Dear friends,

As I write this it has been just exactly ten years since the August day my family and I moved to Kansas so I could become the president of Southwestern College. I remember our move-in day well; it was 102 degrees and we had about a 30 mph "breeze" out of the southwest. The moving van guys from upstate New York found our choice of locale incomprehensible.

Their problem, not mine. My ten years at Southwestern have been memorable, exciting, and immensely rewarding. With your help, the college has grown in size, strengthened financially, and become an increasingly important provider of undergraduate and graduate education in our region and, online, nationally.

I'm grateful for all you have done help the college and support me. Together we're writing an exciting chapter in Southwestern's history. The best is yet to come.

Best regards,
Dick Merriman
President

During the evening of June 3, 2008, a ferocious straight-line wind lasting less than two minutes passed through Winfield at speeds upwards of 100 miles per hour. Those two minutes left the campus looking vastly different.

Trees, some of them more than a century old, had been uprooted and broken. The front door to the admission center was blocked by a splintered trunk; at least half a dozen trees were pulled, roots and all, from soil softened by higher-than-normal May rainfall. Upwards of 35 trees were damaged so heavily they had to be removed, and many more needed extensive pruning.

Within hours of the storm, Jeff Gile was on campus surveying the damage. Jeff is the plant manager for Sodexo USA, a company that since 2006 has provided Southwestern's main campus maintenance and plant operations. Jeff was able to mobilize both expertise and manpower to clean up the campus, making it safe for the summer campers who arrived the next morning, and repairing the damage well before students arrived back on campus.

This is just one example of why we're pleased with our transition to the outsourcing of campus maintenance. Sodexo employees, under Jeff's leadership, gave us the benefit of expertise gained on dozens of campuses, many of them much like ours, as we deal with facilities both new and venerable.

But the company also leads us into the future. Sodexo fully supports Southwestern's commitment to be a green campus, and they make decisions with this intent in mind. Nearly all of the environmentally conscientious features of the library renovation are attributable to the expertise Sodexo provides us, from the energy-efficient boilers to the new roof, and including new energy-efficient windows and lights. Even the "green" carpet that can be easily recycled and is not afflicted with toxic glue is a Sodexo solution.

It's something we teach our students—to call on experts and work as a team. And for plant operations, that philosophy is working out just fine.

Shelia Krug
Vice President for Finance and Human Resources
Chuck Todd to Deliver Docking Lecture

Chuck Todd, NBC News' political director since March 2007, will be at Southwestern College during the most crucial stages of the fall's presidential campaign.

Todd will discuss “Politics — 2008 and Beyond” at the second annual Docking Lecture on Leadership and Public Affairs Monday, Oct. 20, at 11 a.m. The event in Richardson Auditorium is free and open to the public.

“Chuck Todd has really stood out in this campaign season with his clear and factual analyses of the nominating processes of both parties,” says SC President Dick Merriman. “He’s now turned his attention to the electoral college map in the presidential election and likely outcomes in the Senate and House of Representatives. It will be exciting to get his assessment just two weeks before the election.”

“Todd, who the Los Angeles Times calls “one of MSNBC’s most important players in this memorable political season,” also serves as NBC News’ on-air political analyst for “NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams” and “Today.”

“A 36-year-old goateed number cruncher who was barely known outside the Beltway a year ago, Todd now has fans who call themselves ‘Chuckolites’ and a growing profile in the news division as an almost old-fashioned straight shooter among his highly opinionated colleagues and the shouting heads that dominate cable,” an Aug. 17 profile in the Times said.

In addition to his on-air analysis, Todd is responsible for all aspects of NBC News’ political coverage, including maintaining contact with the campaigns and serving as the point person for political news and information. He is also the editor of “First Read,” NBC’s guide to political news and trends in and around Washington, D.C., and writes weekly columns for MSNBC.com. He is based in NBC News’ bureau in Washington, D.C.

The Docking Lectures on Leadership and Public Affairs are underwritten by William Docking of Arkansas City, Thomas Docking of Wichita, and Union State Bank. The Docking family has played a prominent role in Kansas government and politics for decades. In 1956, George Docking was elected to the first of two terms as Kansas governor. His son, Robert Docking, was elected governor in 1966 and served four terms. Robert Docking’s sons have continued the family’s commitment to public service. William Docking was appointed to the Kansas Board of Regents in 1995, and Thomas Docking was lieutenant governor of Kansas from 1983 to 1987. His wife, Jill Docking, ran for the U.S. Senate in 1996 and is now a member of the Board of Regents.

Southwestern College and Huangshan University in China have agreed on a contract of cooperation to become sister schools beginning in the fall of 2008.

David Hofmeister, director of teacher education at Southwestern, traveled to China to sign the agreement. During his trip, Hofmeister will visit the University of Foreign Languages and Zhiqun (Tim) Qian, director of the China initiative at SC.

“Any student seeking employment in areas such as business, non-governmental organizations, and some governing organizations really need to seriously consider the global market,” Hofmeister says.

“China has 1.3 billion people with the expectation of 300-400 million in the middle class by the end of the next decade. SC simply wants to make certain we have a place available for our students to obtain learning opportunities in a safe, student friendly institution that reflects many of SC’s institutional traits.”

