

# SOUTHWESTERN

NEWS AND STORIES FROM SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE





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Photos in *The Southwesterner* are by Terry Quiett '94, Charles Osen '94, Tessa Castor '20, Kaydee Riggs-Johnson '11, Ashlee Mayo, Susan Burdick, and Skyler Livingston unless otherwise indicated. Cover photo by Castor.



Although we forget this at times, it takes real courage to transition from a known environment to a place which is new and different. Moving forward can be difficult.

For our campus community – faculty, staff, and returning students – there is great joy and meaning found every year in welcoming new students to our college. Each year freshmen arrive on campus and unload their belongings onto the lawns of Cole Hall and Wallingford Hall. Each year an excited crew of student orientation leaders dutifully tote the boxes, suitcases, and bags into the new students' rooms. Each year we celebrate their excitement and recognize their anxiety. Their world is changing around them. While they may be outwardly rejoicing in their new-found freedom as college students, they are simultaneously questioning if they have what it takes to be successful. We know that they do.



It is our job to embrace them, to support them, and to help them find their way as Builders.

As we greet the Class of 2022, another historically large and capable class, as we welcome our returning students back to our classrooms and residence halls, we commit ourselves to recognizing their potential. The energy and emotion that we all invest in our college and these students is very much worth it. We know that the transformation we see in each student during their time at Southwestern College is worth all the bumps and struggles.

For generations we have focused on teaching our students that success is hard earned. We embrace challenges as opportunities and we find joy in working hard together to accomplish the extraordinary – this is who Builders are; this is what we have always done.

It is in the moments of unsettledness and transition that we have the greatest opportunity to learn about ourselves, about each other, about our world – it is in these moments that we become stronger.

This is the promise of move-in day, the promise of the beginning of every year.

Brad Andrews, *President*

## SOUTHWESTERN

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Bradley J. Andrews

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# Largest main campus enrollment in 25 years

Three of the four largest first-year classes in this history of Southwestern have enrolled in the last three years.

“Now with three years of success, we can call it a trend – a very positive trend,” said Adam Jenkins, vice president for enrollment.

Jenkins describes the students recruited by a team of admission counselors, faculty, coaches and program directors as energetic and impressive.

As of the 20th day of class, there were 611 students enrolled on main campus representing the highest enrollment in at least twenty-five years.

“They are a great group. They moved to campus and have gotten right to work,” said Jenkins. “These students have varying backgrounds and interests, but they all see immense value in joining the Builder Family – it is fun to see them settle in on campus and engage in our traditions.”

The increased campus population is notable.



“The energy on campus that these students bring is amazing. The number of student organizations has increased and there has been a significant increase in participation at events,” said director of campus life, Anjaih Clemons ’11. “For example, three years ago movie night attendance averaged 185 students. This

year, campus life hit a record, hosting 310 students at our first movie night of the year. Another example is that there are more students at athletic and performing arts events. It’s exciting.”

Off campus, area small businesses and restaurants have also noticed an uptick in traffic from Moundbuilders. “It’s wonderful to see so many

Southwestern students around town,” said Anthony Stonerock, assistant vice president at Community National Bank & Trust in Winfield. “Whether the students are opening up accounts at the bank, spending money at the grocery store or volunteering their time, the influx of students at SC has had a positive impact on our community.”

## McCoy Named Athletic Director

Mike McCoy ’76 who served as a volunteer consultant for SC athletics for several years before being named as the acting athletic director in July, will fill the role of athletic director moving forward.



“Mike is a true Builder. He is fully committed to guiding and supporting our coaches and student-athletes,” said Andrews. “He brings a breadth of experience as an administrator and coach – coupled with a deep love for our college.”

McCoy’s career has been in athletics. He spent 20 years coaching at the

high school and collegiate levels, as well as another 20 years of experience in professional sports. He coached at several large high schools before serving as wide receiver coach and on-campus recruiting coordinator at Kansas State University. His career then led him to indoor professional football.

McCoy worked as a sports management consultant, primarily for arena football franchises, and from 2004 to 2015 served as the general manager of several professional indoor football teams.

“We couldn’t be more fortunate to have Mike fill this important role,” Andrews added.

Southwestern College has had a solid start to their athletic year – with several of the fall sports achieving record win totals, advancing to post-season play, and strong coaches’ poll predictions for winter sports.

“I’m excited to lead Southwestern athletics forward; we will remain focused on building strong character and work ethic in our student-athletes,” said McCoy. “In this past four months I have been so impressed with our excellent team of coaches, who are building their programs in the right way and who understand the importance of our traditions – it’s a privilege to work with each of them.”



## 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb

*This is an edited piece written by freshman communication major Qae Clark.*

It was a brisk morning on September 11 in Winfield when I received an email from my professor. “Meet outside the south door of Christy Hall (by the elevator) for an observation exercise.”

I noticed the firefighters climbing the 77 steps with members of our community. Standing among the group was a firefighter with the name “MERTS,” ironed to the back of his fire-proof suit. I approached the man, curious as to why they were doing this. As I walked with Jacob Merts who is an engineer for Winfield Fire/EMS, I learned.

Every September 11 firefighters across the nation coordinate memorial events, climbing 110 flights of stairs to honor the lives lost in the World Trade Center attack. Some participants wear full gear, and carry extraction equipment, nearly hundred pounds, just as the responders did on that fateful day in 2001.

The firefighters and community members here in Winfield completed the climb in just under two hours. I cannot imagine how hard that would’ve been while carrying one hundred pounds or more of equipment, not to mention carrying it through flames, debris, and smoke. Those who risk their lives daily for the benefit of others deserve respect and recognition.

On September 11, 2001, 343 firefighters lost their lives trying to save those affected by the attack. They will never be forgotten. Thank you for all of your services to us and our country and thank you to all the firefighters who are finishing the job now.



## Builders Give

Junior, Sam DeNike, McAlester, Okla., participated in the Fall Blood Drive organized by SC Pre-Health Professionals. The Group also coordinated a Flu Shot Clinic on campus the same day.



# Good neighbors

## SOUTHWESTERN CAMPUS-WIDE HOMECOMING SERVICE PROJECT

A new style of Homecoming service project focused on a topic increasingly relevant to Southwestern College students – the concept of “neighboring.”

