

# ME TAMOR DOSK



GRIFTON 01-02

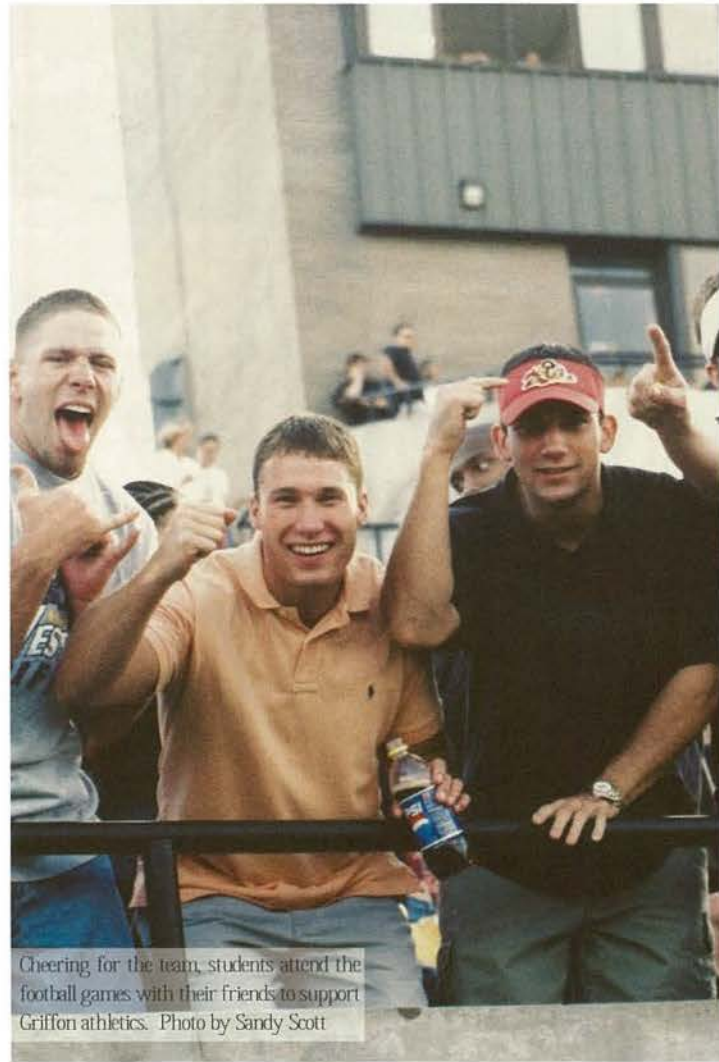
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“To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly.” ~ Henri Bergson

We existed, changed, matured. Everything from tragedy to budget cuts, Western experienced. We dealt with many changes as students, faculty and staff. The campus came together to help those in need through fundraisers and blood drives as the tragedies of September 11 ran through our minds. Homecoming hit with full force and organizations scrambled to add final touches to floats, trucks and cars. School spirit remained high as the men’s and women’s basketball team won the MIAA titles. Budget cuts were reflected on our bill, while students saw and met the need to write to their state representatives and senators expressing concern about the budget.

# MEMORIALS

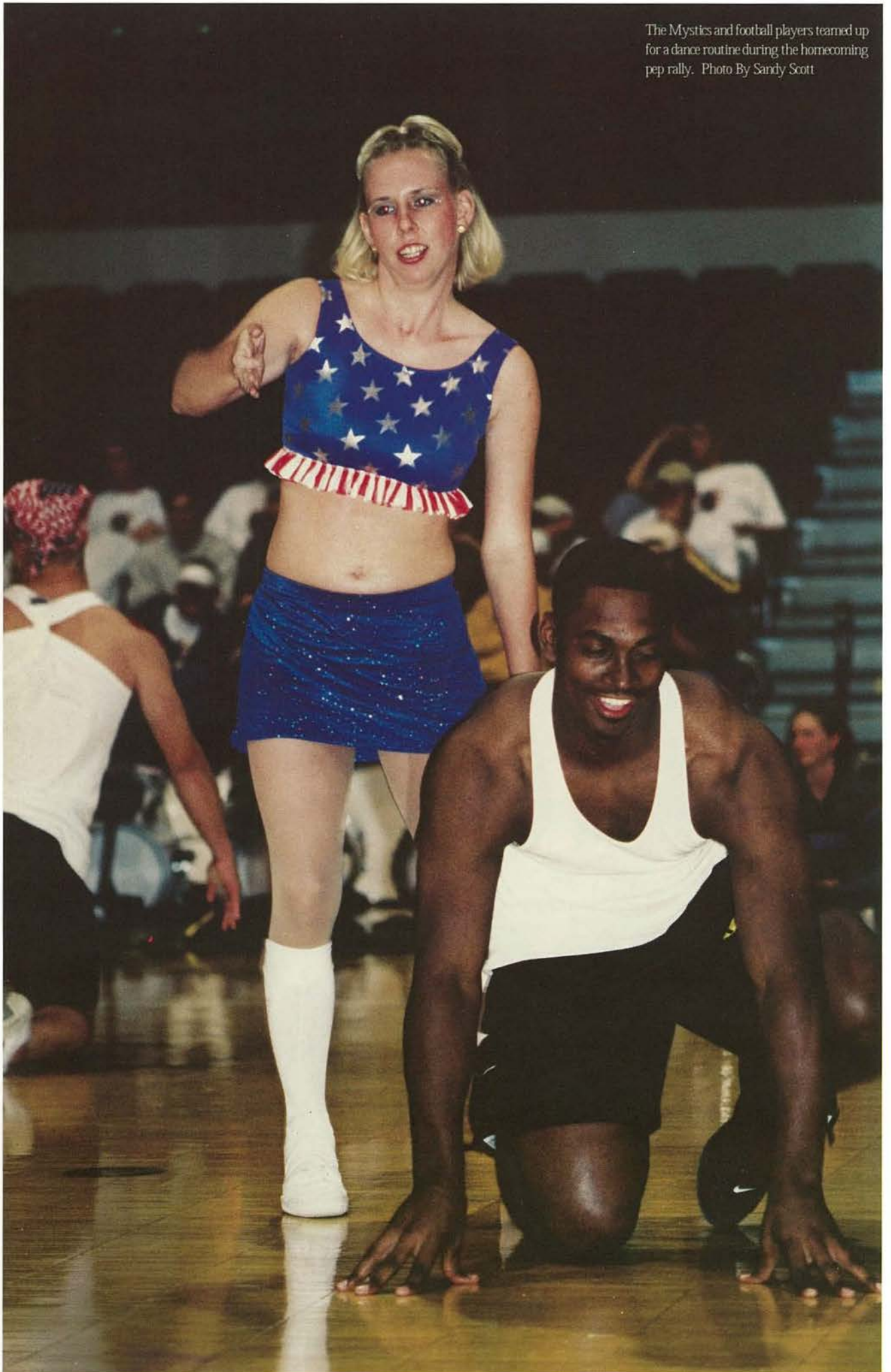


Cheering for the team, students attend the football games with their friends to support Griffon athletics. Photo by Sandy Scott

