



***THE
KNOT HOLE***

DEDICATED to Dr. Harry "Leafy" Larsen for his 32 years of service to the School of Forestry at Auburn University.



THE KNOT HOLE

**Volume X
1990-91**

Published By

**Forestry Club
School of Forestry**

**Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama**

Editor, John R. Burch

Editor's Page

If I could choose a single word to accurately reflect my experience at Auburn University and in the School of Forestry in particular, I would have to choose the word "change". In my four years at Auburn I have witnessed a great metamorphosis both externally and internally. The Hill dormitories were all renovated. Ag Hill sat quietly and witnessed the addition of the fisheries annex, chemistry building, and Auburn's first on campus parking deck. Ralph Brown Draughton Library was also expanded to more than double its' capacity. Buildings from "old Auburn" could not escape the path of progress and became the sites for the Auburn Hotel and Conference Center and the faculty parking lot on Magnolia Avenue. Parking spaces were also added to the stadium parking lot. Internally things have changed at the University also. Tuition has increased annually as well as admission requirements. The core curriculum has changed. The forestry curriculum has changed twice since I started the program four years ago. Forestry faculty and staff have come and gone. Recently it was announced that President Martin would be leaving in a year.

Some people may look upon some of these changes with dismay. I believe a majority would agree that change at Auburn is welcome and reflects a desire to progress along with a rapidly changing world. I can certainly attest that this is the desire of the School of Forestry at Auburn University. In a field of ever changing, progressive technology, the educational institution must strive to stay abreast of developments. Speaking on behalf of my fellow students, I can feel very confident that we will leave Auburn University with more than a college degree. We will have attained a high level of technical and professional competence that will enable us to enhance and elevate the status of our profession in our changing world.

As a final word, I must extend my appreciation to Auburn University for a great four years of my life and likewise my gratitude to the faculty of the School of Forestry for their continuing effort to provide progressive education.

John R. Burch
Editor

ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandpile at Sunday School. These are the things I learned:

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Flush.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life--learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.

Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup: The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the Styrofoam cup--they all die. So do we.

And remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned--the biggest word of all--**LOOK.**

(Robert Fulghum, All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten, 1986)

School of Forestry 1990-91

by Emmett Thompson, Dean

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to contribute to the Knothole and highlight some of the School's activities and progress during the 1990-91 academic year. I would like to divide my comments into four broad categories: personnel; enrollment/employment; facilities; and teaching innovation.

The School had two retirements during the year. Dr. John Haygreen retired as Associate Dean, effective November 1, 1990. Dr. Haygreen was the School's first Associate Dean and came to us after a very successful career as Head of the Department of Forest Products at the University of Minnesota. During his four years as Associate Dean, John made many contributions to the School, to Auburn University, and to forestry in Alabama. We certainly wish him well in retirement.

Dr. Harry Larsen will retire July 1, 1991. Dr. Larsen has been on the School's faculty since 1959. I know Harry is fondly remembered by all his former students for his leisurely walks in the woods as part of dendrology. Harry made numerous contributions to the School's programs, through his teaching, research in forest nursery productivity, and service on many committees, including chairing the Scholarship Committee for the last several years. We also wish Harry the very best in retirement.

Dr. George Bengtson will join the School July 1, 1991, as Associate Dean replacing John Haygreen. In making the personnel change we also made some modifications in position assignment. Dr. Bengtson will have primary responsibility for the School's education and extension programs, and we look forward to his leadership in these areas.

Our undergraduate enrollment continues to increase. While we are still numerically the smallest school on campus, we have had the largest, or next to largest, percentage increase in enrollment over the past two years. This past fall, our undergraduate enrollment increased 12 percent from the preceding fall. The graduate enrollment is also up. We are about at a target level on undergraduate enrollment, but would like to continue to see the graduate numbers increase somewhat.

