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Milo Rediger Writings & Addresses

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Tower Topics: Honor and Honors (article for THE ECHO)

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TOWER TOPICS

Honor and Honors

In the Taylor program the honor principle is very important, both in our academic life and in the social and spiritual phases of our living. I have stressed this point of "honor" many times in previous articles.

Now I would like to emphasize "honors". The honors program has both formal and informal aspects. The formal aspect appears in the college catalog as a system of grade point levels, the achievement of which leads to honors designations - cum laude, magna, and summa. It appears also in the various departments as honors courses which may be taken by students who meet certain standards in the quality of their work. It is assumed that the work in these courses is done more or less independently by the student, with direction and supervision by the teacher.

The informal aspect of honors activities is found in a student organization like Symposium Dialecticum, in certain kinds of intellectual "buzz sessions", and in the factors which lead to membership in Chi Alpha Omega.

I trust that these opportunities for the recognition of scholarship will serve as incentives toward the achievement of the very best of which you are capable. The first responsibility of a student while studying in a Christian college is to be the best he can possibly be as a student. In light of the fact that the opportunity for preparation is a God-given privilege, it honors and glorifies Him when the best use is made of what He has given. Surely it is pleasing to Him when we are both honorable and "honor" students.

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