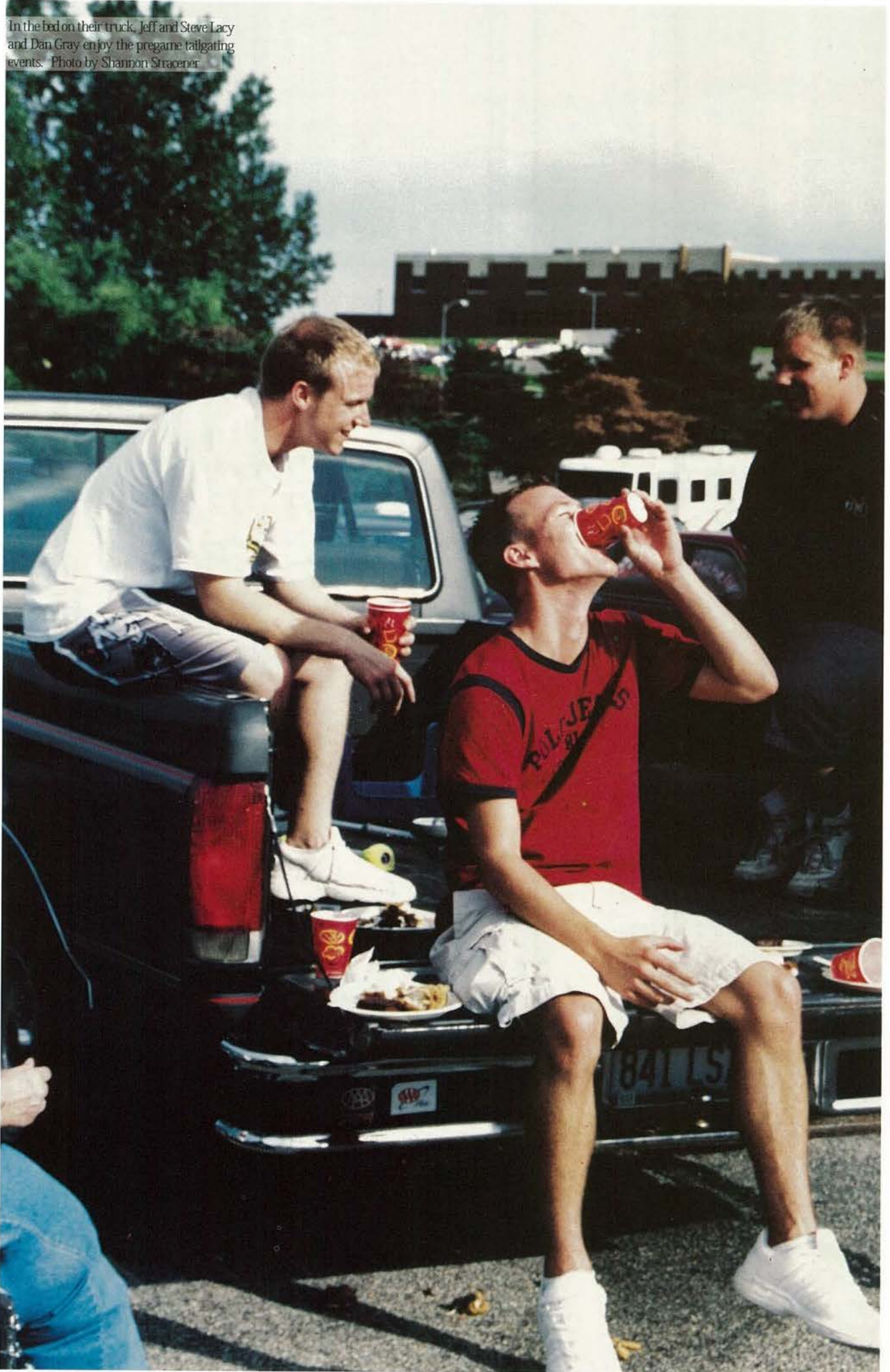


At the homecoming parade, junior Kevin Calloway recreates a scene from the movie "Titanic." Photo by Sandy Scott

The Mystics and football players teamed up for a dance routine during the homecoming pep rally. Photo By Sandy Scott



In the bed on their truck, Jeff and Steve Lacy and Dan Gray enjoy the pregame tailgating events. Photo by Shannon Stracener





With pride, senior Bruce Cunningham proudly raises the trophy his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, won at the homecoming talent show. Photo by Sandy Scott



Working out senior Josh Meierer takes advantage of the fitness center on campus. Photo by Ashley Reynolds

We saw curriculums separate when the business and economics department branched off to form their own division. Western students had the opportunity to be more involved within the community by sponsoring outreaches through Unity Services when they implemented The Big Event. From eating in the halls to dining in a renovated cafeteria, the food services committee had some bumps along the way, but the cafeteria finally reopened satisfying the appetites of many. Students carefully watched Missouri legislation for Missouri Western State College to possibly change to Missouri Western State University.

Throughout the year, full of change and evolution, we emerged anew.

We experienced ...

# METAMORPHOSIS



Some people say they haven't yet found themselves. But the self is not something one finds; it is something one creates. *Thomas Szasz*

## Student Life







**Above:** Getting the crowd pumped, seniors Amy Coriozo and Bruce Cunningham compete for the most spirited fan contest. Many students attended the rally to show off their spirit.

**Right:** Congratulating each other, senior Blum Desravins celebrates the touchdown with his teammate. Missouri Western won the game 34-14 against Missouri-Rolla.

**Below:** Following the spirit rally, students gathered around the bonfire. The bonfire has been a tradition at Missouri Western for many years.

# H o m



Missouri Western hit the big screen with a host of events. Homecoming festivities included the annual talent show, a dance, the Griffon spirit rally and bonfire, a parade through downtown St. Joseph, a pre-game tailgate party, the football game, a post-game celebration and much more.

# oming Week

Story by Amanda Rafferty  
Photos by Sandy Scott

"MWSC Hit The Big Screen" with a dial full of special programming that viewers participated in throughout the week. Activities riddled the channels as Homecoming 2001 took center stage for all those involved in giving viewers a show not soon forgotten.

Festivities included the annual talent show, a dance, the Griffon spirit rally and bonfire, the parade through downtown St. Joseph, a pre-game tailgate party, the football game, a post-game celebration and much more.

The annual talent show took place on Thursday, Oct. 4. The Potter Fine Arts Theatre was packed as viewers watched the acts performed on stage.

The Homecoming dance took place in the student union as movers and shakers made their way onto the dance floor. Lights twirled and stars decorated the scene while students moved to the music as the video images appeared on "The Big Screen" at the front of the room. A smoke machine blew excitement into the halls inviting all who dared to dance the night away.

The spirit rally, hosted by the Alpha Gamma Deltas, began around 9 p.m. on Friday night. Abbey Russell, a member of Alpha Gamma Delta, said that a lot of preparation went into the evening's

events. There were many performances by different groups that included a performance by the Mystics Dance Team, the cheerleaders and many more. They also held "The Most Spirited Fan Competition." Russell commented on how loud the crowd was for its size.

"Our school spirit is coming out," said Russell. "More people are getting involved."

After the spirits were calmed to a slight roar, students walked over to the softball field where the bonfire took place. Russell commented that it took a while for everyone to walk from the gym to the bonfire but once the band began to play, people gathered around to enjoy the blazing fire as the band played on.

Students woke up early to stand in the chill of Saturday morning to watch or participate in the parade. Floats, cars, trucks and bands "Hit the Big Screen" as they marched their way through downtown. Viewers watched as their favorite "Big Screen" shows came to life.

Activities wound down as the Griffons took on the Rolla Bearcats in the football game Saturday. Rolla's new strategies couldn't keep the Griffons down though. The Griffons walked away with the win with a score of 21-12 bringing the team's record to 5-2.



# The

**Above:** The jukebox plays as these "beauty school dropouts" hand-jive their way through the parade. Grease was the word for the Alpha Gamma Deltas. Photo by Deliese Brewster

**Right:** Golden Griffons Marching Band plays throughout the parade. Members played for high school bands which were involved in the parade. Photo by Sandy Scott

**Below:** Sigma Sigma Sigma members Camilia Butrum and Lindsay Fleischman sleep in a giant Lego during the Homecoming Parade. The sorority went with the theme "Honey I Shrank the Sigmas". Photo by Sandy Scott



It was pre-dawn and close to freezing cold when the campus entries for the Homecoming parade started rolling into the staging area. There were nearly 50 entries to be judged in the three categories: floats, cars and pickups.

