium and Callaway Stadium. Class Coordinator and Leadership Council President Sally Curtis Askew ’62 models her Panther chapeau.

Daisy Shepherd Luckey-Aukerman

A member of the Class of ’44, newly inducted Wall of Outstanding Alumni member Daisy Luckey-Aukerman has dedicated much of her life to teaching, performing and appreciating music.

An organist for First United Methodist Church of Atlanta for 41 years, Luckey-Aukerman taught piano in Atlanta for 50 years and served as an adjudicator for the National Guild of Piano Teachers.

She was elected Gracious Lady of Georgia in 1986 and has been active in the Atlanta Alumnae Group No. 2 for many years, including a stint as that group’s president.

RFP
Stanley “Stan” Welsh Moor

Newly inducted Wall of Outstanding Alumni member Stan Moor ’72 went on to earn his MAT from Georgia State University after leaving LaGrange.

An award-winning educator, Moor currently works as the community service coordinator for The Westminster Schools in Atlanta, where the vast majority of students participate in volunteer activities organized through his office.

Moore is president-elect of the LaGrange College Leadership Council, a member of the LaGrange College Quadrangle Society, and a class coordinator and scholarship coordinator for the Class of 1972.

H. Andrew “Andy” Owen

Newly inducted Wall of Outstanding Alumni Award recipient Andy Owen became a carrier-based pilot for the U.S. Navy after leaving LaGrange and later earned his Juris Doctor from Emory University School of Law after leaving the service.

Today, Owen serves as a founding partner in the firm of Owen, Gleaton, Egan, Jones & Sweeney LLP, a 25-attorney firm in Atlanta specializing in medical malpractice defense, construction and contract litigation, and automotive and aviation product liability defense.

Owen is a member of the LaGrange College Board of Trustees.