Sister college agreement negotiations will establish the Institute for Chinese Programs to assure that agreements are fulfilled.

The two schools agree to have close cooperation in faculty training, academic exchanges, and other areas. Starting in the fall 2008 semester, the schools will exchange faculty for training and cultural experiences.

A three- to six-month exchange program beginning in fall 2008 will benefit students. Academic credit earned during the overseas learning experience will be awarded by the host campus and be accepted by their graduating campus.

Under certain circumstances, three-year program completers at Huangshan University can add one additional year of study at Southwestern College to obtain a bachelor’s degree in identified areas. In addition, students who graduate from Huangshan University with a bachelor’s degree can attend Southwestern for one additional year of study to obtain a graduate degree. The two institutions will help each other in ensuring students can be admitted to China or the United States.

The campus Web presence underwent total reconstruction under the direction of Webmaster Terry Quiet and media firm Extenomotion. Check it out at www.sckans.edu/campus.

New Faculty Welcomed to SC

ALICE BENDINELLI, assistant professor of literature, received her Ph.D. in literatures and the sciences of literatures from the University of Verona, Italy. She has published a number of articles and engaged in several conference presentations. In addition to her expertise in British fiction, Bendinelli is a qualified language instructor and has teaching experience in Spanish and Italian.

MIKE JONES, assistant professor of jazz music, will be at Southwestern for two years while music professor Christopher Schmitz completes a graduate degree. Jones is completing his DMA degree in jazz studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He has experience working in public schools and teaching at the university level as a graduate assistant. Jones also has a wide range of professional performance experience and has won awards both for teaching and performance.

Southwestern's Online Face Changes

Big Wind Takes a Bough

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**Share The Love!**

Enthusiastic alumni may be the best salesmen for Southwestern College, and the college’s admission officers could use your help as they go out on the college fair circuit. Kansas college fairs are sponsored by KACRAO (Kansas Association of College Registrars and Admission Officers). College representatives must be admission staff members, and alumni volunteers are not allowed to attend the fairs as the “official” representatives. However, SC admission officer Rodney Worsham says SC would love for alumni to stop by and possibly do the following:

- Meet the admission counselor who works with students in your high school/community/church area.
- Pick up a packet of information to take back to a high school student who may not be attending the fair or is not familiar with SC.
- Stop by and pick up a list of names of students who are on our current mailing list from the local area.
- Get a free purple SC pen! (KACRAO does not allow us to give away “fun” items at the fairs to students—but we definitely could to alumni.)

**Call Worsham at (620) 229-6202 for more information.**

Locations of college fairs scheduled for the fall include (high schools otherwise indicated):

- Sept. 29: Hutchinson, Great Bend
- Sept. 30: Russell, Hays
- Oct. 1: West Smith County, Norton
- Oct. 2: Colby Community College
- Oct. 6: Dodge City, Scott Community
- Oct. 7: Garden City, Steward County Community College, Ulyses
- Oct. 8: Pratt Community College
- Oct. 9: Topeka Expo Center
- Oct. 13: Olathe, Olathe North
- Oct. 14: Highland Community College, Archibald, Kansas City Kansas Community College
- Oct. 15: Shawnee Mission East
- Oct. 16: Manhattan, Osalho, Lawrence Free State
- Oct. 20: Pittsburg State University
- Oct. 21: Independence Community College, Allen County Community College, Emporia
- Oct. 22: Ottawa, Leavenworth
- Oct. 27: Maryville, Cloud County Community College, Salina South
- Oct. 28: Chapman, Junction City
- Nov. 3: Winfield, McPherson
- Nov. 4: Wichita Futures Fair
- Nov. 5: Newton, Butler County Community College

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**Fall 2008 Performing Arts Calendar**

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<td><strong>OCTOBER</strong></td>
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| **South Kansas Symphony Orchestra Concert, 3 p.m., Richardson.**
| **Theatre Arts Day, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Messenger.**
| **The Comedy of Errors Homecoming Production, 8 p.m., Messenger.**
| **Kaleidoscope: Homecoming Music Alumni Reunion, 8 p.m., Richardson.**
| **The Comedy of Errors Homecoming Production, 8 p.m., Messenger.**
| **A Cappella Choir with Alumni Choir, 10:45 a.m., Grace United Methodist Church.**
| **The Comedy of Errors Homecoming Production, 3 p.m., Messenger.**
| 9 Lives Campus Improv Show, 9 p.m., Messenger. (adult content) |

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| **James Leland, Faculty Organ Recital, 7:30 p.m., Richardson.**
| **Inheritance Original Drama, 7:30 p.m., Messenger. (adult content)**
| **Jazz Band Concert, 7:30 p.m., Dining Hall/Little Theatre/Wotron.**
| **Inheritance Original Drama, 7:30 p.m., Messenger. (adult content)**
| **Inheritance Original Drama, 7:30 p.m., Messenger. (adult content)**
| **SC Band Concert, 3 p.m., Richardson.** |

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| **Christmas Choral/Orchestra Concert, 3 p.m., Richardson.**
| **9 Lives Community Improv Show, 9 p.m., Messenger. (adult content)**
| **SC Youth Symphony Orchestra Concert, 5 p.m., Richardson.**
| **Small Packages Directing 1 Scenes, 6:30 p.m., Little Theatre.** |

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**Wrotten Gift Leaves Faculty Legacy**

A gift from a Southwestern College professor will result in the underwriting of a faculty position in her former department.

