Some have been playing football since they were four years old. Others work far into the night to prepare for the spring musical. Still others give up their spring breaks to go on a mission trip with the Discipleship team.

At Southwestern College, you would be hard pressed to find a single student who is not involved in an activity. But how do they leverage those activities as they move into careers following graduation?

The college’s annual Backpack to Briefcase seminar explored that topic during an event that brought professional counselors and headhunters to campus, as well as a team of recent alumni guests. Student Foundation organized the sessions for the second year, bringing social networking company Career Athletes in for a session that attracted more than 250 students.

“At public universities you have less than four percent of your campus involved in athletics – at Southwestern, more than 60 percent of our students are athletes,” explains Brandon Hessing, director of student life. “Those students who aren’t athletes are involved in theatre or music, or some other activity, and we wanted them to have the tools to show future employers the strengths they have developed from these activities.”

The career-focused week is part of the college’s new focus on intentionality in preparing students for productive careers and lives, and other Backpack to Briefcase activities invited recent alumni to share their experiences.

Autumn Worten ’07 is a recruiter for Switchgear Search & Recruiting and led a workshop on resumes and interviewing techniques.

“What you know is a hard thing to transfer to a resume,” Hessing says. “Autumn stressed that each graduate should consciously adapt his or her resume to the skills that the job needs. You’re trying to not get weeded out during the recruitment process – you want that opportunity to sit face-to-face in an interview.”

The week wrapped up with an etiquette dinner at the Winfield Country Club, where Ronnie Jenkins, SC gift officer, walked students through the basics of formal dining. Sitting at each table was a recent Moundbuilder graduate.

“This was probably the best part of the week,” Hessing says. “The students were able to see someone with an SC education who is making it in the outside world, and ask that person questions – how did they get their jobs? What is it like in med school?”

Andrae Harper ’07, Brooke Rowzee ’10, D’Andre Foster ’07, Giovanni Garcia ’09, Katy (Raybern) Maddox ’09, Kaydee Johnson ’11, Korie Hawkins ’11, and Taggart Wall ’11 sat on the alumni panel that encouraged current students to pursue internships as a crucial piece of their career preparation.

For more information on the Backpack to Briefcase event, contact Hessing at Brandon.Hessing@sckans.edu.
Marcia (Hubenett) Seevers graduated from Southwestern College in 1940 and never lived in Winfield again. She never forgot the role the college played in her life, though, and when she died in June 2012 she left the college one of its largest undesignated gifts ever.

More than $1 million has been received from the Seevers estate. The gift is not earmarked for a specific project but will be used in the manner administrators and the Board of Trustees decide will best benefit the institution.

“Marcia attended Southwestern during the very difficult years of the late 1930s, and she spoke very gratefully of the college’s ‘extra mile’ efforts to help her. Her travels to personally meet with the college’s supporters during her years as a student cemented her commitment to give back to Southwestern if she could, and she never wavered from that commitment in the 70+ years that followed her graduation. Her careful estate planning, combined with her love for Southwestern, produced a wonderfully generous gift,” President Dick Merriman said.

Marcia’s love for her college was evident early: While she was still a student at SC President Mossman gave her the use of his car the two summers prior to her graduation so she could travel in western Kansas to contact Southwestern alumni and friends to encourage them to support the college. She worked her way through college and always enjoyed telling people how Southwestern was making her education possible.

She married Delmar White (who had attended SC for two years before transferring to Duke University) and following his service in World War II and completion of his graduate degree at Duke, they spent the rest of his career with the Chevron Oil Company research laboratories. They returned to Durham, N.C., in retirement in 1993 when Del’s health began to fail. He died in 1996.

Preceded in death by two sons, the Seeverses generously remembered their alma maters through their estate. Duke and Southwestern were major beneficiaries. An explanation for that decision came in 2003, when Marcia was interviewed for the Southwesterner during the Builders of Excellence Capital Campaign.

“Southwestern and the friends of the college and alumni supported it in 1936 and invested in my potential, so this is a good time for me to make a similar investment,” Marcia Seevers said.
By fall of 2013 Southwestern College tennis players will have upgraded playing facilities and spectators will have better watching conditions thanks to a collaboration of four Winfield organizations.

The college, the city of Winfield, Unified School District 465 (Winfield), and the Winfield Recreation Commission have agreed to expand and upgrade the tennis complex near Whittier School for use by all of these groups. Fundraising for the $750,000 project was completed within weeks of announcing plans last fall.