# Big Screen

Story by Jeanette Kragel

Hundreds of students were gathered in the two-block stretch, putting the finishing touches on creations they had already spent many hours designing and constructing. They worked days and nights in garages and sheds around St. Joseph and the outlying communities. Several groups of bleary-eyed students worked through the night to get their entries completed and to the staging area by the 6 a.m. deadline.

"I got about 15 hours of sleep this week," president of Phi Sigma Kappa, Chad Scheiter, said. "I tried to keep an even balance between school and Homecoming work."

The parade theme was "MWSC Hits the Big Screen." Some of the movies represented were, "The Wizard of Oz," "Grease," "Animal House," "Honey, I Shrunk the Kids," "Rocky" and "Star Wars."

"We had the organizations submit their float concepts in advance," Ernie Stufflebean said. "We wanted to avoid duplicates."

Stufflebean was the assistant director of Student Affairs, and this was his first year as faculty advisor to Homecoming. He and the students worked with the added burden of a time crunch.

"Every 10 years the NCAA puts out a new schedule; in the past Homecoming has been two to three weeks later," Stufflebean said. "This is the first year of the new schedule, and they sprung an early date on us. It's been tough on everyone involved."

The Homecoming committee consisted of representatives from every organization on campus and was a subdivision of the Campus Activities Board. Members of Phi Sigma Kappa spearheaded the parade for the celebration.

Local high school bands were a big part of the parade as they performed for the onlookers, competing against one another, and the Golden Griffon Marching Band performed programs for the high school bands on the morning of the parade and again after lunch.

The winners of the high school parade competition, judged by three experts, had the honor of marching at the opening of the football game.

Alpha Sigma Alpha took first place in the float competition with their concept of the "Wizard of Oz." Tau Kappa Epsilon won the car division with their replica of the death mobile from "Animal House." Top honors in the pickup category went to Sigma Sigma Sigma for their truck, the Sigma-O's.

Students dedicated hours of planning and work into competing for the honor of winning a Homecoming parade event. "This is the most fun I've ever had," float builder Mystery Hensley said. "Most of us put in more hours than we had to, to get the job done."

Whether they won or lost, the students were proud of their efforts and showed them off to the community at the Homecoming parade.

A police officer takes the fingerprints of a little girl for Ident-A-Child. The Non-Traditional Students Organization sponsored the service for Family Day.



# FAMILY DAY

*Loved ones gather together for a day full of fun and games.*

Story by: Rashad Givhan  
Photos by: Sandy Scott

Family Day was a day when families and friends could focus on values like love, togetherness and friendship while enjoying all the events the campus had to offer. In addition, America's recent tragedy further defined Family Day's focus.

Family Day festivities began on a rhythmic note with the Griffon Jazz Band and later, the steel drum band. Although rainy weather moved Family Day festivities into the M. O. Looney Physical Education Building, families remained joyful and upbeat. The Griffon Cheer Squad further displayed that joyous mood with a rousing cheer and dance sequence.

Several booths laced with food, fun and prizes enticed family and friends. More than that, many of those student-sponsored booths had a greater cause in mind, striving to raise money for the Sept. 11 disaster. For example, Alpha Gamma Delta sold bumper stickers and window decals to raise money for the American Red Cross.

Tau Kappa Epsilon had a delicious game that consisted of marshmallows and chocolate. Matt Silvius, a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, felt it was important to be a part of Family Day and support MWSC.

"We've come out here to represent," Silvius said. "We want to let everyone know we're supporting Missouri Western." The Ebony

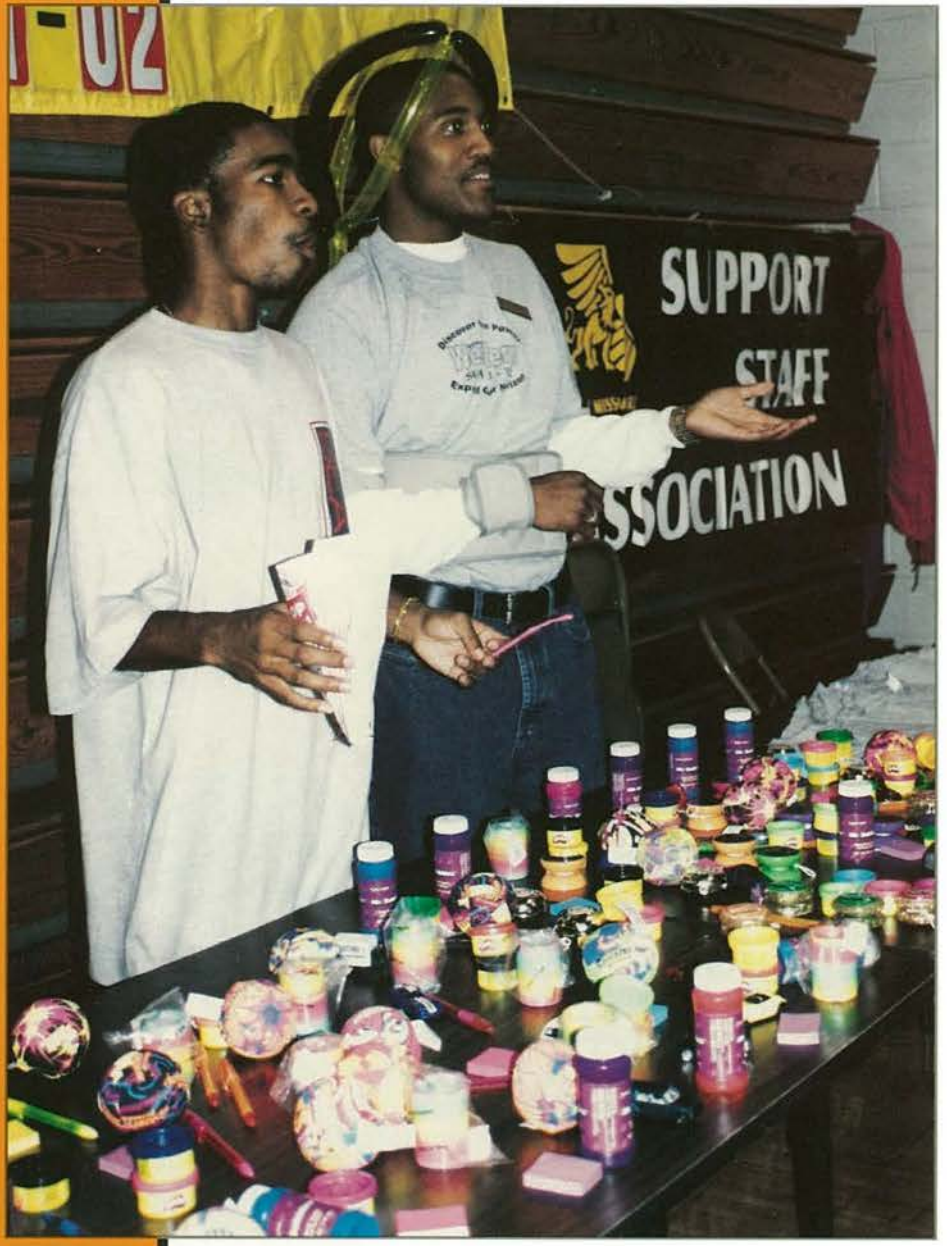
Collegians had a card matching game that offered candy and treats

Some booths didn't necessarily give away food. The Psychology Club had an abundance of pies, but you couldn't eat them. Those delicious pies were thrown at faculty and students. Like many of the booths, the proceeds helped disaster victims.

The biological honor society, Beta Beta Beta, served up hearty helping of snakes. The organization showcased a 12-foot-long Burmese Python and a 6-foot Boa Constrictor. According to member John Casey, the Psychology Club wanted to be represented during the festivities while they had a good time. "We want to be represented science-wise," Casey said. "We're not here to make money."

