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## **500-Plus Alums Returned for Homecoming and Reunion**

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## 500-Plus Alums Returned for Homecoming and Reunion

11/03/2009

Homecoming and Reunion 2009 was a big success with over 500 alumni in attendance. We welcomed alumni from every decade beginning in the 1930's to the present and they traveled from Alabama, New York, California, Texas, Georgia, and New Hampshire to celebrate their honored class reunions!

The weekend began with campus bus tours for alumni. Immediately following the bus tours, the annual Alumni & Friends Reception was held in the Hyland Performance Arena. More than 150 alumni, friends, professors emeriti, faculty, and staff attended the event, which always serves as a memorable kick-off for the weekend's festivities.

An estimated 125 alumni, students, and parents on Saturday morning joined President James D. Evans for breakfast. Immediately following the breakfast, alumni gathered for the annual Alumni Association meeting.

Alumni, students, parents, and townspeople lined the streets of the Lindenwood campus for the 2nd annual Homecoming & Reunion Parade later that morning. The parade was led by Grand Marshals Professor Groff Bittner and his wife, Fern Palmer ('57) Bittner, who was in charge of the equestrian program at Lindenwood for many years. President Evans and his wife, Lois, along with members of the Homecoming Court, were chauffeured in luxury cars that were generously donated by Plaza Motors in St. Louis.

More than 10 student organizations participated by preparing floats that embodied the homecoming theme of different decades of history. The floats were judged by St. Charles Alumni Club members, and the winning student group was awarded a cash prize by the Club for their efforts. The first place winner was A Cross Between; second place, American Humanics/APO PHI Lambda PHI and YMCA; and third place was The Vine-Catholic Student Union.

Following the parade, alumni and friends visited their former residence halls during student-led campus tours. Many of the alums from earlier decades were surprised and pleased to see how much of Lindenwood's historic campus remains well cared for.

Alumni, students, and parents joined in on tailgating festivities at the barbecue luncheon in the parking lot of Harmon Hall. Guests enjoyed live entertainment and an afternoon of good food and conversation.

After lunch, the Lions took defeated Baker 52-30. Some 250 alumni packed the VIP seats at Hunter Stadium to cheer LU on to victory!

After the game, alumni and friends gathered in the Memorial Arts Building for the rededication of Goodall Parlor. The beautifully renovated rooms and painting of Arthur S. Goodall was on display. Following the parlor rededication, 75 alumni, friends and supporters gathered in the lobby of the J. Scheidegger Center to honor Professor Groff Bittner for his 50 years of service and dedication to Lindenwood, and to his students. A 7-foot Steinway grand piano was dedicated in his honor.

On Saturday night, alumni and friends attended the Athletic Hall of Fame dinner where several Lindenwood alumni, faculty and former coaches were inducted into the 2009 class.

Mark your calendars and join us for next years Reunion on October 15-16, 2010!

To see photos from this year's Homecoming and Reunion please click here:  
<http://www.lindenwood.edu/alumni/parade09.cfm>