Brae Wood, director of Leadership Southwestern, explains that the goal of the Service Learning Council was to encourage students to expand their idea of service as tasks (such as painting a house for someone or a food packaging event) into service as a lifestyle.

“You can use your mind in service for a cause or even to build community just as you can by physically volunteering,” Wood says. “The idea for neighbor night came out of a conversation with Student Life about some of the issues students face on campus. Building community or simply put: being a good neighbor provides foundations to overcome challenges many students face.”

SC partnered with SoCe Life in Wichita. The Neighboring Movement by SoCe Life researches, practices, and teaches about neighboring. Adam Barlow-Thompson '06, co-founder of SoCe Life, led about 370 students at the SC event.

### ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE: Adam Barlow-Thompson '06

When I went to SC I knew one other person, and since she was in the woman's dorm, I knew for certain that my new roommate and neighbors were going to be strangers. As we piled into the first floor of Wallingford I was more nervous than my 18-year-old self would have ever admitted; thank God for youthful bravery. While we ended up there by chance, those neighbors have been a part of my life ever since. There is something special about the neighbors you make in college, they turn into friendships that last forever.

When I left SC it only took two days to realize that the tight-knit neighborly community I had enjoyed was gone, and I've spent most of my professional career trying to recreate that neighborhood. Turns out, neighboring is not only fun it is good for your health. The feeling of loneliness can increase your risk of death by 26%, about the same as smoking 15 cigarettes a day. Even scarier research shows

that the fastest growing demographic impacted by loneliness and isolation is young people, especially those just entering the workforce. When we neighbor we confront loneliness with the power of relationship. As a new crop of SC students discovers their Builder neighbors I hope they revel in the community provided by SC. I hope it brings them health and happiness, and that it teaches them the skill of being a good neighbor for the rest of their lives.



Adam Barlow-Thompson '06 took the stage in Richardson Performing Arts Center to share the importance of neighboring with SC students participating in the Homecoming service project.

### STUDENT PERSPECTIVE: Tessa Castor '19

From the time you enter Builder Camp as a freshman at SC to the time you walk across the stage at graduation, you'll probably hear about the “Builder Family” a few hundred times.



What's interesting about the Builder Family is its diversity, the different backgrounds and interests and organizations and sports and social circles. But before Builders are athletes, organization members, or students, they're neighbors.

SC boasts eight residence halls. While students

are on campus, they will do laundry, eat, and live beside their neighbors. It's unavoidable – at the end of the day, students come home to those who live around them.

It's no secret that college is hard. Homework, exams, extracurriculars, and events thrown in between make for busy Builders. But, when things get hard, life is made easier with friends.

That's what makes neighboring so important. Neighboring exposes students to those outside of their social circle, turning acquaintanceships into friendships. These classmates, teammates, and neighbors are connections. They're resources. They understand what you're going through, because they're experiencing it too.

Neighboring isn't important because it's convenient – it's important because it's the building of a family, an expansion of the Builder Family.

### COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE:

#### Lora Andrews, pastor of Grace United Methodist Church

One hundred and thirty years ago, the College Hill neighborhood of Winfield, made up of mostly United Methodist students, faculty, and staff of Southwestern College, decided their neighborhood needed a church. That decision has forever shaped the blocks surrounding Southwestern College and has brought into being College Hill Church which quickly changed names to what we now know as Grace United Methodist Church.

As pastor of Grace UMC, it is a gift to step into this rich history and relationship where Jesus's call to love our neighbors is lived out so fully and has been for 130 years of relationship. Grace's mission is welcoming ALL to grow in grace together and to share God's love on campus, in our community, and in our world.

We have a missional identity to be in relationship with the campus. One hundred years ago that looks like students filling the balcony in worship. In the late 1960s, that looked like Grace starting a coffee shop, The Black Eye, across from campus. Today our neighboring relationship takes many different forms: students on staff at Grace, 74 students paired with Grace families to be “foster families” while they are in Winfield, finals pizza parties, block parties, the watermelon feed after the Moundbuilding ceremony, partnering with a Leadership student projects to add hammocking to our park, G(race) Talks small group about the intersection of faith and racial justice, partnering with SC Green Team to put on E-Recycling, hosting Homecoming worship, and distributing “Builder Pride” signs in the yards of SC's closest neighbors.

Over the last year, Grace has taken a deep dive into the work of neighboring and what it means to love our actual neighbors. Personally, this discipleship looks like each of us meeting the eight closest neighbors to our own front doors. As a church this means learning more about the people, businesses, physical spaces, organizations, and institutions in the College Hill neighborhood that make this part of Winfield such an amazing place. We want to help connect the rest of the neighborhood with the SC we know and love and SC with the neighborhood we know and love. There are such gifts to be shared when we get to know the neighbors around us. My hope and prayer is that the campus, community, and world are changed when we love our neighbors.



Students participating in the campus-wide Homecoming service project were organized into “neighborhoods” according to where they live. The groups discussed community development, loneliness, and neighboring among other topics.



# Cross Country, Track and Field moves into new era

After 36 years of service to the track and field program at Southwestern College, Mike Kirkland will retire at the end of this year as one of the longest tenured coaches in SC history. Tim Testa, head cross country coach since 2016, will take over all SC track programs and assume the duties of Head cross country/track and field coach.

Kirkland, a Class of 1982 graduate, was an NAIA All-American track athlete at SC and a strong scholar. Kirkland was a member of the Southwestern College record-setting 440-yard and 4 x 100 meter relay teams, and competed in the National Championships his two seasons for SC.

Kirkland began his coaching career at Southwestern in the fall of 1982 and immediately began putting together what would become a storied 36-year career. Coach Kirkland has been part

of 52 KCAC team championships (men's and women's teams). *To see a full coaching bio for Coach Kirkland visit [BuilderSports.com](#).*

Testa, now beginning his third season with the Builders, will assume leadership of the track team in addition to his responsibilities with men's and women's cross-country.

During his career as a student athlete, Testa was an NCAA Div. II indoor All-American and the program's first three-time team captain at Pittsburg State University.

Testa came to Southwestern from Junction City where he spent five years

as an assistant cross country and track and field coach at Junction City High School. In his five years at Junction City, Testa coached 48 Kansas 6A state qualifiers, including 10 all-state athletes.

