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Missouri Western State College
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page by page

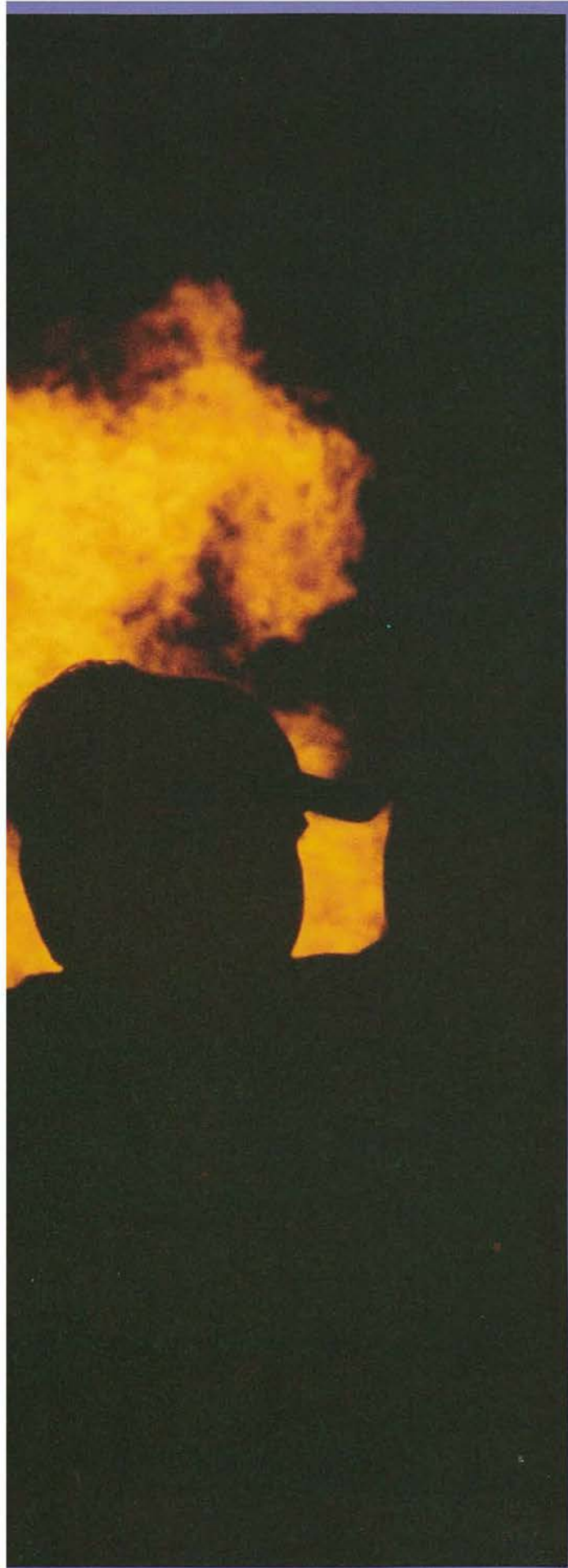


The Homecoming bonfire provides a dramatic backdrop as students gather at a pep assembly during Homecoming Week. School spirit was an essential part of the Missouri Western experience.

Angela Wells

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Reading, study, taking notes, performing experiments and the dreaded exams reminded students daily of their pursuit of knowledge.



Tim O'Connor

Band member Lazzell Williams relaxes in between performances as part of the MWSC Marching Band. Essentially talented students were found in various aspects of life at Western.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

The seven wonders of the world were all rolled through the streets of St. Joseph. A fraternity recreated the wonders for this float coincide with the Homecoming theme "Around the World.."



Just as change was an essential part of our planet's cycle, a tremendous sense of change, and more importantly growth, was vibrantly present on the campus of Missouri Western in 1997.

It was obvious by the appearance of new technologies alone, that students had greater opportunities than ever before. These advancements were brightly displayed by the opening of the Spratt Multi-Purpose Classroom Building, which contained state-of-the-art technology. Other exciting academic options became increasingly popular like satellite classes, e-mail, and on-line registration.

Student life took on a vivacity all it's own, as well. Everything from the latest rages in fashion and the mysticism of body piercing, to living on campus and dealing with roommates, to the organized exploration of the subconscious was an essential part of the Missouri Western experience.

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In a no holds barred exhibition called the Battle of the Bands, Western's best musicians played their way to the top. Several bands entered the competition, which was the first of its type on campus.

Angela Wells

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Keeping their eye on the ball and their head in the game was essential to the Griffons to ensure victory. Spectators cheered the team on at Spratt Memorial Stadium during home games.



Angela Wells

Hitting just the right note takes hours of practice as any musician knows. The hallway in the fine arts building doubles as rehearsal space for musicians.



Crystal Sisco



Rising stars were found on stage at MWSC for four different theatrical performances during the year. Western's plays include everything from Shakespeare to Frankenstein.



While extracurricular activities flourished, academics leaped into its own new dimension. Majors Honors gave students an edge on their careers, and at the same time P.E. activity classes offered something more than the average exercise. And just as many seniors prepared to further their education in graduate school, as graduates returned to their alma mater to begin their careers.

The spotlight was not only on students but faculty and staff as well. Professors were striving to find a balance between the private and professional while several valued faculty members said good-bye to their teaching careers and hello to the freedom of retirement. College President Janet G. Murphy received a prestigious community award and the new police academy trained eager recruits to enter the tough world of crime fighting.

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face to face

The many faces of Missouri Western look on as the Griffon basketball team plays. Each unique, each essential in their own right to the year at MWSC.

Angela Wells

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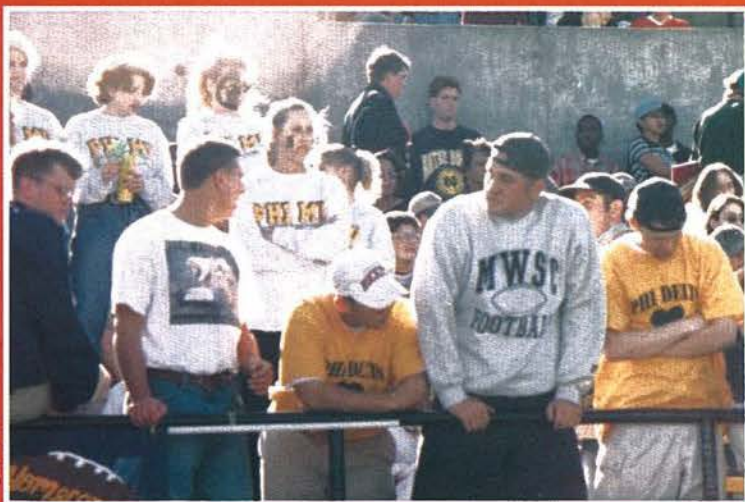
Angela Wells

Angela Wells

The steps outside the SS/C building provide a retreat for students on break from classes. Although winters could be cruel on campus, gorgeous days drew students outdoors.



The Griffon Place snack bar gives students an alternative to the cafeteria. The Student Union grew more popular with students with the opening of the Sprague Multipurpose Classroom Building that connects with a walkway.



Black and gold spirit was easy to spot at home football games. Students, organizations, parents, community members, faculty and staff could all be found regularly cheering the Griffons on to victory.



In a society driven by conformity, Missouri Western State College was a refreshing change of pace for those who passed through her campus during the year. The variety of people who had the privilege of calling the campus home, or at least home away from home were many and varied and proud to be called individuals. Another face in the crowd was not a cliché that described Western. Faces, all essential, that make up a crowd known collectively as Griffons.

It was unquestionably clear that the essentials were present in 1997. Lives grew and changed, personally, academically, intellectually. Together, our institution reveled in a proud presence and faced a brilliant future. From stellar students striving for lofty goals to incredible opportunities through the latest elevations in technology, no one could deny that the best was a place called Missouri Western.

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VITAL EXISTENCE





THOSE FAMILIAR WITH STUDENT LIFE AT MISSOURI WESTERN WOULD EASILY ADMIT THAT ITS EXISTENCE
AS ONE OF INTENSE VITALITY. IF STUDENTS WEREN'T GYRATING TO THE LATEST IN MUSICAL OFFERINGS
CHECKING OUT WHAT WAS SIZZLING AT THE CINEMA, THEY WERE MAKING THE MOST OF BALMY
TERNOONS OR SNOW-PACKED HILLSIDES. FEW HESITATED WHEN IT CAME TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
THEIR OWN DIVERSITY. ISSUES OF RACE, SEXUALITY, AND POLITICS PERMEATED THE PSYCHES OF EVERYONE
ON CAMPUS. THE AGE OF INDIVIDUALITY AND INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM WAS TENACIOUSLY ARRIVING.

frivolity

family day brought out the child in everyone

Students with their families and guests filed up the hill toward the football field carrying blankets and wearing their Griffon black and gold. As the afternoon sun went low in the western sky, the band began to march onto the field to a single drum beat. Spectators in the packed stadium settled in for the football game between the Griffons and the Emporia State Hornets to top off family day 1997.

Family day was an annual fall event at Western. It was a time when students were able to invite family members to the campus for a day of fun and activities. Parents, grandparents, and other relatives who normally would not have been able to get to know Missouri Western were invited to come to campus where their students could show them around.

Campus clubs and organizations set up entertainment booths inside the arena in the physical education building. Children played games and were treated to free stage coach rides and clowns who made balloon animals. Planetarium shows were offered throughout the afternoon for everyone. Musical entertainment was provided by the Steel Drum Band and The Mystic Dancers. For a minimal price, students and guests were served a buffet dinner of barbecued beef, fried chicken, hot dogs, salads, chips, desserts, and sodas before the start of the football game.

Speeches were given at the MWSC Parents' Council meet-

ing in the afternoon. Guests listened to a welcome speech by President Janet Murphy, and a current issues speech by Dr. James Roeber, vice president of academic affairs. Government President Ben Helt and Campus Activities Chairperson Jessica Yeast also spoke to the crowd.

Freshman Junior Varsity football player Kevin Shine invited his parents to attend family day.

"We came out from St. Louis to spend some time with Kevin and see the campus," Debbie Shine said. "We had the reception for football parents. We bought some sweatshirts. We've had a great time."

Junior Susan McKim invited her parents, Stan and Virginia, down from Hamburg, Iowa, for the event.

"We came down to watch the football game. We haven't been down in a while, and we've missed seeing the boys at the football games," McKim said.

Freshman football center Philip Nelson's father Jon Nelson came from Texas to spend family day with Philip.

"I've had a blast. I listened to the coach's speech, and I really had fun," Nelson said.

With a 30-14 defeat, the football game that concluded family day made a slightly disappointing ending to an otherwise successful event. However, the overall day was enjoyed by hundreds of families.

Fifty cents a putt gave Charles Richardson and his niece Kellie Moechoe the opportunity to golf. Family day brought out hundreds of students and their families.

Inspecting her loot, Taylor Moranville, daughter of junior Karl Russell, sits on the gym floor. Due to bad weather, Family Day activities were held inside this year.

Crystal Sisco





A free stage coach ride around MWSC mesmerizes Blake Ingwerson. She came to Family Day with her mom, Julie, who is an employee of the college.

Crystal Sisco



Crystal Sisco



LaTonya Jackson

Taking a ride on the wild side, two FamilyDay guests experience virtuosity. This virtual reality game was one of the more popular attractions.

Jeff Kamler patiently waits for a balloon creation from Bubbles the Clown (aka Carolyn Arment.) Young and old alike enjoyed the day.

Spirited

getting charged before the fight

Take a trip around the world with the Griffons was the challenge in 1996. The theme for Homecoming brought some creativity and fun to the campus. Homecoming was a time to promote spirit, school pride and support of the Griffon football team. Students and faculty took the week to relax, have fun, and cheer their Griffon team to victory.

The competition began immediately as organizations painted windows around campus showing their Homecoming spirit. Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity was the winners of the window painting competition with a traveling around the world theme.

Organizations were also given the opportunity to decorate signs showing their Griffon pride and excitement for Homecoming. The signs were staked up throughout campus for all to see. Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority was the winner of this competition as their sign displayed flags from various countries with a bold American flag in the background.

Phi Sigma Kappa sponsored a Monday Night Football pizza party in the Griffon Place. Though the Raiders and the Chargers were in a heavy competition for the game, several fans were in competition for the Most Spirited Fan award sponsored by Alpha Sigma Alpha. The winner was Alicia Copeland, member of Phi Mu. Copeland took home a plaque for her spirited personality.

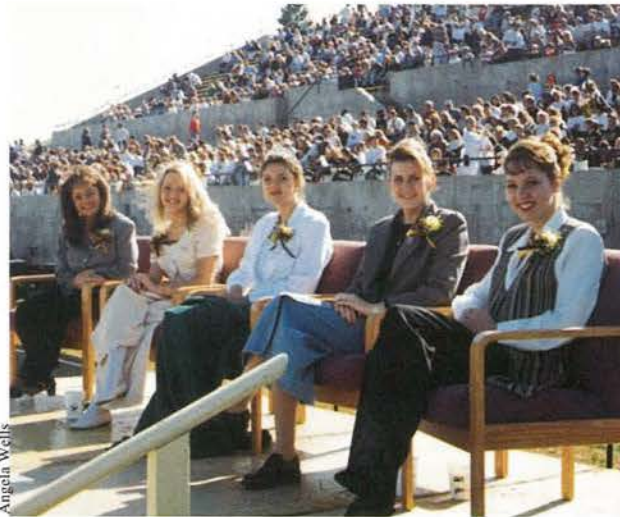
The Tuesday night talent show which was sponsored by the Campus Activity Board included performances from all organizations to singing. Brandi Sawyer was the winner of the singing category and the over-all winner of the talent show. She received a trophy and a \$100 cash prize.

Sigma Sigma Sigma sponsored a canned food drive on Wednesday just before the scavenger hunt. Teams were given a list of items to search for items like chattering teeth, a screw-in bow tie, and a 1969 championship picture of the Kansas City Chiefs. Alpha Sigma Alpha were the winners.

Thursday held perhaps the most festive of the activities. It was the pep rally and the bonfire where the excitement began. The Griffon marching band, flags, and the Dancers each did separate performances. During the rally, the audience formed teams to play games. The over-all winner of the games was Alpha Sigma Alpha. The winner of the Most Spirited Fan award, which denoted the most spirit at games, was Phi Sigma Kappa.

The prelude to the actual game against Truman State was exciting in and of itself. Students had no reservations about rolling up their sleeves and pitching in for the campaign to support the Griffons to success. It was the thought of triumph over adversity that fueled the student spirit.

The Homecoming Court attends the football game against Truman State. The Baptist Student Union sponsored Mary Wilford who was crowned queen. The court included: Cathy Carney, Suzie Maudlin, Deanna Wright and Kim Mestemacher.



Angela Wells

Alpha Sigma Alpha's float, Pulled Around the World, pulls more than just the world. Earlier in the week, Alpha Sigma Alpha were the overall winners of games held at the pep rally.



Angela Wells



Homecoming Queen, Mary Wilford, throws candy to on-lookers at the Homecoming Parade. The parade was one of several activities taking place during Homecoming Week.

The Griffons take the field at Spratt Stadium surrounded by the fired-up Griffon cheerleaders. In the week that preceded the game, the Griffons had enormous support.

Crystal Sisco



Angela Wells

Excited fans perform the Macarena to the rest of the Hundreds of students, faculty and community members out in support of the Griffons.

finale

finding victory in defeat

After the fun and games were over, it was time to announce the: Homecoming Queen Mary Wilford. Wilford was sponsored by the Baptist Student Union. A raging bonfire awaited the crowd once the pep rally was over. Meanwhile, Alpha Gamma Delta sponsored a pizza party inside the gym. A first-of-its-kind battle was about to begin as well; the Battle of the Bands.

“For a first time event on a campus that has never heard live music before, I believe it went exceptionally well. I think we planted some good seeds for students to show their talent outside of the talent show,” Ben Helt said. The bands that performed in the blowout were X35, Toast, Planet B, HHH, and Fashion Jive. The winners of the contest were Planet B.

Friday was activities day which meant no classes. Phi Delta Theta sponsored a pancake breakfast in the Griffon Place for those early risers. However, the majority of the day was spent making last minute preparations on floats, cars and trucks for the parade Saturday.

Bright and early Saturday morning organizations lined up in parking lot H with their parade entries. Float entries varied from sailboats to globes to scenes from around the world. Chanting and cheering could be heard for miles as the parade entries rolled through the street of St. Joseph.

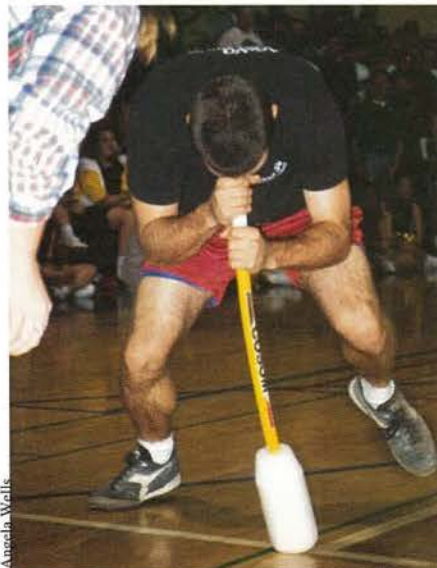
After the parade, the griffons lost a tough game to Truman State. Despite a loss for the griffons, Homecoming was an over-all success. At half-time fans were awaiting the announcement of the float, car and truck winners.

Phi Sigma Kappa won the float contest for the second consecutive year. Sigma Sigma Sigma were the winners of the car contest. The Phi Sigs raked in another victory as well as the truck. Phi Sigma Kappa sponsored a sheet contest in which organizations were encouraged to paint, graffitti, and decorate sheets to be displayed at the game. Sigma Sigma Sigma won the sheet contest.

“This was the best student-run Homecoming I have ever witnessed. The Homecoming committee was exceptional. Don Willis, assistant dean of student affairs, said that the activities that were available for students this year were more plentiful than ever.”

Throughout a week that was a glorious triumph for the griffons, perhaps with the exception of those fans at the game, school spirit was obvious to anyone that stepped on campus. Western was looking brightly to the future and that even more students would become involved in Homecoming next year.

A student participates in the Greek Games by playing a game called “Dizzy.” Spectators turned out for the Greek Games which were also part of Homecoming Week.



Angela Wells

Students play Pass the Cottonball during the Greek Games. The overall Homecoming Spirit Stick went to Phi Sigma Kappa for having the most spirit throughout all Homecoming activities.



Erica Andrews



Angela Wells

The women of Phi Mu show the crowd that they know how to have fun during the Homecoming parade. Phi Mu member, Alicia Copeland took home a plaque for "Most Spirited Fan" earlier in the week.

The Griffons prepare to face-off with the Truman State Bulldogs in the '96 Homecoming game. The Bulldogs defeated the Griffons.



Angela Wells

Sigma Kappa is in the doghouse on their Homecoming float. The float was just one of the many organizations that made the event so exciting and successful.



enlighten

new students oriented in innovative way

National statistics show that out of all of those who enter college, only forty percent will receive degrees. The majority of those who leave college do so in the first six to eight weeks of their first semester. The cause, some think, is that students often come to college with misconceptions.

Those misconceptions were what administrators at Missouri Western wanted to do away with when they created the Griffon Edge program in the fall of 1996.

"We wanted to give students a realistic view of what college is really like," assistant dean of student affairs and Griffon Edge director Don Willis said.

With the support of College President Janet G. Murphy, the pilot program, which was experimented with in 1995 using residence complex students, was expanded. Most of the input from the new Griffon Edge came from about fifteen second semester freshmen who had struggled through their first semesters. They offered input on what may have been missing from their first semesters as freshmen.

"We asked the students," Willis said, "what they felt they needed to know as incoming freshmen, and they basically put

the program together."

With that valuable feedback, Willis and others created a two day orientation program with an enrollment fee for new students. For a \$50 fee, students received a t-shirt, planned lunch. Students also earned one hour of credit for attending the program.

The two eight hour sessions focused on seven areas of concentration from computer facilities and security to student involvement and dating.

"It really helped," freshman Erin Cunningham said. She got to meet people who were going through the same process.

Willis and others were already looking forward to expanding the program even more for its 1997 incarnation. The program planned to add discussions of wellness as related to intramural activities and the fitness center, as well as health services. Willis also wanted to include a mock lecture.

With an outstanding maiden voyage, Griffon Edge moved forward to giving new students a start in 1997. Expanding college life through the Griffon Edge was essential to a successful career at Missouri Western.

Griffon cheerleaders move through a crowd of newly oriented students. The idea behind Griffon Edge was for freshmen to learn about Missouri Western and have fun.



Amy Supple

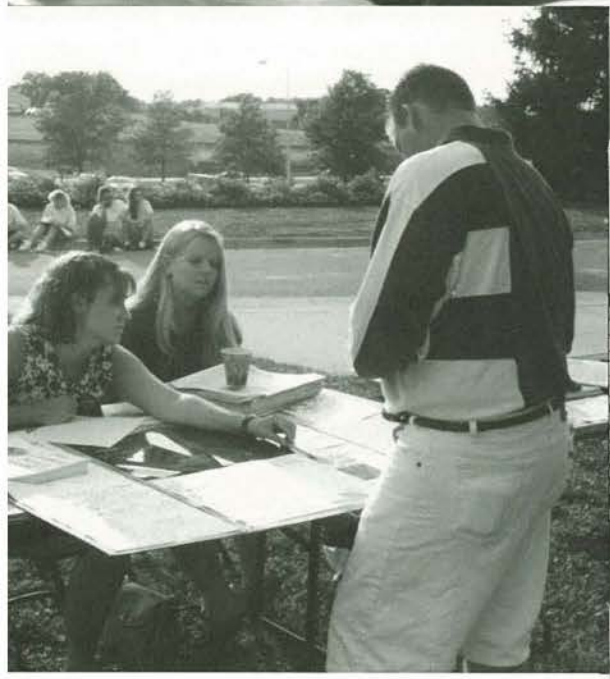


Ben Helt grabs the attention of a group of Phi Sigma brothers. Organization booths helped make Griffon Edge a success for students.

Members of Phi Delta Theta work at their booth for Griffon Edge. Campus clubs and organizations had booths to offer information to incoming freshmen.



Amy Supple



Marshall and Kim Black of the Griffon News try to recruit students for their staffs. Diverse opportunities for involvement were available for new students.



Amy Supple

Members of Phi Delta Theta discuss the coming academic year. The Greeks cooperated with other campus organizations to welcome freshmen.

spotlight

musketeers take the stage

The lights went down over a packed house in the fine arts theater. The curtain rose and the stage was set for the school year's first play. "The Three Musketeers" was a blend of Western's acting talents, comedy and sword fighting choreography. Directed by W. Robin Findlay, the play was a culmination of many hour's work by numerous people in front of the lights as well as behind. Rehearsals ran anywhere from two to seven hours, three to four nights per week, for weeks before opening night. But all that time was well spent when the audience began to file in.

"The Three Musketeers' brought in the second largest audience of any non-musical play we've ever done," Findlay said. The large turn-out and eager response of the audience made the actors feel their work had paid off.

"A strong audience encourages the actors," said sophomore Sandy Selby, who played Aramis. "If an audience responds well to our performance, we are encouraged to perform better." Selby's character added comedy to the play.

The most difficult role to cast was the role of D'Artagnan, the lead male role. Junior transfer student Philip Denver filled the requirements and had the talent to bring D'Artagnan to life on Missouri Western's stage.

"We needed someone who was likable with perfect timing and a sense of humor," Findlay said. "Someone who can portray the boy-next-door makes good role."

In addition, Denver, and the other musketeers, had to learn sword fighting techniques. Part-time professor Bill V. took over the job of fighting coordinator. Warren choreographed each of the fighting scenes, and taught the actors the essentials of stage fighting.

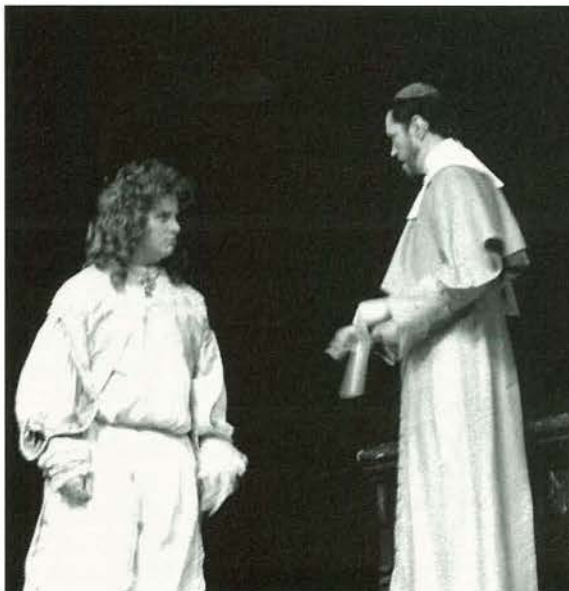
"Some of the basic maneuvers, like the on-guard position, were a little tough to do the first couple of times," Selby said. "But the battle scenes weren't too difficult to learn."

The loss of the theater major two years before didn't seem to influence the high quality of performance in the play.

"The loss of the major had a greater effect on funding than on talent," Findlay said. "Some of our best talent came from the non-theater students." Students from the nursing department, military science and biology, to name a few, worked on plays for a release and to get some much needed relaxation from the stresses of classroom and study.

"The talent is definitely there and we make use of it," Findlay said.

Louis XIII (Chad Perkins) and Richelieu (Richard Dye) have a serious discussion. Campus plays, like "The Three Musketeers," drew drama talent from a wide variety of majors.



The Duke of Buckingham kisses the hand of Queen Anna McCord and Christa Haub). "The Three Musketeers" drew the largest audience of any non-musical play in Western's history.

Crystal Sisco



Porthos (Layne Hull) and D'Estress (Chris Heard) perform a fight scene. Bill Warren choreographed all the fencing scenes, which was not an easy task.

Crystal Sisco



Crystal Sisco

Graduate theater major Renee Robbins plays the role of Milady in a scene with Richelieu played by Richard Dye. Graduates and community members were occasionally cast for parts in campus plays.

Planchet and D'Artagnan, played by Chris Heard and Philip Denver, have a drink together. The role of D'Artagnan was one of the more challenging ones to cast.



Trails West visitors watch a chalk artist draw a Missouri Riverboat. Many artists displayed their talents at the festival.



Civic Center Park is alive with action at Trails West weekend. From across the street all of the action could be surveyed.

Senior Kass Perrette and a friend stroll through the Trails West fest. Many MWSC students attended the August events looking for something

Amy Supple

festivity

by Amy Supple

Trails West brings out the best in St. Joseph

On some rare occasions St. Joseph set their differences aside to come together as a true community. One of the best examples of this is the annual Trails West Festival held August in Civic Center Park in downtown St. Joseph.

Trails West began in 1992 to celebrate the history and heritage of St. Joe and since that time the festival blossomed. Sponsored by the Allied Arts Council, there was truly something for everyone.

During the planning controversy in the St. Joseph News-Press during the weeks preceding and following the festival indicated the success of Trails West raised. Rumors circulated over whether the festival would be forced to charge an entrance fee when state funding was cut. But the 1996 festivities remained free. As a vital part of the region, Missouri Western was not left out of the fun.

The Steel Drum Band, the campus's own calypso style dance group, entertained a large crowd Friday evening on the main stage. Although the group performed in the rain, it did not seem to dampen their enthusiasm.

Trails West is one of our favorite events to play. The crowd

is so diverse and they get really into the music," senior drummer Jenna Hoffmeister said.

Western students and faculty also got involved by attending events and by volunteering.

"I had a pretty good time at Trails West," said freshman Dustin Ham, who attended the festival on Saturday. "I could not believe how many people were there."

Throughout the day there were booths selling crafts, artwork and food as well as a children's tent with face painting, games and crafts. The five stages scattered throughout the park housed everything from reenactments to a clown telling children stories.

The main attraction of the festival was Saturday night on the main stage. Country singer Martina McBride performed for over an hour to tens of thousands of on-lookers watching from lawn chairs, hay bales and blankets spread out on the ground.

"We went there just kind of looking for something to do and I was amazed," said senior Kass Perrette who made a date out of the festival. "It was nice to see the whole city involved in something so positive."



Volunteers sporting their Trails West T-shirts talk beside an antique cannon. The festival featured many historical items and activities.

An artist does face-painting for a child at the festival. Face-painting was very popular among the younger visitors at Trails West.



Amy Supple

Arranging the letters which state the name of the center, Mark Highsmith checks to see if they're even. There were many jobs that had to be performed by the advocates.



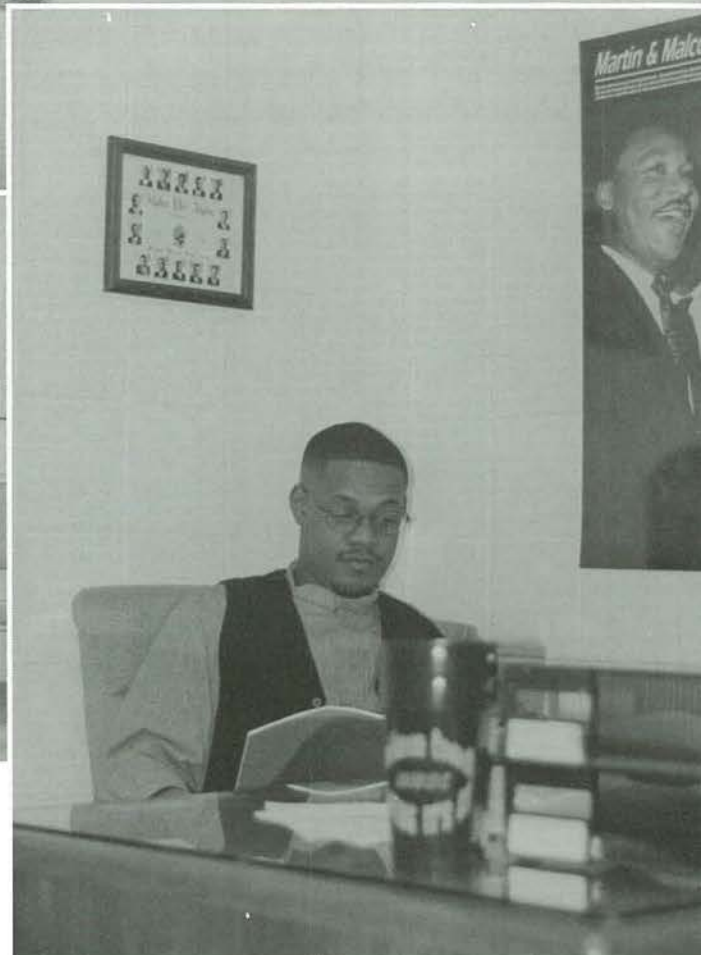
Crystal Sisco

Highsmith sits in the center's office discussing business on the phone. Brad Harrah selected a magazine from the rack in the lounge.



Crystal Sisco

The day to day running of the Diversity Center fills both advocates spare time. Their duties included planning and coordinating campus events.



unified

by Erica Anders &
Tracy Jones

Diversity Center focuses on campus unity

a year that was ensconced in racial tensions, from the O.J. Simpson verdict to the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, racial harmony rapidly became an issue for many people. At Missouri Western, steps were taken to transform campus diversity from an issue to a way of life. Diversity is defined as the condition of being different; unity, the condition of being the same. Three years ago variety began when John Paul Lacy, an African-American student, started the Diversity Center in his senior year with the help of the MWSC Foundation. Lacy's dream was to give minority students a major voice. He wanted to promote racial acceptance in every aspect of student life, from dorm life to classroom interaction.

The purpose of the center is to boost involvement of minorities on campus, because the minority count on campus is low," Marc Highsmith said. Highsmith, an African-American and fellow diversity advocate Brad Harrah, who is white, are now leading the center during their reign. They believed there should be a place where everyone, not just minorities, could come together and work toward a common ambition, racial unity. Their hope was to encompass all students in that mission of the center.

The center strove to make the change from a black and white organization to encompass students of all backgrounds. Students with Asian, African and European heritages entered the center. Several weeks of the fall semester were dedicated to those of Spanish and Latin-American

backgrounds.

"We would like to encompass all groups. This would be one way of opening up ethnic backgrounds," Harrah said.

"We would like to inform Missouri Western students about issues that are not seen in the classroom. It is important to touch on issues that occur in the outside world," Harrah said.

The center also headed the student mentoring program, which helped students embrace racial variances while dealing with their new academic lives. The program made a successful impact on the lives of minority students in the way that they saw themselves on campus, as well as how they felt about their place in the world.

"We tried to get the organization going strong in order to help promote diversity. Our hopes were that the center could become a focal point on campus," Highsmith said. One of the goals of the center was to bring in educational programs to help inform students on the subjects of diversity and other related aspects. The advocates encouraged students to become involved in the center by sponsoring events of various ethnic interest. Plays that depicted current situations of racial issues as well as unique musical events were just a few opportunities from which students could learn.

The emphasis was on unity, while numerous helping hands lead the way, giving students a great resource for racial identification. The enhancement of student self-image was the ultimate goal for the Diversity Center and its new leaders.



Crystal Sisco

The advocates believed knowledge was one of the keys to better understanding. Issues concerning diversity and racism were timely topics that advocates kept up on.

Harrah and Highsmith discuss issues on diversity. Planning was essential to obtain goals and secure schedules.

Dr. David Stacey and students show off for the camera. The trip to England wasn't all work and no play.

Manchester College is a sight to behold with its historic charm and sprawling courtyard. This was one of the 30-plus colleges students toured while in Oxford.

photo courtesy of David Stacey



photo courtesy of Dakota Hamilton



Group members hike to Lac Blanc. The trip to Europe offered many opportunities, for pushing physical and mental limits.

abroad

by Dusty Jestes &
Mandy Fitzwater

traveling for education

summer was more than swimming pools and suntans for many MWSC students. More than a few traded in beach towels for books. Academic summer trips abroad offered for those students who wanted to participate in round learning.

Such a trip was taken by the English department to Oxford, England. This five-year-old, three-week program offered many opportunities for students to experience different cultures and to grow intellectually. While at Oxford, students attended classes, met with guest lecturers and did research in the various local libraries. Highlights of the trip included visiting Westminster Abbey, National Gallery of Art in London, London's Hard Rock Cafe, Winchester Cathedral and touring the 30-plus colleges in Oxford.

"The real joy and satisfaction is watching how excited and how they experience our students get," said trip-organizer Dr. James Hamilton. "They clearly are taking away with them something very special, something lasting."

Another summer abroad trip was taken by the business department. The program, in its fourth year, typically included both students and local citizens. Both enrolled in

independent study programs in international business or polished their language skills in French or German.

The group of 15 covered 3,400 land miles in 13 days. Among the many attractions were the Antique Car Museum at Mulhouse, France; the Black Forest of Germany; Heidelberg Castle in Heidelberg, Germany and Mercedes Benz Factory and Museum in Stuttgart, Germany. They also took a cruise on the Rhine River and visited several museums, government buildings and parks. Participants stayed in an authentic 18th century French chateau in Strasbourg, France, the political capital of Europe and home of the European parliament.

"This is a great opportunity for students to become totally immersed in the French and German cultures for two weeks while developing a real understanding and appreciation of how others live, work and play on a day-to-day basis," said trip-organizer Richard Dick.

The first thing on the minds of most college students was not to spend their summer vacation expanding their intellect. However, those who did not let learning cease for the summer months were sure to feel that it was not a waste of their time, rather an experience that they would never forget.

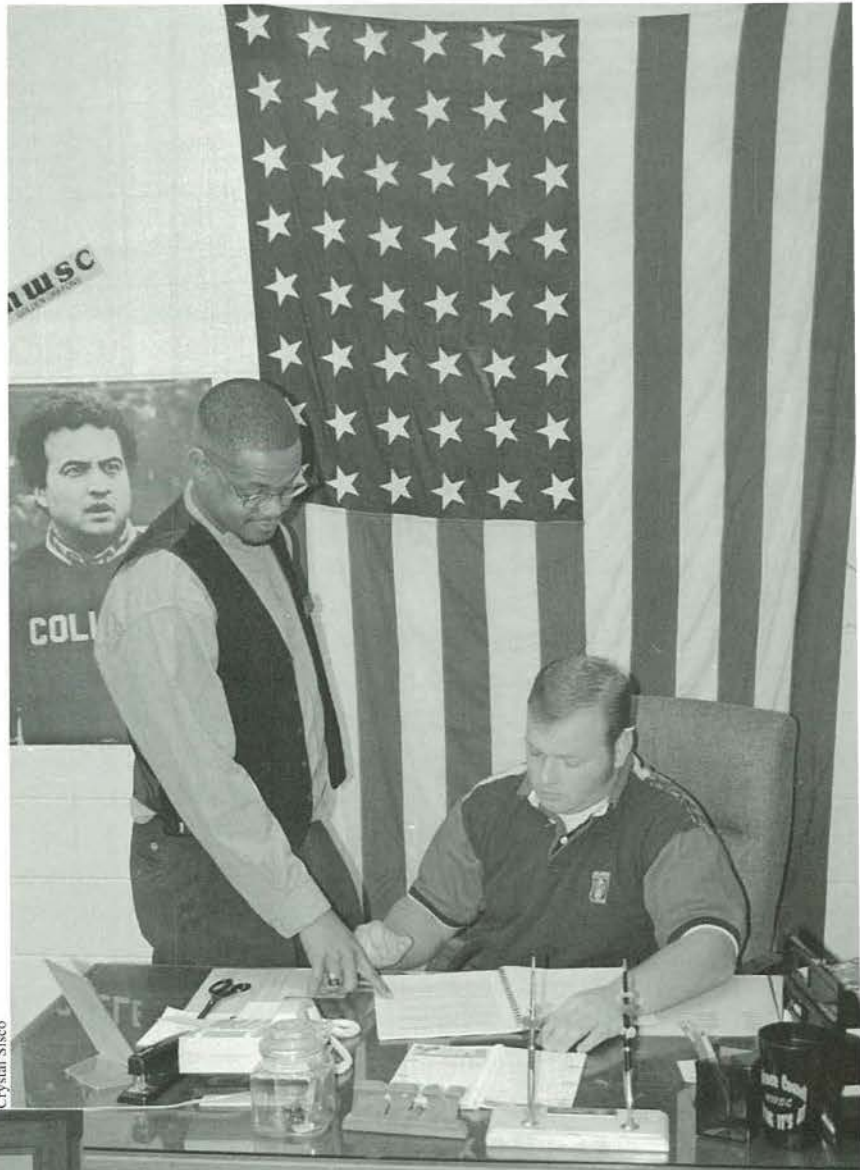


The sights, sounds and views from the Lac d'Annecy Restaurant are breathtaking to those in its presence. This was one of many sights students witnessed during their summer studies abroad.



ing has its rewards, as students get some time off to socialize during a reception at the City Hall. The trip around Europe was filled not only with education, but with a little make learning easier.





New SGA officers Marc Highsmith and Ben Helt took over some paperwork at Helt's desk. Helt and Highsmith had a lot to do as SGA President and Vice-President.

Crystal Sisco



Crystal Sisco

SGA President Ben Helt conducts telephone business in the P.D.R. conference room while Vice-President Marc Highsmith looks on. Communication played an essential role in their job as SGA officers.



Crystal Sisco

Ben Helt works at his desk in the SGA office. Helt was often found conducting SGA business by phone.

legislated

by Erica Anders

Helt and Highsmith pull sga in right direction

“Another step in the right direction” read the SGA bulletin board in the Student Union. An eye-catching phrase in bold letters was just the beginning of plans for the Student Government Association.

One goal stated by SGA Vice President Marc Highsmith was to get students to become more active on campus.

“We would like to make SGA more appealing,” Highsmith said. “We hope to get more of the student body involved.”

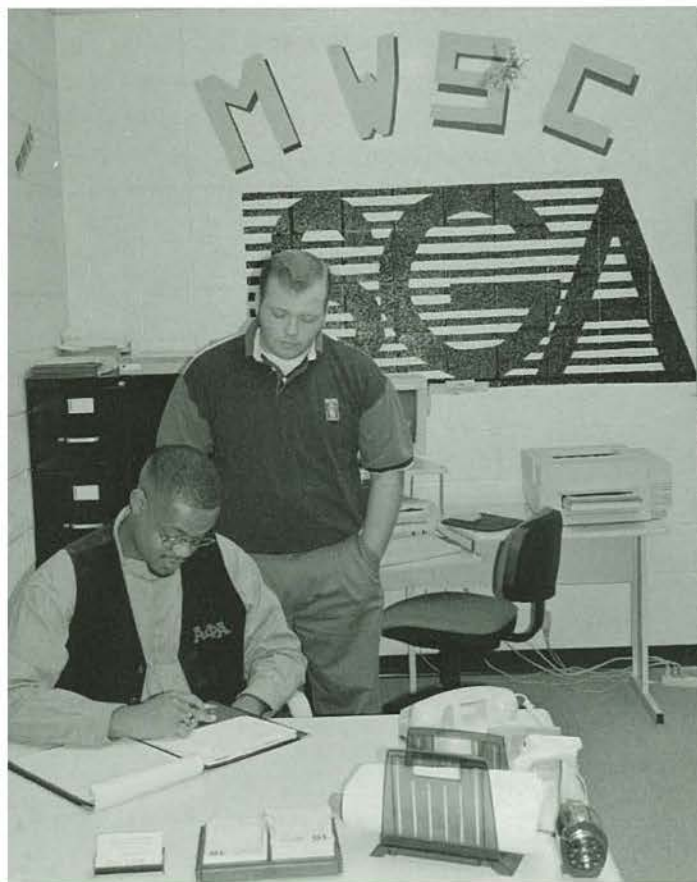
The Student Government Association contained three branches: Senate, Campus Activities Board and the Residence Council. The Senate dealt with money given to clubs and organizations. CAB was in charge of organizing fun activities on and off campus for the students to become involved with. They sponsored CAB movie night for students and an I.D. card to get into theaters at lower ticket prices. RC

was responsible for dealing with questions or concerns involving the residence halls. They were also known for arranging events like ice cream socials and miniature golf, open to all students.

Though each branch of SGA had different criteria and functions, their main goal was to service the student body. Students were encouraged to reach any member of SGA when they had a problem or a suggestion dealing with campus life.

SGA was also responsible for creating and supplying students with essential items like student directories containing phone numbers, campus information and yellow pages. They had raised funds for microwaves in the residence halls and park benches throughout the campus.

“Getting involved with SGA is as simple as attending the meetings and talking to people about different aspects and interests,” said President Ben Helt. “SGA is very interested in what you, the student, can bring to our organization.”



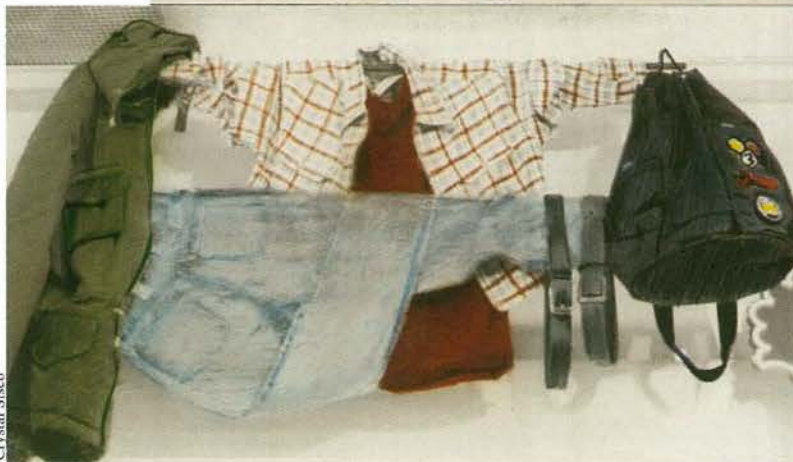
Crystal Sisco

SGA President Ben Helt and Vice-President Marc Highsmith leave the Student Union together. The officers usually spent their day trying to get students more involved on campus.

SGA President Ben Helt keeps a watchful eye over Vice-President Marc Highsmith. The two spent many long hours making decisions for Missouri Western students.



Andrea Smith wears a fashionable loose-fitting pair of overalls on campus. Comfort as well as style was popular in '97.



Crystal Sisco

This display of popular items were what everyone was wearing on campus. Denim and plaid were all the rage for fall fashion.

Students bought corduroy button-down shirts and faded jeans for comfort and fashion. Corduroy was back in style on campus



Crystal Sisco

Couture

by Ashley Imlay

ensational fads flood campus

od fashion sense and dressing in the latest styles was essential to students at Missouri Western and 1997 o different. In 1995, the '70s were revived with the return lbottoms and platform shoes. In 1996, the 70s look was onsidered fashionable to have hanging in your closet, but y the wardrobe of the '80s came back. From wool erers to corduroy, from Kaepas to huge plastic rings and rope jewelry, many students were returning to the n look of the past decade.

ior Tiffany Ringot, a sales associate at The Buckle ng store, agreed that the 80's were the big hit of 1997. of the biggest fashion looks selling were retro and ge clothing. It didn't matter if the clothes were bought at all or if they were originals left over from the first time ere in, just as long as they fit the look. Thrift store ing even became fashionable as people rushed out to ack items they had gotten rid of a few years before.

dents who came to Western from other regions of the ry found fashion in the Midwest a bit different than what ere used to. For senior Andrea Smith, coming from Orleans to St. Joseph was like a time warp.

ople definitely dress differently here then they do back

home. My wardrobe consists mainly of vintage clothing that I brought back with me from home," Smith said. People like Smith may have been considered trend-setters on campus, but Smith said that she dressed in the clothing that made her comfortable.

Hair styles were just as important as clothing in 1997. The short look of the *Rachel* hair style was going out as females began to grow longer locks again. They threw in the towel with their hair spray and gels and opted for a more natural approach to their hairstyles.

Based on fashion tips from celebrities, hairstyles for males turned to a shorter look. Musical acts such as Alice In Chains and Metallica set the trend when members of both groups traded in their long locks for short hair. Unlike females, the guys took an opposing view of the natural look. More and more male students were turning to peroxide bottles and hair dye for a new look. Blonde, red, black; whatever the color, bleached or dyed hair for guys was definitely in.

The ever-changing world of fashionable hair and clothes was hard to keep up with, but students at Western stayed in style. From thrift store shopping to guys with dyed hair, fashion was essential.



Tracy Redding wears a loose-fitting sweater. Looser styles in denim and corduroy were the "in" thing.



Females looking for comfort and dressed up style found racks of mini-skirts and sweaters to choose from. This was a very chic look on campus.



imagery

students explore the subconscious

Dreaming, the voice of the subconscious, the mirror of the soul. Some said dreaming was just an involuntary occurrence that was necessary for getting a good night's rest. Some believed dreaming had a direct influence on conscious thoughts and actions after they awoke. A small group of students, led by counselor Steve Potter, set out to discover the essentials of dreams and dreaming.

"The Exploring Dreams group meets each week in the counseling center to talk about dreams and how they relate to our daily lives," Potter said. "We try to find out what is going on in our heads at night."

Membership in the group was open to anyone who was interested in the topics of dreams and dreaming. However, the number was kept to between four and eight members to enhance people's willingness to talk and share views about their dreams.

The informal group had only one primary rule. Everything that was discussed at meetings was kept strictly confidential. Before new members came to group meetings, they met with Potter for a short interview where they were informed of the importance of that rule.

"Because meetings are small and informal, we have a lot of interesting discussions," Potter said. "Sometimes our group

meetings are almost like therapy for our members."

Potter began to study dreaming as a student at the University of Northern Iowa in 1984. He researched dreaming and methods of remembering and recalling dreams on a conscious level. Potter brought his expertise to the group at Western.

"Lucid dreaming is when a person becomes aware that they are dreaming while they are still asleep. Through this awareness, people can learn to have control over their dreams and what they dream about," Potter said.

The exploring dreams group learned to keep a notebook beside their beds and write down everything they remembered from their dream, including emotional responses, as soon as they woke up.

Potter also taught the group to practice telling themselves to remember their dreams, as well as what they were going to dream about before they went to sleep, to enhance their dream control.

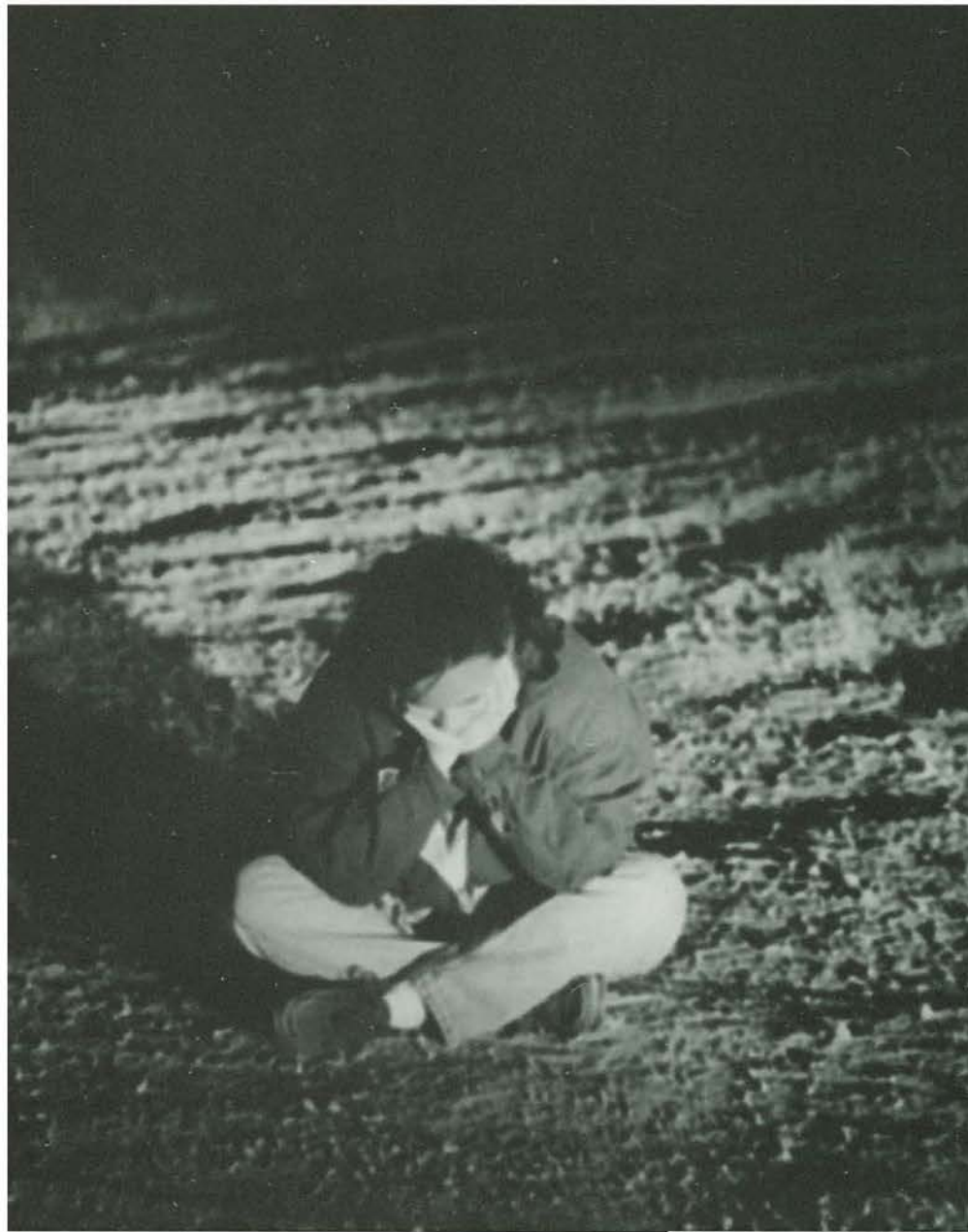
Dreaming was something everyone did, but on campus the exploring dreams group took it one step further. By taking an active interest in what their subconscious was trying to tell them, they were able to make new discoveries about themselves.

"The main goal is to have fun," Potter said.

photo illustrations by Angela Wells

Faces from our past and present drift through our dreams. By exploring dreams, students learned to use them as guidance in their waking lives.





Dreaming gives voice to the subconscious mind. Students in the Exploring Dreams group looked for ways to unlock the messages from their minds.



Images can be clouded with various interpretations. Students tried to find a clear interpretation of their dreams that applied to their daily lives.

Images and symbols drift through the subconscious as we sleep. A dream journal helped students remember these images after they woke from sleep.



The walking and jogging trails also made good bike paths for some. The campus offered two separate wooded trails.

Patry Wilson



LaTonya Jackson

A lone student jogs the trail around the pond while enjoying the mild temperatures. Missouri Western offered a variety of activities for those who chose to head outdoors.

Two students come face to face with the cold weather on their way to class. Students had to deal with record-breaking wind chills during the winter of 1996-97.



nature

by Crystal Brewer

Campus dwellers experience the great outdoors

Missouri Western offered many modern essentials. There the research library and classroom buildings all equipped the latest technology, a gym and fitness center, a cafeteria snack bars, a bookstore; the list goes on and on. Topping the list was the campus itself: outdoors. Missouri Western's campus was something everybody commented on. Sprawling acres, it had a little bit of everything. Even those who didn't into sports could find something to do outside on campus.

Students utilized it everyday walking from one building to the next. The natural beauty was evident in the trees and landscaping, but there was more to it than just green grass and a quiet spot.

There were several things to do outdoors on campus at Missouri Western. There were tennis courts, volleyball courts, softball field, a nature trail, a jogging trail, a track, a pond and sidewalks for walking. People could be found playing basketball, tossing frisbees around with their dogs, flying kites or swimming their feet in the pool outside the SS/C building. Students could always find some kind of activity to do outdoors.

"I still like coming to the college to walk the trail," former

student David Holmes said. "My wife and I have even come out to campus to fly kites and just enjoy the view."

Instructors even took advantage of the outdoor opportunities available on campus.

"For my biology 101 class we went to the pond and collected micro-organisms. We took them back to the lab and looked at them under a microscope. It was pretty interesting," freshman Kari Byrson said.

Freshman Tanya Ellis was a member of the Baptist Student Union. She loved spending time outdoors.

"Our organization had a scavenger hunt at the beginning of the semester. It was kind of a way to break the ice," Ellis said.

Outdoor life at MWSC offered many things. Sometimes there were students out playing tennis after dark, or going to the pond to see what interesting things there were to find. Some flew kites, threw frisbees, walked dogs, or just found a bench to sit on and read a favorite book or work on homework, but most of all enjoying the view. It was the view that made Missouri Western so breathtaking. Students could see the outdoors from their classrooms. Motorists could see the campus from the highway. It was all around, encircling the student body, the faculty and the buildings with all it had to offer.



A dog leads his owner around the trail on the north side of campus. The trail provides a safe place for students and community members to exercise.

A member of the St. Joseph community takes advantage of the fresh air as he jogs around the track at Spratt Stadium. Many chose to exercise outside before the cold weather hit.



LaTonya Jackson

Browsing through racks at a local video dealer is a favorite past time for students. Renting videos was less expensive more convenient than going to the movies.



Spencer's Magic Show uses volunteer from the audience to assist. This was the magic act's second year on campus, bringing a variety of entertainment to MWSC.

For these three students, the best entertainment value is right here on campus; television and relaxation in the residence halls. After a week of classes students chose a variety of activities to stay entertained.



rdave

by Mandy Fitzwater

entertainment equals fun

entertainment meant different things to various people. It may have been watching television from the living room couch, turning the stereo up full when their favorite songs came on, or buying a ticket and a box of popcorn to view the latest at the movie theater. Whatever held their interest, it was certain, few people had exactly the same preferences when it came to forms of entertainment. The campus of Missouri Western was the perfect place for giving a survey to discover the latest on what college students were watching and listening to in their very limited spare time. Although there was not always time for T.V. viewing in the life of a college student, there was always something that could be put off to make time; it was proven by the 5-15 hours per week that many students admitted to spending in front of the tube. A popular trend of the year at seemed to be daytime soap operas. You could have walked by any television that was turned on in the afternoon and typically found several girls and guys sitting on the couch watching the latest story line of their favorite soap opera; "Days of Our Lives" was the most highly rated.

Evenings were usually pretty busy, but Thursday nights seemed to bring the highest turnout of television viewers. According to the survey, most students said that their favorite show to tune-in to for a good laugh was "Friends" at 7:00 and they would then return to the small screen two hours later to watch the most highly rated prime-time drama, "E.R.". Interestingly enough, some of the others surveyed found that "E.R." was the most over-rated show on television, far from their top choice. Though they were not listed as favorites of the majority of students, "Home Improvement" and "The Simpsons" were the two most widely viewed prime time T.V. shows.

It was as true that they had a bad rap, but no one could resist talk shows. "The Rosie O'Donnell Show" was enthusiastically chosen by the majority of students as their favorite daytime talk show and David Letterman was the choice for late night entertainment.

When it came to the movies, the Missouri Western students actually scraped up enough cash to go to the movies on the weekends. "Jerry Maguire", "Scream" and "Michael" were the three movies that most students surveyed had seen, and though the majority said that they were worth the price of the ticket, a few said that "Scream" was the worst movie that they had recently been to. Ironically, John Travolta, who won the majority of votes for favorite movie actor, also won the lead role in "Michael". "A Time To Kill" rated highest among the list of movie favorites and one of the stars in that movie, Sandra Bullock, was chosen in the survey as the favorite movie actress. Comedy was not only picked most often as the favorite type of movie, it also won out in the category of the favorite type of "date" movie. Some students chose to save a few bucks and rent movies from the local video stores, somewhere between one to three times per month.

