

fun
facts
about
WESTMONT



Only two U.S. universities have founding ties to canning jars: Ball State University and Westmont. Ruth Kerr, Westmont's principal founder, inherited the **KERR GLASS MANUFACTURING COMPANY** in the early 1900s when her husband, Alexander, died. Under her direction, many women held executive positions, and the company became one of the two largest canning businesses in the country. Kerr named Kerrwood Hall for her late husband, and the college honored her with the Ruth Kerr Student Center.

Westmont purchased a **WARDROBE** from C.S. Lewis' home that closely matches the famous wardrobe described in *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Open it for yourself in Reynolds Hall, home of the English department.



DALLAS WILLARD, the renowned Christian philosopher and author, left his literary archives to Westmont's Martin Institute for Christianity and Culture, which includes the Dallas Willard Center.

Westmont's campus includes four buildings (Deane Hall, Reynolds Hall, Deane Chapel and the Music Building) designated as **HISTORICAL LANDMARKS** that housed the Deane School for Boys in the early 20th century.*



Since 1961, Westmont's annual **SPRING SING** has encouraged students' creativity and professors' exasperation. For two weeks before the event at the Santa Barbara Bowl, nightly rehearsals give students a reason to bond and relax—and procrastinate on their homework!

Amanda Sparkman, a biology professor at Westmont, has created a website that documents the **BIODIVERSITY** of Westmont's campus. The 111-acre campus hosts 110 bird species and 41 native plants, among many types of insects and other animals.



Westmont boasts a **FRISBEE GOLF** course that extends through most of the campus. Both students and staff play the course on a regular basis—with mixed results, including stranded Frisbees on some of the buildings!

Paul Willis, an English professor at Westmont, has created a **HIKING TRAIL** that circles campus. He writes about his experience clearing and maintaining this path (appropriately named the Willis Trail) in his book *To Build a Trail*.



Westmont athletic teams have won **NINE NAIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS** and **99 GSAC TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**.

The Westmont Warriors mascot used to look far less intimidating: a student in a cartoon **"WILLIE THE WARRIOR"** costume cheered for the college's teams in the 1950s.*



Westmont once sponsored a **NATIONAL WINNING POLO (EQUESTRIAN) TEAM**. Perhaps future students will revive it! Players and patrons from across the globe call Santa Barbara their home for the summer, bringing world-class polo to the Southern California coast.

KERRWOOD HALL, a Mediterranean-style estate first known as El Tejado, dates to 1929 and originally contained a library, enclosed porch, servants' quarters and at least five bedrooms. Although Westmont has remodeled Kerrwood several times (and repaired it after a fire in 1970), a lot of the original architecture — and especially the lavish formal gardens — remain much the same.*



*Photos courtesy of the Westmont College Archives