The Helen Wrotten Endowment for English was created by a $250,000 estate gift from Dr. Helen Wrotten, a long-time English faculty member and namesake of Wrotten Hall. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Kansas State University with graduate degrees from the University of Illinois, Dr. Wrotten received a doctor of humane letters degree from Southwestern. She was the state president of Delta Kappa Gamma in the early 1970s. Dr. Wrotten died Jan. 21, 2008.

Endowment income from the Helen Wrotten Endowment for English provides funds for salary for a professorship in the English department at Southwestern College.

“Our alumni remember Helen Wrotten for her rigor and her commitment to high academic standards,” said Southwestern College President Dick Merriman.

“That legacy is continued through her most generous gift to support great teaching in our English program.”

More than 1,000 campers (both resident and day campers) made the summer a busy one on the Southwestern College campus.

One popular option was the brand-new Summer Music Festival. Under the direction of Timothy Shook, young musicians participated in vocal and instrumental tracks and were supported by scholarship assistance from Dr. George Cole. SC music professors Daniel Stevens, David Gardner, and Christopher Schmitz were conductors. Next year’s festival is set for the first week of June, and middle- and high-school musicians are invited to participate.

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**Just a reminder...** the nomination deadline is Oct. 15, 2008, for the two newest halls of fame at Southwestern College—Fine Arts Hall of Fame and Social Sciences Hall of Fame. These inaugural events will take place over Founders Day weekend, April 17-18, 2009, along with inductions into Southwestern’s Business, Educators, and Scholars halls of fame.
For many mothers (especially those who have stayed at home to care for their children) the moment the youngest child goes off to college marks a difficult transition. This new stage of life can seem empty.

For Marilyn (Powers) McNeish ’54, though, the moment marked the transition to a new phase in her life, a phase in which she describes herself as an artist.

Now she’s making another art transition—during October (including Homecoming) she will experience her first art show, in the Presidents Gallery of Darbheth Fine Arts Center.

The arts have long been part of this philanthropist’s life—she started piano lessons at age four and when her family moved to Winfield at the start of her seventh grade year, she began taking music lessons at the college. But after she graduated from Southwestern and married George McNeish, most of her energies were taken up by the rearing of four children.

It was when the youngest went off to college in 1973 that Marilyn began to take decorative painting classes. “My first teacher was Emily Eaton Williams,” Marilyn recalls. “She was a super teacher, and insisted on good habits. I still have some of my original brushes as a result.”

But good equipment wasn’t all that was necessary to develop an accomplished painter. In those first years, Marilyn admits, she did little painting outside of class time. For some reason, she says, she thought she could learn in her two hours of lessons per week.

Now she knows better. The paintings that will be hung during Homecoming demonstrate hundreds of hours of effort, including lessons with some of the most well-known decorative painters. She has learned to work in a variety of media; she started with oils, moved to acrylics, and recently has been experimenting with watercolors.

Every week she paints with a group of local artists in Udaill, friends who help each other by sharing pointers and critiques. (Occasionally, she says, the best advice is to erase a pattern and start over.) Time spent painting goes so fast she doesn’t even realize how physically demanding it can be.

Her show will be grouped into categories—strove work, still lives, landscapes, a wall of sunflowers, portraits. And perhaps the portraits will be the pieces she cherishes most. She has painted all of her nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They represent the changing of generations that started her foray into visual arts, and the family support that Marilyn McNeish says made her art possible.

“I grew up thinking I couldn’t paint,” she says. “But now when people tell me they can’t paint, I tell them it’s not true. They need to find a good teacher, get some books, and start in.”

“I learn something every time I do it.”

Ken Highfill ’65, a retired Lawrence High School biology teacher, captured this image of Monarch butterflies that was displayed at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., during the spring of 2006. The photos used in a Smithsonian banner and exhibit were taken during a September 2004 evening when thousands of Monarchs stopped at the Baker Wetlands during their migration to Mexico.
Work Day

The Southwestern College family.

It’s a description that always seems to fit when someone is referring to the students, faculty, staff, and alumni who make up the Moundbuilder nation. The shared experiences and feeling of belonging do seem to mirror those of a family.

As new freshmen moved onto campus Aug. 20, though, that term had a special meeting. At least five of these new freshmen have literally grown up on campus, and now have chosen to study where their parents are on faculty. They’re part of a robust freshman class, with its 165 members (at the end of the first week) one of the larger in recent history.

Along with their new classmates they participated in Builder Camp, sweat through Freshman Work Day, and learned the traditions that come with being part of Southwestern College.

It’s a family thing.

< Christy Rude, daughter of Martin Rude (director of outreach) and Cheryl Rude (associate professor of leadership studies and director of Leadership Southwestern). Christy is shown above being given a Homecoming lift by Martin’s twin, Mark.>
Move-in Day

Arden Moon, daughter of Roger and Allyson Moon (both associate professors of theatre and speech). The picture below shows Arden sleeping in a shot from the 1994 Moundbuilder yearbook.

