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CORNERSTONE

THE NEWSLETTER OF MORRIS LIBRARY • SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE



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Letters from Liberty: The Civil War Correspondence of Nancy Clendenin Mann

by *Aaron Lisec, Special Collections Research Specialist*

To mark the sesquicentennial of the Civil War (2011–15), the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) at Morris Library will highlight its Civil War-related holdings in a series of exhibits and a new digital archive of high-resolution scans of letters, documents, and images.

SCRC's largest Civil War collection is the Mann Family Papers. Nancy Clendenin Mann (1829–1912) and John Preston Mann (1822–1908) lived in Liberty, now Rockwood, Illinois, on the Mississippi River about seventy miles south of St. Louis and about thirty miles northwest of Carbondale. Liberty probably took its name from the fact that it provided a stop for escaping slaves on the Underground Railroad. Liberty prospered in 1860; a mill in town supplied steamboats with wood for fuel,

and higher ground above town furnished good farmland. In 1865 the town's name changed to Rockwood for its local

attributes—the rocky bluffs and wood mill. John Mann, a merchant who became a lawyer after the war, served just over three years (September 1861 to October 1864) with the Fifth Illinois Cavalry, rising to second lieutenant, Company K, and regimental commissary. SCRC holds some 200 of his letters along with journals he compiled of his wartime experiences,

interspersed with seventy-one of Nancy Mann's letters.

Although John Mann had a view toward posterity—he planned to turn his journals into a memoir—Nancy's letters may be more valuable to social historians than John's letters are to



Courtesy of Aaron Lisec

The Civil War correspondence between John Mann and his wife, Nancy, consists of over 270 letters.

continued on page 4 . . .

CORNERSTONE is published four times a year. It is distributed free of charge to Friends of Morris Library, SIUC faculty and friends of the University.

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For a complete listing of the library staff, go to the **STAFF DIRECTORY** on our home page: <http://tinyurl.com/4gybkbl>

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150
SOUTHERN



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Message from the Dean

Requested Titles Hone the Collection

Over the past year, Morris Library has initiated two programs that enable the SIU community to be an active participant in the selection and growth of our collections. Both programs are versions of patron-initiated on-demand acquisitions; the first program has a focus on electronic books or eBooks.

With this program we work with selected vendors to load the bibliographic records of their electronic books into our online catalog, SIUCat. Upon the initial load of these records, we may own very few, perhaps none, of the titles listed but the ownership distinction is not apparent. If a faculty member or student finds one of these titles and clicks to view it, they are given access to the text just like any other eBook we may own. Behind the scenes, we have worked with the vendor and negotiated the number of access requests which, if reached, generates our automated purchase of the title. The user of the catalog sees nothing different between a title we actually own versus one that represents a potential purchase based on the patron's selection and interest.

The second on-demand program works with traditional books in print format. Interlibrary loan (ILL) is a long-standing and well-known library service. When a patron needs a book we do not own, an ILL request may be generated. On behalf of the patron, we request the book from other holding libraries nation-wide. With this second program we intercept the ILL request, and in its place initiate an immediate request for purchase from a near-by book distributor. When the book arrives (two to three days), we process it on a rush basis and deliver it to the patron. For books that may have required an ILL request to a library outside the state, we find that we can beat the average time and cost of a traditional ILL request! When the book is returned, we own it and add it to our collection. Technology plays less of a role in this approach but is still critical in the electronic transmission of the purchase request and the use of electronic tools at the library to quickly process and catalog the title.

Traditionally, books are selected by a librarian on the basis of quality and anticipation of future need, as much as they are acquired for immediate teaching and research. We participated in a recent study with CARLI (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois) that tracked the usage of books purchased on-demand. Books purchased in the on-demand program circulated at least one time, an obvious outcome for a title whose acquisition was initiated by request. More interestingly, the study also showed that books purchased via on-demand were likely to circulate an additional two, three, and four times beyond the initial request to other patrons! The study was limited but this "post-purchase" activity reflects much higher usage than books purchased in the traditional librarian-centered model of selection.

We need to view these approaches not in competition but as complementary. It would be foolhardy to build Morris Library's collections solely on the basis of on-demand requests. However, when monitored appropriately and combined with traditional selection methods, on-demand models are very effective in building a collection of relevant resources used by the community. The big bonus: we have some 20,000 people—the SIU community of faculty, staff and students—who now assist us in the complex task of building the collections at Morris Library!




DAVID CARLSON

The Library Is Seeking . . .

