



A "True" Homecoming

On October 22-24, friends and alumni of Sterling College will return to campus for Homecoming 2009. The atmosphere will be festive with events, reunions, football, soccer, and the musical. There will be music, cheering, food, competition and conversation. But even as we move toward that time of excitement and renewed relationships, it is good to pause—and reflect on those who have recently experienced "true" homecoming. Carol Gene (English) Brownlee, a Sterling College alumna, professor emerita, former trustee, mother of five SC graduates, and follower of Christ, was called to her own "Homecoming" with her Savior on August 30. Though Carol Gene will remain an icon at Sterling College and an example of true servant leadership and sacrificial giving—of time, talent and treasure—we know that her homecoming on August 30 was much greater than the one we will celebrate in a couple of weeks. During the Alumni Banquet on the evening of October 24, an Alumni Memorial Presentation will commemorate Carol Gene and the other SC alumni who have gone Home this past year.



You are warmly invited to experience the energy and enthusiasm of the 2009 Sterling College Homecoming. We look forward to seeing you during the events and hope you will make every effort to be a part of the weekend.



David Earle
Director of Alumni Relations

Awards May Lead to Jobs for SC Students

Though the "Raving Fan Award" sounds like a recognition given at a high school pep rally, it is actually an award given by the Varsity Spirit Corporation, one of the premier cheerleading camp companies in the nation. College senior Jonathon Lovercamp, one of several Sterling College athletic training majors who interned for Varsity Spirit this past summer, was nominated for this award. It is such a well-known honor in athletic training that he may list his "Raving Fan" nomination on his résumé, and it might be the very thing that lands him a job.

Varsity Spirit Corporation organizes and manages high school cheer/dance camps and televised cheer/dance competitions at colleges and universities across the country. This past year more than 400,000 high school students participated in VSC cheer camps. VSC is the only cheer/dance camp company to have its own first aid staff, and for the past seven years, Sterling College athletic training students have been welcome and consistent members of that staff.

Sterling's association with VSC was formed through Pete Manely, who is chair of Sterling's athletic training department and a fifteen-year veteran at VSC. Through the years he has formed more than 900 professional connections, and every year Manely helps SC athletic training students get internships, jobs and graduate assistant positions.

"It's not just my connections, though," Manely said. "Sterling College students have a good reputation at VSC. They've made Sterling College

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- Another Record at Sterling College
- Sterling Professor Earns Doctorate in Biology
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Homecoming Events:

- Oct. 22**
8:00 p.m. Homecoming Musical "Working"
- Oct. 23**
10:30 a.m. Installation of 11th Sterling College President, Dr. Paul J. Maurer
6:30 p.m. Class of 1959 50th Reunion
6:30 p.m. Class of 1979 30th Reunion
6:30 p.m. Class of 2004 5th Reunion
7:00 p.m. Lady Warriors Volleyball
8:00 p.m. Homecoming Musical "Working"
- Oct. 24**
7:30 a.m. Lady Warriors Pancake Feed - 1:00 p.m.
10:00 a.m. Homecoming Parade
11:00 a.m. Homecoming Hangout - 1:00 p.m.
11:00 a.m. Women's Soccer vs. Tabor
1:00 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Tabor
1:10 p.m. Crowning of Homecoming Royalty
1:30 p.m. Football vs. Kansas Wesleyan
Football Dedication of New Track and Halftime Field
4:30 p.m. All Sports Reunion
5:00 p.m. Alumni Banquet - 7:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m. Homecoming Musical "Working"

Upcoming Events:

- Oct. 11 Campus Visit Weekend
If you know of students looking for a college, share their information with our admissions team: admissions@sterling.edu or 800.346.1017.
- Oct. 16 Oscar Schmidt Lecture Series
10 a.m. (Spencer Hall)
- Oct. 23-34 Homecoming Weekend
- Nov. 6 Heritage Convocation
Focus on the Rich Heritage and Traditions of SC Theatre
10 a.m. (Spencer Hall)
- TBA Alumni and Friends Meet and Greet with Dr. Maurer in Great Bend/Ellinwood Area

For more event information, visit the online calendar.

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

For More Information

For more information about Homecoming, visit the Homecoming Web page or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (620) 278-4228.

look good; they've made themselves look good." This is clear in the responsibility SC students are given at VSC camps. Kyle Berry, a junior at SC this year, worked at 13 camps this past summer. He was camp manager for nine of them. More proof of that good reputation is seen in the awards Varsity Spirit gives its summer employees based on their previous season's work; in 2009 Sterling College had almost a clean sweep of two of the regions' awards. "These awards are a big deal in the company," said Manely. "SC had seven rookies working at camps this past year, and all of them will be up for next year's Rookie Award."

A good reputation with VSC extends outside the corporation. Season Graves '06, a former intern at VSC, is now the head athletic trainer at a college in Laredo, Texas. Her supervisor there works for Varsity Spirit. Jeremy Emmons '08 worked a VSC camp at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, met the university athletic training staff, and now works with them as a graduate assistant. Matt Meredith '07 got his graduate assistant position at Baylor University because Baylor's head athletic trainer knows Pete Manely, and Manely recommended Meredith to him.

