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Founders' Day | Convocations

1986

Founders' Day Convocation (1986 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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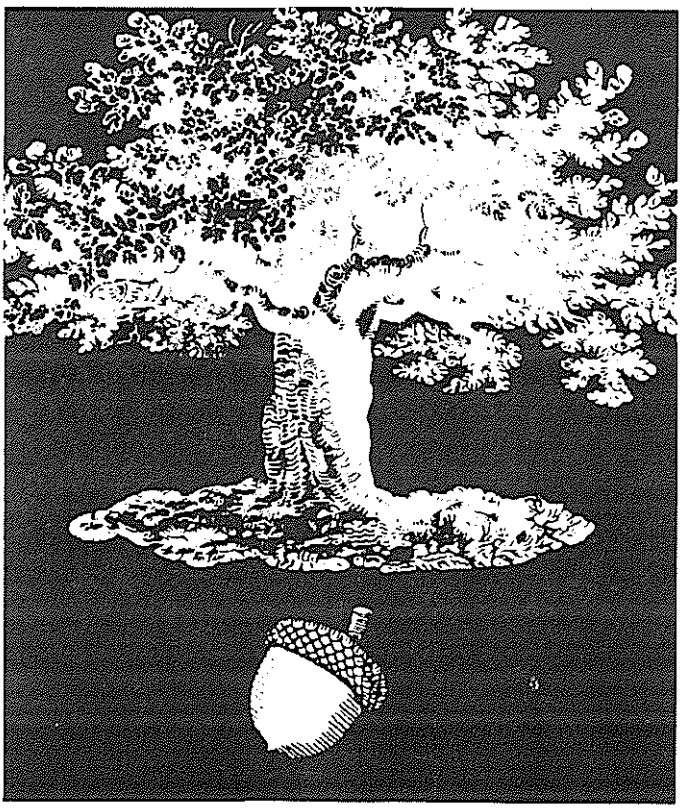

Founders Day

February 19, 1986

ROBERT E. PAGE '58
President and Publisher,
The Chicago *Sun-Times*

Robert E. Page brought a distinguished record with him to Chicago when he was named president and publisher of the Chicago *Sun-Times* in January 1984. He had previously revitalized the stagnant Boston *Herald*, increasing its circulation by more than 27 percent, and served as general manager of the San Antonio *Express News*, both properties of News Corporation Limited, owned by Australian media magnate Rupert Murdoch.

As a reporter and executive with United Press International for 20 years, Page was the wire service's midwest business manager in Chicago from 1964 to 1967 before moving on to other executive assignments in New York, Boston, London and Hong Kong. He was UPI's youngest vice president at the time he headed its Asian operations in 1972. He rose to vice president and general manager before leaving UPI in 1980.

Page's assignment with the *Sun-Times* marked a return home to Illinois where he was born, attended college and started his newspaper career on the old *Illinois State Journal* in Springfield in 1952 as a teen age sports reporter.

In addition to his responsibilities at the *Sun-Times*, he also serves as chairman of the News America Syndicate, worldwide distributor of such popular features as the columns of Ann Landers, Carl Rowan and Evans and Novak, as well as comic strips and other newspaper features.

In 1979 Illinois Wesleyan honored Page as Outstanding Alumnus. He is a member of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, and Sigma Chi social fraternity, which recognized him as a Significant Sig in 1981.

He is married to Nancy Merrill, a television news interviewer, and is the father of two sons, Douglas and Stephen, and two stepdaughters, Christina and Amanda.

In Chicago, Page is a principal of Chicago United and a member of the boards of the Chicago Central Area Committee, American Cancer Society, the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry and the Lyric Opera.

He is a trustee of Mundelein College, the Illinois Better Schools task force and is actively involved with the Chicago Boys and Girls Club and the Better Boys Foundations.

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

CONVOCATION

HONORING THE FOUNDERS

Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall
February 19,1986 11:00 a.m.
President Robert S. Eckley, *Presiding*
Professor Robert Bankert, *Mace Bearer*

ORGAN PRELUDE . . . . . Professor David Gehrenbeck, *Organist*

Prelude and Fugue on B-A-C-H . . . . . *Franz Liszt*
(1811-1886)

PROCESSIONAL

"Now Thank We All Our God" . . . . . *an: Franz Liszt*

INVOCATION . . . . . Chaplain William L. White

TWO SACRED MADRIGALS

O Jesu dolce . . . . . *G.P. da Palestrina*

David's Lamentation . . . . . *Thomas Weelkes*

The Collegiate Choir
Professor David Nott, *Director*

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER . . . . . President Robert S. Eckley

ADDRESS: "The American Press: Are We Believable?" . . . . . Robert E. Page

AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE

AUDIO-VISUAL . . . . . Jerry D. Bidle
"6,570 Days"

ALMA WESLEYANA

From hearts aflame, our love we pledge to thee
Where'er we wander, over land or sea;
Through time unending loyal we will be—
True to our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.

When college days are fully past and gone,
While life endures, from twilight dream till dawn
Grandly thy soul shall with us linger on—
Star-crowned, our Alma Mater, Wesleyan!

ORGAN POSTLUDE . . . . . Professor David Gehrenbeck, *Organist*

Fugue No. 2 on B-A-C-H, op. 60/2 . . . . . *Robert Schumann*
(1810-1856)