Chastity Osen, daughter of Charles Osen (communications assistant) and Kelli (Godsey) Osen ’92 ’94.

Carol Gardner, daughter of David Gardner (assistant professor of music and director of choirs) and Cheryl Gardner.

Not shown is Nick Hofmeister, son of David Hofmeister (education division chair) and Jane Ann Hofmeister.
Jean (Dilworth) Warren ’43 recently received the Honorary Merit Award for 2008 from the 1,100-member Dubbo Viss Reitred Teachers Association. She received this award because of her continuing work in education and service to the community of Concord, Calif.

Genevieve Newton ’57 was chosen to play the organ at First United Methodist Church in Castle Rock, Colo. She studied for eight years of piano and cello at her studio in Palmer Lake.

John Spigarelli ’48 was honored as a long-time member of the Frontenac High School all-class reunion in June 2008. He started his teaching career at Frontenac in 1948 and ended at Girard High School. In addition to teaching, he was also a football, basketball, and track coach. John retired in 1984 after 31 years in education. Now he devotes his time to gardening. He and his wife, Josephine, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 24.

Bob Roberts ’50, long-time employee of Bockeye Union High School and Bockeye Union School District, was honored by the Board of Education when it named its track and field facilities after him and announced a $1 million endowment. It is called “The Roberts-Smith Track and Field Complex.”

Dan Kahler ’50 will be honorary principal for a day when the North Kansas City (Mo.) school system opens its fourth high school this fall. Kahler has been principal at the charter school in northwest Kansas City schools, and the board of education proclaimed naming him to the honorary job points out that he is the only person to have served all four schools as principal. Dan will serve his day in mid-October, allowing the newly-appointed principal to enjoy “the magic of creating a new school.” He plans to attend a girl’s volleyball game; Kahler explains, “I’ll be watching for the first time when the team is outside in cold, possibly wet weather to supervise another football game!” Dan earned 15 letters at Southwestern in football, basketball, baseball, and golf, and was a member of Campus Players, a Master Builder, and president of his freshman and senior classes. “Helen Graham is the best teacher I ever had,” he says.

Don Adams ’51 and his wife, Lois, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 26, 2008. To celebrate, their children hosted a one-week family trip to the Sedona, Grand Canyon, and Flagstaff area of Arizona.

Betty (Wynn) ’51 and Richard M’Ghee celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 9, 2008, at a reception hosted by their children, Gayle Baldwin, Bruce ’84, and Steven M’Ghee First United Methodist Church, Wichita. They were married Feb. 14, 1958, at Woodland Methodist Church in Wichita.

Leo “Pete” Whalen ’51, owner of Lucky Leo’s Concession, has been selected by the New Jersey Annunciation Association as its prestigious Person of the Year. Leo started in 1955 with just

one stand. Working only summers at first, he had been a teacher when he began on the boardwalk.

Peggy (Miller) Snyder ’52 recently retired as organist at the First United Methodist Church of Bowling Green, Ohio. In her retirement letter she stated “My 44 years of service has been the mission for my life. The hard work and pressure of performing every Sunday has not always been easy, but try to imagine the organist has never wavered. It is truly the ‘king’ of instruments.” Peggy’s husband, Eldon ’52, is a retired professor of sociology at Bowling Green State University, and continues to teach part-time in the Honors Program.

Joe and Juanita (Hardy) Gillaspie ’53 ’52 were honored by the Pawnee Heights School and the SPAA League at the league basketball tournament for their volunteer services for the schools for many years. The certificate of appreciation came with a lifetime pass to league events.

Betty (Gottshall) Hill ’54 announces her marriage to Ira Duane Bonebright on Feb. 10, 2008. Duane is a certified public accountant raised on a South Dakota farm. They live in Ashland.

Lyle and Jean Snaeey ’57 ’57 received the Honorary State FFA Degree on April 29, 2008, at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. The honor was presented for contributions they have made to the FFA and agricultural youth of Oklahoma.

Don Philip Gibson ’61, a member of the Winfield chapter of the American Guild of Organists, recently participated in a tour of pipe organs in four Winfield churches. Don is the organist for First Presbyterian Church and he performed a short demonstration at the church, gave a description of the instrument, and then provided a booklet with more details.

Newt and Doris (Warner) ’63 Richards were presented with the 2007 Cowley County Conservation Award at the county’s 61st annual district meeting on Feb. 7, 2008. This award is given to individuals who implement soil and water conservation practices in Cowley County.

Russell O. Vail ’63 was presented with the official Medal for Excellence and Service to Our Nation on May 1, 2008, at the American Federal Contract Investigators Association (AFCIA) National Conference in Fort Myers, Va. Russell holds two national offices with AFCIA—Central region director and member of the board of directors.

Janice (Savely) Jacobsen ’63 retired from the medical sociology department at the Mayo Clinic on May 10, 2008.

Larry Jantz ’67 recently completed his seventh year as color commentator for the Class AA boys state championship basketball games. These games were filmed and produced by Smokey Hills Public TV and shown on public TV stations around the state of Kansas. In addition, Larry was a

“token referee” when the KU Senior Barstomrns Tour was in Hays this spring.

