

Opening	2
Student Life	8
Academics	83
Sports	130
Personalities	162
Organizations	200
Ads	224
Index	234
Closing	246

Missouri Western State College

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Dedication! Those of us suddenly deemed Generation Next stepped into 1998 with an eye toward the future. The year was not short of exciting events at Missouri Western. The construction of the Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower provided the campus with a bold new icon. Griffon sports fans said goodbye to coach Tom Smith. During his time with the Griffons, Smith was the winningest coach in Missouri Western history. General Colin Powell made good on his promise to return to St. Joseph. He delivered the 4th Annual Convocation on Critical Issues to rave reviews. Security and residence hall curfews were hot issues for those on campus. Badges were implemented as the newest accessories for those seeking entrance to buildings after hours.

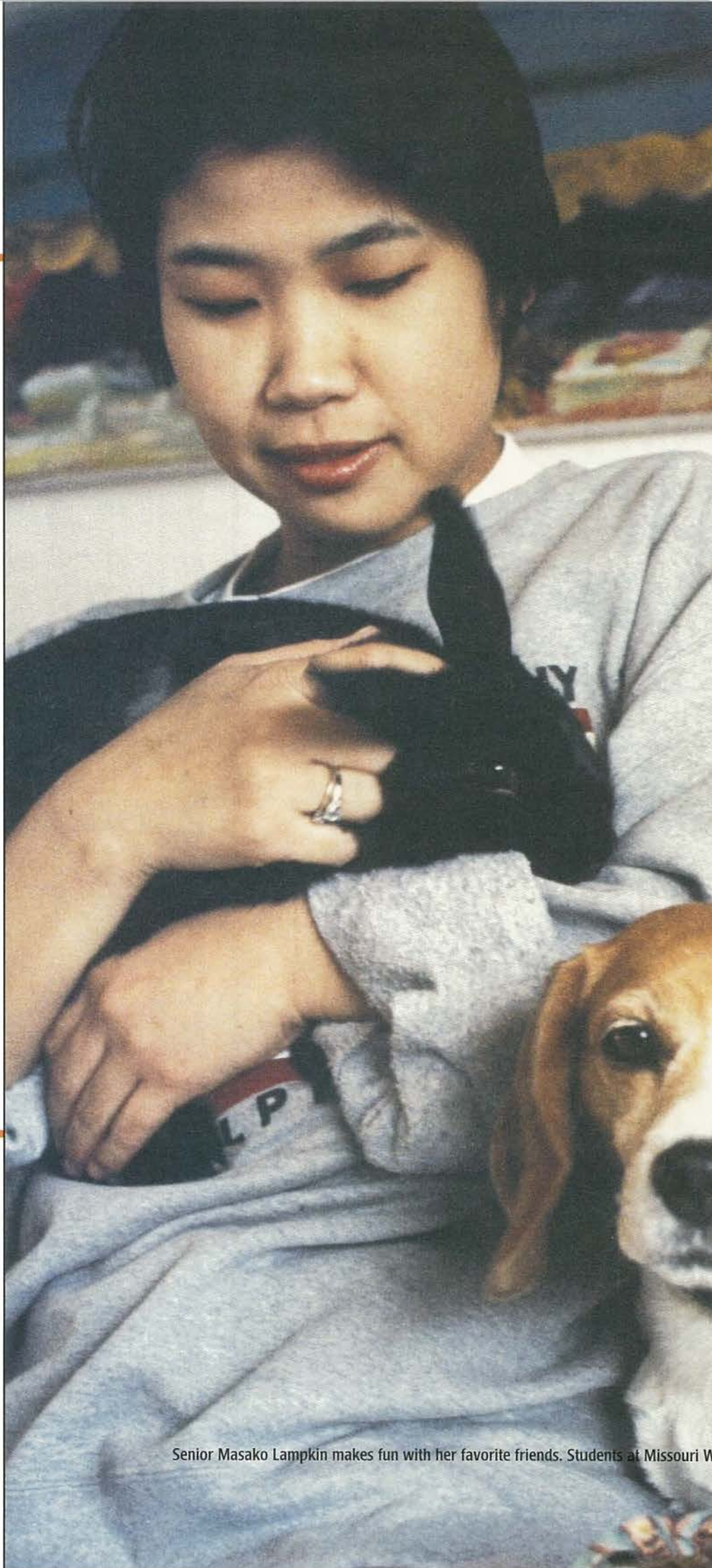


photo by jackie phillips

Senior Masako Lampkin makes fun with her favorite friends. Students at Missouri W

The cast of the car play out an angst ridden scene. The production was just one of many throughout 1998.



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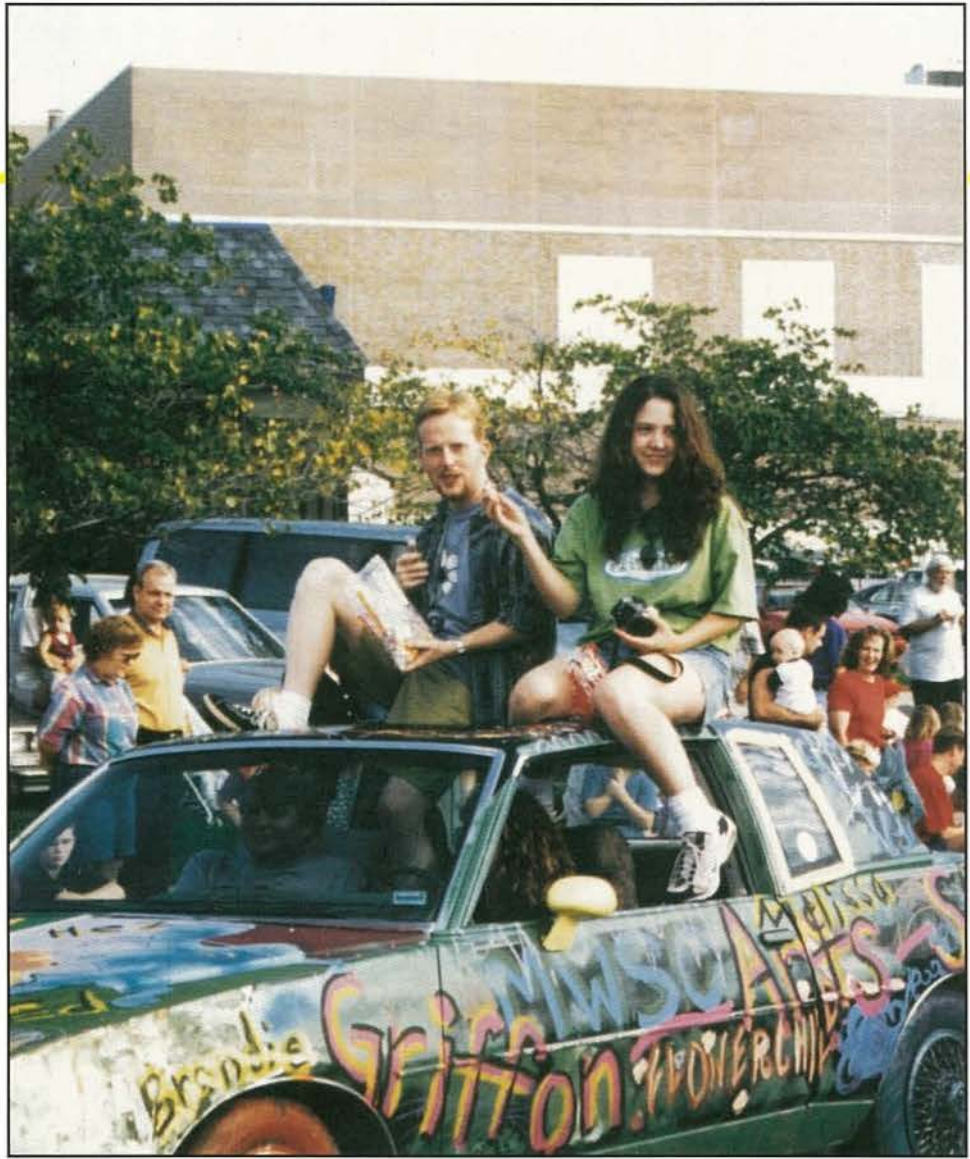


is of all kinds in 1998.



photos by crystal sisco

Griffon cheerleaders pep things up at the Homecoming bonfire. Griffon pride was felt all over campus.



(Above) Brad Harrah and Wendy Buhs take part in the 1998 Homecoming parade. Students brought retro back for the festivities. (Right) The Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower becomes Missouri Western's new icon.



(Right) Jeff Mace and Nicholas Malewski strut their stuff outside Hazel's coffee shop. Griffons had their choice of dozens of hang-outs.



Celebration! Students living on campus found new freedom in extended curfew hours. The world saw its share of excitement, conflict and tragedy in 1998. *Spice Girls* blasted out of Britain and succeeded in their own brand of global domination. The five pop divas sold over 20 million albums worldwide, invaded the big screen with *Spiceworld The Movie* and embarked on an ambitious world tour. England experienced tragedy as well, when Diana, Princess of Wales died in a car accident on August 31, 1997 in Paris. London's Kensington Palace, Diana's home, was bombarded by grief-stricken citizens from around the world donning flowers for the woman they called the People's Princess. Conflicts both in the U.S. and abroad kept people on the edge of their seats. When United Parcel Service employees went on strike in support of higher wages, the country's mail service came to a screeching halt.

photo by timberlynn malewski

(Right) A member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity assumes the role of Sam the Griffon in the 1998 Homecoming parade. Greek pride was important to students. (Below) Civic Center Park is just one of the reasons St. Joseph was named an All-American City in 1998. The award was only given to ten cities throughout the nation.



The Golden Griffon Marching Band hits the road for the Homecoming parade. The band toured all over the area during the year.



Motivation! Onlookers were anxious as well to see resolution in the Middle East as Iraq threatened its neighbors with chemical warfare. Almost overshadowing the conflict in Iraq, were the many scandals plaguing the White House. From Monica Lewinsky to Paula Jones, President Clinton had his share of personal problems. Who could possibly forget the most memorable event of 1998? The cinematic triumph and instant legend *Titanic* hit the big screen in January and charged ahead with juggernaut momentum. Canadian chanteuse Celine Dion helped propel the film's soundtrack to record-breaking sales with her haunting hymn "My Heart Will Go On." Next Phase! Next Stage! Next Wave! Generation Next moved forward with gale force in a year full of extreme highs and tragic lows. In the end, it was all about the celebration of life. Griffons listened up and took heed as they approached a dawning millennium.





s t u d e n



What was the state of student life in 1998? Extreme! There was no in-between for Generation Next. Campus pride dropped in with a trippy retro bang! Fierce fashions were born again. Eating and sleeping were the usual obstacles. Credit debt had students pounding the pavement for employment. Internet junkies got plugged in. Charity was abundant. What was left for this generation to achieve? Everything.

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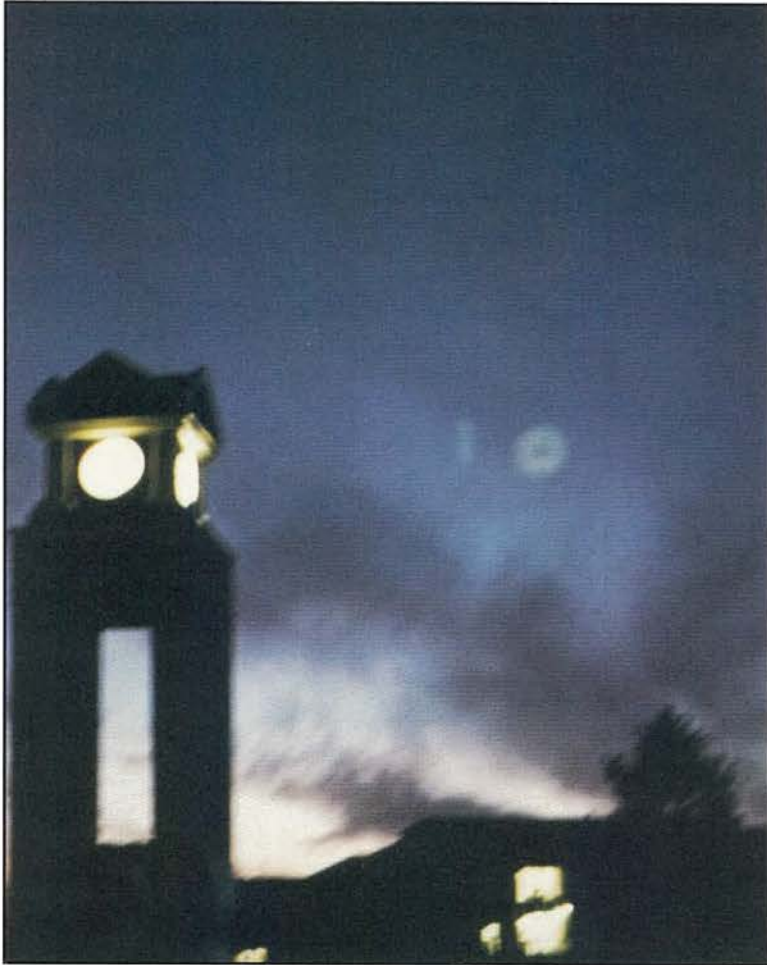
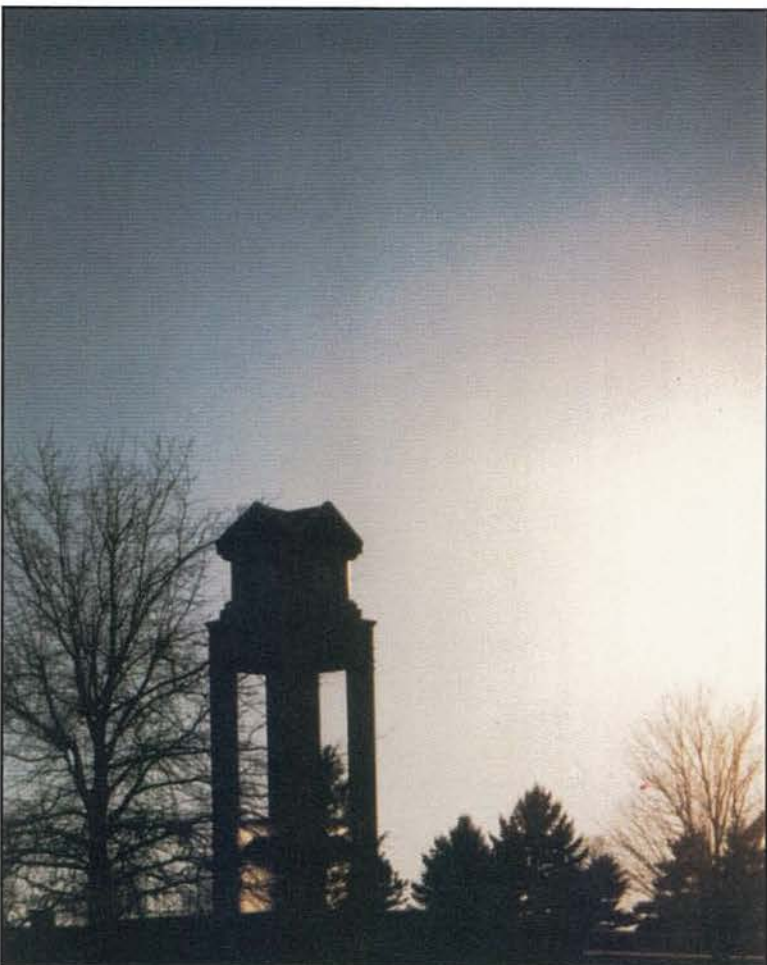


photo by jackie phillips



photos by andrea sowards

The new Glenn E. Marion Clock Tower dominates campus night or day. The tower's bell played music throughout the day.

When Missouri Western was a four-year College, Dr. Glenn E. Marion already had visions of change for the school.

Marion began teaching drafting design at the Jr. College in 1944, and taught there until it closed in 1969, when it became Missouri Western State College. He taught there until his retirement in 1976, but Dr. Marion stayed involved in Missouri Western until his death in July 1996.

During his years here, Marion was responsible for a variety of landscaping projects and aspired for the campus to have some sort of icon that would be unique to MWSC: a clock tower. Marion met with a firm several times over the years to review his plans for a clock tower. A great deal of thought and time went into his design, he wanted the tower to be prominent enough that it would be easily visible when approaching the campus on I-29 from both north and the south.

"After Mr. Marion's death in 1996," President Dr. Janet Murphy, "one of his colleagues approached me wanting to know if it was conceivable that his father's dream could be made



lity.”
The Glenn E. Marion Clock Tower, made possible by a substantial donation from the donor family and fundraising from the Missouri Western Student Council, was accented with a plaza directly in front of it named the Bushman Plaza. The plaza is lined with blocks inscribed with the names of the many people and organizations who made the donations to the project.

“The plaza was named after Robert and Mary Bushman,” said Murphy. “The Bushman’s were also devoted to Missouri Western.”

The clock tower, located in the center of the campus, was equipped with a sound system that chimes at 12 and 6 p.m. each day and had the ability to be programmed to play many different tunes, such as The Missouri Western Alumni March, The Missouri Waltz and Christmas car-

ols. “St. Patrick’s Day will surely find the clock tower playing an Irish tune,” said Dr. Murphy. “It played the Missouri Western Alumni March at the dedication ceremony.”

Many students enjoyed hearing the chime sounds of the clock tower.

“Oh yes, you can hear it clear over at the dorms,” said sophomore Andrea Dickerson. “It really sounds nice.”

The clock tower proved to be popular with most students, who found that campus beautification was a positive thing.

“I think that the clock is an excellent addition to the campus,” said senior Emmett Bryson. “It gives the campus character and is a great memorial to those who have contributed to the school.”

Tunes chimed daily on the campus, reminding students and faculty of their school’s newest addition. Whether it served as a reminder to students that they were late to their next class, or just something nice to look at, the large clock tower stood out to all who saw it.

story by wilma roberts

c o n s t r u c t i n g a t r a d i t i o n





a v e r y g r o o v y h o m e c o m i n g

story by erica anders

Sounds of "Stayin' Alive" and "I Will Survive" sounded from downtown St. Joseph on Saturday, October 4th as the Missouri Western Homecoming parade kicked off a day of fun and football. The theme was "MWSC Goes Retro" and some far out decorations and events throughout the campus made for an exciting week.

The parade was just one of the many groovy events, ranging from clothing drives to car graffiti, that were held during the annual week of school spirit. It all began on Sunday with chalk sidewalk decorating in the center of campus, sponsored by Alpha Sigma Alpha. Later that evening, the homecoming dance carried the retro theme all the way. Instead of being formal like years past, the dance was a casual costume affair. Prizes were awarded for the best retro costume, such as a leisure suit and platform shoes.

Phi Sigma Kappa sponsored a Monday Night Football Party at The Griffon Place and Alpha Chi sponsored the Most Fanatical Fan contest. On Tuesday, the Griffon Arts Society sponsored a far-out Car Graffiti in the center of campus, which they used for their parade entry.

It seemed that organizations were promoting peace and love everywhere by holding drives for various items. Wednesday was an outasight day for campus clean-up, sponsored by the Student Honors Organization. Alpha Gamma Delta held a week-long clothing drive, and their proceeds went to the Salvation Army. A canned food drive was sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha. Theta Xi held a toy drive and OSSW (Organization of Student Social Workers) held a coat and shoe drive. Finally, the Alchemist Club took donations all week for the United Way.

"I was very surprised and pleased this year with the participation," said CAB (Campus Activities Board) chairperson, Shelby Coxon. "Many diverse organizations became involved with the different activities."

Thursday held the excitement of the pep rally and the crowning of the Homecoming queen. After the band, cheerleaders, Mystics and Golden Griffon Guard performed, it was time for the games to begin. The games at the pep rally included: bat-spin, egg-on-spoon race and the paper plate race. Alpha Sigma Alpha won the spirit stick by doing the best in the three competitions during the pep rally. The honor of becoming Homecoming queen went to Dawn Kidwell, sponsored by Phi Sigma Kappa. Window and sign winners were also announced, the first place window went to Phi Delta Theta and Alpha Sigma Alpha won the sign award.

Festivities continued on Friday with a pancake breakfast sponsored by Phi Delta Theta. Delta Sigma Theta sponsored a barbecue in the Vaselakos basement, which was attended by that happenin' weatherman from KQ2 TV, Mike Bracciano.

Saturday was the big day of the parade. Many rad floats, cars, and trucks rolled downtown before a gathered audience. After the parade, students, faculty and community members gathered to watch the Griffons battle the Missouri Southern Lions on the football field, ending the week with a loss. At half-time, the winners of the parade were announced. The best float award went to Phi Mu for their cool rendition of American Bandstand. The winner of the best car award was Phi Sigma Kappa for their pink cadillac, and they also won the truck award with their big, yellow submarine. Alpha Gamma Delta won the Sign of Spirit contest sponsored by Sigma Sigma Sigma.

"I thought that overall we had a great Homecoming, considering the short preparation time that we had," said Don Willis, assistant dean of student affairs.

Queen Dawn Kidwell waves to her adoring fans. Kidwell and her fellow Homecoming royals got down at the Retro Ball Saturday night.

The Age of Aquarius returns as Homecoming parade participants bring back the '70s. Love, disco and lava lamps were staples during the procession. (Right) The Griffons take on the Missouri Southern Lions. Though the Lions triumphed, there was no shortage of excitement in the stands.



Sam the Griffon struts his stuff as Missouri Western Goes Retro for Homecoming. Everything from talent shows to pep contests had a disco theme.



security measures

story by jason welden

"Students come first, we are going to do can whatever we can to service those students, and that means giving them the best protection possible." Those were the words of John Kelley, the director of a security team whose work and dedication made the Missouri Western campus one of the safest in the state.

Many additions were made to the campus security prior to the fall semester, like the tips hotline program where one could call anonymously to give information on crimes that occurred on campus.

The foot patrol, often referred to as the courtesy patrol, had many purposes. One of the duties of those students who were members of the foot patrol was to escort other students, on request, to any place on campus, such as the dorms, classrooms, or parking lots. The program was upgraded a year after its introduction when they began patrolling on bicycles. Four security officers, who were certified through the state of Missouri to do patrol work on a bike, were later added to the patrol group.

Security officers Jamie Denney, John Kelley, Bob Bidding and Jason Whittington felt that they most enjoyed their job when there was a special event on campus, such as Family Day or Homecoming attractions, when they could actually go out into the campus community, instead of just driving around in their cars.

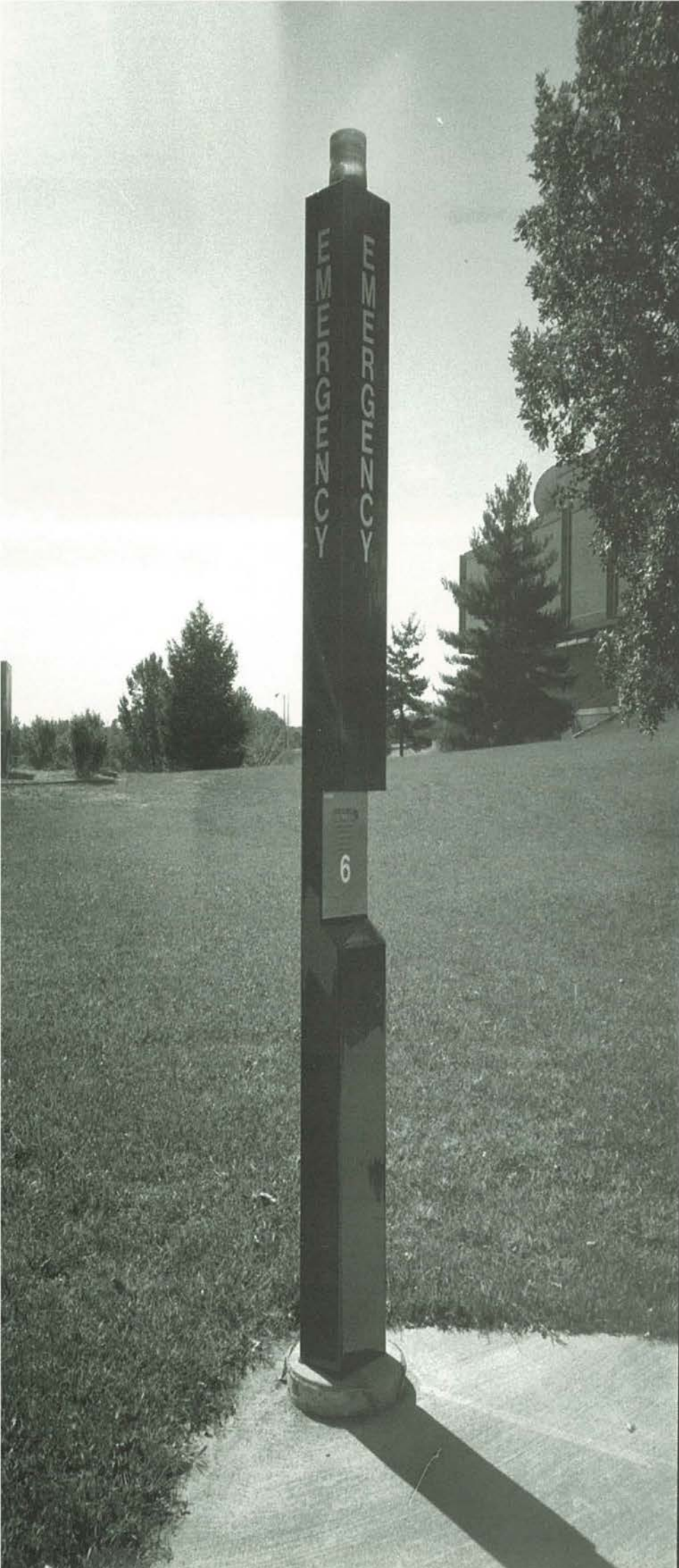
Other security improvements made students feel safer at school. Six security phones were installed by the parking lots, in the interior of the campus, and by the new dorm complex. By pushing the button on the telephones, one could be automatically connected to the security office when they felt that they needed assistance. The ID program had been around for some time

to help protect the belongings of students on campus. The personal property of resident students was marked with an engraving tool or an invisible marker that could only be seen under a certain light to detour people from stealing it.

The only major complaint received by the security office was that they gave too many parking tickets. "If that is the major complaint," John Kelley, Director of Security, said, "I am comfortable with that. That is good for us because I would much rather people think that all we do is hand out parking tickets than to think that we are busier trying to solve all of the major crimes out here, because there aren't any to solve." The reason the campus did not have crimes worse than parking violations, like rape, larceny, robberies, murders and car thefts, is because of the hard work the security team did to prevent them.

Nothing new for security was being discussed for the fall semester, but they were always trying to come up with new ideas for improving the services offered in the campus community and looking to the future and how to make it a safe one for all of the students and faculty.

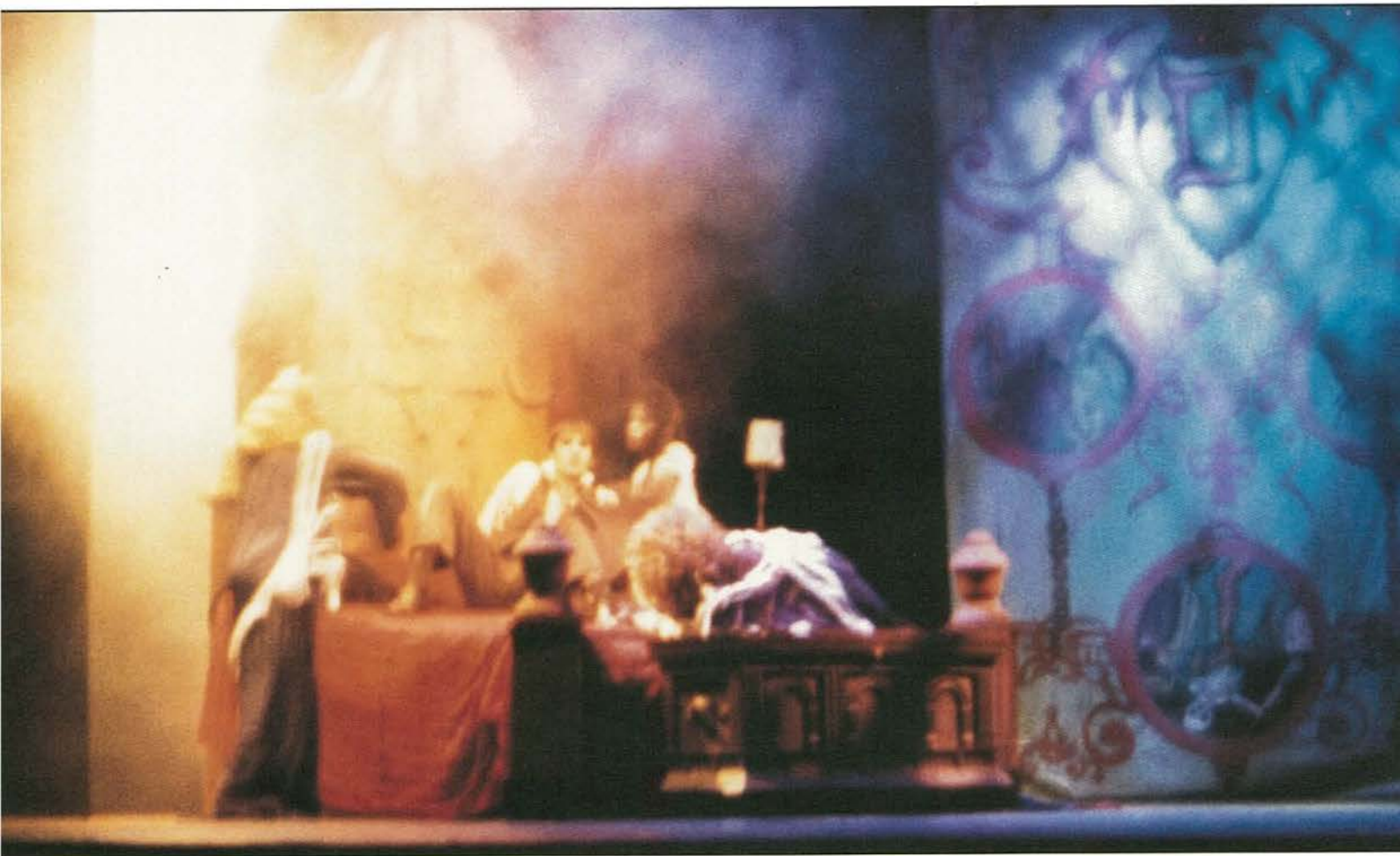
photos by erin lewis



An emergency alert post stands ominously in the center of campus. The posts were installed in 1997 and would alert security when pushed.

(Above) Spooky special effects add to the intensity of this scene from Dracula. The theatre department utilized fog, explosions and even stakes through the heart that squirted life-like blood. (Below) Hal Banner holds wife, Sumiko as his mother, Geneva, delivers her own grandchild in the backseat of the family's beloved car. The birth of the baby relieved tension between Hal's parents and his new wife and brought the family closer together.

photos by crystal si



h e a t r e t h r i l l s

y by erica anders

Blood, terror, comedy and romance all rolled into one was the main idea for "Dracula." theatrical performance left the audience dodging blood, screaming, laughing and wondering what would happen next.

The theatre department put on "Dracula" from October 9 -11, with a Sunday matinee. production, though, had a bit of a twist to it, with a little added humor. The story was one of an immortal man, Dracula (Richard Dye), who wanted nothing more than to be left alone with his sweetheart, Lucy (Sarah Johnson). The first act took place in Dracula's home of Transylvania. The set was set up with period pieces from the 1800's, which looked unused and unsettling. Dracula decided to move to London where he would be less of an outsider and, because the second half of the show took place in London, the actors needed to establish a British accent. Les Buglewicz was the dialect coach for the actors.

"I used a primarily physical approach for the production of accent," said Buglewicz. "Like working with the actors on the placement of the voice, the use of the articulators, (lips, teeth and tongue), and the freeing of the vocal instrument. The actors were very receptive to this type of work, and I believe it showed in the production in the consistency of the vocal work and the clarity of diction."

While accents were a particularly important part of making the play believable, the special effects were definitely vital to the play's success as well. The theatre department utilized special effects like explosions and even stakes through the heart that squirted life-like blood when driven through the chest of hungry villains.

According to Robin Findlay, director, if scary tactics were the only effects of the play, it could have become very predictable. Therefore, some humor was added to keep the audience on an emotional roller-coaster. At one point, Dracula came out into the audience to explain his predicament and claimed to be thirsty for more blood. He snatched up a baby held by one of the audience members, and took off laughing. Renfield, played by David Dorr, kept the audience in suspense during one particular, side-splitting, paranoid scene.

"Renfield goes absolutely mental after this encounter [with Dracula] and is committed," said Dorr. "Dracula promised him he would live forever if he ate spiders and flies and absorbed their life."

This version of Dracula had a little less horror, and a lot more of everything else than the audience might have expected, but this only added to its intrigue. With added comedy, romance and suspense, the play was a smash and left the audience "thirsty for more!"

1950's memorabilia filled the hope chests outside of Kemper Recital Hall and songs like "The Ballad of the Merry Hill" and "Great Balls of Fire" played over the speakers inside the theatre. Anticipation was settling in the minds of many as they awaited the performance of The Car, an all-American

Before the show began, cast members roamed up and down the aisles, in full character, directing audience members to their seats and carrying on conversations as if they had been companions for years.

"[Having the cast members in the audience during pre-show] was part of the script," said director Robin Findlay. "I think it created more of a bond between the audience and the actors."

Scenery for the show was not a difficult task. The main prop was the strongly-built wire mesh car to a '56 Hudson. The theatre department at MWSC was lucky enough to have the car donated, rather than build it themselves.

"The car was built for the world premiere at the University of Missouri-Columbia," said Lillie of the theatre department. "They gave it to the playwright after the show, and she lent it to us."

The car was the main focus on stage, and the family used it to tell stories and share some of their fondest memories. The Banner family was the average American family, with a bit of a twist. Ed Banner was a used-car salesman and happily married to Geneva, a nurturing and caring mother. Their son, Hal, was a loyal and considerate son who always sided with his mother when it came to differences in the family.

The day Ed brought home the car was one of the family's fondest memories. Sitting in the car for hours and admiring the new, shiny car left everyone in the family in total bliss. Their lives were perfect until Hal decided to enlist in the army. Upon coming home, Hal returned with his Japanese wife, Sumiko, whom Geneva adored and Ed felt ethnic tension towards. Sumiko was pregnant, and the Banner's average family began to take a twist. However, when their bright-eyed, half-American, half-Japanese granddaughter came into their lives, they all realized how special their family truly was and how important it was to share their stories with her.

The story was filled with much laughter, tears and family ties. They soon realized that the car was not just pieces of scrap metal held together with nuts and bolts, but rather a symbol of their family bonding together, growing apart, and experiencing change in each of their lives.

vacation escapes

story by wilma roberts and mandy fitzwater

Summer vacation gives students the chance to go places and see things they may not be able to during the months when school ties them down. Some go home for the summer to see parents and old friends, while others get to do more exciting things.

One group of Missouri Western students, juniors Steven and Charisa Greenfield, seniors Lance Massey and sophomore Mandy Fitzwater, took off for Galveston Island, Texas for a break before the fall semester began.

On August 6, the four MWSC students and another couple left for the 15-hour drive to Galveston. They stayed at the beach house of Lance's aunt and uncle on the bayou, where they enjoyed hours of waverunner racing, barbecues, fishing, swimming and sunbathing.

"We rode waverunners for hours at a time," said Greenfield. "It was worth all of the saltwater spraying on your face, and in your mouth and eyes. The waverunners were our favorite part of the trip."

They also enjoyed the night life at places like Joe's Crab Shack, a miniature golf course at Moody Gardens' miniature rainforest and many other places during their three nights there. Joe's Crab Shack served all kinds of fresh seafood and the employees sang and danced around the restaurant, making it impossible not to have a good time while dining there. Trips to the ocean and shopping downtown and along the strip at the beach filled the days with fun and excitement. They left on August 10 for the long drive home, with lots of souvenirs and pictures, and they were all exhausted.

"The weather was humid, but we didn't even notice," said junior Lance Massey. "Going to the ocean with a group of friends was enough fun for me."

The month before, non-traditional student Wilma Roberts, her husband George and another couple flew to Boston, Massachusetts for Wilma and George's 25th wedding anniversary. They decided on a Fly And Ride, a program by Harley-Davidson where one can fly to cool locations and rent a Harley for a week, for their anniversary celebration. On July 14, they arrived in Boston and did some sight-seeing.

"Boston was a very interesting place to tour," said Roberts. "Everywhere we went there was so much history connected to it."

Early the next morning, they were on their way. The trip consisted of riding where they wanted, and staying where they stopped. They were on the road for five days and five nights with the bikes, traveling through Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Canada, New York, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

"We had never seen the New England states or Canada before," said Roberts. "I don't have a visual connection to each state when I hear its name mentioned."

On their last day, they decided that since the bikes did not have to be back until 5 p.m., they would do some more riding. They headed south out of Vermont back into Massachusetts, to Connecticut, over to Rhode Island, and back into Massachusetts; four states in four hours.

"This was a wonderful first Fly and Ride," said Roberts. "I have to admit, on the way home we were already discussing when and to where our next Fly and Ride would be. This is an anniversary I will always remember."

