



Season's Greetings



David Earle
Director of
Alumni Relations

As we enjoy this Christmas season and approach the end of 2009, it is a good time to express thanks for the past and look forward to the future. As I reflect on this past year for Sterling College, I can see God's provision, guidance, and grace. He led Dr. Maurer and his family to Sterling. He protected our coaches, admissions counselors, advancement team, students, faculty and staff, trustees and mission teams as they traveled across the country and around the world. He guided more than 700 students—the largest enrollment in SC's history—to the College this fall.

I am thankful for how God continues to use Sterling to transform students—like '09 graduate Joel Orr, who entered the College determined only to make a good living—for himself—and who now wants God to use his career to help others. Like Lazerrick Young '09, whose senior project—to gather food and toys for a needy family in Sterling for Christmas 2008—revealed to him the amazing joy of giving. I am thankful for a wonderful commencement in April, during which 96 graduates were awarded degrees and sent out into the world. I am thankful for students coming from as far away as Australia and Panama to enroll at Sterling this fall. I am thankful for a meaningful homecoming and inauguration at which we celebrated and honored God for the ways He has led Sterling.

I am especially thankful for you: our alumni and friends. You pray for Sterling; you support Sterling; you guide students to attend Sterling. I have had the joy to meet or renew relationship with many of you at alumni events this past year. As we experience the Christmas season and move into 2010, I pray that God will deeply and richly bless each of you. May your lives be filled with both big and "little" victories. May you know God's peace in times of trial and experience His joy in your lives.

Merry Christmas!

Students Serve as Caution Flaggers at Inman Motorcross

On November 1, as riders at Inman Motocross prepared to race and jump at 40-70 miles per hour, twenty-two Sterling College students spaced themselves around the track. If there was an accident, the SC students had a job to do: step out onto the track and begin waving a large yellow caution flag.

This happened-a lot. Sometimes it was just a five-year-old racer who toppled his own bike; other times it was much more serious. "During one of the pro races, two riders crashed right in front of me," said Amy Morrison, a first-year student from Hutchinson. "Two of the fastest riders were coming back around, so I had to step in. It was a little scary." Scary, but necessary. Caution flaggers such as Morrison protect both the fallen riders and those coming over a jump or around a corner who cannot see what lies ahead.

Rishawn Austin, pro-rata faculty and tennis coach at the College, arranged this service project for students interested in motocross as well as for students who needed to complete service hour requirements for their Foundations of Servant Leadership classes. Austin, who rides a dirt bike but hasn't yet raced, enjoys the family atmosphere at Motocross races and thought this service project could benefit both Inman Motocross

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Upcoming Events:

- December 7-9: Higher Learning Commission on campus for accreditation review.
- December 8-11: Fall 2009 Final Exams
- December 11: Christmas Break begins for students.
- December 24-January 4: Campus offices are closed for Christmas Break.

For all sports activities and other calendar items click on the link below: <http://www.sterling.edu/event/2009/11/02/month>

For more event information, visit the online calendar.

For information regarding all Warrior Athletic events, please go to www.sterling.edu/athletics

SC freshmen Perry Haddock and Sarah Grafel stand with their caution flag on the Inman Motorcross Raceway on November 1.



and SC students. “I wanted to provide my students with a unique and exciting experience,” he said.

“This project put me out of my comfort zone,” said Stephen Rosendale, a first-year student from Haysville, Kan. “and I liked the idea of being able to help while also getting to experience something new.”

Austin also was able to experience something new at this race event: he was asked to pray over the loudspeaker for the protection of the riders. “I feel like we were really able to help,” he said, “and I hope to repeat this project, to forge a relationship between Inman Motocross and Sterling College. This was a good way for our students to learn how to serve as part of a larger team.”

The students involved agree. “We bonded quickly with the other workers and families at the track,” said Rosendale, “because we were all working together to protect the racers. It was a group effort.”

Volleyball Finishes Season

In the preseason KCAC polls, the Lady Warriors were picked tenth. After a record of 8-25 the previous year and the transition in coaching, not many people were looking for Sterling College to be a threat. But, to much surprise, the Lady Warriors have had a very successful season. They finished third in the conference with a record of 19-11 (13-5) — the best of any SC volleyball team since 1997. The Lady Warriors advanced to the semifinals of the KCAC tournament before falling to Friends University.

After the votes came in for the All KCAC awards, many of our very own Lady Warriors were at the top. The following awards were announced:

1st Team All KCAC: Katie Trayser, Kelsey Deerinwater, and Ashley Kraft

2nd Team All KCAC: Adriana Gonzalez

Honorable Mention All KCAC: Staci Curry and Renee Swisher

Freshman of the Year: Kelsey Deerinwater

Libero of the Year: Kelsey Deerinwater

Coach of the Year: Jenny Ellis

“We came in with the mindset that nothing could stop us from climbing to the top and as long as we were willing to do the little things on a consistent basis, then everything will fall into place. As a result, the girls have worked really hard this year and we are reaping a reward. We feel confident that we have laid a great foundation for the future,” Ellis said.