Gordon “Max” DeWeese ’67, headmaster of Southwest Covenant High School, Yukon, Okla., has resigned from this post to raise funds and develop plans for new facilities. He has been with the school for 14 years. Southwest Covenant ranks near the top academically among all high schools in the state based on ACT scores.

Tom Gregg ’67 was recently elected State Commissioner of the Kansas Department of the State Legislature. His term will run through May 2009. He has been a member of the Dexter D. Harbour Post 479 in Ulysses for 10 years.

Don Hayward ’68 spent the summer attending two National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) seminars at James Madison’s Monticello, Va., mansion and the Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Pa. He studied with 45 other teachers about James Madison, his character and involvement at the Constitutional Convention in 1787. He will also attend a special workshop with retired associated professor of the Supreme Court Sandra Day O’Connor at Georgetown University Law School. This spring, a student from Hayward’s Advanced Placement Government class was chosen as one of the top 10 finalists from Kansas in a national essay competition on “Civic Values in the United States.” The recognition was presented at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., where First Lady Laura Bush served as the keynote speaker.

Richard Jespers ’70 is author of a short story, “Basketball is Not a Drug,” recently published in a print anthology, Best of the West 2008. It includes 57 other stories, primarily by Western writers, originally published in online journals in 2007. The story also be can in its original setting online at Blackbird (VCU) by Googling the author’s name.

Sherry (Galloway) Willis ’70 has written a children’s book titled Cowboy Ted the Triange Man. The official release date for bookstores and online was July 1, 2008.

Jim Vanek ’71 will be moving to the administration building for the Wilde County School District Re-1 in Gilcrest (Greeley), Colo., after 37 years as a classroom teacher, coach, and department chair. His new job title (teacher on special assignment/director of federal programs/career/technical education) will have him working with teachers instead of students. His wife, Virginia (Lungren) ’69, will begin her 40th year as a third grade teacher at Gilcrest Elementary School. Their children, Jan and Sarah, are both educators. Jim is a business teacher, basketball and baseball coach, at Kapaa Mt. Carmel High School in Wichita. Sarah is a first grade teacher and cross country coach at Victor Ouales Elementary School in Garden City.

Janet Evans ’72 is completing a four-year term as treasurer of the Southeast District (eastern Pennsylvania) conference of United Methodist Women. She is active in church choir and handbell choir, and works in accounting with a foster care/adoption agency in the Philadelphia area.

Terry M’Gonigle ’73 has been selected for induction into the Educational Theatre Association’s Teacher Hall of Fame. This association is a national organization for theatre education professionals on all levels (high school, college, and professional).

Doug Gilbert ’78 was elected in February 2008 as treasurer of the formerly-formed city of Castle Pine North, Colo. Doug also serves as the chair of graduate business and management at the University of Phoenix, Colorado campus.

Jeanne (Baker) Dexter ’81, business professor at the Florida State University-Pensacola City College, was honored with the Florida State University Undergraduate Teaching Award in Tallahassee on April 7, 2008. She is the first FSU faculty member to win both the Undergraduate Teaching Award and the University Undergraduate Advising Award as a member of the FSU—PC faculty.

Grant Bumgarner ’84 was keynote speaker for the Bring the Bunting to Columbia, the Allstate NCAA at South Carolina statewide conference held in May. A survivor of a motorcycle accident in 2001, he spoke about his struggles in recovery and healing from both physical injuries (the amputation of his leg) and a traumatic brain injury.

Monty Lewis ’85 was head coach of the Friends University football team that won the KCAC title in 2007, and was named Coach of the Year for the second consecutive year. He had a
94–48 coaching record overall, and saw the Falcons go to the NAIA playoffs in both 2006 and 2007.

Kim Mercer ’86 was chosen to receive the Community Cornerstone Award for the month of May 2008. This award, presented by First National Bank in Winfield, is in recognition of her time and effort serving the Winfield community in providing social work services to youth and families since 1996.

Keitha Adams ’89 is the head women’s coach for the University of Texas-El Paso basketball team. In 2008, for the first time, the Miners received an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament, after having posted a perfect 16–0 conference record and becoming regular-season Conference USA champions. They also established a league-best 23–game winning streak. Keitha has promised the Women’s Basketball Coaches’ Association Region 4 Coach of the Year and was a finalist for the organization’s National Coach of the Year Award.

Betsy Jane (Rasmussen) Moore ’91 retired from teaching after 38 years, 34 of those at Oxford (Kan.) Elementary. She and her husband, Bob, celebrated their 42nd anniversary July 10, 2008.

Shari Kennedy ’92 was promoted to U.S. Navy Commander on May 1, 2008. She is serving a six-month deployment in Kuwait that began in June after serving as psychiatric technician course department head at the Naval School of Health Sciences.

Paul Brown ’93 is an instructor for the Motorcycles Mechanics Institute, which is a part of Universal Technical Institute in Orlando, Fla. His wife, Stephanie (Wall) ’93, and their children, Will and Olivia, are relocating from Wichita to the Orlando area to join him as soon as Stephanie’s appointment at St. Paul’s is completed.

Clint Peterson ’93 won a closely-contested primary election Aug. 6 in his quest to become District Judge for the 26th Judicial District. The 26th Judicial District consists of six counties in western Kansas. He is currently an attorney in Liberal.