Whether it was summer break, Christmas vacation, or spring break, Missouri Western students tried to take advantage of their precious time away from class. Some students were lucky enough to get to the beach, while others just enjoyed some free time without homework and tests, but everyone was sure to enjoy the time off.



(Above) Freshman Wilma Roberts and her husband extend their anniversary journey to Canada. Students were thrilled to have the chance to spend their vacation in exciting places far from home. (Below) Roberts wades in the cool water along the coast of Maine. The ultimate goal of most students was to spend their summer on the beach.



A canal in Annecy leads to the lac d'Annecy. The city was host to Hoffmann and her students for almost two decades.

French professor Rosemary Hoffmann and Therese Falloon peak through the arbour at Monet's gardens in Giverny. (Below) Hoffmann and Falloon enjoy a lunch with students at a bistro in Versailles. Hoffmann said these intimate moments like this she would miss the most.



bon voyage madame

story by tracy jones

What began in 1981 as a two-week language immersion program, became for former French professor Rosemary Hoffmann an experience very much like raising a child. When she decided to officially enter retirement after the 1997 France Study Abroad Program, that child was in a sense leaving home.

"When you have the opportunity to see a program like this grow year after year, it becomes something very special," said Hoffmann. "I feel a certain sadness that I will no longer be able to share that experience with students."

The France Study Abroad program first consisted of a two-week immersion in a tiny chalet 10 miles from Briançon, France. It was Hoffmann's dream to not only give students language experience, but to give them a chance to experience *la vraie vie française*. Junior Stacia Hellerich, a 1997 program participant, was enriched by her experience in France. She credits much of that enrichment to Hoffmann's role as advisor.

"Madame's view of France affected me greatly," said Hellerich. "She loved France and their culture, so it rubbed off onto her students."

It was Hoffmann's love of France and her desire to give her students a greater perspective of France that led to the expansion of the program in 1983. It was expanded to include a two-week preparatory course at Missouri Western, one week in Paris and a four-week homestay and language study in Annecy at the IFALPS language institute.

"The length of the program allows students to experience a greater immersion of language and culture," said Hoffmann. "We were also able to include more excursions through the institute in Annecy. The IFALPS offered smaller classes as well."

Hoffmann felt a sense of closure in her final trip abroad when Monsieur Terreaux, who taught students from his chalet in 1981 and who's son is currently the director of the IFALPS, handed out the diplomas at the 1997 summer commencement ceremonies.

In thinking of memorable moments throughout her years traveling abroad, she recalls the time she and her students got lost while trying to find their tour bus. When Hoffmann spotted the bus she thought was her group's, she jumped in front of it to flag it down. However, upon boarding, she discovered it was not the correct bus. All ended well, though, when the driver radioed the correct bus and the group was on their way. It is moments that Hoffmann says she will always remember.

Her students, too, will forever remember the effect she had on them as a professor, and more importantly as a friend.

"Madame affected me in many ways personally," said Hellerich. "She had a big heart and was always willing to help anyone. Many times I would just go talk to her about what was going on in my life. She has forever shaped the person I am because she reached out and touched my life."



g o i n g g r e e k

story by dusty jestes

photos by crystal sisco

Over the course of five years, Greek life went from non-existent to a campus-wide progression of letters and colors. Greek pride was evident throughout the year as numerous men and women were seen everyday wearing t-shirts, jackets and hats that publicized and promoted their individual organizations. It was this type of publicity that enabled sororities and fraternities alike to reach high pledge numbers and continue a tradition of excellence.

Maybe companionship was the key to the overwhelming appeal of Greek life, as it offered many students a chance to make new acquaintances and have some fun along the way. Being Greek was definitely being a part of something close-knit, as was evident in the numerous activities they participated in together.

"All Greeks seem to have a special bond with each other," said TKE member Matt Growcock. "I know that anytime I have a problem, I can go talk to one of my brothers."

Being Greek offered many students a chance to become involved in the community and on campus, as well as to interact socially with their peers. Making a difference in the lives of others and bettering society were important goals each organization strove to achieve. In fact, this aspect of Greek life led to strong self-respect and pride as each organization was able to make a difference.

"I became Greek because my sorority does the things I wanted to do in the community," said Maria Cole of Delta Sigma Theta. "And they are willing to help others."

Helping others was a major motivation for Greeks, who contributed to at least 11 different philanthropies, including such organizations as the Special Olympics, Robby Page Memorial, United Way and foundations researching M.S. (multiple sclerosis) and diabetes. Giving to others both physically and financially became a central focus as many chapters reached donation goals for their causes during the year. One example was Alpha Gamma Delta, which became the youngest Jewel Chapter in their national organization after raising over \$2,000 for their charity.

"We teeter-tottered all night and all day in the cold and rain to raise money for juvenile diabetes," said freshman Alpha Gamma Delta member Beth Praiswater. "It was a fun way to help out a serious cause."

On campus, Greeks voiced their beliefs and ideas by way of programs and events, such as Mr. Ebony, self-defense, tutoring, sex education, campus beautification, diversity and alcohol awareness. They also showed their spirit and enthusiasm during Homecoming Week, Family Day and Greek Week. The 1st Annual Mr. MWSC contest was held and each Greek organization sponsored at least one candidate, thus bringing together the entire Greek society. These activities allowed for bonding and personal growth by providing both enrichment and education, as well as fun. "It [being Greek] helps you get involved in all aspects of college life," said Jill Reigel of Tri Sigma.

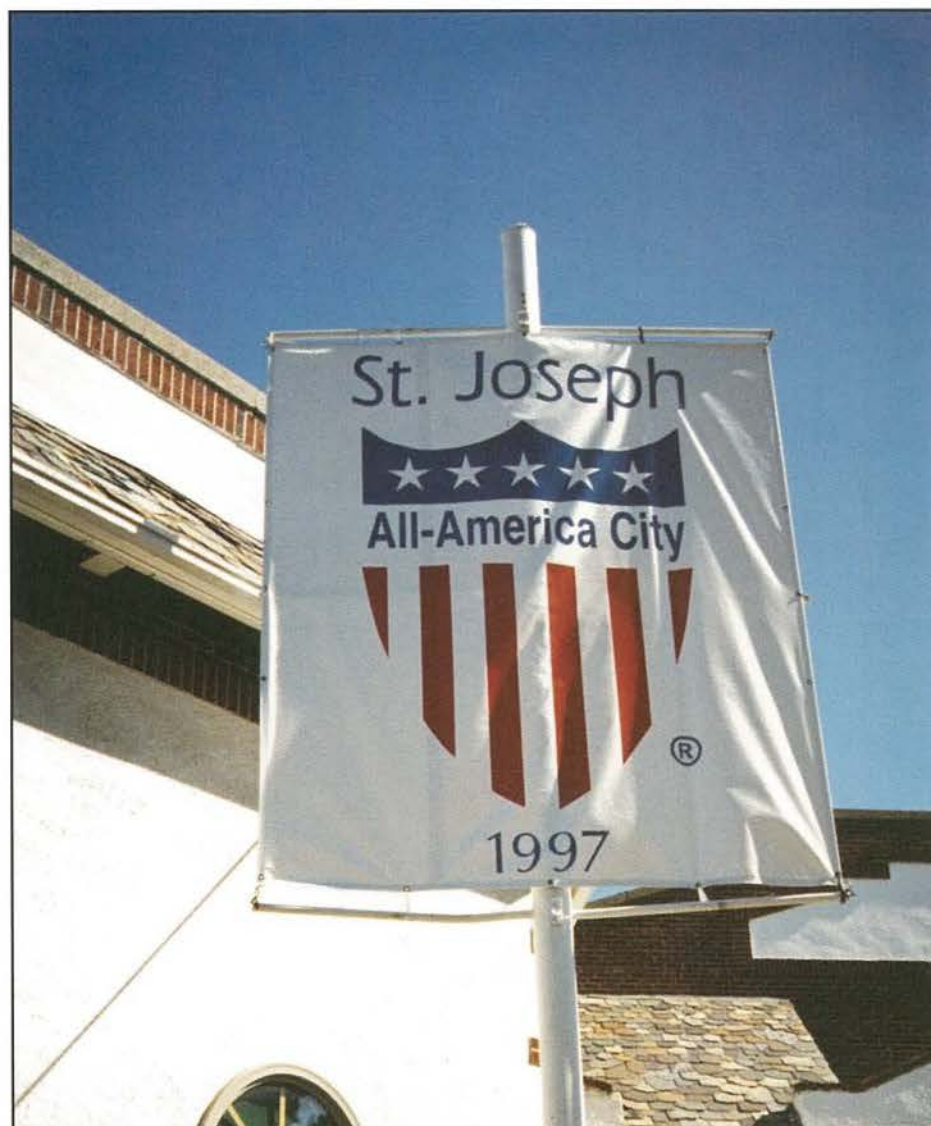
Maybe friendship was the most important part of Greek life, or maybe it was the experiences that came with being Greek. Either way, Greeks had a form of pride and self-esteem that shined through in the many positive ways they affected others.

(Above) Members of Phi Mu recreate a classic episode of American Bandstand. The sorority took first place in the float division of the Homecoming parade. (Below) Phi Sigma Kappa thrill the crowd with their rendition of the 80s video hit *Thriller*. The procession got down, all the way down Frederick Blvd.

all-american education

story by jerry keuhn

36



photos by stephanie sandvoss

New All-American City banners showcase St. Joseph's 1997 award. Citizens were proud of what was happening in their city.

After years of looking at a bleak economic future and a long period of decline, Missouri Western students finally had a community they may not have been so quick to leave upon graduation. In recognition of the resurgence brought about by the hard work and determination of residents and businesses in the community, the city of St. Joseph, Missouri was designated in as a 1997 All-American City.

The All-American City award was given to ten cities each year by the National Civic League, a program that had recognized and encouraged civic excellence for 48 years. Out of approximately 120 cities that submitted an application, 30 were chosen as finalists and invited to a conference at which a 12-member jury decided the winners. The 1997 conference was held nearby in Kansas City, Missouri and each city gave a 10-minute presentation and answered questions from the jury.

The criteria by which the contestants were judged included citizen participation, community leadership, government performance, volunteerism and philanthropy, inter-governmental relations, civic education, community information sharing, capacity for cooperation and consensus-building, community vision and planning and inter-community communication.

As a part of the selection process, three community projects started within the prior two years had to be submitted, with an explanation of their methods and results. St. Joseph chose to include three; the Economic Development and Recovery program and the Neighborhood Partnership and Healthy Communities program. The Economic Development and Recovery program was one of those enacted to bring back some of the over 2,000 jobs lost after the fall of 1993 and attract new businesses to the city. The Neighborhood Partnership was a non-profit corporation formed by both the public and private sectors to rehabilitate housing in a 10-year old neighborhood in the downtown known as Patee Town that had been in severe decline. The neighborhood was revitalized when the group came in and planted trees, replaced sidewalks, repaired streets, and designed and built a new infrastructure. The Healthy C

ties program was developed so that concerned residents could meet and discuss goals and ways to carry them out. An Annual Regional Community Forum was established by a group to develop solutions to the city's problems.

Deirdre Downer, the Membership and Communications Manager at the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, said, "It has really been a collaboration between the different sectors of the community, the profit and the non-profit, public and the private. The projects all started from the ground-up, at the grassroots level. The people got together and set goals and then worked together toward those goals." A \$10,000 grant was also given to each city chosen by the contest's sponsor, the Allstate Foundation, to go toward further civic improvement.

After winning the All-America City award, each city chosen was given a major marketing tool to be used in attracting new businesses and engaging those that may be leaving to stay. Mayor Stobbs, St. Joseph's mayor, stated in a message given after the announcement of the award that, "As an All-America City, we share our success stories with other cities and learn from them and innovative ways to continually improve our community. We will become stronger in our efforts to solve our problems, strengthen our businesses and secure our future. Our rewards are the continuing growth and development of our community, our citizens, and our future."

(Above) A new sign welcomes motorists to St. Joseph. Marks of All-American City pride were all over the city. (Below) St. Joseph City Hall proudly displays an All-American City banner. City government played an important role in St. Joseph's award.



society's new debt

story by jason weldon

Were credit cards a help to students, or a hindrance? It all depended on how they were used. Unfortunately, they sometimes spelled bankruptcy for the average college student who may have seen them as their first taste of independence and financial responsibility.

The convenience of buying now and paying later that came with the credit card was a temptation that many people, young and old alike, could not resist.

"I would go to the mall or someplace and want this and that with little thought of how I was going to pay for it," said one student who requested his name not be mentioned. "I remember the time I went to Best Buy and spent around \$200 on CD's, video games, and stuff. All I had was \$150 that was supposed to go for bills, so I used my credit card. I thought I would just pay it off when I got paid, but something always came up. I ended up taking all but \$50 of it back, which was pretty embarrassing."

Many people made the same mistake as this student, some not as serious and some more so. One could easily find that their abuse of credit cards left them with a bad credit history that followed them for a long time.

The majority of credit cards available had high interest rates that made it even more difficult to pay them off in time. One student, Stacey, found that the interest on her cards added up all too quickly.

"I had all kinds of credit cards. You name it, I had it, and they were all maxed out," said Stacey. "When there is an 8% interest rate here and another 10% there, it adds up really fast. When I couldn't pay them off, collection agencies started to call and harass me and my family. They threatened to call my husband's command when he was in the Navy, which is against the law. They would call and talk to my kids and they called me at work, which is also illegal. I called Consumer Credit Counseling and made arrangements to pay it off, but I eventually filed bankruptcy. And this may sound stupid, but my record would look better if I just filed bankruptcy first instead of trying to pay it off."

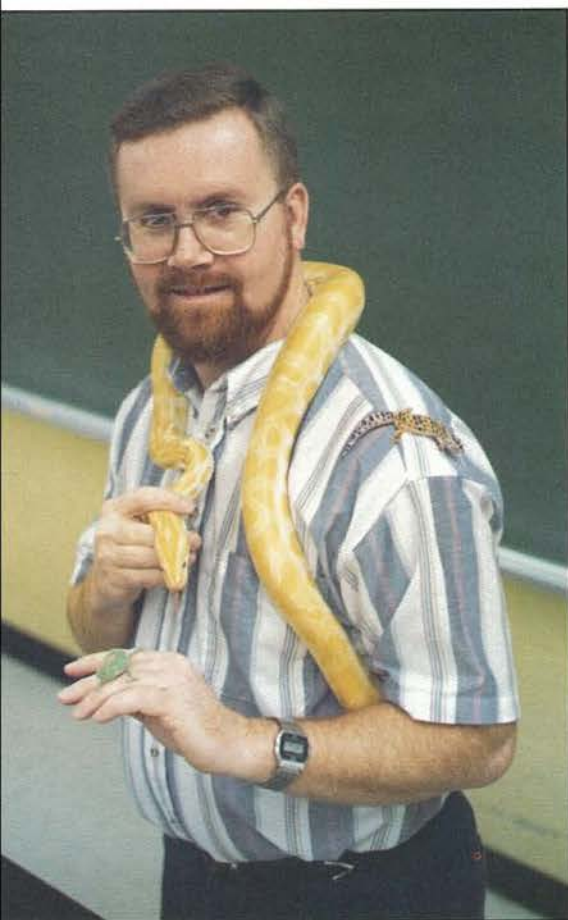
Ellen Montgomery, of Consumer Credit Counseling in St. Joseph, said that 30-40 percent of the credit problem cases that she deals with are college students who are nearing the end of their college career.

"They have used their credit cards to live on while they are in school," said Montgomery. "I feel that one of the reasons that they have problems is that they have never had a credit card before and they are bombarded with credit applications when they get to college. More than likely they'll get more than one card, not knowing there are other things to consider like interest rates and late payment fees."

Montgomery felt that college students had problems with credit cards because there was no course in high school to teach credit responsibility and students may have seen them as free money. She had some advice for students planning to get their first credit card.

"Get only one card and make sure you pay it off within three to four months, and if there is a problem, keep in touch with your creditor and let them know what is going on," said Montgomery. "Just remember that credit cards were designed to keep you in debt."





A killer frog on campus? How could that be? Since many of Missouri Western's students live either on campus or in apartments off of campus, few of them have pets. Those students who are able to have pets are very limited by their landlord, or the size or location of their home as to what kind of animal they are allowed to own. For those students who lived on campus, there was only one type of pet that was really allowed, and that was usually aquatic animals, such as fish, frogs, and turtles. No matter where they lived, students typically found dogs, cats, and fish to be their ideal choice for a house pet.

Senior Tony Salsbury had a type of fish that most people would fear owning; three piranhas. Two years ago, Salsbury's boss turned him on to the idea of piranhas as pets.

"They are not a bad as people tend to think," said Salsbury. "They will eat anything if hungry enough."

He primarily fed his piranhas goldfish, but said that they also ate mice, and even chicken from Kentucky Fried Chicken. At the end of past semesters, Salsbury fed his piranhas fish that other students did not want to take home during the breaks.

Freshmen Melanie Hovland and Brienne Groth decided to buy some frogs in the beginning of October, and they also bought a Tetra fish to keep the frogs company. Much to their dismay, one of the frogs seem to have an unusual appetite that they were not aware of until it was too late. One day, Hovland found the smallest of the two frogs eating the fish. She was too late to save the fish, and couldn't believe what had happened.

The next weekend, both Hovland and Groth were out of town and left their remaining pets with one of their suitemates. When they returned on Sunday, they found that the smaller

k i
a p

story by mindy kinnaman

frog had eaten the leg of his larger compa. They separated the two amphibians, but the larger frog eventually died as a result of the wounds. Left with only one pet, Hovland and Groth decided that it would be best if they did not buy anymore fish or frogs while they were on campus. They had the "killer frog", but several days later the frog had passed on. The two freshmen were unsure as to why the frog died, they thought it was either from loneliness or hunger.

"The whole experience with the frog was very strange," said Hovland. "I still have no idea as to why he ate the fish or the other frog."

The idea of owning a pet while in college is one that most students thought about. Whether or not they end up buying a pet is completely their choice, but they might want to check into the animal's eating habits before spending the time and money.

(Above, top) Biology professor Byron Foster casually sports an albino Burmese python, leopard gecko and veiled chameleon. Students and professors alike owned a wide variety of pets, ranging from common to strange. (Above) A tiny reptile finds Foster's hand a nice place to rest. Foster had a large collection of animals and a fondness for reptiles.

l l e r e t i t e s

colorful fish seems to meet eye-to-eye with a curious student. For those who lived on campus, there was only one of pet that was really allowed and that was usually aquatic animals, such as fish, frogs and turtles.

photos by jackie phillips



family daze

story by carrie blackwell

44

Music, munchies, football and fun. What do these things have in common? They were ingredients that made the annual Family Day at Missouri Western a success. The 1997 Family Day was beautiful and sunny, unlike the dreary weather of many of the previous years, and the campus was alive with activity.

Family Day was scheduled for later in the year than it previously had been, falling in October instead of September. This was partially decided by Forrest D. Hoff, dean of stu-

photo by timberlyn malewski



Brittany Miller, daughter of freshman Stacey Miller, scores in a prize. Family Day was a chance for students and faculty alike to show off their families.

dents and advisor to the parents' council. October 18 was originally the date for Homecoming, but NWMSU had also scheduled their Homecoming for that date. The general consensus was that in order for both schools to have successful Homecoming parades and an adequate number of marching bands to play, one school would have to reschedule. Therefore, Family Day was set for October 18, and Homecoming was moved to September.

"It is a way for the school to thank the parents," stated sophomore Steven Williams. "It's a time for families to get involved and experience what their sons or daughters were dealing with."

The campus was a carnival scene. Students and faculty brought their families to the fun. The autumn air was scented with delicious baked goods for sale. Booths dotted the campus offering three tries at a basketball toss for a dollar, or a test of one's golfing at the chipping green. The R.O.T.C. encouraged people to test their bravery by gliding across a wire fastened between two trees. Much was done to ensure the enjoyment of the guests.

"The campus was really clean and well taken care of," said Debbie Priebe, mother of freshman Kirk Priebe. "Everyone was very polite and courteous."

As the day advanced, the Steele Band began to play and worked their way from the Potter Fine Arts Building to the football stadium for the climax of the event; the football game. It was an exciting game, and the Griffons remained close until the end. It was a triumph and the Griffons reigned victorious.

No matter who attended Family Day, the theme was evident in more ways than the name. MWSC wanted to emphasize the importance of those who attended or worked at the school, and the families who supported them.

"It is a way for the people involved on the campus to show off for the parents," said junior Missy Boswell. "It's good for parents to come up and see this, and for the kids to have fun."

To some, Family Day was a traditional endeavor for the school, as well as for clubs and Greek organizations. No matter what group one belonged to, they had no problem fitting in at this school event.

Pumpkin decorating proves to one of the many talents of Joe Alderton of Tau Kappa Epsilon. The efforts of many campus organizations made Family Day a huge success.



photo courtesy of griffon news



Campus saw the rawest of winter weather and most pleasurable of summer's balmy breezes. Students eagerly awaited the warm world that did eventually come.



photo by tracy jo

s e a s o n s c h a n g e

story by mindy kinnaman

"No school tomorrow at Missouri Western State College!" That statement was heard by anyone who tuned in to the 10:00 news on the night of March 4. The cause for the closing was a major snow storm that moved into the St. Joseph area. The blizzard and the snow drifts, some a few feet high, combined with blustery freezing winds and below zero temperatures to create many problems for anyone who needed to leave their home.

On that Sunday, the Golden Griffon Color Guard held tryouts for the 1998-99 season.

"Since we had Color Guard tryouts that day, I felt bad that those who tried out had to travel a long distance," said senior captain Amanda Vesser. "I would say I could have planned it better, but I have no say when it comes to Old Man Winter."

"I was told by the Highway Patrol that the roads were too dangerous for students and teachers to drive on," said President Janet Murphy. "It was only the second time in ten years that the

school has had to have been closed due to bad weather."

Many people took advantage of the day off. Some built snowmen, went to the mall, or even caught up on their homework. However, the day was not entirely fun for everyone. Freshman Laura Browning was one of many students whose car ended up in a ditch because of the treacherous road conditions.

"It wasn't really scary when it was happening," said Browning. "It was actually kind of fun. I didn't realize how scary it actually was until I got back to school."

The week following the snow storm brought spring break, and by the time students came back from their week off, the temperatures were in the fifties and sixties. It was a nice change from the chilling sub-zero temperatures the area experienced only two weeks before. Students began doing more outdoor activities, playing tennis, baseball or even running on the track or nature trail.

Students were glad to see the temperatures rise. "I am glad that we are finally getting to see some nice weather for a change," said Browning.

The transition from an unusually mild winter to a school-closing snowstorm and finally, beautiful spring weather was not a big deal to those who were used to Missouri weather.

"Since I grew up around here, I expect the weather to be very unpredictable," said Vessar. "It wouldn't have been that cold if it wasn't for the wind. I think when nature takes its course, we learn to deal and go on. It really doesn't do us much good to moan and complain because we can't change it. We can, however, make the best of it."



Sophomore Greg Owens pages a mother to meet her stranded party at the East Hills Mall information desk. When not rejoining mallgoers, Owens was busy directing shoppers to various mall rendezvous.

l i f e ' s w o r k

story by mitzie young

How many times have your parents told you to get a job? Having a job becomes a necessity for most when they go to college, and some can't afford school without one. The job doesn't have to relate to one's major. It just has to give the student enough money to get by until they finish school and are ready to begin a career. Finding a job that one likes is not always easy, and finding one that pays well is even more difficult. Whether their job was on or off campus, a working student was not difficult to find at MWSC.

Junior Nichi Sollars held two jobs on campus. She worked in the library for over three years, applying for the position so she could maintain a significant amount of hours and pay the bills while attending school. She was home by 6:00 p.m. on most nights, enabling her to spend quality time at home with her daughter. An added bonus was that the job allowed her to study at work occasionally.

"This is the only way I could afford to go back to school," said Sollars. "I love working in the library because I love to read and the biggest benefit is that my job is low stress and my boss is great."

Senior Judy Moody worked for the Griffon News for two semesters and was the Features Editor during the fall semester. Being a people person was the key to her love of writing feature stories. Her duties included assigning articles, writing feature stories and giving story assignments to the photography and design staffs. She also did interviews and lots of investigating work.

"My favorite part of the job is the investigating work," said Moody. "I really love exploring my creativity and getting to talk to and meet interesting people."

Sophomore Ericka Highsmith chose to pursue a job off campus after unsuccessfully trying to find one on campus. She chose ITI because she thought it would be interesting, but mostly because it paid well. The biggest benefit of working there was that she was done by 9:00 every night and didn't have to work weekends. She made her own work schedule and was guaranteed to have holidays off.

"This job definitely teaches tolerance of people," said Highsmith. "I am always there to answer their questions because I know a lot about the company's product and try my best to give it a better name."

Junior Kevin Wilson worked for the Missouri Air National Guard for over sixteen years because he loved planes and had a desire to go into the Air Force.

"I thought it would be a good stepping stone to get into the Air Force," said Wilson. "We really make a difference in people's lives, like when we aided in the recovery efforts after the flood of '93."

Being in the guard helped Wilson to pay for college and he got life insurance, V.A. Loans and free clothing. His job title was Survival Equipment Specialist and his duties included packing personal parachutes and floatation devices.

College students hold a variety of jobs and still manage to keep up with the demands of classes. Whether they work at a fast food restaurant or in an office, each student has their own reasons for needing a job, and the important part is that they are getting out there and doing it.

for richer or poorer

story by jerry keuhn

A flier on one of the campus bulletin boards read, "Get Your Fair Share Of Money For College." Finding the money to go to college was a problem for many students that did not get easier over time. Tuition, housing, books and general living expenses piled up through the semesters, but there was help available for those who could not afford it on their own. The work in the financial aid office was done with one goal in mind; to make college an option even for those who could not afford it on their own.

"The best part of my job is that I am able to help people who can't afford college to find the money they need to make school possible for them," said Bob Berger, director of the financial aid office. "It is a really good feeling to know that we can and do make a difference in people's lives."

For the 1997-98 school year, the financial aid office processed the scholarships, grants and loans of over 4,500 students, approximately 75 percent of the students who attended Missouri Western. Any student could get some kind of loan, whether subsidized or unsubsidized.

"Now it doesn't matter if you are as rich as John D. Rockefeller," said Berger. "If you don't want to spend your money now you can get a loan and spend your money later."

The upgrading of the technology in the financial aid office was not exactly a smooth transition. Several different computer systems were integrated, connecting the college with state and federal computers, a process which turned out to be quite a challenge.

"There were several times we thought we had something done and then found out that we didn't," said Berger. "In the end run the new system should help quite a bit, but at the beginning there was a lot of frustration."

As if upgrading didn't cause enough problems, a contaminated file in the department's software almost completely shut down the computer system near the start of the fall semester, causing a delay in the receiving of loan money. The contaminated file was never pinpointed, and everything that had

been done since June had to be re-entered into the computers. The problem cost over a week of extra work and the office was closed down during one of the busiest times of the year.

According to Berger, the financial aid office did a good job of finding money compared to similar schools.

"While other schools sometimes do not pursue all of the options available, we continue to scrape for every penny," said Berger. "Our student body is made up of a lot of non-traditional students and others in dire need of financial help, and we do everything possible to ensure that anyone who wants to come here for school will be able to."

The amount of money distributed for financial assistance for college grew in leaps and bounds over the years, as did the number of students who applied for it.

"When I started here 27 years ago, there was about \$100,000 available to be split up amongst all of our needy students," said Berger. "Last year, we were able to give out over \$17 million in financial aid."

h a n d f i t s g i v i n g

story by wilma roberts

The 1998 XVIII Winter Olympics were held in Nagano, Japan. For two weeks, many of the world's best athletes competed, both as individuals and as teams, for gold medals. To achieve their objective, those athletes competed in conditions that could sometimes be less than ideal. During that same year, another quest for gold occurred on a college campus eleven time zones away from Nagano, but the quest at Missouri Western was for a different gold.

Students of various organizations throughout the year held different competitions, bake sales, food and clothing drives and many others, for local charities. At a time when schedules were already hectic, students still found time to participate in different ways to raise funds to help others.

Many of the charities supported were ones with which students were already familiar. A coat and shoes drive was held by OSSW (Organization of Student Social Workers), Alpha Gamma Delta had a clothing drive, Theta Xi sponsored a Toy Drive and the Alchemist Club raised funds for the United Way.

"The Non-traditional Student Advisory Council adopted families during both the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays," said senior Lois Fox. "The Non-traditional Student Advisory Council also does a variety of other things throughout the year. It varies from semester-to-semester and year-to-year."

Some organizations were very creative with their approach to helping others. The Alpha Gamma Delta sorority literally teeter-tottered their way to the gold, after having collected pledges for time spent on a teeter-totter. Those participants were very dedicated to their task, even after Mother Nature tried to dampen their spirits by showering the spirited group with rain, but the teetering athletes still came away with their gold.

"Sigma Sigma Sigma held their first annual trampoline-a-thon in 1998," said sophomore Andrea Dickerson. "Tri-Sigma raises money by donations and pledges for the amount of time girls jump [on the trampoline]. All money raised goes to nationals, which is given for our philanthropy (Robbie Page Memorial)."

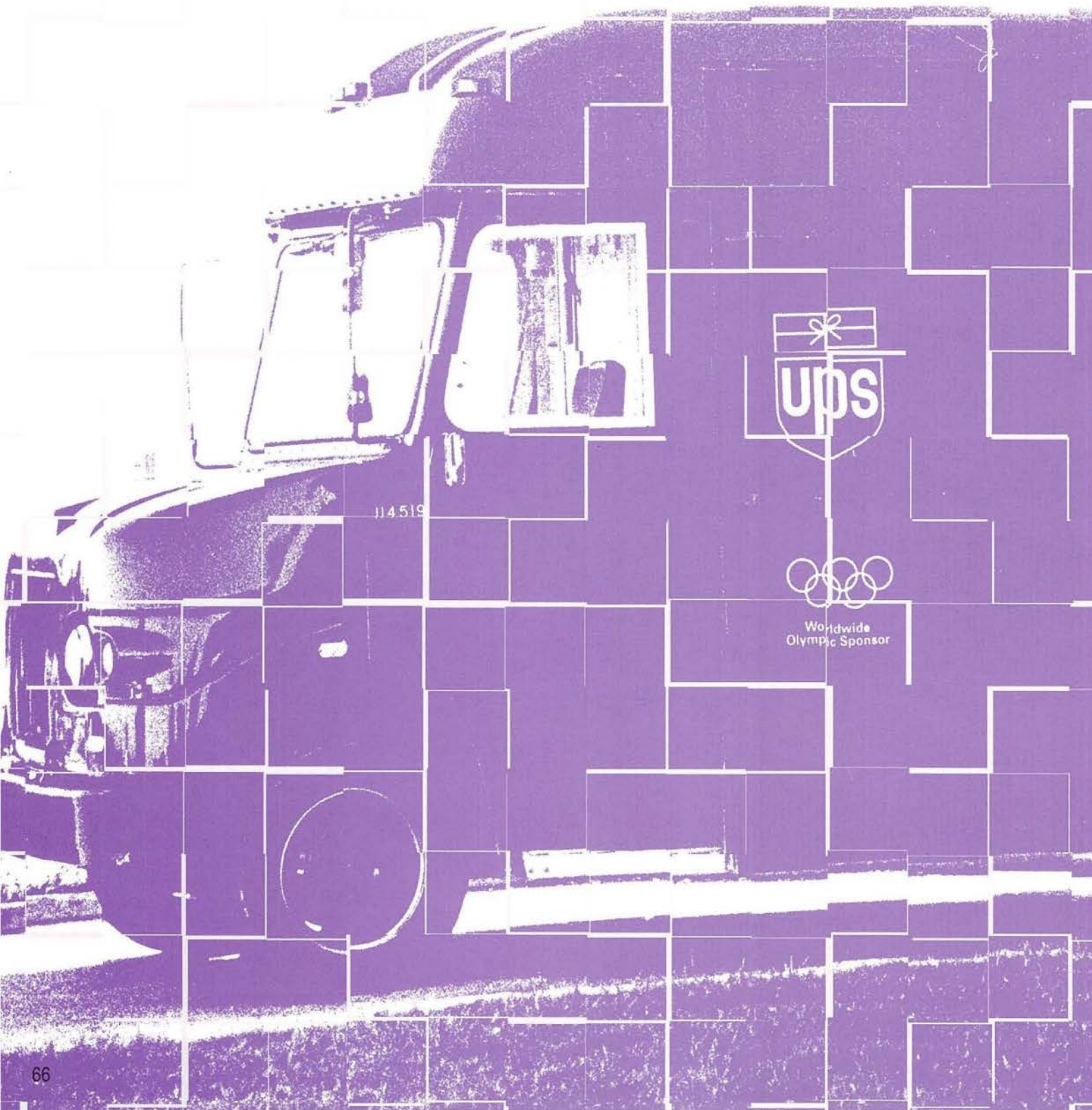
Almost every organization could be found, at one time or another, doing something to benefit the community and others. With no personal glory expected, students gave of themselves and ask for nothing in return. Unconditional kindness from the heart is the true gold, and with their charitable actions, some students truly found and received their gold.

photo by stephanie sandvoss



Senior Becky Breitenstein hands over an old coat for a shoe and coat drive. Students took great pride in helping others on and off campus.

Mail service on campus and around the U.S. was in chaos in the weeks during the worker's strike. The effect was felt all over campus when books hadn't arrived for the first day of classes.



u p s w o r k e r s s t r i k e o u t

story by mandy fitzwater

The period of August 8 to August 20, 1997 will be remembered in history as the time that the United Parcel Service (UPS) workers held a nationwide strike that hit home with almost everyone at some time, and Missouri Western was no exception.

The number one complaint, of course, was the lack of text books for the first week or so of classes, but that was not the only thing affected.

"The Art Department could not order supplies because everyone we ordered through didn't have anything to send to us since they had no way of receiving either," said Art Department secretary, Evelyn Morgan.

The Business and Economics Department was still waiting on faculty supplements (reference materials for text) almost three weeks into the semester because, once they started shipping again, UPS set aside small items to take care of big orders first and some were lost and had to be replaced. When other shipping companies tried to pick up the slack during the UPS strike, some orders were not filled correctly, and the wrong books were sent.

"We received 'Cartography' (map reading) and 'Human Anatomy' books instead of the 'Marketing' books we were expecting and, stuck in among a box of textbooks was 'Good Night,

Sleep Tight', a children's book. The invoices were correct, but the wrong books were being placed in the boxes for shipping," said Business and Economics secretary Peggy Leland.

The biggest complaint to be heard around the campus was how the UPS strike affected the delivery of some of the text books needed for classes. The first week or so of the semester was a tough one for both students and professors of those classes for which no books had arrived.

"I was starting to get nervous when it came time for my Astronomy class and there were still no books available for it," said Sophomore Chris Adler. "I was at the bookstore every day for a week asking about that book."

The strain was felt heavily at both of the college's major book suppliers, the Barnes and Noble Bookstore on campus and Passport Books off campus. Greg Mikes, of Barnes and Noble, said that book re-orders and outgoing book return shipments were more of an inconvenience than the incoming ones because they had made most of their book orders early. They had to use alternative methods of shipping that were much slower than UPS and were still backlogged almost three weeks into the semester, with deliveries taking two to three days longer than normal. Ann Redmond, owner and manager of Passport Books, said that the strike really affected the cost of shipping because they had to use more expensive alternative means, but they did not choose to pass that cost onto the students. Passport experienced the same flow of students from other colleges desperate for text books that Barnes and Noble did.

"I heard horrible reports in here. We were better prepared, as a small college, for the problems of the strike," said Redmond. "There were students that, during the first week of school, drove up here from Kansas because the shelves were bare at their college's bookstore(s), and some of the books weren't expected to arrive there until October."

The affects of the UPS strike reverberated across the country long after the workers resumed their jobs. There is no doubt that it will take much longer for the memories of the hassles it caused to escape the minds of many on and off of the campus.



home improvements

story by mitzie young

Living on campus was made easier for some when the time was taken to make changes in the residential halls at MWSC. Various improvements were made for the benefit of those who made their home in the dorms, and most considered them to be good ones.

The biggest change in the dorms was the installation of a new phone system.

"Phone services are more convenient than last year's," said Sophomore Rebecca Holmes. "I am very pleased with the change because it makes everything a lot easier."

The new phone service for the campus dorms was set up through the school with no outside phone services coming in, making the minute rate cheaper than using a calling card. There were no surcharges or connection fees for the dorm residents to pay. To call long distance, one had to get a long distance code number by going to the campus phone services office.


"No one can use your long distance code but you," said Sharon Diggers, campus phone services secretary. "Everyone gets their own individual code number to use for the year."

Additional options for phone services included Caller I.D. and Voice Mail, which ran for under ten dollars a month and carried no hook-up fee. The over-all phone service was college-owned and cheaper than what the outside phone companies offered. For many of the Juniors and Seniors that lived in the dorms since they were Freshmen, the only real change was getting used to their new phone numbers.

"It's a huge change to some, but not that big of a deal for me," said head Resident Advisor for Logan Hall, Erynn Walls. "I don't think it will be hard to get used to."

Another big change in the residential halls was the addition of the new lounge in Vaselakos Hall. They converted the basement into a lounge, or entertainment room, mainly because of the new visitation hours so that when those hours were over for the evening the residents still had a place to go. It was furnished with a big screen TV, a VCR, and new carpeting and furniture.