“The expanded and updated tennis complex will give our students and students in the Winfield public schools a great venue for practice and competition. Recreational tennis players will also benefit, and it’s likely the project will have an economic impact as the community begins to host tournaments,” says SC President Dick Merriman. “It’s very rewarding to work with good partners to achieve such a positive outcome.”

The new facility will include seven new tennis courts, with one configured as a championship court with a gallery area for spectators. The project will double the current number of courts and include a 10’x16’ hitting wall. Off-street parking will be constructed (eliminating current problems with on-street parking and accessibility), and covered walkways will be constructed to provide shelter for spectators.

Work will start in March or April, with expected completion in August.

This is the latest in a series of successful collaborations to maximize use of local athletic facilities. The creation of the SC softball team was made possible by its use of the city’s Broadway Street baseball fields, and the Winfield Recreation Commission operates the swimming pool in White Physical Education building for use of college, high school, and community. In addition, the school district was a major partner in the construction of Richard L. Jantz Stadium on campus and uses the stadium and track.

The new tennis facilities will be a focus of a special reunion during Homecoming 2013, Oct. 11 and 12. Head tennis coach Jason Speegle explains that in addition to showcasing the complex, the reunion will honor the 60th anniversary of the state championship won by Jim Farney and Neal Frank, and the 35th anniversary of the women’s team winning its first of four straight KCAC championships.
1960s

David ‘62 and JoPat ‘63 Dolsen celebrated 50 years of marriage on Dec. 23. Dave and JoPat met as students and were married in the First United Methodist Church in El Dorado. Dave is employed at Southwestern and JoPat is retired. Dave and JoPat have two children, Wendy (Dolsen) Coleman ‘90, Ft. Worth, Texas, and Doug Dolsen, Austin, Texas, and four grandchildren.

Phillip ‘64 and Sandi Hower, Winfield, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 4. Phil taught math and coached football and track for over 40 years, many of those at Winfield High School and Southwestern College. The couple’s children are Paige and husband, Bo Camp ‘86, Winfield, and Shawn Shriver ‘95 and husband, John ‘94, Ringling, Okla.

Don Hapward ‘68 was recently accepted as an associate member of the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA), a network of more than 1,000 professionals in educational consulting. IECA is the nation’s leading professional organization for independent educational consultants working in private practice. For 36 years IECA members have helped serve families in educational decisions that include colleges and universities. Don’s practice includes the area of Kansas and central Oklahoma.

Keith Ehmke ‘69 has retired after a career working 20 years at Holly Farms and 23 years at Cargill Corp. in Wayzata, Minn. Most recently, he was AVP of food technology and a member of the global technology team, overseeing research and development of food manufacturing and technology for the company. After retiring, Keith relocated and is enjoying the warmer climate in Rogers, Ark.

Rev. David W. Walters ‘69 retired as pastor of First Baptist Church of Gypsum, Kan., effective Jan. 1, 2013. He continues to make his home in Salina.

1970s

Doug Gilbert ‘78 has accepted the position as dean of the School of Organizational Leadership at the University of the Rockies. His new role began in February 2013.

1980s


1990s

Brian Dutton ‘92 ‘02 earned the Certified Trust and Financial Advisor designation from Institute of Certified Bankers, a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association. Dutton is currently CornerBank assistant vice president and trust officer.

Robert “Don” Gifford ‘93, Cherokee Nation member, was sworn in as Oklahoma Bar Governor in January 2013. He will serve a three-year term as a board member representing Supreme Court Judicial District Three, which includes Oklahoma City.

Jill Gragert ‘99 was married to John Gillett on Nov. 3, 2012 at Washburn University School of Law in the Robinson Courtroom, Topeka. The Gilletts now live in Fredonia. Jill is the Washburn Student Bar Association president and was to graduate from Washburn University School of Law in December 2012 with a Juris Doctorate.

Amy Schwartz ‘99 graduated from the University of Phoenix in November 2012 with a Master of Arts in Education/Adult Education and Training. She also studied voice-over technique with professional actor Rick Zieff and recorded her voice-over demo in January 2013.

2000s

Timothy Myers ’00 will be conducting the 2014 world premiere of Ricky Ian Gordon’s A Coffin in Egypt at Houston Grand Opera, featuring Frederica von Stade. Tim also will have the privilege of joining the same production for his debut at Opera Philadelphia just a few months later.

Maren Harding ’01 married James Coligan in Houston on April 13, 2012. The couple resides in Houston where Maren is employed with Key Energy Services as an environmental specialist.

Heath Horyna ’02, formerly an environmental scientist with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, has accepted a position as an environmental analyst with Westar Energy, the largest energy provider in the state of Kansas. Heath, his wife Kristy (Grinstaff) ’02, and their three daughters, live in Topeka.