Andy Stephens ’93 has been elected to the board of directors of the Kansas Optometric Association.

Kim Hager ’95 was recently recognized for her 25 years of service to the Arkansas City school district. She began as a physical education teacher and basketball coach, but also has sponsored such groups as KAYS (Kansas Association for Youth) SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), and FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes).

Tyson Blatchford ’97 has become the first full-time surgeon in Arkansas City in several years. In his first two weeks, he performed surgeries at South Central Kansas Regional Medical Center.

Joe and Melissa (Dick) Provost ’97 were married July 29, 2006, at First United Methodist Church in Winfield. (see also Births)

Kristin Ward ’97 is the first Kansas woman to be inducted into the Farmers Insurance President’s Council and Topper Club, a recognition given only to the top one percent of agents nationwide. She is also working for Farmers Insurance shortly after high school. She is also currently a Chamber Champion for the Derby Chamber of Commerce.

Ann Hawley ’99 graduated in May 2008 from Teachers College in New York City. She then went to Jordan with the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), a critical language program of the State department, studying Arabic for two months this summer in Amman, the capital city of Jordan.

Karen Wright ’90 graduated from Emporia State University in 2007, earning her master’s degree in business. She is currently teaching career and technical education at Butler College Community College.

Ephanie DelBay ’00 is a student activities specialist at Tulsa Community College. She also serves as an advisor to the Student Government Association, helping with activity planning and budget implementation, and as advisor to the leadership track. She co-advises the school’s honorary society, Phi Theta Kappa, along with numerous other responsibilities.

Jeffery Rahm ’00 married Michele Bredlow July 26, 2008, in Madison, Wis.

Laurie Beyer ’02 has recently been promoted to operations manager at Sears in Minot, N.D. She and her husband, Scott, have two children, Emma (3) and Anna (2).

Kelly Burgar ’02 has accepted a position at KCI at 15M Channell 7, Pittsburgh, Kan. She is the director of the 90-minute morning newscast. She is also a graphic artist for the noon newscast and works in the master control department.

Jared D. Gerhardt ’02 has graduated with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry.

Jeff and Rachel (Stueve) Matile ’02 married on June 28, 2008, at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Olpe, Kan.

Mika Reed ’03 married Zachary Gray on May 31, 2008. They have made their home in Chickasha, Okla., where he has been hired as a teacher.

Emily (Baer) Holthus ’03 is doing a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Scott and White Memorial Hospital in Temple, Texas.

Brian Holthus ’04 teaches seventh grade Texas literature and coach middle school football and basketball, and high school baseball.

Rachelle (Regier) Tigg ’04 is now the manager of the Walgreens in Arkansas City.

Kyle Garst ’94 received a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Youth Ministry degrees in May 2008 from Princeton Theological Seminary. During the past year, she worked in Alaska’s Denali National Park with the organization A Christian Ministry in the National Parks.

Jessica (Harr) Cochran ’06 entered the PhD program at the College of Pharmacy at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in the fall of 2007 and plans to graduate in 2011. Her husband Chris, also an SC alumn, is working toward a degree in Culinary Arts at Platt College in Oklahoma City.

Jaye A. Fry ’06 has graduated with a Master of Science in family therapy degree from Friends University.

Eloy and Andrea (Carlson) Mendoza ’08 were married July 12, 2008, in Winfield. Eloy will be working at Great Plains Industries Inc. as the e-marketing coordinator. Eloy had been at Southwestern College since 2002 when he began his collegian studies. He has been part of Southwestern’s coaching team (assistant of electronic outreach) since 2006, and completed his MBA in 2008. Andrea will be teaching in Udall as the K-12 vocal teacher.


Hayley Holthus ’07 is starting her third semester as a Master of Public Health student at the University of Kansas Medical School. She also recently accepted a graduate research assistantship position with the KU Life Span Institute in Lawrence.

Anna Leslie ’07 joined Spirit in Tulsa, Okla., following graduation. She is in charge of the group’s members of a project engineering group which develops strategies that improve the function of the engineering design organization.

Kim M’Carty ’07 helped launch the IT department at Big Dog Motorcycles in Wichita and oversaw that department during a period of rapid growth for the company. Now she has moved into the aircraft industry. In February 2008, she joined Mid-Continental in the company’s newly-created position of IT manager. In this role, she implements various technological and information services designed to keep the company’s IT system running efficiently.

Christina and Jacob Starnes ’07 ’07, both Professional Studies graduates, have received new jobs and promotions with their companies. Jacob became an associate buyer for Cessna, a promotion from his previous job as an scheduler, and Christina was promoted into the IT department with the Department of Veterans Affairs as an IT specialist.

Allen Twitcliff ’07 directed the summer production of Every Soul, an adaptation of the medieval morality play with the Third Hill Players, made up of actors and musicians from the Winfield Correctional Facility. Allen, a student candidate in SC’s Master of Science in Leadership program, adapted the script with the cast to give it a New Orleans flare. WCP includes created jazz music for the production.

Cody Annis and Audry Anderson ’08 ’08 were married June 28, 2008, in Ulysses. They have both returned to Southwestern to complete their Fifth-Year Master’s courses.