Residents in Beshears and Logan Halls were in for some changes of their own. Both halls received all new closets, dressers, and desks to replace the old furniture that was rusting out to the point that drawers would not open and doors would not shut. The boiler system in Logan Hall was replaced as well. One hundred new mattresses and beds were bought for both Beshears and Logan Halls, and for Juda Hall as well.




Several improvements were made to Juda Hall. All of the resident rooms were equipped with new sinks because the old ones were wearing out. The laundry room was also completely re-tiled.

Ten rooms in various halls received new carpeting and tile because it was decided that they were the ones that needed it the most. The money for the carpet came from students who had to pay for any damage done to the carpeting in their own room, with the money going not necessarily to their particular dorm, but rather to those rooms whose carpet was in the worst condition.

The rooms of all residential halls were supplied with new data lines to improve the service for the computers and cable television.

Many various improvements were made to the residential halls for the new school year and plans were in the making for further changes. Even small things like new beds and sinks quickly added up to make a big difference in dorm life.

A residence hall loft p...
to be a home away...
home for those who li...
on and under them. A...
istrators wanted to gi...
halls a face-lift and gi...
dents a brighter place...
home.



What did Missouri Western's academic world amount to in 1998? One giant opportunity! Although the semester shrunk in size, the time still present was used to its fullest capacity. The roles that defined students expanded as parents were often seated right next to their very own children in class. Long distance education worked its way into the curriculum and kept some students glued to the television. The entire world was the final frontier!

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joining for the future

Cooperation between Missouri Western State College and Hillyard Technical School led to the beginning of the new articulation program, which started in fall semester of 1997. The program was set up to allow Hillyard students to continue their education after graduation from the technical school.

Missouri Western accepted four different certificates from Hillyard Technical School from which comparable classes could be counted toward a college degree. The Hillyard Construction Certificate counted as 14 hours of credit toward an Associate of Science Degree in Construction Engineering Technology, a Hillyard Computer Aided Drafting Certificate was worth 12 hours of credit toward an Associate of Science Degree in Construction Engineering Technology, and a Hillyard Electronics Certificate garnered 13 credit hours toward an Associate of Science Degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. An Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Management from MWSC could also be obtained by Hillyard graduates, with 19 hours of credit accepted from a Hillyard Medical Transcription Certificate.

The articulation program allowed students who weren't sure if college was what they wanted to start at Hillyard and then come to Missouri Western to finish their education, if they decided to continue onto the college level. Scott Bradley, director of technical education and the representative for Hillyard Technical School said, "Besides not having to take comparable classes over again, the

students can also save between \$1,000 to \$1,500 of tuition costs." The director's salary was paid in part by the college, the technical school, the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce and other local businesses and industries.

Hillyard Technical School was a local St. Joseph institution preparing students for the work field since 1943. The school was started with a donation of money. The first building from the Hillyard family which operated the Hillyard Corporation still in business in St. Joseph. Located at 3434 Faraon Drive, students at the school prepared for learning by doing a combination of traditional classroom activities and learning experiences in a clinical setting, the shop, at the job site or in a laboratory. Jean Johnson, counselor at the Hillyard school, believed the new program could be very beneficial. "Our job here at Hillyard is training people to go to work," she said. "This country needs a more sophisticated and skilled work force. This articulation program will help our students and Missouri Western's be among the best."

Plans were also being discussed for a degree in Manufacturing and Engineering Technology, or possibly a business degree that could be pursued by Hillyard graduates, maybe as early as the 1998-99 school year according to Johnson. In the fall semester, only a small handful of students participated in the new articulation program, but the potential benefits were sure to attract a crowd in the future.


Hillyard Technical School located at 3434 Faraon. The articulation program melded Missouri Western students to be among the best.

photo by
timberlyn malewski

story by



N.S. HILLYARD
A.V.T.S.



**The Most Frequently Challenged
Books of 1997:**

1. *Goosebumps Series*, R.L. Stine
2. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*,
Mark Twain
3. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*,
Maya Angelou
4. *It's Perfectly Normal*, Robie Harris
5. *The Chocolate War*, Robert Cormier
6. *Catcher in the Rye*, J. D. Salinger
7. *Bridge to Terabithia*, Katherine Paterson
8. *Forever*, Judy Blume
9. *My Brother Sam is Dead*, James Lincoln Collier and

Most Challenged Authors for 1997:

R.L. Stine

Maya Angelou
Judy Blume

Robert Cormier
Mark Twain

V.C. Andrews
Katherine Paterson

S.E. Hinton
Robie Harris

J.D. Salinger

Books line the shelves at the
MWSC library. Most college
and university libraries did
not practice book banning.

photo by
tracy jones

Missouri Western took part in National Banned Book Week Oct. 22 - 26 by publishing the first annual Banned Book Reading. Faculty, staff and students gathered together to read selections from both banned and challenged books. "This is a great way to call attention to the value of literature," said Julia Schneider, director of Missouri Western's library. The event was organized by Schneider, Michael Smith, professor of education, and Mike Cadden, professor of English.

Since the days of the Bible, the most banned book in history, people have been challenging and banning books. By definition, a work is challenged in an attempt to protect others, most often children, from controversial information and ideas. When material is banned, it is removed altogether.

The purpose and message of a National Banned Book Week and our own banned book reading was to celebrate a kind of the freedom of expression that literature represents. Schneider says that very prevalent freedom is exactly the reason why most books are challenged or banned.

"Books are most often challenged because the information may be new or different," said Schneider, "and that causes some people to be fearful." Schneider hoped to bring such controversial information into the population's comfort zone to prove there was little to fear. Education major and Senior Jill Meyer attended the reading and discovered its true value.

"I think reading previously banned books in a forum like this helps raise awareness of the issues they deal with," said Weaver. "With awareness comes, hopefully, a certain kind of enlightenment, and with enlightenment, I think the fear of such issues tends to diminish."

Elementary and middle school libraries were the most popular sites for book banning, as children were those being protected from controversial material. However, no material had ever been banned from Missouri Western's library. The library and all other college and university libraries adhere to the College Library Bill of Rights, which prohibits the restriction of any material, and promotes the freedom to read.

"I think the college environment is much more diverse and therefore more tolerant and accepting of controversial material," said Schneider. "Academic institutions are more adult-oriented and can deal with these issues with less friction."

Banned Book Week was not just a national event, Missouri Western took the time to bring the issues and reality of book banning to the campus' forefront. Schneider and her fellow organizers intended to institute a tradition of awareness for those who revere literature as well as for those who attempt to ban it.

story by
tracy jones

celebration of banned

books

a change

A whirlwind of changes occurred in the art department in 1997, and at the source of all the magic was the newest addition to the staff, Thomas Cicchelli. After teaching at two community colleges, Cicchelli decided he wanted to teach at a four-year institution, which is why he chose Missouri Western over a college in Palm Beach, Florida.

Cicchelli became interested in computer art while teaching at Cochise Community College in Douglas, Arizona, where he taught Corel painting and drawing. The school was developing a media art program, and they wanted someone to develop a computer graphic program.

He completed his college education and received a bachelor's degree in fine arts at the San Francisco Art Institute. He majored in ceramic sand sculpting, and became interested in printmaking and airbrushing. He decided to return to college for his graduate's degree. He majored in painting and drawing at the University of Arizona in Tuscon.

After graduating, Cicchelli became involved in the music scene and played around the bay area in San Francisco. He and his wife then moved to Bisbe, Arizona, a small mining town. They opened a cafe and played music there. After playing music for ten years, Cicchelli decided to go back to college because his music career was not progressing as he had hoped. He realized that his real love was computer art.

What is computer art? It's art that is similar to virtual reality, multi-media and environmental pieces. Prints done on a computer can generally be done in many different ways.

"Prints wouldn't be considered significant computer art," said Cicchelli. "Computer art is an electronic presentation that can't be done another way."

There have been several other departmental changes and improvements since Cicchelli's arrival. The art department received more computer software and upgraded memory in the Mac and Art/Music Labs. They installed digital tablets, which allow students to draw directly on the computer.

"We want the students to have many tools available to them," said Cicchelli. "I want to see them develop marketable skills that they can use in their career."





For the best of us

Imagine getting comfortable on your couch, remote control in one hand and notebook in the other, and turning on the television to take a college course. Two new classes began this year in the music and English departments; one was offered both in the classroom and on T.V., and the other was strictly televised.

Dr. Matt Gilmour taught a prospective music class that met on campus three times a week for those taking it as a normal college course. Students learning at home viewed weekly tests and lectures Saturday on television. If they missed one of the weekly classes on T.V., they could just check it out at the media center.

"I planned the semester day-by-day at the beginning," said Gilmour. "If I decide on Friday that we need another day to go over that week's lecture, I can't do that. I have to stay with the syllabus, because the class is filmed and I have to have everything done for the students watching at home."

Gilmour was very happy about the success of the class. He loved teaching the class, and felt no pressure from the cameras staring at him while he lectured.

"I can teach whether there is a T.V. camera in front of me or not," said Gilmour. "Teaching is teaching, and I love doing it."

Dr. David Stacey enjoyed teaching an English class that was strictly televised, and didn't meet on campus. The class started out with fourteen students, but fell to seven after many students decided that it wouldn't fit it into their schedule. Stacey felt it was too early to judge the success of the class, but he thought it had been beneficial to the student. The class had a textbook, study guide and 26 videos integrated with the text. Students used the internet for various reasons, including email and a class web page. The class met every couple of weeks to go over material and take a test.

"We need people that are better with the internet," said Stacey. "It's been somewhat of a problem this year. I can't image teaching a distance class without the use of the internet."

Though he hoped for a better enrollment in the future, Stacey was pleased with the class. Televised classes offered a convenient way to take college courses for some who may not otherwise been able to.

story by
mitzie young

Students at MWSC are taking advantage of learning from the professor's on television instead in a person in the new long distance education classes.

photo by
erin lewis

A week may not have seemed like a lot of time to most people, but when it became a week of extra vacation time, it was suddenly a big deal. The school calendar for the year made the time spent in the classroom a week shorter and Christmas vacation even longer.

A designated committee met in the fall of each year to plan the college's calendar two years in advance. Kathryn Mueller, from the office of the vice president for academic affairs, was a member of that committee and said several things were taken into consideration when preparing the yearly calendars.

"We took holidays into consideration when deciding when to end the Christmas vacation," said Mueller. "The faculty did not really want to come back for the spring semester until after Martin Luther King day. We do not usually have school on that day anyway."

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. James Roever, said the school calendar was basically governed by how the weeks fell during the year. The committee was not obligated to make each calendar similar to the year before. They just did their best to make the schedule fit well. He said certain problems were avoided when planning for each year.

Some faculty members used the extra days to rejuvenate for the next semester, relaxing and doing the things they didn't have time to when school was going on. "I plan to use my extra time to continue the restoration work on my 91-year-old home," said Bonnie Alsbury of the nursing department. Many students worked more hours to earn some extra money or went home to spend time with friends or family that would be in for the holidays, but some had vacation plans away from home.

"I want to go to Colorado over vacation," said Junior Jake Rhode. "I really enjoy backpacking there."

The majority of students felt that the shorter semester was a good thing. They liked the thought of spending less time in class and more

time on Christmas vacation, but not everyone had positive things to say about the change. One science student felt that it put a damper on research labs because they were rushed.

"I think that it does not allow enough time for the professors to fit all of the subject matter in or for students to get their homework done," said senior Eileen Pitts. "We are still paying the same amount for tuition, but spending one less week in class."

A lot of the teachers had mixed feelings about the shorter semester. Some were pleased with the added vacation and the extra time between semesters to prepare for the upcoming semester, but there were others who did not like having to squeeze their lessons into less classroom time.

"It will be nice to have more time between semesters to take a break, but it does crunch into the teaching time," said Nanette Wolford of physical education. "I must be careful to not waste any time in order to cover the required material."

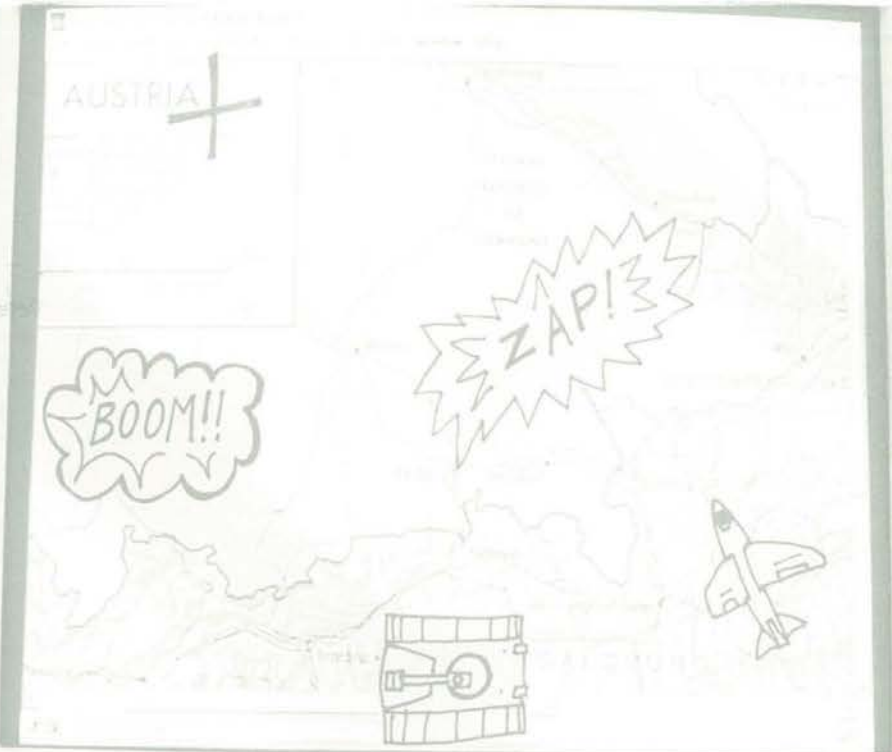
story by
mandy fitzwater

10 SUPER THINGS TO DO WITH THE EXTRA WEEK

1. Write letters to good-hearted inner-city youths.
2. Finish that rock garden in the back yard.
3. Spend more time with your Amish relatives.
4. Alphabetize your cupboards.
5. Catch up on your origami.
6. Polish up the rough draft of your personal manifesto.
7. Stalk that certain someone.
8. Plan a massive military coup of a small Middle Eastern country.
9. Promote your new album of Whitesnake covers.
10. Watch taped first-season episodes of the X-Files, for backg

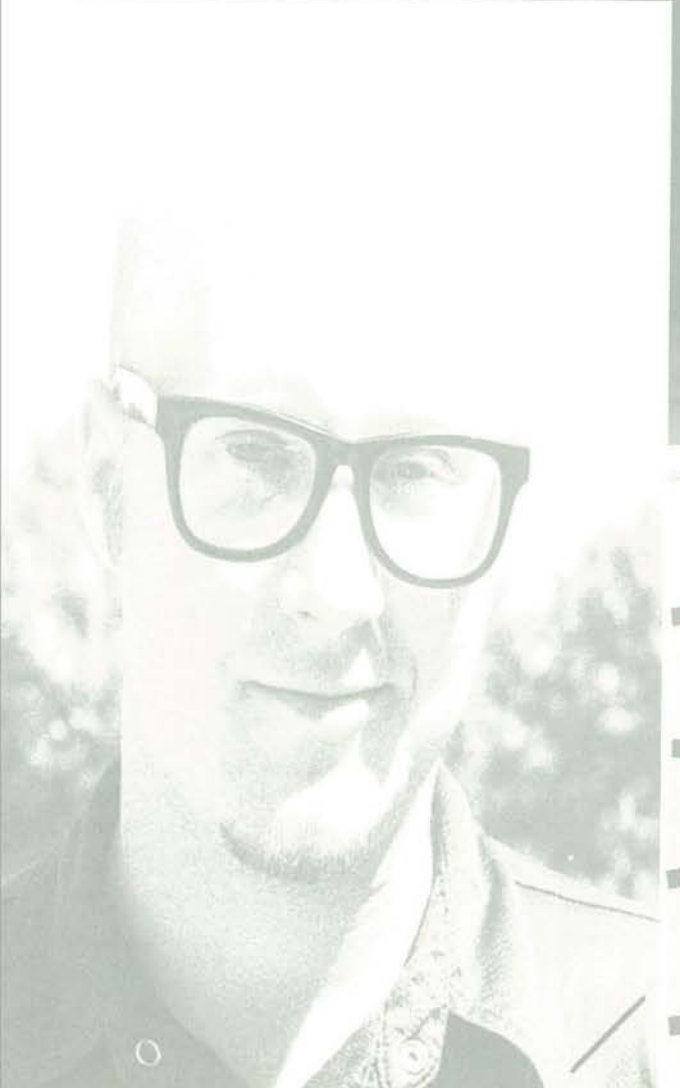
one week

Shorter



Logos

VIVITRO



forensics

Students majoring in criminal justice or forensic science got a nice surprise. The law department began work in the fall semester on a new forensic lab that would be ready for use within a year or two.

The plans for the lab began in 1991. Many people worked hard to make it happen. Carl Butcher, former department chair, the former dean of professional studies Charles Perkins and the present department chair, Jill Miller, worked to implement the new lab. Miller gave most of the credit to Kipp Wilson, assistant professor of justice and legal studies.

"He has been able to acquire a lot of equipment and material in order to build up a crime lab for us," said Miller. "It will not only benefit us, but others as well. He was anxious to for the public to see the lab."

When the department held an open house in the fall, many of the area law enforcement agencies came and viewed the new lab. They offered some ideas on how to coordinate their activities with the department. Coordinating with local law enforcement agencies would give students some hands-on experience, and help them better understand the law of evidence and the development of evidence for court.

The lab itself was filled with many interesting devices. There was a machine for taking or revealing finger prints on a piece of evidence, fluorescent lights that show something that could not be seen with the naked eye and microscopes for looking at fibers and material that was otherwise too small to see.

"It is all really complicated," said student Fred Green. "I hope that the lab will help me gain experience to be a federal agent. I want to learn how to use everything in it."

Wilson was still looking for other ways to broaden students' capabilities and had a genuine interest in what and how his students learned.

"What I want students to learn from the lab is an understanding of physical evidence," said Wilson. "To the extent that they not only want to collect it, but also to understand the value of it."

story by
jason welden

Criminal Justice major, Justin Parker, senior, examines evidence in the new forensics lab. The new facility gave students an edge in the field of criminal justice.

photo by
erin lewis



sending out the

troops

If you happened to be on campus at the early hour of 6 a.m., you were likely to see a dedicated group of men and women running, jogging, or walking. No, they were not crazy; these members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) were required to attend this weekly morning run as part of their Physical Training (PT).

Freshman Cadet Dave Patee-Merrill described the run as different.

"I usually tick off my roommates by getting up that early," he said.

The rest of the PT included a two-hour lab every Thursday at which the cadets performed hands-on practical exercises. Captain Kelly Kendrick ran the training sessions and, placing them in leadership positions, the seniors planned and carried out most of the training and instruction. Junior Dan Beadle felt that the experience was a valuable one.

"It helps you deal with people and get a handle on what you have to do," he said.

A contracted student was one who minored in ROTC and agreed to serve eight years in the Army or National Guard upon graduation. Among the six schools, a total of 50 of the ROTC students were contracted, 30 of them from Missouri Western. Upon graduation, cadets were commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants, making up 70

percent of the Army nationwide.

While other ROTC programs, like the one at Northwest in Maryville, were declining in enrollment, Missouri Western's continued to grow. Denise Ballance, battalion executive officer, chose MWSC based on the ROTC program.

"I like it because of the size," said Ballance. "It's small enough that it's a tight group. However, overall, there are enough groups to make the program effective."

According to graduate and 2nd Lieutenant, Matt Gragg, MWSC was pretty balanced out in comparison with other schools.

"We've got a pretty squared-away program with all the groups set so far apart," said Gragg. "I feel very prepared to start my career. Every year, the trainees get better and better."

Some of the ROTC's annual events included the paint ball war, which other schools also attended, and the military ball. The seniors planned the ball, a formal affair held at Ft. Leavenworth, KS. Another annual event was Ranger Challenge, a nine-person varsity sport held nationwide. Missouri's Ranger Challenge was held at Lincoln University in Jefferson City.

"We trained hard and our efforts paid off," said Ballance. "We had a great time."

story by
elizabeth winkie

Matt Baird in ROTC training on campus.

photo by
safiyah mason



On October 29, the man of the hour was General Colin Powell, who exemplified American pride in his speech at the Fourth Annual Convocation on Critical Issues. He was regal and distinguished as he spoke of his hope for the future of the country and its efforts with children. After a canceled appearance in 1995, over 4,000 students and members of the community finally received the chance to be enthralled by a man who related that, "I've been looking forward to this for two years."

In his speech, the former Joint Chief of Staff called for America to deliver as he hammered home the five goals of his program, backed by President Bill Clinton, entitled "America's Promise: The Allegiance of Youth." The first of these goals was a responsible adult in every child's life. The second, safety for children after school and during the summer. He also wished for improved health and child care for the nation's citizens. The fourth goal was educational apprenticeships and internships for youth. Powell's final goal was for youth to give back to the communities in which they were raised. He felt that many children still needed to hear the message of right and wrong. "We may have lost our sense of shame as a nation," said Powell.

"Colin Powell had a strong message, and a very effective delivery that resulted in an excellent speech from one of the great Americans of our time," said Freshman Patrice Meyer.

Intermingled amongst the seriousness of his goals, Powell added a strong sense of humor and wonderful storytelling ability. One example of this was his "rainbow of color" metaphor. Powell

said that during the Gulf War, right before the ground warfare started, the media interviewed a young African-American man on the front lines. He was sitting with a group of friends that formed a "rainbow of color" for the backdrop as he was interviewed. When the interviewer asked the young man if he was afraid, he replied that he had nothing to be afraid of because he was with his family. When the interviewer questioned what the young soldier was talking about, the soldier turned and made a sweeping motion with his hand to indicate his friends. He said that the men behind him, making up the "rainbow of color," were his family and that they were all he needed. The men represented the "colors" that made up the American "rainbow," and should be a source of pride.

"The story about the soldier was a real tribute to what America is, a place of many colors," said Freshman Kelly Boessen. "We should be proud of that fact."

Powell also offered a bit of advice.

"Find that which you love doing, and what you do well," said Powell. "But save enough of yourself to give back to your family."

For him, success was a military career which he enjoyed for 35 years, three months, 22 days and three hours. Dedication to his country won him the coveted Purple Heart, as well as the hearts of an entire nation. In closing, he reminded students and community members to take pride in the United States.

"This is a place put here by God," he said. "Be proud of it."

Proud should be not only of our nation, but of a man who gave his all to protect and defend it.

story by
dusty jestes

man of the

hour

General Colin Powell speaking at the Fourth Annual Convocation on Critical Issues at Missouri Western last fall.

photo by
associated press

the world of

internet

The internet has posed a problem to many college campuses, for both students and their grades. Northwest Missouri State University had so many students failing because of the net that they developed an Internet Anonymous program for them. Luckily, MWSC didn't have that problem. Most students used the net mainly for class purposes, sometimes for writing research papers, or just for more information on a topic they were studying in class. The "no gambling on campus" policy, and the fact that students weren't allowed to chat in the library or computer lab, helped keep the internet hysteria from getting out of hand.

Student Robert Edwards used the internet about three or four hours a day. He didn't consider himself to be an internet junkie though, saying that he used it mainly for school purposes.

"I'm usually writing a paper, or doing research at the same time as I'm on-line," said Edwards.

Michael Rogers was a student who was proud to consider himself a true internet junkie. "You bet I'm an internet junkie," said Rogers. "I'm the most net-loving person you'll ever know."

Rogers said that he used the net about 20-25 hours per week, mainly for entertainment purposes, admitting to four years as an internet junkie.

There were several systems one could use on the net. Rogers used Missouri Western's Griffon Net. He also used CION (Columbia On-line information Network) and PlaNET. The most interesting thing that Rogers ever found on the net was "The Devil's Dictionary." It was written in the early part of the century, and it gave really weird definitions for things. Edwards used several different internet systems, such as the World Wide Web, BBS Forum and anything that might have some useful information.

"The net is very useful for anyone," said Rogers. "It helps in informational gathering purposes, and can even let you speak to people you may never meet any other way."

How did a self-proclaimed internet junkie define the term?

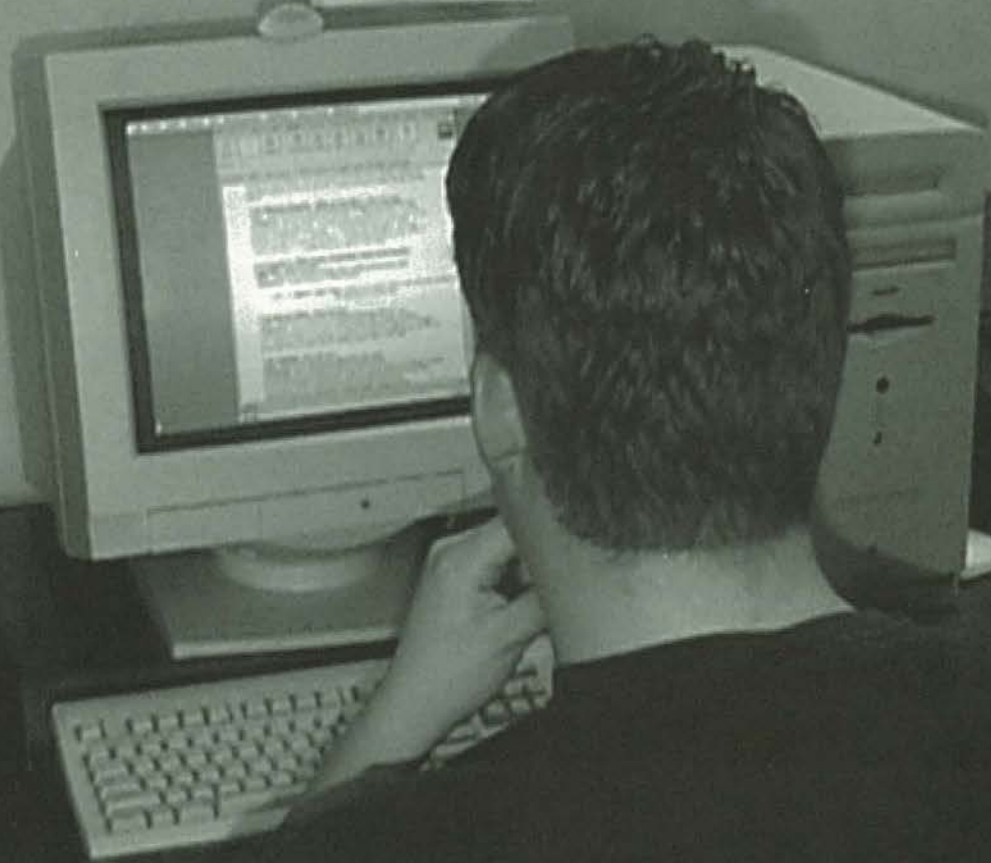
"An internet junkie is nothing more than a person who had devoted a lot of time to learning about the internet," said Rogers, "be it for school, research or entertainment purposes."

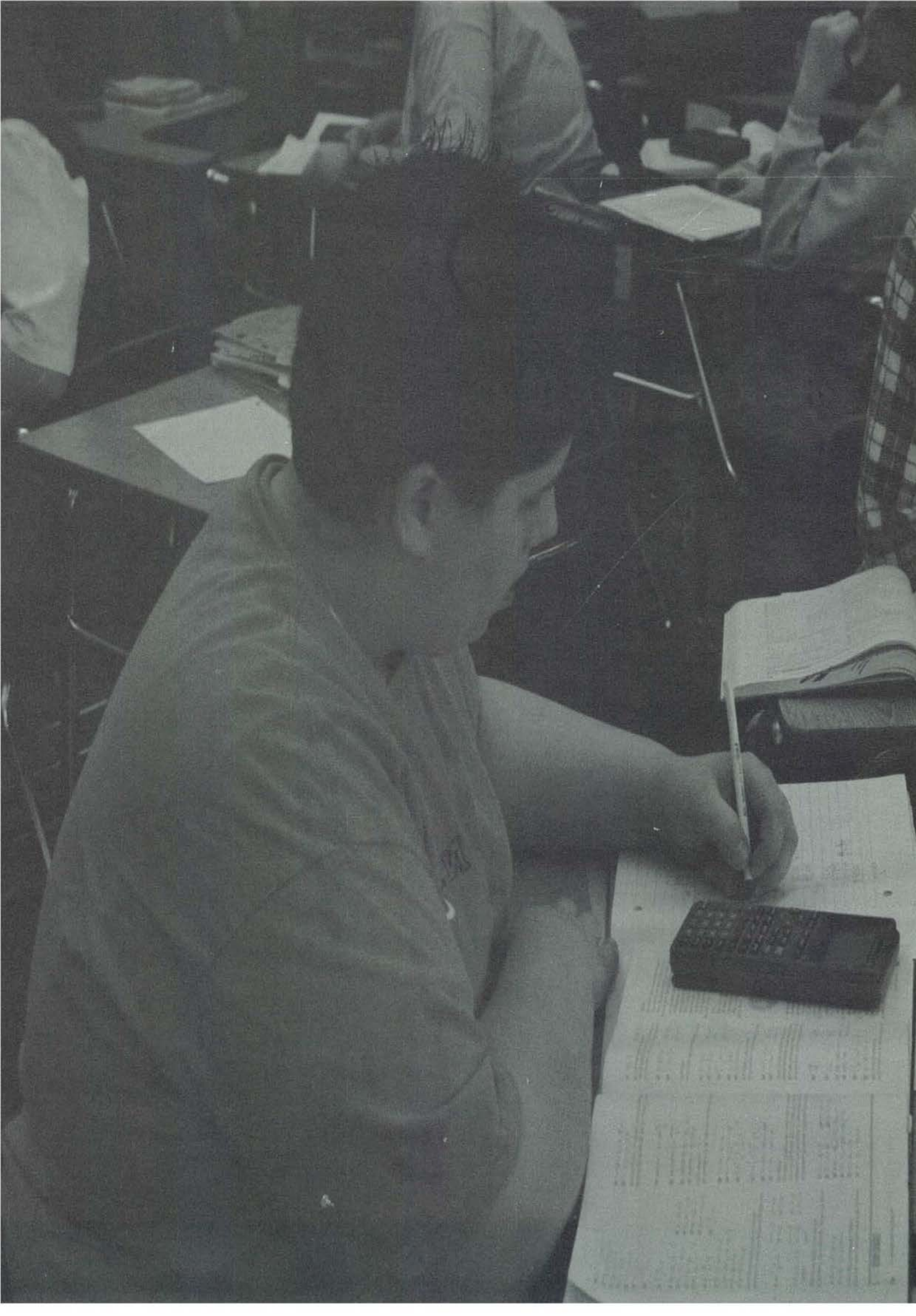
story by
mitzie young

Freshman Chad Vulgamont passes his time in front of a computer screen. Many freshmen found access to the internet a great distraction.

photo by
erin le

Junkies





partnership between the St. Joseph School District and Missouri Western State College allowed high school juniors and seniors to get a jump on their college education. Students actually enrolled in college, paying half of the regular credit hour fee, saved them money and gave them a taste of college life.

Senior Jacob Thorne took two college courses: AP government and college composition. He found it harder to take both high school and college courses, but thought there were also advantages.

"You get a lot more out of the class than taking just normal high school classes," said Thorne. "The teachers are a lot better."

Like other seniors felt the same, and they liked the challenge that college courses presented to them.

"It's a little bit more challenging, and there's not as much busy work," said school senior Laura Seufert. "The textbooks are more difficult than a high school text."

Students Seufert, Elizabeth Westrich and Beth Cross were all taking AP government, and Cross was also taking AP English. Jeremy Bloss was taking college composition.

"I think it's really difficult to balance AP work with regular school work because it demands more attention," said Cross. "It's tough."

Westrich and Bloss felt that college courses were not hard as long as one

took the time to study.

"I don't feel that taking AP government with other courses is difficult at all," said Westrich.

Taking dual credits meant a lot of advantages for students. Not only did it give them a head start on college, but they also got use of the college library and fitness center. They only had to pay the fifteen dollars every other MWSC student had to pay.

"I wanted to get ready for next year, and I didn't want to jump right into college classes," said Seufert. "Besides, if you don't pass the AP classes, it doesn't count against your high school GPA."

Mary Elder, guidance department chair at Benton High School, thought that the dual enrollment courses were very effective for the students.

"I think it is a wonderful opportunity, kind of a two-for-one deal," said Elder. "Students taking AP biology are able to study anatomy and physiology as well, whereas without this program they wouldn't be able to because the normal biology classes don't offer it. It gives them a jump on their college credits, while also filling their high school courses as well."

George Hammer, counselor at Lafayette High School, agreed with Elder.

"I think it's a very good idea, especially for seniors who only need two or three credits to graduate," said Hammer. "It's a very positive program."

story by
mitzie young

a taste of

life

College

edit student Brandon Hall pounds problems in his high school math class. He found the challenge of college life rewarding.

photo by
frankie huff



World

Researcher Ming Wang spends her days gathering information concerning college freshmen. The Freshman Year Experience office was established in order to aid incoming students in their adjustments.

photo by
erin lewis

Entering college can be a scary experience, and many prefer not to face it alone. To make this transition as easy as possible, the Freshman Year Experience program was developed.

"Coming to college from high school is like visiting a foreign country," said Judy Grimes, director of the Access Plus and Freshman Year Experience programs. "It can be a real cross-cultural and frightening experience for some kids."

The team in the Freshman Year Experience office worked together to ease the fears of those who needed a little help crossing the line between high school kid and college adult.

"We are here to help," said program assistant Elaine Bryant. "Students can feel free to come in here, no matter what the problem is. We may not have all the answers, but we will certainly try."

The Freshman Year Experience program was a part of Access Plus. Access Plus was a program designed to increase retention rates (mostly between the freshman and sophomore years), improve graduation rates and enhance students' ability to meet the standards required for entrance into major fields of study. It was hoped that the program would also give the ability to successfully navigate the academic curriculum and provide an intelligent, skilled work force for the state of Missouri. Legislation authorizing Access Plus was approved by Missouri's General Assembly, and then signed by the governor in 1995.

Diana Silvers, the communications coordinator, received great pleasure from her position in the office.

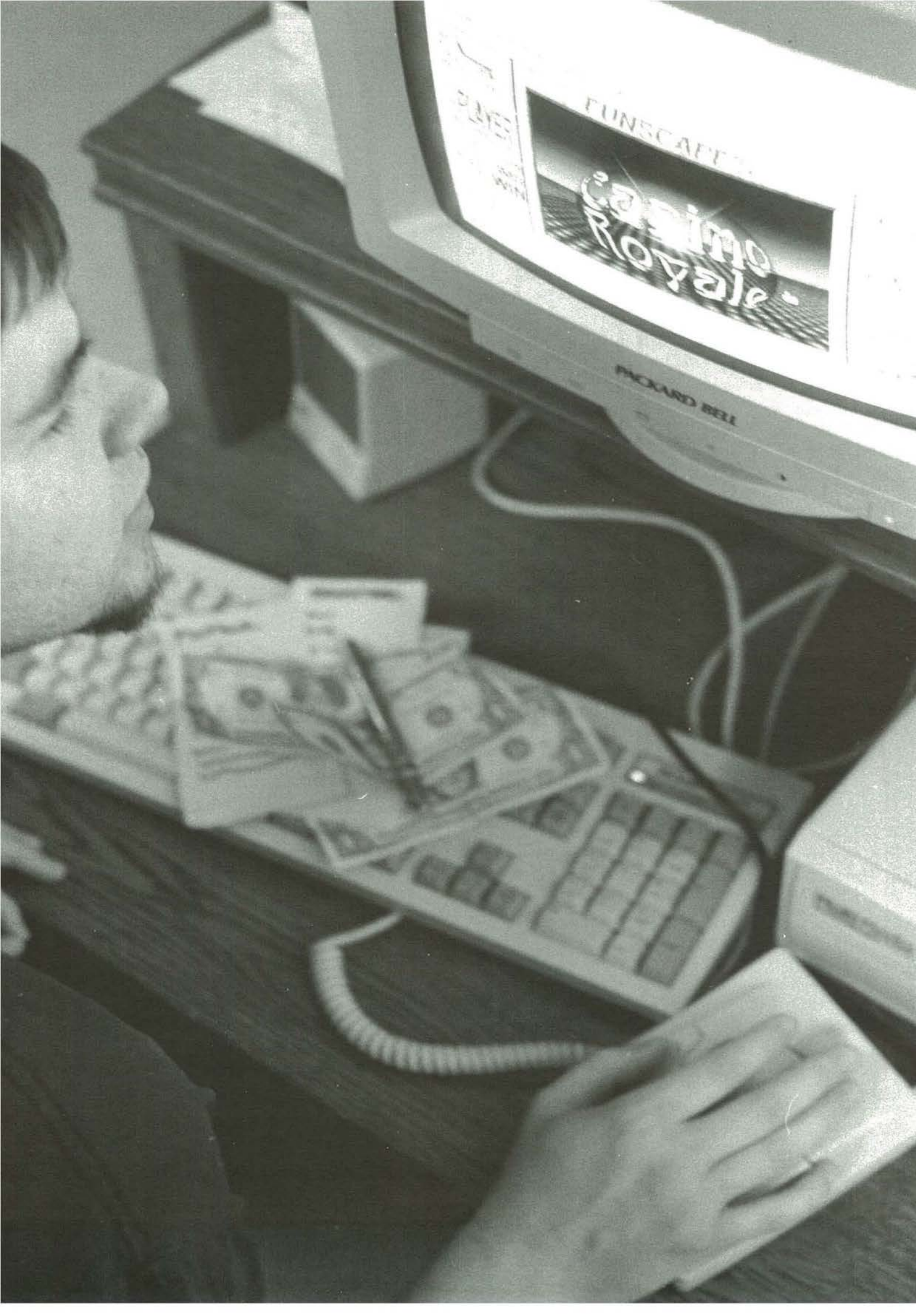
"The most enjoyable part of my job is working with and advising students, because I was there not very long ago," said Silvers. "I know how to help them, or at least I hope I do. Through this office, we can make it a better experience, and we hope we do. We want to make every student's experience at Missouri Western a better one."