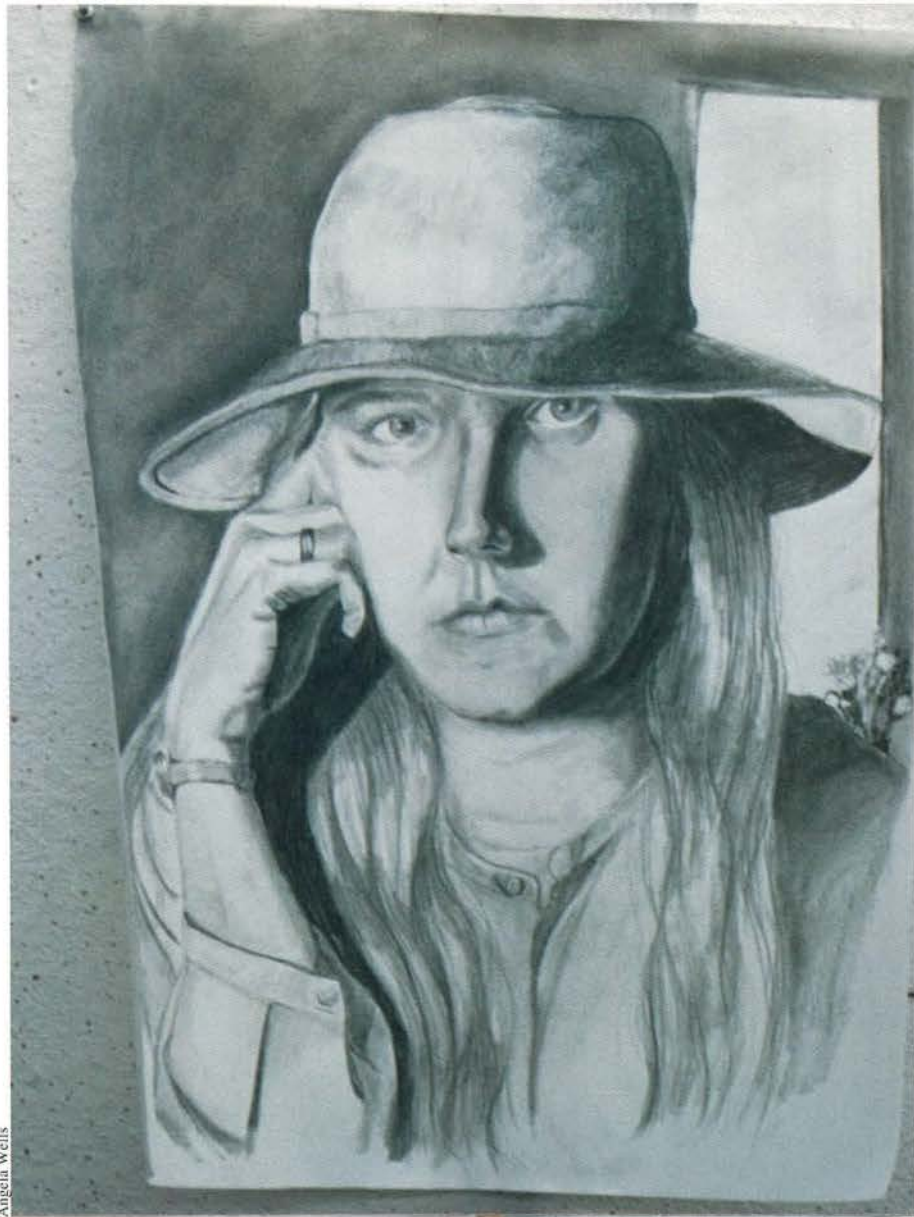
There was one thing that there was always time for in college, it was music. A lot of the students surveyed said that they did not watch a lot of television or go to the movies very often, but no one left questions in the music category unanswered. Some students said that they spent anywhere from 10 and 20+ hours per week listening to music, the two most popular sites for listening were the bedroom and the car. Some listened to hard rock, some to pop rock, some to rap and R&B, some to alternative or country and a few listened to classical. Jewel's "Pieces of You" and the soundtrack for "The Hot Chick" rated top among the most widely listened to L.P.'s. No Doubt was at the top of the list of favorite music groups. Some students chose to listen to music as the type that they thought should be banned from the radio, but freshman Dusty Jestes made a very interesting comment, "Everyone is able to hear what they want." And anyway, isn't that what college is all about?



Megan Hurst and Carrie Swymeler make a careful decision of which movie to go see. With thirteen movie screens in town, all cinema appetites could be staisfied.

Crystal Cisco pumps a quarter into a video game machine, hoping to win a trinket. Several arcades in St. Joseph allowed the wild child in students to surface.





Angela Wells

In beginning drawing class students expressed themselves through self portraits. Linette McManaman used charcoal for the medium for her self-expression.



Angela Wells

Art students were able to express themselves in their art. Students displayed their own self-portraits at the art exhibit.

The painting studio contains many pieces of art. Art majors spent hard hours working in the studio.

Angela Wells

genius

by Shela Gibson

Exhibition shows off student's artistic genius

The art gallery was filled to overflowing with a medley of tri Western talent. Every subject from nudes to paintings, sculptures, carvings and pottery was exhibited. The wide variety of subjects was matched only by the media used to create them. Oil paints, felt-tip pens, mixed media and stone-cast pottery all created the differing styles on display. The walls outside the gallery were covered with charcoal sketches of various artists. A sculpture done with canvas and wood occupied a section of the hall. The summer art show represented the best work from artists at every grade level.

The annual art exhibit is a long-standing tradition at the school, said Dr. William Eickhorst, art department chair. "Something that has been happening every year for 18 years. It's a way of recognizing students for a job well done." Carrie Gregory, a junior, was a great accomplishment. "It was an honor to have my work displayed."

Throughout the semester, instructors from various studio art classes chose the best representation of work done by their students in their classes. The work was then held for inclusion in the summer art show.

The school tried to include as much art work as possible from a

variety of students," Eickhorst said. "The show is meant to be a cross-section of our studio art classes."

The aim of the art show was to give students the opportunity to have their work exhibited and to honor outstanding student work with recognition. It offered them the chance to be exposed to the public's response to their work, and it gave friends and family members the opportunity to come to the campus and view students' blossoming talents.

"For some of our freshman and sophomore students this was the first time any of their work had been displayed," Eickhorst said.

"I did a three-dimensional piece for an assignment called Artist's Toy. After it was graded, the instructor said she wanted to keep it for the summer exhibit. It was exciting to finally have something in the show," junior commercial art major Andrea Sowards said.

Throughout the summer, many visitors came in to view the show and sign the guest book. Some guests were returning visitors who came back numerous times. The free exhibit was open from May to August to give everyone the opportunity to view the show any time.



Abstract drawings were presented for viewing at this exhibit. Talented students put forth much dedication towards their art.

Carrie Gregory's and Angela Wells' artwork was displayed in the exhibit. The two showed their view of the same object.

frontier

new endeavors yield electric results

With the advent of numerous departmental web pages, the implementation of on-line registration, and the frequent use of e-mail by students, anyone could see that the computer and its on-line services reigned this year.

A group of administrators, including Vice President of Academic Affairs, James Roever, met to discuss the addition of departmental web pages to the already existing home page. During the conference, the constituents established guidelines for all pages from chemistry and biology to art and theater.

"It was critical to establish ourselves on the web," Roever said. "For those connected with Missouri Western and those who aren't." Web pages offered information on programs within each department, biographies and credentials on faculty, and listed courses offered.

Of course, once students became enrolled, they could not escape the uses for campus e-mail. Everything from class assignments to writing quick notes to friends here or at other schools was sent through electronic mail. Some found it hard to live without.

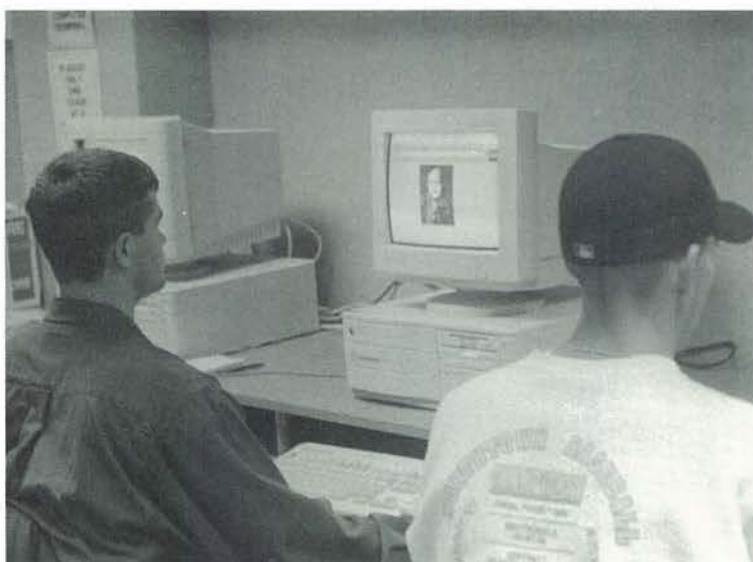
"I check my e-mail almost everyday," sophomore Buhman said. "I use it for various things. I correspond with classmates and teachers. I even have an e-mail from France." It was the issue of on-line problems that posed some trouble though. Servers were inclined to go down from time to time, leaving students without e-mail service.

"The Internet is not something anyone has complete control over," Computer Center Consultant Fred Nesslage wrote in an e-mail to campus employees. "It tends to be unreliable. Frequent outages to a range of sites can occur."

It was, however, the good that outweighed the bad for students. The ability to communicate with people from other schools, other states and countries, and even the occasional celebrity gave students an edge that did not exist not only years before.

In an exciting year of booming technology, students saw the inevitable appearance of on-line applications, the presence of a new web page, and the ever increasing replacement of the archaic mailman with the new found celerity of e-mail.

MWSC students use web sites to locate information. Web sites became a major source for information on any topic.

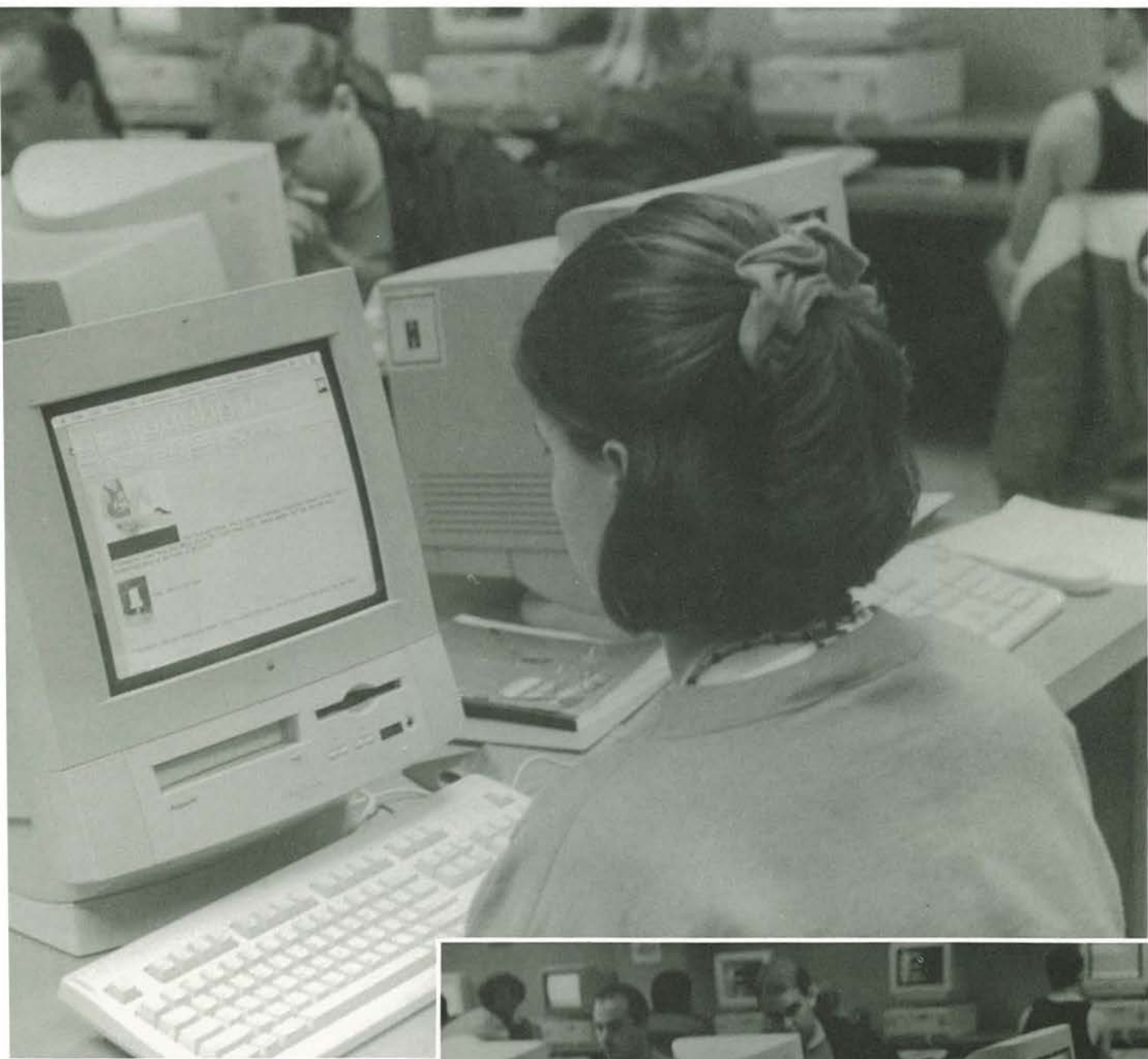


Courtesy Ball



The MWSC home page was one among thousands on the Internet. Students had the opportunity to look up any info on the Internet.

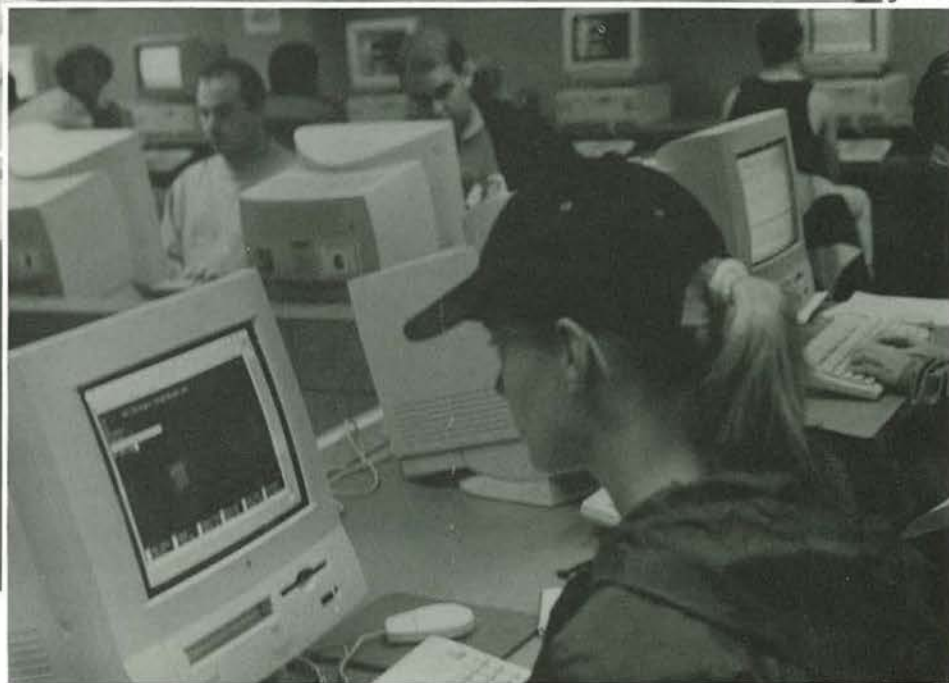
Missouri Western student keeps busy looking up a friend's homepage on the web site. Many students had a busy year talking with others on line.



Courtney Ball

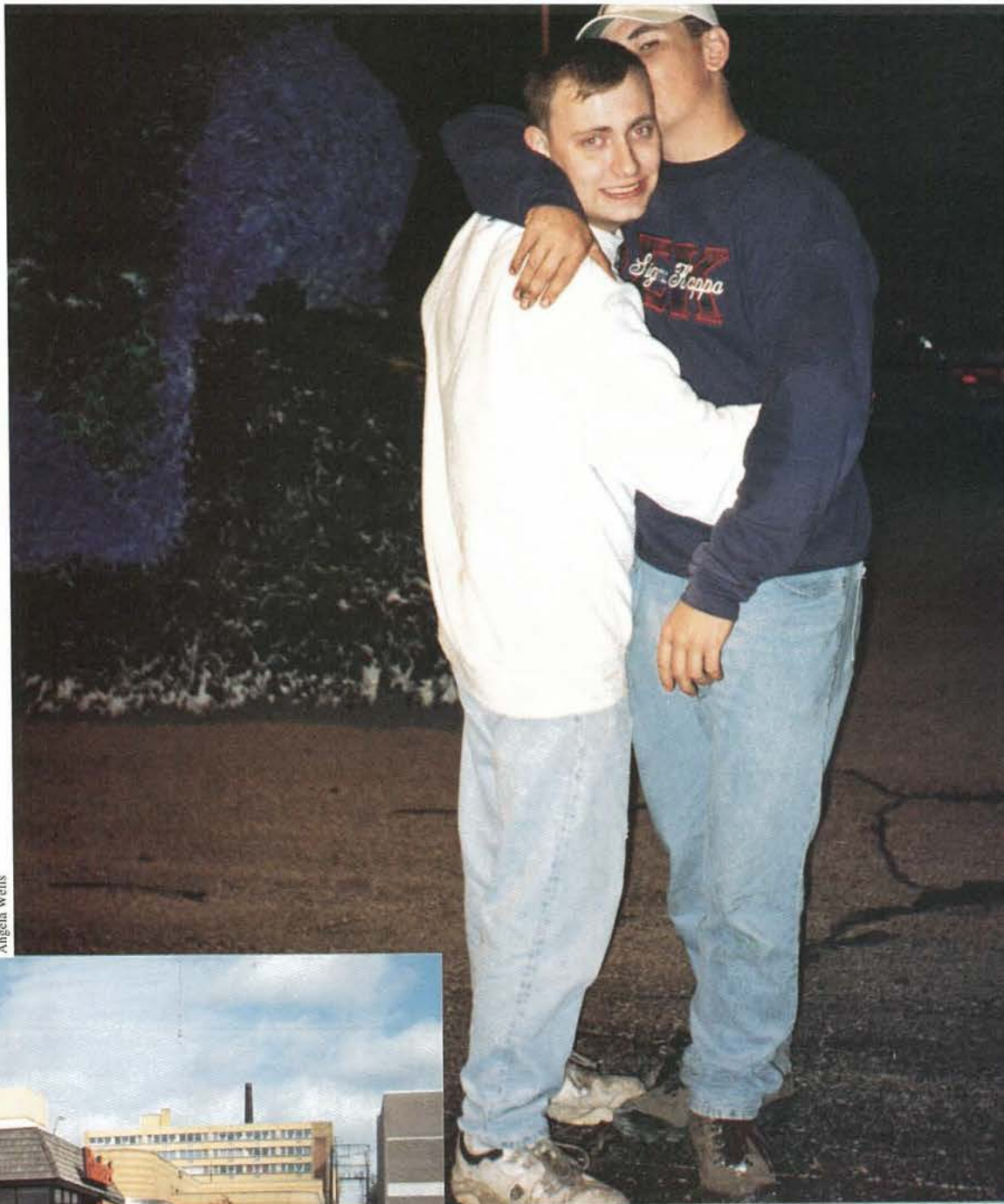


Kauzalarich shows off a little bit about herself on her homepage on the Internet. Homepages were an interesting way of showing people what was important



Courtney Ball

Communicating with friends and contacts around the world is made easy with E-mail. E-mail was a major means of communication on campus.



Angela Wells

Brotherly love was never more evident than during Greek Week. Two members of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity posed after festivities.



Decked out in their official sorority colors, members of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority ride in style on their parade float. The Tri Sigmas participated in all aspects of Greek life at Western.

A reserved section at Spratt Stadium for all home games allows Alpha Sigma Alpha to show sorority spirit. They were just one national Greek organization on campus.



evolve

by Tracy Jones

Being greek grows more popular

When one thought of college sororities, images of wild, weird initiations may have come to mind, but that has changed dramatically as sororities come to be known for many things that they did for others, both on and off of campus. Being active on campus was normal for Greeks.

The efforts of these organizations provided more than just the planning of Greek events, they promoted various community service projects as well. The national office of each of the sororities adopted a charity for which each chapter was required to raise money. Alpha Gamma Delta donated money to a charity for juvenile diabetes and Alpha Sigma Alpha not only donated money to their chosen causes, they also spent their time as well.

Being involved in this capacity is very self-rewarding," said Alpha Gamma Delta Amy Holthouse. "And at the same time we get to help so many people."

This semester, Sigma Sigma Sigma supported the Robby Memorial Foundation, in memory of the son of a former Phi Kappa Psi president. The foundation supported two hospital projects that provided play therapy for ill children and the Tri-

Delta Sigs made coloring books for sick children at the local Heartland Hospital.

Alpha Gamma Delta and Sigma Sigma Sigma each paid monthly visits to the Citadel Nursing Home to spice up the resident's days by playing bingo and engaging in other recreational activities with them. Alpha Kappa Alpha served food to the homeless at the Open Door Kitchen and volunteered at The Window.

"We want to give as much to the community as possible," said sophomore Alethea Parks, an Alpha Kappa Alpha sister. "It's important to us to bring as much positivity to sororities and Missouri Western as we can."

The efforts of sororities reached outside of the local community as well. Alpha Gamma Delta and Alpha Sigma Alpha participated in the Muscular Dystrophy Walk in April and A.G.D. also helped with the American Diabetes Walk in May. Sigma Sigma Sigma held a night of bingo to raise money for cerebral palsy research and Alpha Kappa Alpha participated in Jump Rope For Heart on Valentine's Day and took donations for Diabetes Day at the local Wal-Mart.



The men of Phi Delta Theta get comfy on their Homecoming float. Their organization, in addition to all Greeks has experienced growth over the past few years.

Though campus events were not planned for Greek organizations, fraternities and sororities were among the most ardent supporters, as shown here at the Homecoming pep assembly. A friendly rivalry existed between the Greeks.

interact

greek members compete, help community

One entire week devoted to understanding, interaction, and a little friendly competition was the basis of the 1997 Greek Week on campus.

"The Inter-Greek Council is only three years old, so with each Greek Week we are learning how to plan and come together," said Matthew Giovanni, president of Inter-Greek Council.

The festivities were planned to kick off on Sunday, April 6th, but due to some nasty weather, they were postponed until the following day. Once again weather prevented the track and field events, but that didn't stop the Greeks from splashing around in the pool events. The events consisted of lap races, inner tube races, and three-on-three water basketball.

After Phi Delta Theta struck victory at Greek bowling, it was time to test intelligence at the Academic Bowl. Questions consisted of those written by professors from various departments on campus. Phi Sigma Kappa passed with flying colors and walked away with first place.

Greeks showed diversity in both the skit and talent competitions at the talent show. From acts like the New Kids on the Block to a variety of television shows and movies, all of the organizations enjoyed watching the hard work and talent of their fellow Greeks.

"The talent show was the best part of Greek week. If you saw it, you wouldn't have to ask why," said Phi Delta Theta

member Greg Pagan.

In the skit competition, it was Alpha Sigma Alpha and their Alpha Television, and in the talent it was Sigma Sigma with one member sweetly singing Jewel's "Save Your Soul?," who took home the gold.

"I think the competition was excellent this year, and down to the last event to determine the winners. The organizations get better every year," said Giovanni.

Though the weather was a bit chilly, Greek organizations braved the elements to walk for the Multiple Sclerosis walk. It was a two mile walk beginning and ending at Block Arena. Others helped with registration, concessions, and prizes. After the walk, it was time to give out the awards for the week's performances.

Phi Delta Theta received top honors in overall Greek performance. Alpha Sigma Alpha came in a close second. Sigma Kappa swept the awards for best fraternity, scholarship, and philanthropy. Alpha Gamma Delta walked away with the scholarship trophy and the best sorority trophy.

"I was very pleased with our awards. Receiving the trophy for best sorority was an awesome achievement that we are proud of," said Andrea Aeshliman, philanthropy coordinator of Alpha Gamma Delta.

Despite the weather, Greek Week was considered a success by the organization that participated.



Stephanie Wirth

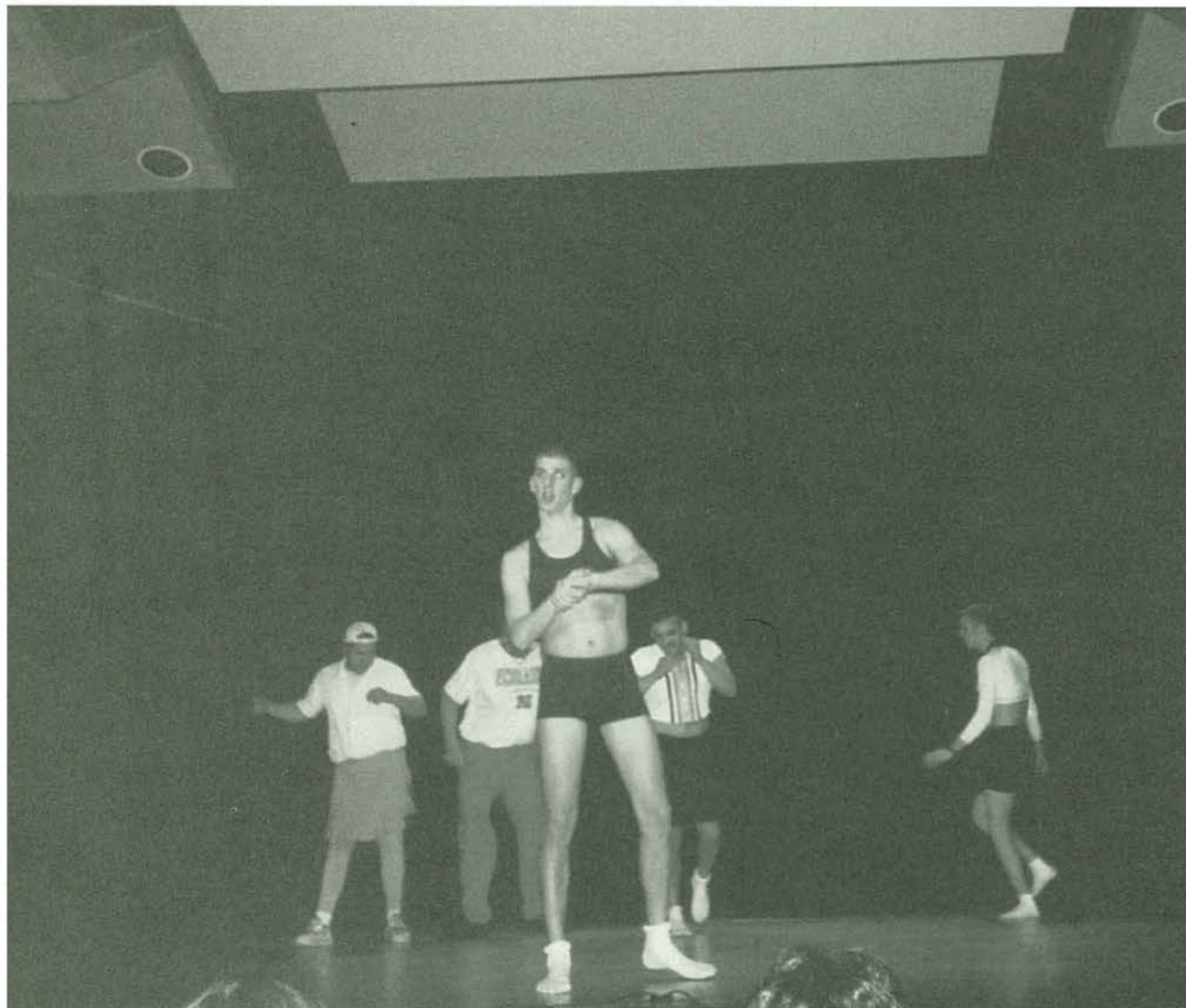
Greek members struck out during Greek Week at the bowling lanes. Each fraternity and sorority were on hand for some good-natured competition.

A wide variety of unique talent exists at MWSC. The Greek Week talent show allowed students to exhibit their talent.



Stephanie Wirth

Delta Theta added a little spice to the talent show with their portrayal of the Spice Girls. Mike Benz sported lycra for the number.



Stephanie Wirth



Sigma Sigma Sigma Suzi Maudlin tries to get her act together. Greek Week was sponsored by the Inter-Greek Council.

Attempting to incorporate everybody in the fun, this fraternity member puts his crown on a police officer during the Homecoming parade. Each Greek organization participated in the parade.

Stephanie Wirth

exciting

sororities and fraternities offer fun alternatives

When Greek life was mentioned, one tended to think of movies like *Animal House* and *Revenge of the Nerds*. Wild parties with absurd activities and obsessive drinking were other misconceptions of fraternity life. However, the fraternities at Missouri Western were determined to change that stereotype and prove that being Greek was an essential and very rewarding experience.

The fraternities on campus included Alpha Phi Alpha, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Sigma Kappa, Tau Kappa Epsilon, and Theta Xi. Each fraternity did their part to dispel the negative aspects so often viewed by society. Marc Highsmith of Alpha Phi Alpha enjoyed being involved in a Greek organization.

"I think that the general society has viewed Greeks in a negative light in the past, focusing on the partying and drinking," said Highsmith. "However, I believe that is because they are unfamiliar with the efforts and achievement of a Greek organization." Perhaps the most rewarding aspect of Greek involvement were the philanthropic projects that fraternities were involved in. Many of the fraternities shared common community services, such as highway clean-up and food kitchens. The Alpha Phi Alphas had a wide spectrum of

community service, ranging from helping out at voter registration to being active in the Pass the Power literacy program.

"We are very active in the community-wide blood drive for the MS Walk," said Eric Rogers, member of Phi Sigma Kappa. "The march of dimes and the Special Olympics are other organizations that we commit our time and services to."

Fraternity life also succeeded in preparing its members for the challenges each student faces.

"Being in a fraternity," said Highsmith, "I've learned a lot about business and working with individuals. It has had a direct impact on me as far as improving my organizational and communication skills."

It was important to the fraternities to have visibility on campus, to promote growth and the positive aspects of Greek life. Phi Sigma Kappa held their annual Phi Sig week and Alpha Phi Alphas held their Alpha Week, with activities such as a step show, fashion show, and other parties.

"Fraternity men work very hard to achieve their goals and make their organization stronger. I feel a certain sense of respect is deserved for our accomplishments as Greeks," said Eric Rogers.

The Homecoming theme Around the World cause Greeks to go out of this world coming up with ideas. Alpha Sigma Alpha was active in all aspects of student life.



Phi Mu is one of the newest and largest sororities on campus. The Phi Mu Rush, held at the beginning of each year, has been attracting more and more students.



The men of Tau Chi Upsilon demonstrate their carpentry skills on their Homecoming float. All fraternities and sororities added to the active Greek life on campus.

Angela Wells



The people of St. Joseph welcome the women of Alpha Gamma Delta through the streets of downtown during the Homecoming parade. Greeks entertain dominate Homecoming festivities.

Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and Phi Delta Theta fraternity pose together during the Griffon Edge. The Inter-Greek council was established to promote interactive relationships between Greeks.

Angela Wells

freedom

students face the challenge of independence

On high school graduation day, students faced the realization that college would soon be approaching. Some minds were filled with questions, anxieties and fears about where the future would take them. Hundreds found themselves turning to Missouri Western to begin the process of finding their niche in the world.

Once they arrived on campus and began classes, the differences between college life and high school became apparent. For many, this was their first time living away from home and parents and making their own rules.

“When I got to college I found there were no rules, and I had freedom. I was no longer under my parents’ thumb,” freshman Cherree Kemple said.

However, those who had parents who lived in St. Joseph had views that were a little different.

“My parents called me everyday. But they sent me money, so that was alright,” freshman Karla Valenti said.

For some, like Mandy Fitzwater, college was much less stressful than expected.

“I seemed to use my time more efficiently. There were less distractions which made it easier for me to complete my assignments,” Fitzwater said.

Yet, for others college was a true test of their strength and will. With the independence of being on their own came the responsibility of self-motivation. Decisions on going to class,

doing homework and partying were made solely by students themselves.

“College is very different,” freshman Kaci Russell said. “Nobody makes you go to class, so you have to be self-motivated and independent.”

Besides being less stressful, some found college a great experience overall. It was a chance to meet a variety of people from all walks of life, and get to know and experience diversity first-hand.

“There are a ton of people to meet,” Valenti said. “Everything is different, so there is a large variety of backgrounds and cultures to experience.”

However, college wasn’t all fun and independence. There were certain areas that did have flaws. Money and scheduling were just two areas where difficulties arose.

“I didn’t like the cafeteria hours,” Russell said. “I was unable to eat lunch on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays because it conflicted with my classes.” Cash flow was a negative factor in college life.

“College was great, but the money was a problem. It was very costly to keep up with all of the expenses,” Russell said.

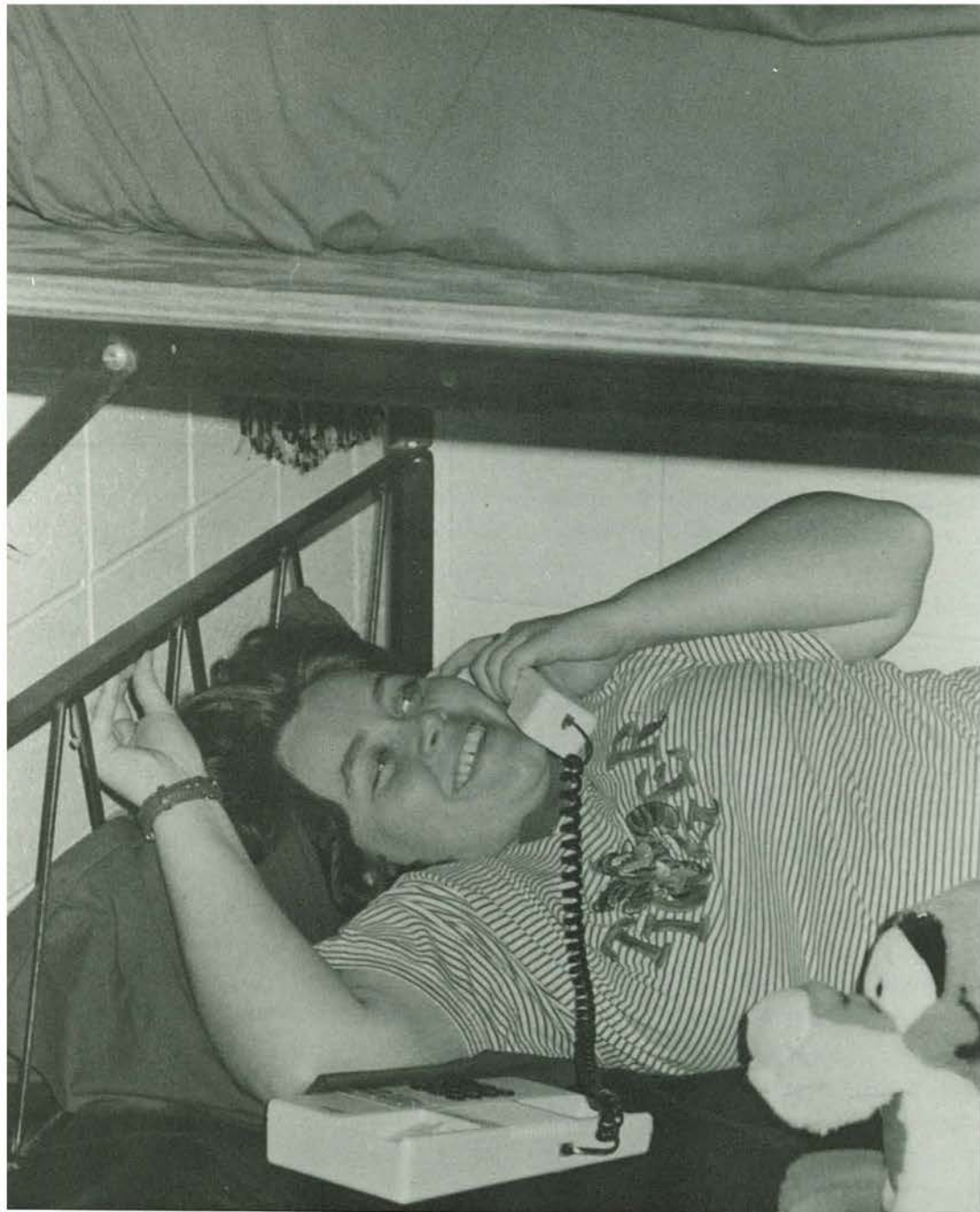
College brought new experiences and triumphs to students, but it also left memories to look back on.

“High school was a stepping stone for college; college was a stepping stone for life,” Kemple said.

Monta Monroe assists Stacey Linville with questions she has over her notes. One big difference between college and high school was that there was always someone there to lend a helping hand whether in or out of the classroom.



Derek Snyder and Jeff Cox spy the bulletin board on the second floor of the SS/C. Bulletin boards offer activities, information, and advertisements to attract students’ attention.



Courtesy Ball

Jacquie Boque talks on the phone. Being away from home the first time, many students kept in contact with family and friends via the telephone.



Courtesy Ball



Courtesy Ball

Jennifer Baker and Michelle Hunn move furniture in their dorm room. Students often switch their suite settings to suit their lifestyles.

rkowicz shows off her decorated suite to her parents. Freshmen found a completely lifestyle in the suite compared to living in the comforts of home.



survival

enduring the academic obstacle course

Stress was a term often used by the typical college student. Stress over class work, stress over time management and stress over what the future had to bring them. With all the activities that college had to offer, students had a difficult time trying to keep up their grades while participating in various activities and maintaining their social lives. Senior Kendra Conwell believed that organization was the key.

"I make lists constantly, and I use a planner faithfully," Conwell said. With all of the activities that Conwell participated in, a planner was essential. Not only was Conwell a member of Tri Sigma sorority where she upheld many important duties, but she also worked as a student assistant for writer's workshop four times a week and in the writing department at the Center for Academic Support.

"Working in the Center for Academic Support has taught me some really good skills as far as skimming through paragraphs and keeping up the main ideas," Conwell said.

In spite of her hectic schedule, Conwell managed to pull off a 3.5 grade point average.

"I find that going to class, paying attention and taking good notes is studying in itself. Between classes, I study over notes. I just do a little here and there rather than doing it all at once. This makes it easier to have time for myself and all of my

activities," Conwell said. "I'm not big on procrastinating either. If I know there is a party later, I'll get my schoolwork out of the way. It's a bit of an initiative."

Senior Matt Williamson also understood the struggle of being an active student on campus and maintaining a high grade point average of between 3.3 to 3.5. Williamson, who had completed four successful seasons on the Missouri Western football team, had a tiring schedule to keep up with.

"After my classes, I would go straight to our meetings and practice wouldn't be over until after six that night. I would try to focus on studying between eight and nine at night. My roommate had the same major, so we would help each other out with studying," Williamson said.

A social life for any football player during the season was usually out of the question with practices and curfew.

"I try to focus most of my attention on football and school work. I don't really have any time for extra-curricular activities, but once in a while I have time for a social life," Williamson said.

Some people measured success by quality and quantity, but for Missouri Western students, success was measured as much as possible with the right combination of both. Surviving the academic obstacle course had its rewards.

Matt Williamson prepares for drills during practice. Williamson was transformed into a leader as a senior.

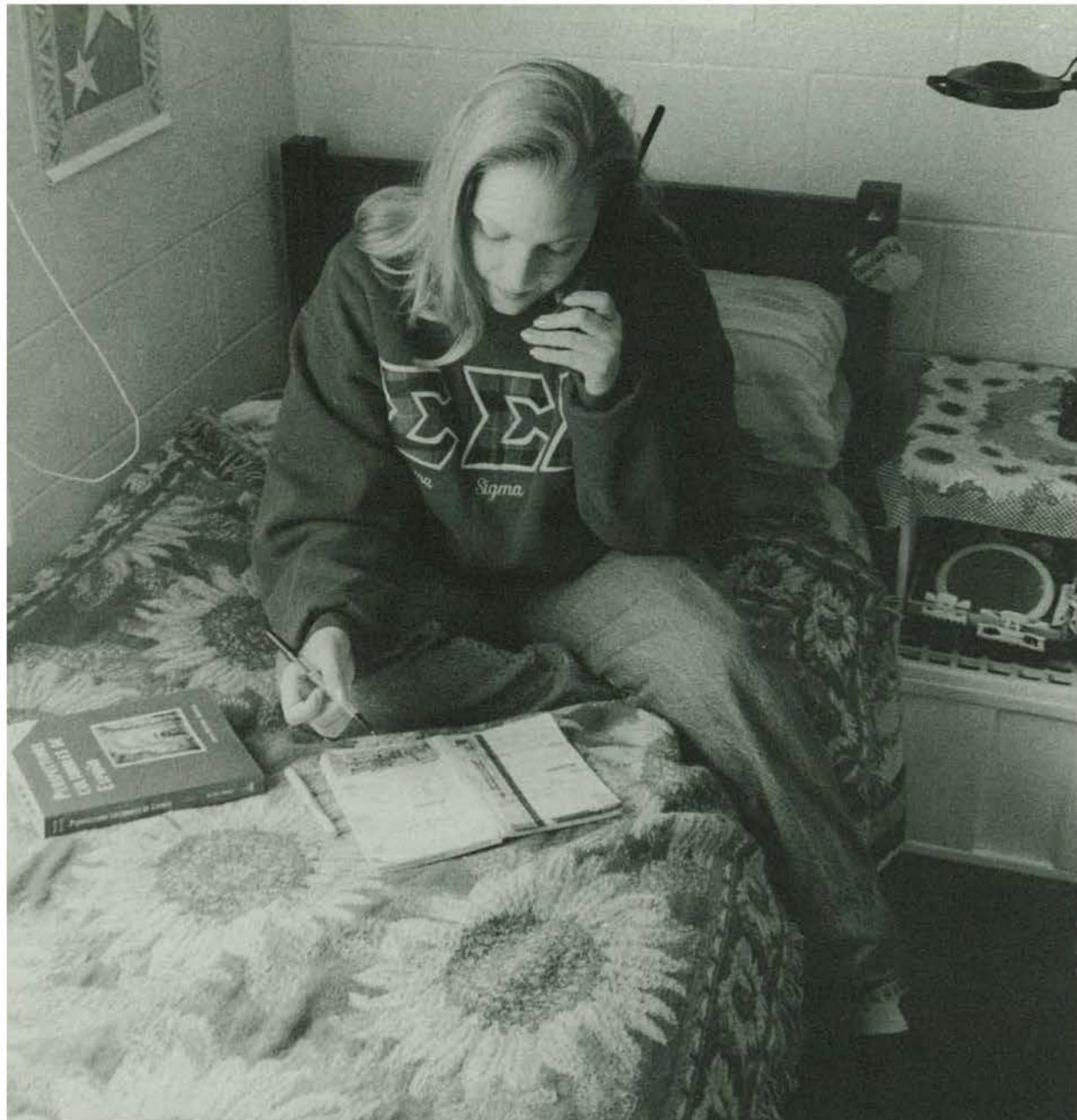


Crystal Sisco

Williamson discusses upcoming practice with fellow teammate Tim Ware. Aside from his studies, Williamson spent many hours in the fitness center and on the football field.



Crystal Sisco



Crystal Sisco

Kendra Wilcoxson squeezes one more appointment into her calendar. Many students used daily planners to keep track of all they had to do.



Courtney Ball

Kelly Strehl and **Vanessa Nesselhuf** make time to study in the library. Strehl and Nesselhuf were just two of the many students who juggled jobs, school and busy schedule.

Lou Anne Peterson uses reference books to do research for homework. For active students, creating time to complete homework wasn't always easy.



Courtney Ball



control

time constraints hinder student life

An ear piercing scream in the night, a hair pulling fit just before an exam, that frenzied dash for the library the night before a paper was due. It was all part of the challenge involved in being a college student. Classes, sports, clubs, work, significant others and children were among some of the tribulations students had to deal with on a daily basis. It was hard to imagine that the majority of college students managed to stay afloat in their wacky world and still have time for themselves.

The countless number of clubs and organizations that exist on campus offered a dilemma for many students in trying to decide which one was right for them. Some, however, couldn't exclude their involvement to just one. Freshman Stacey Davis was involved in not one, but thirteen clubs and organizations.

"Time management is easy when compared with a larger scale; my future. Everything I take part in is a component that plays a positive role in my future," Davis said. It was easier for students to keep up with their studies when focusing on the fact that their efforts would one day lead to a more successful life.

There were those students who didn't have quite the same positive outlook on their situation. It was extremely challenging for some to include time for leisure activities, once work

for classes, projects for clubs, and practices for sports and dance teams were placed on the roster.

"Having fun gets sacrificed a lot," freshman volleyball player Stephanie Traudt said. "There are a lot of late nights and sometimes you have to put off going out with friends because there are other things to do." A hectic week of constant action often gave way to an explosive release on the weekends. Crazy parties and veg sessions would instantly dispel the homework blues.

Most may have not had quite as much to do as Stephanie Traudt, however, they still had some problems getting things done on time. Distractions ranged from television and late night fast food runs to wild weekend parties and surprise visitors. It was hard for the average student on campus to stay focused on the task at hand, making for frantic late night and early morning study sessions.

Whether students found all of the lost hours of sleep just another necessary step to attaining a better and brighter future, or if they discovered that the sacrifice of most friends was far from worth it, the one common thread was the realization of a goal, to receive a college degree. Traudt has put it best when she offered this advice: "You have to use every minute to the fullest."

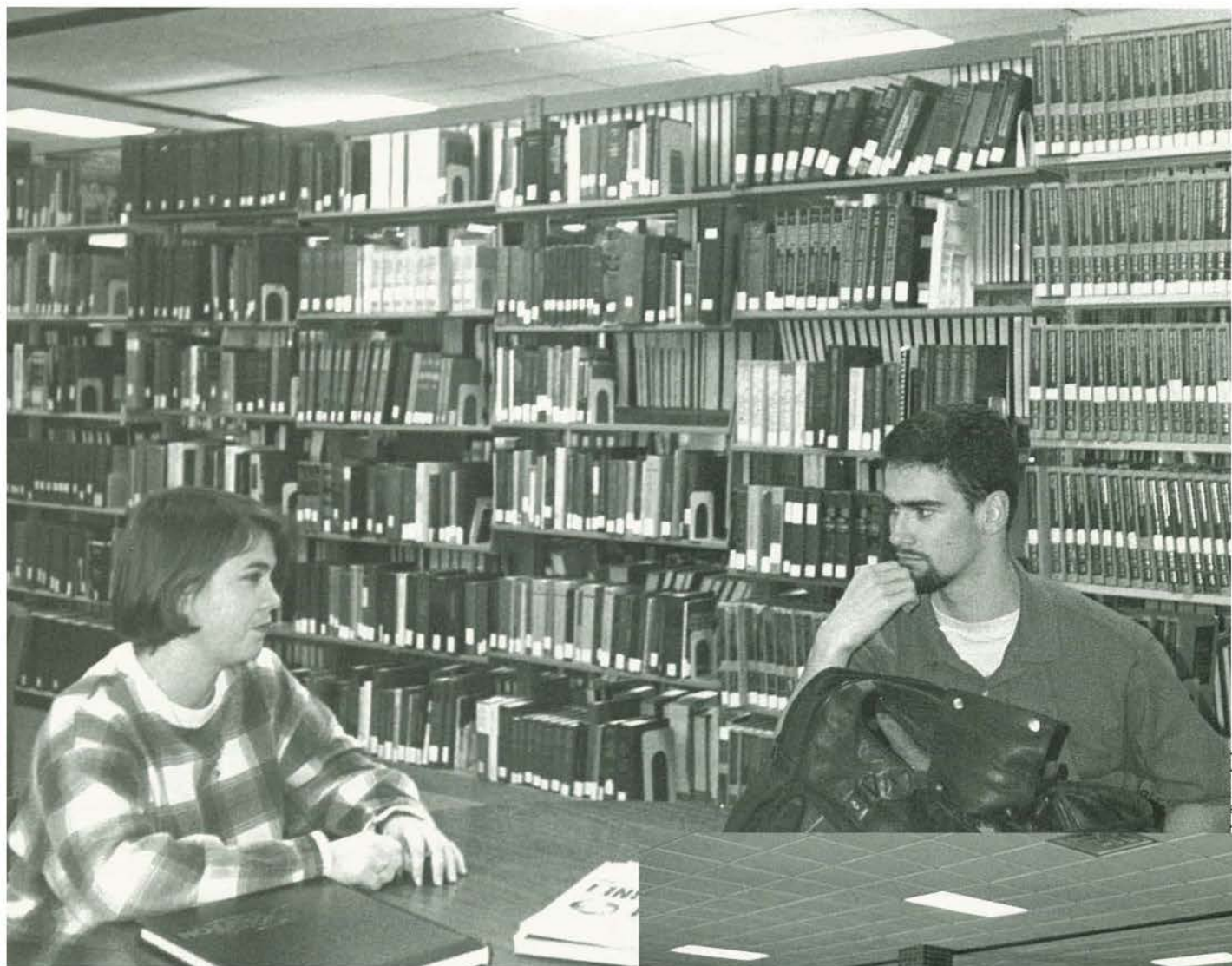


Four friends take time out of their busy schedule to meet for lunch. Many students were not able to find time to chat.

Uraya Sanders uses her bed as a desk to finish up a project. Many of those living in the residence halls found it hard to study with everything else going on.



Students meet in the library to make plans for the weekend. To some, the library was a place to study; others it was a place to get away from studying.



Let's Talk! Jackson



Let's Talk! Jackson



Let's Talk! Jackson

Students find time for a break at the Griffon Place. Many realized the importance of squeezing free-time into their busy schedules.

A student mother attempts to study while her baby works hard at getting her attention. Students had to learn to juggle classes with sports, clubs, work and family.

starlight

sunset brings campus to life

When the sun went down and most people were done with work and school and were getting settled in for the night, students at Missouri Western began to get fired up. After days filled with listening to lectures and taking notes, nights gave students time to find other things to do.

People were busy with night classes, doing laundry in the dorms, studying for tests and writing papers in the library, or relaxing in dorm rooms. Some had off-campus jobs to do and some just took their evening hours to socialize. Whether working, playing, studying or taking more classes, the campus was active at almost anytime of the night.

Art students could be found sculpting and painting in the quiet recesses of the fine arts building while yearbook and newspaper staffers worked into the early hours of the morning trying to meet deadlines.

However, there were those who chose to leave behind the confines of both class and dorm rooms to experience life under the enormous night sky. A lot of people felt that being outside at night gave them time to be alone and time to think about things like their classes and any other problems that they were having at the time.

Perhaps the glitziest of those nighttime campus activities was the age old activity of doing laundry. Expansive crowds of sweatshirt clad coeds would descend on the nearest campus laundry room or the fabric softener scented laundromats

throughout the city. One could find congregations of detergent slaves from dusk 'til dawn, almost every night.

"I do laundry at night because the laundry room is crowded as it is during the day," freshman Susan Beam said. "It is also a good, quiet place to sit and do homework or assignments. Night is when I am the most active and when I have the energy to do my laundry."

There were many other activities on the list of things to do on the moonlit campus. Athletic types could be found playing basketball and tennis on courts outside the residence halls. Dances and impromptu parties were also staple events in the residence council courtyard, not to mention wild happenings on dorm walkways and balconies.

Some unfortunate souls were confined to greasy faculty kitchens and the cramped spaces of a department store register. For them long nights of work, not on homework but on the job, was a familiar activity. Class work and leisure were left to the late hours of the night once the swipe of a time card meant sweet freedom.

Whether students were sifting through enormous piles of laundry, intoxicated by soapy fumes, or working behind the counter, attending to the public's every need, it was obvious that the lives of students took on heavy duties as the sun went down. Between joggers, walkers, and partygoers, campus was a hotbed of activity under the stars.

Jeremy Gregory and Rachel Lock warm up for a late night band rehearsal. Practices and rehearsals often took place after dark due to the lack of free time.

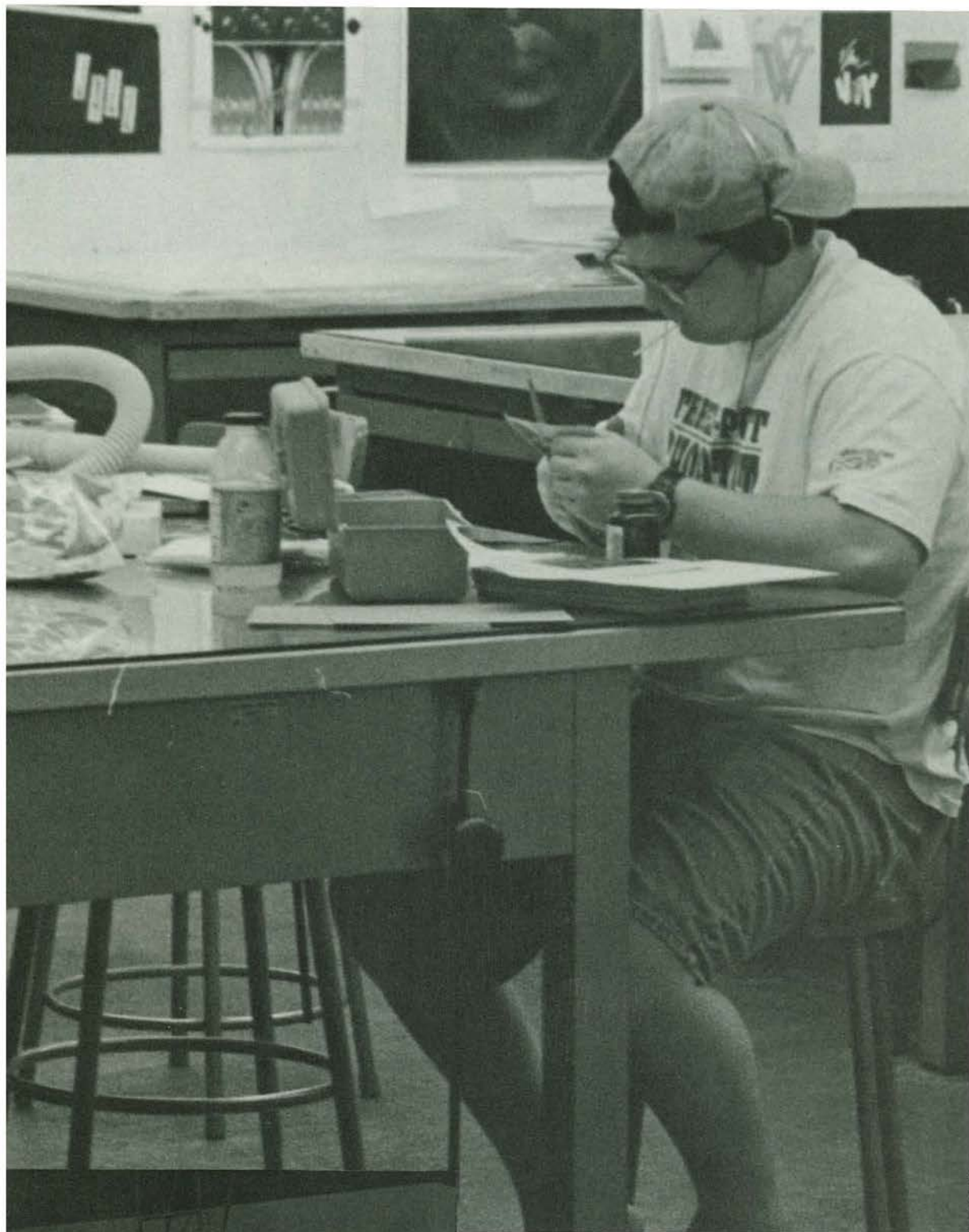
At night, the fountain outside the SS/C building shimmers with colors of gold. Students often spent time after dark relaxing next to the waters.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Jeremy Welch finishes up for a critique in two-dimensional design. Many art students had to work late finishing projects so that everything was turned in on time.

A group of basketball enthusiasts get together and play a quick game in the old gym. Basketball was one of the many popular activities that went on after dark on the MWSC campus.



Angela Wells

sideline

priorities differ for busy students

With the increasing trends in the world of academia for people to return to college and for students to work their way through college, the lives of students felt the burden of responsibility.

With an increasing amount of things to do in an inflexible 24 hour period, to some, it seemed that they were attending school on the side rather than making it their main focus. But even being pulled a thousand different directions, those who were truly dedicated managed to pull it off.

Senior Tamara Violett was a prime example of this growing trend. Violett and her husband Kurt endured a pregnancy and the birth of a their baby during a hectic school schedule. But nonetheless she managed to stay on track.

"Balancing family, home, work and school can be a challenge but I am very happy. I would not have it any other way," Violett said.

Senior Patty Wilson had similar sentiments. Wilson was a

single mother returning to college, working and raising girls.

