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CIVIL DEFENSE ATTORNEY PENS LEGAL THRILLER SET AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

'Forrest Gump' author: 'The Professor' is gripping from the first page to the last

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – Southern civil defense attorney turned author [Robert Bailey](#) lays down the law in his debut novel, “The Professor” (Jan. 28, 2014, Exhibit A Books).

With the backdrop of his alma mater, Bailey’s legal thriller set at the University of Alabama is a story of bribery, greed and unexpected betrayal. “The Professor” introduces readers to Tom McMurtrie, a former attorney who accepted a job teaching law at the university at the request of his mentor and close friend, legendary Alabama football coach [Paul “Bear” Bryant](#). But after four decades of working at the university, Tom finds himself forced into retirement. Soon, he learns that the family of one of his oldest friends has been killed in a terrible crash with an 18-wheeler. A former student, Rick Drake, is heading up the case in court and turns to Tom for help when he discovers there is much more to the case than meets the eye.

“‘The Professor’ is that rare combination of thrills, chills and heart,” says Winston Groom, author of “Forrest Gump.” “Gripping from the first page to the last.”

Brimming with suspense and courtroom drama, “The Professor” has the southern flavor of “A Time to Kill” by John Grisham and “The Quiet Game” by Greg Iles. With surprising twists and turns, the book is hard for any thrill-seeking reader to put down.

“Robert Bailey is a southern writer in the great southern tradition, with a vivid sense of his environment and characters that pop and crackle on the page,” says William Bernhardt, author of the Ben Kincaid series. “This book kept me hooked all the way through.”

“The Professor” is the first book in a series featuring the legal team of McMurtrie and Drake. Bailey graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1999. He lives in Huntsville, Ala., where he practices law with the law firm of Lanier Ford Shaver & Payne.

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