Grimes and her staff coordinated a variety of activities, including freshman academic advising, the freshman seminar course and orientation programs for first-time students.

"We provide services that are not just for freshman, but there is an emphasis on them," said Grimes. "We help them deal with the transition from high school to college, adjusting to dorm life, being away from home and going to class continuously. I have had students come in here and admit they are having problems making themselves go to school. I think they are just used to someone forcing them to go to school from nine in the morning to three in the afternoon every day."

To achieve what they set out to do, the Access Plus and Freshman Year Experience staff took steps to ensure the success of both the program and the students. They increased the traditional college 101 courses, which became freshman seminar courses, and a new project was in the works for an advising manual in a brightly colored folder created solely for freshmen.

"There are so many things I like about my job here," said Huiming Wang, the research analyst for the office. "But, I take my greatest pleasure in helping the students succeed."



gambling

The internet has opened up a whole new way to access virtually any information. With the simple click of a mouse, web surfers can find ways to make both work and fun a lot easier, but the net quickly became a source for doing things that were not always politically correct, or even legal.

Students and campus offices received an e-mail message at the beginning of the fall semester from the Shamrock Sports Book, who claimed to run a legal off-shore gambling operation. The message encouraged recipients to place bets on athletic events, assuring them that there was nothing illegal about their program. While gambling had been legal in many countries for years, Nevada was the only state in this country in which sports books were legal. However, the Nevada Gaming Commission made it against the law to place a phone wager from out of state. To bet on a specific event, such as a football game, one would have to give their credit card number to the person or company with which they were dealing. If that number fell into the wrong hands and was used inappropriately, the card holder could be in for some major financial problems, and this had the MWSC administration concerned.

When Director of Campus Security, Jon Kelley, was informed of the message, he made it clear he did not approve.

"Gambling has no place on this campus," he said. "Students are vulnerable when it comes to credit card debt."

Forrest Hoff, dean of student affairs, felt the problem needed to be dealt with before it got out of hand. In an attempt to deter students from falling into the gambling trap, he sent out an email, warning them that gambling on campus was against school policy, and students caught doing so would be punished.

"I certainly do not like it," he said. "It's foolish for a kid, or anyone for that matter, to bet on something like this, but it is an even bigger mistake to give their credit card numbers out over the internet."

Matt Graves was one student who received the message, he said he deleted it immediately because he realized it was probably illegal, and he was correct. It was not only against the law, but it was also against Missouri Western policy to gamble on campus, and students caught doing so would be disciplined in the same manner as any other violation of rules stated in the computer policy guide and student handbook.

"It is a matter of self-control and self-restraint," said Computer Center Director, Mark Mabe. "We trust that our students are knowledgeable, and will not participate in these kinds of services on our equipment."

One never knew what they would find when checking their e-mail messages. Even something as great as the internet could have its disadvantages, and it was up to the students to decide if they would give in to the temptations that it held.

story by
jason welden

Freshman Christian Malewski gambles his way around the Internet. Web gambling was a hot and dangerous practice in 1997.

photo by
timberlyn malewski

returning

students

College life . . . studying, parties, extra-curricular activities, deadlines and stress. Most students anticipated putting in their time, making the grades and after graduation, landing a great job. Oh sure, many would return to campus for Homecoming for a few years, and some would even feel compelled to come back if their siblings or children attended. What about the students who never left? What about the ones who returned and let the college pay them to be here for once?

Why would anyone do that you ask? Perhaps thoughts of entrapment, bribery or blackmail race through you mind. Regardless of one's personal views on the subject, Mason Mortimer from the Admissions Office, Dean of Professional Studies Jeanne Daffron, Jan Norton from the Center for Academic Support, Sally Radmacher of the Psychology Department and Lynn Synder from College Relations were all Missouri Western alumni.

"I worked in Admissions as work study and as a VIP while I was a student," said 1997 graduate Mortimer. "I already knew everyone, they were really friendly and I enjoyed the work. I'll probably be here as long as they're good to me."

Bill Church came to college in 1983, and eventually completed his masters while working as the Writing Coordinator in the Center for Academic Support. In 1996, he applied for the lectureship and was fortunate enough to be selected.

"I came back because I like MO West," said Church. "As a non-traditional student, I liked the open-door mentality that said whether you make it or not, at least you gave it a shot."

Church said that he would love to trade jobs with someone who believed that teaching was like a day on the golf course.

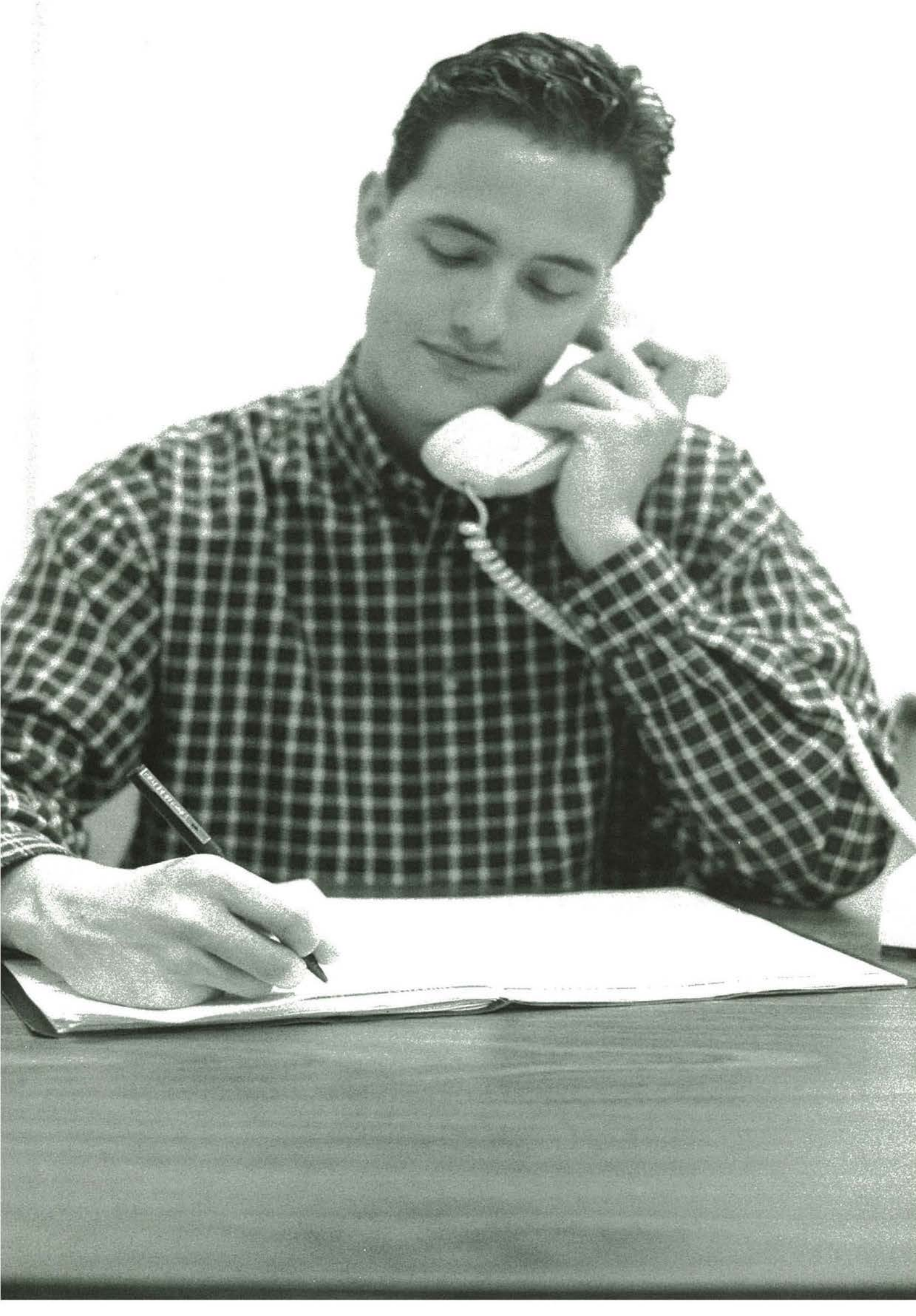
"The work is exhausting," Church said. "One of my greatest rewards is in my role as advisor. The students I advise become almost like an extended family."

"I won't stay here until retirement, or any such thing," said Church. "I don't think I'll have the energy in ten years. One of the primary reasons I began teaching here was so I could write creatively during the summer, that's very important to me."

Once students got past the classes, homework and exams, college may have become a more enjoyable place to be. Certainly, those who returned to take on full-time jobs here must have seen it that way.

story by
carrie blackwell

Mason Mortimer answers questions for a prospective student at his job in the Admissions office.



inside professor's

If you could change one policy on campus, what would it be? Have you attended a Missouri Western sporting event this year, or ever? Do you read the campus newspaper? What is the number one thing you like about being an instructor at Missouri Western? One may have wondered just how involved the faculty was in college affairs, and what opinions they held about the school. A faculty survey was conducted to get answers to such questions, and the results were then discussed with administrators and faculty.

If you could change one policy on campus, what would it be? The two most common responses to this question were faculty paying for parking and the school's open admission policy. One respondent said that they didn't like the fact that faculty paid "for parking that doesn't exist." President Janet Murphy explained the reason parking stickers are required on campus for everyone from faculty to students.

"For the last 16 years, the state has given no support for parking lots," said Murphy. "Therefore, we charge faculty, staff, administration and students for a parking sticker to help maintain the condition of the present parking lots."

Murphy was in full support of the school's open admission policy for several reasons. She believed the people voted for Missouri Western to become a four-year college with the thought that their daughters and sons, and granddaughters and grandsons would have the opportunity to attend the school. She felt that, since there was no community college in the area, the people should have the opportunity to try to continue their education. Murphy was quick to point out that the state gave the school money to help all students succeed, so the open admissions policy was an ethical decision agreed to by the Board of Regents.

"The important thing is not who we take in, but the caliber of students who graduate," said Murphy. "For example, our admission specifications for programs such as teaching, psychology and

nursing are higher than other public institutions."

Have you attended a Missouri Western sporting event this year, or ever? The answers were pretty even on the number of respondents who had or had not attended one this year, and twice as many attended sporting events in the past than those who never had.

"Attending sporting events demonstrates faculty support for programs involving students," said Athletic Director Don Caverman. "Student athletes work very hard and spend a lot of hours training in their sport, so support from the students and faculty of the institution is important to them."

Caverman felt that football and men's and women's basketball seemed to have the highest turnout of faculty fans, but men's basketball probably had the most. He admitted that there are those who are sports fans and those who are not, but for those who are, the games are a fun, family atmosphere and a great way to spend an afternoon. There is a high level of competition at the NCAA level and, though the teams aren't at the level of schools like Nebraska, the teams are still very competitive. It is also very economical entertainment since students get in free, and faculty pays very little to attend.

Do you read the campus newspaper? Only two of the 60 respondents said they never read the campus newspaper. Of those who did read the paper, only two were not regular readers. One faculty member commented that the newspaper had come a long way, and he felt that it was much better than it had been in the past. Griffon News faculty advisor, Bob Bergland, found the high number of faculty readers to be a pleasant surprise.

"It is very encouraging that the faculty take the paper seriously," said Bergland. "It speaks well for the students who produce the paper that they are putting out a product that is useful not only to students, but also to the faculty."

story by
mandy fitzwater



Government

Relationships
Government

Students should

know the pieces

of the

Students begin

introduce

to the

practice

of the

art

form



One minute he was reading the newspaper, the next he was debating on taking a new job in a different state. Associate Vice-President of Student Affairs and Government Relations, Steve Huff, left the college in April after almost ten years on staff. He accepted a newly created position at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Nebraska as Director of Internal Communications.

"I learned that the position was available from a newspaper ad in the Kansas City Star," said Huff. "The ad was intriguing, the way it was worded just caught my attention. I just applied thinking it would be interesting to learn more about it. I never dreamed that they would call."

Things just seemed to fall into place after that. The move came at just the right time because his daughter was to graduate in May. His son was a bit younger, and had some mixed feelings about the sudden move. He was excited at the prospect of new friends and a new school, but apprehensive about leaving old friends. Huff's wife seemed to think that the adjustment would be a smooth one for her as well, as she had a family practice she would open at their new location.

Huff graduated from Southeast Missouri College in Cape Gerardeau and spent three years in St. Louis while his wife finished her education. The Huffs moved to St. Joseph so that he could go to work for the St. Joseph News-Press. The couple experienced what Huff described as "culture shock."

"The people of St. Joseph were so open and friendly," said Huff. "They speak first, even if just to say 'Hello,' and drivers motion for others to go ahead first. This was quite a contrast to the other side of the state.

Huff said it was going to be very hard to leave all the people at the college. He was very impressed with the energy and dedication of everyone.

"They (the staff) are committed to the students," said Huff. "It's bigger than just a 9 to 5 thing, it's infectious."

Fellow staff members seemed to feel just as good about Huff as he felt about everyone else. He made a big impression on others in his time at the college.

"Steve will be greatly missed by the college and community," said Lynn Synder, director of institutional advancement. "He wore so many hats, and wore them so well. On a personal level, he was a good friend, as personal confidant and someone you could go to for advice and support."

Though he was nervous about the changes ahead for him and his family, Huff knew he was doing the right thing. The college had to fill his position with someone new, but he could never be replaced.

story by
wilma roberts

Steve Huff orders his last lunch from MWSC's deli before embarking on his new job in Nebraska.

photo by
erin lewis

Let's begin



dent talent shows at one of the
ny Senior Art Shows where family
d friends came to see the artwork of
students at the MWSC Fine Arts Lobby.

photo by
brad harrah

What could be more rewarding than to see one's own work displayed for everyone else to enjoy? Personal achievement for students was one reason several departments made their work available for the benefit of others. Some of these displays were seen or experienced not only by local residents, but also people from all over the state.

The Senior Art Exhibit was an annual display of students' artistic gifts held in the Fine Arts Lobby and Gallery. Student art was also displayed in the hallways of the fine arts building at various times throughout the year.

The music department could brag of constant displays of student talent. Many different students played instruments for an audience either individually or as a group. The Golden Griffon Marching Band participated in many grades hosted by St. Joseph, as well as the school's annual homecoming parade. The kettle drums pleased ears at several of the city's annual Trails West Festivals.

The communications department gave students the opportunity to share their talents with others as well. Working with agencies such as the St. Patrick's School, St. Joseph Parks and Recreation, the Missouri Conservation Department, Wyatt Park Christian Church, the MWSC volleyball team, MS Society and many others, students used their knowledge to help others by doing things like narrative videos.

"The Video Production/Performance emphasis has two classes titled Pre-production Planning and Video Producing/Directing," said Robert Nulph of

Communications Studies. "As a requirement in these two courses, the students work with an outside client, such as a non-profit agency, a MWSC Department or corporate training facility, and produce a project for their use."

Putting school work to use outside of the classroom proved helpful to more than just the students who participated. The nursing department found ways for its students to share their knowledge in ways that would benefit others.

"Nursing students are involved with faculty wellness testing and doing blood pressure testing and health fairs in the northwest Missouri region," said Michael Ballenger of the nursing department. "All of their clinical practice is outside of the classroom in regional health care agencies."

All students from the education department eventually ended up displaying their talents to a classroom full of children during a semester of student-teaching, but some shared their wisdom before the final semester. Elementary Math Methods students wrote Performance-Based Math Tasks to be included in the St. Joseph math curriculum guide. Student work was also featured in the third edition of Mathematics Methods for the Elementary and Middle School by Hatfield, Edwards and Bitter, published by Allyn and Bacon in 1997.

Some displays of student talent were more obvious than others, but the campus was full of gifted people. If one looked hard enough, student talent was evident around every corner.

story by
wilma roberts

student

talent

Jack Hughes

Jack Hughes standing in front of the old St. Joseph Junior College in downtown where he taught his first art class 30 years ago.

photo by
timberlyn malewski

John T. Hughes, aka Jack, as everyone in the art department called him, grew up in Grand Island, Nebraska and went to the Kansas City Art Institute to get a BFA in hopes of becoming an illustrator. He graduated in 1963 and his plans to start a career as an illustrator changed when he had to join the Army. After his stint in the Army, he decided to become a teacher and he went on to graduate school and got his MFA at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

So after graduate school in 1968 he applied for a job at the former St. Joseph Junior College and at the University of Northern Iowa. He was offered a job at Missouri Western first and took it afraid that another job might not come along.

That same year the college changed its name to Missouri Western College and was in the process of changing from a 2 year college to a 4 year college when he was hired as an art teacher.

"If Missouri Western had stayed a 2 year college instead of changing into a 4 year, I probably would not have stayed," said Jack. But it did change and so Jack stayed and 30 years later he's still here teaching art.

Jack taught his first art class, Printmaking, in the church across the street from the Missouri Western College, because there wasn't enough room for his class in the college's main building. He stood at the altar of the church to show his class how to do printmaking. The light was so poor in the room that the students had to gather around what pools of light there were to see what they were doing. He also taught an Art History class in the main building. At that time there were only two art teachers.

The next year Missouri Western was built and they moved into the new buildings. Thirty years later, Jack is still teaching Printmaking at Missouri Western, but in a much better and bigger classroom with lots of light.

Jack has seen many changes at Missouri Western in his 30 years here. The art department has grown from two art teachers to six full-time art teachers and several part-time art teachers. The art building was enlarged and expanded in 1986 and he has seen tremendous growth in the art field in the last 10 years.

"Time in some ways has gone by fast, I was 29 when I came here, then suddenly I was 40," said Jack, "it has been fun to watch the department grow in the last 10 years, now the art program weighs mainly toward Commercial Art."

Jack now teaches two Drawing classes, Illustration, Painting and his famous Printmaking class, but he plans to retire next spring. He doesn't have set plans for retirement, but his two children live in Northern California and would like him to move out there with them. Jack said he may stay or he may not, he's not sure, but he hates to move so he'll probably stay in St. Joseph.

Although Jack won't be going into the next millenium with Missouri Western State College, his legacy in the art department will live on.

story by
jondenna patrick



job es ra C n

As the corporate climate heated up, graduates were pressed more than ever to have the skills necessary for their desired position, but to excel in the presentation of those skills as well.

What did that involve? Director of Career Services, Linda Garlinger, said that the student must develop a clear idea of the kind of career they want. Because there are differences in career latitudes depending on the type of major the student pursues, it can often be difficult for graduates to narrow their field of interest. For instance, an English major has many more options within the corporate world than a graduate with an accounting degree. Garlinger feels it is most important to pursue a career that will bring happiness, rather than wealth.

"I've always heard if you do something you love, the money will come. That's absolutely true," said Garlinger. "You have to not only incorporate the skills you have acquired, but your personal likes and dislikes as well. A student has to think about what would make them ultimately happy, what would make them want to get up in the morning. If they do that, they will be financially successful in whatever they do."

Once the basic career goals have been sketched out, the search can begin. Most graduates feel lost in the maze of information, but there are more sources available than students might think. The internet is the source most people find useful. Most major companies have web sites as well as job listings. There are also journals of company contacts available through most job location offices. Corporations often supply these offices with information, videos and other important reference materials.

John McLaughin, employment service representative for Work Connections, a local employment recruiting service, stresses the importance of making your best effort from the very start. Even when dealing with entry-level he says it's important to approach the employer alone. Employers question the candidate's professionalism when they do not take even the very initial stages seriously.

"Too often," McLaughin says, "people will bring a friend or even worse their children to apply for or inquire about a job. Employers don't see this as professional behavior and can really affect the way they see the candidate."

Those factors are just the tip of the iceberg. Having knowledge of today's job market is another essential factor in the search. In the past twenty or thirty years, there have been major shifts in the corporate mentalities toward prospective employees. According to Garlinger, companies were once willing to take a college graduate and show them

the ropes. They understood that a graduate entering the corporate world would not be familiar with its inner workings. The pendulum has swung in the opposite direction in the early and mid 90's. Employers expected graduates to arrive knowing the ins and outs of the corporate world, and were not willing to train candidates. Garlinger does notice that the movement is moving in the opposite direction again. Companies are now more in touch with the kind of candidates applying for their positions.

"Companies are now realizing that graduates aren't going to be familiar with the corporate world," she says. "They are beginning to look more at a candidate's potential along with their current skills. Companies are starting to see the value in nurturing their employees, for the benefit of the employee as well as the company."

The emphasis on skills in the job search is obviously important to employers, but the candidate must possess the character and self-assertiveness to impress the interviewer. In McLaughin's experience, it is the candidate's knowledge of the company and their enthusiasm that often wins over the interviewer.

"First impressions mean everything," he says. "If a candidate walks into an interview with little or no knowledge of the company, the interviewer is not likely to be impressed. The candidate must take the time to research the company, if they expect to be considered for the position."

Dressing correctly for the interview is essential as well. Dressing for the environment in which you will be working is the most important factor in affecting the interviewer. Garlinger says that a great number of people go into an interview in clothing that can turn the interviewer off and ultimately affect whether or not the candidate gets hired."

"If you're applying for an accounting position," she says, "the candidate should wear something like a navy blue suit and a silk tie. The same style would be completely inappropriate for someone applying for a position as a commercial artist. This factor more than any other factor will affect the outcome of an interview."

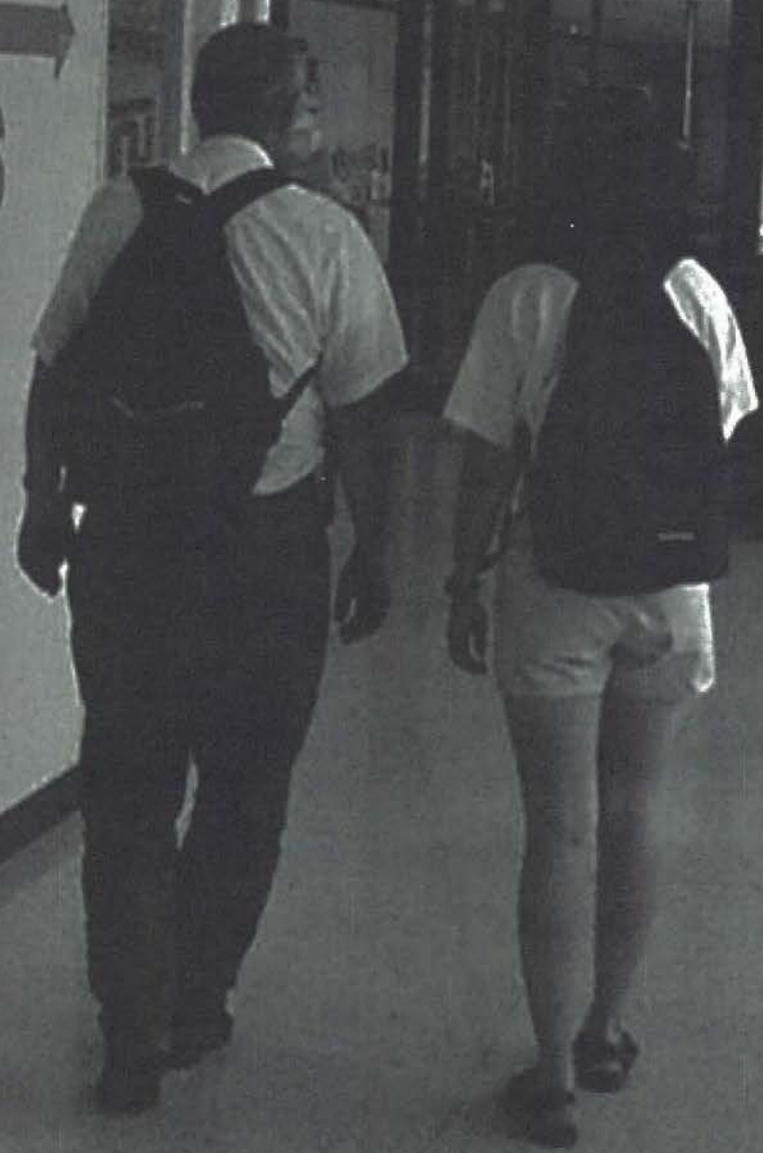
Entering the job market can be an intimidating experience for graduates. Knowing where to start, how to present yourself, and perhaps the most intimidating, deciding what to do with the rest of your life, can all lead to thundering headaches. But, what both Garlinger and McLaughin say is most important is confidence in one's skill and one's self.

story by
mandy fitzwater

Linda Garlinger, Director of Career Services, answers the phone while working to help students find jobs after graduation.



Admissions
and Records



Redden and daughter Erika
some time together between
classes during the spring semester.

photo by
jackie phillips

Imagine heading across campus and running into your mother or father, backpack slung over their shoulder, as they rush to make their next class. "Hello dear," they say. "You didn't skip Algebra, did you? I have to cram all night for my history test tomorrow! Can I catch a ride home with you?" Hard to picture? It was not unheard of at Missouri Western. In fact, there was more than one student on campus who had to admit (most with genuine joy) that at least one of their parents were enrolled at the same time as they were. Erika Redden was one such student. She and her father, Gary Redden, shared the college experience for four years.

Gary, whose career was in nursing, felt the need to keep learning and returned in 1978 to work toward a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. In the time since Gary began his latest college adventure, his wife Linda, and oldest daughter Erin, both graduated ahead of him. After 20 years, Gary finally graduated in May. Although he finished ahead of his youngest daughter Erika, he sat in a crown of graduates that included her fiancé, Scott. Erika anticipated graduating in December of 1998 with a degree in Elementary Education and an emphasis in Early Childhood Education.

"Because of my degree in education and my dad's in nursing, we have not had the chance to have class together," said Erika. "We have taken the same class at the same time, with two different teachers. It was fun to talk and compare teaching styles, assignments and the fact that my teacher was much more relaxed about the course and the assignments involved. We did get the same grade, but I have to admit that I don't think I worked as hard for mine."

One may have thought it would be strange to come out of

class and find your father chatting in the hallway with other students and blending in with the crowd. Those who attended college at the same time as a parent seemed to share Erika's positive view of the situation.

"This was not uncomfortable at all, it was almost fun," said Erika. "The students in both classes knew the situation, especially my dad's class. They thought it was funny when I would ask for money for a pop during the break."

What about the parent? Did they find it awkward to enroll in the same college as a son or daughter? Gary found no problems with it, but admitted that it kept him humble.

"I sat in classrooms of study with both my wife and my daughters," said Gary. "There are pro's and con's about taking classes with family. I can't tell the 'fish tales' nor embellish on my life outside the classroom to quite the same degree with family right there beside me."

Gary found it useful to ask the advice of his family members about which classes and educators would best suit his style of learning. He usually could only fit in one class per semester, so the full-time students of his family were quick to put him in his place if he complained too loudly about the woes of homework or tests.

"I think it is great that my dad is finally finishing his degree," said Erika. "I'm very thankful that I have been able to finish mine in just four years."

With the end in sight, the family planned a joint graduation party for Gary and Erika's fiancé. For Gary, the party would mean the end of a long road to reaching his goal, but his family saw it as another major accomplishment by Dad.

story by
wilma roberts

going to school

together



some of his outside work in the Fine Arts Gallery, which he made out of leather and wood.

photo by
jackie phillips

Don't these professors have anything better to do than assign a million different things for me to turn in?" Statements such as this were not uncommon when the pressure of college frustrated students, but the truth was that yes, they did have something else to do because their jobs were not always limited to the classroom.

The department of criminal justice and legal studies was a great place to find faculty members who found the time to be "more than meets the eye." Kip Wilson was a college professor as well as a reserve officer for St. Joseph, which sometimes found him assisting at crime scenes. Jill Miller was a former juvenile delinquency officer. She was currently serving on an Administrative Board for the Division of Family Services and also on the Court Appointed Special Advocate Board (C.A.S.A.) for the Buchanan County Juvenile Court. She was part of the training for volunteers who worked with child victims of abuse and neglect. Mike Hanna administered polygraphs and did work with the Missouri Department of Probation and Parole, and LeRoy Maxwell worked with militia groups and the use of hypnotism in Law Enforcement.

Some faculty members of the music department found time in their busy class schedules to use their skills in various ways away from the school. Jerry Anderson taught students off-campus, and he served as director of music at a local church. Mike Mathews kept an active schedule of outside performances, normally about 100 per year, and Deborah Freedman conducted the St. Joseph Symphony. Where do these people find time in their busy schedules for things outside of school? Kathy Ballenger, of the nursing department, taught pediatric nursing and worked ten hours a week as a nurse practitioner in a North Kansas City pediatric practice. While acting department chairperson, Kathleen Andrews worked as a Critical Care

Nurse at Heartland Regional Medical Center. Mary Jo Gay taught obstetrical nursing and still fit in hours at the Pediatric Triage phone line at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

Where else could one find a faculty member willing to work outside of school? Pat McMurry taught Economics for twenty years, but also spent some of that time practicing Forensic Economics. Pat did many other activities in the community, such as surveys of traffic patterns, automobile use in the city and many others.

"We calculate wrongful death and injury damages throughout worklife, and discount back to the present," said McMurry. "I have used actual courtroom presentations to demonstrate to the class such concepts as present value, value of housewives' services, etc."

When one thought of an art professor, they probably did not picture a man planting a flower garden. William Eickhorst, an instructor in the art department, also did commercial and residential landscaping.

"I think of it as a form of 3-D painting," said Eickhorst. "I also run an international art exhibition business, which exhibits the work of more than 300 artists from the U.S. and nine foreign countries."

These faculty members were just a few examples of the somewhat hidden talent that could be found in campus offices. So the next time a professor gave an assignment, or told of an impending test, students didn't think for one minute that it was because they didn't realize they were more than just "a student." These people were more than just "professors," so to add the activity of grading papers and such to their day was by no means due to a lack of anything else to do.

story by
wilma roberts

WORKING

Quality is a

graduation

Each year, one by one, graduates shuffle into a crowd-filled auditorium, take a seat and wait for their name to be called. It was no different this time around, except, it was my name being called.

I waited in a stifling auditorium for over an hour. I zipped up my robe. I placed the cap as properly as I could. Mostly, I waited and sweated. After working so hard for four years, I was about to walk across the stage, and all I would truly have to show for it would be two very noticeable sweaty globs.

Sure enough, I was about to crack the water cooler and go for a swim, when the procession began. I suppose I was nervous walking in front of all those people, but when I realized that for a few seconds I would be the only one they would see, I began to reach for the little star inside myself. I would shine for all to see.

So, I have found my seat. Though I missed rehearsal that morning I felt quite at home in row two, seat 10. Only after Dr. Murphy's introductory words do I realize that I have been strategically placed directly in front of the speaker, and it was a big one. It certainly goes without saying that I received our commencement addresser loud and clear.

Stephen Hill, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, told the crowd that graduation day was a very important turning point. Really? To paraphrase Mr. Hill's words: there was no escape! We were now smack in the middle of the real world, whether we liked it or not! Scary!

And still I rise . . . to get my degree, or at least the little thing it will one day be displayed in. I make my way up the ramp and anticipate my name being called. Oh my, it's so exciting. Hey! There's my name, there's Dr. Murphy with my little degree holder. *Thanks. Good luck. I love you, man.* I wave to my screaming fans and . . . that was it.

I could say it was all anticlimatic, but really did I expect anything else? I don't think it truly mattered how many people walked across the stage to receive a degree, I only wonder how many of them left the stage with an education. My time at Missouri Western was about much more than a piece of paper or a job or the real world. I had an awesome time and I learned how to be a successful person. I'll never forget those who taught me that.

story by
tracy jones

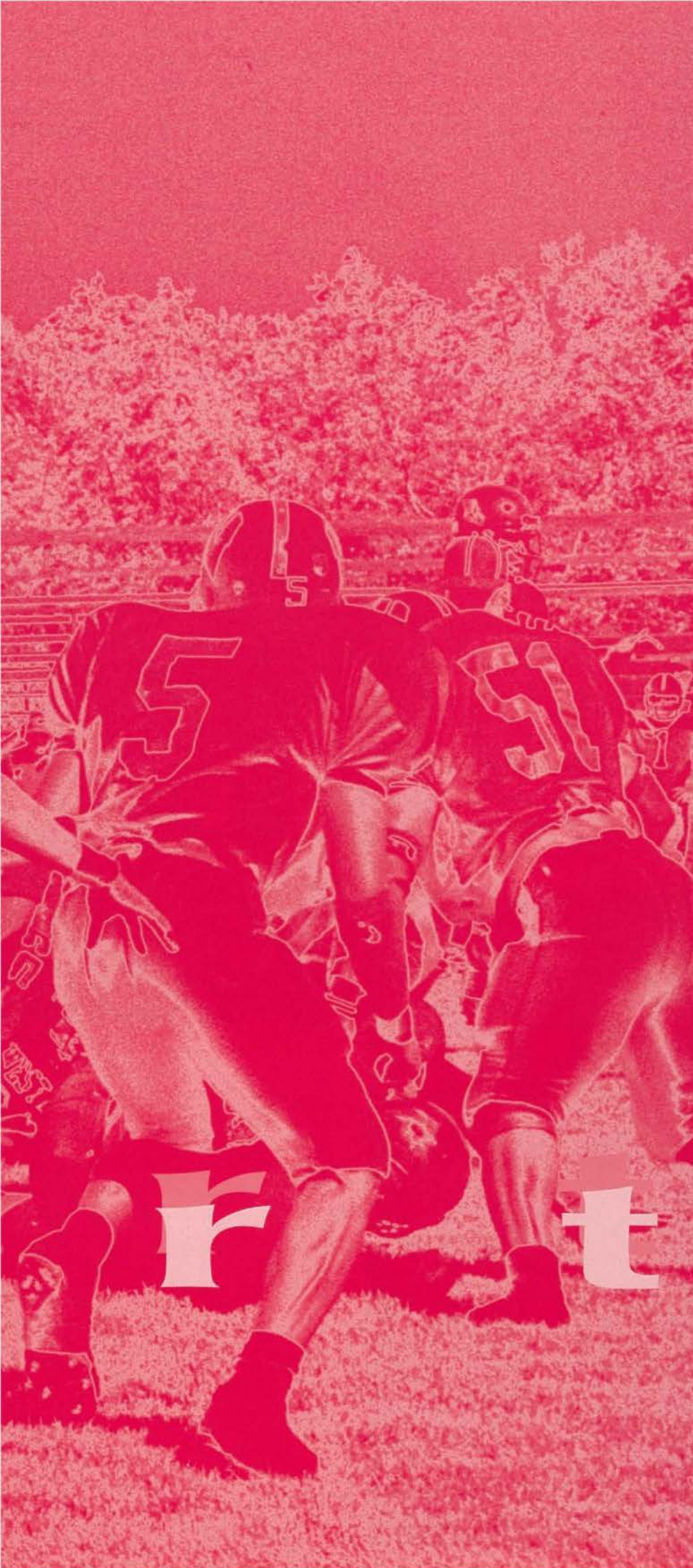
A MWSC graduate gets a hug from a family member after graduation ceremony is over.

photo by
brad harrah





s p o



What was the final score of sports in 1998? Victory! There were the obvious ups and downs, but in the end every player came out on top by doing their best for Western. As teams struggled with upsets, others reveled in stellar achievements. We also said good-bye to some long-time sports gods. Their presence would surely be missed, but would inspire a new generation of high achievers.

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Western sports had a year of great accomplishments, heartfelt disappointments and nonchalant mediocrity. From beginning to end, the Griffon athletes gave fans something to talk about, whether it was the big win, or the even bigger loss.

No school excels at every sport they offer, but when a big team comes along, everyone is ready to cut down the nets, fire the cannon and celebrate it all. Unfortunately, when a team fails, it is all too easy to point the finger of blame. If exceptions are not met, "someone" or "something" is always at fault.

The men's basketball team earned the title of "champion." Their season was full of ex-

citement and big games, most of which led to big wins. The field house was jubilant as nets were cut down, and the winningest coach in school history, Tom Smith, said a few words to celebrate being named MIAA champions.

"It was an awesome moment," said Griffon fan, Edie Hockman. "You could feel the excitement in the bleachers, and see the players enjoying the moment."