"You make sacrifices, but looking at the big picture I am doing the right thing," Wilson said.

Family commitments were not the only things that pushed coursework to the back burner.

Junior Scott Johnson sacrificed sleep at times to fit everything into his day. Johnson was involved in Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and worked in addition to pursuing an art degree.

And just because students were busy, attending class and studying while trying to fit in everything else, didn't necessarily mean time for themselves was sacrificed. Senior Amy Roberts got up at the crack of dawn to exercise at the fitness center.

"That hour every morning starts my day off right and can make all the difference in whether I have a good day or a bad day, no matter how busy I am."



Angela Wells

Gretchen Schneider runs through the process of checking in a student at the Fitness Center. Schneider was a non-traditional criminal justice major, who devoted time to work as well as classes.



Angela Wells

Lori Sybert, a junior criminal justice major, plays with her daughter Faith near daycare Director Tracy Bowman. Many non-traditional students had families to take care of and Y's Kids was always ready to help out.



Angela Wells

Junior Elementary Education major, Laurel LaFollette uses a StairMaster in the Fitness Center. Every MWSC student had the opportunity to use the Fitness Center, pool, gym, or any other recreational service here on campus.



Angela Wells

Art classes in ceramics and painting were popular courses with non-degree seeking students. People could take these classes for self-enrichment or the pure joy of learning.



Dave Sauter and Dan Ramming work the information booth during Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week. The booth offered a chance for anyone to obtain information about gay awareness.



Angela Wells

Dr. John Gilgun, professor of English, presents his personal diary entry "Coming Out Again." The excerpt was published as a part of a book called "Coming Out Experiences."

Dave Sauter participates in campus activities during Gay & Lesbian Awareness Week. The week's events included films and a speech given by Gilgun.



power

by Tracy Jones

acceptance through awareness

acknowledgment of gays, lesbians and bisexuals as an important presence in society was becoming more and more widespread in America and on campus. This new enlightenment led to a week of events that dealt with gay, lesbian and bisexual issues.

The Diversity Center advocates worked in conjunction with the Second Empire Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Issues to host the Second Annual Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Awareness Week, a week of special events designed to make students more aware of the gay and lesbian society. The week included a film presentation dealing with the portrait of homosexuals throughout history and the showing of an Italian film in which the controversies of sexual orientation were addressed.

The primary goal was to work together in creating an awareness among a growing group of people," Diversity Center Advocate Leigh Smith said. "Gays and Lesbians are still seen as a minority, and people need information to be able to counter that assumption."

The week came to an end with Coming Out Day which coincided with National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11. The day included students with support in coming out to their friends and family. Students could also pick up information regarding safe sex, laws dealing with same sex marriages and activities that the task force sponsors throughout the year. Sex literature was also available.

"We wanted to create an awareness of the gay, lesbian and bisexual people, who are a very important part of our society," said Andy Cupp, director of the task force. "Homosexuals are

friends and family members and we wanted to help them feel more comfortable with coming out in the community."

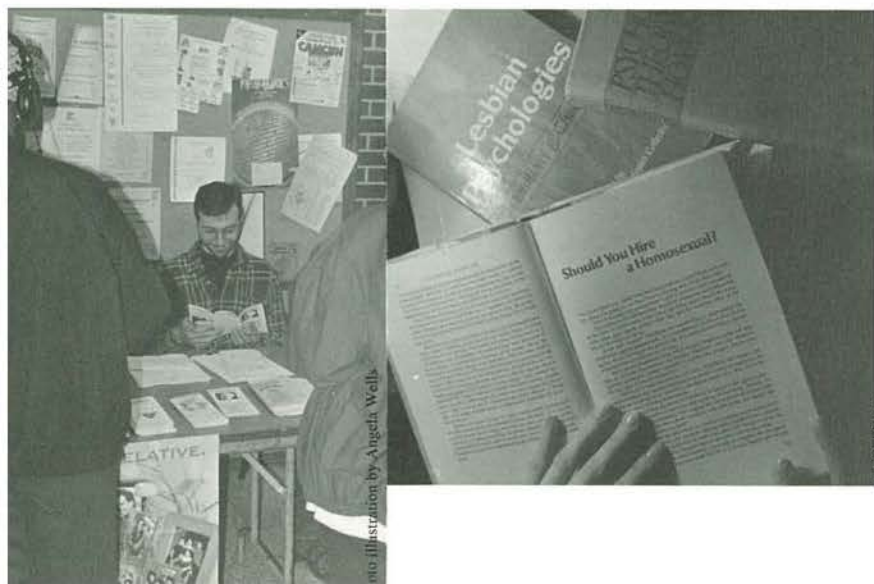
To further bring the issues of coming out to light, English department faculty member Dr. John Gilgun presented a talk to several students in which he told of his own experiences of coming out in 1991.

"We are in the business of educating people, so we need to cover the subject of coming out," Gilgun said. "It had needed coverage in the past and it has finally happened." Gilgun focused his talk on the positive things that had happened since his coming out. However, he understood that other's experiences would be different from his own.

"Not everyone's coming out experience is going to be as positive as mine," Gilgun said. "I don't want to do anything that would cause anyone to make the wrong decision about coming out."

The two organizations hoped to dispel some of the myths about homosexuality as well. Lesbians and gays did not have a choice in their sexual orientation. This orientation was not subject to reversal, nor were children in any more danger of sexual crimes near homosexual adults than heterosexual ones, nor were they found to be a great threat to society.

While issues of homosexuality consumed some with fury and others with an equal amount of ignorance, the events aimed to encourage awareness among students did just that. The week met with a very positive response which led most to believe that the acceptance of every person, regardless of sexual preference, was a trend that students would take with them well into the next century.



Ramming distributes pamphlets to students at the booth to promote gay and lesbian awareness. Missouri Western offered information and support to students on National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11.

Many issues were discussed during Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Awareness Week. Most hoped that a greater acceptance of homosexuals would result from their efforts.

divided

smokers put out in the cold

Smoking will forever be an issue under controversy. Once upon a time, smoking was considered an inoffensive form of individuality. Reminiscent of the days of Betty Davis and James Dean, smoking was stylish and by no means improper. However, in today's society terms involving smoking such as stylish and proper have been thrown out the window, replaced with words such as unhealthy and uncouth.

Reports and statistics began popping up at alarming rates, proving to Americans the dangers that exist in smoking, as well as second-hand smoke. Smoking still exists today, but second hand smoke doesn't have to. In past years, society decided to make a difference by not allowing smoking in public areas for the sake of non-smokers.

In fact, the number of public locations not permitting smoking within the premises continues to increase year by year and Missouri Western decided they were not going to be an exception. A few years ago, the Missouri Western campus went smoke free and permitted smoking only outdoors. The decision received mixed reviews from faculty and students.

"I appreciate the smoking outdoors because that way I can avoid smelling like smoke all day," Chris Sidwell said. He is a non-smoker and agrees with the policy, though it proved

inconvenient at times. For Angie Garner, a freshman smoker, feelings fell the opposite direction.

"I feel that there should be designated areas indoors to smoke. It is too cold to smoke outdoors during the winter," Garner said. Student and faculty smokers could be seen huddled in building entryways throughout the winter months. One wondered if the puff of a cigarette was worth enduring a bone-chilling cold.

Much of the national statistics proved the same. Those who did not smoke were in favor of the policy but those who smoked proved to be a strong opponent. However, there were a few individuals that were sympathetic to both sides.

"Smokers have the right to smoke and I think they deserve designated areas in each building to do so," said freshman Russ Hamm. Though students and staff had the right to smoke, it was in the hands of administration to decide where it could be done.

Overall, statistics proved that most people would prefer smoking outdoors and away from others. Considering that second-hand smoke is a health risk, most smokers, despite a wish to be inside, respected others' decisions and remained outdoors.

Signs prohibiting smoking are posted on all campus buildings. A smoke free building normally meant a smoky exit as students and faculty lit up within three feet of the doors.

Angela Wells

THIS IS A
SMOKE FREE
BUILDING
THANK YOU
FOR NOT SMOKING



This MWSC resident smokes outside her dorm room so she won't be in violation of the rules governing her suite. Many smokers were banned from smoking in the one place they consider home; their rooms here on campus.

Latonya Jackson



Snow and fallen leaves surround the desolate cigarette butts on the sidewalk. Smokers were forced to go outside if they chose to light up on campus.

Angela Wells

MWSC students take a few minutes between classes to relax and enjoy a cigarette. The steps behind the SS/C building were popular hang-outs for those looking for a place to light-up or just chill-out.

Kathy Bokowicz invites a friend into the room that she shares with her roommate. Most people were able to find common ground with their roommates, and some became good friends.

Roger Bender finds peace and quiet away from his roommate at his computer. Some cohabiters just needed a little time to themselves.



Tony West



Privacy and having enough breathing space are concerns for roommates who live together in tight quarters in residence halls. Using bunkbeds was one way to squeeze a little more floor space in to the dorm.

inhabited

by Krissy Fulk

Co-habitation leads to complex emotion

College students had enough to worry about without con- over whether or not there was going to be a fight between mates. Missouri Western State College students had to deal with roommates on-campus or off-campus and places had both pros and cons.

On-campus housing at MWSC was set up so that an individual shared a room with either one or two people and a living room with up to eleven other people. Freshman Slupianek got along with most of the people in her suite sometimes had problems with a few of them.

"The ones I have problems with are the ones who continue to do things and continue to do things after I privately talk to them. They whine as if everything has to revolve around them," Slupianek said.

Even though Slupianek had a plan about how to alleviate the problem, it wasn't guaranteed to work. Many students found that sometimes nothing seemed to fix any of the problems they were having.

The only way to alleviate the problem is to talk about it. "Talking about things privately don't just go out and start screaming," Slupianek said. "You need to find out what their problems

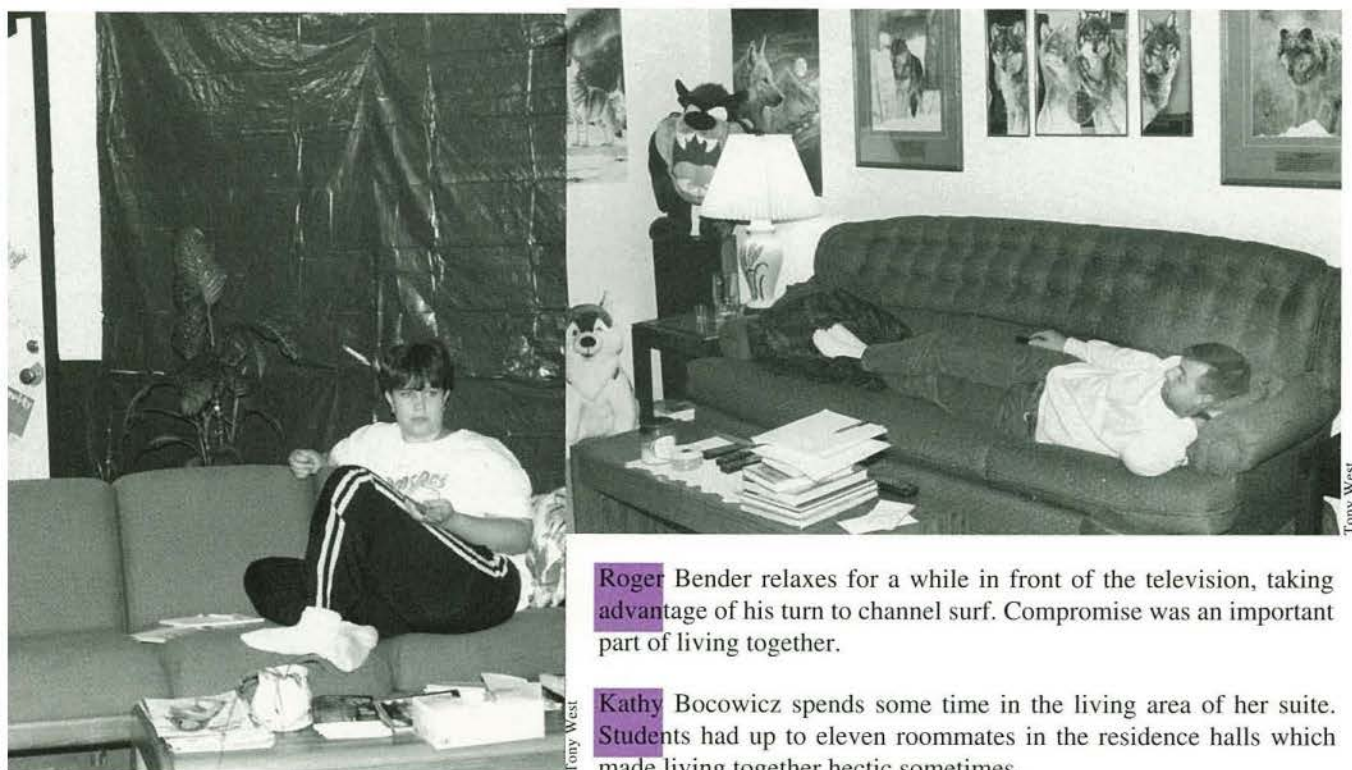
are and talk to another friend in the suite and find out if maybe you are making too big a deal of it."

Other students felt that having a roommate or roommates was a good thing. Freshman Candie Wattenbarger, who had two roommates, was one of these people.

"It's good to have someone to help with the food and bills," Wattenbarger said. "It's also good to know that you can experience different cultures and lifestyles. The people in my suite would probably never have been my friends, but since I got stuck with them I have made some good and true friends."

Students who lived off-campus and had roommates were confronted with some of the same problems and experiences. Two, three or even four people living together proved to be an exercise in crisis management at times. Adjustments had to be made by each person, regardless of where they lived.

"The main point is to get along with the person," Slupianek said. "You have to know that there will be pros and cons to living with someone you don't know and you have to give them their privacy," she said. For some, their roommate became a best friend, for some their worst enemy but for all it was definitely educational.



Roger Bender relaxes for a while in front of the television, taking advantage of his turn to channel surf. Compromise was an important part of living together.

Kathy Bocowicz spends some time in the living area of her suite. Students had up to eleven roommates in the residence halls which made living together hectic sometimes.

danger

incidents prompt safety awareness

Campuses everywhere have experienced crime. In 1996, crime became even more of a reality to students at MWSC.

When students logged onto e-mail on Oct. 31, they were informed about two alleged events that had occurred on Oct. 29. The message informed everyone that as a student left the library that evening, he was approached by two men who demanded his wallet and ring. This man was fortunate enough to fight off his attackers.

Later that same evening, a young woman reported to security and police that as she was leaving campus, a man jumped into her car and forced her to drive to a remote area. The man allegedly cut the woman with a knife before knocking her out and robbing her of an undisclosed amount of cash.

The cover of the next *Griffon News* read "Fear the Dark." By then most students had heard about the abduction, but it suddenly became a reality when the victim stepped forward in a *Griffon News* editorial to reveal in her own words details of what had happened to her.

Both attacks not only startled students, but also made the administration aware that Missouri Western needed to take

extra precautions to insure that students would be safe. Security increased the number of foot patrol and installed additional security alert stations.

However, three weeks later the *Griffon News* reported the abduction case had been closed. The St. Joseph department told reporters that the alleged victim had a statement explaining that the incident never occurred.

Fortunately for students, most of the crime that occurred at Missouri Western was not of this nature. Most of the reported crimes were thefts of books or other personal items.

"Crimes on campus are usually crimes of opportunity," Jonathan Kelley, director of security. "If people would leave things in plain sight, things would not get stolen."

"Students need to be more aware of their personal safety and property," Kelley said. "Try to walk with a friend or use a courtesy patrol if it is necessary to be out at night."

Overall, students at Missouri Western could feel safer. Kelley also said that violent crimes on campus were down compared to other campuses, hopefully setting student and faculty's minds at ease.



Angela Wells

MWSC security was always a visible sight on campus, including their entry in the Homecoming parade. Security took quick measures and increased officers on duty after several alleged incidents.

Even after a reported abduction was proved to be a hoax by police, students were more aware about the possibility of crime. Security and administration encouraged students not to be out alone.



Tim O'Connor



Security lights were put along the sidewalks making nighttime travel safer for students. The lights cut the opportunity for crimes to occur.

Angela Wells



Crystal Sisco

The location of the alleged incident on October 29 was the main entrance to campus. Police said the alleged victim signed a statement saying the crime never occurred.

Missouri Western students had felt the fear of crimes that occurred. Extra precautions are taken by adding more to foot patrol, totaling 18 security officers plus students on foot patrol.



Crystal Sisco

trends

by Erica Anders

pain leads to self-expression

Whether it was an ear, a belly button, cartilage in the ear, or even a nipple, it seemed like one of the popular trends was body piercing. Before one could get pierced, there were some obligations to be followed. Many piercing parlors would not allow a person to be pierced if they were under the influence of drugs or alcohol. It was also prohibited if the person was taking medicine for a medical illness.

The process of body piercing did not take long and, depending on the person's tolerance for pain, was usually nearly painless. It felt like a needle prick, and it was very quick. Sophomore Heather Proehl dared to go head to head with the needle and got her belly button pierced.

"It only hurt for about ten seconds," she said. "That was how long it took to pierce it."

One key aspect of body piercing was sterilization. It was highly recommended to go to a professional because they kept all utensils very sterile. New Creation in California sterilized their equipment and their jewelry for thirty minutes. They used fifteen to eighteen pounds of pressure at temperatures of 270 to 290 degrees.

This process raised a person's tolerance for pain. Freshmen Emily Hallman and Kaycee McLaughlin both got the cartilage

in their ears pierced.

"It didn't hurt at all until she had to loosen it. The very painful," Hallman said.

"I have six holes pierced in my ear. Getting my cartilage pierced was the least painful," McLaughlin said.

According to the professionals, it was important to keep the piercing in, no matter how much it hurt. If it was taken out, infection could occur and seal into the piercing.

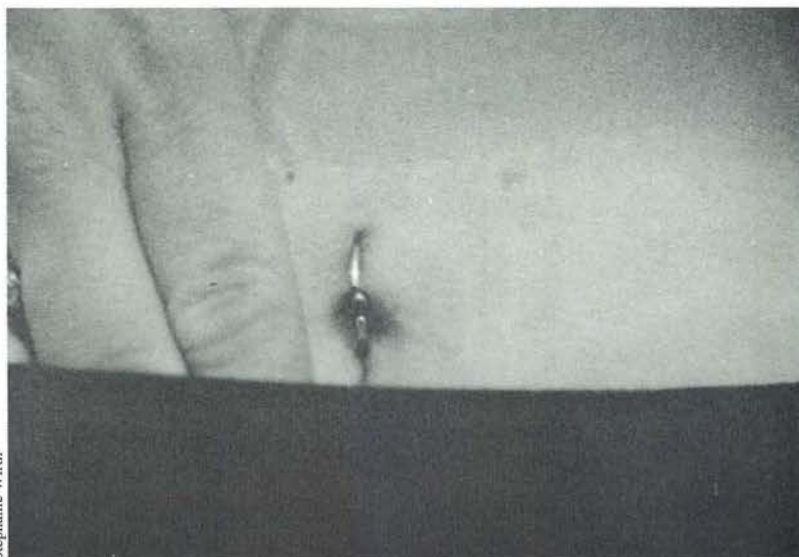
Body piercing could have been so popular because it was fairly inexpensive. Some places did the piercing for free, but the jewelry was where the cost came from.

"I was charged thirty dollars for the ring. They only charged me ten for the piercing," Proehl said.

While body piercing done in the ear and belly button was probably the most popular, some were a bit more unusual. Males as well as females had their genital areas and nipples pierced. Other popular piercing areas were tongue, eyebrows, and lips.

Though body piercing was found by some to be a result of Generation X angst and immorality, those who did it and those who respected them saw it as a form of expression for a new generation.

Four holes in one ear was one student's way of portraying her love for piercing. Ear piercing was perhaps the least painful of the several types.



Stephanie Wirth

Junior Shannon Stanton shows off her belly button ring. Sterilization was a key to maintaining a healthy, clean piercing.



Valeni, freshman, shows her self-expression through a pierced lip. The lip was just one of the several areas of the body pierced by piercing.



Stephanie Wirth



Stephanie Wirth

In addition to a lip ring, Valeni displays her tongue ring as well. Tongue rings were actually a ball at the top that went through the entire tongue, with a ball connecting the other end.

Though no anesthesia was used in most parlors, belly button ring became the trend setter for piercing. Professionals recommended ignoring the pain and not to remove the jewelry in order to avoid infection.

Stephanie Wirth



comedy

comedian rocks, wows campus

"How we doing in the big city of St. Joseph? Boy, you sure have lots to do in St. Joseph. You've got a mall, a bowling alley, and I had lunch today at one of those A&W Root Beer stands." So began the comedy stylings of crowd-shocking Chris Rock.

On April 21, Missouri Western welcomed funny-man Chris Rock to campus. Rock was perhaps most famous for his performances on "Saturday Night Live," and his own late show on HBO. Rock had made several movie appearances as well, such as CB4, Beverly Hills Cop II, Panther and New Jack City. Rock also served as presidential campaign correspondent for Comedy Central's "Politically Incorrect with Bill Maher."

He was not alone in his rolling comedy when he arrived on campus. Rock was preceded on stage by fellow comedian Mario Joyner. Joyner warmed up the crowd of nearly 1500 before Rock made his appearance to the packed house. Fans took seat on the floors as stands quickly became filled with ticket holders.

When Rock finally took the stage he also took the crowd for

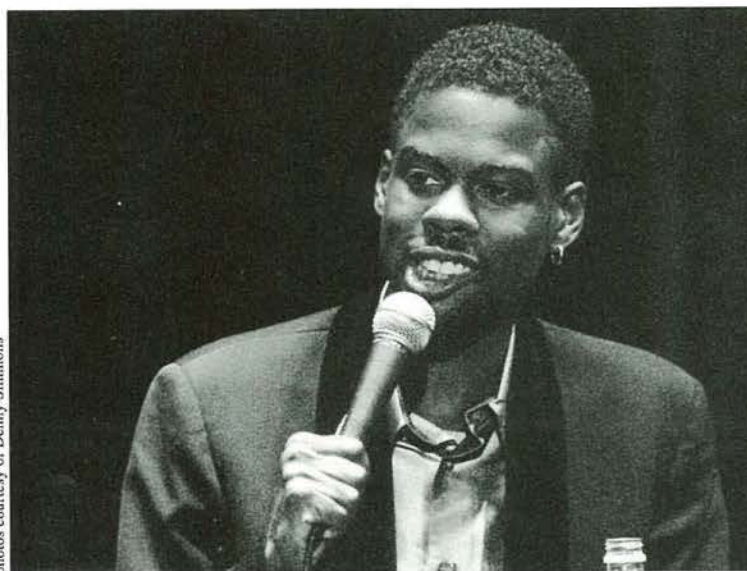
a wild ride through the mind of a wacky comedian. The show lasted almost two hours with Rock giving his humorous yet often heart-felt, opinions on racial, political, and economic issues. Rock also touched on relationships and sexual

"I was surprised at how serious some of the issues he brought up," said senior Michelle Drennen. "He brought up controversial issues, but still managed to reveal the humor at the same time."

Though Rock's often raunchy performances were and contained a few touchy subjects, reaction from the audience made it possible was overwhelmingly positive.

"I think that bringing an act like Chris Rock says a lot about our campus activities program. Several people didn't think we could pull it off, but it was a success and I think that shows that our program is growing a great deal," said Don Drennen, Campus Activities Board sponsor. "I think from observing the crowd reaction, that they really enjoyed the show."

The concert was sponsored by CAB and served as a highlight during Alpha Phi Alpha week. Ticket were \$7 for students and \$14 for non-students.

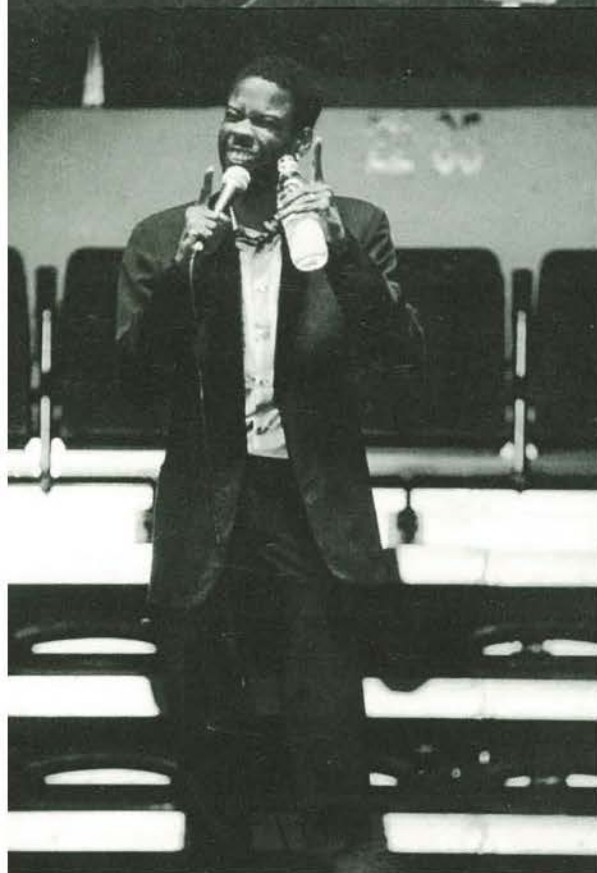


photos courtesy of Denny Simmons

Comedian Chris Rock brought his original style of humor to MWSC during the spring. Students as well as community members watched the performance in the Fieldhouse.

Video monitors throughout the arena allowed audience members to get an up-close view of Rock. Over 1500 people watched the concert.





Although Rock was alone on stage, dozens of people worked together to make his performance happen. Campus Activities Board sponsored the event.

Rock stopped at MWSC as a part of an extensive touring schedule. The comedian has been a regular cast member on Saturday Night Live and hosts his own show on HBO.

“Insightful,” “poignant,” and “hilarious,” were words used to describe Rock’s comedy as fans filed out of the arena. CAB hopes to bring more big names to campus in the future.

finance

searching for alternative

Money was an issue not to be ignored when it came to college living. It was common for students to check their mailboxes and discover that the phone bill was due, the rent was due and to top it all off, there was no food in the house. It didn't matter whether a student lived off campus or on, athlete or not, money always ruled a large part of their academic lives.

Sophomore Ann Anderson was no stranger to the green stuff that made life in college difficult sometimes. Anderson worked at the Chasem Care Center, the Grace Evangelical Church, and sometimes babysat for friends when no hours were available to her at her other two places of employment. Combined hours totaled up to about thirty a week for her three jobs, which she scheduled around sixteen hours of school. Though student loans paid for most of her tuition, Anderson was essentially responsible for paying the remainder of her college expenses.

In addition to tuition, board and food, Anderson also had to pay art expenses, car payments, and insurance. Living on campus, Anderson also faced the fear of calling her mom and dad when she had problems coming up with money.

Living on or off campus didn't make much difference in finances. There were still problems coming up with the money. Sophomore Chris Heard paid for his tuition through

student loans and scholarships. At Missouri Western, obvious to anyone the day that the loan checks were in the hands of students eager to get their cash in hand formed all the business office. Heard had the misfortune of calling the business office when loan checks were late or the rent was due.

"I'm involved in Phi Sigma Kappa and SGA. Though SGA fees are attached to my tuition, my fraternity dues to be paid monthly," Heard said. Being involved in such organizations made it difficult for Heard to have a steady job.

Some students, who were able to work during the summer, were able to live off savings accounts. However, there were those who lived for summer jobs.

"I got most of my spending money from saving over the summer, but I also received \$150 every month from ROTC," senior football player Matt Gragg said.

Athletes who were on scholarships were not allowed to have jobs in order to keep grades up, which in turn allowed them to keep their hard-earned scholarships. Gragg had a football scholarship that paid his room and board and a ROTC scholarship that paid for his tuition and books.

While college students were not known for their big wallets and large checking accounts, most made it through with the right mix of work, financial aid and ingenuity.

Donna Jones furiously files student records in the registrar's office. Jones was just one of the many students at Missouri Western who were trying to keep money in their pockets.



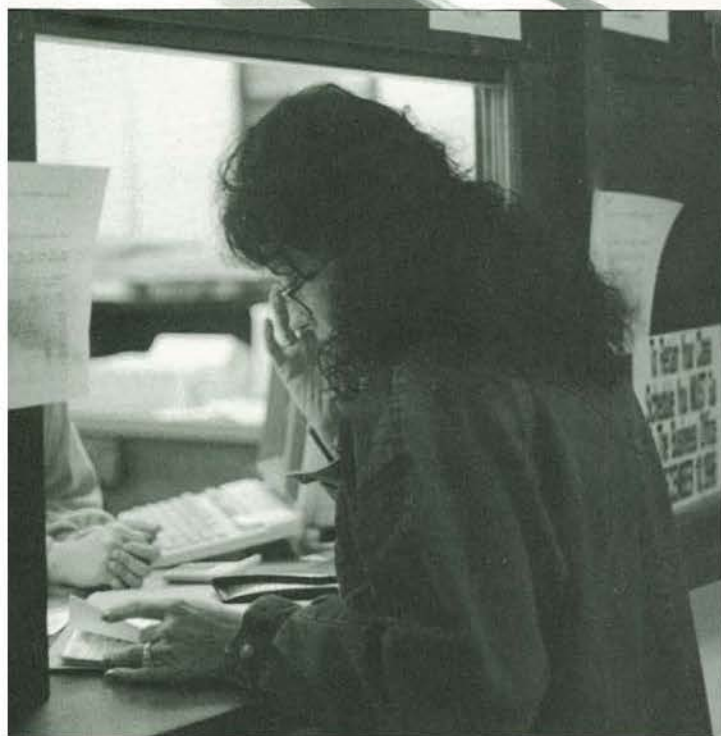
Part-time employee and full-time student JoAnne Flowers works on a memo at her computer. Student loans were also a way for students to pay for tuition.





Courtney Ball

Freshman Amy Salmons files dozens of documents away. Working was definitely an alternative to a student life of poverty.



ly trips to the business office to make payments, pick up loan and fill out paper work is a familiar routine. Having a variety of aid opportunities helped students cope with finances.



Courtney Ball

Chris Heard writes another check for another bill. Financial counseling was available to those students who found themselves in over their heads.

release

w e e k e n d s p r o v i d e t i m e t o r e l e a s e

At 7:45 a.m. on Monday, that pesky alarm went off again. Drained, typical students rose from their beds and flew out the door in a mad rush for 8 a.m. classes. The day was filled with long lectures and the evening absorbed with typing papers and studying in the library. Once they rested their heads on their pillows, it wasn't long before the alarm rang again to begin another day. By the end of the week, they were pulling their hair out. When finally it was Friday afternoon, slowly everything began to look up.

The worshipped weekends were never taken for granted by anyone, especially college students. It was the one time students had the opportunity to sleep in and keep their minds away from statistics and equations. Whether they spent the weekend working or partying straight through until Sunday, the weekends were always something to look forward to.

"I usually spend the weekends partying with my buddies and the Chiefs," junior Dean Campbell said. "Actually, I look forward to Sundays more than anything so I can stay home and watch the game."

When asked how their weekends were spent, most Missouri Western students answered the same; partying. This was college after all and there was no better time to party. Still, many students saved their weekends for work, so they were

able to concentrate fully on academics throughout the week.

Senior Jason Vandermolten was one of the many who liked to have his weekends off to hang out with friends.

"I would like to keep my weekends free so that I can relax and party but I usually try to work on the weekends because that is where the money is," Vandermolten said.

Freshmen found that another alternative for the weekend was to travel home. Weekend travel was cheaper and students were able to do laundry and eat free food. Many freshmen chose to spend their weekends at home so they could visit with close ties and friends from high school, and get away from campus as possible.

For junior Andrea Bigler, weekends were often packed with work.

"I work on Friday nights, usually, because I can make good money with a lot of cash. Saturdays I go to the football game to support the team and afterwards I am on the hunt for a job," Bigler said. "Sundays are my relaxing days. I usually lounge around the house and watch the Chiefs play and then do the evening studying for the week ahead."

No matter how weekends were spent, they were often a tight snap. They had to be spent wisely, because once the alarm began to buzz on Monday morning, the typical Missouri Western student would be praying for Friday to come again.

Alumna Chris Hudson occupies her weekend working at a workshop for girl scouts put on by the college. The campus always hosted outside activities on the weekends.



Codi McMichael, a student and Applebee's employee, finds that weekends are not always relaxing. A lot of students had jobs that filled their weekends with responsibilities.



Art student Maureen Reardon cuts out linoleum print for one of her classes. Like many art students, Reardon spent weekends in the art building working on major projects.

Angela Wells



More Miranda Kline keeps busy behind the service desk at the YMCA. Students spent their weekends working hard for the extra cash a job offered.



Tricia Key

Some jobs, like cooking, still have to be done even on weekends. Weekend parties had to wait until the work was finished.



mania

students live and learn together

Moving away from home and parents for the first time brought an emotional mix of excitement and anxiety for most students. For many of them, dormitories were their first homes-away-from-home; the first breath of independence and freedom. Still, dorm life did have its ups and downs.

On the positive side, living on campus afforded students the convenience of being within walking distance to classroom buildings, the fitness facility and the library.

“Since I live in the dorms, I don’t have to get up as early to drive to class and struggle to find an open parking spot,” junior Sarah Murphy said. “But I don’t agree with the curfew stuff. My freedom is too restricted.”

Many students agreed that some of the rules of living on campus were a little too harsh. The dorms carried many restrictions such as quiet hours, no alcohol or smoking permitted, and no members of the opposite sex after certain hours. With weekly room inspections, many students got the feeling they were back at summer camp again. For those who felt the rules were too strict, a move to off-campus living was an option. There, they could live by their own rules.

Senior Matt Gibbons called the Missouri Western dormitories home for three years before deciding to spend his last year at college in a place of his own.

“Girlfriends could stay and not get in trouble for it. Plus, I turned 21 over the summer so I could drink at home, which was one thing I couldn’t do on campus,” Gibbons said. “If you wanted to drink while living on campus, you would usually have to go somewhere else to do it, and that promotes drinking and driving.”

The curfew rule and a lack of privacy were also popular

reasons for moving off campus.

“I like living off campus better because I get more privacy,” junior Mary Baack said. “I don’t have to worry about being too quiet or others being too loud.”

Even though dormitories are considered real colleges and something for all to experience, there are those who would much rather steer clear from living on any campus.

“I’ve been to four colleges and I’ve never lived off campus because I don’t want to eat cafeteria food,” senior Vernon Gravely said. “As far as the privacy issue goes, I want much more privacy at home. I grew up around three sisters and a lot of crazy females, and I like to be alone.”

Some students like junior Tiffany Ringot had the opportunity to live off-campus rent free. Being a St. Joseph's student, Ringot decided to live at home with her parents.

“Since I go to school in the same town, I didn’t really need to waste away money by moving into my own place,” Ringot said. “I don’t have any house bills to pay so I can save my money for the future. I have my whole life ahead of me with bills.”

Dorm life wasn’t always great, but there were many positive sides to living on campus. Not the least of these was the social aspect of living near other students. People who belonged to the many Greek organizations were able to hold their groups in the dorms. Greeks had organized living arrangements where entire wings of the dorms were reserved for their members.

“I’m a Phi Mu and I live in the same hall with the rest of the sorority,” sophomore Megan Barr said. “It makes you feel like a family. There is a constant sisterhood, even in the hallways.”

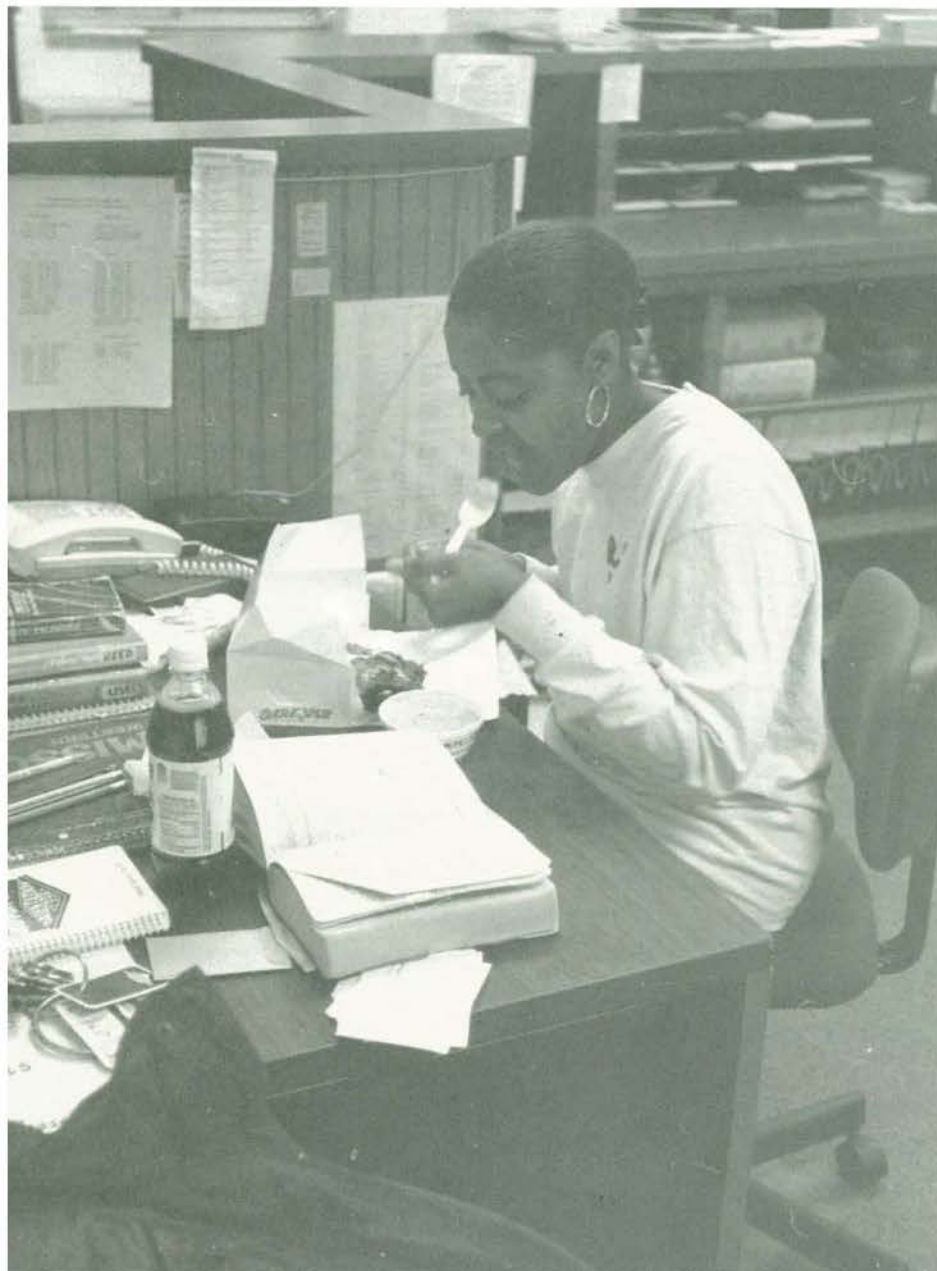
Vacuuming was a chore that roommates had to delegate whether they lived on or off campus. Dorm life did come with a few responsibilities.

Washing dishes was something no one wanted to do. The older residence halls were not equipped with kitchens, so a few tedious chores were eliminated for campus dwellers.



Chris Smith





Tamika Austin

If cafeteria meal times don't fit students' schedules, other arrangements have to be made. Some students ate fast food, carry out or delivery to rid themselves of hunger after meal-time hours.



Doing other laundry-doers is a down side to dorm life. If laundry facilities were close, students found the chore too time consuming.



LaTanya Jackson

Dormmates Mycha Rucker, Uraya Sanders and Eboni Hughes help each other with homework. On the positive side of residence hall life was the fact that the library was close to home and there was always someone close by to help with studying.



purchase

college demands more than study time

Seasons came and went and so did semesters. Before one semester ended, another one had to be planned for. The cost of an education seemed to increase with every year that passed.

Living on campus had some advantages and disadvantages, but both could be expensive. Each student on campus doled out money for purchases other than tuition. Freshman Brad Redmond, had never lived in a dorm before and was not sure of what to expect. He brought with him a computer and some of his favorite books.

"The only thing I bought to bring with me was laundry supplies," he said.

Junior Jeannette Browning, a video major, was more experienced at dorm living. When she first moved on campus she had to buy a refrigerator. She also had to purchase special sheets for her bed.

"I had to buy extra-long sheets and they're hard to find," Browning said.

Browning said her biggest expenses were books, video tapes and audio tapes. She was displeased with having to purchase the required meal plan that comes with living in the residence halls.

"You still have to purchase a meal plan whether you use it or not, which I hardly ever do," Browning said.

As tuition inched its way upward, the total cost for a

semester depended on the amount of credit hours a student took. The amount spent on books was determined by the professor's choice of books to be used.

Kimberly Augustyn, a sophomore music education major, lived on campus and worked up to 35 hours a week to supplement her tuition expenses, which included books. While text books were responsible for the disappearance of a portion of Augustyn's finances, she felt it was one of the necessary evils that came with attending college.

"My money is gone by the first day of classes," Augustyn said. "But books are not something a student can be successful without."

Being a non-traditional student carried its own financial burdens with family commitments. Sophomore Nichi Sollars, an English/technical communication major, found that attending college high as well. In order for Sollars to receive an education, her child had to go to child care, sometimes from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sollars paid \$68 a week for child care while she worked and attended classes on campus. The money Sollars earned was not enough to live on, and she had to rely on student loans to make up the difference.

Like most students, she found the cost of books outrageous, but that was not her biggest expense.

"The thing that costs me the most is my time," Sollars said.

Junior Rick Howard purchases a CD from Hastings music store. Music, including CDs and concert tickets, took a big chunk out of the average budget.

Jeanette Browning ponders which books to purchase. Books were an essential item on lists of things to buy for pleasure reading as well as for classes.





Jondanna Patrick

Junior Carrie Swymeler strolls through the aisles of K-Mart, checking out the sales. Retail vendors in St. Joseph benefited from student's buying power.



Jondanna Patrick

Megan Hurst makes some buying decisions at the grocery store. Students used groceries to supplement meal plans and fast food.



Tim O'Connor

Barnes and Noble Bookstore provides a few necessities like pop and candy for the convenience of students. Instead of trekking off campus, some students kept their consumer dollars at MWSC.





A quick break from class on a lazy Sunday afternoon gave couples a chance to catch up and spend quality time together. The MWSC campus provided a great background for couple time.

Brett Koranda, Misty Price, Brian Logan and Sherry Patrick relax in the grass at the park while enjoying time off from classes. With classes over for the semester couples found more time to be together.



Jondenna Patrick

balance

by Wanda Scott

relationships coexist with studies

se who attended college knew what it took to graduate. Added stress of trying to keep a relationship or marriage family together only added to the pressures that came with the life.

Austin and Erika Highsmith were an interracial couple who dated together and attended Missouri Western. One of the problems that came with this relationship was some prejudice from Highsmith's family.

"Most of my family like him as a person, but they do not like him because that he is black, especially my grandparents," Highsmith said. "But I really don't care."

Highsmith's family was more open to their relationship.

"My family hasn't had a chance to meet her. As far as I know, my dad and step-mom are cool with it," Austin said. "My mom just wanted me to find a woman!"

As a couple, they did not encounter any prejudice on campus, but one of the problems that they did face was balancing school and work. For Highsmith it wasn't a new problem as she was experiencing burn out.

Highsmith had a problem with attending class to begin with. That was the first problem to do with other things. He makes me go to school," Highsmith said.

Highsmith said it was different with Austin who worked on campus at

the library, tutoring math students, design editor for The Griffon News, the Fine Arts computer lab and the theater department. He was rarely home, so leaving after he got there was hard.

Alicia and Chris Johnson were a married couple trying to cope with a one-year-old child and attending college.

The main problem that both encountered while trying to attend classes at Missouri Western was in making sure that Keaton, their son, was taken care of while they were in class.

"The main thing was trying to find somebody to watch Keaton. We didn't want to put him in a day care. What we worked out, it's a really chaotic system, but it works for us. Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, that's when I have classes and Chris has classes, for one of my classes Chris watches, the other my sister watches and the other one my friends watches him. So that's how it worked out," Mrs. Johnson said.

Another problem they faced was spending time together, but when times got hard, they never felt like quitting.

"There is nothing I feel that I can give up. I will never give up my education, because I've gone this far. And I won't give up my son. I won't give up my husband," Mrs. Johnson said. "There have been some days when we both have felt that there is so much here, so much to do, but its really been worth it."



Jondenna Patrick



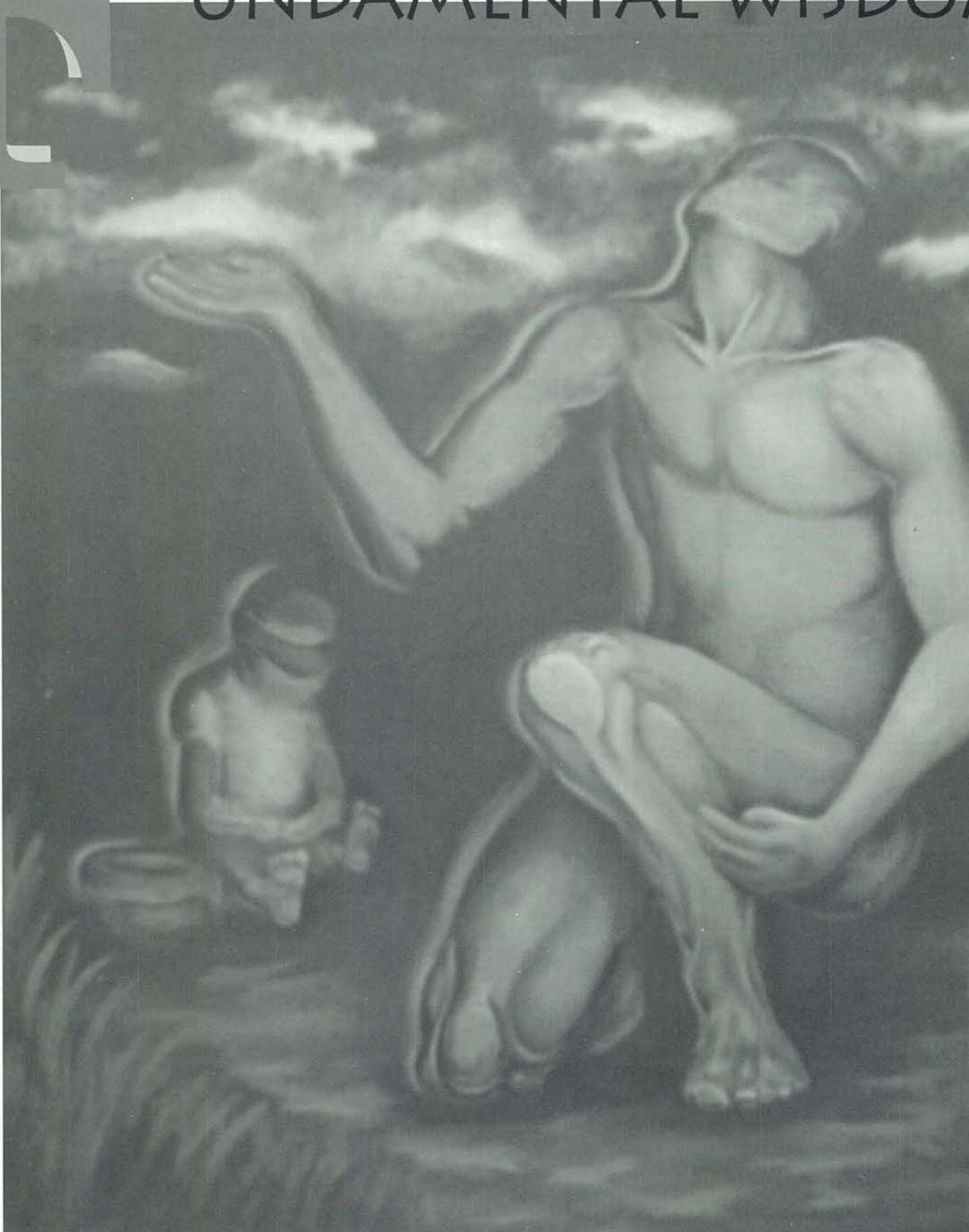
Crystal Sisco

Posing as more adult characters at Family Day provides entertainment for these future Griffons. The football hero and cheerleader relationship was a long-existing stereotype.

Brian Logan and Sherry Patrick enjoy time together in Sherry's apartment. Quality time was precious during the hectic semester.

F

UNDAMENTAL WISDOM



Jeremy Candler displayed this work that he did as part of his Painting III class with Jack Hughes. Candler was one of many non-seeking students who took art classes for self-enrichment.



OVER 5,000 STUDENTS CAME TO MISSOURI WESTERN'S CAMPUS IN 1997. IT WAS FOR ONE REASON AND
ALONE: TO RECEIVE AN EDUCATION. DEFINING THAT EDUCATION WAS AN EASY TASK FOR THOSE
STUDENTS. IT WAS MORE THAN BOOKS AND LECTURES. IT WAS A CHANCE TO EXCEL. PROFESSORS AND
STUDENTS ALIKE HAD TO FIND A WAY TO STAY AFLOAT IN THEIR WORLDS OF LIMITED TIME. OPPORTUNITIES
NEVER PREVIOUSLY AVAILABLE TO THOSE STUDYING HERE BECAME AN INSTANT PART OF THE CURRICULUM.
NEVER BEFORE HAD THE POSSIBILITIES OF ACADEMIC LIFE BEEN SO ESSENTIALLY INFINITE.

NEW PROGRAM GAINS

ACCESS

Missouri Western has always strived to provide a quality and affordable education to all students. In the fall of 1996, Missouri Western implemented Access-Plus, a series of initiatives designed to enhance open access mission.

The purposes of Access-Plus were to enhance retention rates between the freshman and sophomore year, graduation rates and the students' ability to meet the standards required for entrance into major fields of study. Access-Plus consisted of several initiatives, two of which were developmental in nature.

Under the English initiative, programs were added to ensure that all Missouri Western students would have the writing proficiency necessary to be successful throughout their college career and beyond. Three full-time lecturers were hired. Although developmental English was nothing new to Missouri Western, Access-Plus made it possible to improve the organization and delivery of developmental English.

The story of developmental math was very similar. Missouri Western has offered developmental courses in the math department for many years. However, Access-Plus provided additional support programs that were designed to provide incoming Missouri Western students with the mathematical background necessary to succeed in college-level courses.

College President Dr. Janet Murphy addressed the faculty at Western before the start of the school year and emphasized the importance of Access-Plus.

"Access-Plus will, we believe, enhance the organization and delivery of developmental math, as well as increase the success rates of our students," Murphy said.

Murphy also noted that the retention regulations at Missouri Western were more stringent than most public higher education institutions. Students at MWSC were required to complete any developmental work within the first 40 credit hours and general studies math and English within the first 60 credit hours.

"The reality of the situation is that Missouri Western is an open admissions institution and that some of our students need the additional foundation that developmental courses provide," Murphy said. "Therefore, I believe that we have an obligation to do more than merely accept tuition and fees from students, wish them well and stand back.

TAMARA VIOLETT

Although surrounded by controversy, MWSC stands behind its decision to be an open admission institution. Under this philosophy, the college is growing as evidenced by a new high-tech building on campus.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells



Amy Supple

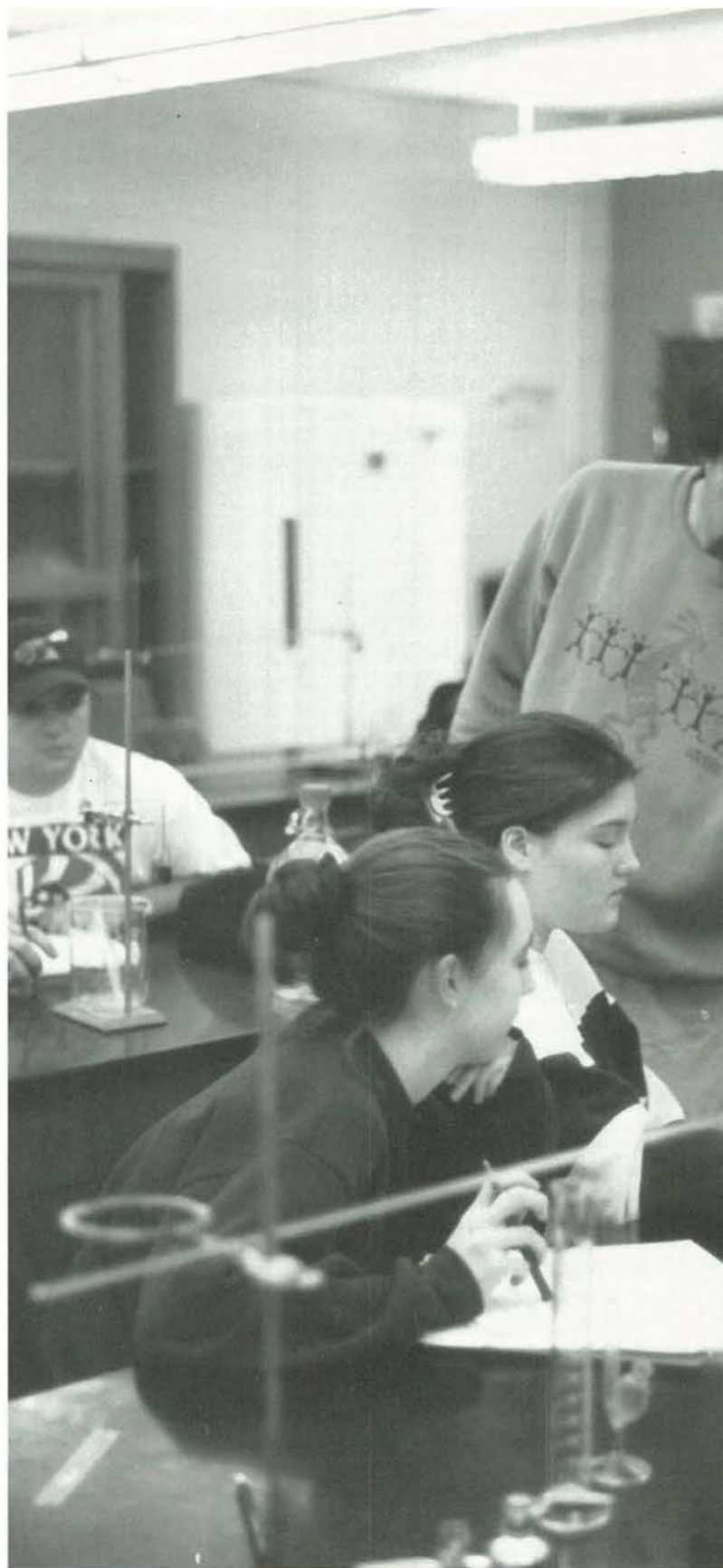
This College 101 course offers freshman a headstart in college. One of the overall objectives of Access Plus is to provide a more positive learning environment for all students.

Freshmen enrolled in the Griffon Edge to gather for a picnic. The two day orientation program gave freshman an overview of how to succeed in college..

A total of 13 classes as part of the FIG program were offered this year. Many of these were in the new Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building. The overall design facilitated collaboration.



Angela Wells



Students in chemistry lab receive advice on their experiment. The FIG is limited to 25 students in order to stimulate conversation and interaction.

Members of a FIG meet together at the center for academic support for their group. A specific purpose of the FIG is to help students form study groups, learn more about a certain topic and realize how the classes are inter-related.



Angela Wells

FRESHMAN GROUPS SPARK

INTEREST

A recent report by the American College Testing Program stated that the proportion of freshmen who leave college before becoming sophomores is at a record high. Missouri Western is no different. In an attempt to enhance retention rates between the freshman and sophomore year, Missouri Western implemented various programs.

The beginning of the year was kicked off with the Griffon Edge. The Griffon Edge program was designed to introduce students to the college life and the Missouri Western campus. Students were oriented with various campus organizations, the center for academic support and the financial aid and business offices.

In addition, Access-Plus included a broad initiative called the Freshman Year Experience, which included an increased emphasis on academic advising for freshmen, an expanded orientation program and expanded College 101 offerings. The Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences implemented the Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs). In the FIGs, freshmen took blocks of classes that related to their interests.

The Freshman Interest Groups clustered together two or three general studies courses around a common theme. Some of the themes that have been offered include “Identity in the 90s,” “The Doublespeak of Politics” and “Music and Culture.” The combination of classes in each FIG gave the faculty a unique chance of working in a cross-departmental setting.

“The freshmen were comfortable talking about any subject. There was no fear of peer pressure or embarrassment,” said Don Willis, a FIG instructor.

The main purpose of the FIG is to allow freshmen to develop a closer relationship with their fellow classmates. “The FIG is like a family that exists in the college setting, said Ryan Peters, a FIG participant.

Study groups proved to be a beneficial part of the FIG program. With the closeness that each FIG group developed, small study groups were naturally formed. The groups enabled students to study and plan class projects in a familiar group setting.

The main purpose of Access-Plus and its programs was to increase student retention. This has proven to be a viable result. “So far in my FIG section the student retention has been higher than in a normal general studies course,” said Dr. David Steiniche, a FIG instructor.