Alpha Phi Alpha had a booth that provided help for disaster victims and also provided fun activities for children. Junior Jarrett Dillard, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, said "Our goal is to interact with the youth in a fun environment."

The idea of helping out did not stop there; many booths had the community in mind. Phi Mu had a drawing that donated money to the Children's Miracle Network, and the Non-Traditional Student Organization supported "Ident-a-Child," a service in which children were fingerprinted for free.



Right Above: Stan Pearson II, president of Residence Council, and Arthur Ballard get involved in Family Day events. Residence Council sponsored one of the many booths that offered treats and trinkets.

Left Below: Lil' Griff interacts with the kids at Family Day. The children were entertained by the friendly mascot.

Above: Beta Beta Beta's John Casey is showing a Burmese Python to a young boy at Family Day. The python was one of the two large snakes shown by the biological honor society.



**Above:** Sophomore Michelle Figg and senior Stan Pearson are chosen as MWSC royalty. Their duties consisted of reigning over the Homecoming festivities.

**Right:** Former Homecoming queen Tai Aregbe congratulates 2001 winner sophomore Michelle Figg.

**Below:** Zach Ramsey, Nate Smith and Kasey Waterman enter the arena dressed to impress. This was the first year for a king to be crowned during Homecoming.



There were many changes that took place during the 2001-2002 school year and some of these changes were noticeable during the Homecoming festivities. With the crowning of a new king and queen, Homecoming at Missouri Western would never be the same.

# oyal Couple

Story by Teresa Turley  
Photos by Sandy Scott

There were many changes on campus during the 2001-2002 school year. A few of these changes were evident during the Homecoming festivities. These changes included the location and time of the crowning, and the most evident was the crowning of a king for the first year.

"The idea of having a Homecoming king grew out of the Homecoming Committee. Everyone thought it was a good idea to create another opportunity for more involvement," Ernie Stufflebean, advisor to the Homecoming committee, said. "More colleges have it, and it's so a more modern approach."

After the idea of having a Homecoming king was brought to the Homecoming Committee, the Homecoming Committee passed it with a unanimous vote.

"I thought that it was a good idea," Homecoming king Stan Pearson said. "It's neat that there's finally a king and queen to reign together."

Candidates were then chosen by many organizations on campus.

"Any student organization can nominate somebody," Stufflebean said. "There can also be candidates that are self-nominated individuals."

Another change was the time that the preliminary and final elections were held. The candidates were voted on in preliminary elections two weeks prior to Homecoming, and the final elections were one week before Homecoming. However, in the past, candidates were not

voted on until the week of Homecoming. "This way the queen and king can be identified throughout the week of Homecoming to help generate enthusiasm for Homecoming, and set an example for others by being involved," Stufflebean said.

On Friday, Sept. 28, 2001, sophomore Michelle Figg and senior Stan Pearson II were nominated as the queen and king to reign throughout the week of Homecoming. Coronation was held during halftime at the volleyball game.

"I was excited and happy because I had never had anything like that in high school. It didn't hit me that it was me until everybody was gone and I was the only one standing out there," Figg said. "Even then it still didn't hit me until they said my name."

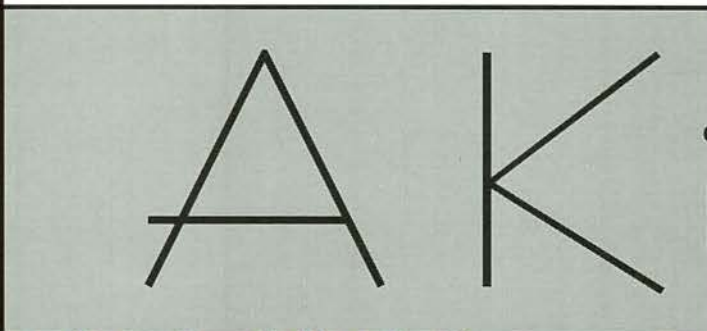
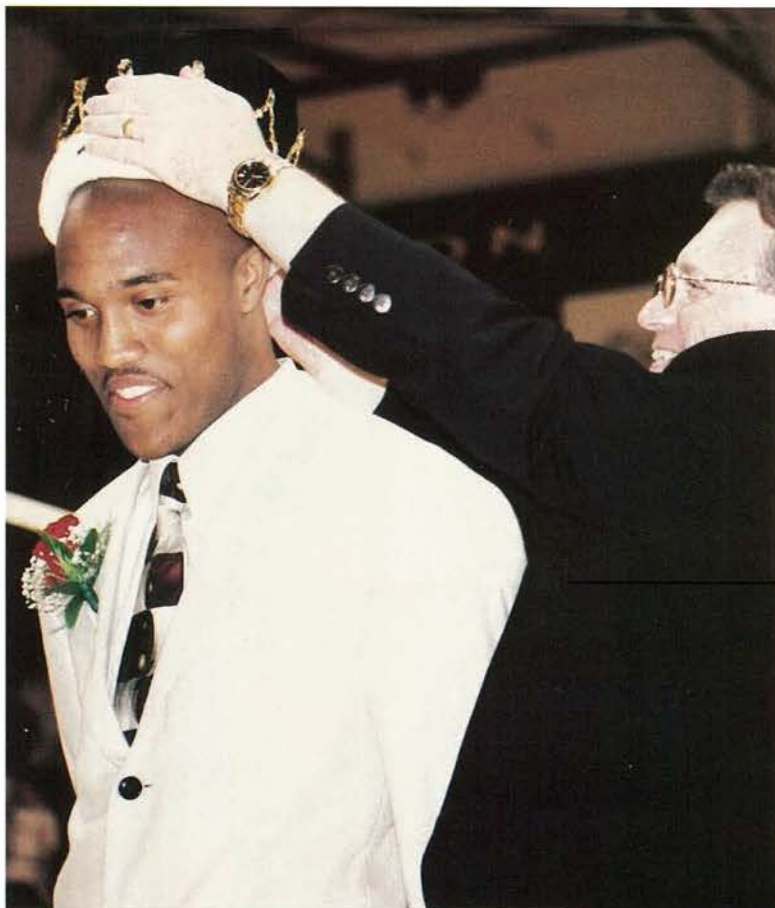
"It makes me smile," Pearson said. "It's exciting to be part of the history of the school, I just hope to represent it well."

Figg and Pearson judged the Campus Activities Board talent show along with being recognized in the parade, the pep rally and the Homecoming football game.

These changes were passed by the Homecoming Committee after Homecoming to decide if the changes were successful. The Homecoming Committee decided to stick with the new changes.

"Everybody was receptive to the idea of announcing the king and queen the week before Homecoming," Stufflebean said. "There was a good turnout and good support at all of the events."





**Above:** Missouri Western President James Scanlon crowns the Homecoming King, Senior Stan Pearson. Pearson was the first Homecoming King in MWSC history.

**Right:** Pearson smiles at the crowd as they welcome their new king. Pearson was honored to have been voted by his peers as king.

**Below:** The king and queen ride together in the parade after being crowned at the home volleyball game. Pearson and Figg were the first royal Homecoming couple.



For nearly three decades, the Homecoming queen reigned alone. The MWSC Homecoming committee felt the longstanding tradition needed to be broken. In 2001, the Homecoming queen was finally joined by a king.

# Now Reigns

Story By: Kellie Feuerbacher

Photos By: Sandy Scott

Traditions were made to be broken.

Dramatic changes took place in different aspects of MWSC throughout the year, and Homecoming was no different. In the past, students elected a Homecoming queen but no king. An idea from the MWSC Homecoming committee changed that.

Senior Stan Pearson II, sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, was chosen as the first ever MWSC Homecoming king in history.