Enrollment and employment are closely linked. For several years, forestry employment opportunities have been excellent. Most graduates have had multiple job offers and almost everyone interested in seeking professional employment has been successful. The recession which hit Alabama and the rest of the Nation in late 1990 and early 1991 dampened employment opportunities for foresters, as well as college graduates in general. Our graduates are continuing to find employment, but with more difficulty than in the past several years. Hopefully, the country's economic difficulties will soon ease, and we will again be back to a level of high employment opportunity for our graduates.

During the year, we dedicated a new administration building at the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center. The building was made possible through a gift from the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation, and the University's Board of Trustees approved naming the new building the Martha Dixon Administration Building. This was a much needed facility. We had been using the old Dixon home as both an office and museum of forestry in south Alabama. The building was simply not suited for an office, and we will now remodel it as a museum. On campus, we are in the process of improving the undergraduate computer laboratory by purchasing new, more modern equipment. Keeping up with necessary changes in teaching equipment is an ever challenging opportunity.

While we are always looking for ways to improve our teaching and make our courses more effective, one relatively new course which stands out is a weekend wood procurement practicum developed by Dr. Glenn Glover. Glenn involves a number of forest industry procurement managers, seven in 1991, in a long weekend of practical wood procurement experience at the Dixon Center. This is proving to be one of the most successful developments in our education program, and an area where Auburn appears to be unique among forestry schools. The response from both students who have taken the course and industry managers who have participated is highly enthusiastic.

As 1990-91 comes to an end, we look forward to continued productivity and development in 1992 and beyond.

Forestry Club

by John Burch

The Auburn University student chapter of the Society of American Foresters was officially chartered as a university organization in 1970. To most of the students and faculty it is better known as the Forestry Club and has continued in the tradition of bringing together professionals and students to encourage a successful future for our profession.

The Auburn University Forestry Club keeps a full agenda of annual events. One of the projects we enjoy is our annual firewood sale. It not only provides some additional funding but also provides exposure for the club in our community. Another important event is our bi-weekly meeting. At these meetings we conduct business and have a guest lecturer. Our speakers are industry professionals from various types of jobs including procurement, management and consulting. These lecturers have provided interesting viewpoints, helpful hints and future contacts for the students.

Conclave is another annual tradition that provides an adventure each spring. The Auburn Forestry Club is a charter member of ASFC and has participated in the competition with varying success. We enjoy visiting the other schools and giving a shot at showing our skill and technical abilities.

The forestry Club Banquet is another of our annual spring events. At the banquet we honor those of outstanding achievement in the past year including both students and professionals. It is an enjoyable time to socialize and experience the rewards of a job well done.

Our final event of the year is the annual Forestry Club picnic. This is a time for all the students to have fun together before summer. For some it provides the chance to meet or see friends before the break. For those who are graduating it will be their final farewell to the Auburn Forestry Club.

SUMMER CAMP 1990

BY Gregg Hope

I awoke with a sudden urge to cause bodily harm to someone. With a cold sweat pouring off of my body, I thought that my worst nightmare had just come true. I was enrolled in the Marine Corps. Then, all of a sudden, a rather satanic chant was heard in the pre-dawn darkness, "Go Hammer, Go Hammer". It was at this moment that I realized where I was; **SUMMER CAMP!!**

The Auburn University School of Forestry has been conducting summer forestry camp since 1959. Little River State Park was the site of the first camp. The camp was later moved to the main campus and then to the present location at the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center. For the past eleven years, Auburn forestry students have had the opportunity to study at the Dixon Center, which is located in Dixie, Alabama approximately 25 miles south of Andalusia. The center provides about 6,500 acres of land for the summer instruction. The Dixon Center enables students to receive the best on hands experience a forestry student can hope to have. I think the late Solon Dixon would be proud of the way the center has been such a great part of educating students at Auburn University. Thanks to the Dixon family, Auburn has become one of the finest forestry schools in the nation.