TAMARA VIOLETT

Making use of the technology in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom building, junior Stan Jameson prepares for a marketing class presentation. The new building introduced students and faculty to the latest developments in technology.



Angela Wells



Tamara Violet



Crystal Sisco

The arc-shaped windows allow plenty of light into the lobby. The high-tech campus was worth it to most to use the latest technology the building offered.



The Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom building's design is strictly Missouri Western's own. Classrooms and their technology were created with students and faculty exclusively in mind.

The building's front lobby is spacious, and live trees add charm and life to the foyer. Planners hoped to set MWSC on a course to the future.



A SHOWCASE OF

PROGRESS

There were many symbols of growth at Missouri Western in recent years, but none more prominent than the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building. Once inside the latest addition to campus, one could not help but feel propelled into the next century. After climbing the dramatic central staircase, towering skylights bathed the hallways in sunlight, making a bright path to the state-of-art classrooms.

“There has been so much cooperation from so many different people that it has been an incredible project,” said Max Schlesinger, director of instructional media center. “We all worked together to do this.”

The building was opened in January and dedicated in honor of Leah Spratt on March 26. Spratt is a Missouri Western alumni and philanthropist and an avid community leader. The design of the building went through several stages, resulting in a price tag of nearly five million dollars. It began with a thumbnail sketch, then was passed on to architects for interior details. The final step was to determine the location of the building’s electronic equipment.

Each classroom contained a video/data projection system with high brightness screen, a stereo sound system, VHS video recorder, CD and audio cassette players, document cameras, faculty console with a built-in computer and electronic slide projectors. The building had four smaller classrooms, three collaborative rooms, two lecture halls, two seminar rooms, a multipurpose room that could be divided into two rooms, and a recital hall with seating capacity for up to 250 people.

“I think Missouri Western should be proud to have one of the best facilities like this in the nation,” music professor Dr. Matthew Gilmour said.

“Having the lab right here on hand enabled our class to post writing on-line while in class,” said sophomore Erin Gray. “This saved us time and offered a virtual classroom which is open to the students all the time.”

The future was shining ever bright through the high walls of shimmering glass that wrapped around Missouri Western’s newest endeavor.

WANDA SCOTT

Crystal Sisco

AUTHOR DELIBERATES

ISSUES

The long and arduous process that began an entire year before, paid off in an incredible way when author David McCullough took center stage at the 1996 Convocation on Critical Issues. The successful event brought together administrators, faculty and students to examine topical issues that existed in our world.

“A convocation speaker has to appeal to us in an academic sense,” Director of Institutional Advancement Shirley Morrison said. “And they must be of interest to members of the community as well.” That appeal was obvious in the presenter that was chosen for this year’s convocation.

Teacher, lecturer, historian and biographer David McCullough was chosen to come and discuss his topic: “History as a Source of Strength.” McCullough was a graduate of Yale University and had authored six books, one of which, his biography of former president Harry S. Truman, was honored with a Pulitzer Prize.

McCullough’s topic focused on issues of recognizing history and applying that to both personal and national ambitions. He urged people to understand the sacrifice of those who went before us and learn from the great adventures of those people. His most prominent example was that of President Truman.

McCullough shared his analogy that there is no such thing as the future, only the eternal cycles of cause and effect of self-controlled actions. He went on to note that there was no such thing as a self-made person; one could only reach the limelight through the encouragement of those surrounding them.

“There is no excuse for anyone in America to be uneducated when libraries are free, and colleges are within reach like never before,” McCullough said. “If you think education is expensive, try stupidity.”

He also expressed the need for all Americans to be more willing to learn other languages. Through learning a second or third language one learns more than just words. They become exposed to a new culture. McCullough said that this was crucial in sustaining and building a strong global village for the future.

Students and faculty alike were given critical issues to ponder for weeks to come. They came to hear a world-renowned author, lecturer and teacher, and in the process, learned about a man who strived to bring history to life.

TRACY JONES





Angela Wells

David McCullough signs copies of his novel, "Truman." The book won a Pulitzer Prize and appeared on the New York Times best seller list.

McCullough answers questions from the media after his presentation. He addressed issues concerning bilingual education and library utilization.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Dr. Janet Murphy officially opens the 1996 Convocation on Critical Issues to a crowd of nearly 2000. Past Convocation speakers have included a former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and a prominent historian.

Attorney Stephen Briggs and Vice President of Administration Earl Milton join a crowd of interested on-lookers at a Board meeting. All meetings were open to the public.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells



Janet Murphy and Bill Carpenter preside over a meeting. The Private Dining Room in the Student Union is open to the Board.

Regent Julia Rupp and student representative K Humphrey listen to a presentation. Humphrey represents the student body.

MAKING DECISIONS

REGENTS

Who decided how much money someone should make? Who decided where most of the college's money should be spent? Who decided how much tuition should increase? Who was responsible for the administration of the college? Decisions, decisions, decisions.

All four questions have the same answer. The Board of Regents was responsible for the general government of the college. Short and long-term financial planning and legal items were among the issues covered by the regents. The regents were also responsible for establishing college policies, rules and regulations.

The president of the board for the fall semester was Bill Carpenter. Other members included John Thomas, Karen Baker, Bob Roth, Teresa Herzog and Julia Rupp. Regents were appointed by the governor for six-year terms and John Thomas' term ended in March. Dr. Krikor Partamian with Phoenix Urology replaced John Thomas.

"Dr. Partamian has been a friend to Missouri Western for many years," said Dr. Janet Murphy, college president. "We look forward to working with him as a member of the board of regents."

In addition to the six community members of the board, students at Missouri Western also had a representative. Junior Kwanza Humphrey was appointed student regent by Gov. Mel Carnahan in January of 1996. Humphrey was appointed to serve for two years.

"I was basically responsible for acting as a liaison between the students and the administration," Humphrey said. "Each month I was responsible for letting the regents know what was going on around campus."

The regents met each month to discuss matters relating to the college. In addition to the general discussion, the meetings also included presentations by MWSC faculty or administration. In March, Dr. Charles Perkins, dean of professional studies, gave a presentation to the regents about the relationship that Missouri Western has with the St. Joseph School District, including Hillyard Area Vocational Training School.

Other highlights of the year included an announcement by Murphy that the college received a \$923,000 grant from the Department of Corrections to administer GED classes at the new prison that had just been built in Cameron.

"The grant provides for hiring 10 full-time teachers and 10 part-time teachers to teach in the prison," said Dr. Ed Gorsky, dean of the Division of Continuing Education.

The regents were excited about the grant because it would benefit Missouri Western and the community, but they also knew that the grant would add to the list of decisions they were already responsible for making.

TAMARA VIOLETT





Verna Shinneman

CHARLES A. PERKINS

NAME: Charles A. Perkins

BIRTH DATE: February 7, 1950

BIRTH PLACE: Fountain Hill, Pennsylvania

OFFICIAL TITLE: Dean of Professional Studies

HOMETOWN: Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

COLLEGE: U.S. Naval Academy/University of California-Berkeley/George Washington University

DEGREES: B.S./M.B.A./Ph.D.

MARITAL STATUS: Married to wife Ruth 25 years

CHILDREN: Roseanne, 21; Charlie, 18; Tom, 15

CD CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: None

FAVORITE MUSIC: Classical

BAND: None

MOVIE: *Mr. Roberts*

ACTOR: Harrison Ford

ACTRESS: None

WRITER: James Mitchner

BOOK: *Atlas Shrugged*

HOBBIES: Sailing

CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: Bud

FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: Dockside boat shoes

FAVORITE VACATION: None

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AT MWSC: "When a student achieves higher than he or she thought they could achieve."

PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Create and execute a five year plan for personal and professional growth."

NAME: Forrest Hoff

BIRTH DATE: August 28, 1935

BIRTH PLACE: Fremont, Nebraska

OFFICIAL TITLE: Dean of Student Affairs

HOMETOWN: St. Joseph, Missouri

COLLEGE: Northwest Missouri State University, University of Missouri

DEGREES: B.E. Math/M.E. School Administration

MARITAL STATUS: Married 17 years to second wife

CHILDREN: Dianna, 38; Susan, 24; Lindsay, 15

CD CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: Alan Jackson

FAVORITE MUSIC: Country

BAND: None

MOVIE: *Unconquered*, with Gary Cooper

ACTOR: Harrison Ford

ACTRESS: Meg Ryan

WRITER: None

BOOK: None

HOBBIES: Woodworking

CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: Woody

FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: Flannel Sweat pants

FAVORITE VACATION: Gatlinburg, Tennessee

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT: Teaching high school math with zipper undone

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AT MWSC: Having good relationship with Student Government Association

PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Spend time with your family."

FORREST HOFF



Kate Deen

NAME: Edwin L. Gorsky
BIRTH DATE: November 26, 1942
BIRTH PLACE: Denver, Colorado
OFFICIAL TITLE: Dean of Continuing Education and Special Programs
HOMETOWN: Quinter, Kansas
COLLEGE: Kansas Wesleyan University/University of Kansas/Kansas State University
DEGREES: B.S. Speech and Drama/M.A. Speech Communications/Ph.D. in Continuing Education
MARITAL STATUS: Married 28 years
CHILDREN: Ami, 24; Meredith, 20
CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: None
FAVORITE MUSIC: 50's Rock, Country
BAND: Polka
MOVIE: *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*
ACTOR: Tom Cruise
ACTRESS: Meryl Streep
WRITER: Stephen Covey
BOOK: *Principle-Centered Leadership*



Katie Dean

EDWIN L. GORSKY

HOBBIES: Gardening, reading, dancing, watching television
CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: Dr. G
FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: Work shoes
FAVORITE VACATION: Disneyland
MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT: "Getting into my car thinking someone had stolen my steering wheel only to discover I was in the back seat."
GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AT MWSC: Developing a comprehensive continuing education program at MWSC.
PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Establish your values early and stick to them."

NAME: Martin A. Johnson
BIRTH DATE: November 20, 1946
BIRTH PLACE: Santa Rosa, California
OFFICIAL TITLE: Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences
HOMETOWN: Manteca, California
COLLEGE: University of California-Davis/Brigham Young University
DEGREES: B.A. Psychology/M.S. Psychology/Ph.D. Social Psychology
MARITAL STATUS: Married 28 years
CHILDREN: Brent, 26; Mark, 24; Kevin, 22; Paul, 20; Adam, 19; Aaron, 16; Timothy, 13; Daniel, 10
CD CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: Soundtrack to *Les Misérables*
FAVORITE MUSIC: Classical
BAND: None
MOVIE: *A Man For All Seasons*
ACTOR: Jimmy Stewart
ACTRESS: None
WRITER: None
BOOK: None

HOBBIES: Carpentry, gardening, genealogy, boy scouts
CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: Bud
FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: None
FAVORITE VACATION: "I have enjoyed all of my vacations, I don't really have a favorite one."
MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT: "I was giving a talk and I got confused and started reading from the wrong text."
GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT IN LIFE: "My family and its success. All of our kids are doing well, we've stayed together all of these years and are happy. All of the kids have been in honors and gotten degrees. They ran track."
PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Develop your character in terms of self-discipline, integrity, hard work and compassion."

MARTIN A. JOHNSON



Katie Dean

JAMES J. MCCARTHY



Angela Wells

NAME: James J. McCarthy
BIRTH DATE: March 3, 1936
BIRTH PLACE: Hartford, Connecticut (in the middle of a hurricane)
OFFICIAL TITLE: Executive Vice President
HOMETOWN: West Hartford, Connecticut
COLLEGE: St. Thomas Seminary/Fairfield University/Springfield University of Massachusetts
DEGREES: A.A./B.A./M.Ed./Ed.D.
MARITAL STATUS: Single
CHILDREN: Jimmy, Mary Ellen, Billy, Christopher
CD CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: Jim Reeves
FAVORITE MUSIC: Classical, classic country
BAND: Glenn Miller
MOVIE: *Goin' My Way* with Bing Crosby
ACTOR: Spencer Tracy
ACTRESS: Audrey Hepburn
WRITER: Graham Greene
BOOK: *Keys to the Kingdom*

HOBBIES: Equestrian studies, gardening, golf, walking, music
CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: Jimmy Mac/Jim
FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: Jogging suit
FAVORITE VACATION: Playing baseball on Long Island for six weeks 14 years old.
MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT: Dropping thousands of ping pong balls on children at an Easter egg hunt.
GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT IN LIFE: "My children and my relationship with students."
PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Remember the worst diseases facing mankind are bitterness and loneliness and both are self-inflicted."

NAME: Earl R. Milton
BIRTH PLACE: Carterville, Illinois
OFFICIAL TITLE: Vice President of Administration
HOMETOWN: Carbondale, Illinois
COLLEGE: Southern Illinois University
DEGREES: B.S. Accounting/B.S. Higher Education
MARITAL STATUS: Married 15 years
CHILDREN: Debra, Grandchild Jordan
CD CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: *Phantom of the Opera*
FAVORITE MUSIC: Country, classical
BAND: Charlie Daniels
MOVIE: *A Good Teacher*
ACTOR: Denzel Washington
ACTRESS: Meryl Streep
WRITER: John Grisham
BOOK: *The Firm*

HOBBIES: Golf, surfing the net, CD ROM games, reading, watching videos
CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: Uncle Milty
FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: Dockers, tennis shoes, sweatshirts
FAVORITE VACATION: (1969-70) Florida Keys with friend, no radio, television
GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT IN LIFE: Serving students and encouraging others to do so.
PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Take care. There are a lot of things that are growing in magnitude (drug use, STDs)."

EARL R. MILTON



Stephanie Wirth

NAME: Janet G. Murphy
BIRTH PLACE: Holyoke, Massachusetts
OFFICIAL TITLE: President
HOMETOWN: Holyoke, Massachusetts
EDUCATION: University of Massachusetts/Boston University
DEGREES: B.A. Political Science/Ed.D. Higher Educational Administration
EDUCATION:
MARITAL STATUS: Divorced
CHILDREN: None
CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: *Phantom of the Opera*
FAVORITE MUSIC: Everything but hard rock
BAND: None
MOVIE: *All the King's Men/Mr. Holland's Opus*
ACTOR: Harrison Ford/Kevin Costner
ACTRESS: Susan Sarandon
WRITER: Can't name just one
BOOK: *Truman* by David McCullough/*The Roosevelts* by Doris Kearns

JANET G. MURPHY



Crystal Sisco

HOBBIES: Reading
CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: None
FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: Colorful shoes
FAVORITE VACATION: A cruise
MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN MY LIFE: Nephews, Philip and David; Janet and Catherine
LARGEST ACHIEVEMENT IN LIFE: Becoming President of Missouri State College
PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Aim high, work hard. Be your best friend and best critic."

NAME: James E. Roever
BIRTH DATE: June 27, 1935
BIRTH PLACE: Reedsburg, Wisconsin
OFFICIAL TITLE: Vice President of Academic Affairs
HOMETOWN: Reedsburg, Wisconsin
COLLEGE: Wartburg College, Iowa/University of Kansas/University of Iowa
DEGREES: B.A./M.A./Ph.D.
MARITAL STATUS: Married 31 years to wife Carol
CHILDREN: Lynsey, 18 years old
CURRENTLY LISTENING TO: None
FAVORITE MUSIC: Jazz, classical
BAND: Duke Ellington
MOVIE: *A Night at the Opera*
ACTOR: Henry Fonda
ACTRESS: Lauren Bacall
WRITER: Thomas Wolfe
BOOK: *The Once and Future King* by T.H. White

HOBBIES: Reading, going to the circus
CHILDHOOD/ADULT NICKNAME: Jim
FAVORITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: None
FAVORITE VACATION: Egypt
PIECE OF ADVICE FOR NEXT GENERATION: "Pay attention to what you have learned from the past, but be entrepreneur enough to accept new ideas for the future."

JAMES E. ROEVER

Verna Shimmeman





College President Dr. Janet Murphy, Sidney Johnson from the Missouri Congress and Kayla Stroup, Director of the Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education talk with the press after a presentation by Stroup.



Courtesy Ball



Stroup and her advisors visited MWSC as part of a state tour promoting the importance of technical education programs. MWSC currently participates in several such programs.

Members of the media ask questions of the panel after the presentation. Stroup said that Missouri Western was an important part of the state's overall educational system.



TODAY'S EDUCATION GOES

H I G H T E C H

Important guests on MWSC's campus this fall brought positive reinforcement about several programs developed on our campus. Dr. Kayla Stroup, director of the Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education visited campus to talk about technical education in the Missouri higher education system.

Educators and administrators have recognized the increased importance of technical education in today's workforce. Jobs in the technical field, including engineering and computers, are more in demand than any other job field at this point in time.

Stroup recognized the efforts and foresight of Missouri Western and College President Janet Murphy in this area.

"I think Missouri Western plays a very important role in this area and I am encouraged by the partnerships I have seen them develop," Stroup said.

MWSC has formed partnerships over the last few years with the St. Joseph School District and Hillyard Technical School. MWSC also offers several associate's degrees in the technical education arena.

But perhaps the biggest strides made by Western in this area came later this spring when Missouri Western created a position to specifically target this area. The new director of technical education will work with institutions such as the area high schools, Hillyard Technical School and Vatterott College in addition to area businesses. Not only will he serve the needs of MWSC's students but the needs of businesses who are in need of those with technical education training.

Trends in the business world often affect how or what students learn. With the growing field of technical education, MWSC has led the way.

AMY SUPPLE

Courtesy Ball



Courtesy Ball

FINDING WAYS TO GET

PHYSICAL

As awareness of the benefits of health and exercise increased, MWSC was not left out of the fitness craze. Whether they were trying to obtain it or maintain it, the campus fitness facility was there to help with the latest in fitness equipment.

“There was a need for an overall fitness center with updated equipment to make fitness more useful for the students,” Wanda Howe, director of intramurals, said. “We wanted the students to be comfortable using the center.”

The fitness center had several pieces of modern exercise equipment from free-weights for the more experienced lifter, to nautilus weights for safer weightlifting. There was aerobic exercise equipment, such as bikes, step mills and tread mills. Students also had access to swimming pools, racquet ball courts, the basketball court and a track.

Students used the fitness center at their own leisure. Many students went there with their friends to work out and relax from the stress of everyday classes. It was also a place for the football players to work out as well as all the other athletes on campus. The hours available at the fitness center were 5:30 a.m. to midnight, Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 p.m. to midnight on Sundays, which gave students with families a chance to bring a family member to the center to workout. Most non-traditional students enjoyed the fitness center as much as the traditional aged students.

Chuck Leupold worked as a student assistant at the center. Leupold was majoring in health and exercise science and enjoyed working at the center.

“It helps me learn about the equipment for my major and I got to meet new people,” he said.

Students paid only two dollars per credit hour with the maximum charge being twenty dollars as part of a recreational facilities fee which included use of the fitness center and pool. This amount was automatically charged to student tuition. There was no extra cost for bringing a friend or family member to the facilities. Students needed only a valid I.D. and the desire to work out.

“It’s a fantastic program, and it’s there for the students,” Howe said. “We want them to take advantage of the opportunity the facility provides.”

CRYSTAL BREWER



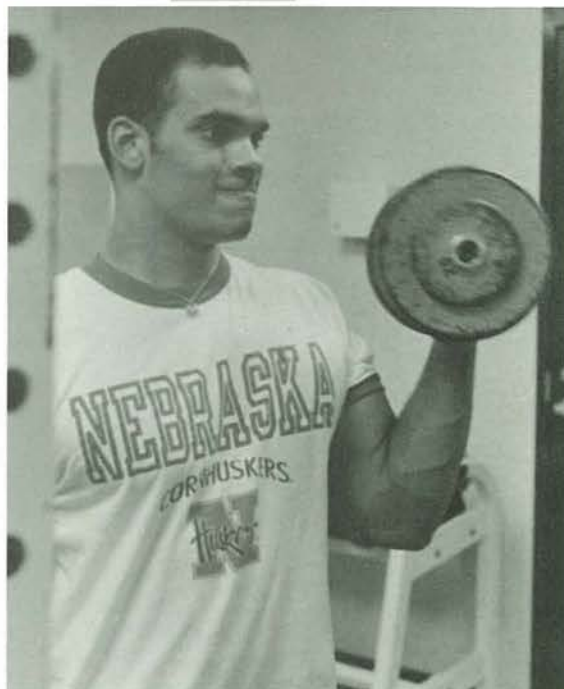
Angela Wells

Lifting heavy weights proves not to be a difficult task for sophomore Anthony Copeland. The football team used the weight room to work out in the evenings.

Senior Kwanza Humphrey watches his reflection in the mirror as he lifts free weights. The center had flexible hours that gave anyone the chance to use the center.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

The Fitness Center remained steadily busy during the school year. Many students took advantage of all the center had to offer.

Burning off fat was the main task for sophomore Laura Means and junior Aaron Quinley. Many students preferred using the treadmills and bikes over the Nautilus machines.

The 440 guests at the MS dinner hear Dr. Murphy's acceptance speech. The MS Society recognized Murphy with their highest possible award, not only for her role as Missouri Western president, but for her active participation in the St. Joseph community.

MS Society dinner chairperson, Barbara Sprong, presents an award to guest of honor, Dr. Janet Murphy. Murphy served on the governing boards of many St. Joseph community organizations.



Mingling with the guests, Janet Murphy smiles, showing her Griffon spirit. Dinner was a charitable event for multiple sclerosis.

MWSC graduate, Obie Austin, gives Dr. Murphy a grateful hug at the MS. "She takes immense pride in turning out the kind of graduates that we do," Morrison said.

MURPHY HONORED AS

CHAMPION

There were many ways to show Griffon pride on campus. Simply by wearing black and gold to sporting events, students expressed their support and college pride to their peers. But pride went further than just cheering for the home team. Supporting the St. Joseph community was essential for faculty and administrators as well as for students.

When the St. Joseph Branch of the Mid-America Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society held its sixth annual Dinner of Champions in the fall of '96, it was Missouri Western President, Dr. Janet Gorman Murphy who was the guest of honor. Murphy was selected to receive the annual Hope Award by the MS Board of Trustees for her outstanding contributions to the St. Joseph community. The MS Society recognized Murphy with their highest possible award not only for her role as Missouri Western president, but for her active participation in the St. Joseph community.

Murphy was actively involved in many aspects of the community, serving on the governing boards of many organizations, such as the St. Joseph School District, The United Way, Crime Stoppers, and Heartland Hospital. It was, however, her role as an educator that Director of Institutional Advancement for MWSC, Shirley Morrison, believed was Murphy's greatest achievement.

"Her greatest contribution to St. Joseph has been that of educating the students here at Missouri Western," Morrison said. "She takes immense pride in turning out the kind of graduates that we do."

The dinner honoring Murphy drew in 440 guests, and earned nearly \$40,000 for the MS Society. Sixty percent of these funds stayed in St. Joseph to help local clients, while the other 40 percent went to the national society to help clients nationwide.

"This dinner is a great opportunity for members of the community to recognize Janet for her outstanding leadership role and all that she has done for the community," Dinner Chair Barbara Sprong said. "At the same time they are also supporting the efforts of the MS Society to raise funds which help to provide vital programs for our clients."

Entertainment for the benefit included a musical presentation by the Western Legacies, directed by Dr. David Bennett. Guests also viewed a video tribute to Murphy in honor of the occasion.

By honoring Murphy for her exceptional philanthropic endeavors, the MS Society gave every student one more reason to be Griffon proud.

SHELA GIBSON

photos by Brad Harrah, courtesy of the MS Society



RETURNING HOME FOR

REWARDS

Many of the faculty for the 1996-97 school year were not strangers to the ways of Missouri Western. Several of them were returning graduates who had found employment at MWSC.

Toby Cummings, director of conferences, was a graduate in 1990 with a 3.42 grade point average.

“I was heavily involved in SGA, CAB and was a member of Music Educational National Conference. I was also a resident assistant for one year on the dorm council,” Cummings said.

As a junior and senior Cummings had internships with the Continuing Education department. After graduation he took a job in New Mexico, but received a call from Dr. Gorsky stating that the job as director of conferences was open.

“Though I was happy with the New Mexico climate I was even happier to accept the job,” Cummings said.

As director of conferences, Cummings was responsible for bringing in outside groups to use some of the MWSC facilities and buildings.

“In the summer, we fill up the residence halls with conference groups,” Cummings said. “This is also a good way of keeping the dorms open and in-use during the off-season.”

Another graduate played an important role in bringing outside individuals onto campus. Shelly Sims was an admissions counselor who graduated in 1993 with a 3.54 grade point average. During college, Sims was involved as a student ambassador. She ran the registration-orientation program for two years and later became an admissions representative.

“The admissions people are the largest group of friendly people on campus,” Sims said. “I took the job because I loved the people and I had the know-how from my experience from college.” Sims was involved with in-house counseling, where students came to Western for conferences with her in order to discuss preparations for admissions. By finding out a prospective student’s intended major, she was able to give suggestions for classes and discuss the programs available that covered their interests. Sims also set up times with counselors at high schools for her to come and speak to students who were interested in attending Missouri Western.

“At high schools, I speak to parents on the different college avenues their students will travel, such as finances, studies and student life,” Sims said. “For those parents who never attended college, it is a new experience and Western tries to go above and beyond to provide them with advice and answer any questions they might have,” Sims said.

Graduates thought they had seen the last of Western when they took their last final and got their degree in hand, but graduation didn’t always mean the end. Sometimes it meant the beginning of a new career on the other side of an old, familiar desk.

ERICA ANDERS



Tanya Jackson

cia Saunders explains academic requirements to a student. Saunders graduated from MWSC and later returned as an admissions counselor.

ie McMillian and Rhonda Puffer look over a document while at work on campus. Both are graduates of Missouri Western State College.



LaTanya Jackson



LaTanya Jackson

Karl Bell looks over some memos while waiting to meet with a student. Bell worked as an admissions counselor after graduating from Western with a degree in criminal justice.



LaTanya Jackson



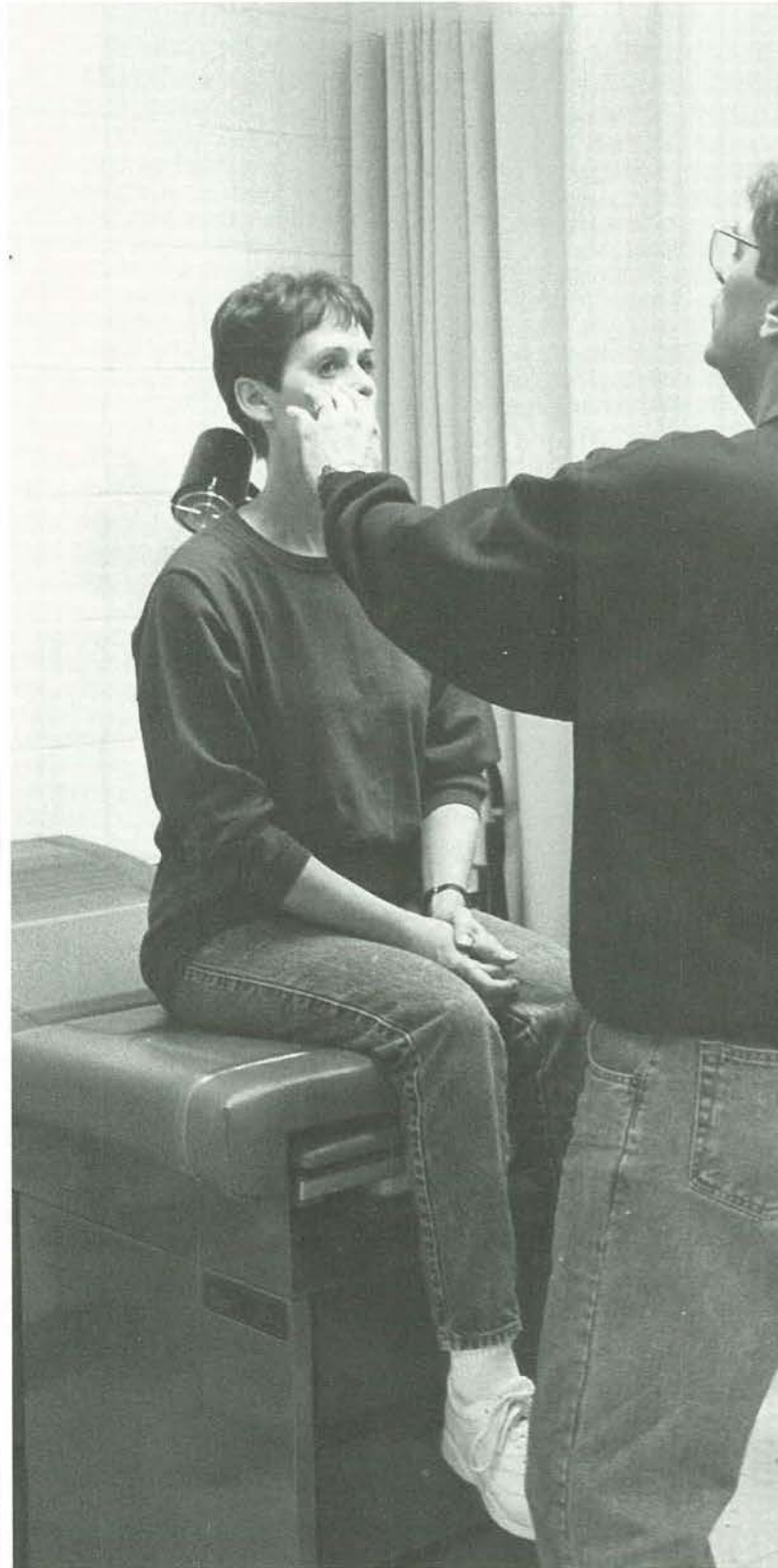
Cindy Flanagan jokes with a student in her office. Flanagan was one of many graduates who returned to Western to accept a full-time position.

Senior nursing student Richard Michalski examines fellow student Dixie Penn. The nursing program was one of the most popular and most competitive on campus.

Parkway Elementary students enjoy breakfast before class starts. Education majors worked with the St. Joseph School District in the popular field of education.



Angela Wells



Verna Shinneman

Officer Jason Whittington instructs criminal justice majors Nathan Kinder, Elizabeth Durso, Diana Austin and Richard Kiehl. The criminal justice department boasted one of the highest number of majors at MWSC.

STUDYING SOMETHING

MAJOR

Declaring a major was perhaps the most influential decision a student attending college could make. This decision would effect the student's direction in life and strongly influence their career choices. At Missouri Western, there were many choices available for students.

Years proved to show an increase in the popularity of some courses of study like communication and business, while some met with low numbers or even extinction such as agriculture. According to Judy Fields of academic affairs, there were four majors that topped the most popular list for the 96-97 school year: criminal justice, business management, nursing, and education.

"These majors have been the most popular for quite some time. They are the most consistently declared," Fields said. The increase in students following a given major made way for a higher level of competition in that career field. This realization could prompt some students to reconsider their course of study and redeclare earlier in their academic careers.

"We see the most increase of declared majors between students who are sophomores and juniors," Fields said. Statistics said that the average student would change his or her major up to five times between high school and college before making a lasting decision.

A helpful hint was given to those interested in declaring to have their form turned in to the Registrar before completing at least sixty hours of course credit. In doing this, a student could plan out the remainder of their class schedules in order to best accommodate their declared major.

Though some weren't able to find the major they wanted, they found a way to pursue that career anyway.

"I wanted to record music, but that's not available here. I decided on business because I eventually want to have my own recording studio," sophomore Jaime Habersat said. Students also had several new majors like video production to chose from. Others found the perfect major to make their career goals a reality.

The student population at Missouri Western was diverse in that there were many non-traditional students as well as a great number of commuters from surrounding towns. This gave MWSC's student body an air of accomplishment. Students were dedicated to enhancing their lives no matter what major they chose.

Though certain majors were more popular than others, all maintained a faithful following. Once a student had cautiously completed their major/minor form, they had no where to go but up in working toward their degrees and career goals.

SHELA GIBSON

Satellite students at MWSC await the transmission of their televised class. Over 400 students enrolled in these classes in 1996.



LaTanya Jackson

A group of educators meet for a teleconference. The latest satellite techniques made for rapid communication.



LaTanya Jackson



LaTanya Jackson

Two graduate students take notes from a satellite instructor. Students have enjoyed the convenience of satellite classes.



LaTanya Jackson

Technology makes it possible for courses to be borne UMKC. Advances were soon on the way that would make communication two-way.

PUSHED TO THE HIGH TECH

EDGE

While Star Trek's Scotty was beaming people around the universe, the world watched in both amazement and apprehension. Space adventures became reality in classrooms all over our planet. From 1960s sci-fi television to the high tech education of the '90s, beaming became an everyday occurrence.

It would have been an understatement to say technology had come a long way. It had come so far that students at Missouri Western could enroll in classes taught by instructors via satellite. Among those were a combination of both graduate and undergraduate classes. Courses included those in criminal justice, electrical engineering and nursing.

Classes are offered through a partnership between MWSC and other institutions to provide students the best opportunity for a convenient education.

Each semester a grad night was held to inform students of the many options available through the Division of Continuing Education. The night of introduction oriented graduate and non-traditional students to the opportunities in graduate and continuing education classes. Non-credit classes were offered to the public also.

"Thousands upon thousands of hours of classes have been offered by television. We have helped several hundred students this way," said Max Schlesinger, director of the instructional media center. According to Schlesinger, approximately 30 classes of this kind, if not more, were offered each year, including intersession and the summer semester.

Schlesinger was instrumental in coordinating the execution of the very technical satellite process and worked with the training of professors, many of whom had never taught for television.

"Educators will have to learn themselves how to teach to the camera and get across to the students," Schlesinger said. Ed Gorsky, dean of continuing education, worked with the legalities of facilitating the courses, as well as the red tape involved in cooperating with another institution.

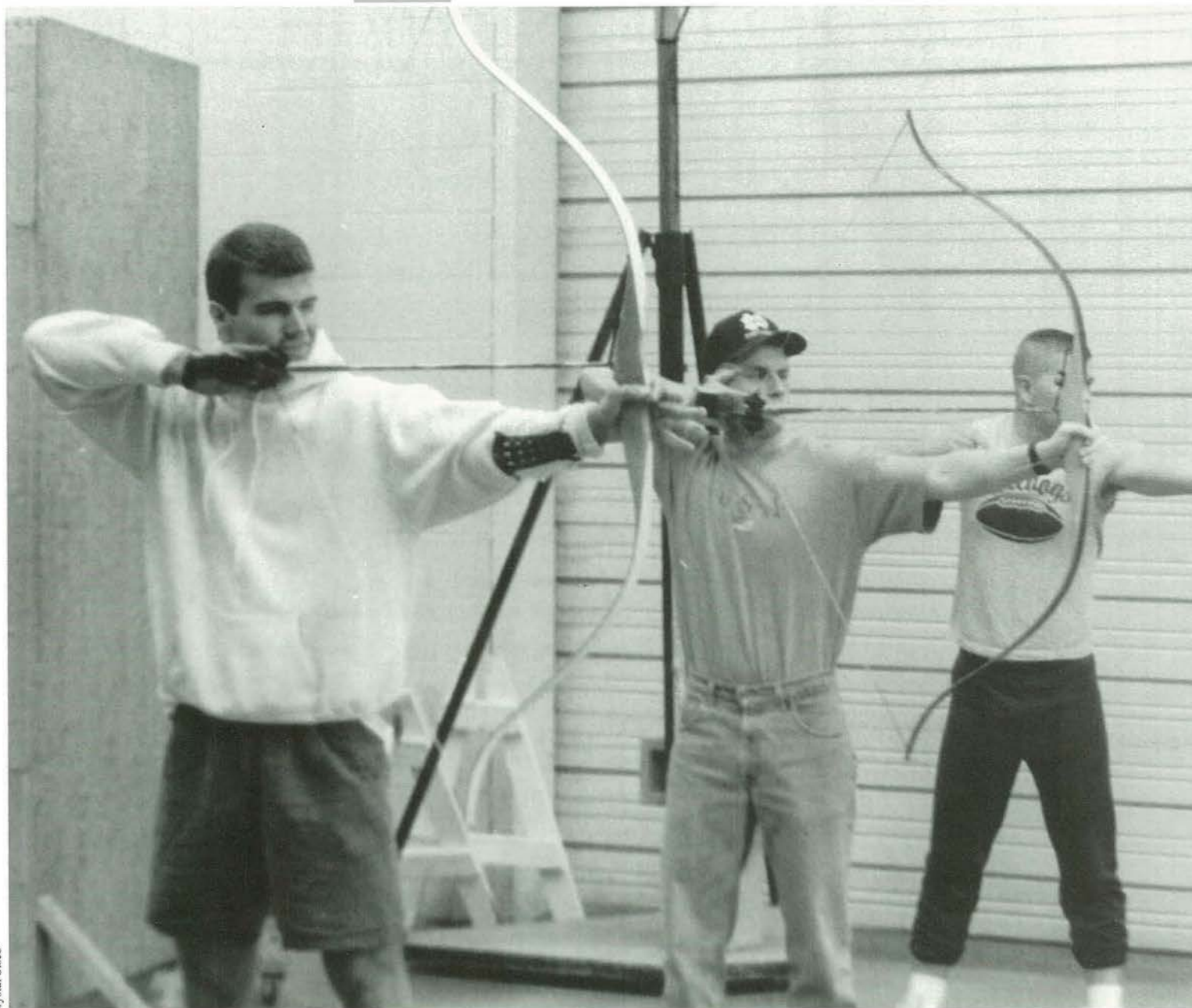
Current advancements only allowed two-way audio, but only one-way visual communication. The future, however, yielded the ability for two-way visual communication as well. During these classes all tests and homework were faxed to members of the class and attendance was phoned into the instructor. Students who had questions on the day's material could phone in and ask questions of the instructor at their school.

As Missouri Western continued to upgrade its capabilities, it offered students opportunities like those of larger universities. Students and professors alike were introduced to a ground breaking method of education that was certain to become more and more prominent.

CRYSTAL BREWER & TRACY JONES



Seniors Shawn Deal, Mike Quilty and Tim Holcome aim their bows at the target during archery class. Students learned life-long skills in many physical education classes.



Crystal Sisco

Travis Yardley, Dr. James Reidy, Cory Burnett and Angela Atkins take a break to confer their plans of camping in their introduction to backpacking class. On this field trip, students put the skills they learned to use.



photo courtesy of HPER department



Crystal Sisco

Perfecting the art of the backswing concentration, as junior Amy Maudlin erred in beginning tennis. PE classes were a good way to stay in shape.

STUDENTS EXPLORE EXCITING

A C T I V I T Y

At first glance, the physical education activities classes looked like just another boring general studies requirement. But a closer look showed that they gave students a break from the norm, by offering several options to the sometimes uninteresting curriculum. PE activity classes were different from other classes in another way as well. These classes were some of the few in which freshmen and seniors interacted with each other and everyone in between.

Classes like bait and fly casting, tennis, cave exploring, bowling, and badminton were only some examples of the wide variety offered in the health, physical education, recreation department. Some thought that adding excitement to their schedule was a good idea.

“My PE class gives me the chance to take a break from my normal lecture style classes,” sophomore Matthew Hornbeck said. “It also requires the students to interact with the other people in the class.” Hornbeck was an education major that was taking tennis as one of his general studies courses, but like most students, felt that it was a good idea for students to take a PE class. Students needed this break from the normal class routine, whether they were an education, nursing, art or English major.

One thing most people liked about some of the PE activity classes was that they took field trips to various places to use the skills they learned in class. The beginning bait and fly casting class took a fishing trip, and the beginning cave exploring class took an overnight exploration trip to the caves near Sullivan, Mo. The beginning backpacking class also took an overnight camping trip where they put their new-found skills to use. Another reason students took the PE activity classes was because they were interested in the subject that was being taught. Many thought that it would be very interesting to know how to go cave exploring or bait and fly casting.

Other PE classes took a break from routine by meeting at off-campus facilities. The beginning bowling, golf and ice skating classes all met off campus in various places around St. Joseph. Although many students felt that leaving campus was a good idea, there were times when it was a hassle. Leaving campus caused problems when the weather was bad or when a student was having car troubles. This was necessary to give the students the opportunity to practice the skills they were being lectured about, instead of just learning about them in class.

Just about everyone who took PE activity classes got something out of them, whether it was a new found skill, or just a fun break from lecture style classes.

KRISSY FULK

Dr. Huntermark visits with an advisee during registration. Faculty members helped steer the way for students in their department.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Some professor's jobs were a little less formal. PE classes and labs offered an outlet for students and faculty.

Social Sciences professor Joachim Kibirige plans for a lecture in his office. About a third of a professor's job took place inside the actual classroom.





PROFESSORS JUGGLE LIFE &

CAREER

At Missouri Western, professors took their jobs very seriously in order to satisfy the criteria and provide their students with the knowledge they came to get. However, many of the professors combined family and a social life in addition to being a friend to their students.

Dr. James Huntermark was the professor of courses like General Psychology, Motivation and Emotion, and Intermediate Psychology. In class, Dr. Huntermark kept things interesting by using real-life examples and trying to relate to students by discussing issues that concern them. Keeping students attentive was sometimes difficult to do with classes at 8 a.m.

“My key goals in teaching are to help the students grow and to realize their potential. I like to teach them by going beyond and reaching them on a personal level.” Dr. Huntermark said. He enjoyed teaching because it gave him the ability to interact with his students.

As far as keeping a social life outside of school and being active elsewhere besides the campus, Dr. Huntermark said it was a matter of scheduling and organization to keep everything well-balanced.

Balance was also essential to business professor, Denise Smith. With three kids and a husband, it was sometimes challenging to fit everything into her schedule.

“I try to leave my weekends open for my family and I am home for dinner every night, even if it is something I carry in. Every Sunday we sit down and plan the week’s criteria and events that everyone has to do,” Smith said.

With a night class on Thursdays in addition to her weekly classes, Smith spent a great amount of time on campus. She tried to change her presentation methods in class in order to keep things interesting. Students played games, did group work and watched videos that went along with the text. Teaching was important to Smith because she liked to help students become successful in school in order to accomplish greater things in life.

“I love teaching. I especially like teaching freshmen because I like seeing that light go on and hope that I made a difference,” Smith said.

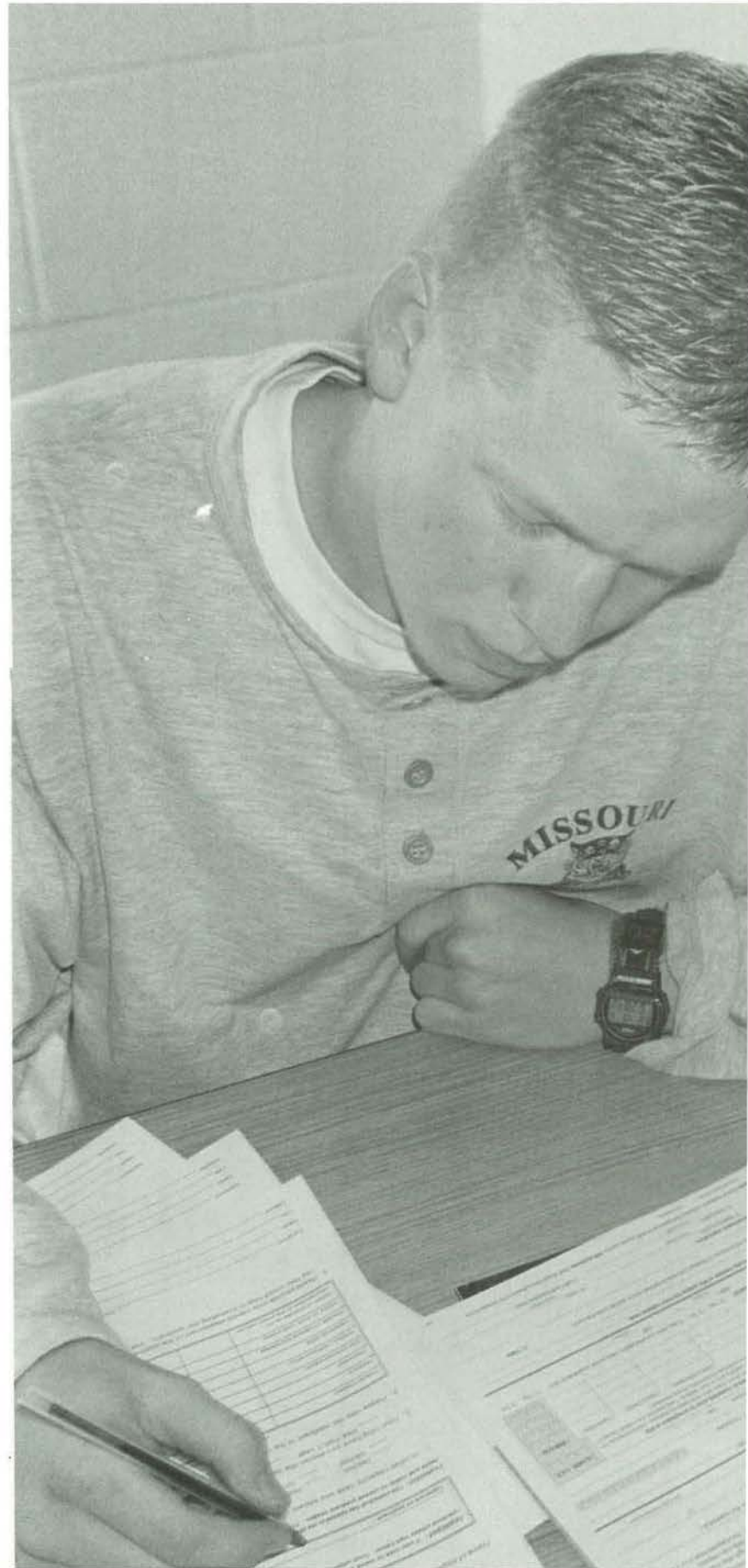
ERICA ANDERS

Angela Wells

Senior Daniel Dorr plays the piano at the Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church. Dorr studied at MWSC to earn a commercial music degree.



Courtney Ball



Angela Wells

Senior Nick Austin works on a scratchboard assignment for art class. Nick took several art classes to prepare him for graduate school.

Filling out applications can be frustrating, but Steve Scheerer makes it look easy. Many students spend excessive time filling out grad school papers.

GRADUATES EXAMINE

DESTINY

College was a difficult road for many that seemed unbearable at times. Some students couldn't wait to graduate and never open a textbook again. Yet there were those who thrived on knowledge and wanted to expand their horizons beyond a bachelor's degree. Many Missouri Western students chose to go on to graduate school in order to obtain their master's degree.

These students knew that graduate school was hard work and demanded a great deal of determination. However, graduate school became a necessity for those students who soon would be competing with hundreds for the same position.

For Nick Austin and Daniel Dorr, graduate school was close at hand. Austin, a commercial art major, and Dorr, a commercial music major, were both planning to attend graduate schools.

Austin, a senior, had dreams of becoming a Disney animator.

"Right now I'm majoring in commercial art and I draw cartoons for the Griffon News. In five years I see myself at Disney World or Disneyland doing animation," Austin said.

Austin knew that in order to do that he must further his education. He planned on attending the Savannah College of Art and Design or the Philadelphia Art School. In the summer he attended the Disney Institute and took classes in animation.

"My ultimate goal is to accomplish writing a science fiction novel and having it published. I really love science fiction and the special effects that can be used," Austin said.

Another senior was also on the road to graduate school. Dorr wanted to pursue a career in music ministry. He planned on attending Southwestern Seminary in Dallas-Fortworth.

"I've decided to attend graduate school because it will help me prepare to be a better minister. My goal is to get a masters in church music," Dorr said. Dorr also hoped to write and publish his own music someday.

"I always think it's important to bring glory to God by being the best I can be. That's why I feel it's so important to learn as much as I can. Missouri Western's commercial music degree is relative to the market of what's going on today, whereas a lot of schools neglect the fact that music is everywhere," Dorr said.

Austin and Dorr, as well as many other students, had a long road in front of them. They knew it would be hard, but graduate school was something they felt they must do. They wanted to know all they could about what it is they love, whether it be animation or music. It was essential for people to enjoy what they do and it was obvious that they were doing just that.

CRYSTAL BREWER



A planning session about an upcoming colloquium meeting involves Dr. David Bennett, honors program director, Dr. Julia Mullican, as well as a student. The honors program encompassed many areas such as colloquium, SHO, and the majors honors program.



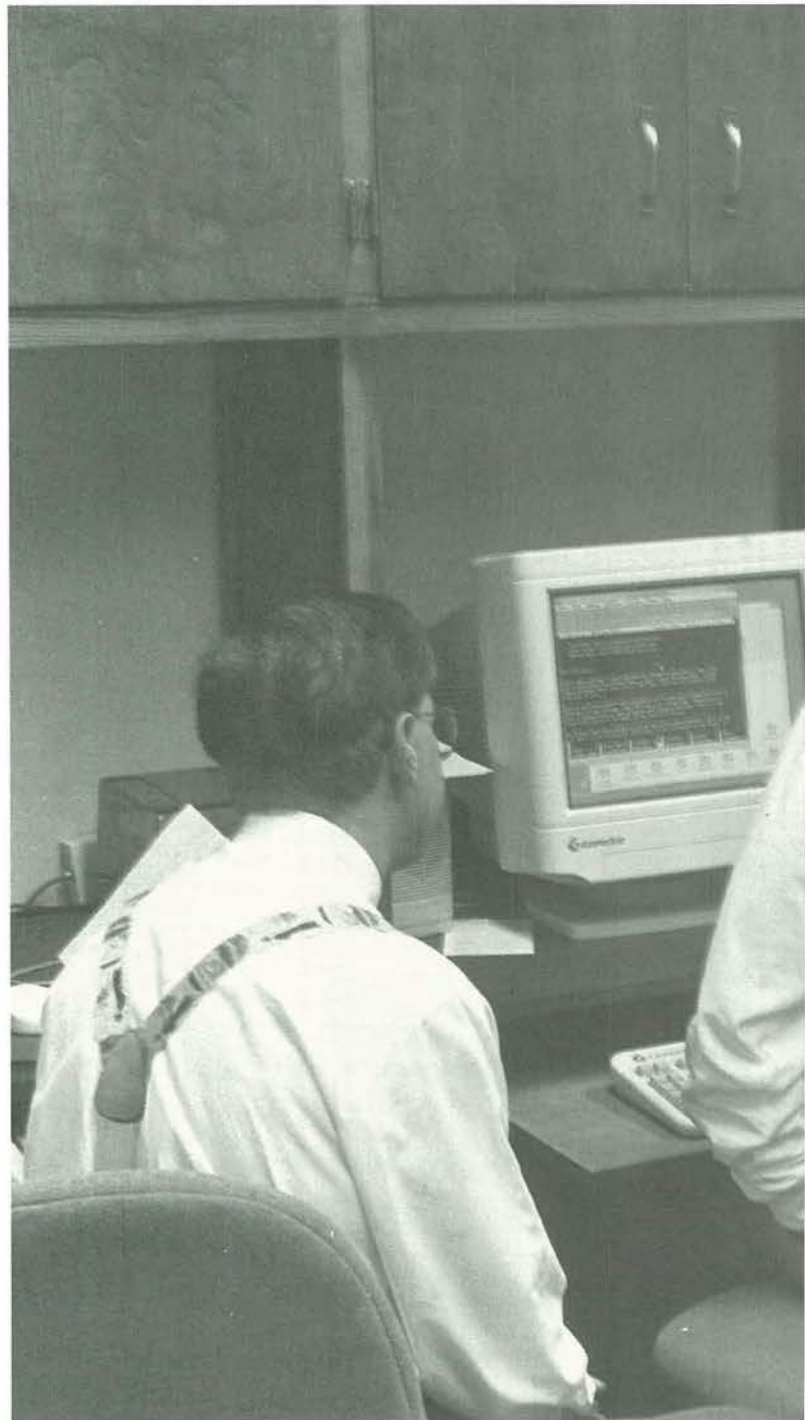
Courtney Ball



Courtney Ball

In addition to their regular course work major honors participants involved themselves in research and other special projects. Graduating with a majors honors denotation gave students an edge after they graduated.

Keeping in contact with the many students involved in honors proves to be a lot of work. A variety of activities, both academic and social involved the students.



STRIVING FOR GREAT

HONOR

Students at Missouri Western had many academic programs available to them. However, one aspect of our institution's course of study provided qualified students with valuable experience, as well as a challenging work load. That program was a sibling of the honors program: the majors honors program.

A student must have needed a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 in high school and an ACT composite score of 26 or above to qualify. The program was divided into two areas of concentration: general studies and major honors. The major difference between the two sections was that major honors students were required to take more general studies, in addition to the classes geared toward their declared major. Being involved in the major honors portion of the program required a series of research projects, which brought with them a heavier workload.

The general studies area offered honor students unique insight through colloquiums. These were classes where students and teachers discussed important issues involving various aspects of student life. Speakers were sometimes brought to these classes to discuss current topics. Field trips were also employed as tools for learning. Because colloquium topics varied from one semester to another, students could repeat them for additional credit.

Research project seminars were available, where students learned methods in researching and presenting their projects to others. In turn, each student was responsible for the creation and presentation of an original research project.

Aside from receiving advanced academic experience, those who were involved in the program were eligible for scholarships. The largest, the Donald E. Hardman Insignis Scholarship, provided \$3,000 per year to the top five outstanding, incoming freshman involved in the honors program. Other privileges were internships, eligibility for honors residence hall space, and access to the honors center.

"Being in the honors program has provided me with skills and know-how to research, develop, and present a project in my major," junior Amy Holthouse said. Holthouse was working on a major in communications/public relations through the majors honors program.

The honors program and the majors honors program provided students with more knowledge and background than in the regular classroom. Though it is a heavier workload, the experience they received in earning their degrees was a valuable asset they would employ throughout their careers.

ERICA ANDERS

Courtesy Ball



Kimberly Wilson acts out the part of a police dispatcher. Hands-on training taught students the essentials of law enforcement.

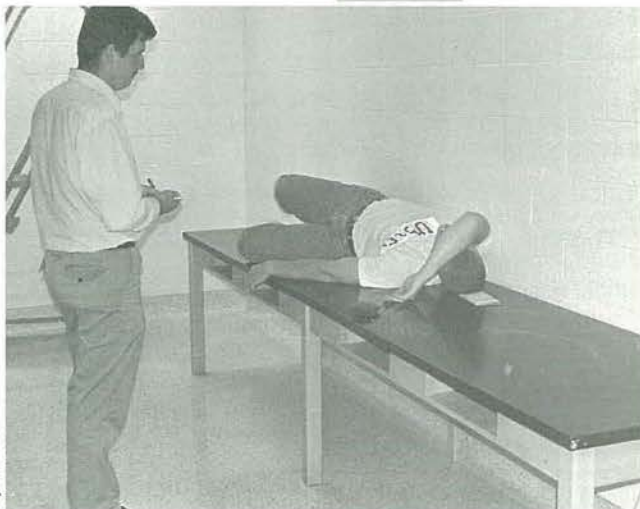


Crystal Sisco

Michael Hudspeth plays a gang member looking for drugs at a drug house. Playing the part of the criminal as well as the police gives students the opportunity to experience varying aspects of their career.



Crystal Sisco



Crystal Sisco



Crystal Sisco

Students from the law enforcement academy act out a drug bust. These scenes were often used to prepare the students for real-world experiences.

John Panning role plays the part of a police officer questioning a suspect played by Tim Holcomb. Law enforcement academy students act out scenes portraying drug busts and interrogations for training.

LEARNING TO BE A

FORCE

In the Professional Studies Building, classes were offered for students who would pursue a nursing or engineering degree, as well as students who would follow a criminal justice degree into professions in investigations or law. But on the first floor, other students who had found their calling in law enforcement were busily becoming educated police officers at the Western Missouri Regional Law Enforcement Academy.

“The academy teaches a full realm of everything from criminal law to court investigation, defense tactics and community policing,” academy coordinator Larry Andrews said. “The course teaches a composite of everything police officers should know.”

Plans for the on-campus academy began in December 1994, but it wasn't until the fall semester of 1995 that the first class of students began the program. Students were able to complete the course of training in one college semester, but they were required to attend classes, like a full-time job, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Missouri Western was chosen to house the academy when an increase in the number of hours of required training rose from 120 to 470 for regional police officers. The former regional training center at the St. Joseph police department didn't have the time or facilities to give such intensive training. Missouri Western had the manpower, facilities and expertise to professionalize law enforcement by taking it from the training level to the academic level, Andrews said.

Students underwent an extensive application process to gain entrance into the academy. Applications were filled out, backgrounds were investigated, fingerprints were taken and references were checked before students were admitted into the program, Andrews said. But the hard work paid off. Job-placement for graduates of the program was better than 95 percent.

Under the direction of Richard Gentry, a retired Kansas City police officer who had prior teaching experience at a Kansas City community college, students were taught all the essentials by a regiment of experts in the field.

“We use a complement of 25 instructors throughout the program,” Andrews said. “Each instructor teaches the specialties to which they are expert.”

Qualifications for instructors were as stringent as those for prospective students. Each instructor had to be POST certified. POST, Police Officer Standards and Training, was a national police certification program.

“Instructors for the academy must be educated,” Andrews said. “They have to have work experience and they must be certified.”

SHELA GIBSON



After meeting with her academic advisor, freshman Sherry Patrick attempts to register. Advisors gave students a PIN in order to gain access to Missouri Western's registration program.