Pearson enjoyed holding this position, and he also enjoyed receiving recognition from fellow students.

The election of the king and queen was based entirely on student choice, so it went without saying that Pearson was held in high regard by his peers, many of whom knew him through the many organizations in which he participated.

Pearson was busy as an intern for Unity Services, and he was the president of the Residence Council. He was also the vice president of the Intergreek Council, a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and the Ebony Collegians.

The Homecoming committee wanted a king, and the Student Government Association supported the idea.

The change seemed to go over well with many students.

"I think it was a good idea," senior Lacey Dessel said. "Guys are active on this campus too."

Pearson agreed that it was a positive change.

"The queen represents women, and the king represents guys," Pearson said. "They compliment each other."

The queen, sophomore Michelle Figg, sponsored by the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, didn't mind sharing the spotlight with the king.

"I think it was a good idea, and he's a good choice for the first king," Figg said.

In addition to adding a king, another adjustment was made. In the past, the queen wasn't crowned until the pep rally. However, this time the queen and king were crowned at the home volleyball game the week before. Some students preferred to stick to tradition when it came to this change.

"I don't think it was a good idea because I liked the anticipation during the week," sophomore Wade Drossel said.

Others were glad the change was made. "I like it that they did it early," Figg said.

Pearson agreed, finding that a longer reign brought recognition throughout the week.

Although Pearson enjoyed being a part of Homecoming history, he also made it a point to not let the privilege overwhelm him.

"You make the title. Don't let the title make you," Pearson said. "I plan to continue to be out in the community with my different organizations."

Page 18: Empty seats line Spratt Stadium at a home football game. Turnout to games was low most of the season.



# S C H O O L S P

Story by: Ruth Doornink  
Photos by: Sandy Scott

The cost of a Missouri Western sweatshirt- \$36

The cost of a Griffon Gameday program- \$2

The cost of admission to Missouri Western athletic events for current students- \$0

The cost of filling the student section at Missouri Western athletic events-Priceless

All too often the same sight is seen: instead of Missouri Western fans overflowing the stands at home games, empty seats are the norm. The best example of this is the attendance of the 2001 Homecoming football game versus the University of Missouri-Rolla. Instead of seeing a wash of black and gold in the stands, only 2,508 fans were in attendance, compared to the 4,211 that were in attendance two weeks prior to watch the Griffons battle Pittsburg State.

"This is ridiculous," Western Athletic Director Pete Chapman said when he looked into the stands on Oct. 6. "Did everyone know we had a game today?"

Most of the spectators were made up of family, friends and the band. Not present were the Greek letters that normally stood against the east side of the field, along with the Greek organizations that were normally waiting behind the end zone to congratulate Griffons after a

score.

There were key games that Griffon fans would not miss however. This season a capacity crowd filled Rickenbrode Stadium to witness the Griffons' come-from-behind, overtime victory over the Bearcats. While the players were excited to see a large turnout, they commented on the lack of fan support at other games.

"Why are people so willing to drive 43 miles to see this game when they won't even walk from the dorms or drive five miles to watch home games?" Griffon quarterback Kasey Waterman said.

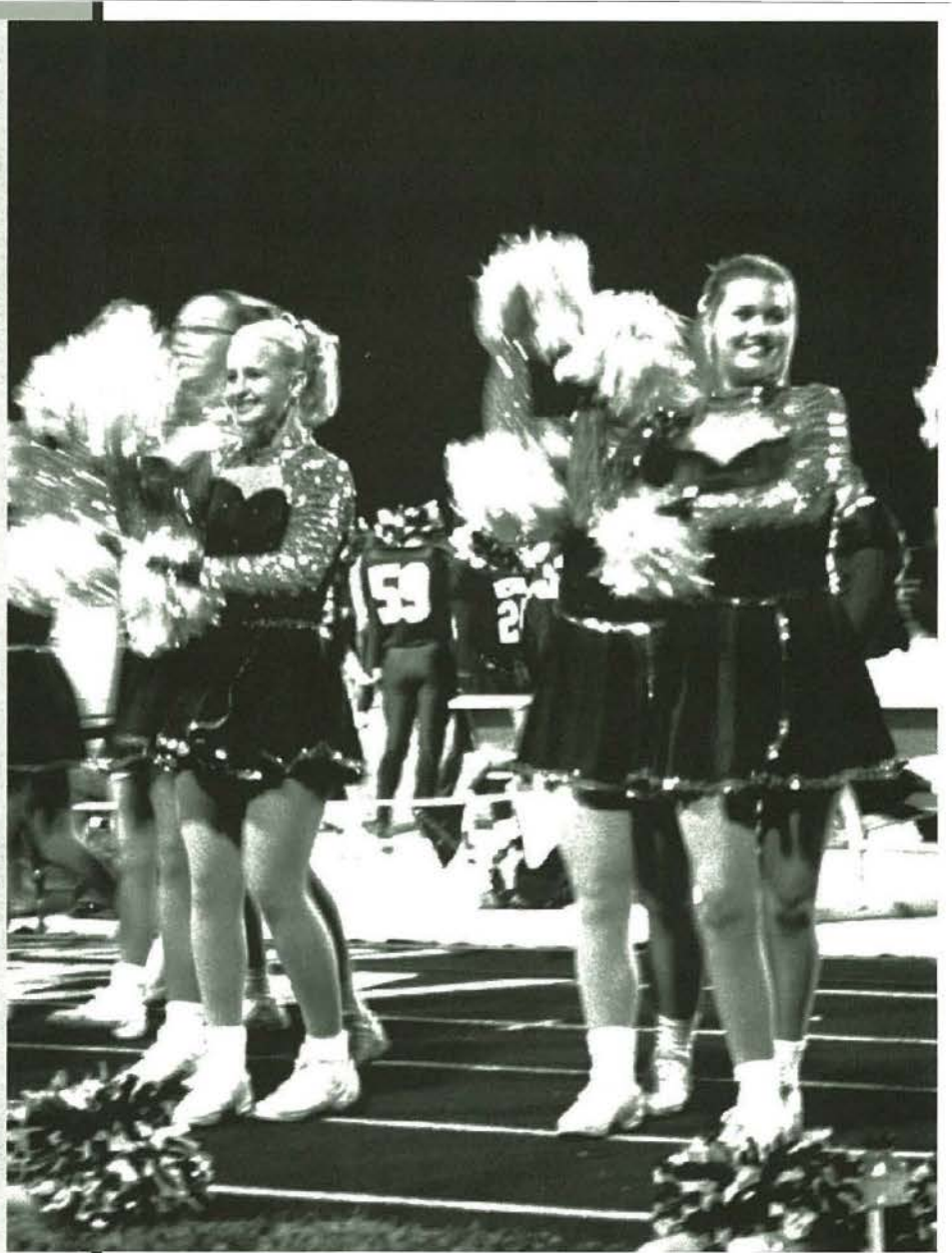
Waterman's sentiments were echoed by other members of the team. Senior cornerback Tyreece Whyte said, "When we walked out on the field all I thought was 'wow,'" Whyte said. "Then I remembered we were in their stadium. That helped us out, but that's not the kind of support we need at home."

Regardless of their feelings about fan support for the 2001 season, the football players believed turnout would increase in the coming years.

"I think crowds will be bigger next season," senior receiver Jerris Evans said. "Every time we have a winning season we gain more fans. We're creating something here that will last when we're gone



RIT



**Left Below:** Stands at Griffon games seem to be empty too often due to the lack of school spirit. Support for sports was felt by students but not physically shown at the sporting events.

**Right Above:** Cheerleaders have their work cut out for them with a low number of fans to cheer on the team. The largest crowd that attended was at the game against Northwest.

**Above:** Students who did attend games showed support with blow-up noodles, cheers and encouragement. That is the type of support that contributed to the Griffons' victories.

