

Odessa College

news release

Media Relations and Publications • 201 W. University • Odessa, TX 79764 • www.odessa.edu • 432/335-6416 • Fax 432/335-6860

From: Cheri Dalton

Director of Media Relations & Publications

cdalton@odessa.edu

(For immediate release)

Sewell to serve as OC commencement speaker Friday, May 14

ODESSA (May 10, 2010) – Odessa College will honor more than 220 graduate candidates in 37-degree programs at the spring 2010 graduation ceremony at 7 p.m. Friday, May 14 at the OC Sports Center. Guest speaker, Collin Sewell, local businessman, will address the graduates.

A fourth-generation car dealer, Sewell leads the more than 225 members of the Sewell Family of Dealerships, which includes Sewell Ford, Chevrolet and Chrysler Dodge Jeep. He is an active partner in Giant Impact, a leadership development company based in Atlanta; and, he and his family sponsor the Sewell Leadership Event featuring Dr. John Maxwell in which attendance has grown from a few hundred in the first year to more than 1,400 this past year. He also was the recipient of the 2009 George E. “Buddy” West Leadership Award presented by the Presidential Museum and Leadership Library. The award is presented annually to individuals who demonstrate leadership comparable to the great presidents of the United States.

Committed to adding value to the community, Sewell has shared his time with a number of worthwhile organizations. He has served as president and founding member of the Education Foundation of Odessa, a member of the University of Texas of the

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Permian Basin development board and president of Texas Christian University's Regional Council.

Additionally, he has directed Zurich Insurance National Council and Ford National Credit Council. Sewell is working to establish an endowment that will provide tuition to every graduating senior of Odessa public schools, which earned him the Community Statesman Award for Philanthropy in 2008. He also recently was presented with the Outstanding Award for Customer Service in the state of Texas from Ford Motor Company.

Sewell stated he is grateful for his parents, Ron and Canda Sewell, his wife Meghan and his three sons. For more information contact the media relations department at 335-6416.