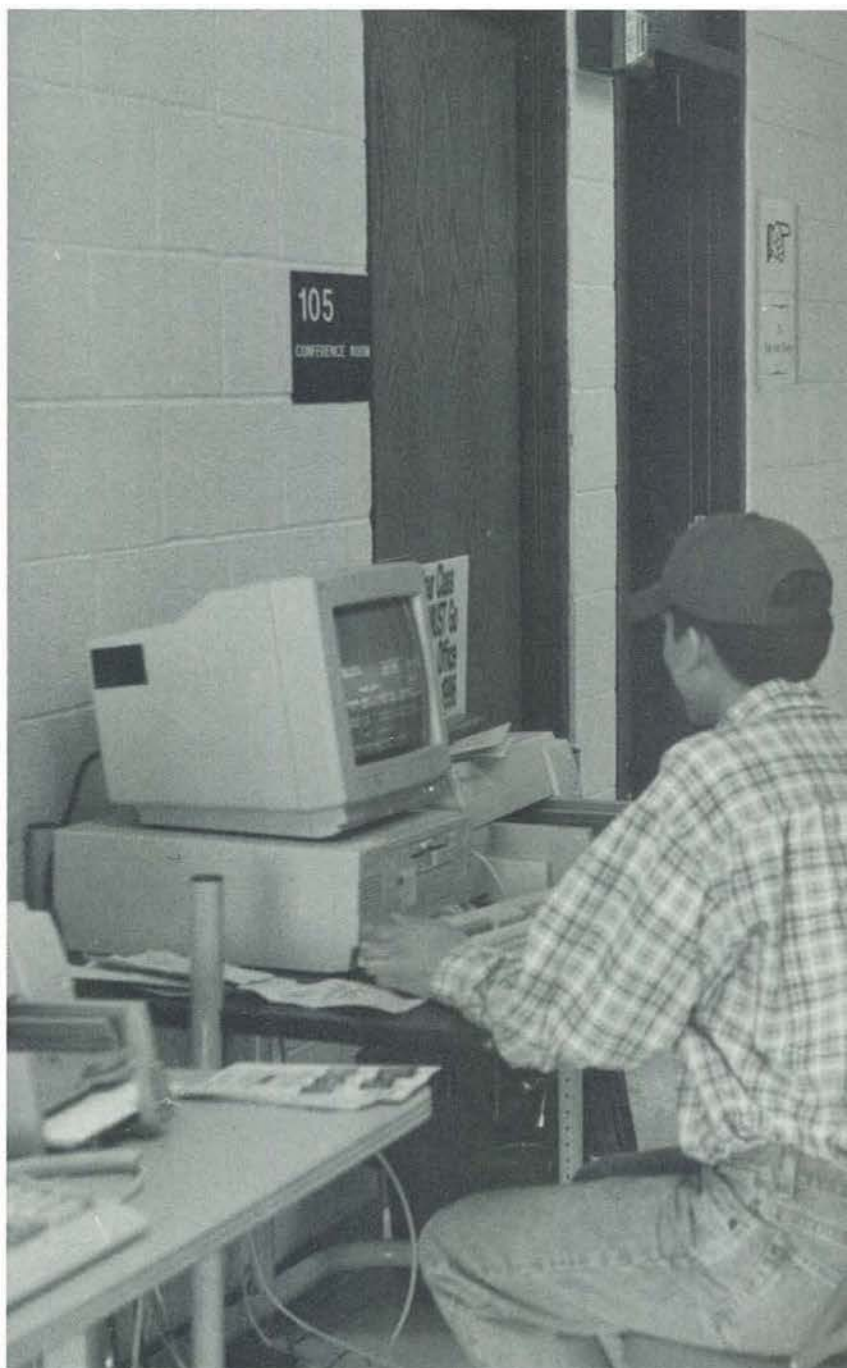


Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Course closings and time conflicts still concern Shaina Smith, registering with the new on-line system. But for those who had to make schedule adjustments, the new system was faster and easier.



Facing the unknown with a buddy works well for sophomores Joe Waller and Chris Glaeser. Most students agreed that the new on-line registration system was preferable to the olden day of long lines.

REGISTRATION GOES

MODERN

Before 1996, anyone who walked into the SS/C Building could tell immediately when it was time for pre-registration. Long lines of disgruntled students waiting for hours, battling closed classes, dealing with rescheduling conflicts and waiting even longer.

When they finally got the classes they wanted (or just the classes they got stuck with) and started to breathe a little easier, they realized they would only have to go through the whole process again and again, until the end of their academic careers. All that changed for the spring 1997 semester, and the registration process became much easier.

Students registering for spring classes had to go through some of the same things, like going to see their advisor and worrying about whether the classes that they wanted were going to be full, but for the most part the process was completely different.

The long lines at the registrars office became extinct. Advisors helped students get their schedules lined up, and gave them their PIN. After this step was completed the student had to wait until their assigned day to go to one of the computer terminals all over campus and the final step was to simply use their PIN to access the system and type in the classes that they wanted to take.

“Registering by computer has its benefits,” freshman Stacey Davis said. “It allows the students to register at their convenience. However, I believe that the upperclassmen are the only ones who should have an allotted time. Everyone else should have to fend for themselves. They should also offer more general studies courses so everyone is able to take the classes needed to pursue their major.”

Registrar Bob Hines said one problem with registration was that many people waited until the last minute to register. This caused other problems for students, like not having all of the best classes available.

“There are always people who decide late and reality sets in,” Hines said. “They come out for general or late registration and they don’t get the best times or the best classes. General registration usually took place the two days before classes started and late registration wasn’t until the first three days of classes, when openings were very limited.

Students gained valuable information and were able to give good advice after their first registration experience.

“You should make sure that you get to registration early,” freshman Susan Beaman said. “Also, make sure you have all of your classes set that you want to take so you don’t have to add or drop anything because it is a big hassle.”

Registration was a necessary evil, but thanks to modern technology, some of the fear and stress was removed from the process.

KRISSY FAULK



Angela Wells

MISS AMERICA URGES

ACTION

Here she comes, Miss America....

Tara Holland, Miss America 1997, spoke about the problem of illiteracy in the St. Joseph community at Pass the Power's annual literacy luncheon in April.

Before the luncheon, Miss America visited the Pass the Power Center to meet with volunteers and people who are learning to read. After the visit at Pass the Power, she spoke at a news conference where she stressed the importance of becoming involved.

"Literacy is the door to America's future, and each one of us holds the key," Holland said. "I encourage everyone to connect with one person or participate in one program that will not only make a difference in their own lives, but will contribute to improving the overall literacy of our nation."

Holland, 24, traveled over 20,000 miles each month on her national speaking tour titled "Literacy in America: The Power of One." As an advocate for literacy awareness and volunteerism, Holland casted the Miss America spotlight on the need to revitalize the critical issue of illiteracy.

"Promoting literacy unlocks the door to our lives," Holland said. "As Miss America, I want to reach out to people everywhere to help them understand that one person can make a difference. It only takes one."

"The solution is simple, but depends on each one of us," she continued. "Each one of us can find at least one program that we can participate in, as a reader or nonreader. Each one of us can reach out to another person to help or be helped. Because when each one of us spends time helping another person read or write, that person's literacy level will improve."

The 24-year-old Kansas native said her promotion of literacy began after a personal experience when she was 15 years old. She said she knew an adult who had problems driving, reading prescriptions and performing other routine functions.

"The hardest part for adults is to make the decision to ask for help," she said. "Most adults do not want to admit to the fact that they can't read, they would rather hide it."

According to Pass the Power, one in 10 adults in St. Joseph was functionally illiterate. Functional illiteracy was defined as the reading, writing, comprehension and simple math skills necessary to function within a modern society beyond the most minimal level.

Jamell Bell, an intern at Pass the Power, said "We asked Miss America to come because we thought she could reach people in our community that we do not see on a day-to-day basis."

TAMARA VIOLET



Verna Shinneman



Verna Shinneman

Miss America, Tara Dawn Holland of Kansas, visits with the staff of Pass the Power Adult Literacy Center. The Center is sponsored by private community donors including the MWSC Foundation.

Community members, including many literacy advocates and volunteers attended the luncheon where Miss America spoke. She visited St. Joseph as a part of Literacy Action Week.

Sandra Stubblefield speaks to her class in the LRC lecture hall. Stubblefield made several positive impacts during her time with the English department.



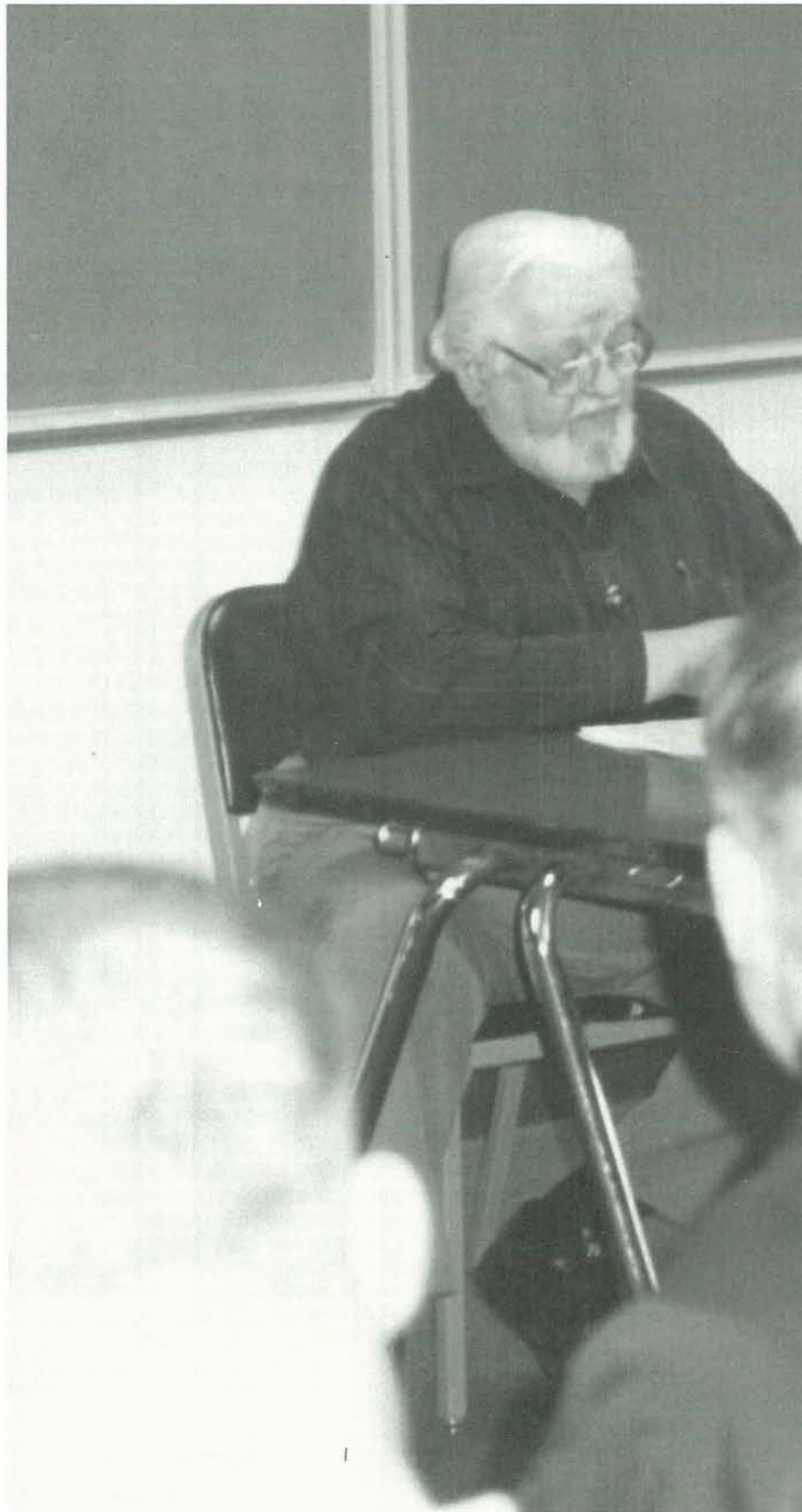
Katie Dean



Katie Dean

Rosemary Hoffman talks with students in the French classroom. In addition to teaching, Hoffman also oversaw a yearly trip to France.

After 55 years at MWSC, Warren Chelline decides to move on. Many on campus worked with Dr. Chelline as he was involved with many aspects of the campus.



SAYING A FINAL

GOODBYE

Several professors at Missouri Western came to the conclusion that all good things must come to an end. Thus, the decision to retire was at hand and for some it was not an easy decision.

Sandra Stubblefield, English professor, felt that one of her greatest accomplishments was her own implementation of *Small Towns in American Literature*, English 210.

“Besides the students, I think I will miss being with my co-workers in the department,” Stubblefield said. “There’s a certain camaraderie among fellow employees.”

French professor, Rosemary Hoffman taught French at Western for 33 years.

“I believe that my greatest accomplishment was developing the study program in France. We began in 1983 and we have had students go almost every year,” Hoffman said.

Though she agonized over her decision to retire, Hoffman thought it would be nice to do some traveling to Colorado, to do some hiking and enjoy the outdoors with her husband.

Julia Mullican, professor of psychology, also made a decision to retire from Missouri Western. After teaching for 16 years, she thought the time was right.

“I believe I’m in a transition period right now,” Mullican said. “I think it’s important to stop doing something we enjoy while it is still interesting to us.”

Mullican believed that her greatest achievement was receiving the Jesse Lee Meyers teaching award for her excellence in teaching. Mullican was not positive of her post-retirement plans.

Larry Dobbins of the communications department taught as well as directed several plays for the theatre program. He received his bachelor’s degree in education and his master’s degree at the University of Nebraska. Dobbins also received a Ph.D. at the University of Iowa.

“I plan to read a thousand more books, see a different play every night for a year, surf the net ‘till I go cross-eyed, listen carefully to every Haydn symphony available and find out what Mrs. Dobbins has been doing with herself for the last twenty-six years,” Dobbins said.

English professor Warren Chelline retired with the longest with a record total of 55 years. He spent 29 years as a minister and 26 years teaching English, Shakespeare and literature. Chelline also served as faculty advisor for organizations such as Alpha Pi Omega, Journalism Club and Phi Sigma Kappa.

Besides spending time with his family, Chelline had another important plan to complete. Following retirement, Chelline planned on returning to the ministry.

“I have always been a clergyman since my ordination fifty-five years ago; now I can give my ministerial calling full attention and priority,” said Chelline.

Though it was difficult for some professors to end their teaching careers, most saw it as a beginning to their new lives. The road they traveled was full of accomplishments and memories.

ERICA ANDERS



A quick practice of the brass precedes a home football game performance. Member band received scholarships and got to travel as perks for their hard work.



Angela Wells

Keeping in line and in time is not as easy as it looks. MWSC drummers set the rhythm for the rest of the band.



Angela Wells

Although getting set up poses a challenge for some members, audience members are always appreciative of the effort. Matt Heineken played the auxillary percussion drum set as part of the band.



MOVING WITH THE

MUSIC

Being in the band at Missouri Western was much more than an exercise in marching or playing an instrument; it was an experience in teamwork and extraordinary opportunities. The program gave students far more than musical practice.

Students playing a part in the band program found opportunities throughout the year of 1997. As representatives of Missouri Western, the group traveled to St. Louis in the spring to attend a Symphonic Winds convention. At the convention students got to play for area high school students and were asked to perform for guests at the Mid-Rivers Mall in St. Louis. Though learning was the convention's main goal, the group's presence played another role.

"While we were there to experience other performers from other schools and regions," said junior Kimberly Augustyn, "our performances acted as a recruiting tool for Missouri Western as well."

Special Guest Tim Peterman, a professor from West Virginia, came to do a clinic for students in Japanese Taiko drumming. The technique involves the art of percussion as well as elements of physical movement.

"We get a lot of first hand experience when guests like Tim Peterman are brought to campus for us," Augustyn said.

The group also made a trip to the Music Educators Conference held at the Tan-Tar-A resort at the Lake of the Ozarks. There, the group got to perform for music educators from the entire nation.

"It wasn't an ordinary audience," said Augustyn. "Our fellow students and educators really appreciated our performance. It was a rare occasion."

Perhaps the most exciting happening for the band program was the invitation they received from the French government to perform at the 1998 Christmas festivities in Paris.

Aside from travel and learning opportunities, band students were also eligible for a number of scholarships. Based on their ability and proficiency as well as academic standing, students can receive hour-based awards, even full-tuition scholarships.

The biggest boost perhaps this year was the band's new uniforms. The group's previous attire left some of the players feeling a little outdated.

"I think the new uniforms gave us a positive boost," said senior Rachel Lock. "They gave us a more updated, contemporary look."

Lock felt that the growing number of opportunities as well as members was a reflection of Missouri Western as a whole.

"Every year the band program grows in size," Lock said. "I think that truly mirrors how we as an institution continue to grow."

TRACY JONES



Angela Wells

Senior projects consume the lives of students in all departments including engineering. The idea of these projects was to pull everything together that students had learned throughout their courses.



Angela Wells

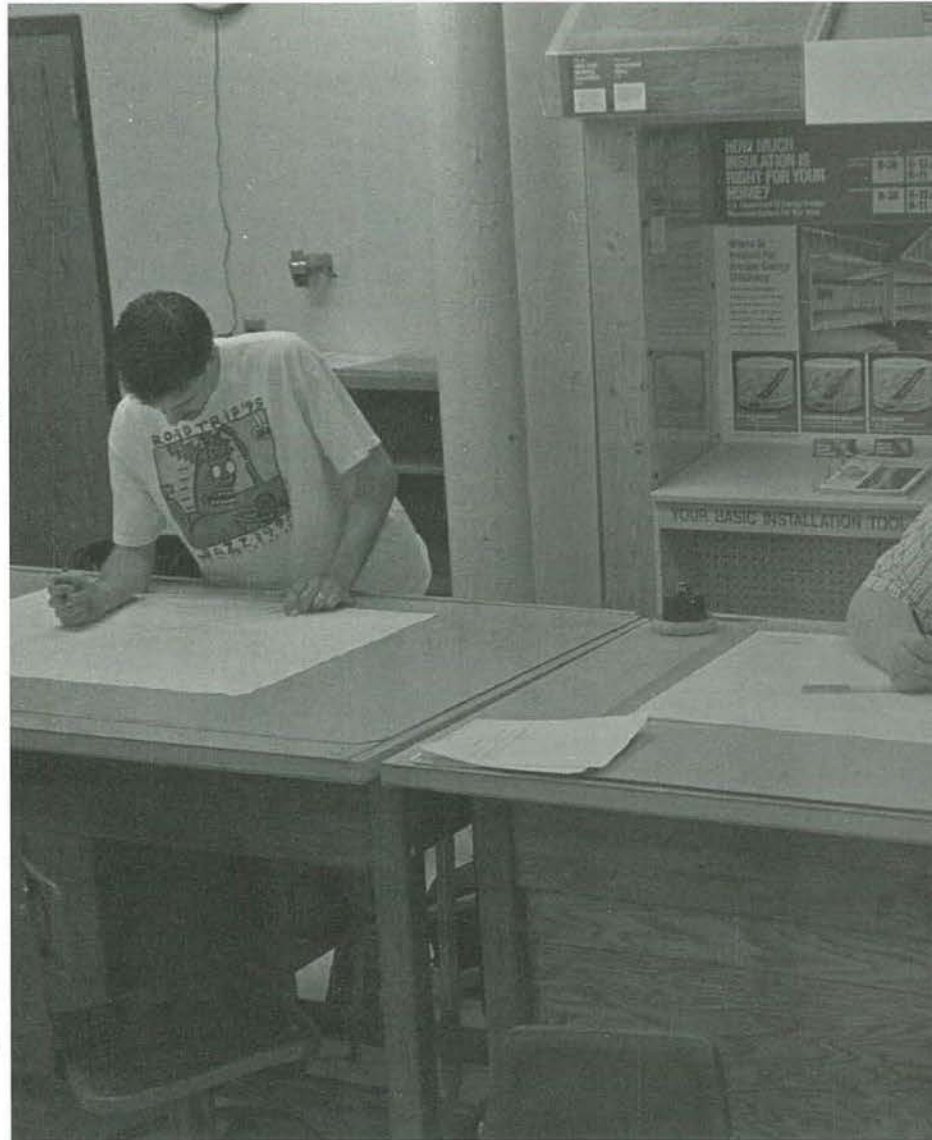
An art students' senior show pieces are viewed at an art exhibit. Specific requirements as far as number of pieces, framing and show content.



Angela Wells

Ryan Barker, Stan Brinson, and Eric Callow display their artwork in the foyer gallery as one of their graduation requirements. The Senior Show was anticipated and planned for all year.

Along with the added stress of final projects and exit exams, students still maintained their regular coursework. The debate over whether projects or exams were less stressful still waged.



WRAPPING UP A FINAL

A F F A I R

With spring came another graduation. Two of those who graduated in May 1997 were Debra Shaffer Martin and Chris Archer. As graduating seniors, they were required by their departments to complete more than the college's requirements for graduation.

Shaffer was an art major with an education emphasis. In order to graduate she had to complete Art 494 Seminar and Exhibit and a Departmental Comprehensive Exam.

"Basically all of the graduating art seniors get together with the advisor who is running the show and try to arrange when they are going to have their exhibit," Shaffer said.

The art department had certain times they had exhibition, usually at the end of the semester. In Shaffer's case there were four in a group that worked together to exhibit their work. They worked together to set up the exhibit, get it publicized, designed and created invitations and had to determine how to hang and display their work. Each had to figure out what to show, collect all their work and also find time to work with each other.

"It took us eight hours to actually hang the show the day before the exhibit," Shaffer said.

Shaffer's graduation requirements included more than the art department. She had also chosen to teach art, and complete the whole professional sequence of education courses that the education department required. These included four weeks of intensive course work and 12 weeks of student teaching plus passing a national teaching exam to become certified to teach.

Chris Archer's major was in natural science with a chemistry emphasis. He was able to complete his studies in four years, but his department also required more than the usual college requirements.

Missouri Western had a chemistry department that was accredited through the American Chemical Society. The ACS is the largest organization of chemists in the world.

"While I will not have the ACS certified degree, I can cite the fact that all of my chemistry course work was taken in competition with those same students," Archer said.

Archer had to also complete a senior seminar in chemistry. It was a very intensive course in which you have to prepare and give an oral presentation on a chosen topic. His area of research was Pyrolysis Gas Chromatography and its Applications in Forensic Science which deals with the forensic side of law enforcement.

"It took us half a semester to prepare for our presentations. I am not sure how many hours it took, but it did involve a lot of time. I spent several Saturdays at Linda Hall Research Library in Kansas City, Mo. researching my topic," Archer said.

Missouri Western graduates quickly discovered there was much more to graduation than a cap and gown. Years of hard work were topped off by more of the same.

WANDA SCOTT



Flowers are planted around the sundial in front of the Science and Math Building. The sundial installed last year, provides an interesting conversation piece.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Mulch and soil are spread before the bulbs are planted. The planting process was a long one made possible by over 100 volunteers.



The area in front of the SS/C Building near the fountain receive attention. Thousands of bulbs, plants and flowers were purchased every planted by volunteers all over campus.



TRULY BEAUTIFUL

REWARDS

Whether the sun was shining, rain was pouring, ice was shimmering, or snow was drifting, the college grounds maintenance crew could always be spotted doing their job to keep the grass and shrubs trimmed, the football and softball fields fertilized, and the sidewalks and parking lots cleared of snow.

From 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, the grounds crew was in charge of performing such duties as planting and maintaining plants, trees and shrubs, operating and repairing machinery, a daily trash pick up throughout the campus, irrigation and, in addition to the regular mowing, some 400 acres of land was mowed by one man. The mowing took an entire week to complete, and by the beginning of the next week, it needed to be mowed all over again, with only rain to get in the way of a job well done.

“The crew does a wonderful job for the manpower that we have,” said Supervisor Bruce Whitsell.

The campus Beautification Committee devoted its efforts to keeping the area looking good as well. The organization planted trees and shrubs for various buildings on campus and did some landscaping around the newly built Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building.

The Planting Days began with Missouri Western’s 25th Anniversary, and grew every year since. At the fall Planting Day nearly 100 volunteers were responsible for planting over 5,000 tulip and daffodil bulbs. Prior to Planting Day, each building proposed what they wanted planted and the committee provided and planted the thousands of geranium and bedding plant bulbs. Each building was in charge of keeping the plants and flowers watered and weeded.

“The Campus Beautification Committee provides an aesthetically pleasing environment and, being that the work is done on a voluntary basis, they get nothing but the satisfaction of creating a better campus for both students and faculty, it is pride that drives them,” said Tara Hovenga, Student Campus Beautification Committee member.

Learning by example, the Biology Club conducted a Nature Trail Clean-Up in the fall and the spring. The main focus of the clean-up of the campus walking and jogging trail was to spread new wood chips over the trail and clear limbs that had grown into the trail’s walking area, which was crucial to both the beauty and accessibility of the trail.

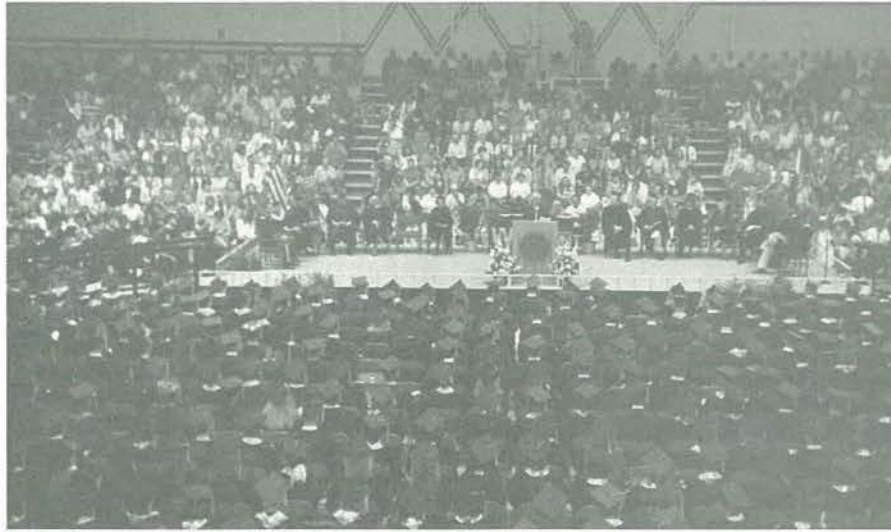
“The club is very proud to maintain the trail so that others may use it and enjoy the resources that are found within it,” said club vice president Shawn Banks.

It took many people to make Missouri Western the beautiful campus that it was. Those who made it possible as well as anyone who stepped onto the campus could see the results.

MANDY FITZWATER

Angela Wells

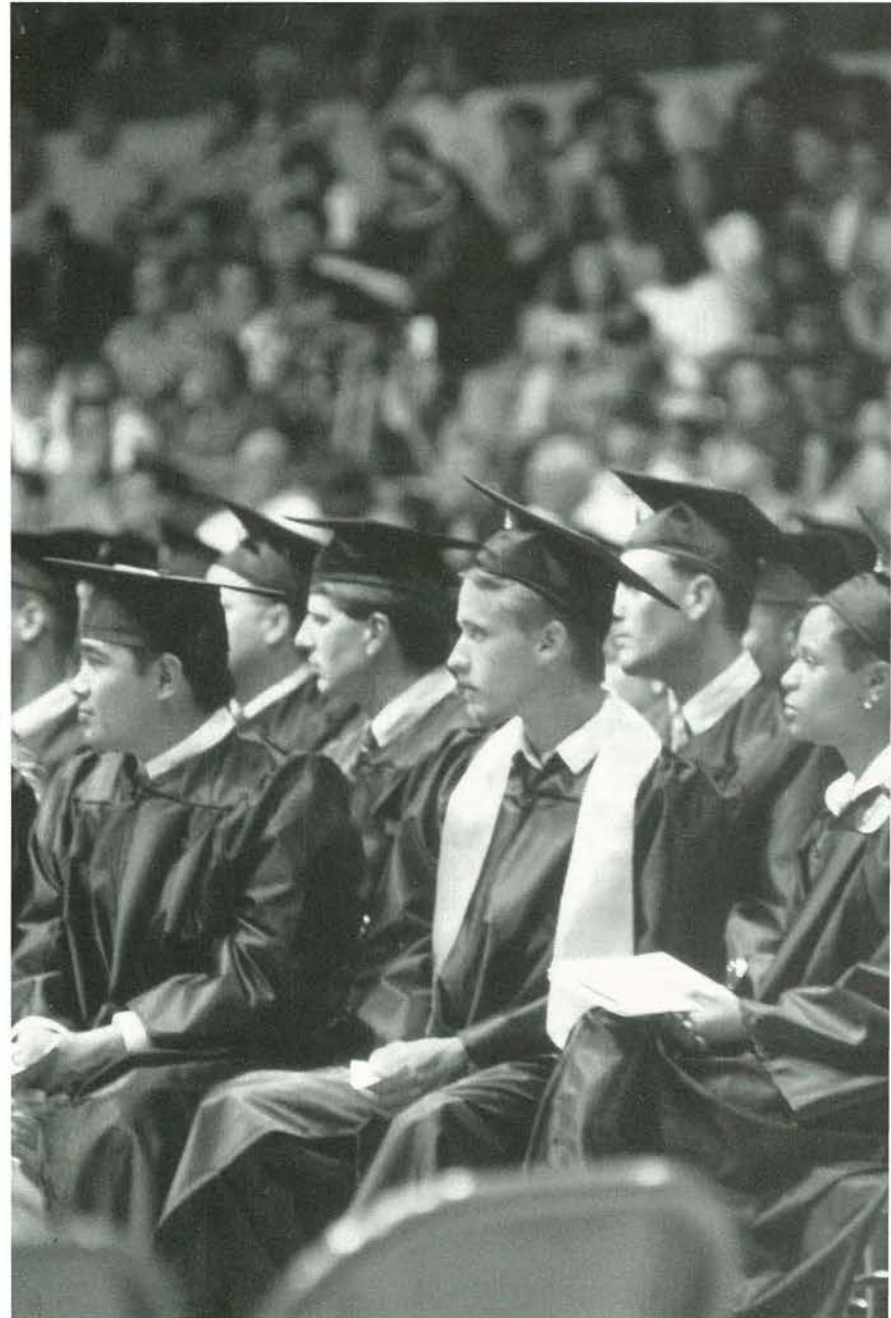
Always a hot commodity, seats in the arena fill up quickly. The ceremony was broadcast via satellite in the fine arts theatre and on cable television.



Angela Wells

Music major Jay Albright, diploma in hand, heads back to his seat. Those graduating with honors are designated with the gold sash around their neck.

Graduates listen as Secretary of State Becky Cook offers advice for the future. This was the first year the arena was air conditioned for the ceremony, making wearing the cap and gowns more pleasant.



AN OCCASSION TO

COMMENCE

Proud parents, siblings and relatives scrambled for their seats as the Missouri Western Symphonic Winds sounded the March from “Tannhauser.” With the sweet tune echoing throughout the surprisingly cool fieldhouse, graduates began the processional. It was the end of what seemed to be a lifetime of grueling work for students, but the beginning of promised success.

“Commencement symbolized for the graduate the completion of their training at MWSC,” said Academic Vice President James Roever. “And symbolizes for MWSC why we are all here—to serve students and provide them with a quality educational experience.”

Planning for Commencement ceremonies began in December when caps, gowns and diplomas are ordered. In April things quickly picked up as details began to get worked out. Programs were written and finalized and individual name cards were printed for each participant. President Janet Murphy meanwhile made plans for the speaker. Once these plans were complete, the day arrived.

Festivities began on May 17 at the Graduation Breakfast held in the Blum Student Union. The speaker was Missouri Western associate professor Jill Miller. She urged students to work toward a bright future and keep important goals in sight.

“The Graduation Breakfast was the best,” said senior Mason Mortimer. “The food was great, the speaker was phenomenal. Everyone really came together and had a great time with their families.”

After hours of rehearsal graduates were ready to take the stage and receive their diplomas. The fieldhouse was for once air-conditioned, making attendant’s only worry where to sit. Faculty preceded students in the promenade. Once seated, Murphy introduced speaker Secretary of State Rebecca McDowell Cook. After a brief inspirational talking-to students finally got to the moment when their name was called and their freedom came in the form of a degree.

“I felt a great sense of accomplishment when I walked across the stage,” Mortimer said. “Finally, it felt as though all my hard work had meant something.”

For Roever, his most cherished part of the ceremony is giving out those diplomas.

“As the students proceed to receive their degrees, it becomes clear that MWSC serves a diverse population of students,” Roever said.

The ceremony, for those who could not find a seat in the main auditorium, could watch as it was broadcast live to the Potter Fine Arts Theater and the Kemper Recital Hall in the new Leah Spratt Multi-Purpose Classroom Building.

Once everything was over and everyone had left there was only one thing on graduates mind’s: finding a job. Motimer’s search had already begun.

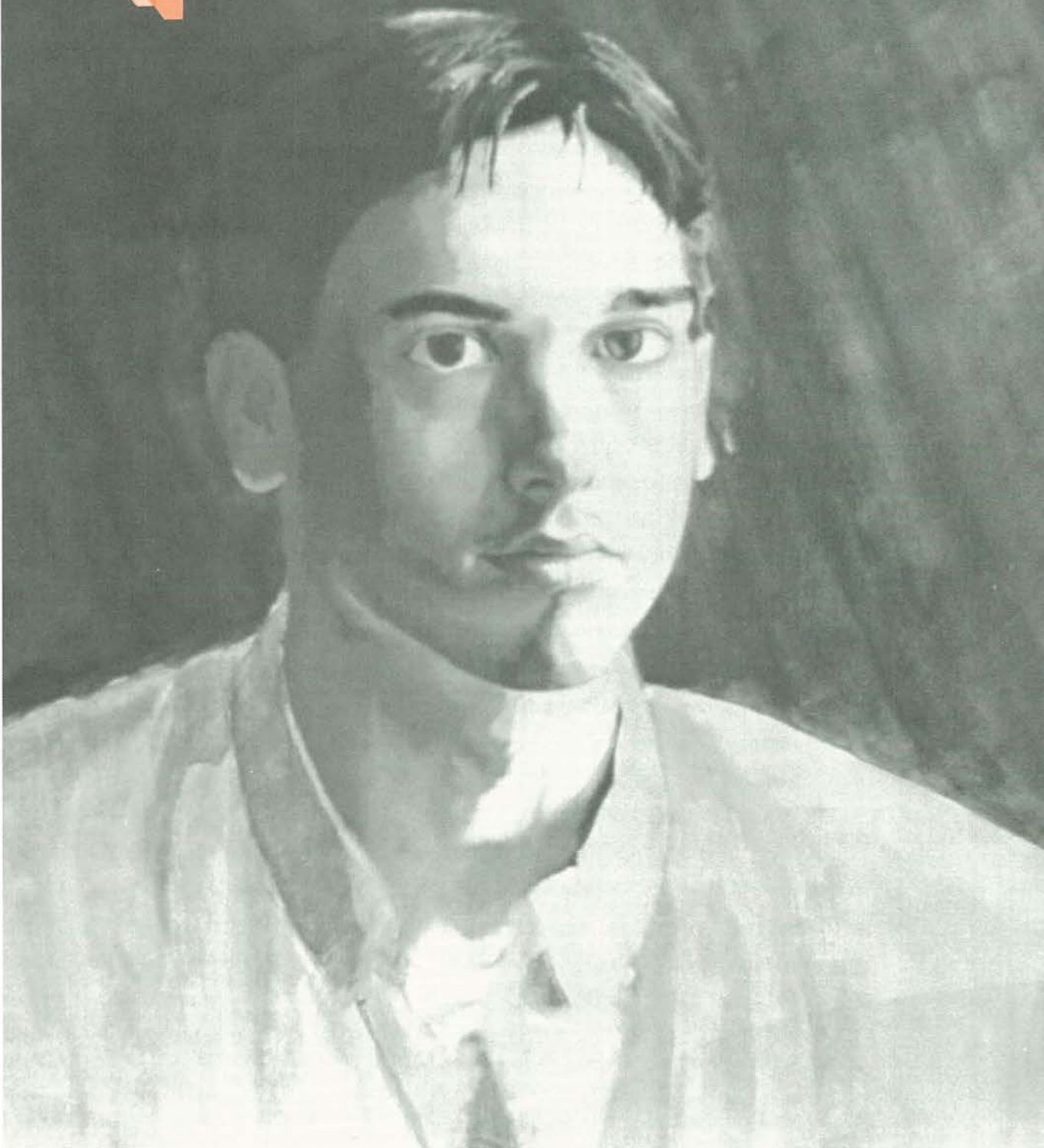
“Looking for a job is a full-time job,” said Mortimer. “I’ve sent out a lot of resumes already, so I’m just going to take the next couple of weeks off to relax and enjoy life.”

TRACY JONES

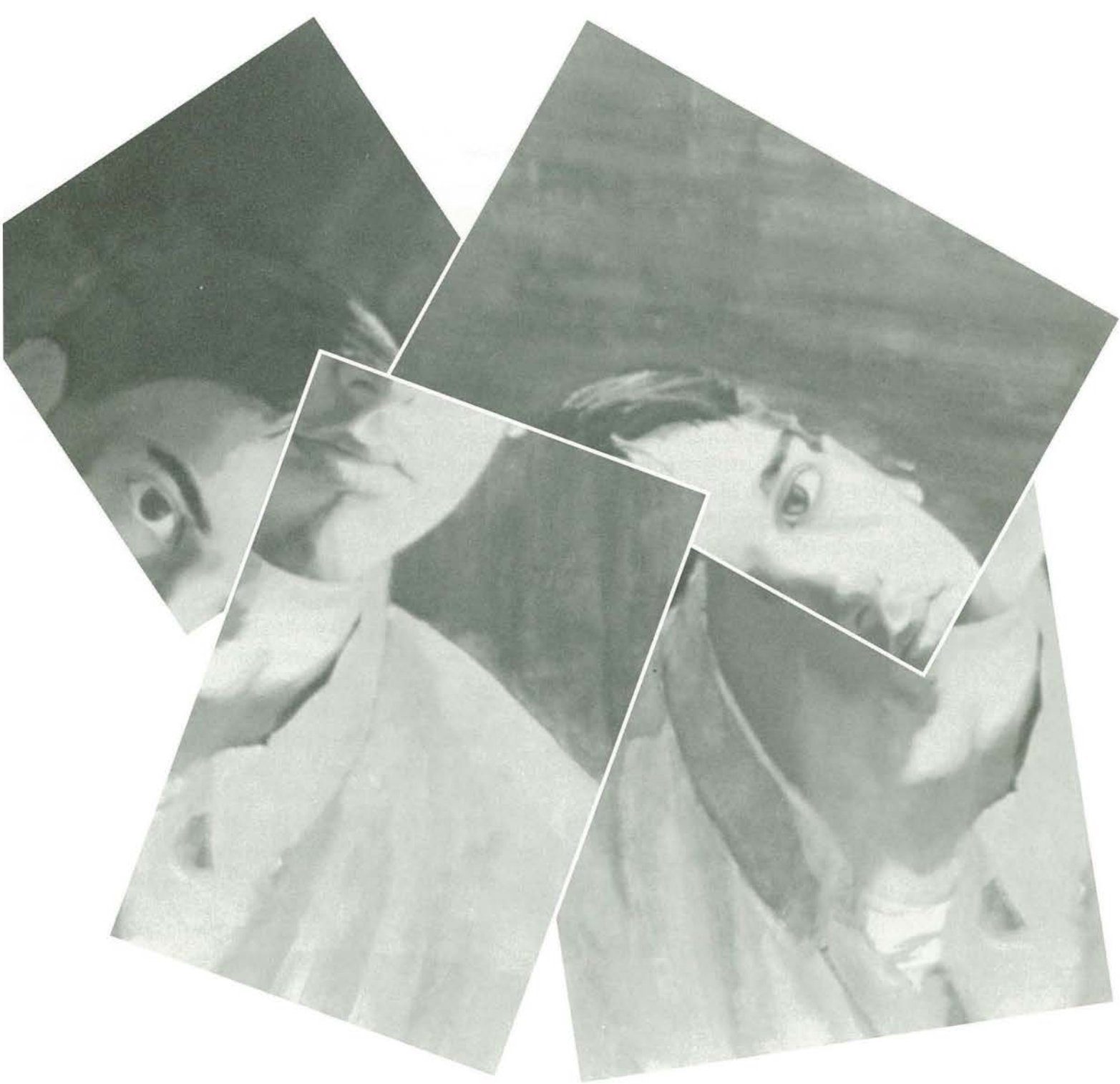


Angela Wells

N CESSARY COMPETITION



Joe Waller's self-portrait from the course Painting I was displayed as a part of the summer student show in the Fine Arts Gallery. Waller was a commercial art major.



THE WORLD OF COLLEGE SPORTS MISSOURI WESTERN WAS ABLE TO HOLD ITS OWN AND THEN SOME. WITH
Y DETERMINATION, TEAMS OF HUNGRY YOUNG ATHLETES POUNDED THE COMPETITION AT EVERY MATCH-
A BREAKTHROUGH YEAR IN WOMEN'S AND MEN'S BASKETBALL PAVED THE WAY FOR A SLEW OF VICTORIES
THE COURT, THE GREEN AND THE FIELD. DRASTIC CHANGES IN COACHING POSITIONS HAD PLAYERS AS WELL
STAFF LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EVEN BRIGHTER FUTURE IN MISSOURI WESTERN SPORTS.

Fourteen seniors led MWSC to a 7-4 record in the 1996 season, and over the past four years had compiled a 30-12-2 record, making the Griffons the most winning program in Missouri collegiate football (NCAA Division I, II or III, 1992-96). This group of players ended their football careers with recognition for being the class that has become the most productive in Missouri Western history.

“This group of seniors is an extraordinary group,” said Coach Stan McGarvey. “They’ve helped us build this program, and we are really excited for them and their success.”

Missouri Western rebounded from both of their two game losing streaks by bringing home two impressive victories that both excited and mystified their supporters.

For the first time in 17 years the Griffons pulled off the previously unattainable—they defeated the ranked and dominating Pittsburg State Gorillas, 38-28. At one point, MWSC trailed by thirteen points, until finally making their offensive and defensive units step-up. Big passes, long runs, and incred-

ible defensive plays ignited the team and fueled their fire. To senior Matt Williamson this game was “a game I’ll never forget. It made my whole senior year.”

Another season highlight was the win against Missouri Southern in double overtime, 49-48. The game was a back and forth from beginning to end. Outstanding offensive and defensive play on the parts of both teams forced the game into not one, but two overtimes.

“As seniors we went out the most winning program ever built it, but hopefully next year they can top it by making it to the playoffs,” said senior player Kevin Kilroy as he reflected on the season.

MWSC ended the season with four First Team All-American players. Senior offensive lineman Johnson was an All-American candidate who captured a first team All-American award because of his impressive blocking for both passers and rushers. Sierra set new Western kicking records with a 47 yard field goal at Northwest Missouri and also with 47 points in 1996. Senior defensive lineman Williams was sixth on the team in total tackles (57) and led the Griffons with 6 quarterback sacks (-26 yards) and 13 tackles for loss (-26 yards). He also recovered two fumbles and had one interception. Senior defensive back Mitch Mason completed his MWSC career as the all-time school interception leader with 16, six occurring in 1996. He was also seventh on the team in total tackles (55) and led the team with 11 pass break ups.

For the 1996 season Missouri Westerns statistical leaders were scoring: Tony Williams with 17 touchdowns, center Matt Gragg with 92 tackles, sacks: Hamilton Crowder with 10, rushing: Tony Williams 1,597 yard and passing: Neill with 1,628 yards.

Needless to say, the MWSC football team was not only recognized only for its efforts as a group, but also for the individual achievements of the players that made it a talented team. They proved that by working together and combining their individual skills, they could stand together as an impenetrable force. •by **Dusty Jestes**

FIGHT FOR THE WIN

The Griffons take the field at Spratt Stadium. The team ended the season with a 7-4 record.



Angela Wells

man State players cheer with glee as they stop the Western Griffons for a loss
ards. The strong senior presence led to several touchdowns.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

An injury sidelines one of the players but it doesn't keep him from offering advice. The Griffons worked hard and had a good season.

Truman State prepares to snap the ball while the Griffons are on the defense. The Homecoming match-up brought defeat to the home of the Griffon.

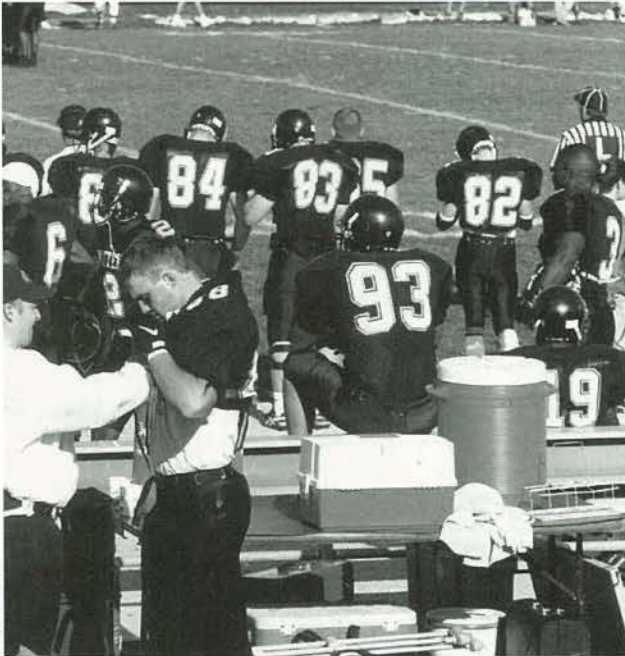
Football

Nebraska-Kearney	47-32
Quincy	42-14
Washburn	7-21
Emporia State	14-30
SW Baptist University	67-3
Pittsburg State	38-28
Northwest Missouri	24-31
Truman State	7-33
Central Missouri	48-13
Missouri Southern	49-48
Missouri-Rolla	27-7

Western defense gets their chance to shine as they stop the offense from scoring. Western players practiced on a new practice field this year, pictured in the background.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Western players take a breather on the sidelines without taking their eyes off the action. Athletic trainers were also on the scene to provide treatment.

Griffon football players and referees discuss yards gained on the last play. The Griffons ended the season with a 7-4 record.



Courtney Ball



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Western rushes up the middle for a short gain against the Truman defensive unit. The season began in late August and continued until December.

A break in the action allows players time to regroup. This also gave the Griffon cheerleaders a chance to get fans spirited.

After a 29 - 9 record the previous season, the Lady Griffons had big shoes to fill as they took the floor for the first time in 1996. Unfortunately, the season didn't exactly seem to start off as most would have liked. In losing five seniors and gaining four new freshman, it was soon obvious that it would take a great deal of hard work and time for the team to click.

In late September, the team finally ended their 0-11 streak by beating Southwest Baptist 15-9, 16-4 and 15-10. They went on to win three of their next seven games. After this, unfortunately, the Lady Griffs didn't appear to be able to pull it together. They ended the year losing 15 straight matches. In MIAA matches they were 2-14. The team's overall record for the 1996 season was a disappointing 4-30.

Not only was this a less than stellar ending for the players, but a disappointing one for volleyball coach Karen Peterson as well. Peterson, who had been head coach here at Missouri Western for four years, was released from that position following the team's unsatisfactory season. Peterson left with a 60-85 match record.

The season also marked the conclusion of seniors Shauna Alley's and Christine Donecker's playing careers. Neither of whom had planned to leave on such a disappointing note.

"It's really sad to think that this was my last year here," said Alley. "They are going to have a really good coach next year, I wish I could have still been playing. I'll still miss the game and the girls."

Returning next season will be four freshman and sophomores, all of whom gained crucial experience that will be a vital asset to the success of what will be a "pick-up" team for the team. Junior setter Monica Peck led the team in aces and fellow junior Abby Schaer led the team in kills with 100. Both Peck and Schaer planned to return for their senior season. Outside hitter Prairie Rickertsen was nominated for the MIAA Freshman Newcomer team.

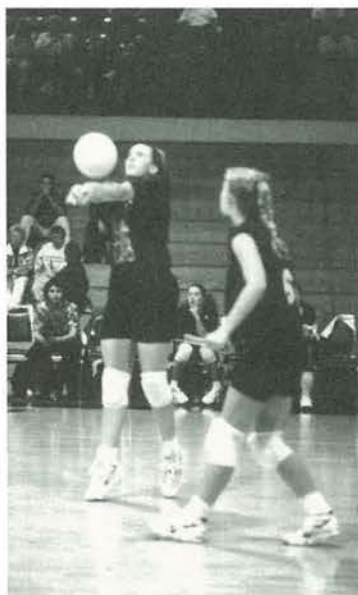
"Since we didn't play enough games we were ineligible for Conference Division honors," said Alley. However, she was selected for the All Academic Co-Team.

Coach Peterson had said that she wanted to give the team something to look forward to this season, unfortunately it did not go as planned. As in all sports, volleyball had its ups and bad records and, with a new coach being hired and a seasoned group of players determined to avoid a repeat of last year's experiences, maybe the 1997 season will be all that was hoped for in 1996, and more.

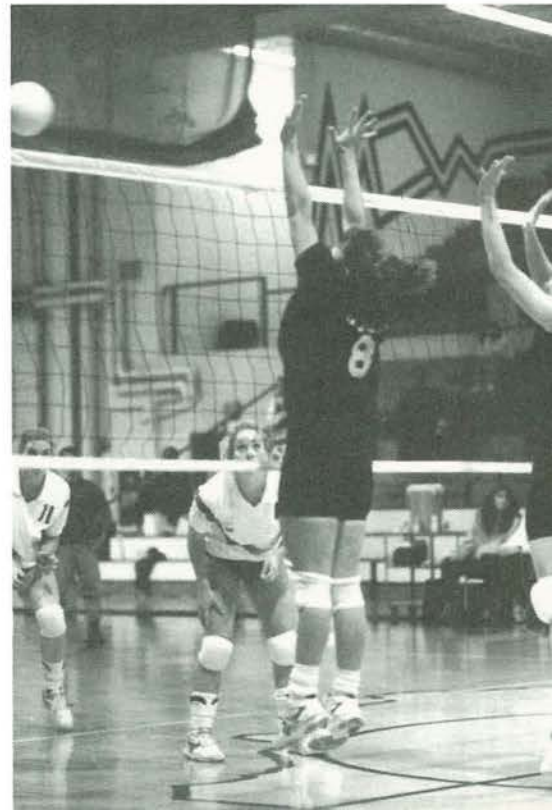
•by Candie Wattenbur

WHEN THE GAME GETS ROUGH

Setting up for a spike takes a good eye and concentration and a little support from fellow teammates. The Lady Griffons had the home court advantage in this game against Southwest Baptist which they won, 3-0.



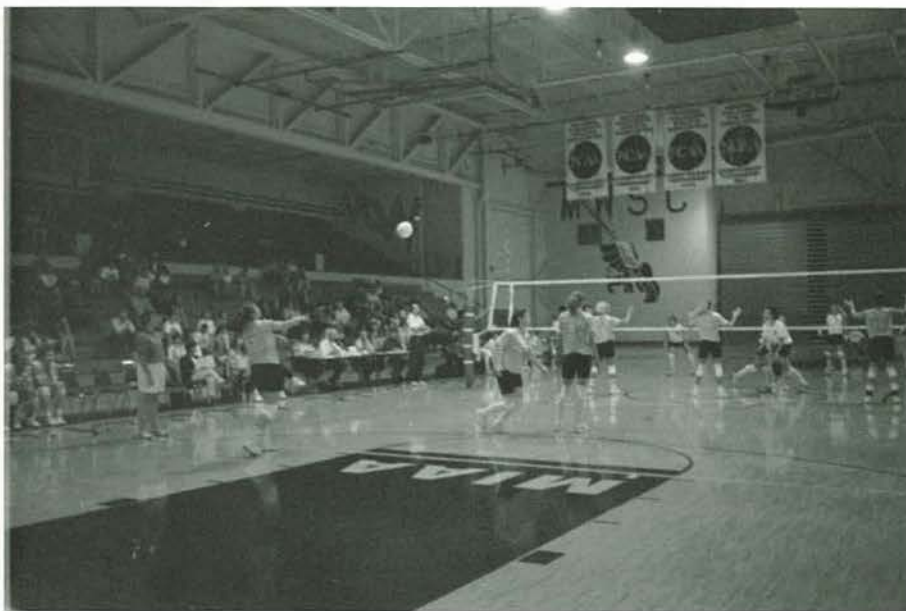
Defense is just as important in winning as offense as these two Lady Griffons know. The front line needed strength and agility to block and return serves.





Concentration was a major key to victory in many supports. The cheering of the crowds and fellow team members helped players to focus on the court.

With stellar 29-9 record in 1996, the Lady Griffons has a disappointing season in 1997. This year marked the final season for Coach Karen Peterson as well as many seniors.



men's Volleyball



South Dakota	1-3
Nebraska-Omaha	1-3
Peru State	0-3
Wayne State	0-3
Rockhurst College	0-3
Morningside College	1-3
Mesa State	0-3
Nebraska-Kearney	0-3
Augustana	0-3
NW Missouri State	1-3
Central Missouri	0-3
Southwest Baptist	3-0
Emporia State	1-3
Washburn	0-3
North Alabama	0-3
Drury College	3-1
South Dakota State	0-3
Drury College	3-1
Truman State	3-2
Rockhurst	0-3
Pittsburg State	1-3
Missouri Southern	0-3
Northwest Missouri	2-3
North Alabama	0-3
Eastern New Mexico	1-3
West Texan A&M	0-3
Metro State	0-3
Central Missouri	0-3
Emporia State	0-3
Southwest Baptist	0-3
Washburn University	0-3
Truman State	2-3
Missouri-Southern	0-3
Pittsburg State	1-3

The volleyball will begin their season next season with a new coach and a young team, including four freshmen and four seniors. The team will look at the year as a "pick up" year as they wait for a season when they will have a strong and experienced team.

Men's Basketball

Florida Tech	89-81	Lincoln University	63
Graceland	91-83	Emporia State	95
Rockhurst	92-88	Southwest Baptist	67
Washburn	84-91	Northwest Missouri	82
West Texas A&M	78-61	Truman State	79
Central Oklahoma	94-96	Washburn	105
Abilene Christian	78-91	Pittsburg State	79
Angelo State	77-60	Southwest Baptist	73
Pittsburg State	73-76	Missouri Southern	77
Central Missouri	96-80	Lincoln University	95
Benedictine	91-65	Emporia State	82
Truman State	73-68	Northwest Missouri	77
Missouri-Rolla	80-81	Northwest Missouri	94
Missouri Southern	80-60	Pittsburg State	80
		Pittsburg State	70



Crystal Sisco

Senior Toby Hoggatt makes his way down court as he attempts to make his Washburn opponent. Hoggatt helped lead the Griffons to a stellar 20-9 season.



Crystal Sisco

The looks on as Hoggatt attempts a free throw. Missouri Western took Washburn 105-75 in their second matchup of the season.

Terry Polk takes it up for a lay-up. The victory over Washburn was part of a 5-game winning streak.



Crystal Sisco

The Griffons earned their sixth NCAA Tournament bid in years, closing a successful 1996-97 season with 20 wins and 10 losses. At the beginning of the season Western was faced with a major decision to make. They could either look to rebound and pull together as a team, or give up on the entire season. Shortly thereafter, the Griffons began a five-game winning streak which included a 105-75 pounding of #19 Washburn.

"I don't think we did anything wrong that game," said Coach Toby Hoggatt. The streak came to a close after a loss to Pittsburg State 79-97.

However, the Griffons once again rebounded and launched another winning streak, this one lasting six games, includ-

ing a first round MIAA Tournament victory over Northwest Missouri State University 94-80. The streak was broken as Western suffered a loss at the hands of Pittsburg State players 80-97 in the MIAA semi-final game. This early tournament exit was considered a needed rest for a team that had some injuries to rehabilitate, and wanted some time to prepare for the NCAA Tournament.

Twice in Griffon history, Western had played a single team four times in one season. Unfortunately, each series led to Griffon losses in the NCAA Tournament. For the fourth time, Western drew a match-up vs. Pittsburg State, this time in the first round of action in the South Central Regional. Despite Western's impatience, they were still in the game and only two points behind with seven seconds left and possession of the ball. Griffon leading scorer, Eric Keeler dribbled the length of the court and was forced to toss up an off-balanced shot from inside the paint. Western's season ended as the ball bounced off the rim, and the scoreboard read 72-70 in favor of Pitt State.

For senior André Crittendon it was more than just a loss. "It meant that my career is over. I'm just a regular student now."

For five players this game signaled the end of college athletic careers, as four-year Western players Crittendon and Hoggatt and transfer players Keeler, Jermaine Kemp and Ronnie Steed took the floor for their final game as Griffons. In his final season, Keeler was unanimous first-team All MIAA and second-team All-Region, as he led the team in scoring with 18.6 per game. The seniors helped Western lead the MIAA in three-point shots made by averaging 9.4 per game, making a total of 268.