*Different Homes, Same Lives.*  
Are on-campus students as equally involved in campus activities as off-campus students? Does location matter when studying and being active become a priority? Missouri Western students show the pros and cons of either alternative.

# T r a d i n g

Story by Jared Hoffman  
Photos by Ashley Reynolds

Each student had an important role on campus, and no one role was more important than the other. But did the campus experience differ amongst off-campus and on-campus students?

Sophomore Matt Silvius knew first-hand about on-campus living. As an Associate Senator and member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Silvius spent much of his time on extra curricular activities. "Living on campus makes it easy for me to attend meetings," Silvius said.

Silvius, a member of Campus Activities Board and the Pre-Professional Club, felt that living on campus sometimes changed the way he looked at everyday occurrences.

"I live in the apartments, so maintenance comes by and cleans the bathrooms," Silvius said. "But I still have to do my own laundry."

Aside from their duties around the dorm, on-campus students sometimes had another issue to face: where to eat.

"I eat in the cafeteria or the food court almost everyday," Silvius said. "Or sometimes Papa John's since I get a discount there."

The food court and cafeteria were two options that students had when they needed to refuel. One important thing that all students needed in order to buy food was, of course, money. Silvius explained how a part-time job helped him out with some of his expenses around campus.

"I DJ at Legends every Thursday night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.," Silvius said. "Also, being a VIP is kind of a job too. You have to put in at least three hours a week to give tours of the campus and stuff."

Having made their homes on campus, students sometimes needed to have time for themselves. Privacy was often hard to come by for a student who had several roommates.

"I have privacy to an extent," Silvius said. "There are four of us living together, and there are dividers in our rooms, so it's not as bad as living in the suites where you would have nine roommates."

While some students who lived on campus had much of their time wrapped up in various school activities, students who chose to live off-campus were equally involved.

Junior Sara Pickerel, a member of Alpha Omega, said that living at home has its advantages and disadvantages.

"It's about 10 miles from my house to the campus," Pickerel said. "So I have to pay for gas, but since I live at home I don't have many other expenses."

Secondly, Pickerel explained that although she still lived at home with her parents, she was allowed to come and go as she wished.

"It seems like a lot of people think I would have a curfew since I live at home," Pickerel said. "But my parents are very trusting."

Pickerel felt that living at home was a big plus because of the quiet atmosphere, which made it easier to get work done.

"When I visit my friends on campus, they seem more distracted when it comes to getting homework done," Pickerel said. "But at home there aren't many distractions."

Pickerel also held a part-time job at a local restaurant, Maitre D' Rite, while she managed 16 hours of classes each week.

Junior Emily Praiswater, secretary of the SMSTA, also felt that living on campus had its advantages and disadvantages. Praiswater, also a member of Alpha Omega, said her study habits and level of privacy were affected.

"There are four girls staying in the BSU where I live," Praiswater said. "The rooms are divided, but there are always a lot of people coming and going, so it kind of cuts down on privacy."

Although each student's involvement on campus seemed to be as diverse as the individual, whether or not a student lived on campus or off campus was irrelevant.

# places



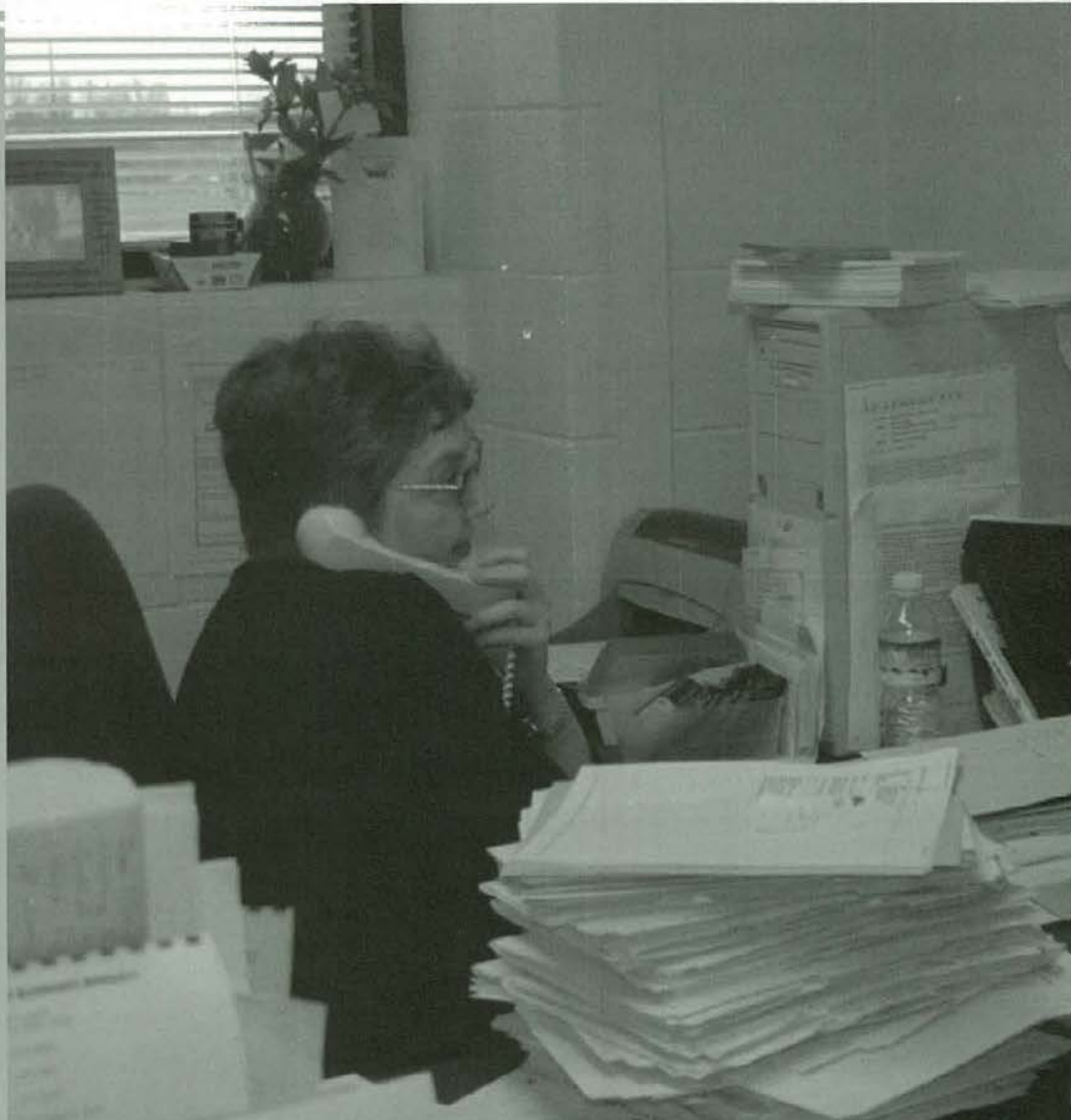
**Above:** This Leaverton Hall hallway shows the simplicity of dorm life. The quiet hours in the dorms allowed students to study.

**Right:** Preparing for an upcoming exam, sophomore Vanessa Beasley studies at her desk. Some students found it difficult to study in the dorms.

**Below:** Relaxing at home, Junior Sara Pickarel watches television. She enjoyed the amount of privacy she received living off campus.



Lois Fox procrastinates her office work. Fox added stress to her life by letting the stacks pile up.



# HEINOUS HABIT

*Bad habits lead to harmful behavior*

Story by Frank Nemeth  
Photos by Nicole Gentry

Most people are hazards to themselves. People know what's right and what's wrong, so why then do we insist on doing harm to ourselves? Is it because we don't realize that we are doing it? Do we feel as if it has to be done?