In his two seasons at SC, Testa has coached his teams to great suc-



Coach Tim Testa with freshman Jacob Carlo

cess within the KCAC and, in total, has helped 11 student athletes advance as NAIA national qualifiers. In 2017 Testa was recognized by the KCAC as the Women's Cross-Country Coach of the Year. The 2018-2019 women's

cross country team was ranked no. 23 in the NAIA Women's Cross Country Coaches' Top 25 poll.

"Our college is fortunate to have had a coach the caliber of Mike Kirkland for the better part of four decades," said Brad Andrews, president. "We are grateful for Mike's work and for the time that he and Tim have worked together. I know that Tim takes the tradition of our track and field program very seriously and will carry the torch forward proudly."

 Follow @BuilderXCTF



Sophomore Sydney Staples, left, and junior Kari Blattner, right, lead the pack at the NAIA Mid-States Classic hosted by Southwestern October 20.



Jax Pelkey, freshman

## Running as ceremony

Southwestern has 42 enrolled tribal members in its student body of 611 students, five of whom are on the track and cross country teams: Morgan Benton (Navajo Nation), Sydney Staples (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma), Morgan Graves (Chickasaw Nation), Kacie Lancaster (Muscogee (Creek) Nation) and Jax Pelkey (Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes).

Cedric Sunray, a member of the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians, is part of the college's admission staff and works extensively with Native American prospects. He emphasizes that they will continue to have a cultural community when they enroll at SC.

"There are a lot of options for Indian students here," Sunray says.

"There's a level of diversity that you don't usually find in small colleges – we have students from all over the world – but we're close to the Kaw, Osage, Tonkawa, and Osage Nations in Oklahoma so it's easy to attend the cultural events and powwows there or at Haskell in Lawrence or on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation near Topeka."

The cross country/track and field programs have been especially attractive to his recruits, Sunray says, because Southwestern is traditionally strong in this sport.

Coach Tim Testa leads what Sunray says is an unusually positive and relational program, and Testa gets to know the strengths of each runner--"He is the kind of human being you want

your family around," Sunray says.

This is an excellent complement to the tradition and culture of great Native American runners and is leading to success among tribal team members. With 15 runners, the women's cross-country team is the largest in the conference and four Native Americans contributed to the team's ranking as No. 23 in the NAIA Coaches Poll. Staples is one of two runners from the women's team who qualified for and competed at the NAIA National Championship in November.

"We call running ceremony," Sunray says.

And perhaps that is in part why Native American runners have found Southwestern to be a fit – the cross country/track and field teams have great respect for their sport and the tradition that defines their team.



**Jim Helmer '71**, who coached the Southwestern College cross country team to 84 Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference championships during his 35-year career as head cross country coach, was inducted to the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame on Oct. 7. Helmer retired in 2014.





Orientation Leaders welcome the Class of 2022 | October 8



Freshman Move-in Day  
October 8



# FOLLOW THE FUN FALL 2018

From the warm August day when students move in to their residence halls to the crisp autumn air of Homecoming to the first snow of winter – the fall semester is packed with tradition, excitement, connection, and fun. *Follow along...*



Avenue Q | August 25



Opening Convocation address by Rebecca Hernandez  
August 24



Kaleidoscope Concert | October 19



President Andrews gets in on the fun at the Homecoming parade | October 20

For more Homecoming photos, including footage of Campus Ministry's X-wing float being pushed nearly four miles by students to the starting point of the parade route with an early morning county sheriff escort, [visit sckans.edu/homecoming](http://sckans.edu/homecoming).





Builder Camp  
August 10



Freshman Work Day | August 12



Rock Painting on  
Wallingford Lawn  
August 21



Keeping the Spirit | August 17

Homecoming Royalty, Asiah Greene and David Matthews | October 20



Moundbuilding Ceremony | August 24



Family Fun at the Mound  
October 20



First snow of the winter  
November 12





# ALUMNI NOTES

## 1960s

**Sue (Tate) Trout '64** recently published her first book, *Prayers to Grow On*. Sue is a retired librarian, and a retired licensed local pastor of the United Methodist Church in the Missouri Conference.

**Max L Mason '65** retired on Jan. 31, 2018, from Raymond James Financial Services after 21 years of service. The first half of his working career was in the oil and gas industry with various positions in accounting, taxation, controller and financial vice president. The last half of his career was in the financial services industry as a financial advisor. He says that both careers provided a great in-depth review of business on a daily basis, which proved very rewarding. Even though retired from going to the office on a daily basis, Max says he will continue following the markets by managing family assets.

**Art and Kathy (Mall) Morgan '68, '71** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 9. After receiving his Bachelor of Music degree at SC, Art taught instrumental music for 18 years in Kansas schools. He later earned a Master of Education degree from Wichita State University, and served as a private school administrator for 25 years in Kansas and Missouri. Art and Kathy retired to Wichita in 2012. They have four adult children and seven (and still counting) grandchildren.

## 1970s

**Tom Schou '79** retired June 4 after 19 years of running the sign shop and making and installing traffic signs for the City of Peoria in Arizona. He has relocated to Manhattan, Kan., to live, and relax.

## 1980s

**Rev. Dr. Jerry Johns '81** received his Doctor of Ministry from Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa on May 19, 2018. He was honored with the RG and Della Mae Ericson Preaching Award at graduation.

**Joe Cobb '83** was elected to the Roanoke City Council on May 1. Receiving the most votes, Joe will also serve as vice mayor. His term runs from July 2018 to June 2022.

**Kris (Williams) DeLano '84** was recently promoted to vice president of human resources at Rockline Industries in Sheboygan, Wisc. Kris and **Steve's '84** daughter, Lauren DeLano, was ordained as an elder on June 19 at the Arkansas United Methodist Church Annual Conference. She is the associate pastor at First UMC in Conway, Ark.