However, disappointment was found in a football season where expectations were so high, and accomplishments so low. At the start of the season, everyone was pumped for an exiting year and ready to follow star running-back, Tony Williams, down the path to suc-

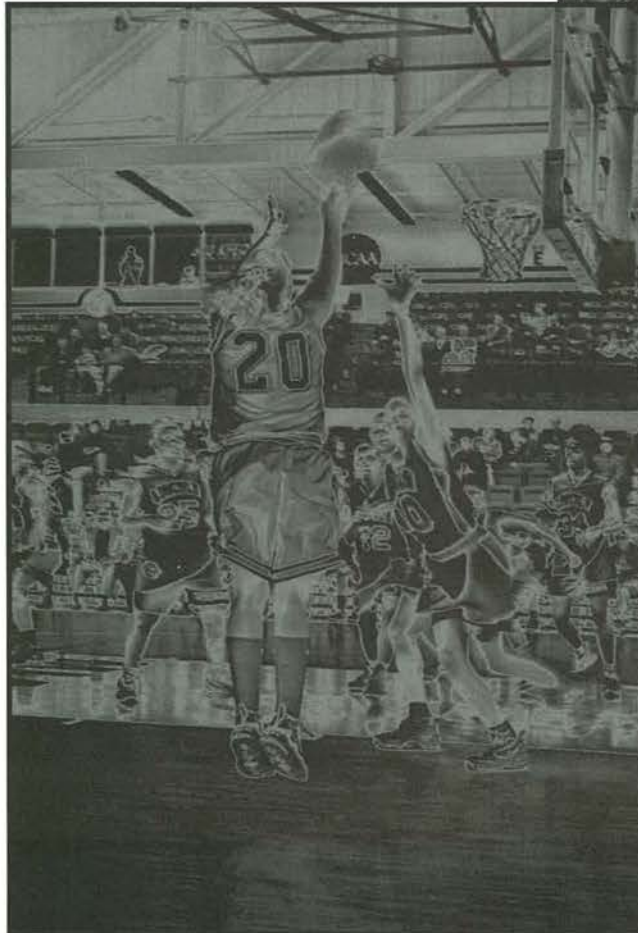
cess. Whose to say what might have been if spark wasn't extinguished with the loss of Williams to a serious knee injury early in the season. In an instant, a collegiate career was over, a season derailed, as the key play-maker would return only to the sidelines.

"The team just wasn't the same without losing Tony," said football fan, Caleb Logan. "He was the key to their success, and without him they struggled."

Mediocrity struck both the softball and golf teams, as each had seasons that either began or ended with performances below the team's potential. The softball team began its season on the diamond, struggling to per-

h i g h

story by dusty jestes



photos by crystal cisco

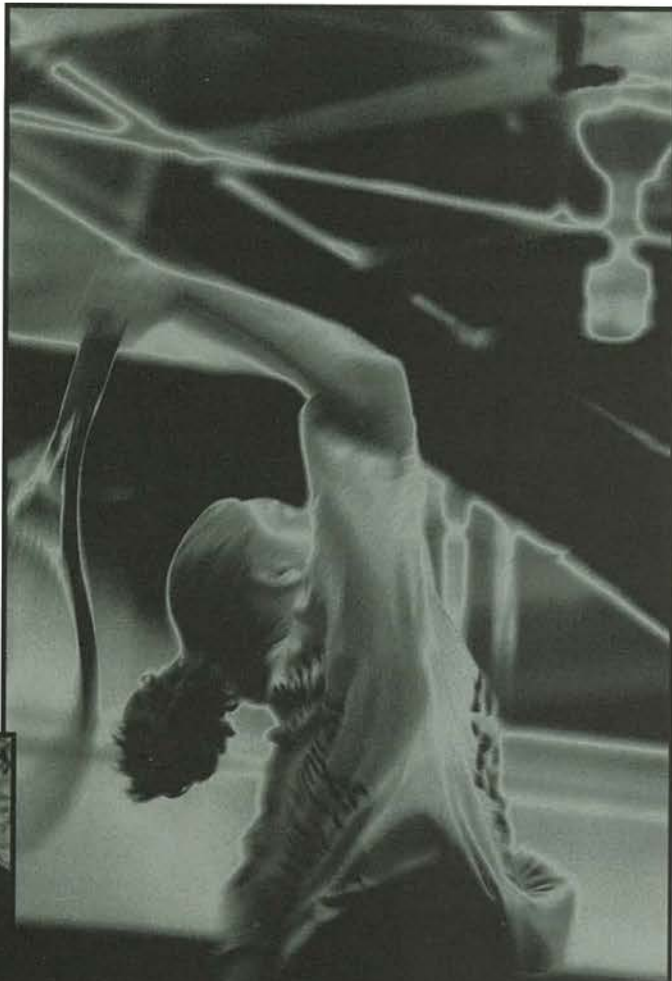


photo by lisa myer



ights

united front. It was only as the end grew
er, that a fire was ignited and the women
ed strong ball as a group. The golf team
d the opposite to be true for them. They
led in the fall, only to come up short when
pressure mounted in the spring. Maybe it
the youth, or inexperience, either way ex-
tations were not met as both teams came
ust above, or below, average.

"I didn't hear too much about either
," said Tyler Ives. "I guess they either just
t win, or lose, bad enough to make any
lines."

The year in sports was indeed one of
ss, especially in the long run. Teams that
led evoked intense pride, while those that
howed future potential. Besides, there was
ys next year, bringing with it another
ce to be champion.

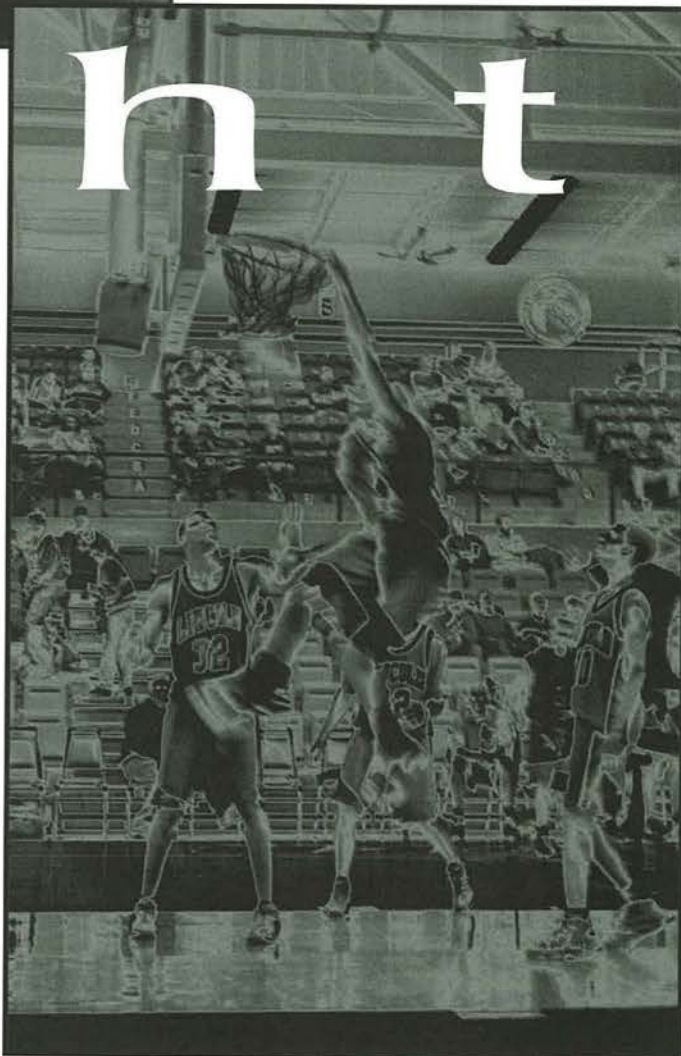


photo by crystal sisco

Some called the season a disappointment, while others saw it as the beginning of future excellence. No matter which opinion one held, it was evident that the football season was one for rebuilding after losing many players to graduation the year before. "We're a young team, and I don't think that a lot of people understand that," said freshman tailback Charles Spencer.

The Griffons and first-year head coach Jerry Partridge made their debut with an easy win against Nebraska-Kearney, with a score of 39-16 at Spratt Stadium. Griffon defense was ferocious as they were able to force six turnovers, including four fumbles, three of which they recovered and later scored on. Coach Partridge praised his special teams for their performance, causing a fumble on the opening kickoff and a blocked punt, all in the first half of

play. "The kickoff coverage was outstanding, and that's what really made a difference," said Partridge.

The Griffons took that momentum on the road and delivered a 49-7 routing to Quincy University. Fumbles were again a major occurrence, only this time the team gave up seven of their own, while causing just four by the Hawks. Senior Tony Williams had a great day rushing, carrying the ball 13 times for 149 yards and three touchdowns.

"We played together as a unit, which was our goal," said Williams. "The defense and offense did a great job, but some mistakes were made that could have been corrected." From there, the Griffons went on a four-game losing streak, only to win one and lose one for the rest of the season. Contributing to their sudden poor playing was the loss of senior star Tony

Williams in the fourth game of the season to a knee injury. He was unable to return to the field for the remainder of the season, and his loss of his talent and leadership was evident in his teammates' play.

The Griffons ended the year positively with an overtime victory against Central Missouri State, 27-24. Heroics were performed and glory gotten by a team hungry to end a season on a positive note. Sophomore David said, "It was a real big win to end the season and prepare for next year."

Some players brought home individual awards. Two players received the title of second team All-MIAA. Senior linebacker Bill led his team in tackles (105), blocked kicks, and overall defense to earn a place among the Junior offensive lineman Ryan Grier captured his honor because of impressive blocking

t h e f i n a t o u c h

story by dusty jstes



The Griffons collide with opponents on the field. Some saw the season as less than perfect, but most hoped for a brighter future.



photos by crystal sisco

d o w n

passers and rushers throughout the season. Six players also earned honorable mention All-MIAA for their efforts on the field, including freshman tailback Charles Spencer, senior offensive lineman Mike Halford, junior linebacker Lawrence Walker, freshman defensive end Josh Jean, senior defensive back Marloan and junior punter Mike Darnell.

The talent was there, the team just lacked experience. "Hang in there and support the cause because we are going to get one," said Spencer. "The only place we can go is up."

Nebraska-Kearney	39-16
Quincy	49-7
Truman State	17-31
Northwest Mo State	13-52
Missouri Southern	22-35
Emporia State	15-27
Washburn	13-12
Missouri-Rolla	0-17
SW Baptist	31-6
Pittsburg State	14-21
Central Missouri State	27-24

After a record of four wins and 30 losses in 1996, most people did not expect the 1997 Lady Griffons volleyball team to be more than marginally competitive. With a new coach to inspire them, and a lot of hard work and perseverance, the Lady Griffons made sure this season would be a change for the better. The final win-loss record was a much-improved 25-8, earning the team a second-place finish in the MIAA conference. The ladies just missed the ball on post-season play, finishing fifth in their region, while the top four teams advanced to the playoffs.

"I don't think that anyone expected much out of us, based on the previous year's record," said Coach Cindy Brauck. "But every

year is a new year, and the girls worked really hard to turn things around."

It was the first season at Missouri Western for Cindy Brauck, and she was given a lot of credit for the teams turnaround.

"Coach Brauck came in with a positive attitude and got us motivated," said Abby Schaer, senior middle-hitter. "We really enjoyed playing for her, and it was obvious that she enjoyed being our coach. It was the biggest difference between this year and last year."

While recognition went to the new coach for motivating the players, it could also be given to the players themselves for taking the step up. Several of the Lady Griffons received great honors for their efforts.

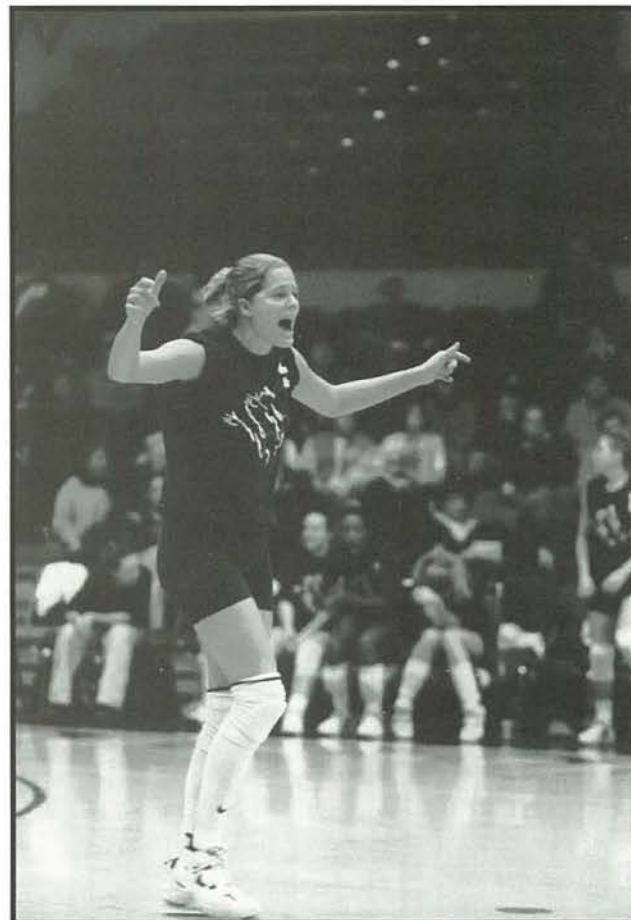
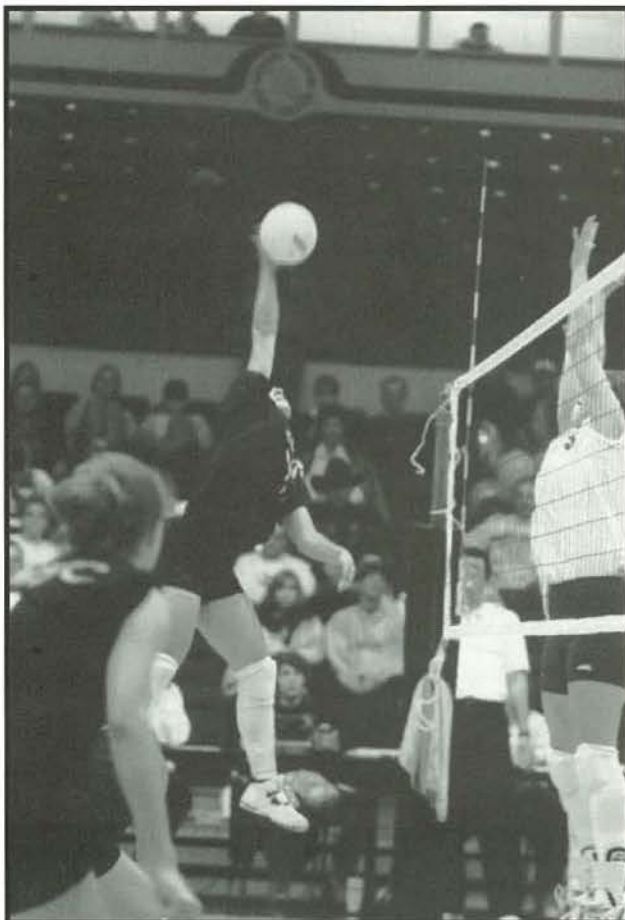
Chosen by the conference volleyball coaches, four Lady Griffons were named to conference volleyball teams. Junior outside hitter Sherri Lang, and senior middle hitter Abby Schaer, were chosen for the first team. Setter Monica Peck was a second team selection, and freshman outside hitter Sara Eckdahl earned an honorable mention.

Schaer led the conference in hitting percentage. She was named Hitter of the Week twice in the MIAA, and was the NCAA Division II Player of the Week once.

Peck was named Setter of the Week three times, and finished third in the conference in assists, while Eckdahl finished second in the conference in service aces.

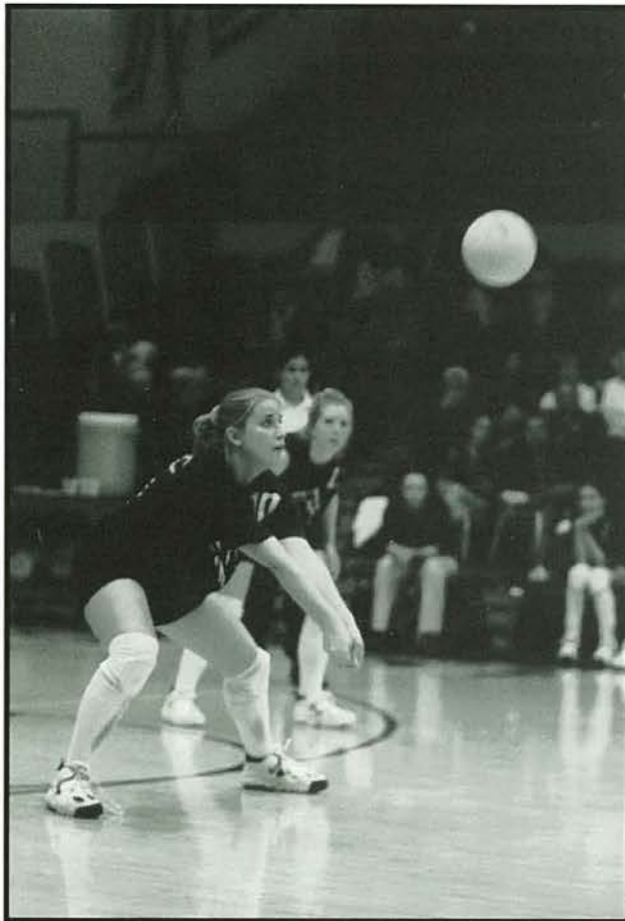
story by dusty jstes

s p i k i n g w i t a g g r e s



(Far left) Junior Sherri Lang gets ready to spike one down over the heads of her opponent. Western surprised fans by coming out strong after a previous season of disappointment. (Left) Abby Schaer pumps up her team after a play. The Lady Griffons managed several victories throughout the season.

(Far right) Freshman Sarah Ekdahl sets the ball toward the net. She finished second in the conference in service aces. (Right) Junior Dallas Morrison prepares for the kill. Her teammate Monica Peck was named Setter of the Week three times.



photos courtesy of p.e. dept.

s i o n

"I'm really proud of these girls," said Coach Brauck. "They ended up at or near the top in most of the statistical categories in the conference. I was fortunate to inherit such a talented group of players, they made my first year as coach here an enjoyable one."

Peck pointed out that everyone was a contributor to the season's success, and gave credit to all the other players.

"It wasn't just one or two players, the assistant coaches or a new coach, it was a total team effort from everyone involved," she said.

No matter who received credit, the improved Lady Griffons made the 1997 season an exciting one to watch. They proved that they could go above and beyond what was expected if they worked as a team and believed in their talent.

Nebraska-Omaha	0-3	Midwestern State	3-0
Morningside	3-1	Wayne State	3-2
South Dakota	0-3	Dana	3-0
St. Cloud State	3-1	Park	3-0
Emporia State	3-2	Truman State	3-2
South Dakota	3-0	Central Mo State	1-3
Washington	3-2	Southwest Baptist	3-0
Washburn	3-2	Emporia State	3-0
Washburn	2-3	Rockhurst	3-0
Truman State	3-0	Columbia	0-3
Southwest Baptist	3-0	Central Arkansas	3-0
Central Mo State	0-3	Alabama-Huntsville	3-0
Emporia State	2-3	Central Oklahoma	3-0
Northwest Mo State	3-1	Northwest Mo State	3-0
Pittsburg State	3-0	Pittsburg State	3-1
Missouri Southern	3-0	Missouri Southern	3-1
Washburn	3-1		

The Lady Griffons themselves had great expectations for a successful season, and surprised many adversaries by compiling a record of 24-9 overall. From the start, it was evident that the women would have to earn respect from both fans and opponents who wrote them off as a young and inexperienced team. The team returned one starter from the previous season, Sara Elgin, but managed to recruit transfers Becky Reichard and Lakiya Miller, as well as freshmen standouts Annie Heithoff and Danielle Kneib. This combination of talent quickly put the Lady Griffons on the road to success.

"We did better than people thought we could," said junior forward Elgin. "We had wonderful team chemistry."

After a somewhat turbulent start, the

team went on a six-game winning streak. Shortly thereafter, Western would lose three of four games and be forced with a decision on how to play out the rest of the season.

"We were just in a slump," said Coach Dave Slifer. "There are no problems with us. We are a close-knit team."

The decision was to win, as the ladies came out on top in nine of their last 12 games. Western lost the MIAA Tournament championship to Emporia State 80-91, but it gave them confidence in their ability to come back and play. After trailing Emporia by 25 points at the half, Reichard and Miller came alive offensively to lead their team back within five points. However, that's as close as it would get when turnovers in the final minutes ended the comeback.

"I was the happiest I've ever been after a loss," said Coach Slifer. "I was proud the kids didn't fold up."

Western had a bye in the opening round of the of the NCAA South Central regional, only to suffer a season-ending loss in the second round to Abilene Christian, 81-73, in overtime. Heroics were abundant as Becky Reichard, as she nailed one of her many three-pointers to tie the game at 73, allowing Western to escape defeat and head into extra minutes. The women were immediately downed by seven points, until Reichard took over and fought back offensively. Disaster struck again as Heithoff fouled out, then again as Reichard followed suit with only 10 seconds left on the clock. When the buzzer sounded, it was a

story by dusty jstes

conquerers of the cour



Becky Reichard brings up the ball as fellow teammate Annie Heithoff and Lakiya Miller stay ready to assist. All three were new to Western, but had no trouble fitting in as they led their team to a 24-9 record.

appointment for the end of a season, and optimism for the future.

Three players were able to earn respect and the league, as they were awarded honor for their skills. Juniors Reichard and Elgin received MIAA conference recognition as Second Team and Honorable Mention, respectively. Hoff adjusted easily to the college level and, through her hard work, earned MIAA Freshman of the Year. Reichard was also able to earn recognition regionally, as she was selected to the South Central regional Team, and the Electronics Division II All-South Central region.

"We want to go farther next year," said Hoff. "We know each other so well, and we'll bring most of our team back."

Reichard takes a wide-open jumper from the corner against Lincoln. She was a valuable asset to Western, leading the team in scoring. She shot her way to post-season honor.



photos by crystal sisco

s i d e

Bellarmine	73-63	Southwest Baptist	64-72
Delta State	66-68	Lincoln	106-66
Minnesota-Duluth	63-68	Emporia State	58-81
IUPUI-Indianapolis	70-49	Southwest Baptist	64-78
SIU-Edwardsville	82-66	Northwest Mo State	69-59
Northern Kentucky	62-61	Truman State	95-77
IUPUI-Ft. Wayne	86-69	Washburn	89-88
Mount Mercy	70-54	Pittsburg State	73-69
Nebraska-Omaha	93-74	Mo Southern	81-65
Rockhurst	67-80	Lincoln	87-51
Quincy	85-59	Emporia State	65-86
Abilene Christian	85-74	Northwest Mo State	80-73
Southwest State	65-43	Washburn	76-71
Central Mo State	78-61	Southwest Baptist	70-52
Truman State	80-54	Emporia State	80-91
MO-Rolla	82-53	Abilene Christian	83-86
Washburn	76-56		

The men's basketball team ended the season with a lot to brag about: the MIAA Championship and the new winningest coach in school history. Under the direction of Coach Tom Smith, they powered their way to a 23-7 overall record and a sweep of the MIAA post-season tournament. However, their performance early in the year consisted of a troublesome win, lose, win, lose pattern until several players stepped up, and a couple more were reinstated to the roster.

For many players, the best game of the season was the 65-52 win over Northwest Missouri State University in the MIAA tournament championship game. The Griffons had both the momentum of a six-game winning streak and home-court advantage on their side as they

faced their biggest rival. After a slow start, Western ignited, fueled by Traveon Parks who contributed 18 points and nine rebounds. At the final buzzer, the ball was launched down the court and the celebration began as the Griffons received their trophy and cut down the net.

"I think it was one of the best games for us as a team because everyone did their part," said senior forward Terry Polk. "Besides, not too many people get to end the year with a championship."

Seniors Mitch Garrett, Roderick Smith, Kevin Bristol, Ronnie Steed and Traveon Parks felt the same way. "It puts an end to a senior's career because we got to go out champions," said Garrett.

The excitement was short-lived when

the team was ousted from the NCAA Southern Regional by Central Oklahoma with a score of 101-109. Western gave up more than 40 points for the first time all year, allowing a total of 67 points in the second-half, four points more than the average number a team scores against them in an entire game.

"I think we just started rushing and doing things too much and playing their style," said junior Nick Jenkins. "We should have slowed down."

In the end, the Griffons still were state champions. Players Nick Jenkins and James earned First and Second Team All-State respectively. Both were also named MIAA Player of the Week for their outstanding performance. Jenkins was a consistent scorer and rebounder.

story by dusty jester

s h o o t i n g f o r v i c t o r y



Griffon powerhouse Mitch Garrett shoots for three as a Lincoln defender throws a hand in his face. The team ended the season with a lot to be proud of.

Junior Sterling Rachal flies to the rim as his opponent looks on. Rachal was just one of the champions that helped lead Western basketball to victory.

photos by crystal cisco



O

R y

team, while James handled the ball as a reliable scorer and a strategic passer.

The word "Champions" sounded really good to those players who planned to be back in the following year.

"We want to come back and win another conference title and conference tournament," said junior Sterling Rachal. "And at the end of the year, we want to make it into the elite eight."

With so many returning players, that was one of the things the team had every chance of at-

Arkansas Tech	72-64	Lincoln	113-76
Phillips (Okla)	73-81	Emporia State	83-61
Central Bible (MO)	94-39	Southwest Baptist	77-47
St. Paul's	61-63	Northwest MO. State	57-65
District of Columbia	83-64	Truman State	74-67
Avila	90-62	Washburn	72-78
William Jewell	77-66	Pittsburg State	71-82
Grand Canyon	86-62	Missouri Southern	83-69
California-Riverside	74-78	Lincoln	90-64
Central Missouri State	77-76	Emporia State	81-52
RockHurst	76-73	Northwest MO. State	75-65
Truman State	75-58	Southwest Bptist	68-45
Missouri-Rolla	82-61	Washburn	66-56
Washburn	65-64	Norhtwest MO. State	65-52
Southwest Baptist	60-44	Central Oklahoma	101-109

The Lady Griffon tennis team rallied to a record of 12-6 overall, and served their way into the NCAA Division II Midwest Regional Tournament for the first time since joining the NCAA nine years ago. After missing the tournament by one berth last year (they finished fourth and the top three advanced), Western came back with a tougher schedule and players who had the experience necessary to excel.

"This year we really toughened (the schedule) up," said Coach Patsy McCauley. "I think it really helped the girls. They're really match-tough."

A large part of Western's success came at the hands of Number One Singles player, Tracy Jones, who was back for her second sea-

son since re-starting her collegian tennis career in 1997. Jones played her freshman season ten years ago and, after rejuvenating her skills last season excelled to the individual record: 21-4.

"This year we have been a lot stronger as a team," said Jones. "The season went well, and it was the first year the team made it to regionals."

Western earned their regional berth with a 5-3 win over St. Cloud (Minn.) and a close loss 5-4 to a tough Washburn team in the weeks leading up to the MIAA Conference Tournament, where they placed fourth. Several individuals stood out at the tournament, and finished in the top three, which earned 25 total points,

enough to capture fourth place.

Jones, a junior, placed second losing to Jasmine Osborn from NWMSU in tournament final. Jaime O'Brien, Number One Singles player, defeated MSSC's Valerie E to earn her third place finish in the consolation round. The duo of Jones and Thacker also placed second after a tough loss to Jeter and Bickel from Truman State in the final.

"The season went really well," sophomore Nikki Glasgo. "We were really match-tough and that helped our team, which reflected our play."

Great team play got them into the regional tournament, where they faced a

story by dusty jestes

s m a c k o f t h
b a c k



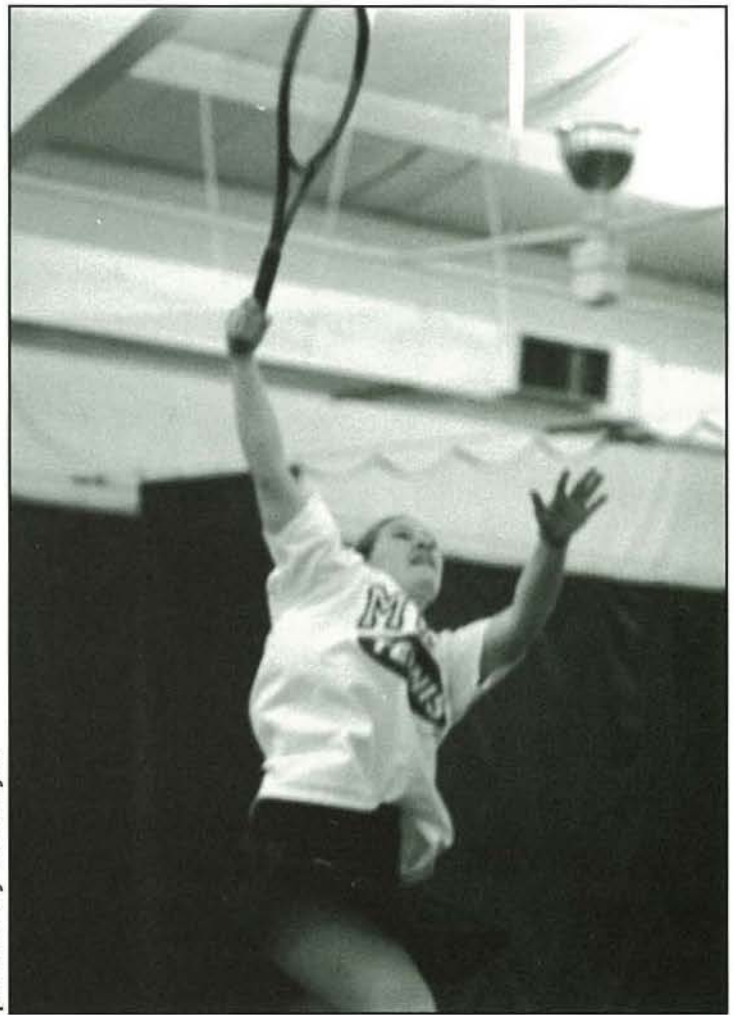
Ann Sager prepares to destroy her opponent with a power return. Sager finished the season with a 1-0 singles record.

Edmund Oklahoma team in the opening round of action. Edmund, with home court advantage, eliminated Western. Despite their early loss, the Griffons gained valuable experience for the future.

"We're going to have everyone back, and hopefully we'll make it back to the regionals even further," said junior player, Thacker.

Indeed, Western would return its entire team to the court, including the top three players, Jones, Thacker and O'Brien. Several younger players, having seen some action, would be ready to vie for the remaining positions or challenge for those at the top. The future of tennis at Western was looking bright.

Sophomore Nikki Glasgow flies up to grab a return. Glasgow felt that the closeness of the team helped them to succeed.



photos by lisa myer

h a n d

Emporia State	7-2	Mo Southern	6-3
Henderson State	5-4	Southwest Baptist	9-0
Northwest Mo State	1-7	Ferris State	0-9
Benedictine	9-0	St. Cloud	5-3
Rockhurst	5-4	Southern Colorado	0-5
Lincoln	9-0	Southwest Baptist	5-0
Truman State	1-8	West Texas A&M	2-5
Mankato State	7-2	Washburn	4-5
Nebraska Kearney	5-3	MIAA Tournament	4th
Drury	6-1	Central Oklahoma	0-9

The pressure was on for the golf team during a season filled with many ups and downs. Consistency was a hard thing for the Griffons to master, as they shot themselves out of first place contention during one round or the other, at most tournaments in which they participated.

"It's hard to go from being on top to being so-so," said Kyle Sinclair. "We had a couple of second place finishes, but the players were streaky and lacking in some areas."

After appearing in the NCAA tournament the season before, it was apparent that the team, which lost three key players to graduation, wasn't quite able to match the standards they previously set so high. In fact, Sinclair and Erin Hatcher, the lone returnees from last year's

NCAA 15th place team, were the strength and solidarity behind the inconsistency of inexperience.

"I call it a semi-rebuilding year," said Coach Mike Habermehl. "It's not where we lose everybody. But although (the newcomers) had played some, they weren't really seasoned like Erin (Hatcher) and Kyle (Sinclair)."

Western finished their season with 5th place in the MIAA, overall, just missing a regional berth by one place. During the fall portion of play, the team's lowest placing in any tournament was 7th, and that was out of 17 teams at Missouri Southern, the largest event they participated in except for the tourney they hosted. The team came in second in play against ten teams or more a total of three times, before

finishing the first half of their season.

"We actually did better than we thought at first, with such a new team," said Hatcher. "But we just couldn't pull it together at the end."

It was during the spring that trouble struck, as players couldn't find the consistency to bring home badly needed scores and trophies. Going into the tournament at Lincoln, MWSC had a chance to make it to regional but their 8th place finish just wasn't enough to keep their season alive.

"Heading into conference (MIAA tournament) we knew we were out," said Kyle Sinclair. "So we played like we didn't care."

A highlight of the season was the Western players' selection to the ALL-Region Team, selected based on a point system of

story by dusty jstes

o v e r c o m i n a d v e



photo illustrations by erin lewis



r s i t y

l by the players' finish at seven MIAA
oned events. The system, in its second year
eration, awarded ten points to the player
he lowest score in the event, while the
lowest score got one point. Points were
ed for the MIAA Tournament, and then
led to form an elite squad. In fact, West-
as one of four schools which had two play-
aking the squad of ten total players from
ound the conference. Hatcher and Sinclair
d spots through their hard work and con-
t scoring over the entire season.

Although they didn't get as far as they
have liked this past season, the team
return with three talented players in
Chris Riley and Brad Nurski, forming a
nucleus.

"Chris, Brad and I will be ready for next
," said Crane. "We also have several play-
ho have gained needed experience and
e ready to step up and play with us."

Truman	2 of 11
Mo-Rolla	2 of 12
Mo Southern	7 of 17
Washburn	2 of 10
Drury	6 of 15
Mo-St. Louis	3 of 12
Central Mo State	6 of 16
MWSC Invit.	2/12 of 20
Lincoln	8 of 12
MIAA	8 of 9

The Lady Griffons stepped up to the plate with great expectations and an abundance of talent, only to fall short in MIAA tournament play. The team compiled a record of 22-23 overall, and finished third in the MIAA by winning 14 out of 20 conference games.

During the first two months of play (February and March), the team was only able to win six out of the 20 games they played. However, as the weather warmed up, so did Western as they were 14-7 for the month of April heading into the post-season tournament.

"We had a pretty good season at the end," said senior pitcher Tonja Cassity. "We came together a lot better than at the beginning of the season."

Two standout games for Western were the doubleheader they played against Missouri Southern, the team that went on to win the MIAA Championship. The Lady Griffons won the first game 4-0 and the second 7-6, as they prevailed both offensively and defensively over a tough opponent.

"We played really good and beat them

(MO Southern) two in a row," said junior outfielder Katie Daigle. "If we could have played like that all year, we would have gone a lot further."

Western went into the post-season tournament on April 24, and played three games before being eliminated. The first game was a tough 10-9 victory over Truman State. MWSC trailed 1-9 after 5 1/2 innings of play, then scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth to pull back within two. In the bottom of the seventh, Megan Houglund smashed the ball for a triple, driving home the game-tying runs. Stefanie Schwab's sacrifice fly scored Houglund and gave Western the win.

The Lady Griffons would lose their next two games and face double elimination at the hands of Washburn players, 2-3, in a close defeat. Errors were the deciding factor as the go-ahead run by Washburn was scored after three consecutive miscues on Western's behalf.

Despite a disappointing end to their season, the team looked positive for next year.

Many players would return and recruitment filling the gaps. "Next year we need to put the pieces together because we have all the talent," said sophomore short-stop, Shannon Gunn.

Individual talent was abundant in the roster of players who struggled for team recognition, as six Western players were able to earn MIAA honors for their performance. Cassity earned First Team honors for her pitching, while Daigle, Kelly Crosthwaite and Toni Green received Second Team for their play in outfield at catcher and as a utility player, respectively. Rounding out the awards was Houglund, who played excellent at first base.

"I'm excited for next year," said Daigle. "I think it will be different, and a really good year."

Things were looking up for MWSC in 2008. They had an abundance of individual talent and needed only to focus on teamwork before bringing home some major honors and accomplishing their goal of a championship.

story by dusty jestes

s t o p p i n g t h e o p p o



Shannon Gunn gets the equipment ready for her upcoming at-bat as the rest of her teammates watch the game in progress. Western hitting came on strong at the end of the season, allowing the defeat of numerous opponents.

Tara Owens awaits the pitch as a teammate gets a good lead off from third base. Western struggled at the start of the season only to come on strong as the end neared.

photos by brad harrah



n e n t

Northwest Mo State	L, W	Mo-Rolla	W
Western New Mexico	L	Lincoln	W
Adams State	W	Pittsburg State	W
Abilene Christian	L	Northwest Mo State	L
Emporia State	L	Central Oklahoma	W
Adams State	W	Mo Southern	L
Western New Mexico	L	Truman State	W, L
Brigham-Young	L	Emporia State	W, L
Hawaii Pacific	L, W	Southwest Baptist	W
Mesa State	L	Washburn	W
Park	L	Northwest Mo State	L
Pittsburg State	L, W	Truman State	W
Mo Southern	W	Mo Southern	L
Central Mo State	W	Washburn	L

Disappointing was one word that could be used when referring to the baseball season, but promising was a word that applied as well. Western faced many ups and downs before finishing the season with an 8-31 overall record on the year.