A habit is something that we get accustomed to doing or something that we have to do. Even when we know the result is bad or wrong we continue with our redundant behavior. Habits are not to be taken lightly, and mostly everyone has one whether they realize it or not.

I recently conducted an experiment at MWSC on the behavior of young college students and found out that 83 percent of men admitted to having a bad habit and 92 percent of ladies had bad habits. All participants agreed that if possible they would like to rid themselves of these exercises if at all possible.

There were many different types of bad habits that students admitted to having which include: smoking, playing with hair, playing with gum, procrastination, tapping of hands and feet, grinding of teeth, nail biting, not washing hands and even picking of the nose. After the study was complete, 64 percent of the participants agreed

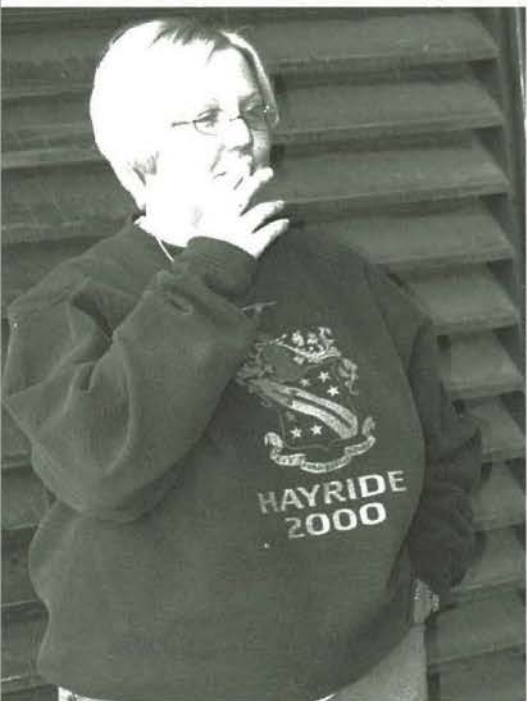
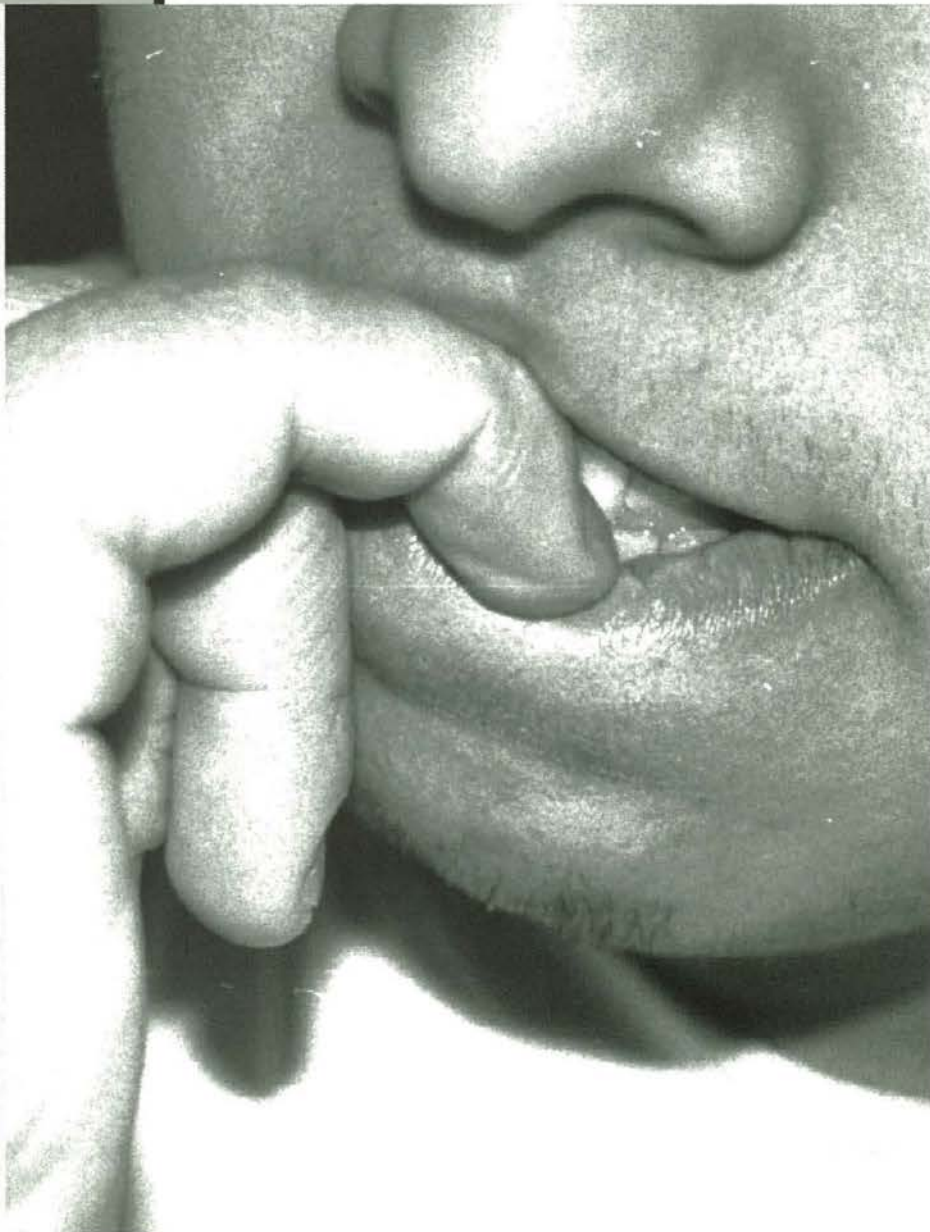
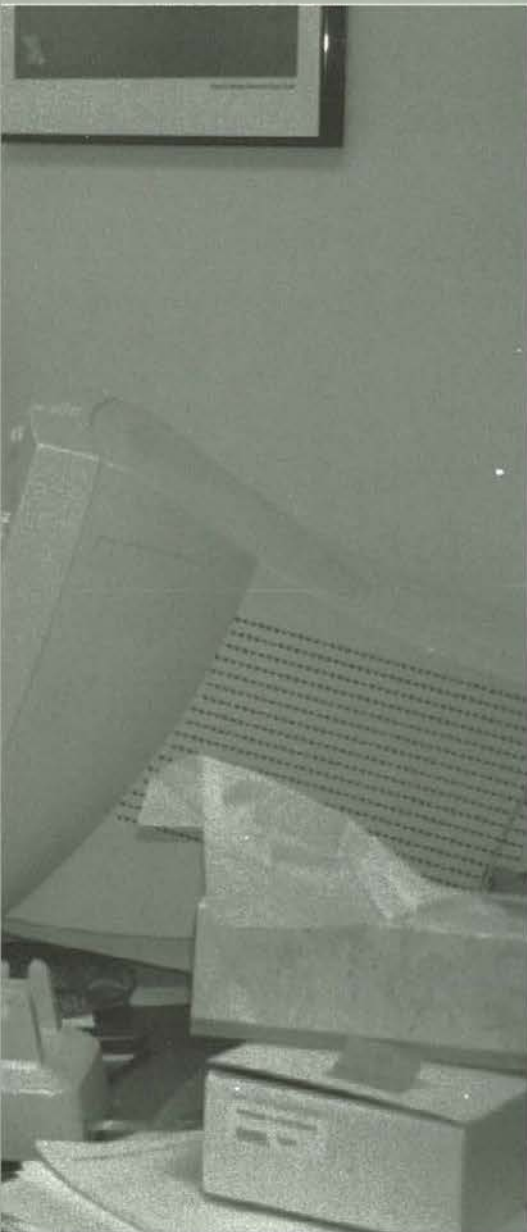
that smoking was the worst bad habit an individual could partake. Twenty-two percent of the participants thought that procrastination was the worst form of a bad habit. Eight percent of the participants figured that biting nails was the worst form, and six percent were other choices. "Smoking is my bad habit, and the reason it is so bad because it is so expensive," senior Ruth Doornink, a journalism major, said.