In June of 1990, over forty forestry students converged on the small town of Dixie, Alabama. It would be here that the students would be subjected to the most demanding quarter of their college career. Forest Management, dendrology, surveying, and mensuration were taught to the students. A very rigorous academic schedule, which sometimes lingered in to wee hours of the morning, did not leave much time for leisure activities. We did, however, have basketball, ping pong, and televisions for those rare relaxing moments. Students even came up with a few of their own recreational endeavors. A crash course in engineering was taught by Mike "I now live in Paraguay" Brooks, when he built a dam for Rhett "get out of my kitchen" Johnson. Rhett was overwhelmed. Free boundary line recoveries were provided to the neighbors of the Dixon family. They were also overwhelmed. Local "brain grenade" entrepreneurs always greeted us with smiles and handshakes. We as students felt it necessary to visit them to maintain our sanity. Teachers also found this remedy to be especially worthwhile.

My father once told me "It's not always what you are doing but who you are doing it with that makes a job enjoyable". Therefore I must tell you about the people of FORESTRY CAMP '90. I feel very fortunate to have been associated with such a fine group of people. Lifetime friendships were made and the all important lesson of working together was learned. People like LIZARD, INDIAN, MONKEY, MEXICAN, HAMMER, BLOCK, HEAD, WAGWAM, SKEETER, MEAN GENE, JU JU (which is said to be his real name), SCALEBUSTER, HOSS NUT, TEAM MEMBER, DONKEY, CHATAM, AND GARDEN SEEDS are just a few of the



people who helped create lasting memories. I couldn't go on without mentioning the teachers. I pray they have become bored by this article and have turned the page. If you haven't then just remember I am only poking fun. This article is by a student and for the student and should attempt to make my final year miserable, then I would remind each of you that I do know where you live! We must offer our endearing appreciation to teachers like Drs. Greg "camel jockey" Somers, Richard "the best dressed forester I have ever seen" Brinker, Ralph "Vaseline" Meldahl, Robert "I give easy tests" Tufts, Glen "I didn't see your car coming around the turn" Glover and Harry "Leafy" Larsen. I would like to extend special wishes to Dr. Larsen as he retires at the end of the year. He is a man greatly respected by all. He is also a man that can walk so fast you would swear he was running, swim so fast he could do tuna commercials for Starkist, and give the hardest damn trees to identify on a dendrology test. Most of all he is a man who has dedicated his life to Auburn and the education of the best foresters in the woods, Auburn Foresters.

In closing, I would like to thank Rhett Johnson, Dale Pancake and the entire staff at the Dixon Center for making our summer one which will not soon be forgotten. A special thanks also to all the students of SUMMER CAMP '90.



CONSORTIUM 1991

by David Pittman

When Dr. DeBrunner mentioned going to Consortium, I thought "No way! Christmas break always seems too short as it is. There's no way I'll give up a whole week of deer hunting to go to Kentucky and consort with a bunch of strangers." It turned out that my arm was twisted and I decided to go.

It began Sunday morning Dec. 30 at 5:00 AM in a light rain. Before our trip ended it was snowing and about 10 degrees. We spent the first night socializing and meeting the students from the other schools. Three other schools besides Auburn were represented: Southern Illinois University, University of Tennessee, and Stephen F. Austin State University. This evening was similar to the first night of summer camp, in that we knew few of the people, but felt we would come to know everyone well before the week was over.

Day two was spent touring the Land Between the Lake's facilities. Among these were Homeplace 1850, a replica of a 19th century farm, and the Bison range, a fenced in area containing 125 American buffalo. Other areas included the off-road vehicle area and a campground. We also visited a two man logging operation administering a selective cut, a hardwood shelterwood harvest and a clearcut.

Day three was bowl day, so everyone stayed inside around the fireplace and watched the football games while recovering from the night before. This was the last chance to rest because the rest of the week would be busy.

We broke up into our groups and began working on solutions to our problems. We had access to various information systems, as well as, an adviser who specialized in the discipline concerning our problem. We completed written solutions to our problems and presented them to the group and faculty on Saturday evening.

When the trip was over and we were back in Auburn, we faced the reality of classes starting the next day. I think we all would agree that the experience was quite valuable. Andy Mason, Otis French, Eric Weyant, Rick Vise, and I agreed on several benefits of Consortium. These are:

1. We learned to work well with people we had just met.
2. We experienced working under a pressured situation.
3. We learned to work as a group.
4. We made friends who may be career associates.