Ken Taylor ‘04/’06/’07 and his wife, current Southwestern College professional studies senior, Betty Taylor, attended the recent Winfield and east Wichita alumni networking events. While there, both shared their love of Southwestern and of Kansas State University (where Ken and Betty had been students) and proved their loyalty by showing a photo of the 1,100-pound rock that Ken dug up from their pasture in Burden and carved with the Jinx and the Powercat.

Christy Hopkins ‘05 has been named to the Kansas Sampler Foundation’s board of directors. Founded in 1992, the mission of the Inman-based non-profit is to preserve and sustain rural culture. Hopkins currently serves as the community development director for Unified Greeley County. A Class X graduate of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership (KARL) program and a Kansas Health Foundation Fellow, Hopkins enjoys growing her knowledge of innovative projects and initiatives. She is also a core-team member of the PowerUps, a Kansas
Sampler Foundation initiative dedicated to the empowerment and connection of Kansans aged 21-39 who are rural by choice. Christy also serves on the boards of the Western Kansas Rural Economic Development Association and Wild West Country (southwest Kansas tourism region). In Tribune, Hopkins is secretary for Growing the Vision: A Foundation for the Future of Greeley County, and treasurer of the Star Theater of Tribune, a community-owned movie theater.

Leah Hartman ’07/’08 was recently hired as the coordinator of young adult ministry at First United Methodist Church in Winfield. This is a new position that exists to encourage the discipleship of those in their 20s and 30s by providing them with resources to grow and opportunities to serve.

Rachel Pollock ’07 has accepted a research associate position at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Md. The NIST is the federal agency that works with industry to develop new technologies. Rachel will be using her expertise in the physics of neutron diffraction to assist in the development and improvement of hydrogen fuel cells.

Aenea Harbes ’09, LMFT, presented the program “Childhood Trauma: Diagnosis and Treatment” at William Newton Hospital in December. Upon completion of the program, participants were able to explain complications with differential diagnosis in trauma and mental health; understand filial therapy; recognize the importance of mental health collaboration with medical staff and shared clients.

Katie Bipes ’12 and Nathan Morrison ’10 exchanged vows Aug. 10, 2012, at the First United Methodist Church, Wichita. The newlyweds are at home in Baltimore, Md. Katie is a student at Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, and Nathan is an assistant athletic trainer at Loyola University.

NOTES ON FRIENDS
Anita Judd-Jenkins, wife of Ronnie Jenkins, director of major gifts at Southwestern College, and mother of Hans Judd ’01 and Aaron Judd ’00, has retired after nearly 26 years with Home National Bank/RCB Bank of Arkansas City. During her career with the bank, she was in charge of advertising and marketing for many years, but is best known for her popular travel program to locations around the world.

Steve Ruggles, former computer information employee at Southwestern College, is director of information resources at the Kansas Veterans’ Home in Winfield.

Dave Seaton was named to the executive committee of the Kansas Historical Foundation at the group’s 137th annual meeting held Nov. 2 at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka.

Reconnect with Builders near you in 2013
Mark your calendar for these upcoming events for alumni

March 5 | 5:30-7 p.m. | Dallas/Fort Worth Networking Event at Truluck’s, 1420 Plaza Pl, Southlake, Texas  (At the corner of Carol Ave and Hwy 114)

March 7 | 5-7 p.m. | Houston Networking Event at Grappino di Nino, 2817 West Dallas St, Houston, Texas

April 24 | 5:30-7 p.m. | Manhattan/Junction City Networking Event at Stevie’s, 605 N Washington St, Junction City

April 25 | 5:30-7 p.m. | Topeka Networking Event at Old Chicago, 1231 SW Wanamaker Rd, Topeka

April 19-20 | Founders Day Weekend/ Halls of Fame, campus locations – Winfield

May 5 | Commencement, Jantz Stadium – Winfield

May 16 | 7:05 p.m. | SC sponsor of Wingnuts Opening Game vs. KC T-Bones, Lawrence-Dumont Stadium, 300 S. Sycamore St, Wichita
M. Ellinor (Parker) Cox ’36, longtime resident of Hugoton, Kan., died Dec. 30, 2012. After graduating from Southwestern, Ellinor taught school in Bazine, Kan., but when she married Harold Cox, they moved to Ulysses where they owned a Western Auto store. Later, they moved to Hugoton where she became a farm wife, loving mother, and active leader of the community. In 1986, she was given the Woman of the Year award. Harold preceded her in death, as did son Jim Cox ’63. Survivors include sons Jerry Cox, Jeff Cox, and daughter Judy (Cox) Hamlin ’70; 11 grandchildren, including Chad Hamlin ’96; and numerous great- and great-great-grandchildren.