"We didn't play up to our potential," said Jacob Rapp. "We didn't come together as a team."

It seemed that from the start, the Griffons battled to overcome injury, and a crushing lack of confidence that showed in each and every game in which they played. Because of this they were 0-10 in February, 1-10 in March. In fact, losing became routine until the weather

warmed and the Griffons brought home their final seven wins of the season in April.

"We were a better team than we showed," said Shane Wright. "In a lot of games, it was one inning that really hurt us."

Unfortunately, winning was indeed a hard thing for Western to do. Bad hitting and bad pitching plagued the players, as did mistakes made in the field. Nearing the end of March, the Griffons were 0-16 before defeating North Dakota State by three runs in the second game of a doubleheader, breaking their prolific losing streak.

Western won both games of a doubleheader for the first time against Lincoln, 7-4

and 11-8, on April 1. Finally, they show a glimpse of the talent they possessed.

The Griffons got the chance to win in front of their home crowd on April 22, when they swept Southwest Baptist for two in a game. Rapp pitched an almost flawless game, and allowed a mere three hits in an errorless performance, which they won 7-0. The next game was similar, as Western again was perfect in the field, winning a close battle by one run, 6-5.

"Southwest Baptist were the toughest games of the season," said Any Hilbrich. "They committed no errors and hit the ball really well."

What was promising? Well, for starters, the team had many talented up-and-

story by dusty jestes

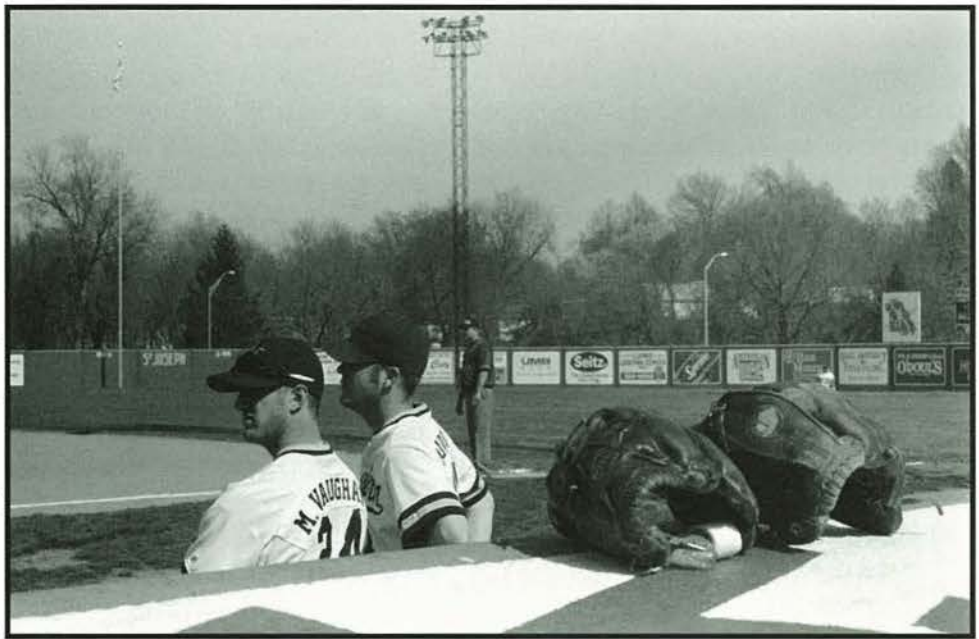
r o c k i n g t h
o u t f



Jason Cunningham swings at a pitch while teammate, Scott Mallerence goes through the motion on third base. Western struggled this past season as priorities were few and far between.

Mark Vaughn and Jon Novacek stand back and prepare for play to begin. The Griffons were in front of the home crowd at Phil Welch the season.

photos by jackie phillips



i e l d

underclassmen ready to fill in the gaps made graduating players. Many saw some play-time during the season and gained needed experience. Recruitment was also positive as they sought out some additions to their existing roster to alleviate the lack of accuracy faced during the season, and to compensate for the loss of many pitchers to graduation.

"I thought we had some young players that showed a lot of promise," said Wright. "In one to two years, they could be a really good program."

"We'll be a young team," said Hilbrich. "In the next couple of years, we'll be really good."

Hopefully, this is truly a self-fulfilling prophecy, and fans may have more to cheer about than finding an empty seat and eating a hot dog...we'd like a champion.

Kansas State	L	Washburn	L
Missouri	L	Lincoln	W
Southern Colorado	L	Northwest Mo State	W
Rockhurst	L	Central Mo State	L
Central Oklahoma	L	Missouri-Rolla	W
Pittsburg State	L	Truman State	L
Mo Southern	L	Southwest Baptist	W
North Dakota State	W	Emporia State	W

Is it possible to be a college athlete with a full schedule of games and practices, and still earn decent grades? Jo Ellen Dobbs of the volleyball team, Sara Elgin and Becky Reichard of the women's basketball team and Nikki Glasgo of the tennis team did even better than that. They were all athletes who found themselves on the Presidential Honor Roll for their fall semester grades, which meant that they earned a 4.0 grade point average for the semester. That was no easy task for any student, especially those with other activities to take away from their study time. Jennifer Pounders of the cheerleading squad, golf team member Nick Saccors and Stefanie Schwab of the softball team were also athletes on the Presidential Honor Roll.

Each of the honor roll athletes took 12 or more hours for the fall semester. They all practiced at least one hour a day during the season, depending on the sport. Some even added a part-time job to their list of responsibilities.

bilities.

"I came to tennis naturally," said sophomore Glasgo. "I became an instructor in the eighth grade. During the winter, I work at Aber Crombie & Fitch on the Plaza, and during the summer I give tennis lessons."

None of the honor roll athletes seemed to be afraid of taking on any task. One thing they all had in common was their effective scheduling habits.

"I work at the Fitness Center on campus from 5:30 to 9 a.m., then I go straight to classes," said junior Dobbs. "We have practice from 3:30 to 6 p.m. It makes you really responsible. You have to organize."

Being a good athlete is difficult, and making the Presidential Honor Role is rare. Others may have seen a strict routine as too confining, and the goals of these athletes as unattainable. How did these students shoulder this burden?

"Make sure you don't bite off more

than you can chew," said Saccors. "That's why I didn't join a fraternity this semester. I wanted to make sure I could keep my grades up, and that was more important."

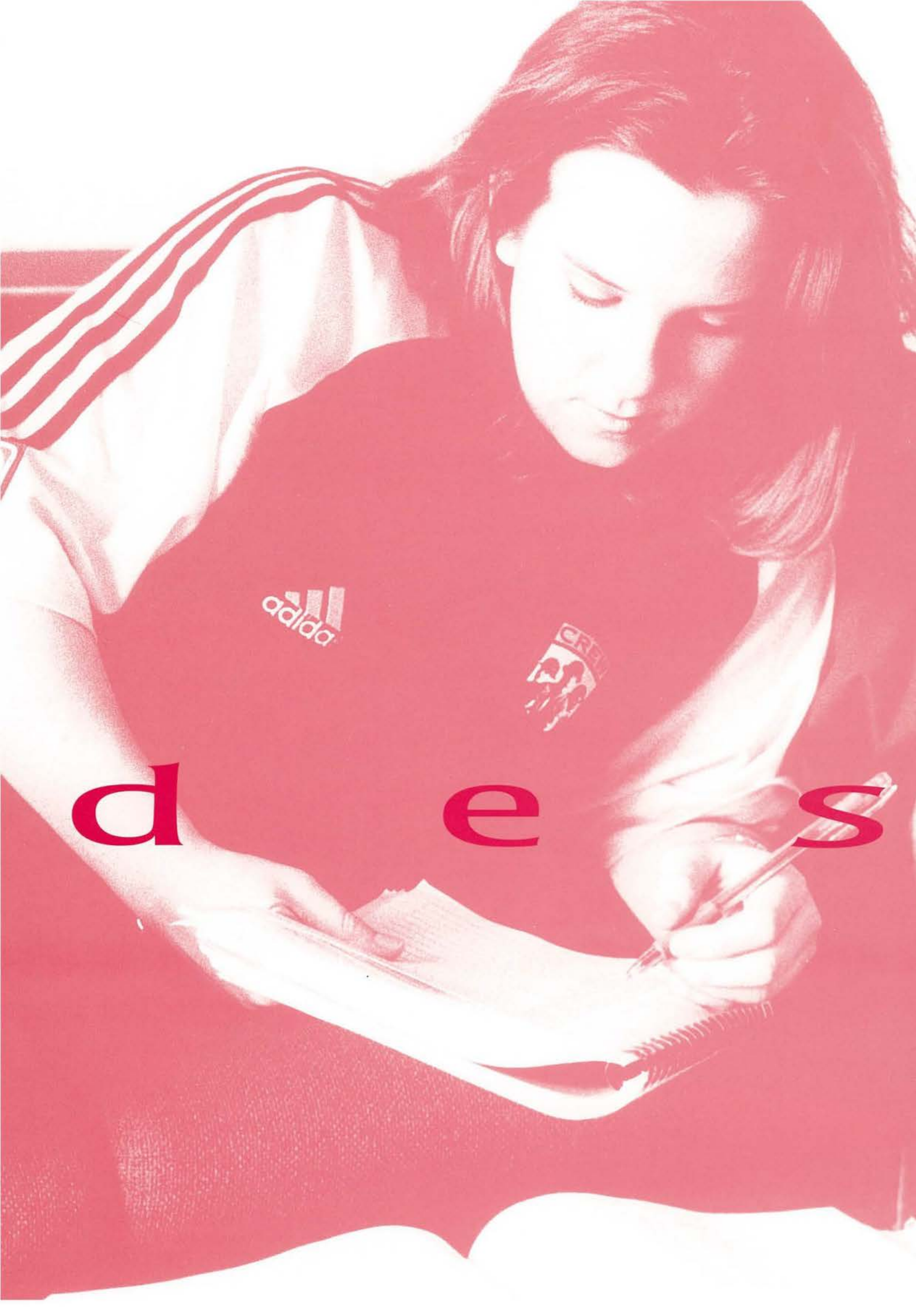
The athletes agreed that you have to love your sport, and admitted that keeping up with classes was not always easy. Dobbs' advice to any student struggling with their grades as an athlete or not, was to find a tutor or another student who could help them out.

"Sometimes I get a little stressed," said Glasgo. "If your grades are that important to you, you can always make time to study."

Sports were more than just exercise and competition for these students, they taught them discipline as well. The drive that helped them excel in their choice sport also pushed them to do their best in other aspects of life, including jobs and grades. No matter what was considered to be their top priority, these athletes gave their all in everything they did.

story by carrie blackwell

a t h l e t e s m a k e t h e
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d e s



e x c e l

Head Men's Basketball Coach, Tom Smith, set more than one record during his first years leading the Griffon team. The 1997-season found Smith named the winningest coach in college history, a record previously held by Gary Filbert from 1969-1982, with 204 wins. Smith finished the season with a total record of 204 and 87 at MWSC.

"Tom Smith is a great coach," said Nick Perkins, guard. "He really knows the game and pushes us to perform up to our potential."

Smith had more MIAA teams reach the MIAA tournament in the last ten years than any other coach.

"I was surprised that we won the championship," said Smith. "I have had teams with the talent that haven't done as well. This team, though not as talented as other teams, rose to the occasion and did what other more talented players couldn't do."

The men's basketball team ended the season with a win in the MIAA Championship. Smith led to win the conference at the beginning

of the season, Smith felt that the Griffon team was overrated and had to face some adversity, but they came around. Smith said his expectations of the team were always high.

"I have to get along with, and work with, all of my players," said Smith. "My philosophy is that the team has to like to play and get along to be able to work together."

It was easy to see that Smith had the respect and admiration of his fellow workers, as well as his players. Head Football Coach, Jerry Partridge, spoke very highly of him.

"I think that Smith has that magical formula that it takes to coach," said Partridge. "He has brought a wealth of experience with him to MWSC. I'm not too sure he understands football too well, but he is still a really good coach anyway."

A 1967 graduate of Valparaiso University in Indiana, Smith began his coaching career in 1967 at his alma mater. Smith held the position of head coach at Central Missouri State from 1975-1980.

Since Smith's team consisted of one freshman, five juniors and six seniors, the close of the 1997-98 season found the coach faced with rebuilding half of his team to fill a void created by the vacancy of the six departing seniors. With Smith's records, one could be confident that the challenge would be successfully met.

"I feel the main focus should be about the players and their accomplishments this year," said Smith. "Although they weren't the most talented, they achieved heights that others have not."

Even in the spotlight, Smith was giving credit to his players instead of himself. It was apparent that he was very much aware that the whole process of a successful season was a joint effort. Without working together toward a common goal, they would have nothing to show for all of their hard work.

ry wilma roberts

l c c u s t o m e d t o
l e n c e

The year found many changes in the Missouri Western Lady Griffons volleyball team, such as new players and a new head coach. However, one of the biggest changes occurred when senior Christine Donecker went from being a player to an assistant coach.

Donecker knew that the 1996-97 volleyball season would be her last as a player. When offered a position on the coaching staff, she accepted. It was hard for her to adjust because she knew she would miss playing the game, but she soon came to enjoy coaching.

After just one season of being assistant coach, Donecker knew she liked it a lot.

"It is very different," she said. "The team seemed to be more excited. They did new things everyday, not the same old exercises and drills. The new coach made it better because she is serious, but she is also fun."

Donecker said that of the two, coaching or playing, she preferred playing. "If I could,

I would play forever," she said. She especially loved playing home games because of the support from the fans in the crowd.

Donecker said that she liked the new head coach, Cindy Brauck. She felt she'd learned a lot from coaching alongside her.

"I wish that I could have played under her," said Donecker. "She is a great coach."

Donecker felt that one of the reasons Coach Brauck was exceptional was the fact that she saw their relationship as a partnership between the head coach and the two assistant coaches. "Coach Brauck is also very open to opinions and suggestions for improving the team," said Donecker.

JoEllen Dobbs was a teammate of Donecker's, and also played under her during the 1997-98 season.

"It was kind of weird and different at first," said Dobbs. "But I got used to it. I had to

change my point of view."

"Christine was a huge help," Brauck. "She helped to condition the girls in the spring, and helped to keep them in good shape. I am impressed with her focus and initiative, especially since she devotes much of her time to the game of volleyball, even though she is married and probably has a job. She was the best assistant."

Donecker played volleyball throughout her years at Missouri Western. She planned to coach the same team she had once been a member of until her graduation. When asked about her future plans, she said, "My goal was originally to teach elementary physical education, and coach high school volleyball. Coach Brauck told me that I should go to graduate school and later coach college volleyball. Right now, I am just going to go to graduate school and I will decide later."

story by mindy kinnaman

t h e t r u
t e a m p



l a y e r

From all appearances, 21-year-old Mike Connaker seemed to be a regular football player. He lifted weights with the rest of the team at 6:30 a.m., and attended football meetings at 2:30 p. m. He participated in team practices, and evening study hall. Unfortunately, this transfer student was ineligible to play in a Griffon football game until the fall of 1998.

Connaker first attended Western State College of Colorado in Gunnison, Co. When things didn't work out there, his friend, Griffon coach Chris Ball, encouraged him to transfer to MWSC. However, WSCC wouldn't release him from his NCAA contract, which meant that he couldn't play for another team. Due to the circumstances of Connaker's situation, the NCAA decided he could play for MWSC after one year. In the meantime, he played tailback for the scout team, a team created for freshmen who couldn't play for the football team until the fall. This left him

with three years of eligibility remaining.

The extraordinary qualities didn't stop with his football career. Connaker was a native of Anchorage, Alaska. He found trips home to be few and far between because it took about eight hours to fly there from Kansas City. Since fifth grade, he was active in sports such as football, basketball, soccer and track. In high school, he made All-State and All-Conference Running back and Safety, ranked 17th in the nation in the 55-meter dash and was named Alaska's Gatorade Player of the Year. Since MWSC had no track team, Connaker planned to run in unattached meets in the surrounding area, meaning that he would represent both himself and the school.

"I think the football team is young, but also very talented," said Connaker. "Last year was a transition year. It's always hard rebuilding, but Coach Partridge is doing a good job."

Connaker majored in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management, and said that he loved, "the campus, the people and the atmosphere." In his spare time, he enjoyed hiking, bike riding, rock climbing and listening to music.

"Mike is one of the nicest guys I've ever met," said punter Mike Darnell. "He is so easy to talk along with. Out of all the running backs I've ever seen, he's one of the best."

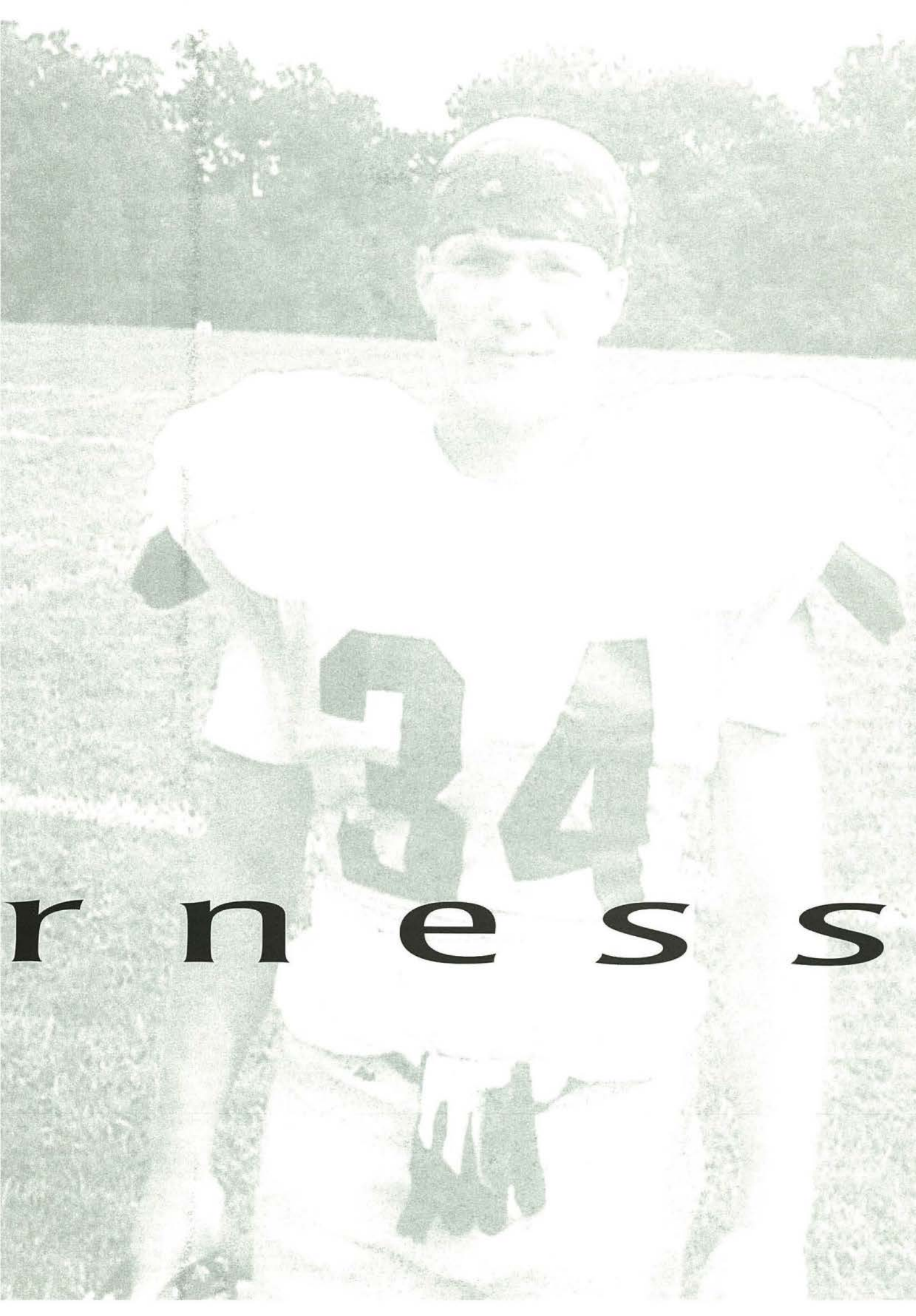
Though Connaker was not the ideal in one may have of a college football player, he was sure to prove to all Griffon fans that his talent doesn't matter.

"His running style is unique," said quarterback Jared Bailey. "That makes him one of the most unbelievable running backs in college football."

story by elizabeth winkie

a n e w k i n d o

w i l d e



r n e s s

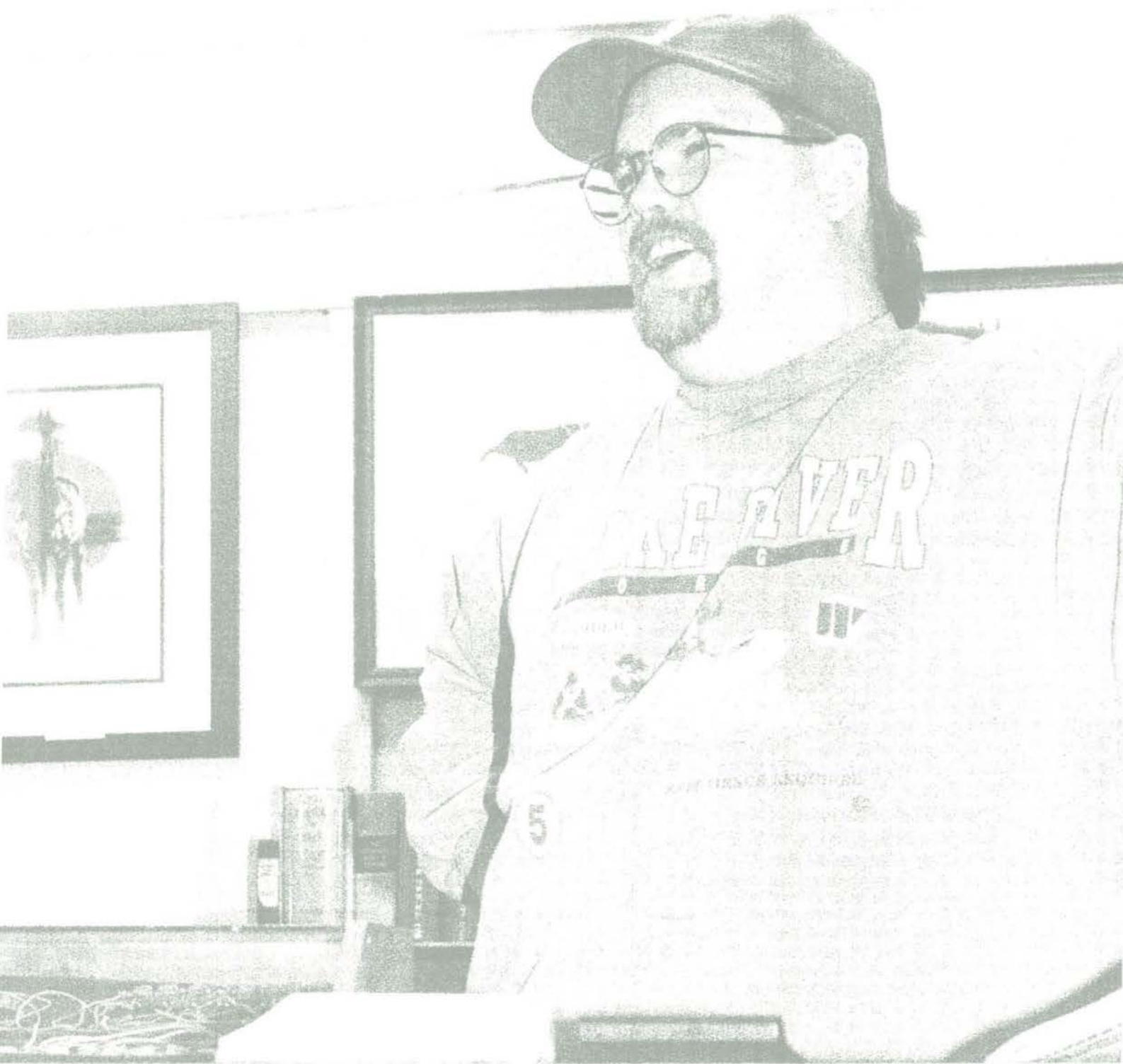


person



What could a former girl scout, a feisty Russian doctor, two student journalists, a Spanish engineer, a poet and a rock icon have in common? They're all personalities that made 1998 so memorable. They made us stop and think about ourselves and what we had and what we wanted. Whether they were known by only close friends or by millions the world over, they were dynamic, outrageous, ambitious and just getting started.

alities



Hans Bremer was a man with many different interests, but his first love was poetry. Bremer's way with words was very apparent in his work. He was a man of deep thought with an outgoing personality. He liked to take long walks with his dog Whamo, and he enjoyed the outdoors. It wasn't unusual to see Bremer walking in the winter without a coat on. If one asked where his coat was, he was likely to just smile, give off one of his hearty laughs and say, "It's not that cold, just a little risk."

How long have you been writing poetry?

For about the last 14 years.

How did you get started in writing poetry?

Dr. John Gilgun got me started in reading poetry. I was already writing, but John got me started with the reading in the fall of 1986.

What did he do to get you started?

It was the camaraderie of the reading with John. I still read with John sometimes, and have for the last 10 to 12 years.

Who is your favorite poet, and why?

Well, that's easy, it's Richard Hugo. Asking why is a hefty question. Sparsity of language, I suppose. That is who I am working on writing my book about.

What do you mean by "sparsity of language"?

Combustible language, hard edge, severe, which is similar to my own writing style.

How did you come to teach adult continuing education at Missouri Western?

Well, it is a non-credit class. I was asked by one of the continuing education instructors to fill his position as he had too large of a class load, and wanted to lighten that load. Scott Coyken also had Dr. Gilgun's backing for his choice.

Is this your first time to teach?

Yes, in a college setting. I taught at the high school level in the Kansas City District. I will also be teaching next fall in one of the St. Joseph high schools.

How many nights a week do you teach?

I teach a two-hour class on Thursday nights.

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What is the course called?

Introduction to American Poetry.

What is the book you are working on about?

I think it will be called "The Blue Stone." It is a biography of Richard Hugo. One of the reasons for being approached to teach was because of my status with the book, and my past. I share a dual role as both teacher and student.

Have you ever been published?

Yes! To date, Chapbooks in print are "On Bukowski," "Zen, Kansas," and "Fall for All Seasons" (done in conjunction with two other poets, both of whom are alumni of Missouri Western). They are all poetry books, and they all contain my work.

You said that the reason you were approached to teach was your "status." What exactly is your "status"?

I was a poetry editor for three years, I wrote "Soundings: A Journal of the Living Arts" (fellow editors were MWSC alumni Scott Coykendall, Roger Kirschbaum and Tony Gardner). I was published throughout the country in several magazines. I was a feature reader at the Riverfront Reading Series in Kansas City, the Beyond Baroque Poetry Foundation in Los Angeles, the 509 Cultural Center in San Francisco and the 1991 Kansas Writers' Conference at Emporia State.

Who is publishing your book, and how did that come about?

My publisher is W.W. Norton out of New York. Several people told me that they (Norton) were looking for someone to do a book on Hugo, and said I should try for it. I did, and they selected me, I was surprised as it happened rather quickly. They flew me up to Seattle twice, and I will fly to Seattle and Montana again. I met with some of his family members as well. Hugo has never been published before. The biography is to coincide with his catalogue, and I am really excited that I get to do this book.

story by wilma roberts



photo by erin lewis

m i s t y

b u r r i g h t

Misty Burright and I have already been on the telephone for two hours on this Sunday afternoon in late spring. The conversation has ranged from the discussion of religion to which of our professors deserve to be trussed up by their toenails and spanked. We've plotted the overthrow of the collegiate grading system as it now exists and extolled the many virtues of Anbesol (you don't want to know). When reminded of the task at hand the response was less than enthusiastic...

We're going to do the interview now? I'm not prepared! This is like a quiz.

It will be all right. Let's talk about your... fashion philosophy.

And I have one! Someone told me a long time ago that you aren't supposed to wear one solid color with another solid color, and ever since then I've worn whatever I want, solids with solids, plaids with stripes, whatever. I like it.

So, has the "I'll do whatever I want" fashion philosophy crossed over into other parts of your life?

Oh yeah, I have to repress it a lot, though.

What else should people know about you?

Wow. Okay. I'm a married, graduating, art major take 18 hours this semester. I'm also a Girl Scout leader and I want to be camp director. And I have two cats.

Wow, how do you handle the stress?

Well, I credit Mountain Dew with much of my late-night studying success. I watch movies. I listen to music, I like Jewel, Paula Cole, and Madonna.

You have the strong woman scenario going on with your musical preference and your involvement with Girl Scouts. How does feminism fit in your life?

Saying you're a feminist seems really limiting. I'm successful in part because I am a girl, not in spite of that fact. I'm embracing womanhood! I'd go to a N.O.W. meeting, just because they hate Rush Limbaugh, but I wouldn't lay on the floor of Dillard's to protest the sale of Rush Limbaugh ties.

By being a Girl Scout leader you're ultimately teaching little girls to be strong women, right?

Yeah, I provide a positive role model. I tell them they can be anything they want. It's a lot to do with self-esteem.

You are an inspiring force in these girls lives. Who is your inspiration?

My Aunt Lois. She lives by herself, she's strong and she's just as busy as I am, but if I called her to help me put together a resume she'd have time. And she is so honest.

Honesty is an issue that always comes when you talk about your husband, Jeremy. What are some of the other things that make your marriage successful?

Communication and strength. There is no place for co-dependence. Humor is important, too. My husband and I never fight about money, because we don't have any.

How long did you two date?

Jeremy and I dated from Dec. 14, 1993 and I married on June 21, 1997.

Do you think you'll ever breed?

I'll know in ten years. I'm too selfish right now.

Let's talk about the actual wedding.

I got all stressed out on the last day I had to send invitations, so I didn't send them. I think the important thing was between Jeremy, me and God.

(I think it should be noted that I didn't attend the wedding because I didn't receive an invitation, but I'm not bitter.) You have issues with the Post Office, huh?

I must. I've been to Girl Scout camp for the past six summers and I always write Jeremy love letters, but I never get them mailed. Same with the bills.

You definitely have issues with mail. You are insanely busy, you're out of control, running with scissors. What is the first thing you are doing after graduation?

I'm watching TV. I'm serious. The first thing I'm going to do is watch television. Also, I have ideas for painting that I want to do. Did you know this is the first Saturday all semester that I've had nothing to do all day?

Misty, It's Sunday.

It is. @#*%.

You can't cuss in the yearbook.

Oh, \$#@, I mean shoot.

Misty will be traveling to Mexico this summer to complete her foreign language requirements. Shortly after she returns she'll be celebrating her one year wedding anniversary. I've been promised a piece of wedding cake finally.

story by tonya tippit

photo by brad harrah



She left Missouri Western in 1996 to study Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland. For her year abroad Diana Silvers returned to St. Joseph and to Missouri Western as an advisor in the newly established Freshman Year Experience. Today she looks back on her experience abroad and understands why giving back to students is so important.

What were some of the challenges you faced when you arrived in Northern Ireland?

The biggest challenge was understanding the people. Although they speak English, it's a very different dialect than what I had been exposed to here. It took me almost three months to really adjust to it.

People interact with one another quite differently there. Males and females are very old fashioned and this made it a bit more difficult to meet people.

Also, Belfast doesn't have a lot of the convenience we do in the States. Nothing is open 24 hours. You have to learn to be flexible.

Obviously, the experience of studying abroad is academically fulfilling for you, but how did that experience reward you personally?

My work with the Rotary Foundation and my work as a volunteer was the best part of the experience. Because I was fortunate enough to work for such a fantastic organization, I was able to see an aspect of Northern Ireland that I would have missed otherwise. I became acquainted with professionals in the worlds of business and government. I had a lot of contact with the younger population of Belfast. It was interesting to learn how they view themselves in their own society as well as what they think of America.

How from experience that when you go abroad you begin to miss things about the places or your home, what did you find that you missed?

Chi Chi's salsa. My Car. My goose down comforter. My friends.

After that you've been back for a year, what do you miss about Belfast?

Sitting in the Botanical Gardens reading the newspaper. The BBC Shipping News. Pubs. My friends.

When you returned to St. Joseph and to your alma

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Silvers

matter to begin a career, where does that fit into the life of a world traveler?

I think it's important to be grounded. I believe life moves in a series of waves. Leaving your home is just as important as returning. One of the most important lessons traveling teaches is how much more still remains to be seen.

You now find yourself in the position of advising Freshmen. What wisdom do you try to impart to them, being a student yourself only two years ago?

My job is to listen to students, to help them figure out what they want and how they can achieve that. I really feel that what I do is worthwhile if I can help someone get where they want to go. There was not always someone there to help me at that stage of my life, so it feels good to offer some of the advice I wish I'd had. That's a lesson I learned through Rotary: taking responsibility for what you know and giving that knowledge to others.

You are now a role model for many students, but who inspires you?

My parents. Dr. McCarthy. Dr. Fulton. I look up to so many people for a lot of different reasons. I feel very fortunate being around so many caring people with so much to teach me.

You recently saw Spice Girls in concert. Where do they fit into the scheme of things?

Girl Power, Baby!!!!

Most people have a clever little phrase or some piece of proverbial advice they use to help them through the day or life. What gets you through the trials of your life?

Look after your teeth and read everything.

story by
tracy jones

photo
courtesy of
diana silvers

Some people think that having a job they love is a dream that can never become reality. Scott Faubion was once a college freshman who had no idea what he wanted to be when he grew up, but after almost two years of school, it hit him. Once he declared as an English major, everything started falling into place. He soon became an award-winning journalist who could honestly say he loved his job.

How long have you been a student here?

This is my fifth year. Hopefully, I will graduate next spring.

How long have you been a part of the Griffon News staff?

It will be four years at the end of this spring.

What positions have you held while on staff with the Griffon News?

It seems like I have always been doing news. My first year, I was a Features writer. Then I was Feature Editor for a year and a half, and then I was promoted to Opinion Editor. I held Opinion Editor for five weeks before I was promoted to Editor-in-chief, and held that position all of '97. I was news and features editor for the spring of 1998. I will be copy editor in the fall of 1998.

Congratulations on the award you recently received, could you tell about that?

The award is called Missouri College Media Association Journalist of the Year. Each year, M.C.M.A. has their convention in whatever town that year's president goes to college in. This year it was in St. Louis, next year it is going to be in Columbia. You send a resume, stories and letters explaining what you have done and why you should get the award. My adviser Bob Bergland sent a letter too. You also send three things you did last year, then they make their selection. There is a committee that interviews all the applicants for Journalist of the Year. This

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committee is made up of various advisers and student journalists from the state. There were five people on this year's committee.

Do you know what it was about you that won the award?

They were impressed by the changes made during 1997, the year I was editor-in-chief. We went to a broad sheet-style paper because we felt a physical change was needed in order to get readers to start picking up the paper. They were impressed by the stories I did in the past on a girl who claimed she was dead for minutes from alcohol poisoning, and the college's hiring of project architects, which was questionable at that time. They were also impressed by an editorial the news-press ran that fell on the Griffon News' coverage of the architect selection, in which my name was mentioned.

What are some changes that have taken place during your time on the news staff?

When I first started, Ken Rosenauer was head of the paper, then I worked under Ed Marshall for a while before Bob took over. There became a push on everything, photos, writing and better quality paper. The paper had too many opinion pieces in it because they are easier to do than other types of articles. Now, we have a better mixture, and it has really been a nice turnaround.

What quality or skill has helped you most?

I believe determination is my strong point. You can be the smartest student and best writer without determination it doesn't matter. I always try to push myself to do more than expected, just to prove to myself I can.

story by wilma roberts



photo by tracy jones



Canton News

Tuition to be announced in June

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Spring has

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what's inside



ARMY

"Just do it!" That was the philosophy of Denise Ballance, an extremely busy student who came to college to join the ROTC program and get a degree. Upon graduation from high school, Ballance joined the army and spent four years in Europe. Majoring in Business Management with a Military Science minor, the dedicated non-traditional student spent up to 18 hours a day at work or school. Ballance was one of few who could say with confidence that she had a real plan for the future.

Why did you choose to attend Missouri Western?

Because of the school's ROTC program, it has been a good one. My brother also went to school at Missouri Western. I came back to the midwest because my family is here.

What activities are you involved in?

The ROTC takes up a lot of my time, I was the executive officer for the home battalion. I'm also in the Non-Traditional Students' Association. The ROTC occupies all of your weekends, especially in the spring, and even more so if your heart is in it. We had a camp we had to go to between our junior and senior years, and it took two months. The summer before that camp, I went to airborne school and got to jump out of airplanes. You spend a lot of the year preparing for summer training.

What activities do you participate in through the ROTC?

A few of us do a Ranger Challenge Competition, so we train all of the time, every day. We go to the challenge to compete with other schools, a lot of schools have an ROTC program. When we are preparing for the Ranger Challenge Competition, you can see us doing patrols around the trails on campus.

What is the competition like?

We do about five different activities, like a land navigational test, a patrol and the one-rope bridge. In the one-rope bridge competition, you have a rope and two trees, and you have to get everyone across. The competition ends with a forced march, which is like a run, and you carry your combat equipment with you as you run.

How does the ROTC work?