A special thanks to Dr. Earl Debrunner for organizing this year's Consortium and to Dr. Debrunner and Dr. Mitchell for spending a part of their Christmas break with us.



Andy Mason demonstrates the latest in harvesting techniques. Push, just a little harder!



What type of forest pest is this?



CONCLAVE 1991

by Ernie Walley

The 34th Annual ASFC Conclave was hosted this year by Virginia Polytechnic Institute at a 4-H camp in Appomattox, Virginia. The VPI forestry club did a fine job organizing this years events. The camp was far removed from any town or city. This is a pretty good idea when fourteen different forestry clubs get together for a weekend.

The 1991 Auburn University Conclave Team was comprised of four forestry students, one wildlife student, and a faculty sponsor. The forestry students were Van Gillom, Robert Milstead, Matt Revel, and Ernie Walley. The wildlife student, who deserves special thanks, was Scott Frazier. I would also like to thank Dr. Bob Jones who was our faculty sponsor. He provided the inspiration we needed to keep team spirits high. If the few number of people makes the team sound weak, everyone made up for it with 110% effort in each event they entered. I think this was the strongest team we have had in the past three years.

The A.U. Conclave team left the Thursday morning following winter finals. We left at 6:30 a.m. and after a thirteen hour drive we arrived in Appomattox at 6:00 p.m. Thursday night we huddled up and figured out our game plan. Because there were only five competitors and twenty-four time scheduled events, we had to make sure that none of our assigned competitions conflicted. There were only three events that we did not compete in for obvious reasons. They were women's crosscut, pole climbing, and archery. We were able to compete in the Jack-and-Jill crosscut with the



It's Ernie playing "Jason" again!!

help of a "Jill" from N. C. State.

The next two days proved to be busy and extremely tiring for the whole team. When the last event was over on Saturday, the team had their pictures made and we immediately packed the van for the trip back to Auburn. Once the van was packed, Dr. Jones drove us to the Appomattox Court House. We arrived five minutes before the museums closed, but we did manage to see many points of historical interest. The park did not close until dark, so we took in many sights. Among these were the McClean House, where General Robert E. Lee met with that fellow from the north to surrender. We saw the headquarters of both Lee and Grant. This was some of the prettiest countryside I have ever seen. It would have been easy to spend two solid days at this national park, but due to lack of time we made do with two hours.

Upon returning to the camp, we attended the awards banquet. This year the top three finishers were Arkansas, Stephen F. Austin, and N. C. State, respectively. Van Gillem was the only member for Auburn that placed. He took third place in pole felling. But, as tradition would have it Auburn University was awarded with fourteenth place. I will not say we came in last because we all worked too hard to be branded with that. Also, we did not bring home the toilet paper award, because they did away with it, fearing it would cause hard feelings.

We left Virginia immediately following the awards banquet to come back to Auburn. We drove straight through from Virginia to Alabama, so we got back in Auburn at 7:30 a.m. When we got back we unloaded the van

and cleaned it out. Then we all went our separate ways for the remainder of our Spring Break.



ZZZZZZZZ!!!

AUBURN FORESTRY CLUB BANQUET 1991

The Auburn Forestry Club Awards Banquet was held on May 2, 1991 at the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center. This annual event serves to recognize outstanding performance by students and faculty for the academic year. The following awards and recipients were honored.

Summer Camp Awards:

Timothy Gothard - Jeff Ivey
Steve Lloyd - David Pittman

James River Timber Corporation Forest Measurements Award:

David B. Graves

MacMillan Bloedel, Inc. Forest Economics Award:

Timothy Gothard

The Southeastern Society of American Foresters Outstanding

Senior Award for Leadership:
John Burch

Auburn Forestry Alumni Association Outstanding Senior Award for Academics:

Robert J. Milstead

U.S.D.A. Forest Service Science Award:

Robert J. Milstead

E. A. Hauss Scholastic Improvement Award:

David Pittman

Forest Products Research Scholarship:

Jianhua Pu

Teacher of the Year

Dr. Harry Larsen



Golden Shaft Award

Dr. Michael Golden



TEACHER OF THE YEAR(S)

by John R. Burch



It is an annual tradition for the Forestry Club to select from among the ranks of professors the one who we feel has extended the best effort in educating the students. The award for Teacher of the Year is based primarily on teaching ability but is also a reflection how well he is liked by the students. Dr. Harry S. Larsen is certainly no stranger to this award and we congratulate him once again for his efforts. We would like to extend further appreciation for his many years of dedicated service at Auburn University.