**Jill (Matthews) Miller '84/'97** has taken a new position as business systems analyst at ICM Inc. in Colwich.

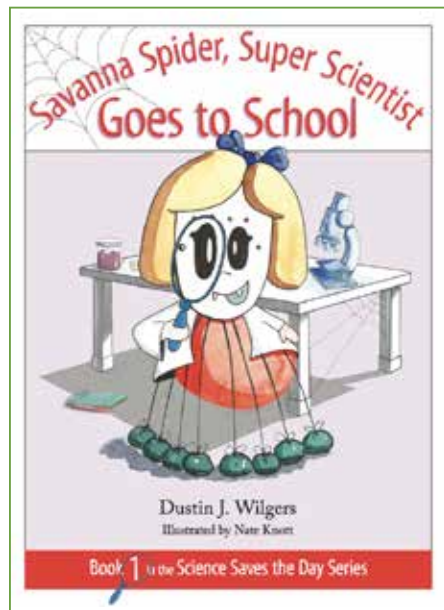
**Beth (Nolte) Reeder '84** has begun her fifth year teaching preschool at Wichita Collegiate. She has also started her third year as adjunct professor at Butler County Community College.

## 1990s

**Sandra Gasca-Gonzalez '94** has been appointed vice president of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's (AECF) Center for Systems Innovation. This role will have her oversee the operations of the center in its mission to lead national and state reform efforts in the areas of child welfare and juvenile justice. The appointment is a promotion from within AECF as Gasca-Gonzalez has served as director of its Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative (JCY-OI) for more than three years. In this position, she was responsible for leading efforts to improve policies and practices that help youth successfully transition from foster care to adulthood. She is an alumna of AECF's Children and Family Fellowship, a leadership program for executives that have the potential to influence organizations and institutions to better serve children and families. Additionally, Gasca-Gonzalez is a graduate of the National Hispanic Leadership Institute as well as a recipient of an Executive Leadership Certificate from Harvard University. The new appointment took effect Aug. 1.

## 2000s

**Dustin Wilgers '01** is author of an illustrated children's storybook published during the summer. The book teaches kids about science and about spiders and other arthropods and its publication was supported by Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism. A portion of the proceeds from sales are donated back to the Chickadee Checkoff program to help support nongame wildlife conservation. Dustin is associate professor in the Department of Natural Sciences at McPherson College.



**Dr. Ali Wait '02** recently completed additional credentialing, and is now dual-board certified in general surgery and vascular surgery. Ali is currently practicing in Phoenix.

**Joanna (Zayac) Shultz '03** married Joshua Shultz on Sept. 14. The couple are making their home in North Mankato, Minn.

**Rev. Amanda (Bennett) Baker '05** has been appointed to serve as pastor of First United Methodist Church in Baldwin City, Kan.

**Scott Kuhn '07** married **Cassi Reimer '10** on June 2, 2018, at the Old Stone Church in Maple Hill, Kan. Both were on the Leadership team at Southwestern. They now live in Topeka where Scott works for Kansas Housing Resources Corporation and Cassi works for the University of Kansas.

**Bryant Andrews Jr. '08/'09** was recently interviewed for an article in the *New York Times* about American teachers who work second jobs to supplement their salaries. The article, titled "The second shift: What American teachers are doing to pay their bills," was published Sept. 6.

**Tommy Castor '08/'10** has recently taken a new position with Rocking M Media. Rocking M is currently the largest Kansas-owned media group in the state, owning more than 30 radio stations statewide. Tommy now serves as general manager for their radio stations in Winfield and Wellington. He is also a contributor in the 10th Edition of the textbook *The Radio Station* written by Dr. John Hendricks and Dr. Bruce Mims and published in April 2018.

**Joey Kreft '09** married Jessica Deaver Oct. 13. They are home in Dallas.

**Chitra Harris '10** has been selected as a "Kansas Master Teacher" for 2018 by the Teachers College at Emporia State University. Chitra was inducted into the Southwestern College Educators Hall of Fame in 2017 and continues to blaze trails as an innovative educator.

## 2010s

Three Southwestern College Graduates were ordained as elders in the United Methodist Church in June – **Isaac Chua '11, Molly Just '12, and Lucas McConnell '12.**

**Caitlynn French '11** was featured as a guest artist at Anime Festival Wichita and was the feature of a *Wichita Eagle* article on the topic. The article titled "Derby native returns to festival as anime star" was published June 28 in anticipation of the festival that weekend. Caitlynn is regarded as a rising star in the voice acting world, playing roles that include Qumola from *Book of Bantorra*, Shiro (*No Game No Life*), Chris (*Cross Ange*), Hana Isuzu (*Girls und Panzer*), Maturika Shinouji (*Maria-Holic, Maria-Holic Alive*), Tina Sprout (*Black Bullet*), Mei Tachibana (*Say "I love you"*), Mio and Midori Nishizono (*Little Busters, Little Busters Refrain*), Sakura Inami (*Beyond the Boundary*), Ai Astin (*Sunday Without God*) and Miyu Edelfelt (*Fate/kaleid liner Prisma Illya & 2Wei*). She most recently reprised her role as Shiro and took on Schwi Dola for *No Game, No Life Zero*.

**Julie Wilke '11/'18** is now director of curriculum and instruction for Project Transformation National. PT National is a non-profit based in Dallas with a mission of engaging young adults in purposeful leadership and ministry, supporting children in holistic development, and connecting churches with communities.

**Daniel Froman '12** earned his Master of Arts in Ministry, missional leadership, in June from Bethel Seminary, San Diego.

**RJ and Kaley Schnack '12, '13** moved to Ames, Iowa, for new jobs. RJ is now working as a hall director at Iowa State and Kaley is working as a special education teacher in Nevada, Iowa.

**Brandi Young '17** has started a new role as office manager at The Depot Theater in Dodge City.

**LaRide Edward Conerly Jr. '17/'18** has accepted a position as admissions and financial aid counselor at McPherson College.

**Kayla Demel '17** has recently taken a new position working at Advanced Orthopedic in Wichita.

**Troy Fort '18 and Jerlecia Thompson '18** have been selected to receive \$1,000 scholarships from Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences. Fort and Thompson each earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from SC in 2018. Fort was also the Scholar of the College. He is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program in behavioral neuroscience and animal learning at Kansas State University. Thompson is attending Oklahoma State University working on a Specialist in Education degree in school psychology. Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences awards up to 12 scholarships to attend graduate school annually in the amount of \$1,000 and \$2,000.

**Jonathan Lane '18** has begun work as the technical director for The Depot Theatre in Dodge City.

**Taylor Messerly '18** has accepted a new position as a child service worker with the State of Missouri.

**William Quinn Montgomery '18** is youth ministry director at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Olathe.