Although the season ended too soon for its senior players, they achieved great success and built a program that will continue to prosper in the future. **•by Dusty Jestes**

MAKING THE FINAL POINT



photo courtesy of Strathman Photography



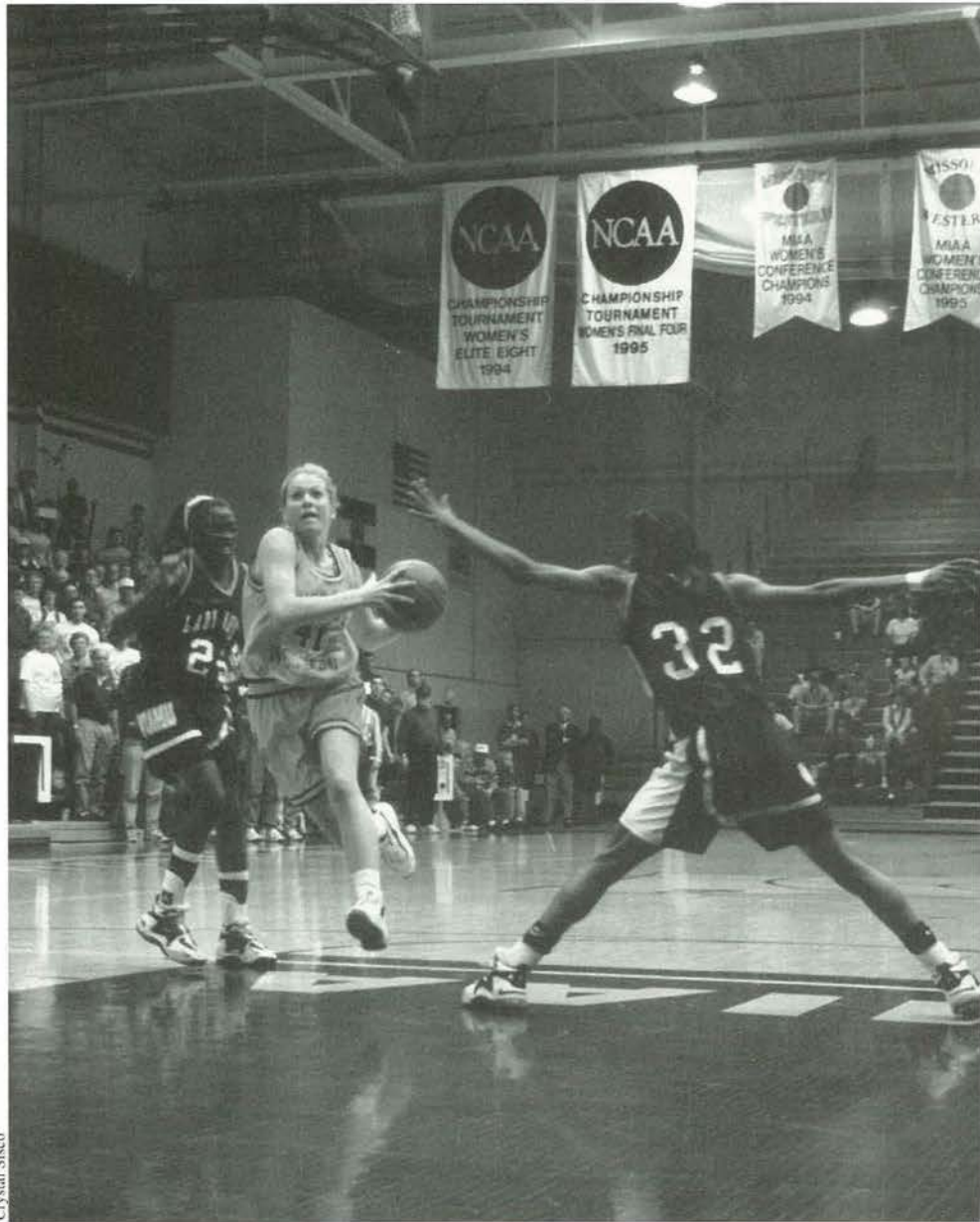
Row 1: Doug Lee, Traveon Parks, Tony Buckner, Andre Crittendon, Sam Taylor, Terry Polk, Kevin Bristol, Eric Keeler. Row 2: Darrell Pattillo; Assistant Coach, Jamal Harris, Jessie James, Rod Smith, Travis Elifrits, Albert Collins, Toby Hoggatt, Mitch Garrett, Jermaine Kemp, Tom Smith; Coach.

Polk takes on another Washburn player to make it to the rim. The team made their sixth NCAA bid in eight years.

Senior Toni Wood slips away from her Truman State opponents. Wood contributed an average of 10 points throughout the season.

Women's Basketball

Bethel	61-45
North Dakota State	54-83
American U	66-37
Lynn U	73-69
Washburn	58-45
Mount Mercy	68-63
Rockhurst	68-66
Doane College	67-68
SW Minnesota	78-65
Pittsburg State	72-70
Central Missouri	65-62
Truman State	78-53
Missouri-Rolla	66-70
Missouri Southern	73-63
Lincoln University	67-55
Emporia State	63-72
Southwest Baptist	85-80
Northwest Missouri	64-63
Truman State	66-68
Washburn	77-72
Pittsburg State	68-61
Southwest Baptist	76-62
Missouri Southern	76-55
Lincoln University	72-50
Emporia State	65-51
Northwest Missouri	60-67
Missouri Southern	59-51
Emporia State	73-60
Central Missouri	53-46
Abilene Christian	75-71
West Texan A&M	72-92



Crystal Sisco



Crystal Sisco

Sara Elgin leaps toward the rim as her Central Missouri opponents attempt a block. The Griffons won their third MIAA Conference Championship in 4 years.



photo courtesy of Strahmann Photography

Row 1: Marlena Lankford, Kristi Breeding, Toni Wood, Dana Obe, Shannon Wahlert, Jenni Potter, Maria Cole. Row 2: Terri Schrishuhn; *Assistant Coach*, Steph Jackson, Jenny Marr, April Brigitte Gittens, Sara Elgin, Josh Keister; *Assistant Coach*, Dave Slife *Coach*.

The Lady Griffons overcame adversity and silenced all naysayers by winning their third MIAA Conference championship in four years. After a disappointing 1995-96 season, Western was predicted to finish eighth out of ten teams in conference play in 1996-97, only to come from behind and win it all.

"We responded well all season long when our backs were against the wall," coach Dave Slifer said in reference to his team's play.

Seniors, Toni Wood, Dana Obersteadt, Jenny Marr and Kristite Gittens provided an experienced and talented backcourt on which the younger players could rely. The four were consistent scorers, with three seniors contributing an average of over 10 points a game. They led the team to an average of 75 points per game, while limiting opponents to only 63.0 points per outing. The Lady Griffs averaged 75 boards per game, pulling down over 10 more than their opposition.

GOING IN FOR THE KILL

Western was led by Marr who took down 261 boards and was followed by Gittens who contributed 197. In a fitting end to their athletic careers at Western, the four seniors also led in steals, assists and blocks to take their team farther than anyone expected. Wood and Obersteadt closed four years at Missouri Western with a 100-25 overall record and finished the season playing in the regionals of the NCAA for the third time.

After clinching the conference championship, the Lady Griffons headed into the NCAA Tournament, which they hosted, and came up against #9 ranked Abilene Christian in the semi-final game on March 7. After a slow start, Wood ignited the offense by scoring 26 of her 28 total points in the second half, giving Western a 75-71 victory.

The Lady Griffons ended their year with a 24-7 overall record after a loss to #3 ranked West Texas A&M, 92-72, in the South Central Regional finals of the NCAA Tournament. Despite a great effort by Wood and Marr, who each scored 27 points, Western finished runner-up to West Texas and ended their season short of the happily-ever-after.

"We went farther than people expected us to go," Jenny Marr, MIAA Co-MVP was optimistic about the season's outcome.

Albeit the confidence in the women's ability at the beginning of the season, MWSC students and the community became fans of a team that was tearing up the opponents they faced. Support was evident in the crowd present at the Regional Championship vs. West Texas A&M, as 2,111 fans came out to cheer the teams on. However, when the final buzzer sounded, ending the Lady Griffons season, there was disappointment, yet a strong feeling of pride that a team predicted to do so bad had indeed gone so far.

by Tracy Jones

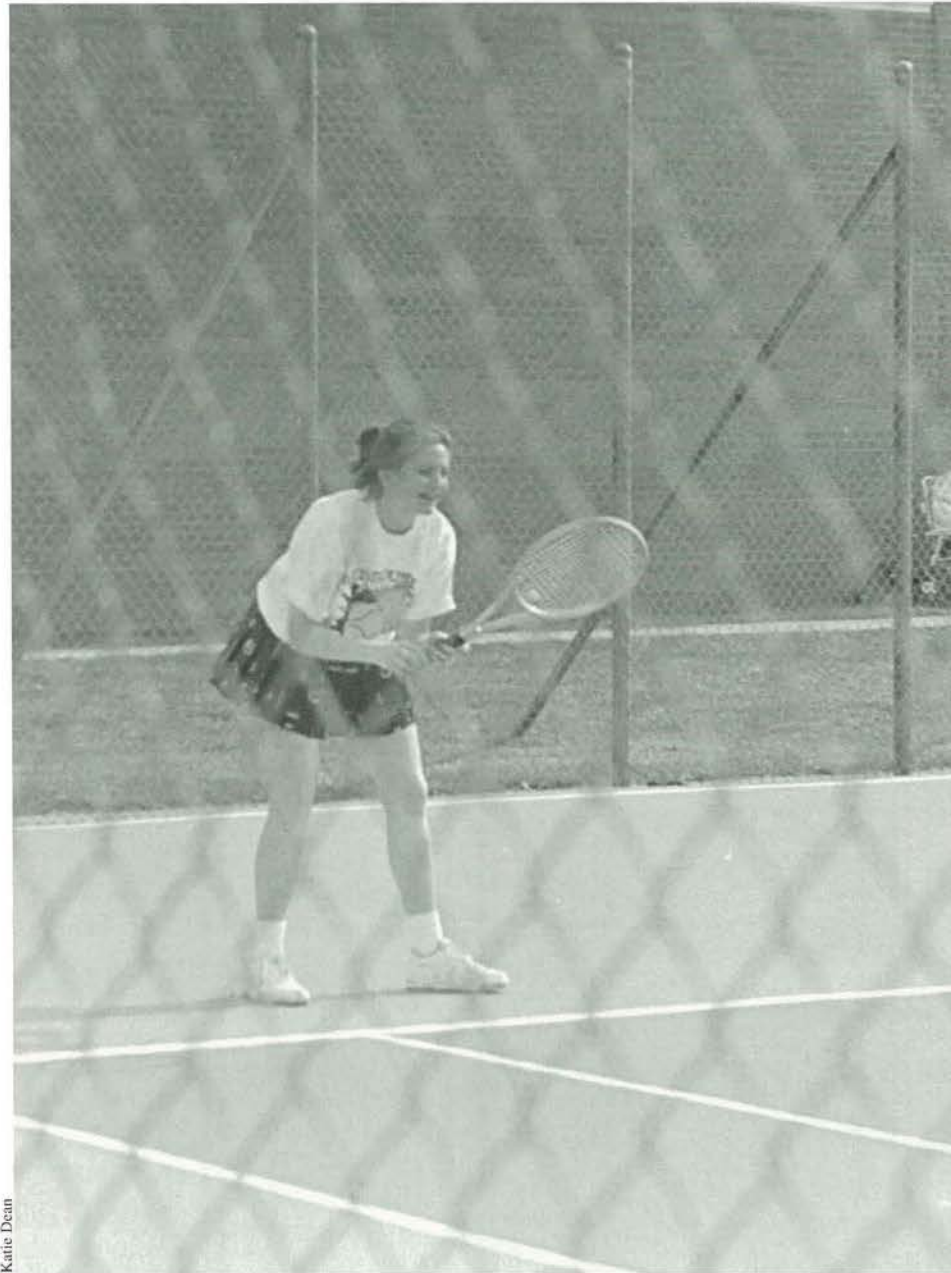


The Lady Griffons and their coaches cheer on from the sidelines. A disappointing 1995-1996 season made fans skeptical, yet the team led themselves back to victory in '97.

Steph Jackson swoops around her opponents to score. The Lady Griffons pick continued to up speed throughout the season.



Tracy Jones takes a stance as her opponent gears up for another shot. Jones was one of Missouri Western's number one doubles team.



Katie Dean

Tennis

South Dakota State	9-0
William Jewel	9-0
Baker University	6-3
Washburn University	1-8
Benedictine	9-0
Northwest MO State	9-0
Missouri Southern	5-4
Southwest Baptist	7-2
Johnson County CC	5-4
Rockhurst College	2-7
Emporia State	5-4
Truman State	2-7
Regis University	3-5
Mankato State	6-3
Kearney State	5-4



Katie Dean

A shot is returned by Jones as she and Jaime O'Brien take on another doubles team. Jones also made it to the finals in the number one singles.

Missouri Western's Women's Tennis Team had a better season in 1997 than in years past. They finished the season with a 15-5 record. It was only coach Patsy McCauley's second season with the team. It was also a young team that was made up of freshmen and sophomores. The team members were Tracy Jones, Jaime O'Brien, Kara Thacker, Shannon Muenks, Nikki Glasgo, Jayla Walker and Heidie Zeigler. "I thought we did very well this year. We had a better team than last year, and it was a closer team," Thacker said. Walker hoped to return in the fall.

The 1997 Midwest Division II MIAA Championships took place in Springfield, Mo. during March and April. Missouri Western competed against Emporia State, Lincoln University, Missouri Southern, Northwest Missouri State University, Southwest Baptist University, Truman State and Washburn. Northwest Missouri State University won the conference. The team finished fourth in the conference.

The team's number one singles player, Jones, and the number one doubles players, Jones and O'Brien, were the big stars.

"Tracy made it to the finals in the number one singles, but she lost to the girl from Northwest. Our number one doubles team took third place," McCauley said.

Their number five player, Glasgo, took fourth place. Team player number six, Walker, also took fourth place.

The top seasonal wins for Missouri Western were 9-0 over South Dakota State, William Jewell College and Benedictine College. They also beat Baker University, 6-3; Missouri Southern State College 5-4; Southwest Baptist University, 7-2; Emporia State University, 5-4; Mankato State University, 6-3 and University of NE-Kearney, 5-4.

"This year a lot of the teams came to Missouri Western and played," Thacker said.

Missouri Western's tennis season began in September, the team practiced three days a week, two hours at a time. In January, the team started practicing five days a week with at least two hours of practice.

The team members played against each other to determine where each one would rank. In the conference, number one players play against other number ones. The same for each level.

Doubles are determined by rank also, players one and two made up number one doubles, players three and four made up number two doubles and players five and six made up number three doubles.

There were nine games played, six single spots and three double matches.

"Our number one player (Tracy) was 15-3 for the season," McCauley said.

The four teams that Missouri Western's tennis team lost to were: Washburn University, 8-1; Northwest Missouri State University, 9-0; Rockhurst College, 5-4; Truman State University 6-3; and Regis University 5-3.

McCauley said that she was pleased with the team. She also said if the students keep coming back so that they don't have to train new players every season, the team will grow stronger.

•by Wanda Scott

ORDER ON THE COURT



Another fierce match-up as Jones and company take on their teammates on the Missouri Western court. The team practiced up to five days a week during their season.

Golf

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

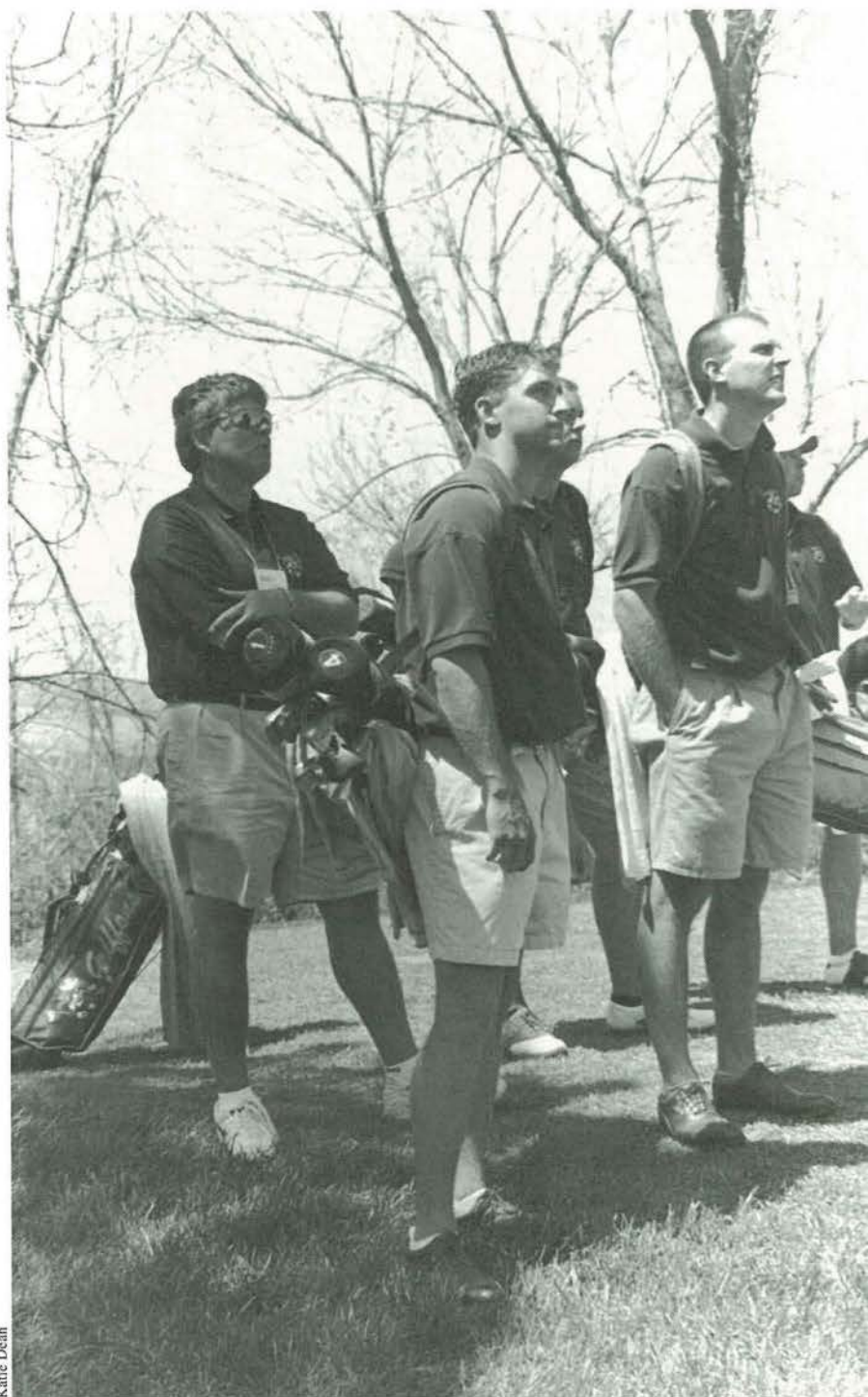
(entering NCAA'S)

Chris Weddle	75.5
Mark Korell	76.1
Joel Wilhite	76.7
Erin Hatcher	76.9
Kyle Sinclair	78.3



Katie Dean

The team prepares to move on to the next hole. The Griffons won six of ten team tournaments.



Katie Dean

Coach Mike Habermehl and players Erin Hatcher and Mark Korell watch to see when the ball will land. The team finished first at the NCAAII Men's Golf West Regional.

say that the Missouri Western men's golf team had a season and a very talented group of players would have understatement. The three seniors, two juniors, five sophomores, and one freshman had a chemistry that was unbeatable.

"We've played together as long as three years for some, so we know the courses well. We have a very talented group of players who all get along very well," said senior Mark Korell, one of the team's top returnees of the season.

The team had an MIAA finish in the fall season of first place and won three of four fall tournament titles. In the 2010 Fall Classic MWSC finished in third place out of 18 teams, with a 54-hole team score of 911. Senior Joel Weddle tied for fourth place overall of the players in the tournament with a total of 225. Western also earned first place over ten teams in the Missouri-Rolla Fall Classic. Senior, Chris Weddle, finished the tournament with third place overall with a score of 146. The team left the Missouri-Southern

Crossroads of America tournament with first place out of 13 teams, scoring a 54-hole team total of 880. Senior Mark Korell was a tournament medalist, winning the playoff on the first hole, and scoring 219. MWSC finished the Drury College/Comfort Inn tournament with first place out of 18 teams, their 27-hole score totaling 467. Senior Mark Korell was once again a medalist with a score of 113.

The men's golf team opened the spring season with a first place title out of the 16 teams at the UM-St. Louis Rivermen Invitational with a team score of 290-296-586. Senior Mark Korell was Western's top scorer. Western finished the Lincoln University Invitational with a first place title and a total team score of 609.

Their first place finish at the NCAA II Men's Golf West Regional at the St. Joseph Country Club found Missouri Western's men's golf team set to make it's first appearance at the NCAA finals May 20-23. The Griffons made up seven shots on the final day of the tournament to tie Central Oklahoma and set up a sudden death team playoff for the West Regional Title, and beat them on the second playoff hole. Junior Kyle Sinclair chipped in for a birdie to key the team playoff win after the two teams had tied on overall team score on hole.

"The team had a tremendous season," said coach Mike Habermehl. "There are three seniors on the team and there is a lot of team maturity. They have played together as a team for a long time and have known each other even longer."

•by Mandy Fitzwater

PLAYING GREEN FOR THE GOLD



Senior Mark Korell looks on while teammates Chris Weddle, Kyle Sinclair and Erin Hatcher set up the shot.

The Lady Griffon softball team scored big in the MIAA Conference, by finishing second, and having six players named to the All-MIAA team. The team's driving force included four seniors, Tammy Allen, Erynn Walls, Monica Henroid and Angela McCamy who provided a talented nucleus, as well as unrelenting confidence to guide a fairly young team to a record of 31-16 over a 47 game stretch.

"I thought that our team worked really well together. We played good defense and hit the ball well most of the time," said McCamy, senior pitcher.

All of which was accomplished despite the fact that the team suffered a long layoff in play due to atrocious weather conditions.

"I was a little upset because we didn't get to play 27 games, but overall, I'm totally pleased, as we made it than all my four years here," said Walls, senior outfielder.

After opening the season on a slightly sour note, Walls began a 14-game winning streak that lasted almost the month of March, beginning with two victories over Northwest Missouri State 7-0 and 5-4. McCamy's pitching precision black-listed 11 batters, and gave the Griffs a shut-out to set the mood for a spring break excursion to the West Florida Spring Florida Blue Green Invitational. It was there that the ladies won 13 games, including two prestigious victories over top-ranked Washburn University 3-0 and 7-3, losing only to the University of West Florida 3-10 in the semifinal game of the tournament.

"I think we did a lot better than people expected, but we expected a lot more of ourselves. It was disappointing we didn't make it to regionals," said Allen, senior second baseman.

Although the team effort fell short of its goal, individual players, through hard work and hustle, gained post-season honors for their play. First Team All-MIAA included center fielder Henroid and freshman short-stop Shannon Gunn. Second Team recognition fell to senior second baseman Tammy Allen and to sophomore first baseman, Megan Houglund. Senior pitcher McCamy and junior catcher Julie Smith represented the Griffs out Western's post-season awards with Honorable Mention. McCamy was an All-MIAA selection.

Despite their disappointment in their last games, the seniors leave with the knowledge that they exceeded their expectations. •by Dusty Jestes

GOING WITH FULL FORCE



Row 1: Steph Jaekel, Shannon Gunn, Tonja Cassity, Angela McCamy, Carmen Lawson, Monica Henroid, Erynn Walls. Row 2: Lindsey Eulinger, Tammy Allen, Julie Smith, Jill Bailey; Assistant Coach, Megan Houglund, Jodi Ward, Mary Nichols, Coach.

Softball

St. Mary's College	1-5	Central Oklahoma
St. Mary's College	5-6	Simpson College
Columbia College	8-4	Central College
Columbia College	2-6	Emporia State
Nebraska-Omaha	1-8	Emporia State
Pittsburg State	3-12	Truman State
Winona State	5-6	Truman State
Augustana	5-0	Northwest Missouri
Northwest Missouri	7-0	Northwest Missouri
Northwest Missouri	5-4	Southwest Baptist
N. Kentucky	7-3	Missouri-Rolla
N. Kentucky	9-0	Lincoln University
McKendree	9-1	Missouri Southern
McKendree	4-2	Pittsburg State
Bluefield State	17-0	Park College
Bluefield State	22-1	Park College
Mississippi College	17-1	Washburn
University West Florida	3-2	Southwest Baptist
Ark-Monticello	5-0	Northwest Missouri
Washburn	3-0	Washburn
Central Mo State	1-2	Missouri Southern
Central Mo State	3-5	Central Missouri

ough the year saw many triumphs in Missouri Western
s, for baseball it was a year with little victory. While
s in other sports found themselves successful on the court
ball team members found one cold, rainy day after an-

was a season with a lot of ups and downs,” said coach
Minnis. “The weather really stole our momentum. We
d only have one good day then two or three where we
n’t play. It really affected our ball club.”

nnus noted some tough match-ups throughout the sea-
The Griffons were put up against Pittsburg State in two
A Tournament games losing both times. They also met
t when they matched up with Emporia State for three
MIAA games. Central Missouri State was also a heavy
nder for the boys as they had missed previous games
the team due to weather conditions. When they finally
it up with them later in the conference it wasn’t a happy
g.

’e made some real mistakes in that game,” said Minnis.
bad pitch changed the entire game for us. Central was a
match-up. It was a good game.”

ough the team as a whole did not come out on top some
: players managed to score some pretty high achieve-
s. Jason Crist led the MIAA in strikeouts and made all
rence as well as 2nd team All Region.

son was a major part of the successes our team did
ve this season,” said Minnis. “He has developed a

reputation as a great player and it’s the truth.”

Senior Justin Strauser led the conference in stolen bases and
teammate Javier Martinez was among the top hitters making
2nd Team All Conference. Minnis regarded some other valu-
able team members. David Cook excelled in his duty as
pitcher, while Eric Wilhelm supported his in his relief role
with no saves.

With a lack-luster season behind them, Minnis was going to
spend the summer finding the perfect pieces to replace the
ones he lost at the end of this season. He would lose four
outfielders, two catchers, a shortstop and a 2nd baseman. He
was positive though that he would be able to put together a
good club for the '98 season.

“Hopefully we can recover from losing some of our most
valuable players and go one to a few more victories next year,”
said Minnis. “All it takes is a lot of work, an immense amount
of practice and the right attitude.” •by Tracy Jones

Baseball

ansas State	6-17	Emporia State	9-13
entral Oklahoma	8-5	William Jewell	20-13
entral Oklahoma	9-3	Missouri Southern	6-1
entral Oklahoma	1-7	Missouri Southern	4-13
rthwest Mo. State	16-13	Washburn University	4-6
iceland College	9-1	Washburn Universtiy	4-1
iceland College	8-7	Washburn University	15-3
nkato College	3-4	Northwest Missouri	8-10
edictine College	1-9	UM-Rolla	6-5
edictine College	7-5	UM-Rolla	6-4
rtburg College	5-3	Lincoln U	0-4
ith Dakota State	7-11	Lincoln U	6-5
ith Dakota State	7-3	Rockhurst	9-12
sburg State	2-5	Truman State	9-2
sburg State	8-12	Truman State	7-1
levue	7-10	Southwest Baptist	3-8
levue	6-3	Nortwest Missouri	9-13
poria State	3-7	Central Missouri	1-4
poria State	8-9	Mssouri Southern	6-7

COVERING ALL THE BASES



Row 1: Eric Siverston, Mike Stuver, Dustin Worrell, Lee Hunter, Jeff Thornsberry, David Cook, Mike Parmer, Ryan Linderer, Joe Hendrix, Willis Creed. Row 2: Eric Wilhelm, Mike Dunn, Justin Strauser, Bryce Emrick, Javier Martinez, Travis Grosdidier, Jason Cunningham, Jason Crist, Ryan Thorpe, Clinton Fine, Robert Munier. Row 3: Jarod Olson, Marc King, Jason Orr, Gary Willis, Marty Kelsey, Matt Wiss, Shane Wright, Matt Steele, Ryan Vaughan, Joe Johnson, Corey Williams, Aaron Ward. Row 4: Andy Hilbrich, Robbie Fain, Adrian Roberts, Brett King; Assistant Coach, Scott Archibald; Assistant Coach, Doug Minnis; Head Coach, Donnie Crist; Assistant Coach, Eric Jones; Assistant Coach, Keving Thom, Brandon Quick, Jon Novacek.

The roar of the crowd means everything to us," said football player Mitch Mason. One the playing field, a home field advantage is very important to any athlete. And at Missouri Western State College, there was no shortage of support. From students and faculty and staff to community State College, there was no shortage of support. From students and faculty and staff to community members and sports enthusiasts, MWSC spectators proved true to their team through the defeats as well as the victories.

Spratt Stadium during football season turned festive as friends gathered to watch the competition. Organizations had sections reserved for them so that all members could sit

THE ROAR OF THE FANS

together. Often, groups exchanged in friendly rivalry to see who could be the most spirited.

Several campus organizations attended sports events together, making it a group effort. "We have a great time attending football and basketball games as a fraternity. It shows our support and we have a good time doing it," said Phi Kappa Nathan Beck.

The Looney Fieldhouse adopted the same feeling during the volleyball and basketball season. The stands filled early for many games to watch the Griffons take the court.

Others attended purely for competition.

"I always try to make it to the other teams' games," said basketball player Sara Elgin. "I love to watch sports. I especially like it when it is a close competitive game."

Moral support wasn't the only thing that Griffons provide for their teams. The Missouri Western Gold Coat Club was established to raise money for MWSC athletics. In recent years, the Gold Coat Club fundraising drive has been successful, exceeding goals every year and raising thousands of dollars in money that went to improve athletic facilities, athlete scholarships, and equipment.

Members of the Gold Coat Club received several percent of their financial support including preferred seating at games and complete use of the athletic facilities.

While some teams still struggled to get crowd attendance, the Griffons found the support they needed on the MWSC campus.

by Amy Sullivan



Members of the MWSC cheerleaders perform for the crowd during halftime. The squad danced during halftime and cheered through the game to keep the players motivated and the fans spirited.



Angela Wells

Hundreds of students crowd into one popular section of the fieldhouse during a home Griffon football game. Both the men's and women's teams had exceptional seasons during the past years and gave fans something to cheer about.



Angela Wells

Members of the MWSC Golden Griffon Band perform in their section just behind the Gold Coat Club section in the fieldhouse. The band played throughout the game and at halftime.

Adding a bit of glitz and gold, a bit of style and a lot of spirit to MWSC athletic games was no easy task as a group of students find out every year. The Mystic Dancers and the MWSC Cheerleaders were team players as they supported the athletic teams at their games.

“The athletic games are a lot of fun. But I go for more than the game. It is the whole experience,” said Senior Kass Perrette.

And that whole experience has a lot to do with the women on the sideline.

“We work very hard,” said Cheerleader Mary Zook. “We practice as much as the teams. Physically what we do is very demanding.”

A TIME TO YELL

The human pyramid provides sideline entertainment for football fans between plays. MWSC Cheerleaders braved snow and rain to keep fans spirits up during games.

Getting the crowd riled up on a day that is rainy or frigid at a time when a team is behind can be challenging. But every game, the cheerleaders lend their support to the team as well as the crowd. And at half-time, when the team is taking a breather, it is these squads who take the field to entertain. The Mystic Dancers, at times accompanied by the MWSC Marching Band, entertains with dances to popular music that gets the crowd on its feet and dancing. Often the two squads work together to do routines.

The Mystic Dancers got a new name and a new look this year. And the response has been positive. “I love being a Mystic Dancer. I think what we do is very important. And it is fun to get out there at games and get people on their feet,” said dancer Julie Calfee.

With both squads working together to cheer the Griffon crowd benefited also.

•by Amy Su



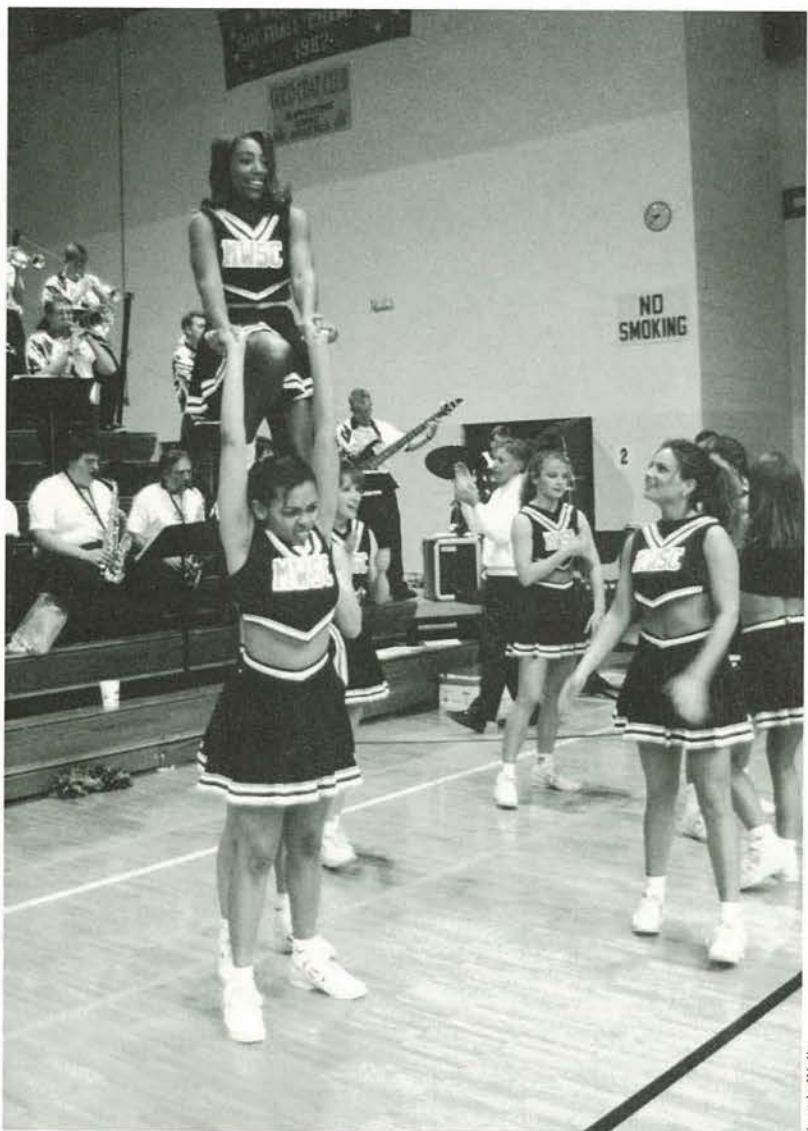
The Mystic Dancers perform with the MWSC Golden Griffon Marching Band during half-time of a MWSC home football game. The dancers got a new look and a new name this year under the direction of new band director, Jeff Hinton.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Getting the right altitude is important for these cheerleaders as they attempt to do a three-tier cheer. With music, dancing and cheering, the Griffon basketball games were exciting even for those who weren't sports enthusiasts.

The end of the 1996 football and volleyball seasons at Missouri Western brought some major changes in both coaching staffs. Head football coach, Stan McGarvey and head volleyball coach, Karen Peterson, have both moved on, leaving their duties to be filled by new faces on campus.

Coach McGarvey was Missouri Western's head football coach. During his six years at that position, he led the team to a 7-4 record in 1996, and a 30-12-2 record since 1992, making it the winningest collegiate football program in Missouri in the NCAA division I, II, or III for the last four years. Coach McGarvey was named the new head coach at West Texas A&M on December 12, 1996.

Coach Peterson spent years as the head volleyball coach at Missouri Western. In 1995, she took her team to the NCAA Division 2 Regional Volleyball Tournament. They did not make it past the first round of the tournament, finishing the year with a season record of 29-8 and an overall record of 29-9. Their season record in 1996 was 4-30.

Giving TEAMS a little PUSH

Coach Stan McGarvey serves his last year as head coach at Missouri Western. Jerry Partridge, a MWSC alum and former assistant coach with the football program, will take over as head coach.

The head coaching positions became available at the same time, but it was necessary for the head football coach to be hired first because football has a shorter season for signing on players than volleyball does. Kaverman and most of the college board members did not have much of a Christmas vacation, spending most of their time taking part in a three week search for a head football coach that ended with the hiring of Jerry Partridge.

As one football player pointed out, most of the freshmen classmen football players will not have a large amount of time adjusting to do with Partridge taking over. A 1985 Missouri Western graduate, Partridge, 33, was the defensive coordinator from 1991-95. He then went on to serve as defensive secondary coach at Murray State University for the last season, which ended with the team being named the Ohio Valley Conference Champs. Partridge has already established a reputation as being a very positive and goal-oriented person who loves to win and is going to win. Don Kaverman said he was very excited about the hiring of Partridge because he has been here before and he is very respected both on and off of campus.

Of course everyone hopes that the new coaches will experience success as they lead Missouri Western's football and volleyball teams in the seasons to come. As far as this season, they are both at a disadvantage in terms of recruiting players because they are forced to get a late start, but there is no doubt in the minds of griffons everywhere that they will improve on last year's performance establish themselves as leaders of two very talented college sports teams.

•by Tracy Jones





The Lady Griffon team and coaching staff stand on edge during a particularly close game. Having the support of coaches and fellow players this close to the court helped guide players through the game

Stan McGarvery and his coaching staff line the sidelines at Spratt Stadium during a home football game. The extensive sideline crowd kept players on their toes with their head in the game.



At most of the sporting events held on and off the Missouri Western campus, a clear picture came to mind; cheering fans on the benches, talented athletes scoring points, and coaches with screams of encouragement. However, one key element to these events were often overlooked; the athletic training department.

The Missouri Western athletic trainers were an essential part of the athletic program. Athletics would have been impossible to conduct without them. This year, five individuals carried the heavy responsibility of being trainers. Those individuals were Chris Johnson, Erika Dick, Bethany Stahlman, Amy Littrell, and Elaine Gross, all under the supervision of head trainer Myron Unzicker.

Much time and dedication was put forth by these students who literally lived in the trainers office.

Junior Erika Dick spent two and a half years as a trainer and her schedule was nothing less that hectic.

"I am in the office everyday, seven days a week. Sundays

are basically our off days because all we do are treatment classes, I am usually here from ten to one on most days. After I finish my classes, I am off to practice with the athletes from two to six-thirty," Dick said.

Senior Chris Johnson agreed.

"For the first three years, I worked over twenty hours a week." Johnson had been with the department for four years and took much pride in being a trainer.

"After graduating from high school, I looked for a school where I could get hands on training as a freshman from the start. Someday I hope to be a head trainer at a school about the size of Missouri Western," Johnson said.

The duties of an athletic trainer were critical. They kept injuries to a minimum. The job primarily consisted of taping ankles before every game and practice and having a first aid kit stick around in case someone did get injured. Trainers also assisted in ultrasound and any other medical needs.

"We basically cater to their every need. If a player becomes injured, we are their to assist," Dick said.

With all of the hard work that the trainers applied, they also received benefits. Not only was being an athletic trainer a great start for a career but the trainers had the opportunity to travel with the teams to such places as Florida and Las Vegas.

"If you like sports, its a great way to be involved without actually playing. Most of the players consider us part of their team with the work that we do," Johnson said.

•by Ashley Irwin

THEIR JOB WAS TO TRAIN

An athletic trainer checks injury on a Griffon football player. Trainers were present at all games as well as practices.





Crystal Sisco

Taping ankles and wrists are a big part of a trainers job. These students know the basics of sports injuries and hope to learn more through their classes and field experience.



Crystal Sisco

Before practice, head trainer Myron Unzicker helps a player with stretching exercises. Such exercises improved players performances.



P

PRIMARY FOCUS



Senior art major Nick Melewski's eye-catching oil painting was a point of interest while it was displayed in one of Western's galleries. The artist used this piece of a piece in his senior show exhibit in the spring.



NY DIFFERENT KINDS OF PEOPLE CONSTRUCTED THE INTENSE DIVERSITY OF MISSOURI WESTERN'S
IDENT BODY. IT TOOK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS TO SUCCESSFULLY PIECE TOGETHER
PORTRAIT OF OUR INSTITUTION. EACH ONE POSSESSED A SPECIAL ABILITY, WHICH WAS NOT OFTEN
OWN TO THE GREATER POPULATION OF CAMPUS. SOME HAD TALENTS IN DANCING AND MODELING,
LE OTHERS FOUND THEIR CALLING IN HELPING PEOPLE. EVEN UNIQUE SKILLS LIKE TAROT READING AND
VISION NEWS REPORTING WERE STAPLES, AS INDIVIDUALITY ABOUNDED.



Music major, Henoeh Kristianto performs a selection by Bach. Kristianto came to the United States in hopes of becoming a famous concert pianist.

Tracy Jones

essentially true talent was gained by all when Henoch Kristianto came to study Missouri Western. Kristianto came to study piano with music instructor Jerry son and to obtain a bachelor's degree in music.

och Ronald Kristianto was born in Semarang, Indonesia. When he was younger l no desire to play the piano.

hen I was very young my parents offered me piano lessons, but I didn't want to en," Kristianto said. "At the time, I thought classical music was stupid."

h began to develop a love for classical music later on in his life.

hen I was 14 I went to a church in Indonesia and was fascinated with the choirs e church music. It was then that I began to want to play piano and learn church . That developed into a love for classical music," Kristianto said.

prisingly, Kristianto did not begin taking piano lessons until he was 15. After g taught himself to play coherently, he began to take lessons to improve his He then came to the United States where he felt there were more opportunities n to develop into the musician he wanted to be. He was fascinated by America pped to continue his stay in the U.S.

lan to stay in the United States after graduation," Kristianto said.

rk the United States has more chances and opportunities to offer me. My goal ecome a famous concert pianist."

rough classes were difficult, adjusting to life in the United States, not to mention the residence halls, was a cultural experience for Kristianto.

ys and girls are different here. I think that's neat," Kristianto said.

is few years of playing the piano he had already won numerous awards. In April after playing the piano for only a year and a half, he competed in the Thailand Competition to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the king's accession to one. There he won the awards for best performance for Bach, Sonata and the nasart, one of the king's pieces. In October 1995 he went on to win first place Yamaha Piano Competition in Indonesia.

stiano's quick success surprised even him.

ink this is a talent from God. Nothing else can explain it," said Kristianto.

HENOCH KRISTIANTO

BRANDY JENKINS

by Krissy Fulk

Most students at Missouri Western State College stay busy with homework and maybe even one or two organizations. But junior Brandy Jenkins did many things to stay involved at MWSC. She was involved in several organizations on campus, as well as her classes.

One thing that Jenkins had done in college was mentoring. While Jenkins was involved in mentoring this year, she was still very proud of the fact that she had helped two young boy's lives. Jenkins was a mentor for a group called Connect Tomorrow.

Jenkins was also a member of several other clubs and organizations on campus. She was in the Forensics Club, SGA and was a founding member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. Sigma Nu Chapter. Jenkins was also the historian and publicity chairperson for the Ebony Collegians. Many college students would have found Jenkins' schedule a bit too grueling to handle, but for Jenkins it was just a normal life. A commitment to change was her driving force.

There were many other reasons why Jenkins stayed so busy. She often had to juggle up with the work from 18 hours of classes, as well as the work from all of her organizations. Time management became a prevalent issue for Jenkins, but she believed the sacrifice was worth it.

Jenkins said, "I feel that you need to broaden your horizons and be able to take care of yourself. I am in Delta Sigma Theta because of the community service aspect and in Forensics and the Ebony Collegians because I like to make a difference."

"It's hard to juggle your schedule and sometimes your social life gets sacrificed. Your grades and classes do sometimes as well, but you have to learn to deal with it," Jenkins said.

Jenkins stayed so busy here at Missouri Western to prepare herself for her future. She plans to go on to graduate school after leaving Missouri Western, and eventually become a lawyer. Jenkins wants to fight for the common good in her careers, both as a student, and as a professional.

"I feel good about the things I do. I am 19 and a junior in college. Missouri Western has given me a lot and I feel that when I graduate I will have given back to Missouri Western."

Whether you were a student who was overwhelmed with simple duties or someone who was always busy, one had to respect Brandy Jenkins for everything that she did on campus, and the goals she had set forth for herself for the rest of her life. Whatever she chooses to do, Jenkins is certain to excel.



LaTanya Jackson

Brandy Jenkins proudly displays her Greek affiliation. Her first priority was to help her fellow students and make a difference through campus involvement.

AWSIE fredrickson

by Krissy Fulk

When most people thought of women's sports they thought of softball, volleyball, swimming, or tennis. Missouri Western student, Angie Fredrickson, broke through this stereotype. Fredrickson took part in a sport that most people would feel was only for men: weightlifting.

Fredrickson started weightlifting when she was still in elementary school. She tried to build up her skills for other sports she participated in. When she was in high school, her coach started teaching her Olympic-style lifts and she started competing. The rest, as they say, is history.

Like any other college student, Fredrickson stayed very busy. She attended classes during the day then from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m., Fredrickson worked at a bank to earn money. In the evening when most other college students were going home to do homework or just relax, Fredrickson was heading to the gym to train until about 10 p.m.

Some college students would have felt that Fredrickson's schedule was too full of work and not enough play, but she didn't mind. Fredrickson felt that missing out on some of the fun things was not that bad considering everything else she got out of her sport.

"Since I do so many other things, I really don't miss going out that much," Fredrickson said.

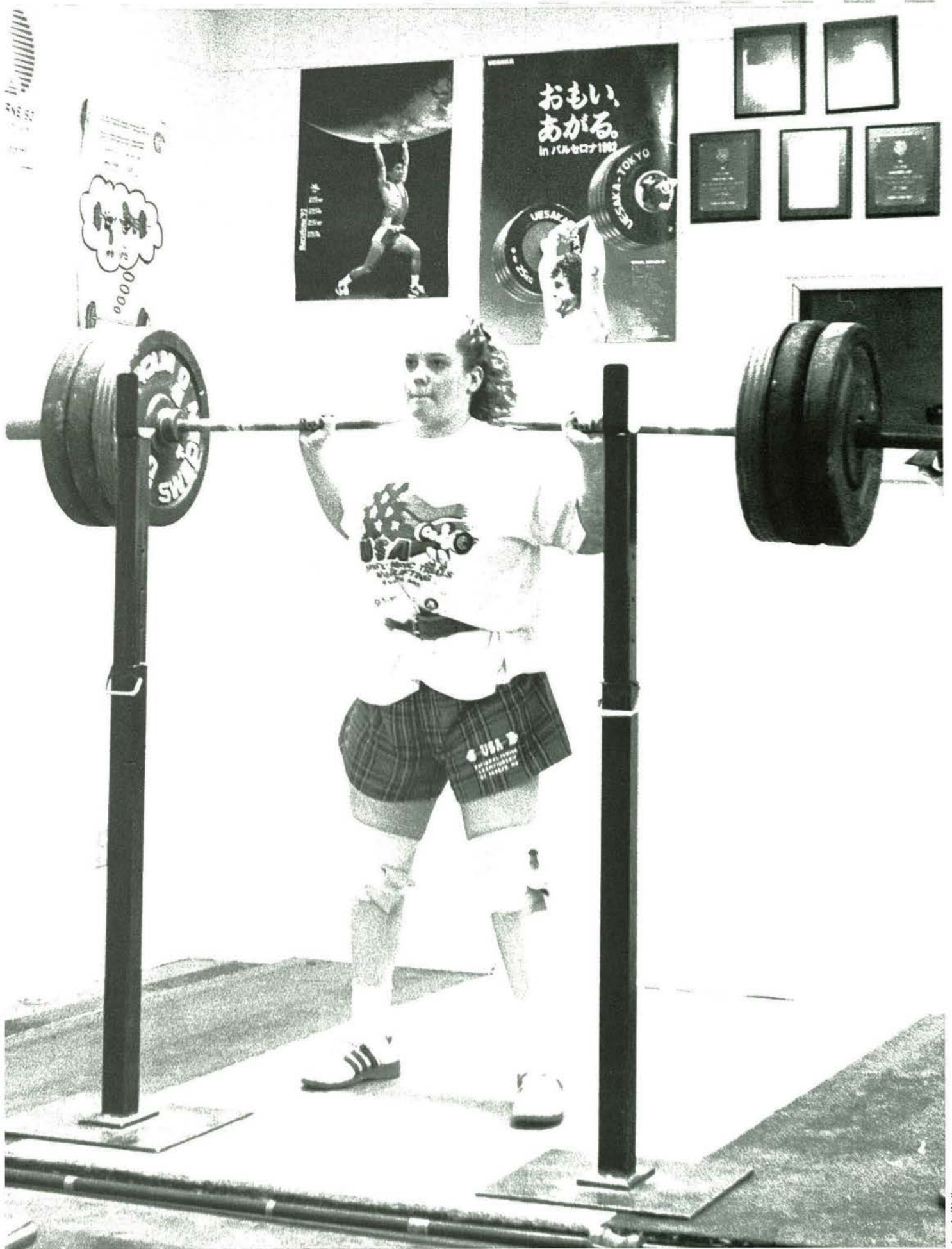
She didn't just lift weights for the exercise or strengths she also competed in international competitions. There is a national competition about every three months with competitions between the nationals. Fredrickson has competed in the Olympic trials here in St. Joseph and the Junior World Championships in Warsaw, Poland. Not only has Fredrickson competed but she has also won many events.

"I have been Junior National Champion for four years and I have competed in the Senior National Championships," Fredrickson said.

One of the perks that went along with being a very talented weightlifter was that Fredrickson got to visit different places around the world. She has visited Buenos Aires, Warsaw, New York, California and Florida, and worked out in the University of Tennessee's football fitness center.

Fredrickson planned to continue with weightlifting for as long as possible and she will definitely continue whether or not female weightlifting will be added as an event at the 2000 Olympics. If that is the case, Fredrickson feels that she has a very good chance of making the team and will continue lifting at least until then.

"I plan to continue lifting as long as school allows," Fredrickson said.



Angie Frederickson

Angie Frederickson lifts weights as she prepares for an upcoming competition. Frederickson has competed in Budapest, Warsaw, New York, California and Florida.

ABDU C Abdelnassar

by Ashley Imlay

Hard working, determined, and compassionate; those are just a few words that can describe senior Abdul Abdelnassar. Not only was Abdelnassar president of the Phi Alpha fraternity and an intern for the Missouri Western security department,

he spent his spare time working for a worthwhile cause.

Abdelnassar dedicated his last year at to a program which originated on campus through the division of youth services in the criminal justice department. He worked as a tracker, helping to guide less fortunate youths in the Kansas City area. He dedicated his weekends to spending quality time with juveniles who needed positive role models.

“The kids have, in some way or another, gotten into trouble and they need that guidance,” Abdelnassar said. “It’s sort of like a big brother big sister program.”

Abdelnassar usually spent one to two days a week with the children. He was there to listen and give advice. The kids had an adult figure to be there for them that they previously lacked.

“I consider myself their buddy, someone they can talk too. Then I talk with my supervisor and report the kids’ progress,” Abdelnassar said. “It can be hard for a person, though, because I find myself getting attached. I spend a lot of time to make sure they stay on the positive road.”

A teenager on his case load had a part time job, and in order to make sure that he remained at work and out of trouble, Abdelnassar paid him one dollar, out of his pocket, for every hour the young man worked. Abdelnassar felt though, that there were those kids that needed more than just a big brother.

“When I first started I had a kid that started doing wrong things again and I felt like I had failed him,” Abdelnassar said. “It took me a while to get over the feeling that I had failed.”

Abdelnassar was also involved in many other projects around St. Joseph. His organization adopted a highway, tutored students at Bode Middle School, and implemented a clean-up program at a park near the East Side Human Resource Center.

As for Abdelnassar’s future, he graduated in December with a degree in criminal justice and an associate’s degree in legal studies. He planned to incorporate the experiences he received from his work with kids not only helped his career but the memories he had obtained would last a lifetime.

“It was a good feeling to see the children excited to see me and to hear them say, thank you,” Abdelnassar said.



LaTanya Jackson

Senior Abdul Abdelnassar dashes from one time-consuming activity to another. Abdelnassar spent much of his spare time catering to youth in the community.



Harold Slater Public Service Intern, Brett Wise, returns to the steps of Missouri Western as he spares a few days from his work in the capitol. Wise got first-hand knowledge of the inner-workings of Missouri government during his time in Jefferson City.

Mandy Fitzwater

While most Missouri Western students were scurrying from class to class and hanging out in the residence halls and various gathering spots on campus, senior Brett Wise spent his spring semester working in the Missouri state capital in Jefferson City.

Wise took advantage of a unique opportunity sponsored by The Missouri Western College Foundation better known as the Harold Slater Public Service Internship. Wise was a political science major who minored in general business and anticipated graduating in May of 1998. He planned to continue with law school at Northwestern University in Boston, to specialize in criminal defense. Once out of law school, Wise intended to work in a public defenders office focusing on the defense of capital crimes and death row inmates.

Wise's internship only fueled this desire even more by showing him how society is tilted to one side and how easy it is for some to forget those who are less fortunate and how he could help some of those people by pursuing public interest law. "I can highly recommend that anyone who has the opportunity to participate in this internship do so," Wise said. "It has been the most educational experience of my life." Wise described his duties as clerical ones such as filing, making copies, and answering questions, and also legislative ones such as bills, constituent matters and academic work as a staff advisor.

Wise worked with State Rep. Glenda Kelly from St. Joseph and stayed in Jefferson City full time. He extended his college career by one year to participate in the internship, but says that he does not regret it one bit. He also had to submit an application, a brief essay, a letter of recommendation from the department chair and a copy of his transcript.

"These experiences have given me a great opportunity to help others," Wise said. "The people I have helped have taught me a great deal about being the person I want to be." One could say that Wise was definitely on the right path for a prosperous career in law. His hard work and dedication and a decision to overcome the academic troubles he had during his first two years of college were enough reasons to see him as a role model to any student who wanted to make the most of their college education. Though others may have seen his success as a personal accomplishment, Wise felt that he owed his success to the valuable educational experiences he received at Missouri Western and to an extremely supportive and influential group of family and friends.

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LAZELL Williams

by Krissy Fulk

With classes and part time jobs, it is often difficult for full time college students to partake in campus organizations or to become actively involved in other projects.

Much is the contrary for junior Lazell Williams. Not only is he a member of many social committees on campus, but Williams plan on becoming a minister after graduation. He has already received his ministry license and has conducted two sermons in Kansas City. "I share the message I receive. My job is to share the message with as many people as possible," says Williams.

Williams became interested in ministry a while back. "I feel I was called at an early age. It is a part of me, a part of my character," says Williams. "Since I accepted my calling, it's opened my eyes to a lot of things going on in the community around me, as well as things going on in school."

Unity is a strong word in Williams vocabulary. Williams said that unity was one thing that was lacking in his own community and he noticed that other students on this campus had the same background as himself. "For me, it's frustrating to live with these problems that people carry with them everyday. This is why I've become so active at Missouri Western and in the community," said Williams.

And active he is. When Williams was eighteen, he became actively involved in ministry. "My mother is a minister and about four years ago she accepted her calling into ministry, so she is probably the biggest influence in my life," says Williams.

Williams has been active with the social aspect on the Missouri Western campus as well. Along with the two semesters he has spent on the senate of the student government, he has also been involved with the Missouri Western band as a member of the drum line for the past four years.

Williams is an active member of Phi Mu Alpha which is a professional music fraternity. "We encourage and promote the highest standards of performance education and resource in music in America," said Williams.

Other groups include TEC, otherwise known as the Ebony Collegians and a new program that is just getting off the ground called the Buddy Program. "The Buddy Program gets underclassmen and returning students a form of a support system for minority freshman. This helps them focus on social skills as well as academics," Williams explains. At this time, Williams is working on quite a few students, trying to get the buddy program under way.

Williams plan to continue his mission toward unity. "Before I leave Missouri Western, I would like to help develop a sense of unity in the community to minority students, concrete and symbolic sense, if there is such a thing," says Williams.



Crystal Sisco

Senior Lazell Williams is essentially an integral part of student life at MWSC. Lazell hoped to move into ministry after school.





Gerry Smith adds detail to a painting in one of his art classes. Smith returned to college after returning from a 26 year career as a principal.

Mandy Fitzwater

former principal, coach, and teacher, a model, an actor, and an aspiring author
artist; one man held all of these titles as a non-traditional Missouri Western
ent. Gerry Smith had lead what many would consider to be a very fulfilling life,
his adventures were far from over when he retired after serving a total of 26 years
principal in the St. Joseph area.
Smith retired from his job as principal to do other things, including consulting
in leadership development. He decided to take courses at Missouri Western as
of increasing his quality of life by learning, living, loving, and leaving a legacy.
y Smith developed a A.A.A. plan, which stood for Actor, Artist, and Author and
mined his selection of courses at Western.
The actor part of his plan began when he took one year of classes from a retired
ywood actor in Kansas City in commercial and video acting. Smith was a non-
acting extra in the HBO produced film about Harry S. Truman filmed in Kansas
as an extra he was paid only minimum wage for his work. He was excited to see
the movie, but was disappointed to find that you could see only his hands and torso
in the finished product.
The other side of the actor portion of his plan was modeling, which he had been
doing for three years. Of the two types of modeling, print and video, Smith was a print
model, his wages ranging from \$60 to \$150 per hour. He modeled for such companies
as The Jones Store and the Hallmark Corporation, whom he said was the best job
because they paid a high wage and the job usually lasted all day.
"You get more money the more places that your picture appears, especially
magazines," Smith said. "It may sound like a model makes a lot of money, but you
only get one job a month. There is so much competition."
The artist and author sections of his plan for the development of creativity were part
of his desire to leave a legacy behind. He took a course in drawing his first year at
Missouri Western and one in painting his second, and painted portraits of his son and
his mother. He wanted to develop a skill that he felt stopped being developed in the
high school grade. He planned to take a creative writing course to help him get the training
he felt was necessary to reach his goal of getting a book published.
He chose the title, *Zen and the Art of Golf* for his book, which would use examples
and illustrations from golf to show how to deal with major dysfunctional areas of life
and how to deal with relationships so that one can enjoy life more.