With research library budgets strained by the increasing costs of electronic journals and databases, more traditional reference/replacement volumes are sometimes left behind. The Library Is Seeking . . . looks for private funding for those items that would not otherwise be purchased by the library. If you are interested in underwriting one of these items, please contact Kristine McGuire at kmcguire@lib.siu.edu or 618-453-1633.



\$585 for *A Cultural History of the Human Body*, a six-volume set. Edited by LINDA KALOF and WILLIAM BYNUM. A considerable number of disciplines, frameworks, and theoretical approaches contribute to a better understanding of the body as both a cultural and a physical object. Accordingly, this six-volume reference set draws on the expertise of a diverse group of scholars to explore the body as it has been understood throughout history. Each volume, while unique in both time period and authorship, features several themes: birth/death, health/disease, sex, medical knowledge/technology, popular beliefs, beauty/concepts of the ideal, marked bodies of gender/race/class, marked bodies of the bestial/divine/natural, cultural representation, and self/society.



\$140 for *The Musical: A Research and Information Guide* by WILLIAM A. EVERETT. The musical, whether on stage or screen, is undoubtedly one of the most recognizable musical genres, yet one of the most perplexing. What are its defining features? Is it a popular tradition? Is it a commercial enterprise? Is it a sophisticated cultural product and signifier? This research guide includes more than 1,400 annotated entries related to the genre as it appears on stage and screen. It includes reference works, monographs, articles, anthologies, and websites related to the musical.

\$165 for *A Companion to Hegel* by STEPHEN HOULGATE and MICHAEL BAUR. G. W. F. Hegel (1770–1831) is one of the most important modern philosophers. His thought exercised a profound influence on Kierkegaard and Marx in the nineteenth century and on Dewey, Heidegger, Gadamer, Adorno and Derrida in the twentieth. More recently, major figures in mainstream Anglo-American philosophy, such as McDowell and Brandom, have also begun to explore the subtleties of Hegel's thought.

BUCKY SENDS HIS THANKS

The funding for twenty custom enclosures for SCRC's Buckminster Fuller three-dimensional models has been achieved. Huzzah! Our sincere thanks to those *Cornerstone* readers who have underwritten these boxes. The University Archives is home to an estimated 150 Fuller 3D models, believed to be the largest such collection in the world. These models were built to demonstrate structural concepts such as *tensegrity*, a Bucky term that literally blends tension and integrity. Future appeals are a possibility.

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The Adopt-a-Book Program appreciates your support.

\$160 for *The American Urban Reader: History and Theory* edited by STEVEN H. COREY and LISA KRISOFF BOEHM. This collection of scholarly articles pertaining to US urban history and urban studies provides theoretical and historical overviews, followed by temporal examinations of trends and issues in US urban affairs in sections covering the Colonial era to the present. Each section includes a series of scholarly essays and relevant documents, including presidential speeches, on urban issues and/or reports on urban conditions. The editors present a range of scholarly works, including seminal works about US cities by scholars such as Arnold Hirsch, Herbert Gans, and Jane Jacobs.



\$180 for *History of Ottoman Architecture* by JOHN FREELY. This book gives a clear and concise description of the history of the architecture produced under the Ottoman Empire, focusing on the extant buildings in the Republic of Turkey, particularly those in Istanbul and the empire's earlier capitals in Bursa and Edirne. The monuments in each chapter are described in chronological order, with photographs of each of them (sometimes in old prints showing them as they were in times past), along with images showing their plan and elevation.

military historians. Ironically, her letters survived because John had an uneventful war. He spent his three war years in the Mississippi Valley, much of it not far—by river—from his home. While the regiment took part in the Vicksburg campaign, it saw little heavy action. John Mann himself participated only in several skirmishes. Much of the time he was stationed at Helena, Arkansas, as part of a force that patrolled the surrounding country. Having a base camp meant John could store his letters in a dry place, and the river made it easy to send Nancy's letters home for safekeeping.