## CORRECTION

Correction for previous note announcing the passing of **John Requa '80**. John moved to Winfield in 1977, not in 1974 as reported in the previous edition. Also, the class year of his daughter, **Renee Smith '79**, was omitted.

# What's new with you?

Anything special happening in your life?

NEW ADDRESS | MARRIAGE | BIRTH | NEW JOB | AWARD OR RECOGNITION

Send your news to [sckans.edu/WhatsNew](mailto:sckans.edu/WhatsNew)



**Mary Elizabeth “Bette” (Wheeler) Hull ’41**, died in May. She was a mother, teacher, musician, traveler, gardener, and avid reader. Mary was born at her grandparents’ farm south of El Dorado and enjoyed retirement with her husband, Paul, on this same farm. They shared 74 years together and traveled to nearly every state in the United States and Canada. Bette was an accomplished vocalist, violinist, and pianist. She began her teaching career in 1941, and worked as an elementary educator until 1981, dedicating 40 years of her life to Kansas children.

**LaJeune D. (Dieterich) Williams ’41** died May 20 in Indianola, after surviving a major stroke in June 2017. LaJeune was born to missionary parents stationed in China. She planned a career in music, instead enrolling in Garrett Theological Seminary where she met and married Dale J. Williams. They served Methodist churches in Iowa where LaJeune taught public school music and was a tireless advocate for education and service to others through social justice and mission work. In 1983 they retired to the home they had built in Estes Park, Colo. Survivors include her husband of 75 years, Dale.

**Muriel (Smith) Kimball ’42** died April 21 at age 96. She met her husband, **Byron F. White Jr. ’43**, at Southwestern. They had three children. Muriel was admired for her quick wit, compelling style, beautiful singing voice, and generosity. After living on the West Coast for many years she married Dr. F. Bruce Kimball in 1969. They enjoyed ballroom dancing, singing, and traveling. Muriel is survived by her three children, four grandchildren, a stepson, two step-grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

**Esther “Lou” Yabroff ’43** died June 23. She met and married **Donald Henry Smith ’43**, who died while deployed in World War II. Lou worked with the YMCA and YWCA in various cities, taking teens on international

trips, and organizing the first racially integrated YWCA chapter in Burlingame, Calif. In California, she met Irving Yabroff, and they married in 1955. She was active in P.E.O. (a women’s philanthropic educational organization) for over 70 years. Irving died in 2016. Lou is survived by two sons, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

**Dorris A. (Kent) Gaffron ’47** died June 29. She had worked as a secretary and clerk for the Sedgwick County commissioners, Sedgwick County treasurer, the *Wichita Eagle*, and Boeing. Dorris traveled all over the country and lived in seven states and Washington, D.C.

**Barbara “Nadine” Tillotson ’47** died July 8. Nadine and Dwight Tillotson were married in 1948 and established their home in Wichita. Nadine lived out her faith as choir member, Sunday school teacher, leader in UMW, a member of many committees, and especially as kitchen coordinator. Nadine is survived by her husband, daughter **Carol Galliard ’71 (Dave ’69)**, and son, Keith Tillotson (Roxanne).

**William D. “Bill” Brooks ’50**, died May 22. He received his Ph.D from Ohio University. He farmed near Bucklin for 20 years and was a communications professor at the University of Kansas, Purdue University, University of Oklahoma, and Friends University. He served on the Board of Trustees for Southwestern College and was later named Trustee Emeritus. He was also inducted into Southwestern’s Scholars Hall of Fame in 2006. Survivors include his wife of 69 years, **Grace (Andrews) ’52**; four children; a sister, **LaDee Arbuckle ’54**; a brother; 10 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**John D. Rowland ’50** died Aug 26. He was a 65-year member of the Masonic Lodge in Protection. John was preceded in death by his wife, **Audrey Louise (Priddy) ’49**.

**Joyce M. Dorsey ’51** died July 13. Joyce was preceded in death by her

parents, **Clarence and Martha Newman ’27, ’27**; and brother, **Franklin Newman ’53**. She is survived by her husband, **Jack ’51**; children **Renea Bergan ’77**, Jalene Turner, Kenton Dorsey, and Marvalyn Hess; eight grandchildren; and brother, **Everett Newman ’55**.

**Rowena Grace (Belden) Taylor White ’51** died June 10. She met and married **Herbert Calvin White ’51** in 1949 while they attended Southwestern College. They lived in Dodge City from 1953 to present, where he was an optometrist and Rowena was the stay-at-home mom for their five children. She taught piano lessons, was church organist for 10 years, and worked as an optometric assistant for 13 years. Her hobbies included music of all kinds, genealogy research and documentation, needlework, quilt making, and playing bridge. She completed a music degree at Saint Mary of the Plains College in 1975. In addition to **Herbert ’51**, Rowena’s surviving family consists of her children: Julie White, Annette Neises, **Laurie White ’78**, Steve Stephens, and

Philip White. She has 18 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. Rowena is part of a large family of Builders including: granddaughter **Emily Lynn Stephens ’10**; cousins **Robert White ’84**, **Sudie Tapia ’96**, **Howard O. White 1916**, **Rev. Raymond White ’24**, **Ila True ’23**, **Wayne E White ’27**, **Robert B White ’47**, and **Deanna Wright ’87**; Aunt **Chalcea White ’21**; uncles **Horace O. White 1918**, **Leland H. White ’29**, and **Wilbur W. White ’26**; brothers **Byron F. White Jr. ’43**, and **R. Stephen White ’42**; sister **Nancy (White) Helm ’45**; father **Byron White Sr. 1917**; and mother **Sebina White 1918**. The family has requested memorial gifts to the White family Scholarship Fund at Southwestern.

**Jeff Delp ’52** died May 27. Jeff worked as a self-employed craftsman and was known for his talent with fine woodworking. He loved to travel, and returned from his adventures with beautiful photographs. Jeff loved music and being outdoors.  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 10**

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

**Nathan Clements**, ESL program coordinator, was selected by the U.S. Department of State as an English Language Specialist for an assignment in Saudi Arabia. He conducted two-day teacher training workshops at four locations in Saudi Arabia in early October. The workshops focused on task-based language teaching and critical creativity to improve student motivation and English language skills. Approximately 500 Saudi K-12 English teachers attended the workshops. Due to the success of the October sessions, the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh is working with the Saudi Ministry of Education to bring the workshop to several additional regions in February.