Dr. Larsen began his own academic pursuits at Rutgers University where he majored in pre-forestry and natural sciences. Upon completion of a B.S. degree, he went to Michigan State University where he received his M.S. in Forestry in 1953. From December of 1953 to August of 1956, Dr. Larsen worked for Southern Timber Management Service, Inc. in Birmingham, Alabama. In September of 1956 he returned to the classroom to pursue a Ph.D at Duke University. He completed the thesis and received his degree 1963.

By this time Dr. Larsen had already begun his career at Auburn. The first assignment was at the Little River State Forest summer camp of 1959. From Little River to the Dixon Center, Dr. Larsen will always be a favorite of the students who had his instruction at summer camp. His teaching responsibility was expanded to include Dendrology I & II, Tree Physiology, Forest Ecology, and Forest Geography. Most of us from the last few years will remember "Leafy" Larsen for those impossible Dendrology quizzes. Was it Common Persimmon or Black Tupelo? We'll never know.

Dr. Larsen has also developed an impressive track record for his research contributions at Auburn University. His research predominantly involved improving the quality of southern pine seedlings at southern forest nurseries. He has authored or co-authored several journal publications pertaining to this research.

Some of "Uncle Harry's" other accomplishments and honors include undergraduate student advisor, and graduate student committee member. He has also served in the Society of American Foresters, Alabama Forestry Association and Xi Sigma Pi forestry honor society.

Dr. Larsen has retired after 32 years of very dedicated service to the Auburn University School of Forestry on some remote beach in South Alabama. We congratulate you once again on being named our Teacher of the Year and appreciate your effort through all of the years. May your retirement years be as relaxing as your career has been productive. And by the way, what is the scientific name for sea oats?



**FORESTRY
GRADUATES
1991
AUBURN UNIVERSITY**



We would like to congratulate all of our seniors who graduated during the 1991 academic year. **Best Wishes** as you enter into your respective careers.

WINTER 1991

Stacy Lynn Given
B.S. Forest Products
Moulton, Alabama

John M. Gunn, Jr.
B.S. Forest Management
Jackson, Alabama

SPRING 1991

Scott E. Alley
B.S. Forest Management
Newton, Alabama

Matt L. Rovel
B.S. Forest Management
Brewton, Alabama

John R. Burch
B.S. Forest Management
Stone Mountain, Georgia

Kevin B. Savoy
B.S. Forest Products
Mobile, Alabama

Steve W. Clements
B.S. Forest Products
Eufaula, Alabama

David W. Sims
B.S. Forest Management
Hartselle, Alabama

Mark Farabee
B.S. Forest Engineering
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Malcolm W. Smith
B.S. Forest Management
Camden, Alabama

Robert Dale Hurst
B.S. Forest Management
Louisville, Alabama

Ioby W. Warr
B.S. Forest Management
Blakely, Georgia

Jeff W. Latham
B.S. Forest Management
Gadsden, Alabama

Eric B. Weyant
B.S. Forest Management
Opelika, Alabama

Roger D. Lovett
B.S. Forest Products
Moulton, Alabama

E. Fletcher Whittle
B.S. Forest Management
Georgianna, Alabama

Robert J. Milstead
B.S. Forest Management
Lineville, Alabama

Zhiyuan Qui
M.S. Forest Management
Nanjing

Xi Sigma Pi

Forestry Honor Society



Xi Sigma Pi is a nationally recognized forestry honor society. Nominees into the society are juniors with at least a 3.00 grade average and seniors in the top 25% of their class. The purposes of the society are to show appreciation for those students who have worked hard to excel in their chosen field and to foster professionalism in the field of forestry. After a period of relative inactivity, the Sigma chapter of Xi Sigma Pi is currently nominating qualified new members and an initiation of these members is forthcoming. The future offers many challenges and opportunities for everyone involved in environmental fields, and we would like to echo the words of former National Associate forester Robert T. Eckert and encourage all forestry students, members of Xi Sigma Pi and non-members alike, to become involved, to learn the critical issues facing forestry and to assist in developing new strategies for the future.