M. Irene (Vollweider) Rose ’37 died on January 13, 2013. A native of Winfield, Irene graduated from Winfield High School before going on to Southwestern. Before her marriage, she taught in a one-room rural schoolhouse in Cowley County, and later in Lawrence, Kan. She married Kenneth Rose of Winfield, and they traveled to all 50 states and 31 foreign countries during their marriage. Following his death in 1994, she remained active and lived in her own home until her last few days. She is survived by a son, Frederick A. Rose, a daughter, Carol C. Rose, and five great-grandchildren.

Dr. Fay Perry Greene ’38, died Oct. 27, 2012, at his home in Carlsbad, Calif. Dr. Greene attended Columbia University and then served in the Air Force in World War II. He completed his residency at Bellevue Hospital in New York City, his surgical fellowship at Cleveland Clinic, and began his private practice in East Hampton, N.Y. In 1952 he moved with his family to Parkersburg, W.Va., to establish a long-time surgical career. In addition to his numerous community activities, he served as surgeon to the B&O Railroad, chairman of the Federal Appeal Board of the Selective Service System for West Virginia, president of the Parkersburg Medical Society, president of Blue Cross, and chief of staff of St. Joseph’s Hospital. He was a surgical consultant to the country of Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies, where he and his wife, Genevieve, had their second home. In the late 1970s, he embarked on his second career when he was named by Gov. John Rockefeller to establish West Virginia’s Blennerhassett Historical State Park. He is survived by his three children, Sandra Stevenson of Ottawa, Canada, John Greene of Paris, Ky., and Laura Greene of Carlsbad, Calif.

Marcia Seevers ’40 died on June 16, 2012. During World War II Marcia accompanied her husband, Delmar ’41, to his post in Panama where she taught English to middle school children. After the war, she and Del returned to Durham, N.C., where she worked as a secretary at Duke University while Del completed his Ph.D. Marcia was preceded in death by her husband and two sons. She leaves a brother, Terry Hubenett, of Fort Scott, Kan. (see story on page 2)

Lloyd Miller ’49 died Jan. 7, 2013. Lloyd and his wife, Alice, had just celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on Dec. 14. Besides his wife, Lloyd is survived by a son, Corky (and wife Enid) Miller, two grandsons, and several great-grandchildren.

Margrit H. “Rita” Chaffin ’53 died on Nov. 7, 2012. She was the widow of Gladwin Chaffin who taught in the music department at Southwestern College in the 1950s, while Rita continued her art studies here, exploring different media from oil painting to sculpture. She loved art, animals, the outdoors, and made a difference in young lives by giving of her time and sharing her love of life. She is survived by their only child, Leslie Chaffin.

Glenn E. “Gene” Yoder ’54 died on Nov. 17, 2012, after many years of courageously battling health issues. He is survived by his wife Frances (Whitson) Yoder, daughter Debra (Yoder) Hohl, son Scott Yoder, three grandchildren, his sister Janet Holt, and his brother Stephen Yoder.


Paul L. Hellman ’58 died on Nov. 17, 2012, in Kennesaw, Ga. He attended Southwestern from 1952-54 for the purpose of obtaining a major in chemistry, but his education was interrupted when he went into the Army for two years. Paul came back to SC in 1956-57, then in the fall of 1957, transferred to the University of Kansas to complete a degree in petroleum engineering. After graduating, he went to work for Mobil Oil, becoming a gifted businessman who dedicated his career to that company where, among other things, he served as head of Indonesian operations, as head of Tripoli terminal operations, oversaw budget planning for the foreign operations of Mobil, and finished as the head of Mobil Western United States operations. For many years, Paul was a valuable member of the Southwestern College Board of Trustees and he became a major force behind the push to build Beech Science Center in the 1990s. The college honored him for his successful career by inducting him into the Southwestern College Business Hall of Fame in 2002. Paul is survived by his wife, Dorothy Hellman; sons, Robert Hellman and John Hellman, sister, Martha Strong, and two grandchildren.

David Alan Kinkaid ’71 died on Dec. 19, 2012. He had worked for Colorado State University as an environmental health office for more than 30 years, eventually heading the environmental health program. In addition to his wife, Cathy Busch-Kinkaid of Fort Collins, Colo., he is survived by his mother, Ina Mae Kinkaid of Newton, Kan., his sons, Nathan Busch, Michael Busch, Bryan Kinkaid, and their wives, and a granddaughter.