Married in 1853, the Manns had four children by 1861; a fifth had died in 1860. Nancy's brothers Henry and Harvey fought in the war—Harvey was killed in the Atlanta campaign—while Samuel farmed and supplied the extended family with much of its food. Her mother and sisters provided emotional and practical support. John's relatives lived in nearby Pleasant Ridge,

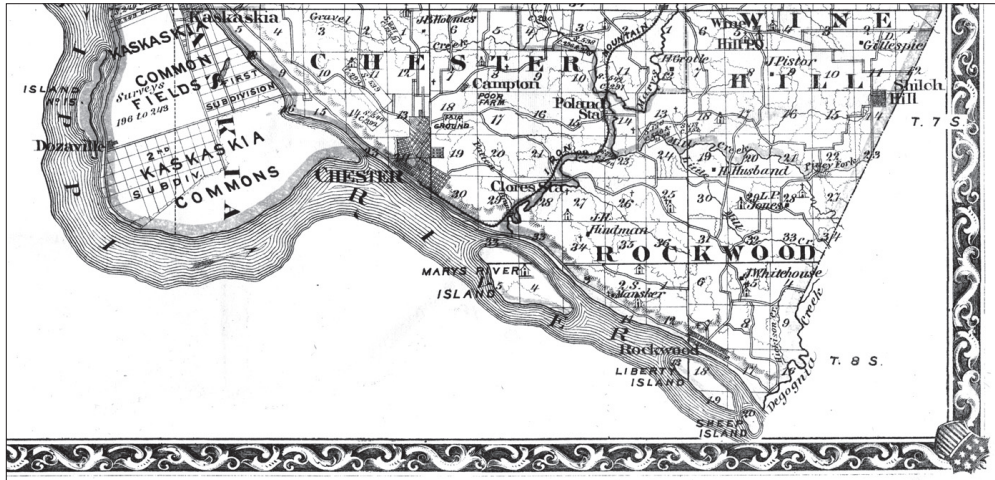
on the higher ground above Liberty. Beyond extended family was a larger community of friends and neighbors affected by the war. Like men all over the country, the Liberty men fought side by side in a few companies scattered

also shed light on the attitude of her neighbors towards the war. Anti-union sentiment percolated in southern Illinois, close to slaveholding Kentucky and Missouri, where much of the population had roots in the South. Nancy's February 11, 1862, account of

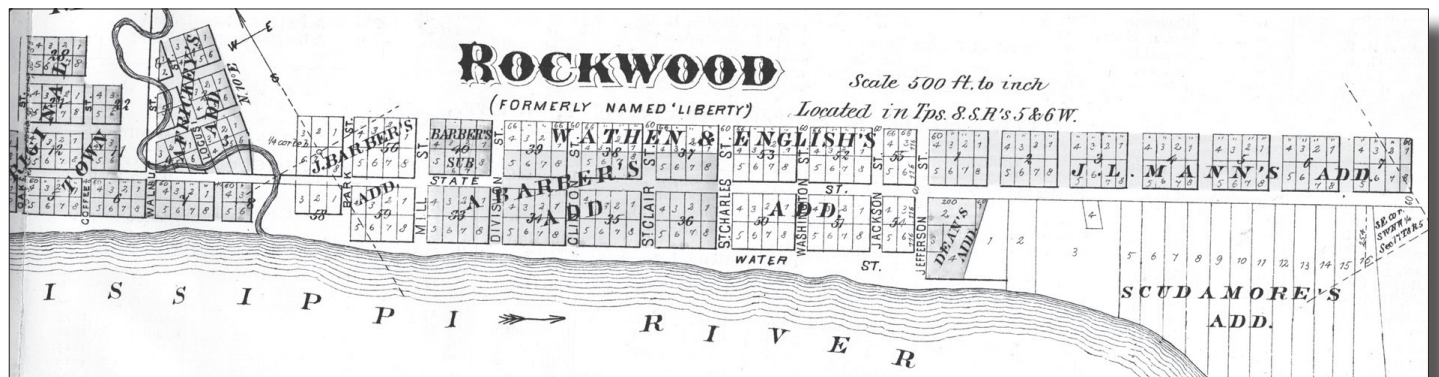
violent fights in downtown Liberty brings that tension to life, "We had a battle on a small scale in town yesterday the union men gained a complete victory, some Seceshers came up from the bottom, armed with

revolvers and knives, they flourished their arms on the street and hurrahed for Jeff. Davis, that was more than some of the flesh and blood could bear, so Dr Vance . . . and others surrounded the enemy opposite George Walters store, ran them into the store, charged upon them not with bayonets, but with stones, here the battle was terrific, one fellow named McCampbelle was severely beaten had to be carried off the ground, another

among several regiments. News of the company in their letters home was shared with the other wives. Men going back and forth on leave carried letters and belongings and messages from friends and family at each end. Nancy Mann's letters depict daily life on the Civil War homefront, from the cost of staple goods to survival strategies in cash-strapped circumstances. They



Rockwood (within Rockwood Township) is at the southern tip of historic Randolph County.