Tom Green
Chapter Forester

Secretaries



Front row: Bessie, Jean, Lane, and Barbara
Back row: Angie, Linda, Cindy, Evelyn, and Lenore
(Not pictured: Marjorie Gentry and Beverly Edwards)

Evelyn Bennett	Accounting & Auditing Clerk
Jean Conn	Secretary III
Linda Kerr	Secretary for Nursery Cooperative
Lenore Martin	Dean's Secretary
Lane Messer	Secretary for Coordinator of Alumni/Student Services
Barbara Nunn	Secretary III
Angie Sallas	Secretary for Silvicultural Herbicide Cooperative
Cindy Snow	Secretary for Forestry Extension
Bessie Zachery	Secretary for Forest Products Lab

FACULTY



Robert Beadles
Supervisor, Maintenance



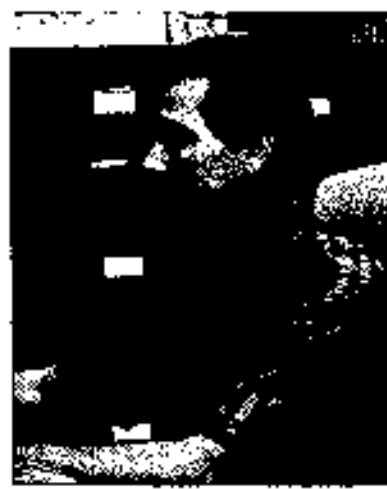
Dr. H.O. Beals
Wood Products



Dr. E.J. Biblis
Wood Technology/Mechanics



Dr. John Bliss
Extension Forester



Tim Bottenfield
Computer Specialist



Richard Brinker
Harvesting



Dr. H.F. Carino
Forest Products Marketing



Dr. Jon Caulfield
Forest Management



Dr. Art Chappelka
Physiology

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Dr. T.C. Davis
Forest Pathology