"We're seeing great results from the athletic training program," said Dr. Troy Peters, Sterling's Vice President for Academic Affairs. "AT students had a 100% pass rate on the Board of Certification Exam this past school year, and Sterling had the most students out of all the NAIA schools in Kansas win the Kansas Athletic Training Society's Scholar award."

Another Record at Sterling College

It's official. Sterling College has set another new enrollment record. Following the official twentieth-day enrollment mark on September 22, Sterling College has posted a total enrollment of 722 for fall 2009, the highest in the school's 122-year history. Officials credit the increase to a combination of a large incoming class, a consistent retention rate, and a five-year history of increasing enrollment.

"We have been able to build on the success of the last few years," said Sterling College President Dr. Paul Maurer. "Given the state of the economy this year, we are pleased that students and their families recognize the value of attending a four-year, Christ-centered, liberal arts college and that the quality education provided by Sterling is becoming more widely known."

"Faculty and coaches worked hard to form relationships with prospective students," said Dennis Dutton, Vice President of Enrollment.

"These efforts show students that the community aspect of Sterling is not just something we talk about, but is a reality."

Sterling's enrollment has increased for each of the past five years, from 516 in 2005 to 722 this year. Factors influencing that growth have been the increased efforts of academic departments to recruit and retain students and the development of e.Sterling, an online program that meets the needs of non-traditional students seeking to complete their degrees while working.

Of the total enrollment of 722, 254 are new students and 59 are e.Sterling online students. Students come from 32 states and seven international countries. Male students make up 51% of Sterling's student population, with females at 49%. The top five denominations represented at the College are Baptist, non-denominational, Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian. Minority students make up 18% of the student population.

"SC has a phenomenal education program-which is what I want to go into-and a strong forensics program coached by Ken Troyer, who's done some great things with forensics in this area," said Vance Stegman, a first-year student at SC and the 2009 valedictorian at Lyons High School. "SC is only eight miles from where I grew up, but it's like a whole new world for me, a good one. If high school students are looking for a campus that has great community and a good Christian atmosphere, they should look at Sterling."



The newest class of Sterling College Warriors will graduate in 2013.

Sterling Professor Earns Doctorate in Biology



Dr. Conard interacts with students in the biology lab.

Jonathan Conard, assistant professor of biology, completed his Ph.D. in biology at Kansas State this past summer. Dr. Conard feels he benefited from the entire process of studying for his doctorate. "My scientific writing skills improved, and I was able to learn from colleagues who are leaders in the discipline," he said.

For the research emphasis of his doctorate, Conard examined the movement patterns, survival and reproductive rates, and genetic status of elk in the population at Fort Riley, Kan. This research was of interest to the United States Army and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, as both wanted to track how elk moved on and off the military base. Conard is currently researching the movement patterns and contact rates of white-tail deer at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge.

Conard encourages his students to pursue research as well, and his teaching style emphasizes the value of active participation in the learning process. "I enjoy challenging students intellectually and watching the overall progression and growth that occurs throughout their academic experience," he said.

"I am extremely proud of Dr. Conard for obtaining this monumental position in academia," commented Dr. Troy Peters, Vice President of Academic Affairs at the College. "Fewer than 1% of those who begin a Ph.D. program actually finish; this serves as an example of his commitment and dedication to the field of biology and to his work at Sterling College."

Comment on Sterling College

Sterling College is seeking comments from the public about the College in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The College will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit December 7-9, 2009, by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Sterling College has been accredited by the Commission since 1957, and its last comprehensive visit for reaccreditation occurred in 2000. The evaluation team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments about Sterling College:

Public Comment on Sterling College
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed. Comments cannot be treated as confidential.

All comments must be received by November 7, 2009.

News Briefs

- All SC alumni are invited to the Inauguration Ceremony of Dr. Paul J. Maurer on October 23 at 10:30 a.m. **For more information regarding the ceremony, visit the Inauguration Web page.**
- There will be a Warrior Athletic Celebration on Saturday, October 24, to celebrate athletics at Sterling College and to dedicate the \$1.2 million renovation of the football and track complex. All alumni are invited. **For more information, visit www.sterling.edu/athletics/warrior-athletic-celebration.**
- Sterling College has been mentioned in two unlikely sources recently: "Bounce Magazine" and Joe Drape's book, "Our Boys: A Perfect Season on the Plains with the Smith Center Redmen." Read the full story online.

facebook

Be sure to check out and join the two Sterling College group pages on Facebook. If you haven't joined Facebook yet, join the thousands of SC alumni and friends who have found Facebook a great way to reconnect and stay in touch.



Join our Fan Site!



Join our Alumni Group!

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

The Spring/Summer *Sterling* Magazine is posted on our Web site for your viewing pleasure. Click here to read the latest edition of *Sterling*. If you did not receive a copy, please contact the Advancement office to confirm your current address.

Join our Legacy Walk!



To purchase a personalized brick in the Sterling College Legacy Walk, please contact David Earle, Director of Alumni Relations, at dearle@sterling.edu or call 620-278-4228.

Contact Us:

Sterling College
125 W. Cooper
Sterling, Kansas 67579
www.sterling.edu

Alumni Relations Office
David Earle, Director
dearle@sterling.edu
620-278-4228

Advancement Office
620-278-4219

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