Rockwood's proximity to the Mississippi forever linked the town's fate to the river.

named Parker was beaten but not so badly . . . it appears cruel to beat men so but this Hurrahing for Jeff. Davis has caused great trouble, not only in this little town but all over the United States it must be stopped it should have been stopped long ago.”

Though annoyed by the disloyalty of Illinoisans around her, Nancy felt threatened by the armed and organized pro-Southern forces in neighboring Missouri. From her front porch she could see across the river, and she was conscious that guerrillas had raided river towns on the Missouri side. Not altogether facetiously, she wrote to John, “We ladies here have been consulting together to adopt some course to persue in case of an attack from guerillas, there is but few men here, and they are not armed, so I think that they had better leave town to save themselves, and let the women and children take care of themselves as they can best.”

Of all the subjects in her wartime letters, Nancy Mann’s chief concern was keeping the family together. After John had served a year, she worried about the long-term effect on family ties. On October 3, 1862, she wrote, “I feel troubled at your long absence for

many reasons, I fear you will become estranged from us, and if you should be permitted to return to your home again, that you will not enjoy our presence as

**“O how I do wish this war would end so you could come home if the Lord would send us peace we certainly would know how to appreciate it now”
—Nancy Clendenin Mann, August 30, 1862**

you would have done had we not been so long separated, I know that home scenes are not so fresh in your memory as when

To counter this, Nancy devoted part of each letter to updating John on his children’s health, their progress in school, and their desire to see him again. She worried that the children might forget him, especially their youngest, two-year-old Grace, “She was looking at pictures in a book this morning, she called me to look at one which had a mustache, she said that

is my Pa, when she speaks of you she often says Uncle Preston she seems to have an idea that every man that takes

any notice of her is her uncle she sees her Uncle Sam and John often at our house and seldom sees any other men is perhaps the reason of this.”

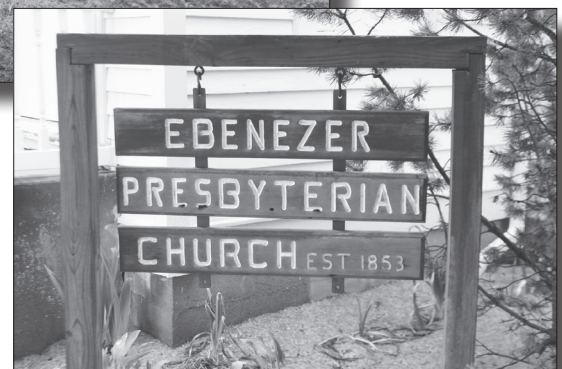
Nancy Mann’s Civil War letters offer a rare window into American home life during the country’s most perilous struggle.



Courtesy of Aaron Lisee

Rockwood’s Ebenezer Presbyterian Church is in a bucolic setting in the hills above the village.

you first left perhaps it is better that they should not be, your absence is unavoidable and I would not have the memory of home ever before you, so as to cause your thoughts to be gloomy, for a soldier needs animation not gloom, yet I do not wish to think that time, or distance should make you love us less than you did when you was with us.”



Courtesy of Aaron Lisee

SCRC encourages researchers to visit Morris Library and view its Civil War collections firsthand, or explore the Southern Illinois Civil War digital collection at <http://tinyurl.com/6bfexjg>. 📌

The Library Is Seeking ... continued from page 3

\$85 for *Historical Dictionary of Basketball* by JOHN GRASSO. This dictionary features over 600 alphabetically ordered entries covering professional, amateur, Olympic, college, and men's and women's basketball, both in the US and abroad. Specific entries discuss players, coaches, teams, leagues, schools, countries, and positions. Entries are short, concise, and heavily cross-referenced. Preceding the entries is a 25-page chronology ranging from 1891, when James Naismith concocted the initial set of basketball rules, to John Wooden's death in 2010.



\$215 for *The Blackwell Companion to Christian Ethics* edited by STANLEY HAUERWAS and SAMUEL WELLS. The second edition of *The Blackwell Companion to Christian Ethics* features a range of new topics, issues and authors within the fresh and imaginative approach to Christian ethics which made the first edition such a success. As with the first edition, the Companion offers an innovative exposition of Christian ethics seen through the lens of Christian worship.