Dr. L.E. DeBrunner
Coordinator of Student Services
Fire, Recreation



Dr. T.J. Elder
Wood Technology/Chemistry



Dr. W.A. Flick
Forest Economics



Dr. D.H. Gjerstad
Tree Physiology



Dr. G.R. Glover
Mensuration/Biometrics



Dr. M.S. Golden
Silviculture



Rhett Johnson
Dixon Center Manager



Dr. Robert Jones
Extension Forester

FACULTY



Dr. Bobby Lanford
Forest Harvesting



Dr. H.S. Larsen
Dendrology/Physiology



Dr. Graeme Lockaby
Forest Soils



Richard Martin
University Forestlands
Manager



Dr. Ken McNabb
Extension Forester



Dr. R.S. Meldahl
Mensuration/Biometrics



Dr. Robert Mitchell
Tree Physiology



Bill Montgomery
Intro. to Forestry

FACULTY



Ken Muehlenfeld
Director, Forest Products
Development Center



Dr. Greg Somers
Mensuration/Biometrics



Dr. David B. South
Nursery Management



Dr. R.C. Tang
Wood Science & Engineering



Dr. Larry Teeter
Forest Management

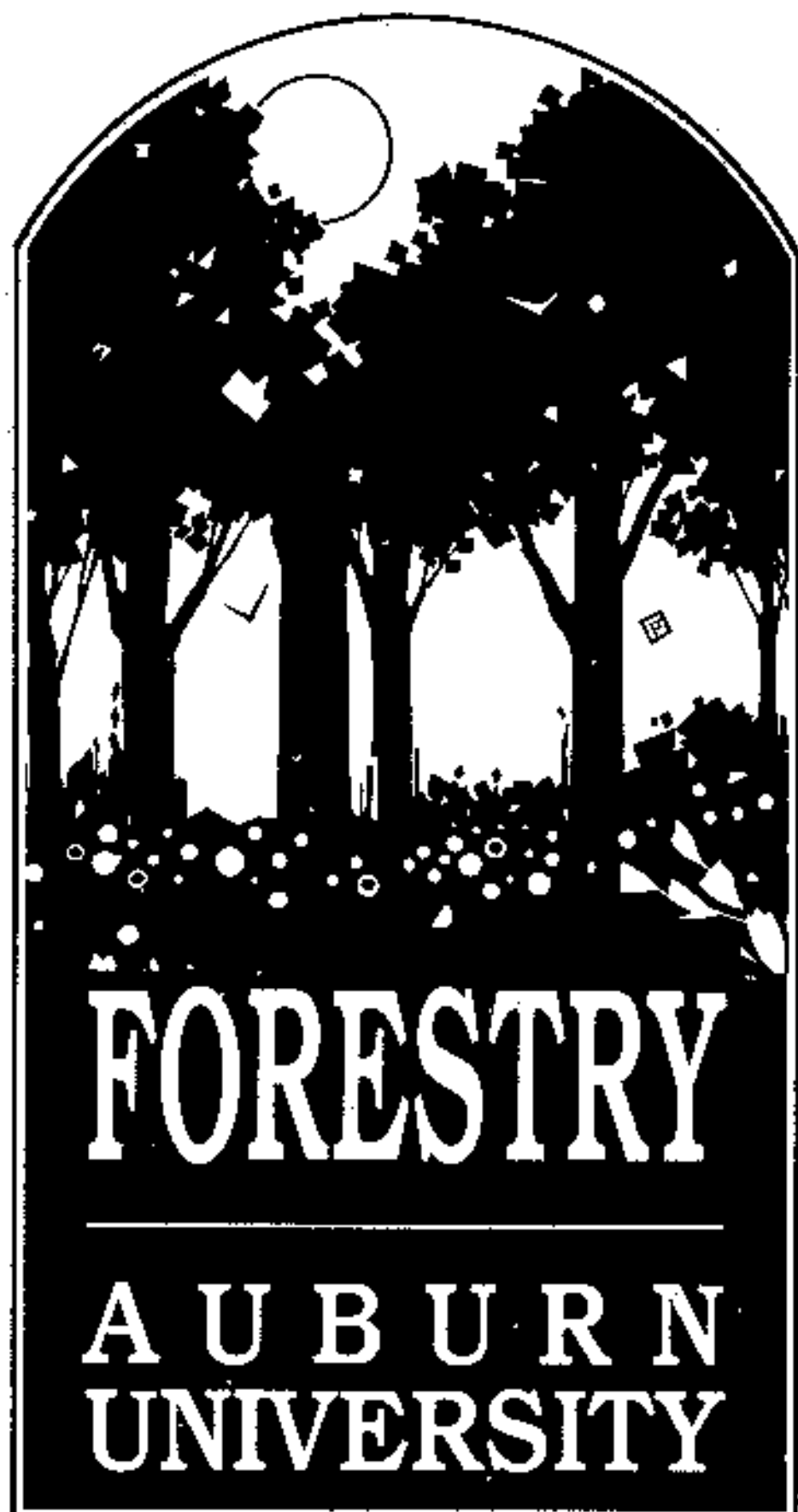


Emmett Thompson
Dean, School of Forestry



Dr. R.A. Tufts
Forest Engineering

Larkin Wade
Mosley Professor





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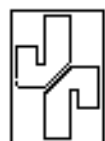


the volume is growing. By 1995, we expect our recycling capacity to exceed one million tons per year. Our industry has committed to a national goal of 40 percent paper recovery for recycling by the end of 1995.

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**Seems like everyone's interested
in forestry all of a sudden.**

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