The 2009 Lady Warrior Volleyball Team

Contemporary Author Visits Sterling

When Josh Riebock spoke in chapel in the fall of 2008, he had just sent his first book to the publisher. When he returned to SC this year on October 27, he brought 500 copies of the newly-released book with him. There was nothing unusual in that; after all, he was an author on a book tour. What was unusual, though, was that he was giving all those books to SC students—for free!

According to Resident Director John Hackbarth and SC chaplain Anne Smith, it’s a very good thing that Riebock, in a sense, left part of himself behind. “Josh Riebock is one of the greatest speakers I have ever seen,” said Hackbarth. “He is able to go beyond the surface and touch the hearts of those he is communicating with. His messages are both challenging and authentic, filled with humor and, at the same time, a deep vulnerability. Josh is driven by a passion to reach our generation and to see people’s lives transformed by the Hope and Healing that come from Jesus Christ.”

“He makes Jesus Christ come to life in very real ways,” said Smith. “But the best thing about Josh coming is the way he spends so much time with students. He builds relationships with them during the short time he is here; he is humble and real and honest with them.”

Riebock’s book, “mY Generation: a Real Journey of Change and Hope,” shares much of Riebock’s life story and tells of his calling to work with members of generation Y, to which current college students belong.

For more information on Riebock and/or his book, visit www.joshriebock.com.

SC Researchers Ask Local Farmers and Hunters to Report Tagged Deer

More than 100 deer in the area have numbers on their heads, and they aren’t price tags. The numbers are printed on yellow ear tags and were placed on deer on the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge during the fall and winter of 2007/2008 by researchers from Kansas State University and student volunteers from Sterling College. Each captured deer was assigned a unique number and tagged on each ear. In a study aimed at documenting the dispersal of this deer population, Sterling College researchers are asking the public to report any deer with yellow tags that are sighted or harvested away from the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. The tag number, sex, and specific location of the deer should be reported to Dr. Jonathan Conard at jconard@sterling.edu or 620-278-4243. Even if the ear-tag number cannot be read, the sex and/or size of the animal may be helpful to the researchers for identification.

The aim of this study is to document deer dispersal from Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. During dispersal younger deer (usually fawns or yearlings) move away from the range in which they were born to establish a new range in a different geographic location.

Fall Sports Briefs

While many of the deer tagged during 2007/2008 have remained in the vicinity of Quivira, it is possible others may have traveled long distances. Studies in other states have shown that deer may migrate or disperse between 1 and 100 miles. A study in the late 1960s that followed the movements of 19 mule deer in northwest Kansas found that deer moved an average of 51 miles during dispersal. Since then deer populations have increased dramatically and it is suspected that deer movement patterns have changed. The research study on the dispersal of the deer population tagged during 2007-2008 is part of a larger study on deer movement patterns.

SC student researchers tag one of a hundred deer on the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. On the tag is a unique number that will help the SC researchers to identify the deer and follow its dispersal from the wildlife refuge to where it is now.



- SC Football finished the season with a record of 6-4 and went 5-4 in the KCAC.
- Warrior soccer finished with a record of 5-8-4 and went 2-4-3 in the KCAC. Cuyler Prichard, a freshman, and Justin Martens, a junior, were named to Second Team All-KCAC. Nic Martinez, a senior, was named to All-KCAC Honorable Mention.
- Lady Warrior Soccer finished their season with a record of 3-13-1 overall and went 0-8-1 in the KCAC. Junior Kylie Yates was awarded Second Team All-KCAC and Sophomore Morgan Martin was named to the Honorable Mention squad at the end of the season.
- In cross country, Chris Penner set a new record on the men's side with a time of 28:17 - 5 seconds faster than the previous record. Kevin Burgess and Devin Roberts moved into 6th and 7th positions with times of 28:56 and 29:16 respectively. All three record setters are freshmen.

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Keep Us Informed

Just as we share life at Sterling College with you, we want you to share your life with us as well. Please let us know your recent life events so we can rejoice with you, pray with you, and share your updates with other alumni who want to do the same. Here are some specific kinds of information that will help us stay up-to-date:

- New phone number, address, or e-mail
- Birth or marital/family changes
- Illness, injury or death
- Change in careers
- Accomplishments
- Prayer Requests

At your request, we will publish any updates in the Alumni News and Classnotes section of the *Sterling* magazine to keep your college friends updated as well. E-mail David Earle at dearle@sterling.edu or call him at 620-278-4228 and share your latest news.

Sterling Magazine Available on our Web site

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