\$315 for *Dirty Business: "Clean Coal" and the Battle for Our Energy Future* DVD. "*Dirty Business* is a dramatic reminder of where our electricity comes from and of the enormous environmental and human price we pay for cheap energy. This compelling documentary drives home the point that 'Clean Coal' is a cynical advertising slogan and political tool aimed at maintaining the primacy of King Coal and pushing cleaner, safer energy alternatives to the side. *Dirty Business* also demonstrates how coal mining and burning disrupts and degrades communities and ecosystems, from the coal-producing regions of Appalachia to coal-consuming areas of Nevada and China." —BRENT YARNAL, Professor and Associate Head, Department of Geography, The Pennsylvania State University

\$375 for *Encyclopedia of Family Health*, edited by M. CRAFT-ROSENBERG and S. PEHLER. Since the days of Florence Nightingale, scholars and researchers have reported on the relationship between family and health. Their findings support the significant correlation of the state of the family unit to the health of the family, individual family members, and communities. The family, broadly defined to include a wide array of alternative arrangements and compositions, is seen as a dynamic system that maintains health, offers support, affects health decisions, and attaches meaning to illness.



In 1914 the Obelisk became the campus yearbook for Southern Illinois University, and Special Collections has embarked on a project to digitize Obelisks from 1914 to 1960. In addition to the volumes listed below, the following editions have been previously sponsored: 1914, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1942, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1957, 1958, 1960, and 1961. A gift of \$100 will underwrite the insertion of an electronic bookplate, containing your name, an inscription, and a photograph. These volumes will be full-text searchable. Contact Kristine McGuire at 618-453-1633 or kmcguire@lib.siu.edu for more information about becoming a supporter of this project.

1953 & 1954, PHILIP Y. COLEMAN

The Adopt-a-Book Program encourages donors to purchase needed titles within which a personalized bookplate is placed.

For more information, please call 618-453-1633.

\$110 for *Eighteenth-Century Church in Britain* by TERRY FRIEDMAN. This ambitious and generously illustrated study is an in-depth account of the architectural character of a vast range of eighteenth-century ecclesiastical buildings, including the Anglican parish churches, medieval cathedrals repaired and modified during the period, and Dissenting and Catholic chapels and mausoleums. The first substantial study of the subject to appear in over half a century, Terry Friedman's work explores not only the physical aspects of these buildings but church-going activities of Britons from the cradle to the grave.



\$100 for *Historical Dictionary of the Kurds* by MICHAEL M. GUNTER. This second edition covers significant historical events, people, and places in Kurdish history from 401 BCE to early 2010. Gunter has written numerous books, book chapters, and journal articles on Kurdish history and politics. Even with its broad historical scope, covering 2,000-plus years of history, this work does a very good job of presenting both introductory overviews and detailed information within each entry. The dictionary begins with an acronyms/abbreviations section that is essential for understanding the work and for studying the subject more broadly. An excellent, detailed chronology of significant historical events follows. Well worth reading, the introduction provides an overview of the region, economy, and historical background of the Kurds.

1940s Traditions at Southern

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following factoids of campus life have been taken from *An Introduction to Southern*, the 1942–43 freshmen handbook of SINU. The illustrations of campus buildings are from the 1930 *Obelisk*.

To the gals: You're supposed to be better schooled in date etiquette than men; so our only advice is that men like silent girls and ones they can introduce to Mom—believe it or not! And, gals don't expect a big spread every time a fellow asks you to go for a walk. College men don't have too much extra cash. You might even suggest a "Dutch Treat" occasionally.