Donald F. Smith ’82 died following a sudden illness Nov. 28, 2012, in Minneapolis, Minn. He was a longtime alumni volunteer for Southwestern, a talented musician, and good friend to all who knew him. Among his survivors are his mother, Mary Lois (Fulton) Smith...
DEATHS OF FRIENDS

Sharon Bird, husband of Winfield physician, Dr. Alvin Bird, died on Nov. 13, 2012. Sharon had a passion for helping people in need, and with the closing of the Winfield State Hospital and Training Center, she and other parents established Creative Community Living, a parent/guardian driven community organization dedicated to providing services to the handicapped. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her son, Brian Bird, her daughter, Susan Bird Schultz, and four grandchildren.

Bwana Drennan, 68, Winfield, died Jan. 8, 2013. Bwana was employed at the Snyder Clinic as a receptionist and worked there for 35 years until its closing. She dearly loved music, especially playing the piano and mentoring aspiring musicians. Survivors include her husband, Robert.

Jean Horn, wife of former Southwestern College speech and debate coach Gary C. Horn, passed away June 23, 2012, in Big Rapids, Mich., following a long and courageous battle against cancer. She was 73. All three of her children - Rick Horn '81, Rene (Horn) Kaufman '84 and Mary Jo Horn '85 - are graduates of Southwestern College.

Bob Lewis, Winfield, died on Dec. 22, 2012. An accomplished pen and ink artist, Lewis completed many sketches of the historic buildings on the Southwestern College campus. He is survived by his wife, Joy, and sons, Jason, Southlake, Texas, and Jeffery, Plainville, Kan.

Margaret Webber, Winfield, passed away Dec. 19, 2012. Survivors include her daughter, Barbara Gerwin, Wichita, and two brothers.

FOUNDERS DAY WEEKEND

For more information on these events, call 620-229-6279. Space is limited and RSVP required for meals.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

5:30 p.m. Leaders in Service Hall of Fame for the Social Sciences unveiling of plaques, Deets Library, followed by dinner and ceremony. Inductees: Scott C. Hecht '90, Carl M. Metzger '71, Victor C. Sherring '41.

11:45 a.m. Theatre Tech Center Briefing, Messenger Auditorium.


3:30 p.m. Reception for Educators and Scholars Halls of Fame inductees, Deets Library

4:00 p.m. Educators Hall of Fame induction, Library Reference Room. Inductees: Marilyn G. (Stanton) Davidson '63, Diane K. (Ford) Nickelson '95, Bobby Joe Slade '57. Recipient of the Marilyn McNeish Award for Special Education: Vicki L. (Sims) Hitchcock '72.


7:30 p.m. Builders on Broadway Concert, Richardson Performing Arts Center.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20


11:45 a.m. Theatre Tech Center Briefing, Messenger Auditorium.


3:30 p.m. Reception for Educators and Scholars Halls of Fame inductees, Deets Library

4:00 p.m. Educators Hall of Fame induction, Library Reference Room. Inductees: Marilyn G. (Stanton) Davidson '63, Diane K. (Ford) Nickelson '95, Bobby Joe Slade '57. Recipient of the Marilyn McNeish Award for Special Education: Vicki L. (Sims) Hitchcock '72.


7:30 p.m. Builders on Broadway Concert, Richardson Performing Arts Center.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

2-8 p.m. South Kansas Symphony on the Prairie at the Bonfy Ranch. $6 per person.

BIRTHS


A daughter, Sofia Elaine, born Jan. 28, 2012, to Daniel '00 and Sarah (Melcher) Miller '02. She has a sister, Ella (6).

A daughter, Ashlynn Ruth, born Nov. 20, 2012, to Joel and Angela (Wills) Flory '03, Halstead.

A son, Leif Patrick, born Nov. 5, 2012, to Brett '05 and Hannah Bement. Grandparents are Doug and Lyn (Gagnebin) Bement '73. Hannah is currently working on her Ph.D. from Mississippi State in amphibian physiology.

A son, Henry Campbell, born Oct. 10, 2012, to Peter (H&A alum) and Julie (Sapp) Purin '05. Henry has a big brother, Ezra.

A daughter, Avery Jean, born Oct. 10, 2012, to Brett '06/10 and Katie Annis, Jenks, Okla. Grandparents are Pam and Jay Annis, Ulysses, and aunt and uncle are Audry (Anderson) '09/12 and Cody Annis '08/09.


A son, Zion Immanuel, born Aug. 7, 2012, to James '10 and Laura (Fobes) Sanders '11, San Antonio, Texas.
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