**Bill DeArmond**, professor of mass communications and film, has had several pieces accepted for publication. Among these are “Sylvie’s Walk,” published Coe College, and “The Emperor’s New Brain” in *Waxing and Waning*.

**Jacob L. Goodson**, assistant professor of philosophy, gave a presentation about his book – *Strength of Mind: Courage, Hope, Freedom, Knowledge* (Cascade Press, 2018) – for a conference on Christian Higher Education at Regent’s Park College at Oxford University in July 2018. He presented “Life after the Dark Years? Literature, Re-enchantment, and Sympathy in Richard Rorty’s Secular Philosophy” at the Conference on Christianity & Literature in September 2018, and presented “First, We Laugh; Then, We Think It’s Funny: Against the Incongruity Theory of Humor” at the Philosophy Colloquium of Wichita St. University in October 2018.

**Nili Luo**, professor and director of early childhood education, will pres-

ent at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) 2018 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., Nov 13-18. Three graduate students from SC will attend and be part of the presentation at the conference. Topics are:

- 1) “Implementing developmentally appropriate practice in international classrooms.” This session highlights how implementing NAEYC’s Developmentally Appropriate Practice positively impacts international learning environments.
- 2) “Strategies working with families and basic guidelines of high quality standards in practice.” This session covers the importance of working with diverse families and introducing the guidance of high quality standards in practice.

**Cedric Sunray**, transfer admission counselor, is an anthology contributor to *Otherwise Worlds*, being published in 2019 by Duke University Press. He also contributed to anthologies *We Will Always Be Here: Southern Natives People On Living and Thriving in the 20th Century and Beyond* (University Press of Florida 2016) and *Native Keywords* (University of Arizona Press 2015) and wrote the foreword for *Istrouma: A Houma Manifesto* (Centenary College Press 2014). Sunray is a doctoral student at Southwestern College.

**Suzanne Webb**, college writing instructor, and two SC sophomores, **Kayleen Gonzalez** and **Taryn Walter**, presented at the Association of Rhetoric and Writing Studies conference in Austin in October 2018. Their talk was titled “Writing for Public Life with First Year Writers.”

## BIRTHS



A daughter, Solveig, born May 5 to **Warren ’06 and Brittany Hanson**. Solveig has a big brother Leif (2) at home in Albany, Ore.

A son, Wyatt James (*left*), born in February to **Ttorbin and Rachel (Vieyra) Harper ’14, ’16**. Wyatt has a brother, Zane. Ttorbin and Rachel met at SC in 2012 and were married in 2015.

A son, Jaxton Michael (*right*), born October 11 to **Jared and Jackie (McCauley) Irvin ’12, ’14**. The Irvins have recently moved to Houston, Texas.



A daughter, Delaney Mae (*left*), born Oct. 2, 2018, to **Samuel and Jacey McDaniel ’14, ’12**. The family lives in Oakley.





**Tony Allen O’Brate ’56** died Aug. 27. He was a US Army veteran. Tony retired from teaching elementary school after 27 years in 1992. He owned and operated the Syracuse Floral for many years. He loved playing the piano and organ for Syracuse United Methodist Church and was great at baking bread, pies, and cinnamon rolls. Tony was preceded in death by his wife, **Joan ’53**, and his brother. He is survived by his four children, eight grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Mary “Rosy” Rosalin Smoot ’60** died Sept. 24. She retired from USD 259 after 32 years as a teacher, tutor, and piano instructor. Rosy loved to read and write and especially loved KU basketball, having watch parties with her friends at her home.

**Louise Eleanor Nichols ’61** died Aug. 2. Lou worked in accounting for many years with Albertson’s Grocery and Manny’s Hardware. She later earned her LPN and worked with Focus and Southwind. Lou enjoyed cooking, baking, sewing, needlepoint, bowling, and reading, especially mysteries. Her greatest joys in life were her family and friends.

**Farrel M. Oard Sr., ’61/’89** died Aug. 30. He served his country in the Strategic Air Command of the U.S. Air Force during and after the Korean War then returned to Winfield. Beginning in 1962, he worked for 35 years in human resources at the Winfield State Hospital. Farrel was a longtime member of Grace United Methodist Church, and served on the Cowley County Historical Society. He and Kerin were inducted into the Southwestern College Heritage Society in 2001. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Kerin; his sons, **Farrel II ’89** and Chris; and two grandchildren.

**Pedro Esquivel ’62** died August 30. He was born in Mexico and came to

the U.S. at age 7. He later became an American citizen and served in the United States Air Force. In 1965 with the creation of EEOC, he became one of its first agents and went on to become deputy director in Denver, and director in San Antonio. He retired in 2012 after 52 years. Pedro was appointed to the Kansas Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights. In 2014 Pedro was inducted into the Southwestern College Leaders in Service Hall of Fame.

**Mary Ann (Somerville) Palmer ’62** died June 10. Mary Ann made her career working at Employers Mutual Company, retiring in 1998. Her family will miss her fabulous and feisty attitude, which served her well as she overcame both breast and ovarian cancers. Mary Ann is survived by her husband, **Robert ’60**.

**Paula Jean Grover Ross ’64** died June 14 after a 21-year battle with cancer. For most of her career she taught special education in the Joplin R-8 school district, retiring in 2004. Her many activities included attending her grandchildren’s activities and playing bridge with her friends. Survivors include her husband of 47 years, **Frank Ross ’64**.

**Max Jay Austin ’68** died May 15. After service in the Air Force, he returned to Arkansas City in 1965 and opened the Townhouse Bar while attending Southwestern College. In 1968, he married Lana Bechtel. After earning an MBA from Fort Hays State University, he went to work for Hartford Insurance, living in Connecticut, Chicago, and Phoenix. They returned to Arkansas City in 1976, when he became the owner of Sybrant, Munson and Austin Insurance and Real Estate Agency. After he retired from insurance he worked

for MAC Tools. Max loved fishing, boating, and working on old cars.