GERRY SMITH

COLLEEN Williams

by Krissy Fulk

Most students looked forward to graduation and the opportunity to begin putting to practice the essential knowledge they had gained from classes. However,

some students didn't wait until graduation to begin meeting career goals. Colleen

Williams plunged into her career full-time while still carrying a full class schedule to finish earning her degree.

Williams dealt with the pressure of trying to keep up her grades in the 15 hours of classes she was taking, while working at least 40 hours per week as an anchor on KQ2 news every week day. Time quickly became an issue that Williams was herself dealing with.

"I feel like a dual personality," Williams said. "I go from being a college student telling people about the news."

A speech communication major with an emphasis in video production, Williams got her start in the broadcasting business from her academic advisor, who got her doing behind-the-scenes work for a 6:30 a.m. news show. She later got an in-front-of-the-camera job with the campus news program "Western Weekly," and from there she moved into the job at KQ2.

Williams enjoyed her job, but it was not as glamorous as some might have thought. When she was out getting a story, she had to carry nearly 75 pounds of equipment on her own. One of her jobs as a journalist was to find the small bits of background information needed for a story while attempting to strike the balance that creates an objective news story, all without getting too emotionally involved. As with most journalism jobs, she started from the very bottom, but Williams was optimistic, she felt she would only move up.

The best qualities of the job were that every day was different and Williams was able to use her talents and education to the fullest extent. She was able to spend her time talking to different people and obtaining important messages to relay to people in the St. Joseph area. Letting the public know what was happening in their city was a great concern to Williams.

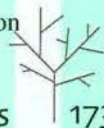
That conviction and experience paid off in a major way once Williams graduated in December. She took a position as bureau chief at KTVO in Ottumwa, Iowa. The station was a branch of an ABC affiliate based in Kirksville. Williams' duties ranged from research to live reporting. She was excited about getting to take advantage of many opportunities Missouri Western and KQ2 had prepared her for.

"I can't believe I get paid to do something I love," Williams said.



Crystal Sisco

Senior Colleen Williams prepares for a broadcast. In addition to being a student at MWSC, Williams was also seen reporting news on campus.



TONYA TIPPIT

by Tracy Jones

If one said, "let's play cards," to senior commercial art major Tonya Tippit of poker would not follow. Where one's fate was about to take them was the and a very serious matter when she revealed her talent as a tarot card master.

Tippit's interest in tarot reading was sparked while doing research for an art course. Her research dealt with the magic associated with symbols and words as they played a part in early works of art.

"I was drawn to the cards originally because of their beauty and artistry," Tippit.

She said the cards were "magical" symbols from ancient times. They reached in popularity in France in the 1600s. Even Napoleon later had his cards read. Though tarot had its following there was also great opposition to its use. Many Christian religions condemned the practice as a the devil's clever way of seducing new converts. An idea that Tippit didn't identify with.

"I view the cards as more entertainment than prophecy," she said. "When people's cards it shows them events that may occur, because our future is never set in stone, and we have the capability to change it."

Tippit was also familiar with the various patterns for reading cards ranging from simple layouts to very elaborate methods. These methods were set apart also by the number of cards used, some used only one while others used the entire deck. She was most familiar with the cross pattern which consisted of ten cards.

Aside from the differing patterns for reading there were many other rules that governed the practice and care of the cards. The cards were to be stored in a lockbox wrapped in purple velvet with the ace of swords on the top of the deck. No one other than the master could work the cards unless they were given permission.

As Tippit quickly found there were as many different kinds of decks as there were outcomes. Some were based on the Arthurian legends, others were based on the original French deck. The cards consisted of major and minor arcana. The minor arcana played with suits of cups, rods, swords and coins. The major arcana represented the emperor, empress, moon, star, world, wheel of fortune and lovers.

"I think they can be a useful tool if you have a very nagging worry or uncertainty," said Tippit, "you can look at the possible outcomes of the situation and either resign yourself to it or start making sure the outcome is changed."

Though Tippit did find power in the cards she did not charge for readings, a common misconception brought on by the gypsy legend swearing that for the cards to work silver must cross the palm.

"That's a bit capitalistic for my taste."



Angela Wells

Tonya Tippitt poses for the photographer. Tippitt's unique attitude and sense of style made her an essential addition to the MWSC student body.



Marcy Shale pursued a criminal justice degree at MWSC in spite of being visually impaired. Shale also pursued Karate and volunteer work.

Erica Anders

When you ask Marcy Shale about her handicap, she will tell you that she is “visually impaired,” not blind. Shale has lived her entire life without perfect vision. Born naturally with the handicap, it became increasingly worse as her life progressed.

However, Shale’s attitude and outlook on her life and her accomplishments hardly differ from those of someone with a handicap.

Shale was extremely interested in martial arts and had a green belt in karate. She also enjoyed reading, which sometimes had to be done with a magnifying glass. Earning a green belt was perhaps influenced by growing up in Dodge City, Kansas. Her neighborhood was filled with gang related occurrences and Shale often saw the wickedness of crime. She remembered an instance from junior high when there was a gun bust at her school. Her mother, scared to death, then moved them from the big city to the smaller rural town of Creig, Missouri with a population of 300 people. “Thinking about the crime and my association with the people scares me now. I decided that something had to be done,” Shale said.

Shale decided to become a criminal justice major with an emphasis in juvenile delinquencies. In order to graduate, she had to finish her practicum at the YMCA, focusing on the relationship between teenagers and their parents.

“Kids sometimes don’t listen to older people. I would like to help by being a relatable person that way the kids could find it easier to relate to,” Shale said.

Shale had experience in dealing with delinquencies when she volunteered at a shelter for males between the ages of twelve to thirty-two. She stayed in a classroom setting and served as a security guard. Despite the refutes from some members of her family, Shale enjoyed and looked forward to being involved in criminal justice. “My aunt thinks it’s dangerous for me to be involved with prisoners. However, I’ve realized that I have to obtain a balance between street smarts and my emotions,” Shale said.

One of the dreams that Shale had always wanted to fulfill was becoming a police officer or being active in the military. However, those dreams were not very attainable.

“My family is very military oriented. But for some crazy reason, they don’t like to see blind females guns in the military,” Shale said.

It was that kind of humor that kept Shale reaching for her goals and not allowing a typical stereotype to get in her way. She was also very willing to share her experiences.

“I don’t believe that people have a real problem with accepting something they don’t understand. But, if you don’t ask questions you can’t understand,” she said.

MARCY SHALE



JOE pilgrim

by Dusty Jester

If one was looking for the essence of music in motion, they didn't have far to go as MWSC dance student Joe Pilgrim exemplified the extraordinary. Despite g

what some may have considered a late start, as he only began dancing in the

1995, Pilgrim advanced under the firm hand of his instructor and choreographer Paul Chambers, to become a talented member of the Missouri Western Dance Company. All of which was a distinct accomplishment for a man who only attended one dance class in high school; his senior prom.

Despite this fact, Pilgrim secretly engaged in nightly television sessions with dancers other than the *Saturday Night Fever* dancers until he entered college and enrolled in his first structured dance class. In high school, his hidden desire had been to learn ballroom dance, as he loved a challenge.

This was only the beginning, as ballroom dancing has led to modern dance. Pilgrim engaged in a technique named after Hanya Holm, one of the four pioneers of modern dance, and the person who taught his teacher, Paul Chambers. The technique starts with the dancer lying on the floor, then sitting, and finally standing to perform.

"At first I hated this technique, but without it, I wouldn't be as far as I am," Pilgrim said.

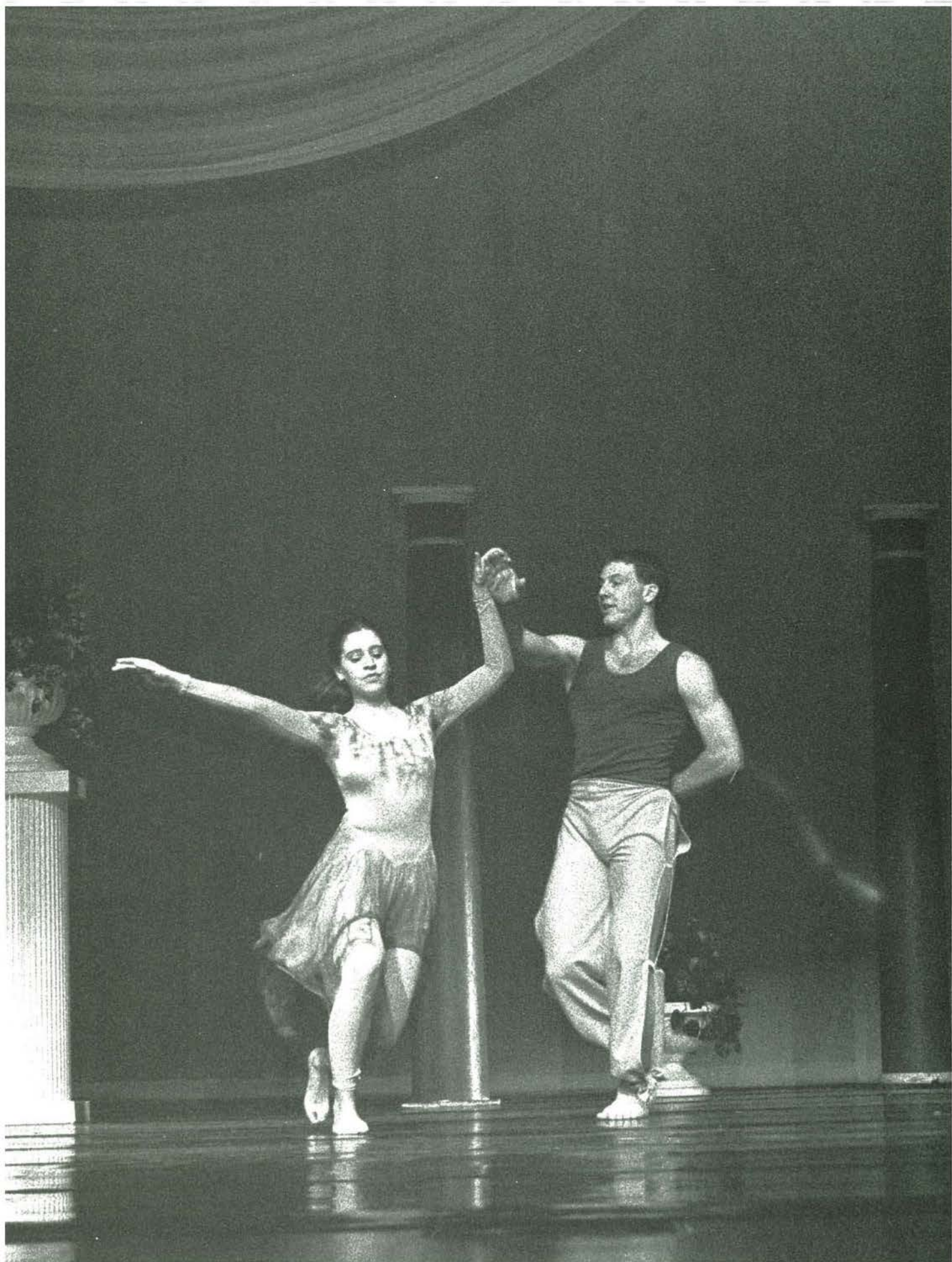
Pilgrim loved to dance to "jazz or something with a driving beat" and preferred group performances to solo ones, despite the fact that solo performances allow a dancer to cover their mistakes. He enjoyed modern dance the best because of the freedom of expression, yet had also found satisfaction putting on exhibitions of the waltz with its intricate footwork and partner lifts. He also went on a teaching excursion with fellow dancer, Elisha Vincent, to teach swing to an American History class at Central High School.

His inspiration to dance came from Elisha Vincent, Hamilton Henderson, his brother Lawrence, his brother Fred, as well as his teacher, Paul Chambers. Pilgrim decided to focus on dancing for his future. In the next few years his plans were to move toward making it into a professional dance company or teaching dance later on in the line.

Always the rebel, Pilgrim tamed his wild-side on the stage, and let loose in his free time. He maintained a very busy schedule between dance, class, and work at Hillcrest 4 Theater.

"Unfortunately, dance takes up so much time that I don't get out to do other things," Pilgrim said.

With his abundant talent, don't be surprised in the future to see the name of Joe Pilgrim in lights. This was one man with a true desire to succeed, and the talent to make it all happen.



Katie Dean

oe Pilgrim and his dance partner practice for a performance on the fine arts stage. Pilgrim juggled his hectic dance schedule in addition to school and a job.



Jamel Bell stands just outside of the Pass The Power office in downtown St. Joseph. Bell worked to combat illiteracy in her job at the center.

Tracy Jones

...ever there was a student who personified, exemplified and epitomized the power
...e in helping others, it was Jamel Bell. She was not a star on television or on
...wood's big screens, but to those she helped to attain one of life's most simplest
... she was as famous as they come.

...junior communications major with public relations emphasis, Bell had goals of
...ing out and helping those who could not read, as a volunteer for St. Joseph's Pass
...power literacy program, Bell did just that. She was able to give the gift of literacy
...lts and children as well as entire families. Through her volunteer efforts at Pass
...power and the Children's Defense Fund, which targets children with literacy,
...l and family issues, Bell continued to gain momentum in the cause.

...s devastating to find that so many children can't read," Bell said. "These
...ams help to bring children to the level at which they should be able to read and
...brings the family together, as the parents of these children are often below the
...ard reading level as well."

...ll's efforts to banish illiteracy did not stop there. She was working diligently with
...nistration at Missouri Western to bring a literacy program to campus. She hoped
...ll to bring a Children's Defense Fund Freedom School to St. Joseph. The school
...d work with children's literacy issues through family involvement. Bell was
...dy working with local radio to develop programming for children.

...ide from her hectic life as student and volunteer Bell was married to Missouri
...ern admissions councilor Karl Bell. Though they sometimes found themselves
...g battle with conflicting schedules, helping to shape other's lives was a reward
...both cherished.

.../e both feel like we're complimenting one another," Bell said, "In that we are both
...ing on the different aspects of the same goal: education."

...was that goal of education Bell was determined to continue by becoming involved
...e St. Joseph school system, focusing on the education of African American
...ren. Her interest though was in the education of all children. Bell wanted parents,
...ators and community members to realize what they each had the responsibility to
...r others.

.../e have to stop blaming other people for problems we have the ability to solve
...lves," Bell said. "Everybody can grow and progress if someone is there to show
...the way."

...was certain that literacy had a determined advocate in Jamel Bell. Her commit-
...to helping everyone was ever clear in the anonymous phrase she often used to
...motivation to each of her endeavors: Each one, reach one, teach one.

JAMEL BELL

Seniors

Pamela Alden
Christopher Archer
Nicholas Austin
Jennifer Bedwell
Roger Bender
Brandon Bertz
Lori Bigham



John Block
Jay Boswell
Melissa Boyles
Jill Braithwait
Crystal Brown
Maureen Clark
Janice Brown



Doug Buckman
Jean Burgess
Chad Burns
Mandy Coffman
Colin Coker
Kimberly Cole
Richard Cook



Cristi Coulter
Donnie Crist
Derrek Crump
Scott Davies
Allison Deatherage
Cyndi Debey
Brendan Dillon



Susan Diven
Jennifer Dodds
Marty Doogs
Kevin Duvall
Jennifer Ellwyn
Joanne Flowers
Lana Fowler



Tanya Fritz
Nathan Gallow
Vicki Gentzell
Shela Gibson
Keith Gilliland
Mary Gittings
Edward Grimes



David Grimm
Amy Gwinn
Nancy Haller
Carol Harkrider
Rena Hawkins
Geoff Heckman
Jimmy Heinrichs



Sophia Henlon
Heather Hennessey
Darius Highsmith
Penny Huff
David Hunkins
Timothy Hutchinson
John Jackman





Caroline Jackson
 Sylvia Jeffers
 Crystal Johnson
 Letetia Johnson
 Shereka Kelly
 Joseph N. King
 Antoinetta Kirk-Jones

Berry Kirkpatrick
 Gina Kneib
 Connie Kraft
 Donald E. Krull
 Matt Laipple
 Christine Lake
 Melissa Lee

Sharmin Wiegand
 Judy Lillie
 Ryan Livingston
 Alawna Lotz
 Tania Maggart
 Joanna Marrs
 Michelle Marshall

Carla McGee
 Melanie McNew
 Brian Meng
 Kevin Meng
 Kim Mestemacher
 Linda Meyer
 Ruth Meyer

Kent Mills
 Coleen Moyer
 Nicholas Muller
 Vanessa Nesselhuf
 Jim Nichols
 George Nytes
 Amy Olsen

John Olszowka
 Thomas Owen
 Lara Petrie
 Andrea Pfeiffer
 Teresa Phillips
 Erin Plaisted
 Melinda Ralls

Andrea Ray
 Christal Reeter
 Stephanie Robinson
 Sara Rogers
 Diane Routh
 Steve Saffel
 Kara Sanders

Kimberly Schiermeyer
 Richard Shaginaw
 Ray Smith
 Janene Snyder
 Dennis Stanton
 Lesley Stracke
 Becky Stinson

Taylor - Yroz

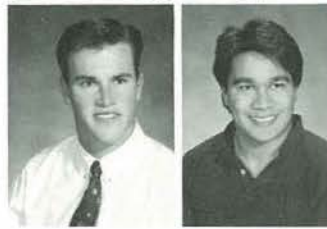
Sharon Taylor
 Sonya Thomas
 Theresa Vanzandt
 Tamara Violet
 Angie Voga
 Felicia D. Wakefield
 Carrol Watkins



Catherine Wells
 David Wells
 Raquel West
 Michele Wilson
 Tobie Wilcox
 Todd Winborn
 Kevin Woodhurst



John Wright
 Roberto Yroz



Abernathy - Blankenship

U *nderclassmen*

Heather Abernathy
 Ralph Aldridge
 Vicki Alessi
 Antonio Allen
 Mellissa Allen
 Rebecca Almond
 James Altizer



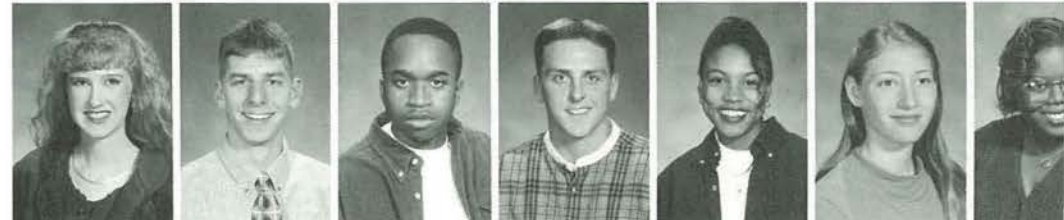
Erica Anders
 Amy Anselm
 Robert Asher
 Angela Bailey
 Kristi Bailey
 Matthew Baird
 Jennifer Baker

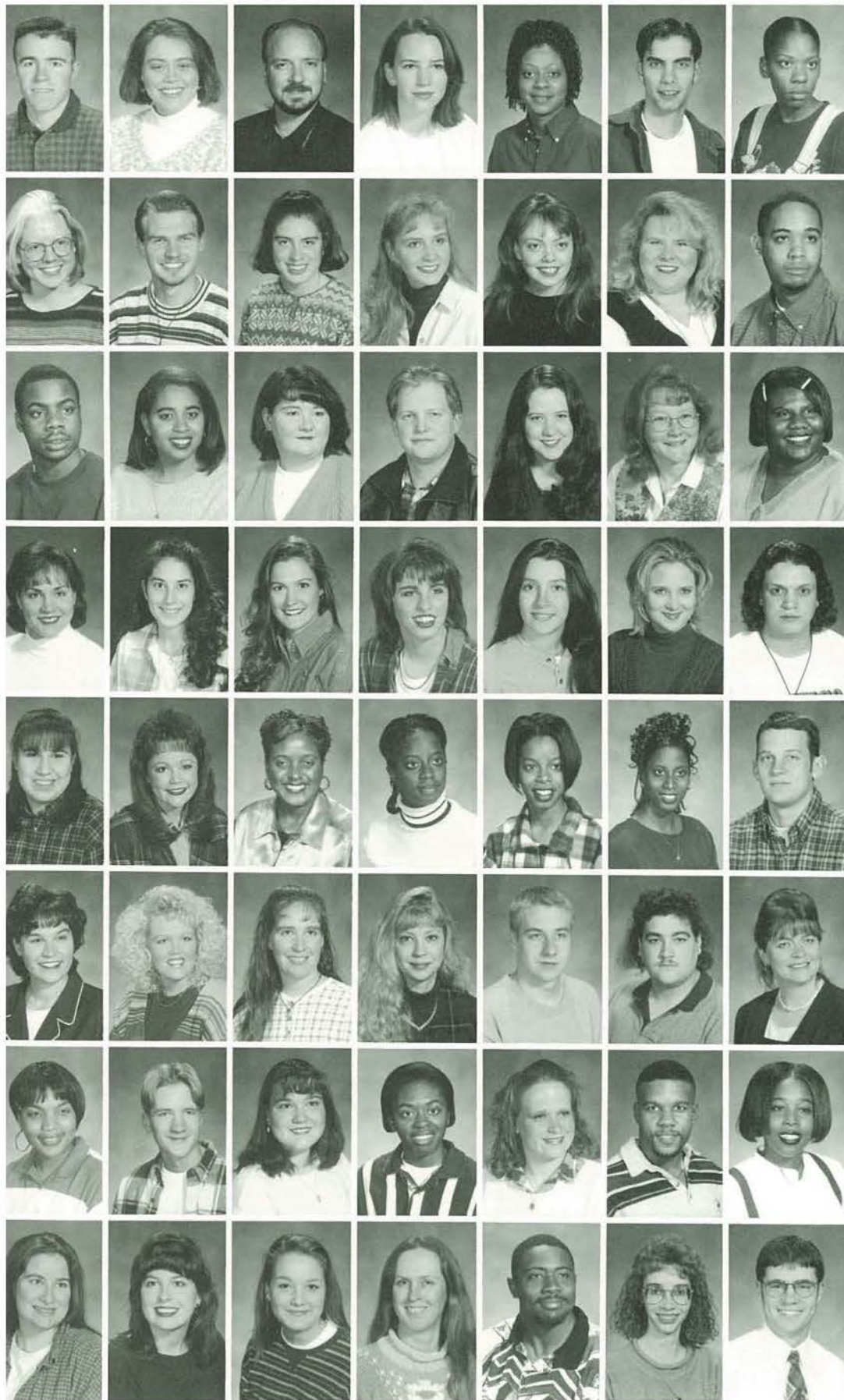


Catina Baldwin
 Emma Bales
 Courtney Ball
 Sarah Banko
 Crystal Banks
 Kenneth Beal
 Stacy Beebe



Misty Bell
 Michael Beuz
 Derek Bigham
 Richard Bigham
 Michelle Blakley
 Michelle Bland
 Tisha Blankenship





Erich Bodenhausen
 Jacqueline Bogue
 Davi Boothe
 Melissa Boswell
 Elaine Bows
 Raman Bradshaw
 Tacia Brandt

Jessica Bredahl
 Levi Breeding
 Rebekah Breitenstein
 Gina Brejnik
 Tomie Brewer
 Kay Brown
 Leroy Brown

Terry Browne
 Kasey Bruce
 Kari Bryson
 Stephen Buchholz
 Wendy Buhs
 Meelissa Bush
 Carla Byrd

Tracy Byrd
 Kristie Calcaterra
 Stacy Calcote
 Julie Calfee
 Jennifer Campbell
 Kerri Cannon
 James Cardwell

Athena Carey
 Cathy Carney
 Clarissa Carriger
 Ashinta Caruthers
 Nyree Caruthers
 Sharita Caruthers
 Chaney Cathcart

Sarah Chartier
 Bridgett Chatman
 Miranda Christian
 Heather Christoffer
 Chad Clark
 T. Clark
 Venita Clark

Brandy Clay
 Wesley Coffey
 Stephanie Coffey
 Maria Cole
 Shandi Cole
 Richard Coleman
 Charon Collier

Shauna Collier
 Natalie Comer
 Alicia Copeland
 Diana Corzine
 Rickey Cozart
 Misty Cracraft
 Steve Crane

Carrie Crawford
 Jason Crawford
 Kari Crawford
 Susan Crawford
 Jennifer Creason
 Juanita Crews
 Teresa Crider



Brenda Cronin
 Kristina Crum
 Erin Cunningham
 Paula Curran
 Elizabeth Daniel
 Vonda Daniels
 Dawn Davidson



Stacie De Clue
 Jennifer Deal
 Dan Dekraai
 Terri Dennis
 Gina Dewey
 Denise Dibella
 Denise Dickinson



Holly Doogs
 Leslie Dorrel
 Lara Drake
 John Drowns
 Brian Duane
 Shaelta Duncan
 Melissa Dunst



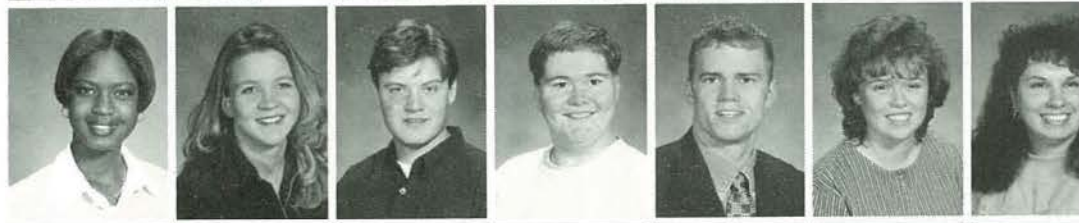
Tuanette Duvall
 Megan Dwyer
 Jennifer Easton
 Akami Eayers
 Janet Edson
 Allison Edwards
 Bambi Edwards



Edsel Edwards
 Angela Eisenbarth
 Erin Elliott
 Dixie Ellsworth
 Michael Erickson
 Lindsay Eulinger
 Ryan Everett

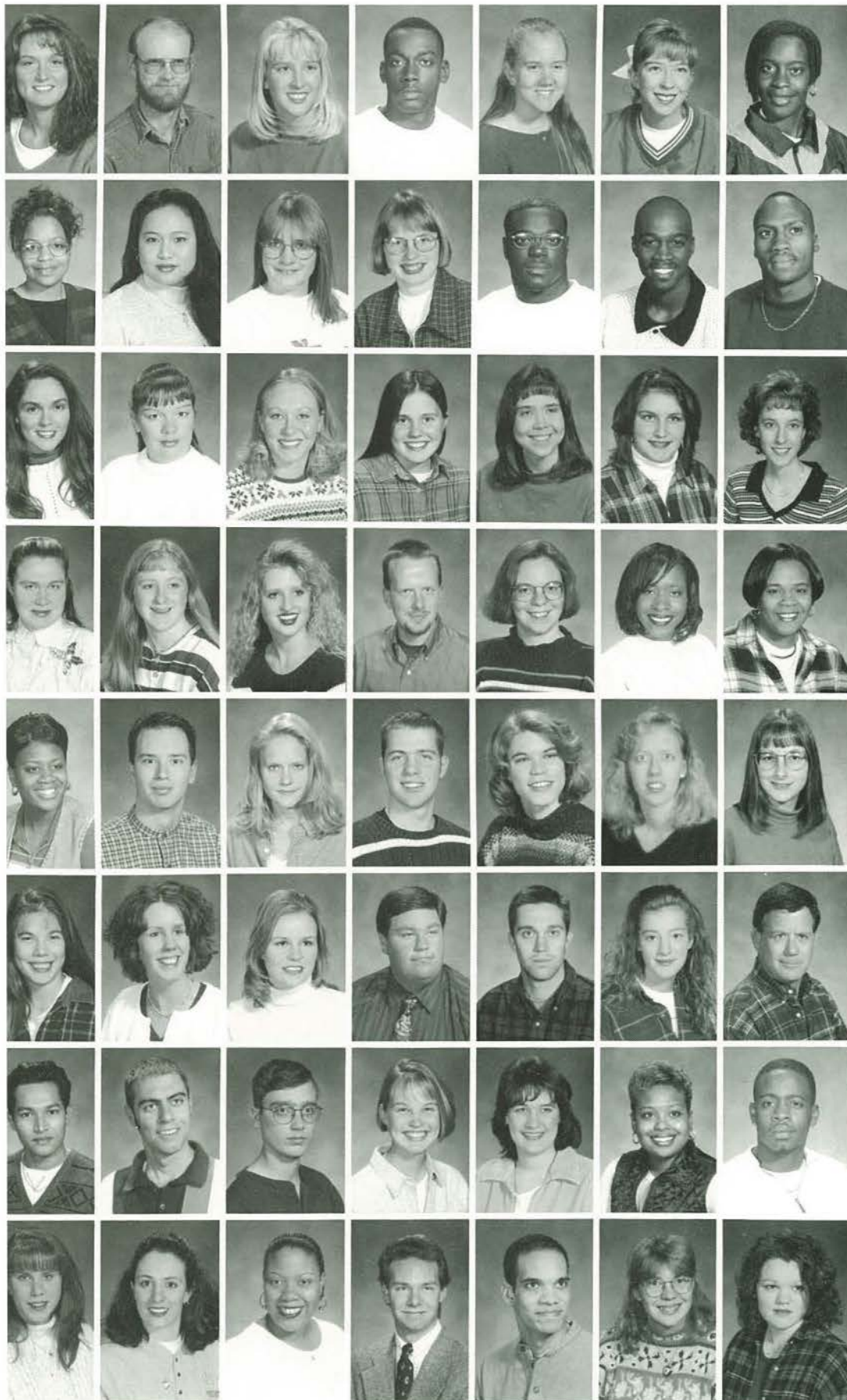


Keisha Fair
 April Falls
 Scott Faubion
 James Feuerbacher
 Sean Fisher
 Wendy Fisher
 Belinda Fite



Jeff Flynn
 Mandy Fitzwater
 Mary Fogler
 Kim Foley
 Sarah Foley
 Tambra Foote
 Lois Fox





Heather Fralier
 Allen Francis
 Christy Freeman
 Ellis Gales
 Jennifer Gartner
 Susan Geiger
 Brigitte Gittens

Sheleesa Glenn
 Lorraine Go
 Heather Goodheart
 Karen Goodheart
 Irving Graham
 Jamie Grayson
 Jason Grayson

Christina Grouse
 Lisa Gruenefeld
 Shannon Gunn
 Jamie Habersat
 Kim Hagood
 Rosemary Hamilton
 Tania Hamilton

Karen Hanever
 Amy Hanway
 Nicole Harding
 Brad Harrah
 Cara Harrington
 Karen Harris
 Philana Harris

Tracie Harris
 Jason Hart
 Jill Hass
 Chris Heard
 Jamie Heins
 Tess Helberg
 Iris Heller

Rebekah Hellerich
 Stacia Hellerich
 Amy Hemmerling
 Shawn Henderix
 Joseph Herman
 Dawn Hill
 John Hirsch

Myo Min Hla
 Kevin Hobbs
 Michael Holman
 Rebecca Holmes
 Amy Holthouse
 Anitra Houston
 Smith Howard

Rachele Hudman
 Diana Huffman
 Eboni Hughes
 Ryan Hull
 Kwanza Humphrey
 Michelle Hunn
 Michelle Hunning

Lai-Monte Hunter
 Heather Hurley
 Megan Hurst
 Nicole Huston
 Heather Idstein
 Ashley Imlay
 Stan Irving



Chad Jackson
 Constance Jackson
 Constance Marie Jackson
 Latanya Jackson
 Mischa Jackson
 David James
 Brandy Jenkins



Jami Jenkins
 Lori Jenkins
 Dusty Jestes
 Amy Johnson
 Jamaal Johnson
 Jenise Johnson
 Marshawn Johnson



Nathan Johnson
 Shantell Johnson
 Clay Johnston
 Gretchen Jones
 Martha Jones
 Tracy Jones
 John Juhl



Erin Keebler
 Martin Kelsey
 Dawn Kerner
 Beth Kerns
 Tricia Key
 Pete Khalil
 Kevin Kilroy



Brett King
 Jennifer King
 Shawn Kirkwood
 Robert Knutter
 Megan Koranda
 Jennifer Krause
 Henoah Kristianto

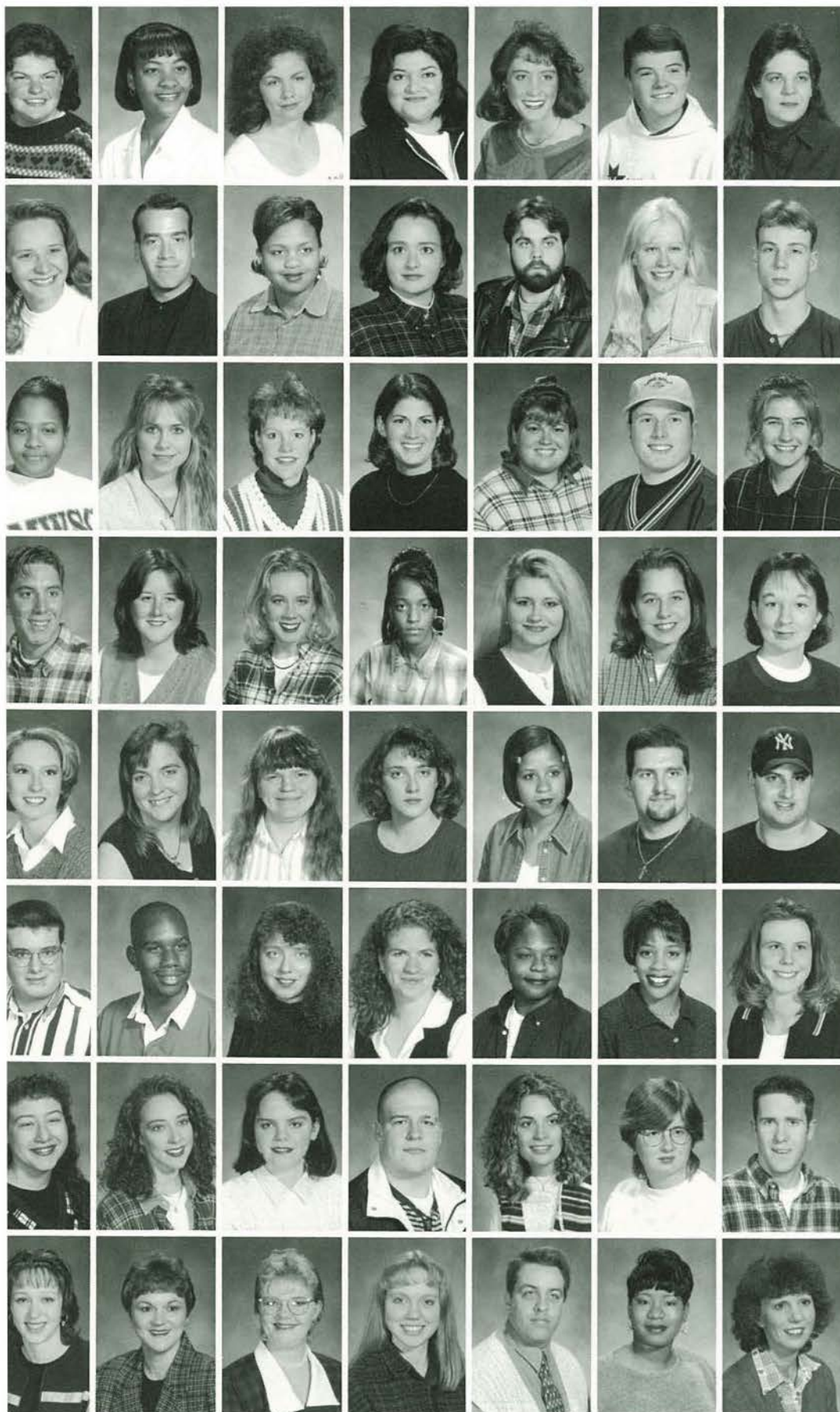


Andrea Krull
 Sherri Kuhlman
 Sheri Kunte
 Carol Annette Larsen
 Nicole Lashley
 Roxanna Lawing
 Thomas Lenahan III



Dawn Lenley
 Brett Liapple
 Amy Liesmann
 Jude Lindor
 Katherine Linebaugh
 Kevin Linville
 Deron Livingston





Jennifer Lohrum
 Kendra Lyons
 Michelle MacDonald-Burdg
 Mary Mancuso
 Gara Mann
 Jesse Mann
 Swyhart Marni

Misty Martin
 Cary Mason
 Safiyyah Mason
 Laura Mast
 Pat Matter
 Annie Maudlin
 Travis McClard

Tasha McClendon
 Kerry McCloud
 Tabrey McClurg
 Amy McCreedy
 Christine McCreedy
 Billy McKinley
 Angela McLain

Michael McLaughlin
 Michelle McQueen
 Mollie Meisner
 Maryenda Merriweather
 Tracy Meseberg
 Lori Mestemacher
 Christina Michael

Carina Miller
 Michele Miller
 Michelle Milliken
 Erica Mitchell
 Kelli Moechoe
 Rick Moeckel
 Mitch Moeckli

Michael Mooney
 David Moore
 Rhonda Morford
 Angie Morrow
 Eunice Morrow
 Christina Morton
 Jennifer Moutray

Melinda Mulder
 Christina Musser
 Heather Nelson
 Philip Nelson
 Amy Nickerson
 Denise Noah
 Jon Novacek

Cherie Nuckols
 Sherry O'Neil
 Donna Osborn
 Jamie Otto
 Gregory Pagan
 Patricia Parks
 Jondenna Patrick



Cynthia Patterson
Jennifer Patterson
Monica Peck
Amanda Pedersen
Kirra Penton
Lara Peppers
Brian Perkins



Sam Perkins
Thomas Petrovick
Erin Phillips
Kyle Phillips
Lisa Piranio
Tia Pierce
Carolyn Polston



Gaynell Pouncil
Erica Powell
Katie Power
Heather Proehl
Karakaneh Pulley
Lee Rafferty
Rachel Raney



Michael Redding
Molly Reid
Diana Reinoehl
Chris Rendon
Angelina Renolds
Lisa Reynolds
Robyn Reynolds



Randy Richardson
Patricia Ridpath
Jill Riegel
Kristin Ritter
Adrienne Roberts
Anthony Robertson
Candice Robinson



Wendy Robinson
Tonya Ruffcorn
Josh Ruhnke
Christine Ryan
Michael Samuel
Uraya Sanders
Ulonda Sappington

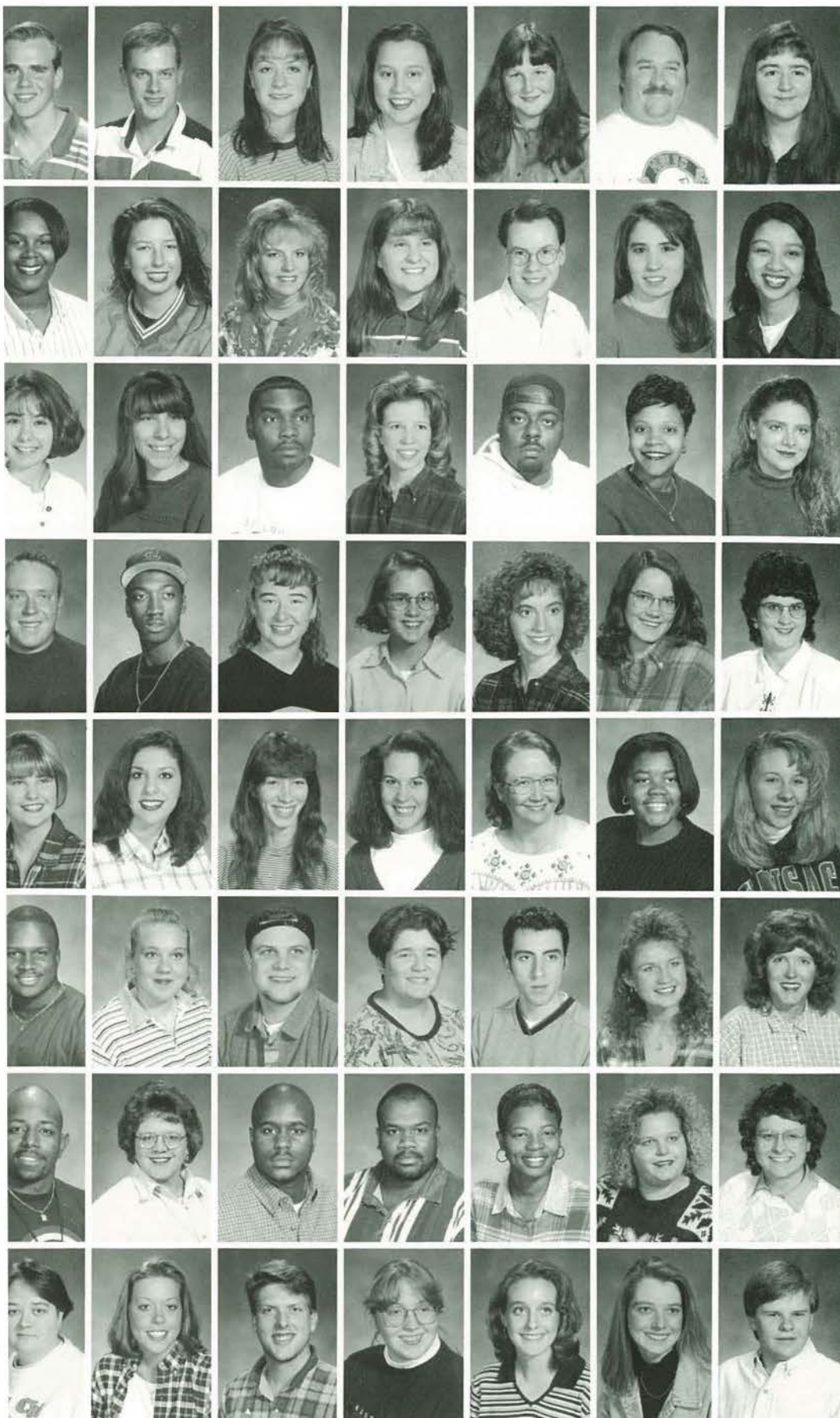


Abigail Schaer
Anita Scego
Elizabeth Schenk
Jennifer Schergen
Mary Schmitz
Craig Scholz
Amy Jo Schwant



Michael Scott
Wanda Scott
Chrissy Sharr
Harrison Shaun
Shannon Shaw
Rachel Shigemura
Verna Shinneman





Matthew Silber
Chris Simcoe
Elisabeth Simpson
Crystal Sisco
Sara Skroh
William Slabaugh Jr.
Alicia Sleeth

Adeisha Smith
Angela Smith
Carrie Smith
Jamie Smith
Joel Smith
Kristina Smith
Marcelina Smith

Angela Snapp
Andrea Sowards
Robert Spann
April J. Spear
Rico Spencer
Yvonne Stafford
Elizabeth Starforth

Darrell Todd Steere
Courtney E. Stevenson
Shauna A. Stewart
Jill Stock
Janette Summy
Rachel Sumner
Loretta Swartz

Lindsee Swason
Carrie Swymeler
Crystall Swinney
Angie Taylor
Jennifer Taylor
Mary G. Taylor
Wendy Teatsworth

Liddell Thomas
Teresa Thompson
Ty Thompson
Wendy Thon
James Tolen
Rebecca Trant
Patricia Troester

Resi Trotter
Rebecca Truka
Alan Turk
Michael Turner
Toni Turner
Michelle Vaughn
Samantha Viles

Wendy Villers
Melissa Vlasis
Kelley Wader
Glenn Wagner
Jayla Walker
Samantha Walker
Kristopher Wall

Janice Wallace
 Erynn N. Walls
 Audrey Wamsley
 Candie Wattenbarger
 Christina Webster
 Angela Dawn Wells
 Shannon Wells



Sharrise Wells
 Jason Wenzel
 Laney Wheeler
 Sarah Wieneke
 Mary Wilford
 Timothy Wilding
 Kathleen Wilga



Reyhan Wilkinson
 Jenna Willbrand
 Brad Williams
 Lazell Williams
 Marquita Williams
 Mellisa Williams
 Shawn Williamson



Erica Wills
 Kevin Wilson
 Angela Winget
 Elizabeth Winkie
 Stephanie Wirth
 Rachael Wolfe
 Amy Wolford



Ashley Worrell
 Sara Wooden
 Amy Wright
 Deanna Wright
 Carla Wyatt
 Amy Yaussi
 Eric Yocom



Lisa Zion
 Mary Zook



Faculty



Michael Cadden
Warren Chelline
John Gilgun
Susan Gille
Edwin Gorsky



Judith Grimes
Joachim Kibirige
Dale Krueger
Donald Lillie
Edward Malone



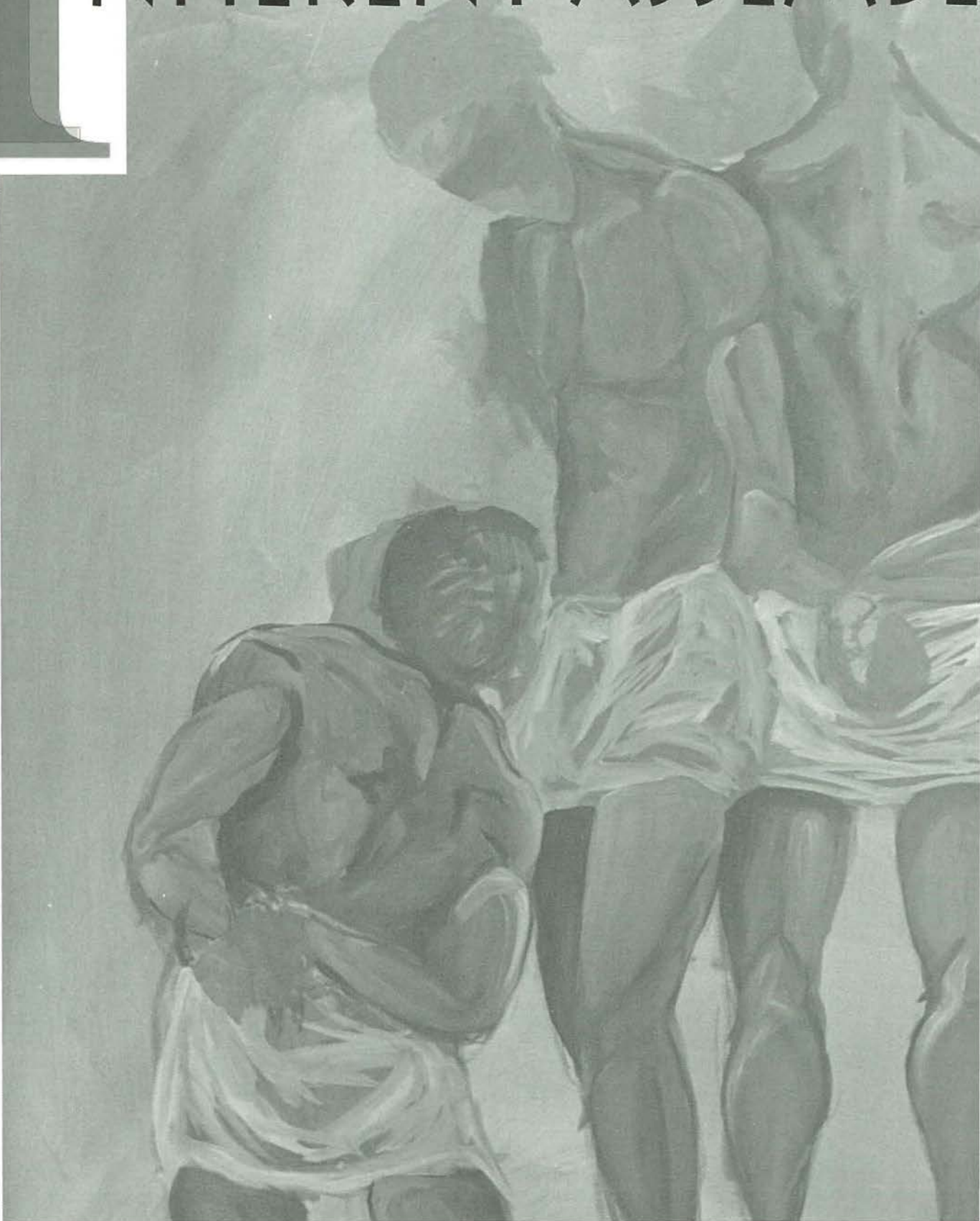
Judith Martin
Patrick McMurry
Julia Mullican
Ahmed Nassar
Ellen Smither



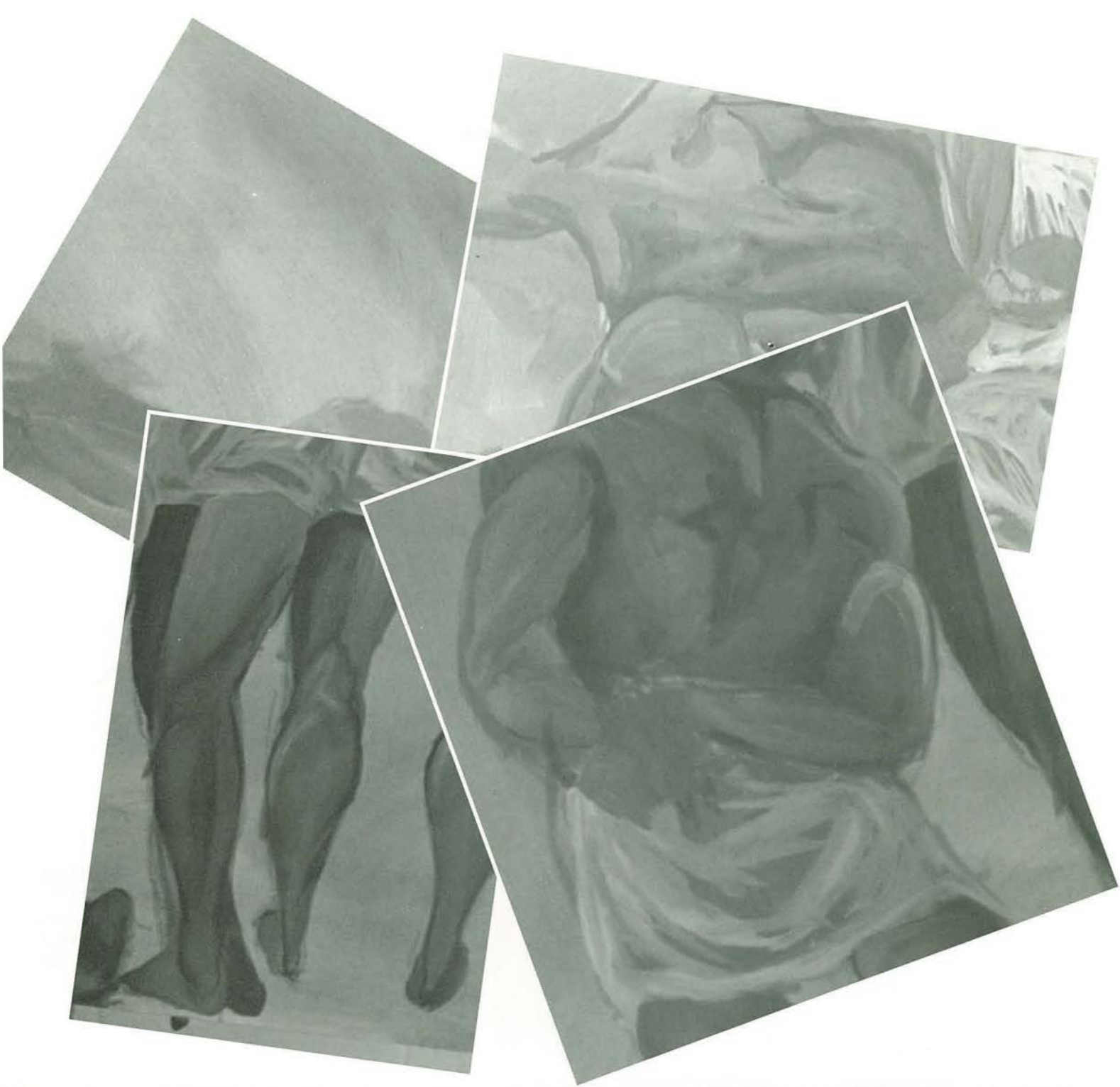
David Stacey
Ann Thorne
Jinchang Wang

I

NHERENT ASSEMBL



A work in progress by Kwanza Humphrey is shown here in black and white. Humphrey, a senior art major, was active on campus as the Student Regent for the year.



CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS WERE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT LIFE AT MISSOURI
.....
STERN. GREEKS MOVED INTO NEW TERRITORY WHEN THE FIRST FRATERNITY HOUSE IN MWSC HISTORY
.....
S ESTABLISHED. SORORITIES WORKED TOWARD DISPELLING THEIR STEREOTYPE AS THEY BECAME RICHLY
.....
INVOLVED IN CHARITABLE CAUSES. DEPARTMENTAL CLUBS MADE AN IMPACT ON STUDENT LIFE IN ROLES AS
.....
CAMPUS BEAUTIFIERS. INVOLVEMENT WAS AN ISSUE STUDENTS WERE ADAMANT ABOUT PURSUING.





Alpha Chi

Randy Buckman, Holly Doogs, Jennifer Chandler, Cathy Carney, Angela Bailey, Betty Backes, Jim Roever, Jason Hallquist, Tracy Carlson, Wendy Villers, Mary G. Taylor, Misty Cracraft, Belinda Fite, Kent Mills,

Alpha Gamma Delta

Row 1: Shannon Montgomery, Amy McConnell, Erica Anders, Cherree Kemple, Emily Hallman, Tona Williams, Theresa Vanzandt, Joanna Marrs, Susan McKim, Jennifer Ellwyn, Jessica Yeast, Cindy Hathaway, Amy Holthouse. Row 2: Cathy Carney, Jaime Habersat, Amanda Schultz, Kara Sanders. Row 3: Kaycee McLaughlin, Jessica Bredahl, Andrea Aeschliman, Brandi Blackveum, Heather Proehl.



Alpha Kappa Alpha

Antionetta Kirk, Jones. Sonyta Thomas, Marla M. Gibson, Raquel L. West, Ltetia D. Johnson. Tamikas Austin, Kendra C. Lyons, Karen Harris. Daawn E. Jones, Jamila J. Tipton.

Alpha Sigma Alpha

LeeAnne Asbury, Deniece Patton, Andrea Huber, Carina Miller, Tiffany Young. Donna Jones, Sarah Banko, Stacy Calcote, Stena Hinkle, Amy Nickerson, Cindy Blankenship, Chanda Bankhead, Kristi Bailey, Eva Acree, Rebecca Homles, Noelle Moore, Row 2: Jeanette Schnidt, Katie Kent, Shelby Coxon, Kristie Calcaterra, Stacey Siesser, Kendra Browning, Jenny VanNess, Christy Howard, Teresa Phillips, Kamra Hurla, Missy Bowsell, Sheri Hendrickson, Tina Flutt, Jennifer Rogers, Andrea Wheeler, Natalie Leonard.



alpha gamma delta

On the move

Erica Anders

The Kappa Beta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Delta was very active on the campus of MWSC for the 96-97 school year. Whether it was intramurals, philanthropy or academics, they always had something going on.

Alpha Gamma Delta's national philanthropic project was the Juvenile Diabetes Association. During the fall semester, raffle tickets were sold to raise money for the association and in the spring semester, the Alpha Gams held a Valentine's Day card sale. Free delivery was guaranteed to those students who requested balloon bouquets for their sweethearts. Once the proceeds went to the association.

It was so rewarding to know that a few minutes out of my day will help those less fortunate than I," said AGD member Erica Haas.

Other philanthropy events included Christmas caroling at the state hospital, trick-or-treating for the Ryan White Community and playing bingo with the senior citizens at the

Citadel Nursing Home.

"I had a lot of fun playing bingo with the residents," said Heather Proehl, vice president of recruitment. "Their smiles were enough to brighten my day."

AGD's kept themselves in shape by playing intramural sports such as badminton, volleyball, water games and basketball as a team.

"I really enjoyed participating in intramurals. It was great time spent with my sisters," said Amy Leismann, activities coordinator for AGD.

The Alpha Gams accomplished a great goal in their academic careers. They received a 3.07 grade point average for the fall semester, which was the highest of all greek organizations.

"Our girls worked really hard to accomplish good grades. It takes dedication and strong will to balance greek life, family, work and grades," said Wonda Berry-Howe, advisor.



Members of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority proudly display their banner as a part of their Homecoming parade entry. In addition to activities the AGDs were also active in volunteer work.



Associated General Contractors of America

Row 1: Dr.V Varma, Mary Longoria, Colby Robinson , Bart Bjustrom. Row 2: Bryan Brush, Mohammad Najafs, Richard Lyman, Tanya Zimmerman. Row 3: Chris Hicks, Greg Davis, Steve Vollmer, Joe Herman, Zac Kerns.

