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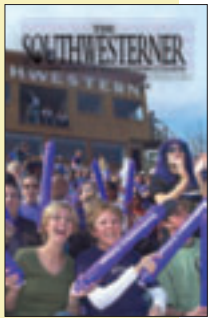
New hall of fame inductees, Carnegie Hall trip

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COVER



Builder fans cheer football victory over M'Pherson College at Homecoming 2004.

See more pictures on pages 6-7.

SECOND COVER

The brand new 77 Steps, seen from above on their dedication day, Oct. 16, 2004. Photo by Josiah Chieng '04; taken from powerchute piloted by Keith Dial '68.

Photos in this issue are by Sunni L. Sheets, Josiah Chieng '04, Sara Weinert, Charles Osen '94, and Robert Leis '08. Stories are by Sara Weinert.

From the President



Dear friends,

Homecoming 2004 was my seventh at Southwestern, and it was the best. By a mile. Many things worked together to make it so.

For starters, the college's Board of Trustees met just in advance of the weekend, and their commitment to the college set a great tone for the weekend. On Friday evening we recognized distinguished alumni and friends, honored great Builder athletes, and celebrated the performing arts at Southwestern.

On Saturday we dedicated the spectacular new 77 Steps, and the emotion of the collective effort that built the new 77, beautifully expressed in Bishop Richard Wilke's prayer of dedication, seemed to levitate the whole campus. The football team won on a glorious, sunny afternoon, classes and groups reunited, and Saturday just kept on going. On Sunday, many of us gathered at Grace United Methodist Church to worship with alumnus pastor Kyle Woodrow '99 and the college's A Cappella Choir.

To top it all off, the Builders of Excellence Campaign reached and passed the \$20 million mark the week of Homecoming. The momentum, spirit, and passion of this community are something to behold! Thanks for all you do for SC.

Best regards,

Dick Merriman

Dick Merriman
President

Administration Viewpoint



By the time you read this, we will have finished digesting the Thanksgiving turkey. The Moundbuilders will have left the football field to pack the house in Stewart, and the glorious fall view we enjoy of the Walnut Valley from the top of the 77 will have dimmed to its winter grey.

We spend much of the fall at Southwestern saying "thank you"—our Homecoming celebration, in large part, is our way of thanking our alumni for their support of the college.

You, our alumni and friends, are directly responsible for much of what we are thankful for. Our students often are referred to the college by you, and you encourage them to become Moundbuilders. You mentor them, and are foster parents to them, and serve on advisory councils to make sure they are receiving the very best educational preparation. Your gifts to scholarships and to program support make it possible for us to compete financially with tax-supported public universities.

(Of course, we hope that when it comes to giving Christmas gifts, you will also include one for Southwestern College's annual fund.)

Without your participation, Southwestern College could not do so many of the things it does, so again, thank you. We do not take you for granted.

Paul Bean

Paul Bean
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Dick Merriman

THE SOUTHWESTERNER

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