**Larry Gene Hittle ’68** died Aug. 27. A full-time farmer nearly all of his life, Larry started his own Angus cattle herd in 1953. Larry was elected to the Cowley County Fair Board in 1964, serving two terms as president and many years as the fair crops superintendent. He was named to the Kansas Fairs and Festivals Hall of Fame in 2002. He was named one of the Outstanding Young Farmers in Kansas by the Kansas Jaycees in 1976. Through this organization and continuing later with a small group of friends, he started the recycling initiative that evolved into the Winfield Recycling program. He is survived by his spouse, **Mary (Bley) ’03**; a daughter; two sons; and a grandson.

**Judith Counce ’70** died July 17 following a courageous battle with appendiceal cancer. She had lived in Dodge City from 1976 until 2017. She worked at Servi-Tech, Inc. for 15 years, finishing her time at the company as business manager. Subsequently she worked as an investment account advisor for Waddell & Reed, and then for Smoll & Banning, LLC. She enjoyed golf, trout fishing, scuba diving, and home decorating. She is survived by her husband, Mitch; daughter, Andrea Laue; and a brother.

**John Bernard Dziedzic Jr. ’72** died Aug. 6. John had worked for Gott, Boeing and most recently with ADM Milling. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church. John is survived by his wife, Lynn.

**Gary V. Franklin ’75** died May 28. Gary worked as a “lead man” for the Dixie Portland (ADM East) mill for 34 years retiring in 2004. He was a member of the First Baptist Church. He is survived by two sons and four grandchildren.

**Carley Ann Moberg, ’77** died March 20. She was an accounts representative for Computer Information Concepts. Carley was passionate about tracing her family history and spending time with family and friends. She is survived by her sister, **Melissa (Moberg) Geubelle ’78**.

**Ella May Lumley ’98** died Oct. 1. She worked at Winfield State Hospital and Training Center and after the hospital closed, as secretary at the Kansas Veterans Commission in Winfield. A constant learner, she obtained two bachelor’s degrees later in life. Her husband, Noland, preceded her in death.

**Kevin Peck ’06** died Aug. 8 in San Francisco. Kevin worked at various jobs before accepting a position with Ken-shoo in San Francisco. Kevin enjoyed gaming, reading, hiking, music, camping, and practical jokes.

## IN MEMORIAM OF FRIENDS

**Paula D. Feger**, friend of Southwestern, died Sept. 8. She began her nursing career at William Newton Memorial Hospital then worked for Dr. Warren Bernstorff and for the Wells Kaufman Clinic. Paula then became the plant nurse for Cessna Aircraft at Strother Field. She transferred to the Wichita plant, where she remained until retiring. Paula enjoyed the Nursing Alumni and attended Aviator Church in Winfield.

**Gerald Raines**, former admissions director, director of development, instructor in the HPER department, and SC women’s basketball coach, died Sept. 6. Gerald spent many years teaching and coaching in Kansas public schools in Sylvia, Burton, Plains, Ulysses, and Winfield. He was preceded in death by his wife, Frances. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Southwestern College women’s basketball team in his memory.

**John Wesley “Wes” Townsley**, friend of Southwestern, died Aug. 20. Wes was the circulation manager of the *Winfield Daily Courier* from 2007 to 2013. He loved adventures and traveled all over, living for a time in Mexico. A devoted family man, he spent his free time doing what he loved – coaching youth baseball and football. He is survived by his wife, Stacy (Shufflebarger), and two children.

**Dorothy Ann Tretbar**, friend of Southwestern, died May 4. In 1955 she married **Harold Tretbar ’52**. She followed his medical career through Portland, Germany, and Cleveland, before settling in Tucson in 1965. She was a gourmet cook, hiker, camper, rafter, and worldwide traveler as well as being a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader active with the fine arts group Arts Express. She supported Christ Church United Methodist, and belonged to the Tucson Arthritis Support League (TASL). She was a member of the Southern Arizona Porsche Club. Dorothy was a long time member of P.E.O. Sisterhood.



## Trunk-or-Treat

Over 400 costumed kids trunk-or-treated along with their families at the bottom of the 77 steps the Sunday before Halloween. EdBuilders coordinates the annual event, inviting all student organizations and teams to decorate their trunks and devise small games for the children to enjoy. This year the Leadership Team’s Candy Land trunk was voted best decorated.





# Campus Players to celebrate 100 years

In the spring of 1919 Miss Martha Lee, professor of expression at Southwestern College, made a suggestion to students involved in dramatic productions. She proposed to Helen Graham, then a senior, and others that they organize a dramatics club. The following September, Campus Players

was chartered. It was designed as a society to promote excellence in dramatic performance and to honor such performers. Now, nearly 100 years later, the society includes hundreds of talented Builders who have been recognized for their talents, dedication, leadership,

and vision in the theatre arts. Campus Players Alumni are organizing a special reunion for Homecoming 2019 (October 25-27), details about the gathering will be forthcoming. Stay connected by following along at [facebook.com/PerformingArtsSC](https://facebook.com/PerformingArtsSC) or by visiting [sckans.edu/theatre](https://sckans.edu/theatre).



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February 21-24



Dr. Faustus

A doctor's unquenchable thirst for knowledge – no matter the price. Christopher Marlowe's classical masterpiece from the German Faust legend.

April 5-7



Into the Woods

Once upon a time, a childless baker and his wife had just one wish. Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's fairy tale musical.



## Theatric Recollection

Eternal Quest Game Show (Homecoming 2018) contestants, left to right: Lael Porter '92, Jennifer Muret-Bate '96, Kathy Hampson Baker '75, sophomore Ryan Pangracs, junior Jack Warring, Denise Williams '93, junior Carson Davis, Seth Bate '93, and Susan McGuire Cooksey '75.

In celebration of 100 years of Campus Players, alumni of the society have been asked to author guest recollections to be featured on [sckans.edu](https://sckans.edu) and in the Southwesterner.

by Kathy Hampson Baker '75

I came to Southwestern in the fall of 1971, a 16-year old far away from her New York home. I was immediately welcomed into the theatre department by some amazingly talented people, working on *Cactus Flower*, then *The Lion in Winter*, for my first Jan Term, both in props. It was a family away from home and gave me a place to belong, even though I was a math major.