Josef Felver ’08 entered the doctoral program in physics at Washington State University in the fall of 2008.

Susan J. Loveall ’08 has been accepted to the doctoral program in cognitive psychology at the University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa.

Kristen L. Wormack ’08 has been accepted to the Master of Science in family therapy program at Friends University.

Andrea Schneider ’09 participated in an internship at General Electric’s Strotler Field during the summer of 2008.

SPC Brandon Brackett ’10 received special recognition from the Sergeant Major of the Army for creating a suicide prevention poster titled “No One Can Take Your Place.” Brandon is a chaplain’s assistant with the 5-52 Air Defense Battalion and is majoring in Pastoral Studies through Professional Studies program.

Will Neely ’10 participated during the summer of 2008 in the National Science Foundation’s Research Experiences for Undergraduates program in the Physics Department at Kansas State University.

Abram Rankin ’10 performed the role of Lumiere in the Winfield summer production of Beauty and the Beast.

Cassie Reimer ’10 participated in an internship at the Kansas Cosmopoesphere during the summer of 2008. Cassie also was in the top ten contestants in the Miss Kansas pageant in June 2008.
SCHEMATIC

Ronald Beach, affiliate faculty in Professional Studies, was co-chair of the May 15, 2008, Day Trade Conference, "Doing Business With Arab States-Middle East: Trade and Investment Prospects." Representatives were present from nine Arab states. Beach is vice chairman of the World Trade Council of Wichita, and has met ambassadors, general counselors, and trade representatives from 64 countries.

Lisa Braun, assistant professor of athletic training, and Amanda Beadle, head athletic trainer, attended the 39th annual National Athletic Trainers' Association convention in St. Louis June 17-21. Four students also attended (Nathan Moniz, Whitney Bivens, Valerie Hart, and Rene Schwan).

Kyle Coulter, program representative in Professional Studies, is running for the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Coulter was the campaign manager for State Representative Mark McCullough and has helped on other campaigns but this is his first foray into elected office.

Bill DeArmond, professor of mass communications and film, has had two of his stories, "The Dream Within a Dream" and "Dig Deeply the Grave," accepted for publication by Jofa of America for Spring 2009. His poem "Staring Into the Abyss" has been accepted for publication by Midnight Street, a British magazine.

Jim Helmer, head coach of men's track and men's and women's cross-country, was a speaker at the Butler College Distance Racing Clinic on July 26, and at the Kansas State High School Activities Association Coaching School Aug. 6. The topic of both presentations was "Coaching Distance Runners." 

David Hofstein, professor of teacher education, received a grant from the Kansas State Department of Education to further develop the restricted licensure program offered by teacher education.

James Leeland, adjunct instructor of music and a member of the Winfield chapter of the American Guild of Organists, recently participated in a tour of pipe organs in four Winfield churches. He is the organist for Grace United Methodist Church and he performed a demonstration of the church, told a brief description of the instrument, and then provided a booklet with more details.

Cheryl Rude, chair of the social science division, presented "Encouraging Active Learning Activities in Teaching the Five Practices" at The Leadership Challenge Forum 2008 held Aug. 8 and 9 in Denver.

Andy Shepperd, dean of faculty, gave an invited presentation, "Introducing the Center for Belarussian Studies," at The Institute of Civic Space and Public Policy, Lauriiski School of Commerce and Law, Warsaw, Poland, June 3-5, 2008. He also did an interview regarding potential collaboration between the European Humanities University and Southwestern College's Center for Belarussian Studies on BelSat TV, July 11, 2008, in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Stacy Sparks, assistant professor of journalism, was awarded a scholarship to attend "The Photographer's Book: Exploring the International," with Douglas Holleyer at Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass Village, Colo., in the summer of 2008. The fellowship covered tuition for the workshop.

Roger Moon, associate professor of theatre and speech, attended the International Thespian Conference in Lincoln, from June 22-28 and auditioned top theatre students from across the U.S. and several foreign countries. Moon and three SC students, (Abraham Rankin, Jamie Garrard and Miwa Ishii) designed the set for the Winfield Marquette organization's production of "Beauty and the Beast".

Allyson Moon, associate professor of theatre and speech, directed and designed costumes for "Beauty and the Beast," as well as leading SC's Nine Lives Improv Comedy Troupe through a month of Friday night performances at the Marquette in June. She also directed the Marquette StarSearch five monthly competitions, finishing with the StarSearch final on Aug. 23. In partnership with Winfield Arts and Humanities, she taught three week-long theatre day camps.

Jack Maddux, husband of Betty (Reimer) '51, died Jan. 18, 2008.

Geraldine "Jerry" Roberts, wife of Bob Roberts '50, died June 15, 2008, at the Hospice of the Valley in Goodyear, Ariz. Survivors include Bob, a son and a daughter.

John J. Rozam, husband of Sue (Kirk) '65, died July 2, 2008. Survivors include his wife, three children, and five grandchildren.

Lyle Senseman, father of Greg Senseman '91 and Carol Senseman-Gorman '85, died Jan. 25, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Connie.