It's the Reserve Officer Training Corp. If you have no prior military experience, you go in for four years and, upon graduation, you will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the army. I was actually in the army for four years, and in the Reserve for two. I'll be commissioned as a second lieutenant.

What is the training program in the ROTC like?

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Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday we have PT (physical training) at 6 a.m. I get up at about 4:30 a.m., and leave home at 5:00. We train for about an hour. On Tuesday and Thursday, we have a two-hour class. On Tuesday, we write papers and study military ethics. On Thursday, we have a practical lab where we do recon maneuvers and patrol. We're in battle dress uniform, and we do army stuff.

Where does this take place?

Right on campus, which is cool because we have such a big campus. All of that land is our's. All of those woods behind the stadium, that's where we are. We have a land navigational course set up back there.

How do you feel about the military?

It's my life, and I love it. It changed my world. I can't imagine ever not being in the military. Even if I do get out, I'll stay in the reserves because it's where I fit in.

Has the military helped you finance your schooling?

Yes, I actually have the GI bill army college fund. I'm also on full academic scholarship, and the military picks up everything else. I also work 40 hours a week.

What was your position in the army?

My job was as an interrogator. I actually worked as a translator. I went to school in California, and was stationed in Germany.

Are you going back into the army after graduation?

Yes, I'm going right back in. I graduate on May 16, and I'll be commissioned that day or the day after. I'll leave two or three days later. I'm going in as a military intelligence officer, and I could possibly do work in international finance. I only have a three-year commitment. After that, I'd only have to put in eleven more years before I could retire.

What do you want people to know about you?

My philosophy on life is, "Just do it." I know it sounds like a cliché, but that's it. When you're tired, and want to give up, "Just do it!"

story by carrie blackwell



photo by brad harrah

eduardo

feli u delapena a

Born and raised in Barcelona, Spain, Eduardo Feliudelapena came to the United States to attend school at Missouri Western. Before he could attend, he had to learn how to speak English at St. Joseph's Central High School, giving him not only some experience in America's college system, but also the public school system as well.

What made you want to attend Missouri Western?

My mother went to the University of Columbia in New York. My brothers all went to college in the United States. My sister-in-law went to Central High School here in St. Joseph, so I ended up here as well.

What is your major?

My major is engineering.

Which place do you like better – Barcelona, or the United States?

Neither place is necessarily better, but since my family lives in Barcelona it makes a big difference. The two places are just really different from each other.

What are some of the differences you have noticed between Barcelona and the United States?

I don't like the school system here, it's very low. The schools do not give children the skills they need to go on to college. They do not seem to teach children the math or science skills they need to get by on, so the kids seem to be lost at college. When I came here, the college told me that I had to learn English first. I went to Central High School to learn to speak English. I took classes there and they were very easy. My brothers went back to Spain to go to college there, and they did not have the skills they needed. I also think that there is a lot of crime here in the U.S.

How is St. Joseph different from Barcelona?

It's small here, and there's nothing to do. I went from Barcelona, which had 3.7 million people, to St. Joseph, which has 70,000. The size is very different. Also, it's very cold here. The weather is so unpredictable, you never know what it is going to do. Another difference is the price of things. In Barcelona, it is very expensive. A gallon of gas is like \$4, where it is only around a dollar here. Jeans in Barcelona cost over \$100.

Do people tend to treat you differently because you are from a different country?

Not really. Some do, but they are usually prejudiced people to begin with. There are not as many prejudiced people in Missouri as there are in other states. Some are better, and some are worse.

Which state do you feel is the least prejudiced?

I like Texas. There are a lot of people from South America that speak Spanish there. Also, I like Texas because the weather is better. It is not as cold there.

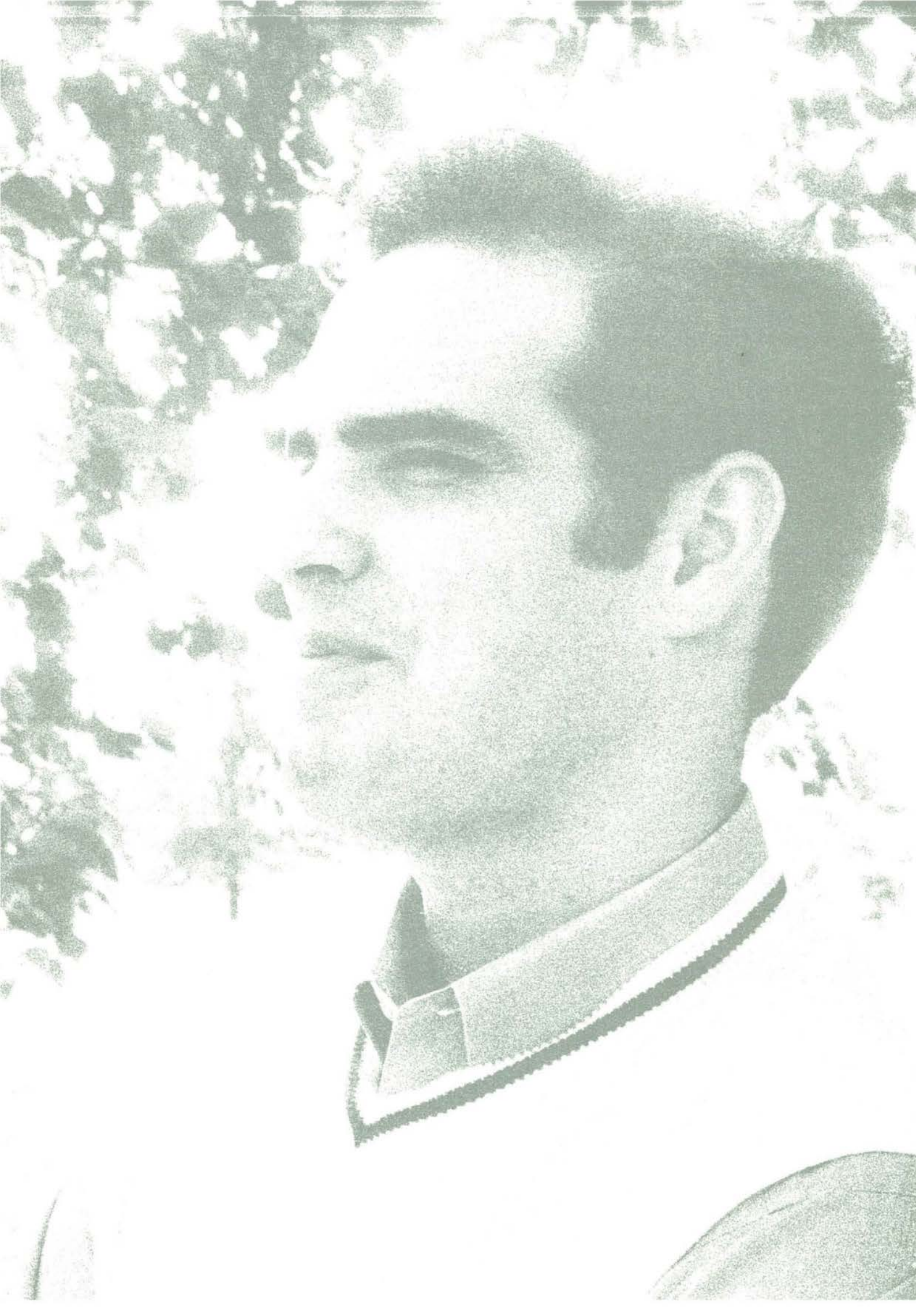
What are some things you like to do when you are in Barcelona?

Well, it's a big city so there is a lot to do there. I do like swimming and playing tennis.

Do you plan on moving back to Barcelona?

Yes, of course. I am trying to get a job where I can transfer to South America for a few years and then eventually transfer to Barcelona. That is what I am planning on doing anyway.

story by mindy kinnaman
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photo by erin lewis





Twenty year old Renata Sorkin has been in America for 5 1/2 years now, but she will not soon forget her life in Russia and the 8 years it took her family to get out.

What part of Russia are you from?

Penza, Russia, a town close to Moscow and I now live in Kansas City, Kansas with my parents, older brother and younger sister.

How did your family leave Russia?

I was 9 years old when my parents applied to the government for the first time to leave Russia. We were not allowed to leave and had to wait one year to apply again. The second time we applied we were denied again. One of the reasons we were denied leaving was because the government falsely accused my father of knowing secrets because he had been working in a factory for 7 years prior to applying to leave Russia.

What were the reasons your family wanted to leave your country?

My family did not really want to leave Russia, but it wasn't until my parents had started studying Judhism that we decided to leave because it was a religion that the government did not allow in Russia. Someone from my mothers work told the KGB that my mother was talking against the government, but all we were doing was studying Judhism. The KGB came and searched my mothers friends house to find anything that had to do with Judhism. They found a book in her friends apartment on Judhism and she told the government it was my mothers. They then took both of my parents and her friend to the KGB for 2 days of questioning.

The government then questioned everyone from my mothers job and all her friends and the government asked them to write statements against my parents so the KGB could put them in jail. But the director at my mothers work told the KGB that if they made her write a statement against my mother she would commit suicide and leave a note saying the KGB did it. Also my mothers friend and his wife told the

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KGB if they put my parents in jail, they would go to the press.

What did your parents do after this happened?

We applied again for a third time after all the problems we had with the KGB had quieted down and were given permission to leave for Israel. My parents sold their apartment, quit their jobs, bought the family's plane tickets to Israel and one month before flying out the government sent them a letter stating they could not leave. At first we were going to try to sneak out of Russia, but my mother was pregnant with my little sister and would be risking being put in jail, so we did not go.

We had to stay another 3 1/2 years before being allowed to leave again. When we were finally allowed to leave we found some distant relatives in Kansas City, Kansas and that's where we decided to go instead of Israel. My family can now practice Judhism without worrying about the government throwing us in jail. "I will never go back to Russia," said Renata, and will I like America.

Where did you go to school after you came to America?

I finished high school at Shawnee Mission West then went to Johnson County Community College and transferred to Highland Community College where I graduated with an Associate degree. I then came to Missouri Western to get a BS in Commercial Art. From here I want to go to graduate school to get a Master's in Fine Arts.

Renata hopes to become a college professor after graduate school, a dream which might not have become a reality if she hadn't left Russia.

story and photo by

.....
jondenna patrick

"Lights! Camera! Action!" Senior Jim Brewer and sophomore Eric Campbell knew all about television direction and production. They were involved with the program "Western Weekly," the college's very own television news broadcast of seven years. As communications majors with emphasis in video production, it was a great experience for both of them.

What exactly is the program about?

J.B.: The show is called "Western Weekly." It's a magazine-style news program for the campus. A lot of video majors get involved, and what we do is news packages and reporting on different things here on campus. We try to interview people who are doing special things, like asking some of the sororities about Homecoming and things like that.

When is the show aired?

E.C.: We tape them on Thursday at around 4 to 5 p.m. We tape the show, and then edit it together. We air it on the following Monday at noon, 4:30 and 6:30 p.m on channel 39.

Who develops the story ideas?

E.C.: Basically, we have an email thing where people can mail us ideas. We get a lot of ideas from what's happening on campus, and crew members also come up with ideas. If you have a good idea, you just go with it.

What are your specific jobs (duties)?

J.B.: I get paid as a director, everyone else works pretty much as a volunteer. They get a fee waiver at the end of the semester, so that video students can learn how to do everything involved. We also have some journalism majors. When you get to direct, that's when you get paid.

E.C.: Right now I'm not a director. Jim's taught me some of the things that go along with directing Western Weekly. Right now, I work the camera and do editing. Next semester, I'll possibly take over directing.

Is this something you have always wanted to do?

J.B.: In high school, I did theatre and stuff like that. I was always interested in doing this, and it seemed like the right thing to do when I came to college. I've always liked television and films,

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Campbell

and I've always been interested in how they're put together.

E.C.: I took Introduction to Video Production and Jim approached me about working on Western Weekly. I didn't do it that semester but the following semester he asked me again. **Where do you see yourself in the future?**

E.C.: I think that, for the most part, I see myself doing the same type of thing as Western Weekly. Hopefully, I'll be doing more editing because that's what I'm interested in. I would like to go far enough up to do previews and trailers for movies some day.

J.B.: A friend and I are trying to open our own video production company in St. Joseph to do corporate videos, training videos and promotional-type videos. If I don't do that, I've always been interested in documentaries, and I'd like to go shoot for Discovery Channel or National Geographic, or something like that since I like to travel.

What do you want people to know about you?

E.C.: I guess I'd like people to know that I like to have fun. I like to be creative and kind of different from everyone else.

E.B.: One thing I'd like to do when I get into a position in the real world is to create some kind of video or program that would stick out in everyone's minds, something so powerful that it might cause a change, or at least get the mind set in someone, so they say, "Hey, you remember when Jim Brewer did that back then?"

What do you want people to know about the show?

E.B.: Western Weekly is a really good thing for the school because video majors can get hands-on experience and see what it's like without the pressure of the real world. It gives you a chance to hone your skills and see what you're lacking before you have the real pressures. It makes it easier to make the transition into the work force. You get to be creative. It's a really good show, you should watch it.

story by wilma roberts



photo by erin lewis





Brandi Sawyer is a dancer. Her dancing abilities have filled her mantelpiece with awards and prestigious invitations, but before Brandi attained these accomplishments, it was one teacher's advice that helped her fulfill her potential.

"My freshman year in high school, I had an attitude," she said. "When I began my sophomore year, my dance teacher, Mrs. Ernst, brought me into her office. She told me that I had great talent but I had to lose the attitude before I could be a good dancer. I lost the attitude and worked hard that year, and I won my high school's award for the Most Improved Dancer."

When Brandi talks about her passion for dancing there is an understated confidence in her voice. It is the confidence of a twenty-one year old that has already had many years of dancing experience behind her. Brandi began her dancing career at the age of ten. At the time she was active in gymnastics and was encouraged to try dance lessons. Now most of Brandi's time outside of school revolves around dance.

"I have so much love for it," she said. "It is so enjoyable to express different emotions with your body. Each song has different emotions and it is up to me to express them through my dancing."

Brandi's love for dance goes beyond its glamorous appeal. Dancing has taught her things that she uses to succeed in other aspects of her life.

"Dancing has taught me discipline, time management and etiquette," she says. "I know that if I'm going to be good at something then there is a certain way of doing it and that involves hard work. That really helps me in school."

Brandi's dancing career has been filled with personal successes. As a sophomore in high

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school Brandi was chosen to perform in the prestigious Joffrey Ballet in New York City, but was unable to attend because of a lack of funding.

"It was disappointing, but I was honored that they chose me, because there were so many talented girls that were competing."

When Brandi came to Missouri Western on scholarship, she wanted to prove that her dancing success would follow her after high school. This was one of the reasons Brandi competed in the 1996 MWSC Talent Show. In that show she took the award for Best Dance Act and the award for Best Talent Overall. In 1997, she again won the award for Best Dance Act.

When I won those awards, I was always surprised," she said, "but I was really surprised when I won the best talent overall award in '96. It was an unbelievable experience because I never thought that I could win it.

"The awards are an inspiration to me. They always remind me that there are people out there that think I'm pretty good. The recognition feels good and it inspires me to keep working hard at it."

story by wes wiedmaier

.....

photo by brad harrah

Underclassmen



heather
abernathy



lashandra
acklin



curtis
adkins



christopher
adler



rashell
aguon



courtney
al



erica
anders



amy
anderson



chris
anderson



lisa
anderson



trina
anderson



amy
anse



david
ballantyne



sarah
banko



elvin
barchers



megan
barr



melissa
bauer



kimberly
be



camiece
bivens



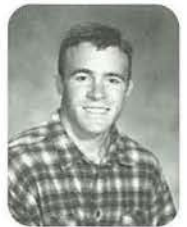
corinther
black



krissie
blake



tisha
blankenship



erich
bodenhausen



jacqueline
b



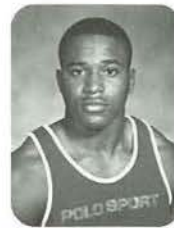
laura
browning



kasey
bruce



kari
bryson



perry lee
buggs



christina
buhman



wendy
b



jessica
campbell



neil
carnahan



vickie
carney



keith
carnie



eric
carter



asthinta
car



christina
clark



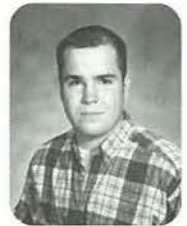
cristen
clark



susan
clark



tommie
clark



terry
cline



wesley
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elle
aldridge



regina
alejandre



vicki
alessi



antonio
allen



jeenan
allen



kristl
allison



rebecca
almond



dawn
anders



coli
anthony



jason
arnold



angie
aue



amber
austin



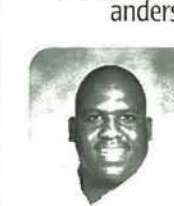
roy
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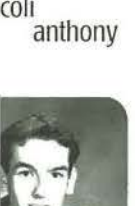
jennifer
baker



rebecca
baker



courtney
ball



christopher
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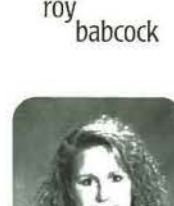
robert
beck



stacy
beebe



leslie
beets



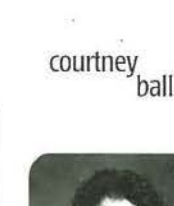
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bergren



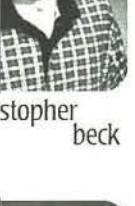
david
bernard



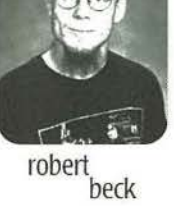
lori
berthiaume



mary
bishop



trey
bonebrake



jamie
bowland



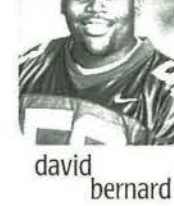
leigh
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kathryn
brackman



matthew
brennaman



buckley
brockmann



richard
brown



kendra
browning



annon
bunn



jamie
bush



melissa
bush



erin
byrd



luann
cadden



kristie
calcaterra



stacy
calcote



rebecca
calvert



marli
caton



jaclyn
chapman



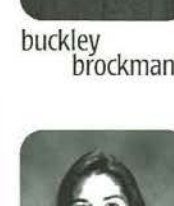
josh
charles



sarah
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william
childress



jennifer
christman



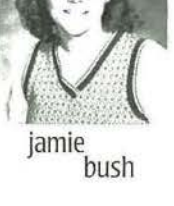
mary
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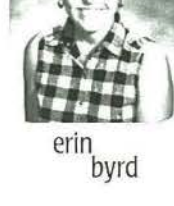
hanie
coffey



shandi
cole



sherry
cole



richard
coleman



rebecca
collier



troy
collins



tynisa
collins



katherine
cooper

Underclassmen



melissa halling



jay hallquist



jennifer halstead



cheryl hamilton



juannetta hamilton



eric hans



eric havens



mindy hawks



christina hazelwood



chris heard



christopher hecker



jessica hein



andrea higdon



kristy hildman



richard hiles



tina hinds



edythe hockman



gina holl



jolene hostetter



megan hougland



melanie houland



heather housel



curtese howard



stephanie ho



kamra hurla



nicole huston



tracey hutchison



aaron ide



heather idstein



stan irv



jami jenkins



jennifer jenkins



brandon jennings



dusty jestes



guy johnson



ivori joh



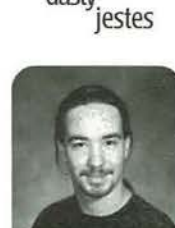
ryan jones



minifa jordan



claissa keesling



tyson kelley



martin kelsey



kari ker



harrington



candice harris



philana harris



jason hart



marquisha harvey



kelly hass



andrew hausman



karen havener



ris heller



shalonda henderson



elandaherman



kandi herron



andrew hersey



leah hertwig



amanda hewitt



kristina hidy



llandsworth



michael holloway



melissa holman



michael holman



rebecca holmes



shannon holsman



matthew hornbeck



brandie hosier



ry howell



davoya hudson



roddrick hudson



jennifer huffman



jason hughes



michelle hunn



michelle hunning



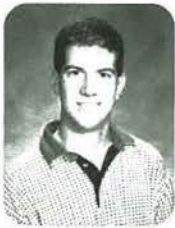
kimberlee hunter



n isaacson



amanda ivy



chad jackson



geriandi jackson



bradley james



jasmine prestwood



tonya james



tuanette jeffries



li johnson



justin johnson



marshawn johnson



melissa johnson



aisha jones



gretchen jones



martha jones



misty jones



vet kernes



sarah kesse



jerry keuhn



emily king



lamont king



mindy kinnaman



shawn kirkwood



ty kleffman

Underclassmen



richard
pelkey



barbara
penland



brian
perkins



rachelle
pichardo



jeanette
pinaire



craig
polso



nic
pugh



lee
rafferty



ramona
ramirez



zachery
ramsay



jacob
rapp



cathy
rear



candice
robinson



cynthia
robinson



stephen
robison



april
rockhold



jennifer
rodgers



jennifer
ro



angela
schemmer



elizabeth
schenk



jeannette
schmidt



mary
schmitz



angela
schneider



eric
schri



rachel
shigemura



verna
shinneman



heather
shirey



shannon
short



christy
shroyer



steven
sie



carrie
smith



georgeanne
smith



jamie
smith



rochelle
smith



russell
smith



justin
sn



gloria
stevenson



mildred
stewart



katie
stiers



christy
still



jill
stock



stephani



olyn polston



jennifer pounders



dawn powell



kenneth preston



kirk priebe



amanda protenic



tiffany provance



eric przygoda



n redmond



shannon reed



lisa reynolds



jill riegel



sarah riley



matthew roberts



shelly roberts



steven roberts



anta rogers



meagan root



crystal roppa



jacob ross



melissa rowlison



elton rust



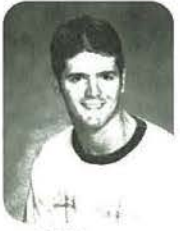
nicholas saccaro



abigail schaer



ly schwerdt



gary sellars



jessica sellers



scott sentivany



bethann schaffier



christina sharr



kelly shaw



shannon shaw



nette sigler



megon simonsen



elisabeth simpson



crystal sisco



sara skroh



clinton slater



kristen smart



amy smith



am sneed



christina south



amber spainhour



april spear



angela st. clair



chris stackhouse



angela stallings



courtney stevenson



my stotts



jennifer streeby



janette summy



debbie tangeman



shane taylor



misty terrill



douglas thacker



rhonda thies

Underclassmen



tara thies



christine thomas



liddell thomas



tammy thompson



meredith tia



mathew ti



richard vanzandt



neda vargha



athena vasselakos



corey vaughn



kourtney venable



emily wa



jason weldon



laura wells



victor wesley



trea wessel



kristina west



tanisha w



louis williams



marquita williams



tara williams



shawn williamson



courtenay wills



erica wi



rachael wolfe



amy wolford



jennifer black



kathryn woody



amy wright



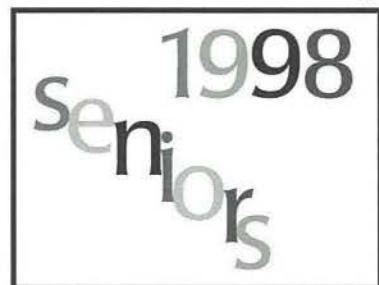
heather w



mary zook



kathy zullo



eric adams



andrea and



elaine bowls



gina brejnik



grant broker



connie brooks



christopher brown



randy bud



vis
toebben



nicole
tolle



rebecca
trant



regi
trotter



david
turner



laura
turner



chris
uliana



telia
upshaw



borah
wade



steven
waggoner



jayla
walker



khristopher
wall



wesley
wallick



kelly
watkins



matt
webber



christina
webster



meca
white



amy
whittaker



eric
wickes



antonio
williams



jenita
williams



jenny
williams



jonathan
williams



karen
williams



ber
wilson



jermaine
wilson



kevin
wilson



rebecca
wilson



shanice
wilson



desiree
winget



jon
wissman



laura
wolf



my
yaussi



eric
yocum



calder
young



mitzie
young



monique
young



amanda
zelch



zaik
zimmerman



brett
zinn



arla
ashley



angela
bailey



chanda
bankhead



mitchel
barnes



christy
barron



angelo
bartulica



ashley
berg



rodney
bettencourt



talie
bush



carla
byrd



julie
calfee



kristina
callaway



nyree
caruthers



sharita
caruthers



jennifer
chandler



angela
christy

senior 89



colin
coker



maria
cole



natalie
corner



charity
coney



jennifer
conley



diana
conroy



elizabeth
durso



steve
edwards



mary
elam



erin
elliott



erin
ellsworth



justin
evans



rebecca
gilkerson



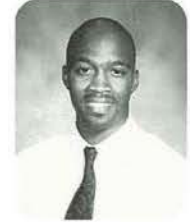
jenny
glamann



heather
goodheart



shelly
graeff



jamie
grayson



jason
grayson



kevin
hobbs



james
holman



dana
hoover



tara
hovenga



gwendelin
huff



amber
huff



darlene
king



deanna
king



michelle
kirtley



ed
knutter



donald
krull



sheri
kurland



jennifer
marr



ruthanna
martin



stephanie
martinie



amy
matlack



susannah
maudlin



angela
mccoy



rhonda
morford



ruth
morrison



eunice
morrow



alexandrea
murphy



christina
musser



vicki
nease



kristy
cracraft



carrie
crawford



heather
daniel



vonda
daniels



andrea
dawson



shirley
day



connie
decker



melissa
dunst



robin
fisher



sean
fisher



belinda
fite



tina
flores



sandy
foster



michelle
frazier



jenniet
galvan



amy
garrett



marie
gregory



marla
greiner



jason
hallquist



rosemary
hamilton



tania
hamilton



karen
harris



heather
hennessey



eric
hidy



rance
jackson



brandy
jenkins



donna
johnson



mitchelle
johnson



vallorie
johnson



tracy
jones



dawn
kerner



tricia
key



mel
lafollette



deborah
larison



teresa
lathrop



sherry
law



andrea
lipira



vernon
logan



charles
lowe



stacy
mallett



amanda
mccleendon



tony
sweeney



tracy
meseberg



dianna
meyer



sherry
miller



angelia
miranda



rhonda
modlin



michael
mooney



brian
newsome



debra
norman



michelle
nunn



lara
peppers



kariane
pierce



jennifer
potter



molly
reid



robyn
reynolds



Phi Epsilon

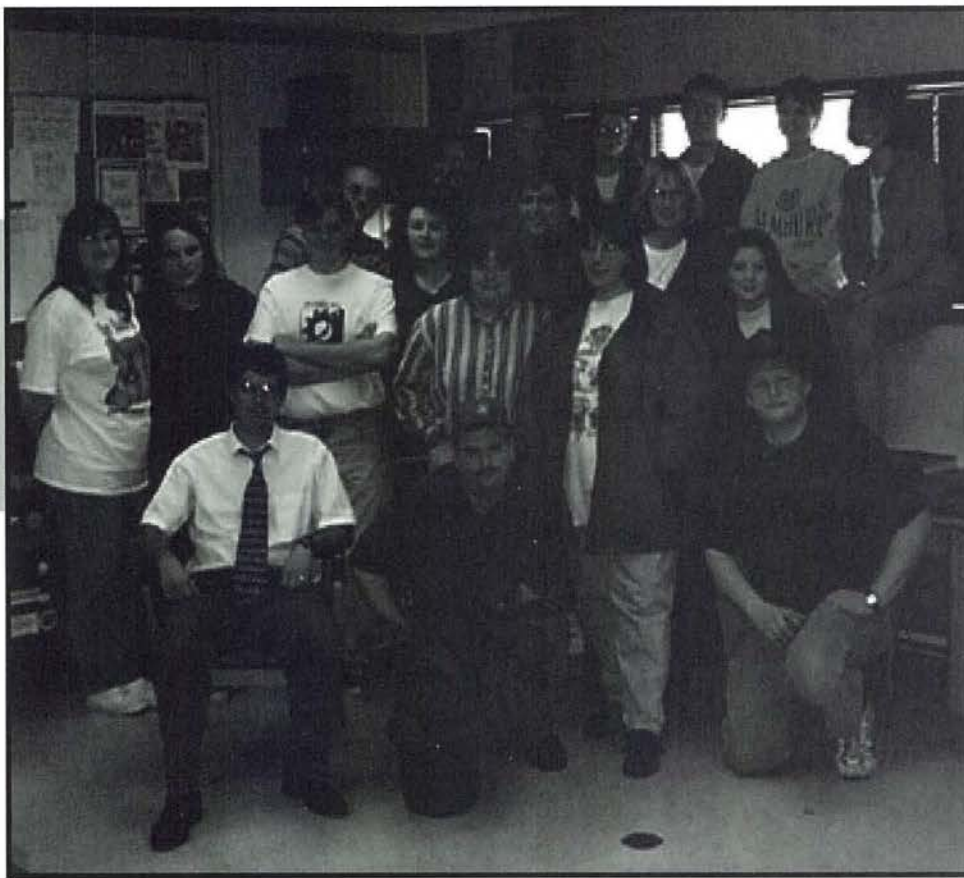
THE GANER HILL



What came of the dedication campus organizations showed in 1998? Pride! From fall to spring, every campus org was helping to better the campus and the St. Joseph community. They collected cans, coats and warmth for the city. Some campaigned for awareness, some cheered for the home team and others just camped in the middle of campus and jumped on their trampoline. Whatever they did, campus orgs added the spice to campus that no one could.

zations

Griffon News



Row 1:
 Bob Bergland
 Jerry Keuhn
 Deb McKeen
 Stephen Buchholz
 Heath Holbrook
 Liana Anderson
 Lesa Myer

Row 2:
 Brenda Young
 Joe Coats
 Scott Faubion
 Mitzie Young

Row 3:
 Michael Rogers
 Ann Anderson

Row 4:
 Nick Austin
 Brooke Rogers
 Nicchi Sollars
 Aaron Steiner
 Julie Stutterheim
 Colby Watts

Honors Organization

Row 1:
 Mikhaela Haecker
 Joy Wade
 Shannon McKenzie
 Shelly Roberts

Row 2:
 Steve Scheerer
 James Deckard
 Angela Pasley
 Erin Domer

Row 3:
 Sarah Johnson
 Andy Hope
 Christina Hazelwood
 Jennifer Goodman

Row 4:
 Erin Kimble
 Marcus Fizer
 Guy Johnson
 Travis Toebben
 Dustin McKenzie
 Kirk Priebe



Organizational

Institute of Mgmt Accountants



Row 1:
Karen Havener
Robyn Reynolds
Janice Wallace
Tanya Gannaway

Row 2:
Sharita Caruthers
Denise Noah

Row 3:
Jason Hart
David Albin
Chris Feiden

Investment Club

Row 1:
Chris Harris
Jason Strickland
Brant Gillett
Carrie Harris
Andy Barnon
Aaron Hamann



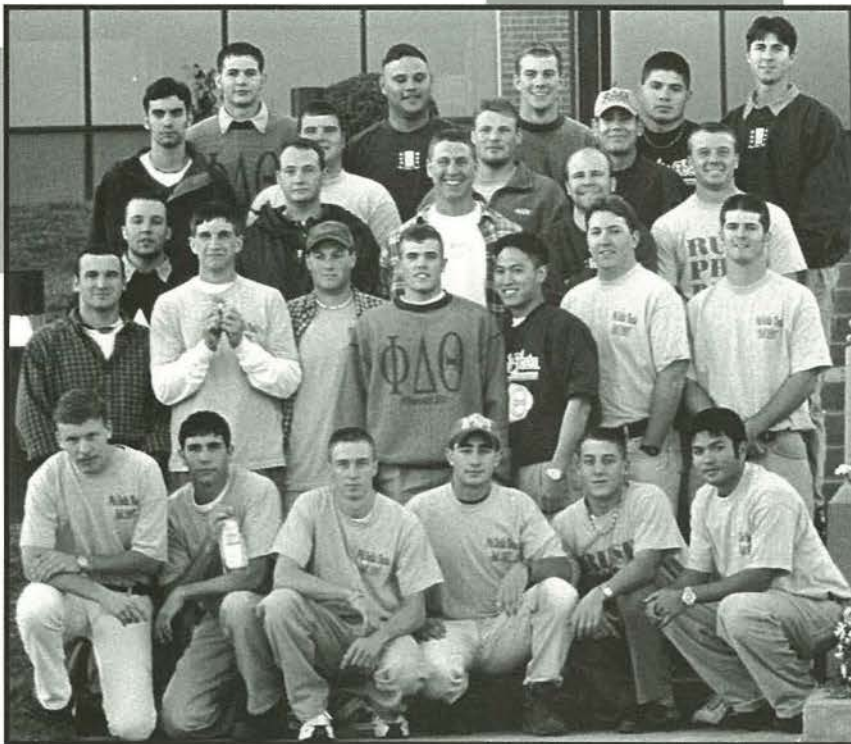
zations

Non-Traditional Students

Row 1:	Row 2:
Denise Noah	Ellen Smither
Kathy Auxier	Kathy Pavitt
Jondenna Patrick	Kevin Wilson
Pam Allee	Lois Fox
Berniece Dunlevy	



Phi Delta Theta



Row 1:	Scott Sollars
Scot Widener	Ryan Vanmeter
Aaron Leders	Andy Steder
Nathaniel Anderson	Matt Kneib
Phil Bartolotta	
Steve Smithers	Row 4:
Noel Sanger	Raman Bradshaw
	J.D. Partridge
Row 2:	Jason Mullin
Ryan Scheuth	Dominic CDeBaca
Geoff Overfelt	
Tommy Jaynes	Row 5:
Matt Bair	Jason Hallquist
Sean Hutto	Pete Khalil
Brett Miller	Jeff Flynn
Gary Sellars	Joe Herrera
	Erick Schmidt
Row 3:	
Dan O'Connor	

Organi

Phi Kappa Delta

Row 1:
Mary Howell
Dallas Hill

Row 2:
Stacey Murray
Tracey Hutchison
Kathryn Brackman
Aubrey Maguire

Row 3:
Patrice Meyer
Misty Stuebs
Cinda Sterner
Jessica Leonard



Phi Mu Alpha

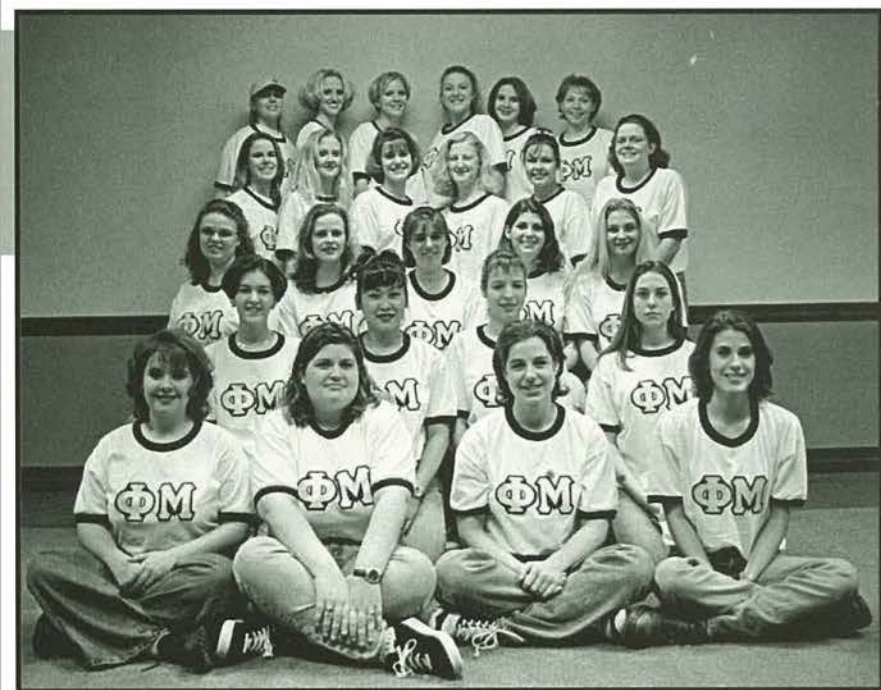
Row 1:
Molly Reid
Christie McCready
Lori Mestemacher
Megan Barr

Row 2:
Megan Foster
Rashell Agreeon
Breann Leflet
Stephanie Huntoon

Row 3:
Wendy Fisher
Amy Hemmerling
Shelly Franek
Amy McCready
Nikki Glasgo

Row 4:
Kelly Schwerdt
Kristin Kunkel
Leslie Briggs
Realaine Umbarger
Tara Block
Angie Schneider

Row 5:
Heather McBee
Kendra Roberts
Heidi Ezell
Gretchen Niemeier
Mandy Graham
Jenn Croson



zations

Student Missouri State Teachers Association

Lisa Gruenfeld
Natalie Corner
Cara Harrington
Kathy Pavitt



Student Senate

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Row 1: | Kendra Browning
Brandi Blackburn |
| Row 2: | Brandi Jenkins
Ashley Worrell
Annie Jackson
Geoff Green
Reyhan Wilkinson |
| Row 3: | Dan Riggs
Irving Graham
Pete Kahlil
Chris Heard
Kevin Wilson |
| Row 4: | |
| Row 5: | |
- Sarah Knell
Jim Bartley
Susannah Maudlin
Duane Bruce
- Roselyn Brancato
Lai-Monte Hunter
Matt Bain
Jaimie Habersat
Cherree Kemple
- Kendra Lyons
Andrea Dickerson
Philana Harris

organi

Tri Sigma

Row 1:
Jennifer Baker
Susannah Maudlin
Roselyn Brancato
Marisa Yearta
Libby Allison
Heather Johnson

Erika Dick
Sarah Knell

Row 4:
Mandy Suscheck
Jessica Bergren
Angie Begren
Brandy Murphy
Kelly Wakkia
Molly McClintic

Row 2:
Melanie Pena
Jill Riegel
Michelle Cooper
Jen Schroer
Jenney Risely
Amy Christiansen

Row 5:
Brooke Whitford
Leslie Adams
Christian Bigelo
Lisa Bouyear
Amber Dew
Shauna Smith
Annie Newhouse
Annie Jackson
Karen Medici

Row 3:
Angela Smith
Nate Dowell
Amy Smith
Jenny Williams



Wesley Foundation

Mary Norris
Dixie Sullenger
Megan McBride
Ryan Hull

zations

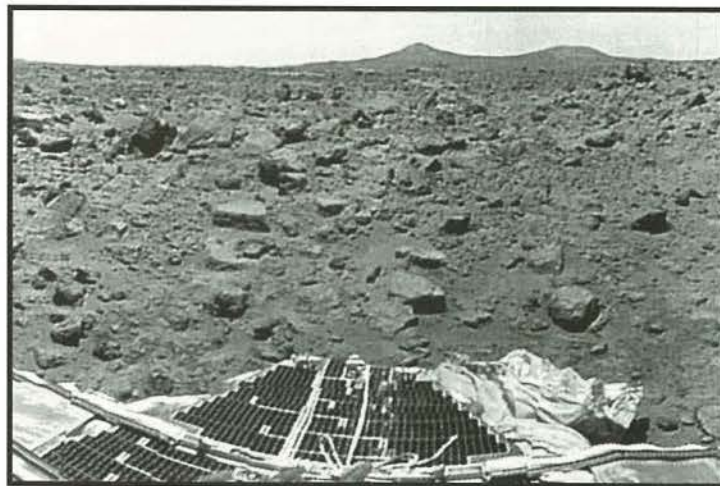
t h e w o r l d a n d b e y o n d

President **Bill Clinton** was the first Democrat in 60 years to be elected to a second term. A centrist New Democrat, he transformed his once beleaguered party. Under his presidency, the United States enjoyed the lowest rate of inflation since the early 1960s, and he was the first president in 17 years to submit a balanced budget to congress. His Vice President, Al Gore, was considered a very powerful Vice President and was the President's closest adviser. The 49-year-old Gore was considered a favorite for the Democratic presidential nomination in the year 2000. However, year after their re-election, both men were under close scrutiny for campaign finance violations.