As a sophomore, I was given my first part in the play *The Petrified Forest*, and vividly remember wallpapering the Little Theatre and then splattering grease everywhere to give it

the correct atmosphere. That year, the Jan Term play would be a joint one between St. John's College and SC, and would be *Fiddler on the Roof*. Somehow, I was named stage manager for this enormous production at age 17. We worked many long hours, once pulling an all-nighter with Nan Brummett Hinson '97 as we painted the scenic backdrop with a silhouette of Anatevka only to realize at 7 a.m. that it was absolutely awful and needed to be completely redone. The singing, dancing, technical rehearsals went on for weeks under the direction of Jack Eddleman, a Broadway actor brought in by Norman Callison '63 of SC and Robert Conners (St. John's).

Long hours and little sleep made for occasionally frayed tempers, as would be noted by the *Wichita Eagle Beacon* when they reported that I

shouted a sarcastic "Yes Sir" at Mr. Eddleman when I was asked to do yet one more thing. I'm not sure how proud my parents were to read that I made the news for sarcasm, though. I do know that the performances went off extremely well, and we all had a great time in that show, and all the others I was blessed to participate in, either in front or backstage.

Returning to campus for the 90th anniversary of Campus Players in 2009 was a chance to connect with both old and new friends. The icing on the cake of my Campus Players experience was the chance to participate in an all alumni production of *Tom Jones* in 2014. Having the same fun and excitement of performing in front of an audience made the years fall away for all of us.... except there were no all-nighters this time around!



Inducted on October 20, left to right: Darren Boyd '85, Leah (Rankin) Hartman '07, Paul Steele '85, Kalan Powers '04, Stephen Peebles '88, Cheryl Gleason '76, and Torey Keller '87 (not pictured).

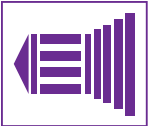
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Email [Mike.McCoy@sckans.edu](mailto:Mike.McCoy@sckans.edu) to learn more about nominating a Builder for induction to the SC Athletics Hall of Fame. Nominations must be submitted by December 31, 2018 for consideration in 2019 Hall of Fame class.



**2018 HOMECOMING AWARDS**  
The Ambassador Award was presented to Legacy Regional Community Foundation, represented by board member, Alex Gottlob '09, executive director, Yazmin Wood '03, and board chair, Janis Haynes (above); The Young Alumni Award was presented to Bryant Andrews Jr. '08/'09 (above right); and Gerry and Tom Winters '68, '68 (right) were the recipients of The Outstanding Alumni Award.







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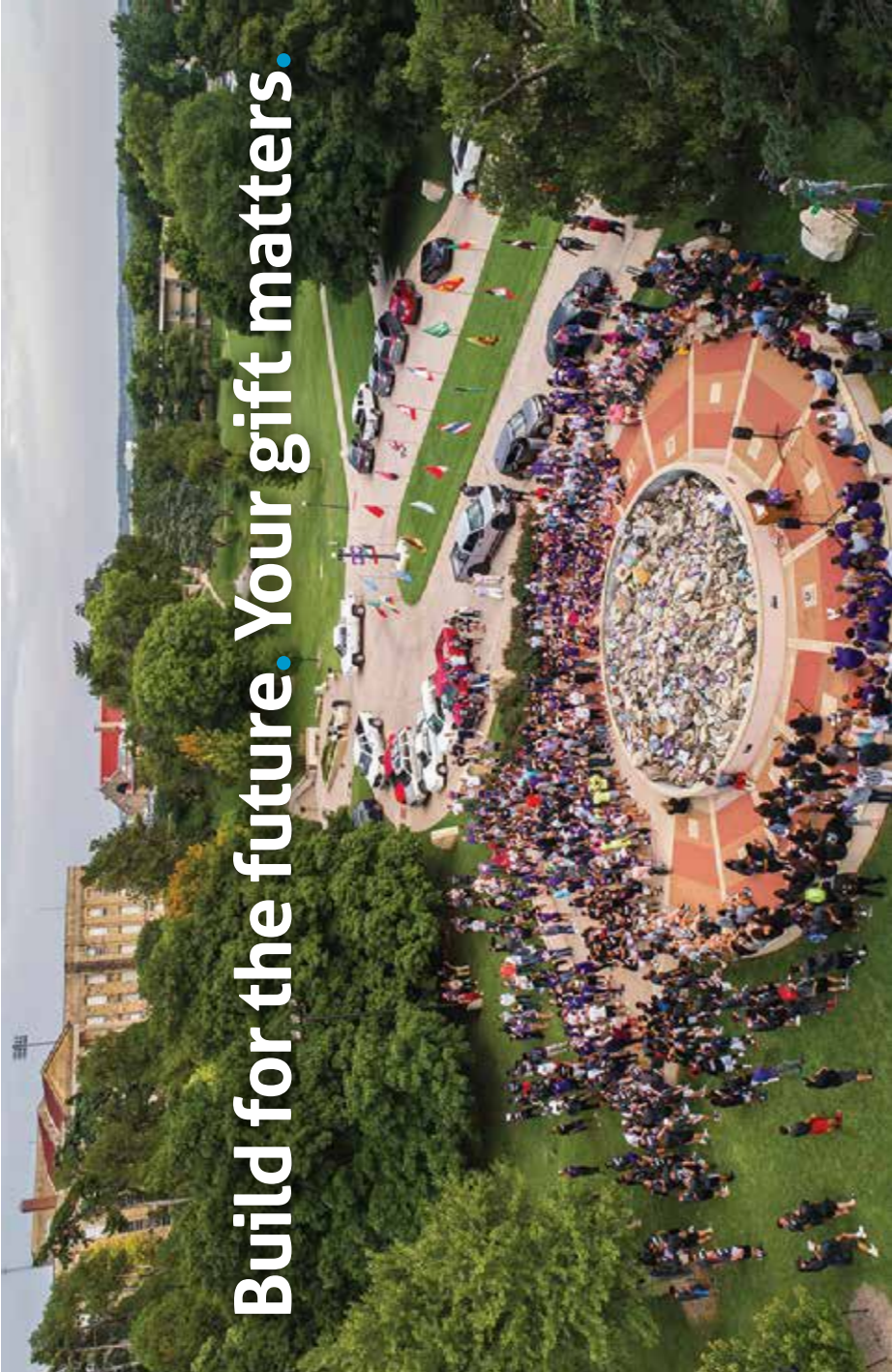
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