Baptist Student Union

Row 1: Missy Allen. Chri Higgins. Angie Narrow. George Nytes. Christina Musser. Miranda Christiaan. Lisa Piranio. Amy Johnson. Vickie Carney. Row 2: Kari Crawford. Lori Bigham. Heather Hennessey. Denise Dickenson. Tracy Meseberg. Kent Mills. Misty Cracraft. Erin Plaisted. Row 3: Richie Bigham. Mary Wildford. Michael Young. Cherl Jansen. Rhonda Morford. Michael Redding. Pete Khilil. Matt Silger.



CMENC

CAB

Row 1: Cherree Kemple, Jennifer Rogers, Chris Hearel, Shelby Coxon, Jessica Yeast, Michael Ireland, Sonya Thomas, Toni Turner. Row 2: Rick Wright, Jaime Habersav, Mary Gittings, Akamie Eayrs, Connie Burrows, Angela Hilgenkamp, Tania Hamilton, Erica Anders, Amy Holthouse, Kay Brown. Row 3: Nathan Kinder, Aaron Feyen, Pete Khalil, Dominic DeBaca, Rick Dageforde, Dan Vavra.



baptist student union Campus community

/ Amy Supple

The unassuming orange brick house that faced campus on Mitchell Avenue served as home to an increasing number of Missouri Western State College students. At various times throughout the semester, hundreds of students were able to refer to this place as home. Even though not each of those hundred students had a bed there, made it less of a home.

The Baptist Student Union had a long tradition at WSC for welcoming students of all religious denominations and giving them a home away from home. And this year saw the organization move into a different phase.

Long-time Baptist Student Union advisor and friend

to many, Ron Wynne, left Missouri Western to move to a different position in the same field.

“Of course we will all miss Ron,” said Baptist Student Union member Taira Morgan. “He has been the backbone of this organization for a long time. But just because he leaves, we will not stop the work he started.”

The Baptist Student Union was quickly becoming one of the largest and most active organizations on campus. They took part in Homecoming Activities, sponsoring this year’s queen Mary Wilford.

As the organization moved on, under new direction, they had firm-footing in their common goals to keep them on task.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Baptist Student Union members ride atop their Homecoming float. The BSU was one of the largest and most active orgs on campus.

The Homecoming pep rally provides the back drop for the queen coronation. Queen Mary Wilford, sponsored by the BSU, reigned over the Homecoming activities, after her coronation.



Delta Phi Upsilon

Row 1: Cory DeVaul-President, Randy Richardson
 Row 2: Terri Levy-Treasurer, Marcella Schale,
 Rachel Raney

Delta Sigma Theta

Row 1: Dawn Lenley. Row 2: Felicia D.
 Warefield. Nyree Cauthers. Row 3: Marie Cole.
 Sharita Cauthers. Row 4: Anddrea Ray. Brandy
 Jenkins. Michelle Marshall.



Economics Club

Row 1: Shron I. Rauch, Nader Vaargha. Row 2:
 Christine Bumgardner. Brandy Thorton. Dawn
 Hill. Row 3: Greg Pagan. Allen Francis.

Ebony Collegians

Row 1: Irving Graham, Philana Harris, Catina Sahnoe,
 Sonya Thomas, Robyn Reynolds, Audrey Dodd, Row
 2: Andre Smith, Brad Harrah, Binita Thurman,
 Ameerah Salaam, Darlene Lenley, Row 3: Nick Aus-
 tin, Marc Highsmith, Brandy Jenkins, Karla Manuel,
 Letitia Johnson, Gaynell Pouncil.



delta sigma theta

Dreaming delta stle

by Dusty Jestes

With the growth in popularity and prominence of Greek organizations on campus, it may have seemed risky to offer yet another sorority to choose from. However, a group of women had the vision and insight to see that choice is a good thing.

The women of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. came to campus three years ago, starting out small but making strides each year. Members of DST are quick to point out that choice as their motivation in bringing another sorority to campus and not hidden agendas against any other organization. A major goal of the group was to uplift females through sisterhood.

"Being a member of DST has been a tremendous experience for me," said member Binita Thurman. "I feel

like I have gained lifelong friends in addition to valuable experiences that I will never forget.

Administrators on campus were in favor of anything that promoted a positive image of student life.

"The growth of the Greeks on campus is truly something that Missouri Western can be proud of. As they grow in number and popularity it is a good sign for the entire campus," said Forest Hoff, dean of student affairs.

Delta Sigma Theta was an organization on the move and even though they were new kids on the block, they wasted no time in getting involved in Greek and campus activities. With the support and reputation the sorority earned in its short existence on campus, the dream of promoting sisterhood was coming true.



Angela Wells

Members of Delta Sigma Theta work their booth at Family Day. Gradually the women of DST became more involved in campus activities.



Griffon Arts Society

Marcie Brown, Bradley Harrah, Misty Hahn, Wendy Villers.

Griffon News

Row 1: Nichi Sollars, Greg Schmidt, Jeanette Browning, Becky Hellerich. Row 2: Scott Faulion, Brooke Rogers, Tricia Key, Jondenna Patrick. Row 3: Tim O'Conner, Nick Austin.



Math Club

Row 1: Devon Kerns. Stacy Cabeen. Tonya Griffin. Christy Coney. Perri McCoppin. Row 2: Cindy Ready. Kent Mills. Jerry Wilkerson. John Atkinson. Misty Cracraft. Row 3: Dennis Stanton. Rick Shaginaw. William Siefkas. Bruce Cook. William Slabaugh Jr.

Mystic Dancers

Row 1-Mykal Hinze, Ashley Worrell, Sabrina Linter, Kirra Penton. Row 2-Lee Gibbons, Christina Penton, Jenny Easton, Angie Linter. Row 3-Julie Reed, Stephanie Lachance, Julie Calfee, Heather Hennessey, Lindsay Eulinger.



griffon arts society

Art of the matter

Andy Fitzwater

There were many different interests to be pursued on the C campus. Whether one wanted to watch an exciting event, attend a musical performance, or enjoy a great work of art, there was always something to do and an organization like The Griffon Arts Society to make it happen. The Griffon Arts Society spent a lot of their time promoting interest in the area of art. A great way that they did this was to display various art work in the fine arts building. They held shows, and one was even in time for Christmas shopping. Student Brad Harrah said that the organization planned on getting together to view cultural films as well.

The Griffon Arts Society was about more than just a common interest in art, they also did their part in helping the community of St. Joseph. They decided to pitch in and give their support for recycling by volunteering at one of the city's recycling centers.

In an effort to spread more culture throughout the campus, the Griffon Arts Society gave a lot of their time to showing students that there is more to life than sports and parties. Once people got a taste of the artistic side of life, it was up to each one to decide what their likes and dislikes were, the G.A.S. was just there to spark their interest.



Angela Wells

An artist throws the wheel in a pottery studio at MWSC. Anybody interested in the arts at MWSC was invited to join the Griffon Arts Society.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

An artist will admit that creating can be painstaking. The Griffon Art Society allows students to communicate about their experiences in the art field.

Griffon Art Society members Kwanza Humphrey and Marcy Brown recruit members at the Griffon Edge. The organization was new but strove to become more active.



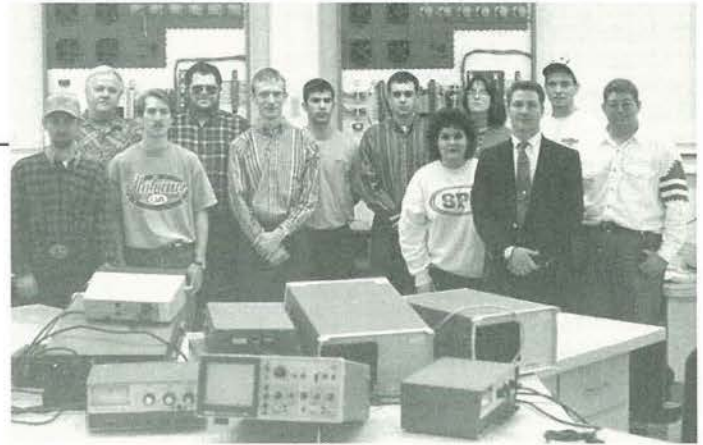


Nontraditional Student Advisor Council

Row 1: Jeannie Burgess. Crystal Brown. Denise Noah. Juanita Crews. Row 2: Ellen Smither. Julia Harris. Ruth Miycie. Lois E. Fox. Jondenna Prtack. Row 3: Jay Jenkins. Kevin Wilson. John Hirsch.

Omega Electronics

Row 1: Shron I. Rauch, Nader Vaargha. Row 2: Christine Bumgardner. Brandy Thorton. Dawn Hill. Row 3: Greg Pagan. Allen Francis.



Phi Delta Theta

Row 1: Rayman Bradshaw, David Foster, Robert Morrison, Sean Hutton, Brian Ousley, Richard Vencill, David Garrett, Brad Guardado, Chris Lentz, Darrell Cowan, Row 2: Brian Long, Chris Craig, Kevin Brown, Chris Brown, Aaron Hayes, David West, Josh Joseph, Trent Yeager, Jason Hallquist, Jason Mullin, Andy Loro.

Phi Mu

Row 1: Elizabeth Ireland, Rachel Cummings, Heather McBee, Monica McAfee, Nicole Harding, Nikki Glasgo, Tara Block, Lori Mestemacher. Row 2: Jennifer Blaise, Diana Huffman, Diane Ramsey, Angela Berra, Jasmine Prestwood, Connie Kraft, Jill Jackson, Alicia Copeland, Lisa Rilliam-Rush Chair, Deanna Wright, Shelly Franek. Row 3: Leslie Briggs, Tracy Meseberg, Brandi Miller, Sarah Ratliff, Heidi Ezell, Kelly O'Neal, Elizabeth Daniel, Megan Barr, Jennifer Deal, Christine Ryan, Heidi Meyes.



non-trads Working together

Angela Scott

It was a busy year for the Non-Traditional Students Association. They wrote and published their own cookbook. With proceeds they made a donation to the United Way. At Homecoming, they adopted two families. But one of the events everyone worked hard on that made an impact was the annual Non-Traditional Student Conference. It not only brought recognition to Missouri Western, it gave non-traditional students the opportunity to meet others.

Invitations went out to all non-traditional organizations and responses came in from all over the United States.

"It's exciting to know that non-traditional students are coming from all over the country to Missouri Western," said John Hirsch, Non-Traditional Students Association president.

Missouri Western became the focal point for non-traditional students all over the country to gather and share their experiences. The Association for Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education was involved. Founder and Executive Director John DeGabriele asked Missouri Western to head Region 7 of

the organization. The region included the states of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas.

"We are really excited that ANTSHE has asked Missouri Western to help coordinate Region 7 activities," said Ellen Smither, coordinator of the Non-Traditional Student Center.

The non-trad students face different challenges than the traditional student. They usually are trying to work, take care of a family and attend classes. Some were also disabled students trying to get an education or someone with a learning disability.

"A non-traditional student is anyone who has not come straight to college from high school," Hirsch said.

The conference was designed to help all non-traditional students to deal with the obstacles that they face. Topics covered included Organizing a Non-Trad Club, Recareering, Meeting the Math Mental Health Challenge and PACE.

"I like the Non-Traditional Association because I can help other non-trads understand that they are not alone," said member Pam Allee.



Angela Wells



Angela Wells

Advisor Ellen Smither drives an entry in the parade. The club was open to anyone over 25 that attended MWSC.

Non-Traditional Student Association President John Hirsch and fellow club members march in the Homecoming parade. This year the club made an effort to be active on campus.



Recreational Administration Club

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Music Fraternity

Row 1: Tad Clark, Michael Ruhling, Dan Riggs, Scott Yocom. Row 2: Derek Snyder, Kirk J. Branson, Brett King, Brad Smith, Ryan Hall. Row 3: Ed Knutter, Andrew Fleck, Shawn Williamson, Aarow Ahles-Iuerson.



Psychology Club

Row 1: Stefaanie Page. Nancy Halled. Faith Fritz. Lori Bigham. Tonia Maggart. Row 2: Christi Collins. Sue Ball. Wendy Villers. Laura Masst. Julia Mullican, Fac. Advisor, Psych Club. Row 3: Phil Wann, Fac. Advisor, Psi Chi. Acott Dawies. Brad Roselli. Glenn Wagner. Chip Gullede. Geoff Heckman.

Phi Sigma Kappa

Row 1: Wilbur, Iguana, Dover, Scarecrow, Miagi, Row 2: Muskrat, Cedar, Dumascus, Wimpy, Chiklet, Dynamite, Grimacy, Goose, Row 3: Possum, Nag, Razor, Pigpen, Poindexter, Grover, Reubarb, Sonic, Row 4: Blossum, Grinder, Wedge, Beeker, Mule, Cake, Slimer, Fudd, Row 5: Foxy, Peabody, Snuggles, Cowboy, Smalls, Chopper.



psychology club

Getting Psyched Out

landy Fitzwater

The minds that make up the Psychology Club were far from idle. The organization had a very busy year, with a long list of accomplishments ranging from educational activities to activities that were good for the community.

The Psychology Club was an educational organization, but it was also fun and worthwhile for its members and non-members as well. Various members participated in different activities such as the national convention in Lincoln, Nebraska in March and a group of members presented original research papers at regional and national conventions as well.

The organization also sent members to the Missouri Psychological Association at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg in March. Papers were also presented by Psychology Club members at the Mid-America Psychology Association in Chicago. In an effort to reach various students on campus, the club held Psychology Awareness Week the week of March 13 to promote the field of psychology. Displays were displayed on campus depicting different aspects of psychology and historical psychological instruments were set out for people passing by to see. Informational flyers were handed out and videos were played for people to view as they

walked by. President Wendy Villers said that they hoped to repeat last year's visit to area high schools to discuss the potentials of going into the field of psychology.

Many of the activities of the Psychology Club have proven to be beneficial to people off of campus as well. In the fall, a speaker talked with them about the Adopt a Shelter project that they were to put on for Psi-Chi. This national service project focused on a shelter for unwed mothers called "The Window." They have already begun to make a difference for this shelter with their efforts in helping with the re-modeling of The Window.

It is true that all work and no play can make for a dull organization, so the Psychology Club started the school year off right with a picnic in the fall. They held a bake sale to raise money for the group's many projects and sold carnations in their annual Valentine's Day Flower Sale fund raiser on February 13 and 14.

This mixture of fun, learning, and community involvement were just a few of the things that made the Psychology Club valued by its members.



Angela Wells

Lori Bigham talks with incoming freshmen at the Griffon Edge program. All psychology majors are invited to join the club.



Angela Wells

Psychology Club members staff a Valentine's Day fundraising booth in the Student Union. The club sold cards and flowers to fund their activities.



Ranger Challenge Te

Row 1: Zac Kerns, Chris Simcoe, Joe Herman
Dan Swanson, Denise Ballance, Jason Walsh
Matt Baird, Not Pictures: Sam Means, Brent
Heldenbrandt, Capt. Robert McKillop.

Residence Council

Row 1: Jennifer King, Mary Zook, Athena Carey, Stacy Beebe, Kelli Moechoe, Robyn R. Reynolds, Heather C. Haynes, Crystal Donahue.
Row 2-Dusty Jestes, Janette Summy, Jill Riegal, Cathy Carney, Rashell Hgrion, Wendy Fisher, Wendy Robinson. Row 3-Donald MacBay, Susan Ethridge-Historian Chair, Richard Mason-Special Projects Chair, Nellie Sprinkle-Off campus, Rosemary Hamilton-Homecoming Chair, Heather Proehl-Publicity Chair, Duane Bruce-President, Tania Hamilton-Secretary, Mary Mancuso-Vice President, Janice Wallace-On Campus Chair, Philana Harris, Amy Anselm-Food. Row 4-Lisa Gruenefeld, Rebecca Holms, Kristie Calcaterra, Kellye Wader, Heather Idstein, Andi Rittman, Jennifer Ellwyn, Megan Barr, Mary Gurera, Melanie Stone, Kendra Browning, Kasey Bruce, Kendra Lyons, Tamika Austin, Constance Jackson, Eunice Morrow. Row 5-Merrit Hasenauer, Lindsay Eulinger, Kelley Mason, Brad Harrah, Phenus Sanders, Carrie Crawford. Row 6-Andrea Dixon, Shawn Kirkwood, Phines Sanders, Eric Davis, Rick Dageforde, Jodi Bell, Angie Hilgencamp.



Sigma Sigma Sigma

Row 1: Roselyn Brancato. Jennifer Baker. Angela Christy. Ashley Smith. Bethany Stahlman. Kendra Conwell. Amy Smith. Sarah Knell. Erika Dick. Jen Schroer. Row 2: Courtney Pointer. Kimberly Cole. Angela Smith. Shandra Head. Leslie Adams. Molly McClintic. Suzie Maudlin. Jill Chancey. Row 3: Christy Grouse. Shiang Lien, Cha. Kate Dawell. Cheryl Anderson. Dana Leslie. Margie Haughton. Annie Jackson. Row 4: Marry Suscheck. Leann Pointer. Caroline McClintic. Susan Geiger.

Sigma Alpha Iota

Row 1: Amy Johnson, Corresponding Secretary. Amber Mayberry, Recording Secretary. Jennie Phipps, Treasurer. Sarah Sager, Vice President of Membership. Michelle McQueen, President.
Row 2: Sarah Wieneke Pledgge. Lisa Piranio, Sgt. of Arms. Vickie Carney. Amy Grable. Christina Musser, Historian. Angie Morrow.
Row 3: Erin Phillips, Pledge. Mary Schmitz.



residence council Counsel for residents

Dusty Jestes

idence Council was not like many of the other groups on campus. You did not have to be selected nor rush to be a member. The members consisted of students living in the housing complexes who wanted to make a difference in the proceedings of the campus. They did so by being one of many different committees including publicity, off-campus, food, publicity, historian, and visitation. President, Duane Bruce, vice president, Mary Mancuso, and secretary, Tania Hamilton presided over the group which had meetings every Tuesday night.

The campus dealt with providing fun activities for students on campus premises. Chairman Janice Wallace and her members contributed such activities as Bingo, Football for ladies, the Spades Tourney and Singled Out. Kellye King says she has two words to describe her favorite event, "Go!"

The off-campus committee led by Heather Idstein planned social events held outside of the campus. These included bowling, roller-skating, Alladin's Castle and an end

of the year picnic at Krug Park. Heather feels that "Working together on major projects, such as the picnic, has brought our residential community together."

The Food committee was co-chaired by Dusty Jestes and Don MacBay, who battled the cafeteria to improve the meals by working directly with ARA and the student population.

Jennifer King said, "We have meetings with the cafeteria operators every month and I feel like this allows me to voice my opinion and make a difference."

Publicity and Historian committees were in charge of publicizing RC events around campus and capturing them on film for the organizations scrapbook. Each group was very important in making RC a well known organization.

The Visitation committee dealt with the housing complex visitation hours and was chaired by Richard Mason. They succeeded in establishing new hours for the first time in many years and totally abolished the bedroom hour restrictions.



Chairman Dusty Jestes throws candy off the top of the homecoming parade entry driven by Duane Bruce. Bruce served as president of the organization of which Jestes was an active member.



Angela Wells

Not on top of the world but high enough. Jestes tosses candy to the crowd. Residence Council boasted one of the largest memberships of any campus organizations.



Student Missouri State Teachers Association

Row 1: Terri Dennis-President, Mollie Meisner-Vice President, Cathy Carney-Secretary, Dr. Ferrell Kump-Advisor
 Row 2: Lisa Gruenefeld, Danny Heasley

Tau Chi Upsilon

Steven Williamsen, Cary Mason, Jeff Peve, Josh Ruhnke, Mateo Sanna, John Norton, Justin Sizemore, Aaron Kinder, Corey L. Jackson. Not pictured: Chris Vliana, Brian Hirsch, Mike Lewark, Scot White.



Wesley Center

Theta Xi

Row 1: Steven Williamsen, Cary Mason, Jeff Peve, Josh Ruhnke, Mateo Sanna, John Norton, Justin Sizemore, Row 2: Aaron Kinder, Corey L. Jackson. Not pictured: Chris Vliana, Brian Hirsch, Mike Lewark, Scot White.



griffon yearbook

Essentially Griffon

y Amy Supple

Staffers of the Griffon Yearbook rarely leave their nesters in SS/C 202 without words like unique and interesting to describe their experiences. The 1997 essential experience was no different.

“I took yearbook class because a friend had taken it before and raved about how fun it was,” said junior staff member Tiffany Ringot. “It really was an original experience and one that I will never forget. I will be back next year.”

Editors and staff members worked throughout both nesters, capturing the entire year at Missouri Western through pictures, words and art.

“Overall we went for a more artistic look than in previous years. It started with an original painting on the

cover and carried over throughout the book,” said design editor Adrienne Roberts.

With activities such as holiday parties and a trip to Orlando to the National College Media convention, work weekends were a little easier to bear.

Each year, the Griffon Yearbook members choose a theme and it carries over into the book. This year’s theme, essentials, is a basic concept followed through in a very creative way.

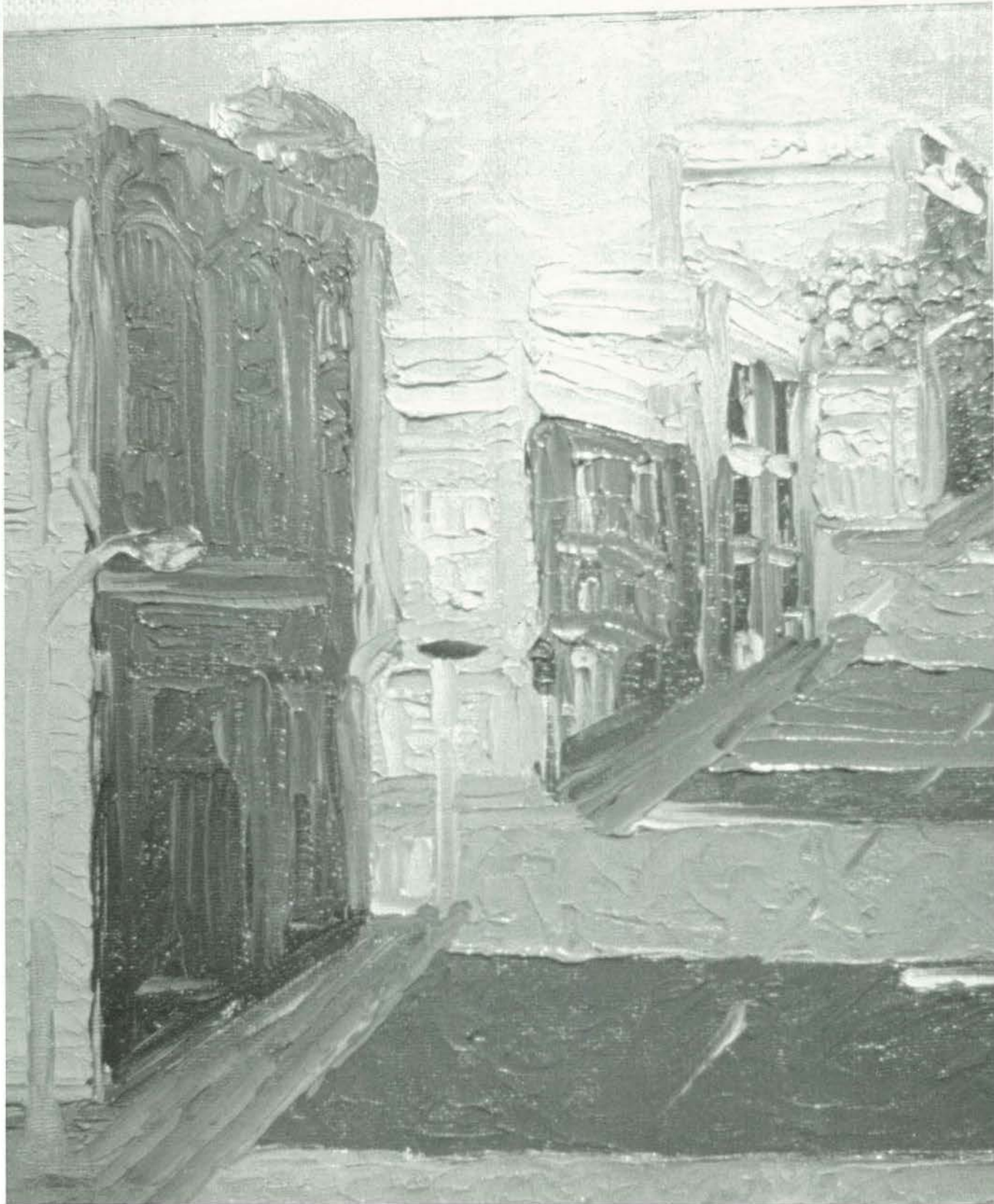
“Yearbook is a challenge in all aspects,” editor Amy Supple said. It combines journalism and art, two very interesting and very distinct fields. It is an eclectic experience and finding the balance is not always easy. But thanks to an excellent group of individuals we made it work.”



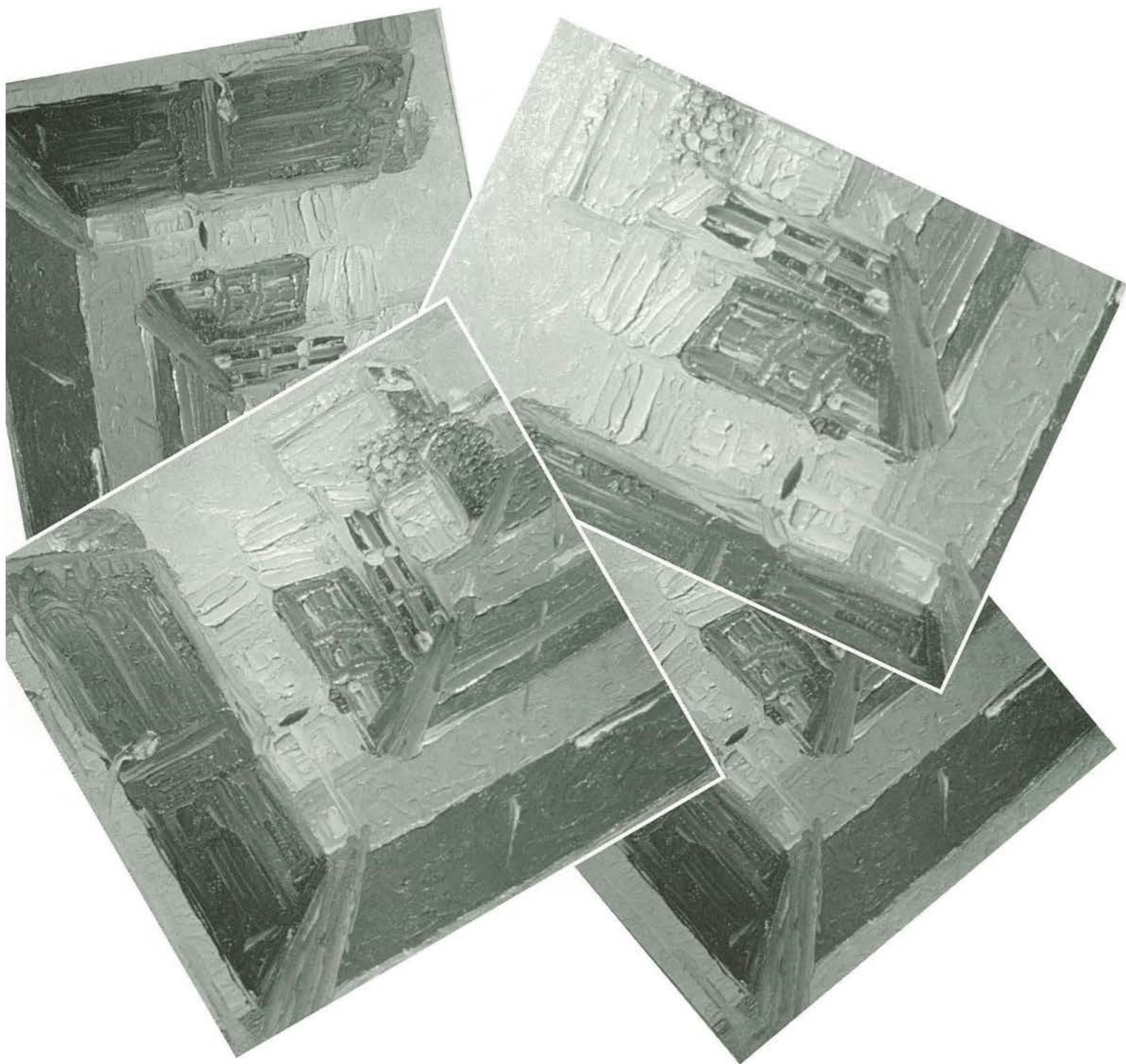
Row 1: Candie Wattenbargar, Wanda Scott, Verna Shinneman, Tomie Brewer, Dusty Jestes, Erica Anders, Amy Gwinn, Jondenna Patrick, Marie Swymeler, Row 2: Advisor Ann Thorne, Design Editor Adrienne Roberts, Crystal Sisco, Editor Amy Supple, Copy Editor Tracy Jones, Elizabeth Winkie, Mandy Fitzwater, Photo Editor Angela Wells, Tamara Botsford, Megan Hurst, Sam Perkins.



I MPORTANT RELIE



This oil painting by Nick Malewski is of downtown St. Joseph at sundown. Malewski is a senior majoring in fine arts.



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L. DUE TO THE GENEROSITY OF SO MANY OF THOSE COMMITTED COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND MISSOURI
STERN'S SUPPORT, THE GRIFFON YEARBOOK WAS ONCE AGAIN ABLE TO MAKE ABOUNDING STRIDES IN
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Asst. Dean of Student Affairs

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Cindie Murphy
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Dir. of Residence Life

Violet Gorsuch
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Mindy Johnson
Coordinator of Housing

Edi Robertson
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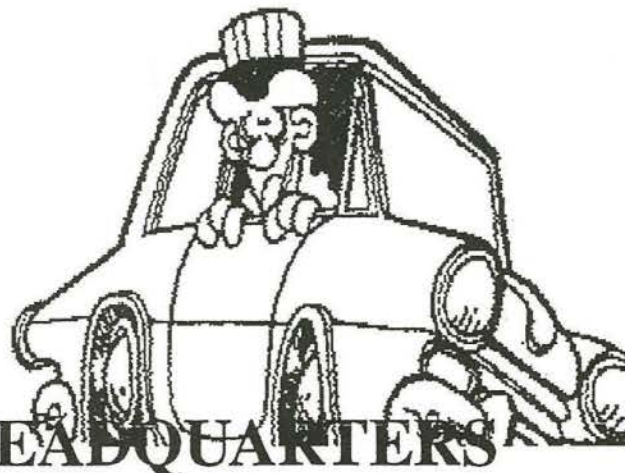
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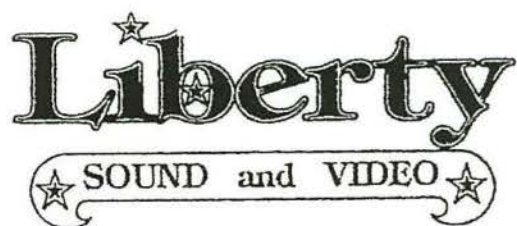
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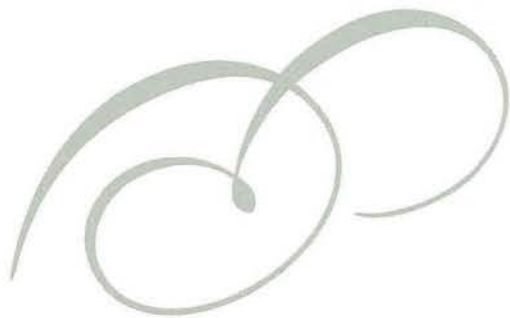
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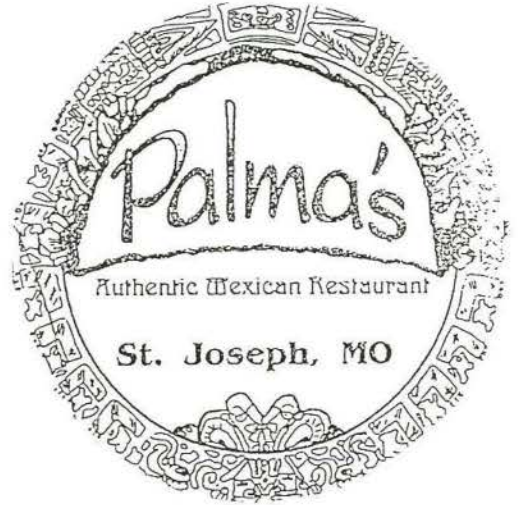
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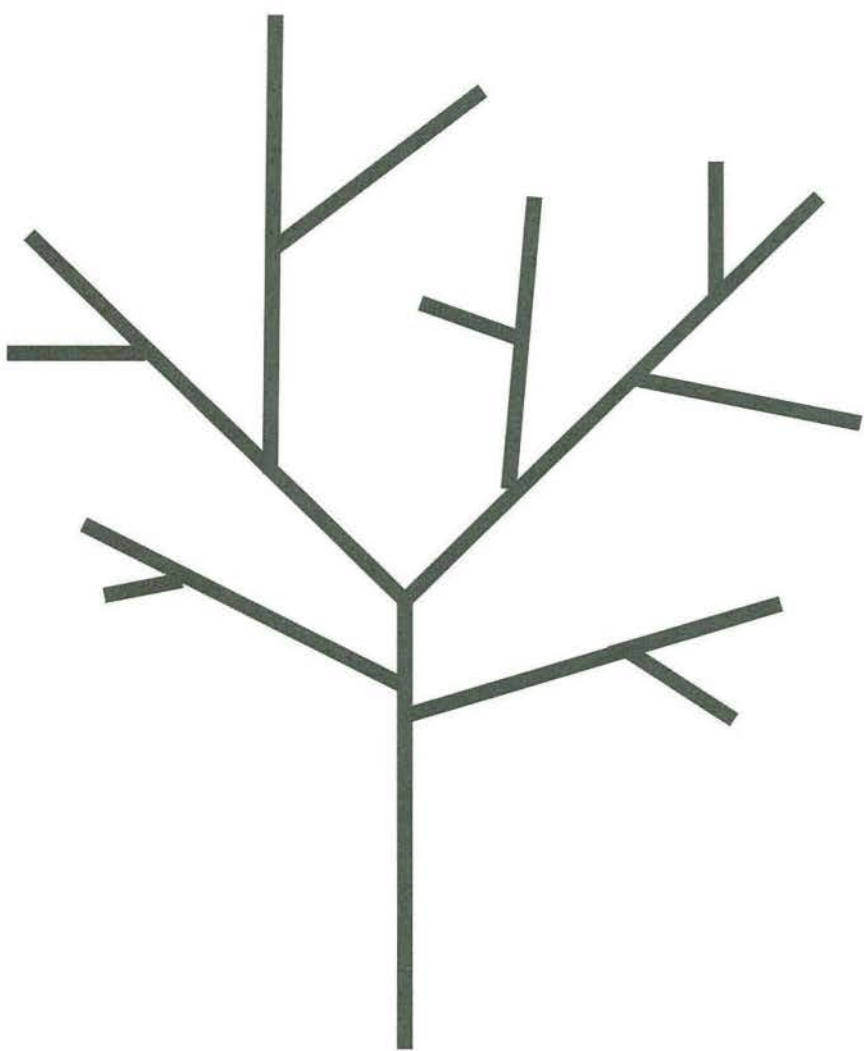


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Toni Braxton, winner of two American Music Awards, one for Favorite Female Artist in the Soul/Rhythm & Blues category and for best Soul/Rhythm & Blues Album, "Secrets," holds one of her awards backstage at the event in Los Angeles in January 1997.

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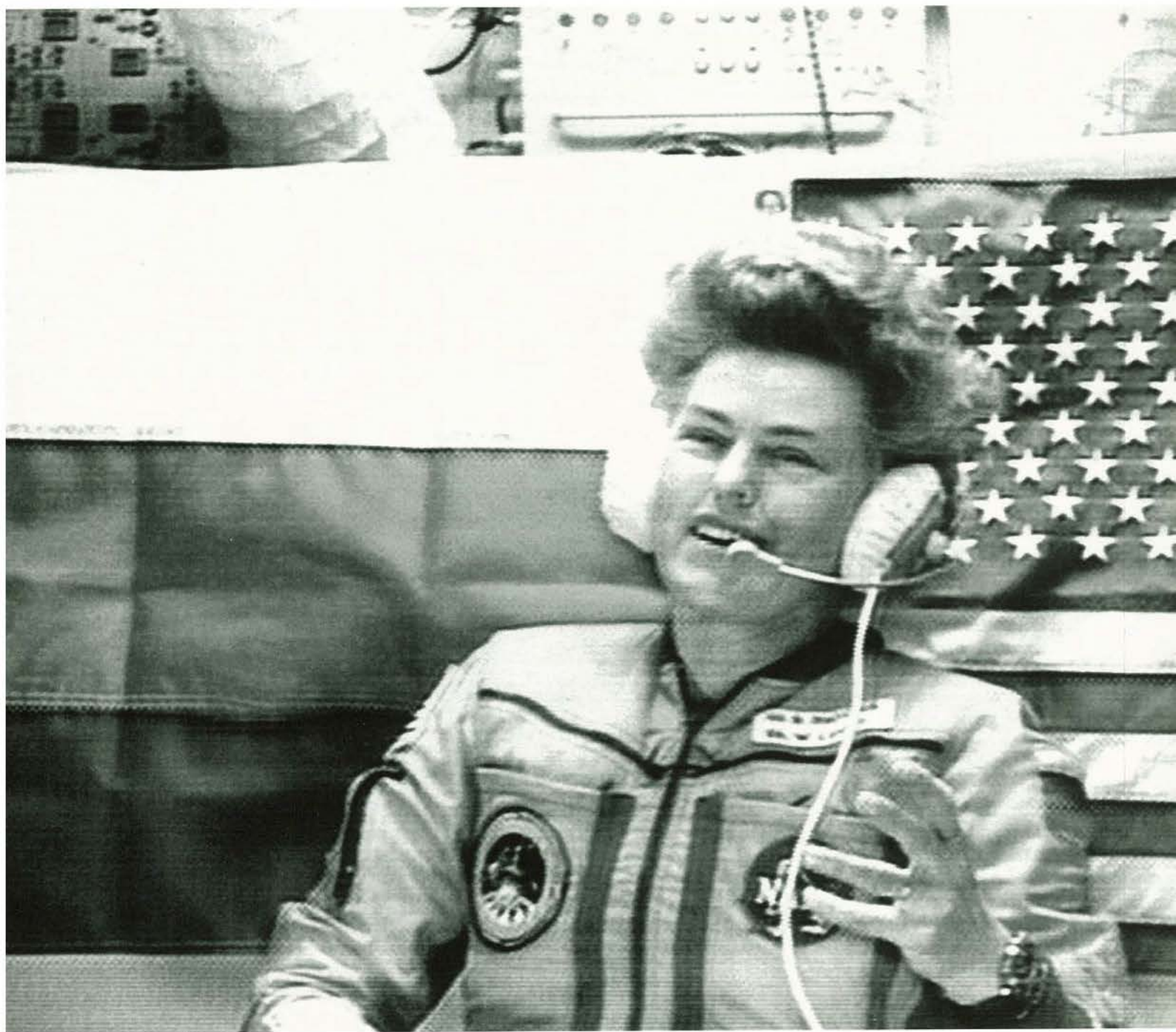
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The Smashing Pumpkins (from left, Billy Corgan, D'Arcy, and James Iha) pose backstage after receiving the award for Best Video of the Year at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York on September 4, 1996.

The 8-year-old band, from Chicago, Ill., rose to the status of superstar with its release of "Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness." The double album has exceeded 6 million copies and the number is still growing.

In spite of the tragic death of veteran keyboard player, Jonathan Melvoin and the firing of drummer, Jimmy Chamberlain, The Smashing Pumpkins continue to climb.



A cheering crowd of hundreds and a handshake from President Clinton greeted astronaut Shannon Lucid as she returned on September 27, 1996, a day after ending her record six-month journey in space.

"I can say is, Houston never looked so good," Lucid told more than 500 Johnson Space Center workers, businessmen, students, children and others who gathered at Ellington Field. Lucid, wearing a NASA cap and blue jumpsuit, was all smiles. The 53-year-old biochemist left Houston in March for a 4 1/2 month mission to the Russian space station Mir. Her ride home was delayed seven weeks by mechanical and weather problems, but she never once complained aloud. The space shuttle Atlantis finally picked her up and landed in Florida on September 26, 1996, completing her 188-day voyage, the longest spacelift ever by a woman and an American.



Kerri Strug came to the Olympics with two goals, to make the all-around women's gymnastics finals and have a good performance. While accomplishing these, she became the darling of Atlanta.

Strug's vault that sealed America's first Olympic team gold medal and made her the country's newest sweetheart also injured her with two torn ligaments and a sprained left ankle.

Missing the all-around was especially disappointing for Strug because not making the event in Barcelona is what motivated her over the four years leading up to Atlanta.

The sadness of missing again is sure to be pacified by TV appearances, magazine covers, or however heroes are promoted.

The royal treatment started when Bela Karolyi, Strug's coach, carried his latest star back into the arena for the medal presentation. She then wrapped her arms around the shoulders of Miller and Moceanu for a boost of the platform.



President Clinton made a determined case for a second term August 29, 1996, in a climactic convention address that took account for blocking Republican budget cuts and promised an array of new help for poor and middle-class families. "Hope is back in America," Clinton declared.

Clinton accepting his party's presidential nomination for the second time, and in prepared remarks he said the economy had come back to life under his watch, creating 10 million new jobs even as the federal government payroll shrunk. In a second address he pledged to balance the federal budget.

Clinton's speech was the finale of a Democratic convention remarkable for its show of unity. The Democrats were heading for victory in an unfamiliar position: Heavily favored to win. Not since Franklin Roosevelt in 1944 has a Democratic incumbent been re-elected, and Clinton's 1992 victory was only the second for a Democrat in the seven presidential elections of the past 50 years.

Michael Johnson knows how to close out a deal quickly and efficiently. When he thought that his 1996 Olympic rivals in the men's 200 meter might threaten his 19.66 world record, he upped the ante. He broke himself, coming in with a 19.32 time.

When Johnson won the 400 a few days earlier, he didn't have to do anything special to leave the field gasping for air somewhere near the parking lot. An Olympic record of 43.49 was good enough.

Johnson runs the way no one dares to imagine—legs churning low to the ground, back straight in perfect posture—truly something to behold.

Like Bob Beamon leaping beyond the bounds of reason. Like Roger Bannister doing what nobody believed possible. Like Bob Hayes busting the 10-second barrier. Johnson didn't merely complete an unprecedented golden double in the 200 and 400, he made a joke of his own world record.



Marathon negotiations in early October 1996 between Israeli and Palestinian leaders failed to resolve bitter differences that exploded in Mideast violence and jeopardized the fragile peace process. But the two sides agreed to press ahead.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the summit that ended on October 2 "cemented the principle that the path to peace is through negotiations and not through violence." He added, "The children of Israel are safer tonight."

"Please, please give us a chance to make this thing work in the days ahead," Clinton implored Palestinians and Israelis. Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat sat stone-faced, side by side in the East Room with Jordan's King Hussein at the wrap up of the talks. By prearrangement, they declined an opportunity to talk there.

On July 17, 1996, a Boeing 747 jumbo jet took off from John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, never to reach its destination in Paris. TWA Flight 800 exploded and crashed into the ocean, shattering into hundreds of pieces. There were no survivors of the 230 aboard.

Months of an exhaustive and round-the-clock investigation still have produced no definitive cause for why the jet burst into a fireball, and there is growing concern that the mystery will never be solved.

Authorities listed three theories for the cause of the explosion — a bomb, a missile and a mechanical malfunction. Billions of dollars of work by the Navy, the National Transportation Safety Board, the FBI and others, none of these have been proven to be the cause.



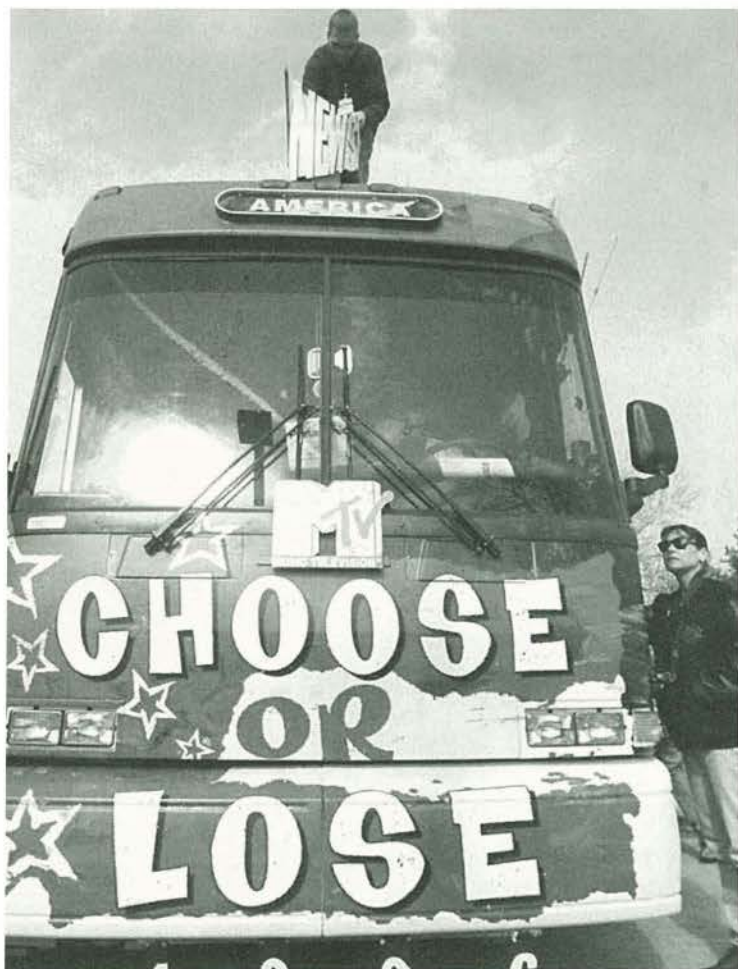
On July 27, 1996, a pipe bomb exploded at 1:20 AM, killing a man in Hawthorne of Albany, GA, and injuring 111 others. A Turkish man rushing to the scene died of a heart attack. Richard Jewell, a security guard working in the park, alerted police to a suspicious knapsack. Jewell helped evacuate people just moments before it exploded.

Jewell was hailed as a hero, and numerous interviews were conducted. But just a day or two later, a local newspaper identified Jewell as the prime suspect.

Investigators looked at Jewell after the Olympic Park bombing because someone who had a history of over zealotry and a desire to be a hero, he was near where the bomb exploded.

With such new elements fitting the profile of a lone bomber and no hard evidence, they went after him — and struck out speculatively.

YEAR *in* review



The "Choose or Lose" campaign, which MTV began in the 1992 election, and the bus reflect the network's commitment to bring the under 25s' out to vote in the 1996 Presidential election.

When the bus arrived at various university campus, voter materials were made available as well as MTV's Voter's Guide, which explained the two major parties' views on issues of concern to young people.

Students who paid a visit to the bus were asked to sign a pledge card indicating that they would vote in the November election. The "Choose or Lose" bus staff kept the cards until late October, then mailed them back to the signees to remind them to go to the polls.

In addition to serving as a voter registration and education center, the bus was also a rolling television studio. Earlier this year, MTV's host Soretha Soren interviewed GOP presidential nominee Senator Bob Dole on the bus. Other politicians and some rock bands took rides to talk about politics as well.



The sudden success of the 20-year-old Tiger Woods in his first two months as a professional had focused attention on golf in a way unseen since the days of Arnold Palmer. The difference this time is that Woods, barely removed from being a teenager himself, appears to be drawing teens and pre-teens to the game in astonishing numbers.

"He's just so cool," said 12-year-old Derek Dickson, attending the tournament with his school's 30-member gold club. "It's really neat that someone his age can beat everybody." And that's exactly what Woods has done.

Since turning professional on August 27, 1996, after winning an unprecedented third consecutive U.S. Amateur Championship, Woods had played in seven PGA Tour events, winning two, finishing third twice, fifth once and 11th once.

The only event in which he did not have a chance to win was his very first tournament, when exhaustion from all the attention contributed to a 60th-place finish.



YEAR *in* review



Offering himself as a “bridge to a time of tranquility,” Bob Dole accepted the GOP nomination on August 15, 1996, vowing to restore heartland values of faith and trust to a White House he called captive to elitists “who never sacrificed or suffered.”

Dole’s address was the signature moment of a Republican National Convention that opened with a pointed ‘right to choose’ platform fight but closed in an atmosphere of nervous unity. His vanquished primary foes were seated together in a VIP section at the edge of the convention floor.

Warming up the crowd for Dole was Republican vice presidential nominee Jack Kemp, whose enthusiastic embrace of the Dole tax plan was matched only by an emphatic pledge to expand the Republican Party by reaching out to blue-collar and minority voters.

Alanis Morissette is at the top of her profession these days. With sales of “Jagged Little Pill” reaching 13 million, the 27-year-old Canadian singer/songwriter’s debut in the United States became the best-selling album by a female artist.

After Morissette won four Grammys in February 1997, including one for album of the year, “Pill” sold at least 200,000 copies a week for seven consecutive weeks.

According to the Recording Industry Association of America, Morissette won out over several other female artists including Carole King, whose 1971 “Tapestry” sold 10 million copies, and Whitney Houston’s “Whitney Houston” which sold at least 10 million copies.

was something improbable about the sight of Boris Yeltsin, his snowy hair waxed into his rigid, trademark pompadour, indulging in a bit of boogie at a pop concert. But the hundreds of young people basking in free music and festive lights didn't seem to care. They roared their approval as the 65-year-old candidate swiveled and grinned.

"Vote or you'll damn well lose it all!" Yeltsin roared back, soaking up energy from the crowd in Ufa. "Vote or you'll damn well lose it all!" Yeltsin pledged to end the despised and dreaded draft and the Chechnya, where young conscripts die almost daily. He promised guaranteed jobs for young people, tax breaks for families and government help for first-time homebuyers and budding entrepreneurs.

After killing 16 people in the Caribbean in mid-September 1996, Hurricane Hortense lost some of his strength, but swaggered to the northeastern United States.

Hortense swiped at the Turks and Caicos, then harmlessly barreled past the Bahamas. Earlier it landed two direct strikes on Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, killing 16 people, demolishing hundreds of homes and destroying at least \$128 million in crops.

The hurricane brought nearly 18 inches of rain to Puerto Rico, creating swollen, raging rivers and deadly mudslides. Most of San Juan, the capital, was in darkness. Food spoiled in refrigerators, and those lucky enough to have water often had a mud-colored liquid emerge from the tap. Residents endured long lines up to 90-degree heat for such essentials as ice and drinking water.



Green Bay Packers coach Mike Holmgren is carried off the field after the Packers beat the New England Patriots 35-21 to win Super Bowl XXXI on Sunday, January 26, 1997

Wildfires spread out of control in California during October 1996, spreading fire across thousands and thousands of acres. Although not responsible for the initial start, the Santa Ana winds acted like gasoline on a match, threatening lives, homes, wildlife and wilderness.

Every time the Santa Ana winds would calm down even slightly, an army of fully-loaded helicopters and airplanes would take to the skies, racing to put an end to the wildfires before the winds picked up.

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, 1996 has produced the nation's worst wildfire season in more than four decades. They have claimed more than 5 million acres, the most since the year 1952.

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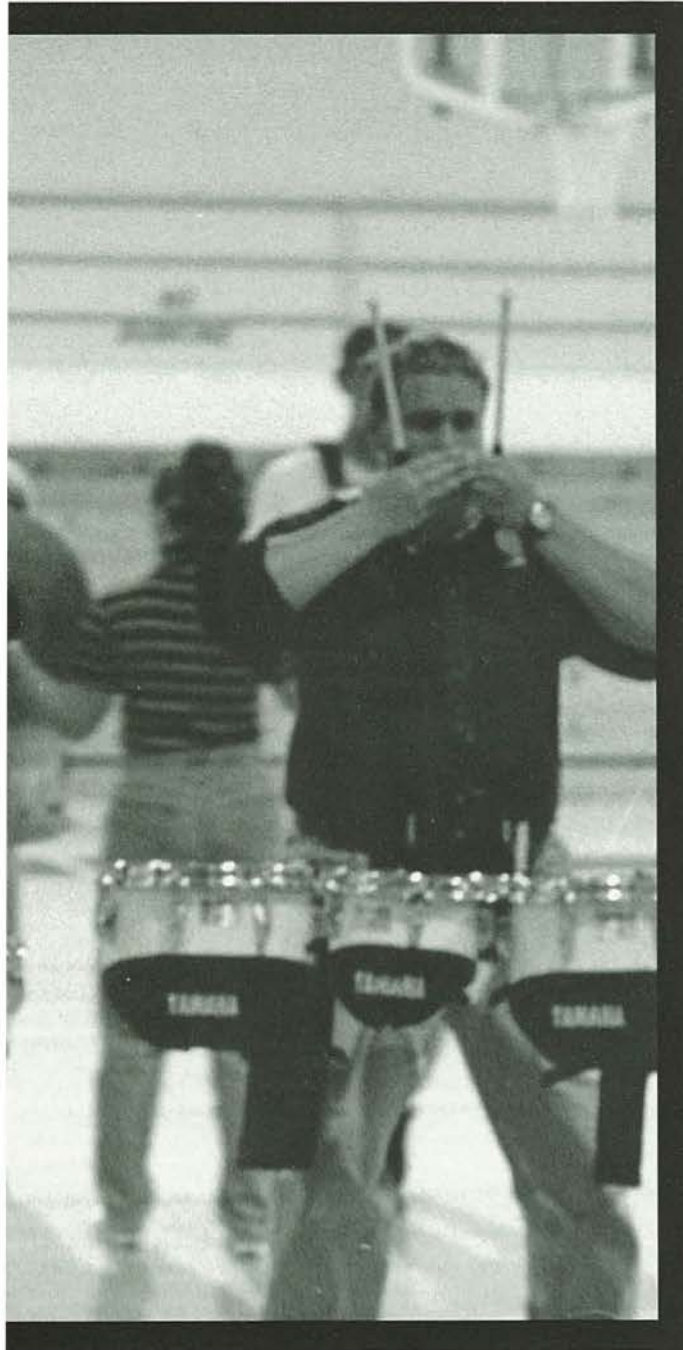
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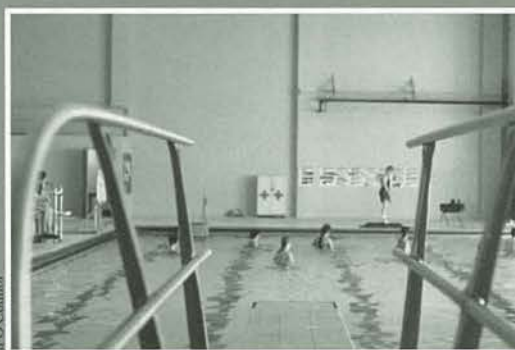
Freshman Luke Stone, senior Eddie Owen and junior Brett King represent see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil. The three were taking a break from band practice in the arena.

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Tim O'Connor



A bird's eye view of the pool is shown here. Students and their guests could use the pool free of charge for recreation or fitness.

Angela Wells



Angela Wells



Carol Roever, R.J. Dick and Larry Lawson represent the business department at the Griffon Edge. The professors got to know students and did some recruiting for their department at the event.

Members of Phi Delta Theta fraternity pose with KQTV reporter Colleen Williams. Everybody had a nose for news when they had the opportunity to be on camera.

Everybody had a nose for news when they had the opportunity to be on camera.



In 1997 the world pulsed with happenings for students and the rest of the world.

The year found students beginning courses in classrooms of the future and added money from the state, Access Plus, taking academics to a new level. A massive fundraising effort by administrators insured that former professor Glenn Marion's memory would live on in the form of a tower on campus.

The world met up with some super accomplishments as well. Tiger Woods bombarded his way across golf courses all over the country as Dennis Rodman continued to stir things up on and off the basketball court. Madonna won the admiration of movie-goers in the film version of *Evita* and managed to have a baby in the meantime.

Many things defined our world in 1997. One idea reigned around the world and right here; self-expression and individuality. As these pages show, that was a theme that was essential at Western.



C • O • L • O • P • H • O • N

The 1997 *Griffon*, Volume 27, was created by a student staff at Missouri Western State College and printed by Jost Publishing Company, Topeka, Kan. The press run was 1500 books. The publishing representative was Wally Mall. Individual student portraits and some organization's photos were taken by Thorton Photography. Students paid a madat yearbook fee of \$5 per semester. Students attending MWSC full time during the fall of 1996 and spring of 1997 may pick their yearbook by November 1, 1997. The *Griffon* was printed on 80 pound, double-coated enamel paper. The typography used throughout the book was 12 point Times with varying headline type styles of Airstream ITC, Avant Garde, B Helvetica Bold, Schmutz ICG Correded, Skia, Gill Sans Condensed, Lithos Regular and Monaco. All layouts were designed on a top of Macintosh computers with Pagemaker 5.0 software. Inquiries concerning the *Griffon* should be addressed to The *Griffon* Yearbook, SS/C 212, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO, 64507.

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