The roving vehicle **Sojourner**, the first mobile explorer to land on another planet, landed on Mars in 1997 and gathered soil and rocks. Overcoming communications trouble and other setbacks, the Sojourner left the Mars Pathfinder landing craft. The rover's six metal wheels rolled slowly down a ramp and came to a stop on the surface. The So-

journer, which was about the size of a microwave oven, began crawling around the surface of Mars, transmitting a flood of information to scientist back to Earth.



Attorney General **Janet Reno** was the first woman attorney general of the United States. She was first nominated by President Clinton in 1993, and she was appointed again in 1997. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Ms. Reno, 59, focused on the prevention of crime among the youth of the country and stressed early intervention to keep children away from gangs, drugs and violence. Late in 1997 she unveiled an advertising campaign urging the nation's youth to become involved in neighborhood crime prevention and community service.

The **WNBA – Woman’s National Basketball Association** – completed its inaugural season with the Houston Comets defeating the New York Liberty for the Championship. And as the season came to a close, the WNBA announced that the eight-team league would grow to 10 teams in 1998. If it all works out, the Comets will jump to the Western Conference with Los Angeles, Phoenix, Sacramento, and Utah. The new teams, Detroit and Washington, D.C., will join the East with Charlotte, Cleveland and New York.



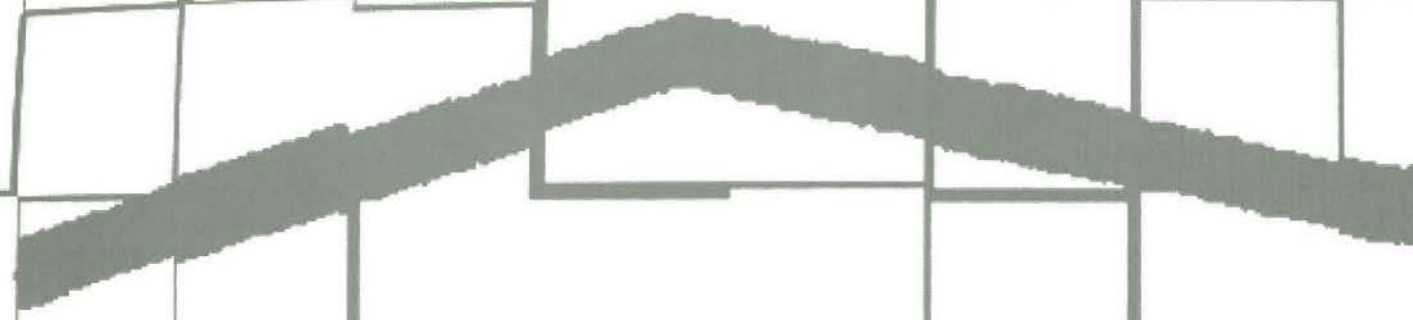
The Florida Marlins became major league baseball’s world champions in 1997, beating the Cleveland Indians in the **World Series**. Just five years old, the Marlins tied the Indians in the ninth inning of the seventh game and went on to win it all in the eleventh inning with a score of 3-2. The Indians last won the Series in 1948.

In one of the most competitive games in **Super Bowl** history, John Elway and Terrel Davis led the Denver Broncos to a 31-24 upset of the Green bay Packers in Super Bowl XXXII. The Bronco’s first National Football League championship ended the American conference’s 13-year losing streak in the Super Bowl.



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What helped the Griffon Yearbook stay on its feet in 1998? Advertising revenue. Each year we sell ads as a way to support ourselves and as a way for businesses to let the Missouri Western community know about them. This year we offered the students an equal voice with our dedications. Everyone finally got the chance to congratulate those who so well deserved it.

Dedications

To Tracy Jones, 

The best editor the Griffon Yearbook ever had!!

Good Luck!

Love, Elizabeth & Mandy

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

An extraordinary woman entered my life. A leader, friend and confidant. Never forgetting her true self.

Thank You Amy, for blessing me with your friendship.

Love Always,

Erica A.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

To The Men Of Tau Kappa Epsilon

T I'd like to congratulate all the brothers of TKE for making 1997-98 such a fun and successful year.
K Keep up the good work because I know we can make next year even better. Once again,
E

Congratulations TKE!!

Yours in the Bond,
 Steven "Cuda" Williams

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An entertained reader

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The Griffon Yearbook Staff

Aa

Aberer, Debbie	210, 211
Abernathy, Heather	184
Acklin, Lashandra	184, 207
Adams, Erick	195
Adams, Leslie	216
Adkins, Curtis	184
Adler, Chris	67
Adler, Christopher	184
Adler, Scott	205
Aeshliman, Andrew	203
Agreon, Rashell	213
Aguon, Rashell	34, 184, 214
Alberts, Courtney	184, 211
Albin, David	209
Alderton, Joe	45
Aldridge, Joyelle	184
Alejandre, Regina	78, 184
Alessi, Vicki	184
Allee, Pam	211
Allen, Antonio	184
Allen, Jeenan	184
Allen, Missy	205
Allison, Kristl	184
Allison, Libby	217
Almond, Rebecca	184
Alsbury, Bonnie	92
Alvin, Edward	75
Anders, Dawn	184
Anders, Erica	184, 203
Anderson, Amy	184
Anderson, Ann	208
Anderson, Chris	184
Anderson, Jerry	127
Anderson, Liana	208
Anderson, Lisa	184
Anderson, Nathaniel	212
Anderson, Trina	184
Andrews, Andrea	195
Andrews, Kathleen	127
Anselm, Amy	184
Anthony, Kenya	204
Anthony, Niccoli	184
Arnold, Jason	184
Arns, Amy	210, 211

Asbury, LeeAnne	204
Ash, Dave	134
Ashley, Karla	195
Atieh, Stephanie	182
Atkinson, John	210
Aue, Angie	184
Austin, Amber	184
Austin, Diana	102
Austin, Nick	208
Auxier, Kathy	62, 212

Bb

Babcock, Roy	184
Bailey, Angela	195
Bailey, Jared	160
Bailey, Kristie	204
Bain, Matt	216
Bair, Matt	212
Baker, Jennifer	184, 217
Baker, Karen	89
Baker, Rebecca	184
Baldwin, Kim	204
Ball, Chris	160
Ball, Courtney	184
Ballance, Denise	95, 172
Ballantyne, David	35, 184
Ballenger, Kathy	127
Ballenger, Michael	117
Bankhead, Chanda	195
Banko, Sarah	184, 204
Banner, Ed	21
Barchers, Elvin	184
Barnes, Mitchel	195
Barnon, Andy	209
Barr, Megan	35, 184, 213, 214
Barron, Christy	195
Bartley, Jim	216
Bartolotta, Phil	212
Bartulica, Angelo	195
Bauer, Melissa	184
Baulk, James	34
Beadle, Dan	95
Beamer, Kimberly	184, 204
Beck, Christopher	184
Beck, Robert	184

Beebe, Stacy	184,
Beets, Leslie	
Bennett, Dr. David	
Benz, Michael	
Berg, Ashley	
Berger, Bob	
Bergland, Bob	110, 170, 199,
Bergren, Angela	184,
Bergren, Jessica	
Bernard, David	
Berry-Howe, Wonda	
Berthiaume, Lori	
Bidding, Bob	
Bigelo, Christian	
Bigham, Richie	
Bishop, Mary	
Bivens, Camiece	
Black, Corinther	
Blackburn, Brandi	203, 2
Blake, Krissie	
Blankenship, Tisha	
Block, Tara	
Bodenhausen, Erich	
Boessen, Kelly	99,
Bogie, Kellie	
Bogue, Jacqueline	
Bonebrake, Jeffrey	
Boswell, Missy	44, 2
Bouyear, Lisa	
Bowland, Jamie	
Bowls, Elaine	
Boydston, Leigh	
Bracciano, Mike	
Brackman, Kathryn	185, 212,
Bradshaw, Raman	
Brancato, Roselyn	
Brauck, Cindy	136,
Breitenstein, Becky	
Brejnik, Gina	
Bremer, Hans	
Brennaman, Matt	185, 206,
Brewer, Jim	
Briggs, Leslie	
Briggs, Stephen	
Bristol, Kevin	
Brockmann, Buckley	
Broker, Grant	
Brooks, Connie	

wn, Christa 203, 214
 wn, Christopher 195
 wn, Kay 157, 203
 wn, Richard 185
 wning, Kendra 157, 185, 204,
 wning, Laura 49, 185
 ce, Duane 214, 216
 ce, Kasey 185, 207, 214
 sh, Bryan 210, 211
 ant, Elaine 105
 son, Emmett 11
 son, Kari 185
 nholz, Stephen 208
 kman, Randy 195, 214
 gs, Perry Jr. 185
 lewicz, James 21, 74
 man, Christina 185
 s, Wendy 4, 185, 203, 207, 214
 n, Shannon 185
 nett, Cory 205
 ight, Misty 12, 166
 h, Jamie 185
 h, Melissa 185
 h, Natalie 195
 nman, Bess 11
 nman, Robert 11
 her, Carl 96
 er, Valerie 142
 d, Carla 195, 204
 d, Erin 185, 204

Cc

den, Luann 185
 den, Michael 86, 87, 199
 aterra, Kristie 185, 204
 ote, Stacy 185
 ee, Julie 195, 211
 away, Kristina 195
 ert, Rebecca 185
 eron, James 80
 pbell, Eric 178
 pbell, Jessica 185
 e, Athena 214
 ey, Athena 47

Carnahan, Neil 185
 Carney, Vickie 185
 Carnie, Keith 185
 Carpenter, Bill 88, 89
 Carter, Eric 185
 Caruthers, Ashinta 185
 Caruthers, Nyree 195, 206
 Caruthers, Sharita 195, 206, 209
 Casney, Vickie 214
 Cassity, Tonja 146, 147
 Cates, Tony 63
 Caton, Carli 185
 Caverman, Don 110
 Cdebaca, Dominic 72, 73, 212
 Cerniglia, Janessa 210, 211
 Chandler, Jennifer 195
 Chapman, Jaclyn 185
 Charles, Josh 185
 Chartier, Sarah 185
 Chavez, Tara 205
 Childress, William 185
 Chleborad, Aaron 205
 Christensen, Jay 210, 211, 214
 Christian, Miranda 205
 Christiansen, Amy 217
 Christman, Jennifer 185
 Christy, Angela 195
 Cicchelli, Thomas 88, 199
 Clair, Angela 193
 Clapper, Mary 185
 Clark, Chad 185, 210
 Clark, Christina 185
 Clark, Cristen 185
 Clark, Susan 185, 211
 Clark, Tommie 185
 Cline, Terry 185, 210, 211
 Coates, Chris 63
 Coates, Samantha 63
 Coats, Joe 207
 Coffee, Stephanie 203, 207
 Coffey, Wesley 185
 Coffey, Stephanie 185
 Coker, Colin 196
 Cole, Maria 33, 196, 206
 Cole, Paula 166
 Cole, Shandi 185, 214
 Cole, Sherry 185
 Coleman, Richard 185

Collier, Rebecca 185
 Collins, Troy 185
 Collins, Tynisa 185, 207
 Comer, Natalie 196, 215
 Coney, Charity 196
 Conley, Jennifer 120, 122, 196
 Connaker, Mike 160
 Connell, Duane 205
 Connely, Jennifer 62
 Cookinham, John 199
 Cooper, Katherine 185
 Cooper, Michelle 217
 Cooper, Ruben 207
 Cordry, Ryan 35
 Corethers, Kala 186
 Corzine, Diana 196
 Coughlin, Zac 186
 Cox, Candy 186
 Cox, Pamela 186
 Coxon, Shelby 15, 204
 Coykendall, Scott 164
 Cozart, Rickey Jr. 186
 Cracraft, Misty 196, 202, 210
 Crandal, Ryan 13
 Crane, Steve 144, 145
 Crawford, Carrie 196, 214
 Crawford, Corrinne 186
 Crawford, Kari 186
 Crider, Teresa 186
 Crittendon, Yolanda 186, 207
 Cronin, Brenda 51, 186
 Croson, Jennifer 186, 213
 Cross, Beth 103
 Crosthwaite, Kelly 147
 Crum, Kristina 186
 Crutchfield, Charisa 46
 Cunningham, Jason 148

Dd

Daigle, Katie 146, 147
 Dalrymple, Jennifer 186
 Danbury, Michael 72
 Daniel, Elizabeth 186
 Daniel, Heather 196

Daniels, Vonda	196, 206
Dannar, Melissa	186
Darby, Tina	204
Darnell, Mike	135, 160
Davidson, Dawn	186
Davis, Derek	186
Davis, James	186
Davis, Mindi	186
Dawson, Andrea	196
Dawson, Richard	186
Day, Shirley	196
Debarthe, Gina	186
Debusk, Shawn	186
Deckard, James	208
Decker, Connie	196
Defon, Julie	205
Deka, Dr. Teddi	199, 213
Dempsey, Carmen	186, 214
Denney, Jamie	18
Denney, Jill	186
Desravins, Blum	186
Dew, Amber	217
Dewey, Gina	186
Dibella, Denise	186
Dick, Erika	217
Dickerson, Andrea	11, 64, 216
Dickinson, Denise	186, 215
Diggers, Sharon	70
Dintino, John	186
Diorio, Annette	114
Dobbs, JoEllen	150, 151, 154, 186
Domer, Erin	186, 208
Donecker, Christine	154
Donohoe, Crystal	186
Doornink, Ruth	34, 186
Dorr, David	21
Dorrel, Leslie	186
Dovel, Brian	100
Dowd, Laura	186
Dowell, Nate	217
Downer, Heidi	37
Downey, Tracy	186
Drake, Lara	205
Drennen, Michele	186
Dreyer, Andrea	186
Duane, Brian	186
Dunlevy, Bernice	212
Dunst, Melissa	196

Durso, Elizabeth	102, 196
Dwyer, Megan	186
Dye, Richard	21
Ee	
Eayrs, Akami	204
Eayrs, Christaan	51
Eckdah, Sara	136
Edwards, Aaron	186
Edwards, Allison	186, 205
Edwards, Edsel	186
Edwards, Marlon	186
Edwards, Robert	100, 186
Edwards, Sarah	186
Edwards, Steve	196
Egleston, Julie	211
Eickhorst, William	127
Ekdah, Sarah	137
Elam, Mary	196
Elder, Mary	103
Elder, Sarah	30
Elgin, Sara	138, 139, 150, 214
Elliott, Bobbi	204
Elliott, Erin	196
Ellsworth, Dixie	186
Ellsworth, Erin	196
Elrod, Jason	186
Erickson, Dr. Charles	159
Erickson, Laura	186
Estes, Jim	127
Ethridge, Susan	187, 214
Eulinger, Lindsay	202, 211
Evans, Jerris	187
Evans, Justin	196
Evilsizer, Dawn	187
Ezell, Heidi	213

Ff	
Fair, Keisha	207
Falloon, Therese	29
Farnan, Sarah	187, 214
Farnsworth, Tarajee	187

Faubion, Scott	170, 187,
Feiden, Chris	
Feliudelapena, Eduardo	
Ferguson, Salena	
Feuerbacher, James	187,
Feuerbacher, Leigh	187,
Fields, Judy	
Fife, Shelley	
Filbert, Gary	
Findlay, Robin	
Fisher, Robin	
Fisher, Sean	
Fisher, Wendy	187, 213,
Fite, Belinda	
Fite, Gini	
Fitzpatrick, Kim	
Fitzsimmons, Nicole	
Fitzwater, Mandy	24,
Fizer, Marcus	
Fleshman, Phyllis	187,
Flores, Tina	
Flynn, Jeff	
Ford, Bob	
Ford, Tim	
Foster, Byron	
Foster, Megan	
Foster, Sandy	
Fowler, Lou	
Fowler, Shontai	
Fox, Lois	64, 120, 122, 212,
Fraiser, Michelle	
Franek, Shelly	
Frazier, Michelle	
Freedman, Deborah	
Freeman, Christy	
Frey, Lacie	
Friends, Chris	
Due, Mondrae	26,
Fuhrman, Nicolle	
Fulton, Karen	

Gg	
Gabhart, Valerie	
Galbraith, Ammon	
Galvan, Jenniet	

anaway, Tanya	209
ndner, Tony	164
inger, Linda	120
rett, Amy	196
rett, Mitch	140
ner, Jennifer	187
ost, Andrew	187, 205
. Mary	127
rge, Eric	62
ing, Brent	187
oons, Matt	72
son, Gloria	187
ie, Amanda	187
un, Dr. John	164, 199
erson, Rebecca	196
e, Susan	199
ett, Brant	209
nour, Dr. Matthew	85, 91
ens, Brigitte	206
mann, Jenny	196
ngo, Nikki	142, 143, 150, 151, 213
gow, Chris	207
gow, Christopher	187
frey, Lori	215
n, Angela	59
dsberry, Jada	187, 214
zalez, Bianca	187
dheart, Heather	196
dman, Jennifer	187, 205, 208
cyca, Diane	199
don, Brechelle	187
sky, Dr. Edwin	89, 199
swiller, Kristie	204
ver, Tara	187
ole, Todd	203, 207
eff, Shelly	196
gg, Matt	95
nam, Irving	216
nam, Mandy	213
nam, Susan	187
ves, Freddie	13
ves, Matt	107
y, Erin	85
y, Sarah	187
yson, Jamie	196
yson, Jason	196, 214
chus, James	159

Green, Fred	96
Green, Geoff	216
Green, Toni	147, 187
Greenfield, Charisa	24
Greenfield, Steven	24
Gregory, Carrie	196
Greiner, Marla	196, 203
Gresham, Jamie	203
Greve, Stephanie	187
Grier, Ryan	135
Griggs, Karla	187, 205
Grimes, Judith	105, 199
Groth, Brianne	40, 187
Growcock, Matt	33
Growlock, Matthew	187
Gruenefeld, Lisa	187, 216
Gruenloh, Angela	187
Gudermuth, Tonya	187
Guera, Mary	214
Gunn, Shannon	147

Hh

Habermehl, Mike	144
Habersat, Jaime	103, 187, 203, 216
Hackett, Cassie	187
Haddox, Andrea	187
Haecker, Mikhaela	187, 203, 207, 208
Hagood, Kim	187
Halford, Mike	135
Hall, Amanda	187
Hall, Bill	134
Hall, Brandon	103
Hall, Ryan	188
Hall, Travis	13
Halling, Melissa	188
Hallquist, Jason	196, 212
Hallquist, Jay	188
Halstead, Jennifer	188
Ham, Dixie	52
Hamann, Aaron	209
Hamilton, Cheryl	188, 203, 207
Hamilton, Christopher	207
Hamilton, Juanit	203

Hamilton, Juannetta	188
Hamilton, Netta	214
Hamilton, Rosemary	196, 203
Hamilton, Tania	196
Hammer, George	103
Hanna, Mike	127
Hanson, Eric	188
Hardman, Donald	113
Harrah, Brad	4, 72, 203, 207
Harrington, Cara	188, 205, 216
Harris, Candice	188
Harris, Carrie	209
Harris, Chris	203, 207, 209
Harris, Karen	196, 204
Harris, Philana	188, 207, 216
Harris, Traci	214
Hart, Jason	188, 209
Hartley, Harrison	110
Harvey, Marquisha	188
Hass, Kelly	188
Hatcher, Erin	144, 145
Hausman, Andrew	188
Havener, Karen	188, 205, 209
Havens, Eric	188
Hawks, Mindy	188
Haynes, Solon	210, 211
Hazelwood, Christina	188, 208
Heard, Chris	188, 216
Hecker, Christopher	188
Heinrichs, Jessica	188
Heithoff, Annie	138, 139
Heller, Iris	188, 205
Hellerich, Stacia	29
Hemmerling, Amy	213
Henderson, Shalonda	188
Hendricks, Ann	199
Hendrickson, Sherri	204
Hennessey, Heather	196
Herbert, Jennifer	203, 207
Herman, Elanda	188
Hernandez, Rufus	50
Herrera, Joe	212
Herron, Kandi	188
Hersey, Andrew	188, 207
Hertwig, Leah	188
Herzog, Teresa	89
Hewitt, Amanda	188
Hidy, Eric	196

sey, Martin	189
nper, Kari	189, 214
nple, Cheree	203, 216
ndall, Scott	205
ndrick, Kelly	95
nt, Katie	204
n, Traci	203
ner, Dawn	197
ns, Joy	204
ns, Velvet	189
se, Sarah	189
ohn, Jerry	189, 208
y, Tricia	197
alil, Pete	212
irige, Joachim	108, 199
well, Dawn	15, 204
hl, Richard	102
hble, Erin	208
der, Nathan	102
g, Darlene	197
g, Deanna	197
g, Emily	189
g, Lamont	189, 207
naman, Mindy	189
skwood, Shawn	189
schbaum, Roger	164
ley, Michele	197
ffman, Ty	190
in, Jenny	190
reib, Danielle	138
reib, Matt	212
ell, Sarah	217
utter, Ed	197
osky, Jennifer	214
losky, Jennifer	190
tochvil, Taresa	190
eger, Amy	203
eger, Dale	199
ll, Andrea	190
ll, Donald	197
nkkel, Kristin	213
ntz, Sheri	197

L

oube, Stephanie	190
-----------------	-----

Lafollette, Laurel	197
Lampkin, Masako	2
Lane, Kelly	190
Lang, Sherri	136
Larison, Deborah	197
Larkins, Angie	204
Lathrop, Teresa	197
Law, Sherry	197
Lawing, Roxanna	202
Lawson, Carmen	190
Lawson, Rhonda	190
Leake, Jeff	190
Leders, Aaron	212
Leflet, Breann	213
Leland, Peggy	67
Lenley, Dawn	206
Leonard, Jessica	212
Lewis, Dwight	190
Lewis, Erin	190
Lewton, Shawna	190
Lillie, Don	21, 199
Linas, Rebecca	190
Linn, Lucas	190
Lipira, Andrea	197
Liss, Michelle	210, 211
Livingston, Deron	190
Lloyd, Chris	214
Logan, Vernon	197
Logston, Caleb	72, 132, 190
Lohrum, Jennifer	190
Lombardi, Shana	190
Love, Candi	190
Lowe, Charles	197, 214
Luke, Keli	205
Luke, Nona	205
Luke, Tim	204
Luther, Jennifer	26, 190
Lynn, Mark	190
Lynn, Trisha	190
Lyons, Kendra	190, 204, 214, 216

Mm

Mabe, Mark	107
Macbay, Donald	190
MacDonald-Burdg, Michelle	54

Mace, Jeff	4, 12
Maguire, Aubrey	190, 212, 214
Malewski, Christian	107
Malewski, Nicholas	4
Malewski, Timberlyn	190
Mallerence, Scott	148
Mallett, Stacy	197
Malone, Edward	199
Mann, Gara	190
Mannering, Nicholas	190
Manske, Catherine	190, 214
Marr, Jennifer	197
Marsh, Laura	190
Marshall, David	190
Martin, Debra	55
Martin, Erin	190
Martin, Judith	199
Martin, Oronja	207
Martin, Ruthanna	197
Martinie, Stephanie	197
Masoner, Erica	190
Massey, Lance	24
Mast, Laura	202, 213
Mast, Susan	190
Mathews, Mike	127
Mathewson, Marcy	190
Matlack, Amy	197
Maudlin, Susannah	197, 216
Maxwell, LeRoy	127
Mayberry, Amber	214
Mayfield, Amy	190
McBee, Heather	213
McBride, Megan	190, 217
McBroom, Shannon	190
McCamy, Angela	197
McCauley, Patsy	142
McClam, Rickey	190
McClendon, Tasha	197
McClintic, Molly	217
McCloud, Kerry	190
McConnell, Amy	203
McCoppin, Perriann	210
McCready, Amy	190, 213
McCready, Christine	190, 213
McDonald, Jenny	190
McGuire, Sandy	52
McKeen, Deb	208

Schneider, Angela	192, 213
Schneider, Julia	86, 87
Schriever, Eric	192
Schroer, Jen	217
Schwab, Stefanie	146, 150
Schwerdt, Kelly	193, 213
Searcy, Lee	198
Sellars, Gary	193, 212
Sellers, Jessica	193, 204
Sentivany, Scott	193
Seufert, Laura	103
Shaiffer, Bethann	193
Sharr, Christina	193
Shaw, Kelly	193
Shaw, Shannon	193
Shell, Century	198
Shelton, Traci	211
Shigemura, Rachel	193
Shinneman, Verna	193
Shirey, Heather	193
Short, Shannon	193, 214
Shroyer, Christy	193
Siebern, Steven	193
Siesser, Stacey	204
Sigler, Annette	193
Silvers, Diana	105
Silvy, Jennifer	198
Simcoe, Christopher	198
Simonsen, Megon	193
Simpson, Elisabeth	193
Simpson, Jarin	198
Sinclair, Kyle	144, 145
Sisco, Crystal	193
Sisco, Tom	214
Skroh, Sara	193
Slabaugh, William	210
Slater, Clinton	193
Slifer, Dave	138
Smart, Kristen	193
Smith, Adeisha	207
Smith, Amy	193, 217
Smith, Angela	217
Smith, Becky	204
Smith, Carrie	193
Smith, Denise	109
Smith, Georgeanne	193
Smith, Heather	203

Smith, Jamie	193
Smith, Joel	205
Smith, Michael	86, 87
Smith, Rochelle	193
Smith, Roderick	140
Smith, Russell	193
Smith, Shauna	217
Smith, Stacey	198
Smith, Tom	2, 132, 140, 153
Smither, Ellen	199, 211
Smithers, Steve	212
Smtih, Adeisha	206
Snead, Justin	193
Sneed, Adam	193
Sollars, Kim	204
Sollars, Nichi	57, 208
Sollars, Scott	212
Sorkin, Renata	177
South, Christina	193
Spainhour, Amber	193
Spainhour, Sharon	198
Spear, April	193, 215
Spencer, Charles	134, 135
Stacey, Dr. David	91, 199
Stackhouse, Chris	193
Stafford, Yvonne	198, 204
Stallings, Angela	193
Steder, Andy	212
Steed, Ronnie	140
Steiner, Aaron	68, 208
Sterner, Cinda	212
Steubs, Misty	212
Stevenson, Courtney	193
Stevenson, Gloria	193
Stewart, Mildred	193
Stiers, Katie	193
Still, Christy	193
Stock, Jill	193
Stolz, Stephanie	193
Storrs, Ashley	198
Stotts, Amy	193
Straka, David	50
Streeby, Jennifer	193
Strickland, Jason	209
Strutts, Amy	205
Stutterheim, Julie	35, 68, 69, 208
Sullenger, Dixie	217

Summy, Janette	193, 205, 2
Suscheck, Mandy	
Sutter, Heather	
Swanson, Dan	
Szczepanik, Megan	
T	
Taibi, Stacey	
Tangeman, Debbie	
Taylor, Mary	
Taylor, Shane	
Teatsworth, Wendy	
Terrill, Misty	
Thacker, Douglas	
Thies, Rhonda	
Thies, Tara	
Thomas, Christine	
Thomas, John	
Thomas, Liddell	
Thompson, Myranda	
Thompson, Tammy	
Thorne, Ann	
Thorne, Jacob	
Thurman, John	
Tia, Meredith	
Tillman, Marlo	
Tingler, Stepahnie	
Tipton, Jamila	198,
Tipton, Mathew	
Todd, Chris	
Toebben, Travis	194, 208, 210,
Tolle, Nicole	
Tomlinson, Jake	
Townsend, Lorrie	
Townsend, Melody	
Traci, Judy	
Trant, Rebecca	
Treece, Karrie	
Trotter, Regi	
Turner, David	
Turner, Kristin	
Turner, Laura	
Turner, Michael	

ana, Chris 194
 barger, Realaine 213
 shaw, Telia 194, 214
 e, Lester 198

Ww

mmer, Ryan 212
 izandt, Richard 194
 gha, Neda 194
 elakos, Athena 194
 ighn, Corey 194
 ighn, Mark 149
 ighn, Patsy 206
 able, Kourtney 194
 ser, Amanda 49
 ers, Wendy 198, 202, 213
 lett, Bobbie 198

Ww

ddell, Emily 194
 de, Deborah 194
 de, Joy 208
 der, Kelly 214
 ggoner, Steven 194
 inwright, Calvin 207
 kklia, Kelly 217
 lker, Jayla 194
 lker, Lawrence 135
 ll, Christopher 194
 llace, Janice 198, 207, 209, 214
 ller, Tamika 214
 llick, Wesley 194
 lls, Erin 214
 lls, Erynn 70
 mpler, Garla 198
 ng, Jinchang 199
 ng, Ming 104
 rd, Sarah 198
 tkins, Kelly 194
 tkins, Lori 211

Watts, Colby 208
 Weaver, Jill 86, 87
 Webber, Matt 194
 Webster, Christina 194, 205
 Weckes, Eric 204
 Weldon, Jason 194
 Wells, Angela 198
 Wells, Laura 194
 Welter, John 198
 Werning, Sarah 214
 Wesley, Victor 194
 Wessel, Trea 26, 194
 West, Kristina 194
 Westhues, Debbie 34, 204
 Westrich, Elizabeth 103
 Wheeler, Lelania 198
 Wheller, Andrea 204
 White, Jaime 204
 White, Tameca 194, 207
 White, Tanisha 194
 Whitford, Brooke 217
 Whittaker, Amy 194
 Whittington, Jason 18, 102
 Wickes, Eric 194, 205
 Widener, Scott 212
 Wilcox, Becky 204
 Wilcoxon, Kendra 114
 Wilford, Mary 198, 205, 213
 Wilkerson, Jerry 209, 210
 Wilkerson, Reyhan 202, 216
 Williams, Antonio 194
 Williams, Jenita 194
 Williams, Jenny 194, 217
 Williams, Jonathan 194
 Williams, Karen 194
 Williams, Louis 194
 Williams, Marguita 194
 Williams, Melissa 198
 Williams, Onetta 199
 Williams, Tara 194
 Williams, Tona 203
 Williams, Tony 132, 134
 Williamsen, Steven 44
 Williamson, Shawn 194
 Willis, Don 15
 Wills, Courtenay 194, 211
 Wills, Erica 194

Wilson, Amber 195
 Wilson, Jermaine 195
 Wilson, Kevin 57, 195, 212, 216
 Wilson, Kip 96, 127
 Wilson, Leigh 59
 Wilson, Rebecca 195
 Wilson, Shanice 195
 Windmeyer, Christopher 198
 Windoffer, Bruce 198
 Winget, Desiree 195
 Wirth, Stephanie 204
 Wise, Brett 198
 Wise, Dan 214
 Wiss, Matt 205
 Wissman, Jon 195
 Wolf, Laura 195
 Wolf, Melinda 198
 Wolfe, Rachael 195
 Wolford, Amy 195
 Wolford, Nanette 92
 Wood, Jennifer 195
 Wooden, Sara 203, 207, 214
 Woodworth, Mindy 198
 Woody, Kathryn 195
 Worrell, Ashley 199, 211, 216
 Wright, Amy 195
 Wright, Heather 195
 Wright, Shane 148, 149

Yy

Yager, Trent 199
 Yaussi, Amy 195
 Yearta, Marisa 217
 Yeast, Jessica 35, 203
 Yocom, Carolyn 199
 Yocom, Eric 195
 Young, Brenda 89, 208
 Young, Calder 195
 Young, Mitzie 195, 207
 Young, Monique 195
 Young, Tiffany 204

editor's rant

It's said that behind every great man lies an even greater woman. Well, I certainly wouldn't call myself great, successful perhaps, but that's not due to a particular woman, it's due to six extraordinary ones. Without these women, you would not have this book in your hands. I can't possibly sum up how I feel about each one within this small space, but I hope I can do each of you a wee bit of justice.

First there's Jondenna, who didn't fail me when others did. She stuck around and got the job done. Her patience with all of our technical problems helped save the book.

Patient, however, is not how I would describe Verna, the unofficial mother of our little group. She waged a mighty war with the computer from the wrong side of the tracks. Eventually, we thought it best to separate the two. But, what Verna lacked in computer literacy she more than made up for in culinary skills. From cupcakes to her legendary Mexican dip, she kept a hungry staff well fed.

Verna's trusty side-kick, Crystal left our staff early in the spring when she was involved in a nearly fatal car accident. Everyone still sends all our love out to Crystal. WE LOVE YOU! She was the sass behind the camera, as anyone involved in an org shoot can attest to. She took my ranting in stride and single-handedly discovered the wild world of the digital camera.

How can I forget Elizabeth, who's name is nearly synonymous with wrong-doing? Anytime I felt sad or low or just bored Elizabeth was always the shining star, and mostly the butt of every joke we cracked. Luckily, I only really pissed her off once, and she quickly forgave me. She knows I luuv her! Like no man has ever loved a woman!!

My partner in crime in torturing Elizabeth was her best friend Mandy. Not only was she a brilliant Copy Editor, but she was my little ray of light when I thought about torching the office and running from the building. I've never laughed so hard in my life. You're the best.

*Last and far from least was our
trustworthy yearbook advisor, Ann. I'm going to
take this space, because I can, to tell you
how much she has meant to me throughout
out this year. Ann, I know you don't
around and think about the enormous im-
pact you have on your students, because
sometimes I believe you have no idea how
much you count.*

*I've known you for four years
all that time you've been a stellar pro-
fessor, but this year you became my very
friend. I couldn't have made it through
year and the journey of this book with-
out you. I hope hearing it once will be enough
for you to believe it forever. Ann, you are
an exceptional person and I am truly in-
spired by your existence.*

*Most of you who are reading this
will never know the blood, sweat, tears,
and a little bit of foul language that went into the pro-
duction of this book. You may never know
how hard we worked to produce something
that our proud Western could be proud of. All I
want to say is that we've done just that, because I know
now that it's all said and done, that this was
the best time of my life working with these
people. I will never forget our time to-
gether.*

Tracy Jones, Editor

1998 *editors*

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c o l o p h o n

The 1998 Griffon, Volume 28, was created by a student staff at Missouri Western State College and printed by Jostens Publishing Company, Topeka, Kansas. The press run was 1500 books. The publishing representative was Wally Mallins. Individual student portraits were taken by Thornton Photography. Organization's photos were taken by the Griffon staff. Full-time students paid a mandatory yearbook fee of \$5 per semester. Students attending MWSC full-time during the fall of 1997 and spring of 1998 may pick up their yearbook by November 1, 1998. The Griffon was printed on Dull 199, 80-pound paper. The typography used throughout the book was 11 point Poppl-Laudatio Condensed, Light Condensed and Regular. All Layouts were designed on a team of Macintosh computers with PageMaker 5.0 software. Inquiries concerning the Griffon should be addressed to the Griffon Yearbook, SS/C 202, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507.