Erma Sims, wife of F. Joe Sims '51, died June 7, 2008. She taught at the Sims Swim School for 65 years. Survivors also include two daughters, Ronda (Sims) Marshall '70, and Vicki (Sims) Hitchcock '72.

SUMMER 2008 STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

- Kate Topfarm: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Topeka.
- Taggart Wall: DC Cares, Institute of Philanthropy, Washington D.C.
- Julie Wilke, Kaydee Johnson, Karl Roth, Drew Logsdon, Courtney Ross, Patricia Messier, Courtney Howard, Nimiti Zayas, and Gloria Griffin: Project Transformation, Dallas.
- Dallas Leonard: study abroad program in New Zealand.
- Roger Klein: Gesundheit Institute (Patch Adams).
- Brianne Simon: Emporia State University's Summer theater company working as a costume and set shop technician.
- Elizabeth Higbee: stage management intern at the Heartland Theatre, Kansas City.
- Cody Davitt: taught two theatre camps in Montrose, Colo., one for youth and one for high school age individuals.
- Fara Kwaramba: Columbian Chemicals, Ulysses.
- Kelli Bryant: internship in pharmaceutical science at the University of Kansas.
- Kourtney McEland: Hospita Labs, M'Pherson.
- Matthew Hanson: aquatic toxicology at Fort Environmental Laboratories, Stillwater, Oklahoma.
- Jessica Dibble: Country Music Awards offices in Nashville, Tenn., with Christy Greasly '98.
- Nathan Buchmueller: Kansas Cosmostore, Hutchinson.

C. DARNEL JONES '72, a president judge of the Philadelphia Common Pleas Court, has been nominated to serve on the federal bench, and now is waiting confirmation by the United States Senate. Jones has gained national notice lately for his mortgage foreclosure diversion plan, which requires mortgage lenders to meet with certain borrowers in danger of home foreclosure to work out a plan to avoid sheriff's sales; numerous homeowners have avoided eviction through the plan. The plan (and Jones) were featured July 31 on the CBS Morning News.

DEATHS OF FRIENDS

Esther Brock died March 9, 2008. Esther was the mother of Gyla (Brock) Conklin '58.

Florence Dunn, widow of Harry Dunn '23, died May 7, 2008.

Gary "Jake" Jacobsen, husband of Janice (Savely) '63, died April 22, 2008.

Bonnie Hittle, Winfield, died May 7, 2008. Survivors include a son, Dennis '72 and daughter-in-law, Connie (Wells) '73; a daughter, Nancy '68 and son-in-law Gordon "Max" DeWeese '67.

Vada Holt, mother of William T. Holt '66, died June 1, 2008.

Mary "Jane" (Riddle) Lancaster, wife of George Lancaster '35, died March 27, 2008. She was and had been librarian at the Winfield Public Library for 44 years, retiring in 1979.

Gracia Lee, wife of Robert E. Lee '51, died May 12, 2008, in Hutchinson.

A boy, Copeland Royce, born May 7, 2008, to Terry Quiet '94 and Amy M'Whirt '96. Copeland has an older sister, Evie, 2.

A son, Marcus Alexander, born March 25, 2008, to Joe and Melissa (Dick) Provost '97 '97. Marcus was welcomed home by sister Catherine, 8, and brother Colin, 5.


A son, Brett Austin, born May 2, 2008, to Mark and Andrea (Pearce) Ziser '81 '81. Brett has a sister, Haley Grace, 2.

A daughter, Savannah Ruby, born April 19, 2008, to Justin and Beth (Kramer) Chalen '91 in Oregon City, Ore.

A son, Parker John, born April 24, 2008, to Kimberly and Seth Leeper '01. Parker joins big sister Emma Grace.

A son, Blaire Benson, born Dec. 17, 2007, to Travis and Stacy (Kahrs) Charbonneau '01. He joins older brother, Tyborn, 2.

A daughter, Emily Reed, born June 4, 2008, to Sid and Sarah (Pfamstiel) Mohr '02.


A daughter, Alyanna Noelle, born Feb. 25, 2008, to Glen and Annika (Billings) Graham '03. Alyanna has a big brother, Tadon.

A son, Ethan Patrick, born Dec. 24, 2007, to Ryan and Becky (Jarvis) Christner '06.

A son, Riley Jackson, born on May 4, 2008, to Jason and Jennifer Atkinson. Jennifer is a program representative in Professional Studies.
What’s new with you?

Here’s something new in my life: (job, address, marriage, baby, etc.)

RETURN THIS FORM TO:
Alumni Notes Coordinator  |  100 College St.  |  Winfield, KS 67156-2499  |  or e-mail information to: southwesterner@cksu.edu  |  11
What kind of a legacy will you leave?

We all have a desire for significance. For many of us, significance comes through creating a legacy during our lives—something for which we will be remembered in the future. A bequest is perhaps the easiest and most tangible way to leave a lasting legacy to the people and charitable organizations that mean the most to us.

A bequest is a gift made through your will or trust. There are several ways to make a bequest:

- Specific dollar amount
- Percentage of your estate
- Specific asset
- Residue of your estate

For more information on how to create a lasting legacy through a bequest, please call Paul Bean at (800) 846-1543 ext. 6286 or e-mail him at Paul.Bean@sckans.edu.

We look forward to helping you!