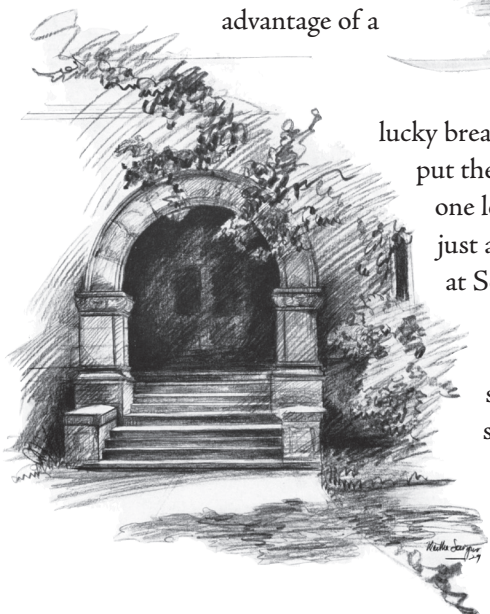
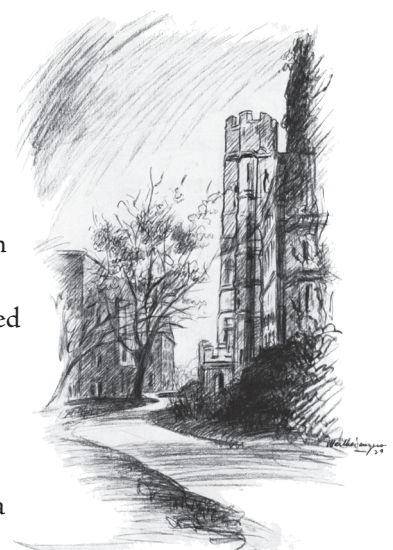
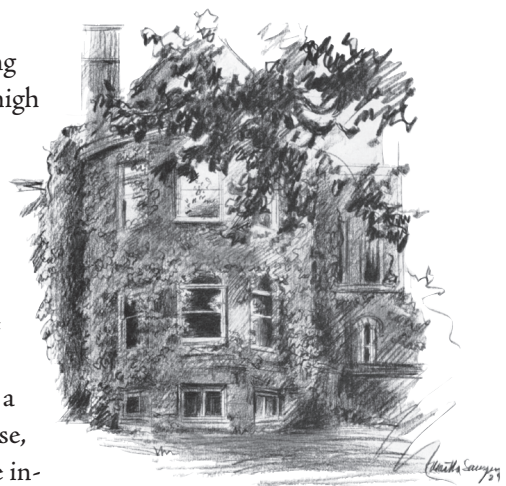
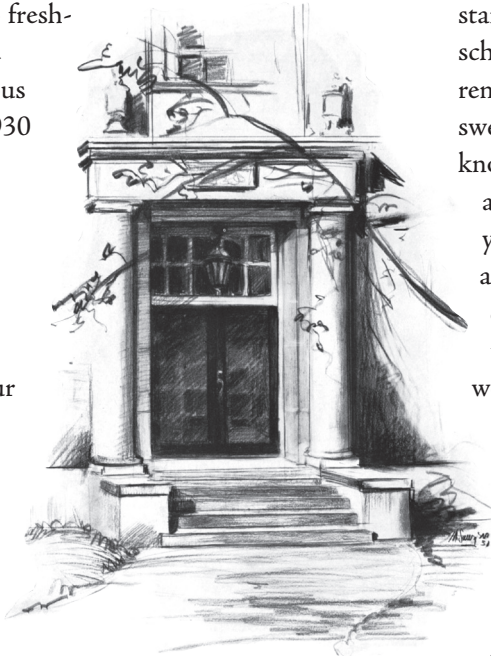
Here are a few tips on classroom conduct: If you must chew gum, do it in the privacy of your room; don't wait until you get to class to crack, twirl, and blow that goopy mess. Wait until after class to ask Helen what she's going to wear to the wiener roast. If you don't agree with the prof, don't mutter your disapproval while he's talking.

And don't try to get him sidetracked from the lesson; most of the time he'll catch on and put you down for a pretty unpleasant character.

It has been a tradition of long standing that all high school letters be removed from sweaters. We know that you are proud of your letters (we are too), but in order to attain a unity of purpose, we only wear the insignia of Southern. Out of respect for our alma mater, we do not flood the campus with so many high school letters that it resembles alphabet soup!

At football games, when the last minutes of the fourth quarter are ticking away and the score is tied, avoid hurling rank epithets at the referee when he penalizes Southern for an offside you happened not to see. Or when the gym is packed and the Maroons are having trouble putting the ball through the hoop, don't boo the other team because they took advantage of a

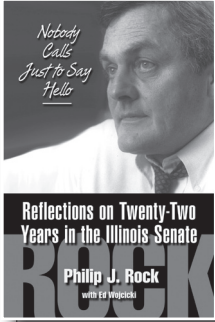
lucky break. They all put their pants on one leg at a time just as the boys at Southern do, and they like good sportsmanship.





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 of September
 10, 2011, at
 5:30 PM for the
 Friends of Morris
 Library Annual
 Gala Dinner. The
 guest speaker will
 be Philip Rock,

who served as an Illinois State Senator representing the 8th District in Chicago for over twenty years. The location will again be the Hall of Presidents in Morris. Contact Kristine McGuire for details at kmcguire@lib.siu.edu or 618-453-1633.

Library Friends

Financial gifts from library friends empower Morris Library and ensure its position as one of the top research libraries in the country. We appreciate this tradition of private support, which is critical to the quality of the library's collections, programs, and services. In furtherance of the goals of SOUTHERN AT 150, SIUC and the SIU Foundation retain six percent of all gifts to strengthen the advancement program.

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