It was interesting that an individual would find that money was why a habit was bad. Bad habits could indeed cost a person a great fortune. In fact, studies showed that smokers on average spend about \$1,200 a year on cigarettes.

Procrastination was another bad habit that some had.

"Procrastination on paper work is my worst habit, and though it's not as bad as smoking, it can impact someone very much," Lois Fox, the Special Needs Coordinator at MWSC, said. "It adds stress and has a big impact on daily life."

Whether one was a nail-biter, a smoker or a nose-picker, bad habits plagued almost everyone, and they were not to be taken lightly.



**Left:** Ruth Doornink smokes between classes. Doornink along with many other students took up the bad habit of smoking.

**Top:** Since smokers can't light up in the buildings, they have to find alternative areas. Smoking was the worst bad habit.

**Above:** A Missouri Western student bites his nails. Nail biting was a bad habit, which students found hard to break.





# ICE,

**Above:** Tree branches in senior Amber Shaw's backyard weigh heavily with snow and ice. Some Kansas City areas received up to six inches of ice and 14 inches of snow.

**Right:** The devastation of the ice storm left evidence in Amber Shaw's yard. Shaw was a student who commuted from Kansas City to attend Missouri Western.

**Bottom:** This wave runner is out of place amongst the effects of the winter storm. Waves won't be seen through the icy weather.



Preparation gave St. Joseph an advantage over Kansas City during the big ice storm that struck in early February. The ice storm resulted in power outages, wrecks, cancellations and a temporary shut down of the two cities.

# ICE, BABY

Story by Frank Nemeth  
Photos by Amber Shaw

There is nothing like being greeted by old man winter after a beautiful winter break, and that is precisely what happened to the greater Kansas City area and the city of St. Joseph. Early Wednesday morning, Feb. 6, a blizzard of a large magnitude devastated Western Missouri, and St. Joseph was used as a marking point for the blizzard.

Snow fell in gigantic proportions in St. Joseph and above. Some places received up to 14 inches of snow according to the National Weather Service. Below St. Joseph conditions were worse. Kansas City was blanketed in about 6 inches of ice and received snow as well. Road conditions everywhere were frightening, and many accidents occurred throughout the course of the storm.

"The driving conditions got better from Kansas City to St. Joseph, not worse," Travis Spence of Kansas City, Mo. said.

Kansas City was a disaster compared to the other parts of Missouri. St. Joseph got an early jump on the storm due to the blizzard of 1993 that shut down the city.

"Salt trucks hit the streets as the snow first started falling and ran in eight hour shifts," Thomas Glennon, a municipal worker for St. Joseph, said. "Kansas City was not nearly prepared for such a storm,

and it showed to be costly as salt trucks and other aid to the city couldn't move in the storm, which left people stranded and caused many more accidents."

Josh O'Neil of Missouri Western State College made a trip down to Kansas City on Thursday after the main portion of the storm hit.

"On my way to Kansas City, I saw at least 15 vehicles involved in major accidents and another 10 in minor jams," O'Neil said. "I have never seen anything like that before. I had to call into work and tell them that I was not going to be able to make it in."

According to the National Weather Service, the blizzard was one of the worst storms to hit the state of Missouri in the last 20 years. A woman in Kansas City had a tree branch fall on her car, which electrocuted her.

Horrible events occurred during the storm of 2002, but Kansas City and the rest of Missouri rebounded. In the future Kansas City would probably be wise to take oncoming winter storms more seriously like the city of St. Joseph.

Since 1991 when smoking was banned in buildings, areas where smoking was allowed decreased greatly on campus. However, smokers still found places to gather during their breaks from classes.

# When the Smok

Story by Kellie Feuerbacher

Photos by Jill Kirkendoll

Smoking cigarettes is a regular part of everyday life for many people, but when it begins to affect others, problems arise.

Just as in other public places, smoking on campus created a nuisance to some students. However, most smokers did make an effort to decrease this problem by limiting their smoking habits to certain areas of the campus.

Between class times, smokers could be spotted outside, rain or shine, at entryways of classroom buildings. Several years prior, smoking was allowed not only outside buildings, but inside also, in the halls and classrooms. That was changed in 1991 when smoking was banned in all buildings. Over 10 years later, students looked back to that decision and were grateful it was made.

"I'm glad smoking is not permitted in the buildings because there is poor ventilation, and there is more hazard to people's health through second-hand smoke," sophomore Jeff Winn said.

Because smoking was not allowed in buildings, smokers found that the most convenient areas in which to smoke were outside at the entryways to campus buildings. Ashtrays were found at many entrances, making this an even greater convenience.

Due to the high number of smokers at these entrances, some students, including non-smokers, found themselves wading through clouds of smoke in order to get to their classrooms.

Despite the clouds of smoke, some students were very understanding of the fact that the smokers were not intentionally causing prob-

lems. "I don't mind it if people smoke near the buildings as long as they're considerate of other people's spaces," Winn, a non-smoker, said.

Winn understood that people who were addicted to smoking need a place to smoke between classes, and he felt that if any improvements were to be made on the issue on campus, "a possible solution would be to designate smoking areas where there is less traffic."

Junior Valerie Hallquist also found it understandable that students who were addicted had a need to smoke between classes. Hallquist, however, didn't feel the need to smoke during the day while she was at school since she was a light smoker. She mostly smoked when with friends who did. "I hung out with a group of friends in which everybody smoked but me," she said of her reason for starting to smoke.

In addition, unlike heavier smokers, Hallquist found that smoking was not very difficult to give up, and she was able to quit "cold turkey."

Sally Radmacher, psychology professor, teaches students the psychological reasons behind why it is more difficult for heavy smokers to give up the habit. "When they give it up, it's kind of like they let go of their friend," she said.

So for those smokers who did have that addiction and wanted to smoke during school days, the entrance areas with ashtrays remain available, and smokers and non-smokers alike continued wading through the clouds of smoke.

# Clears



**Above:** Sarah Caldwell takes a cigarette break on the patio, outside of the Fine Arts Building. This served as a popular place for smokers.



**Left:** Tonya Mosier and Stephen Robison take a break from their hectic day to smoke cigarettes together. Many students found themselves wading through clouds of smoke.

**Below:** A student uses one of the designated ashtrays on campus. Ashtrays were found at most building exits.



Junior Tara Klocke keeps busy with her registration/orientation internship duties. Klocke held several leadership positions in various areas of campus.



# LEADING LAD

*Women became more prominent in leadership positions in many places, including Missouri Western.*

Story by Kellie Feuerbacher  
Photos by Jill Kirendoll

Ambition, vision, discipline and determination. Possessing these qualities is what it took to rise above and stand out as a leader at Missouri Western, and women abounded in the leadership arena. Several women held various leadership positions as faculty and students.

Senior Brandy Bray was one of those female leaders. Bray was president of Alpha Chi, vice president of Student Honors Organization, secretary of the psychology club, secretary of Psi Chi, a Western VIP and a Barbara Sprong Leadership Challenge participant. Bray invested her skills and leadership capabilities in these campus organizations. As an involved female leader, there was no challenge in receiving respect and support from others working side-by-side her or in positions below her.

"It doesn't matter if you're a guy or girl," Bray said. "If you're positive, a hard worker and honest, they're going to support you."

Junior Tara Klocke was president of Alpha Kappa Psi, a registration/orientation intern and a Western VIP. Klocke believed that if women were willing to work hard for the top positions in leadership, they deserved to achieve their goals and be proud of

their accomplishments. "I feel I've done my duty to be there, so I shouldn't feel guilty," she said.

On the other side of the spectrum, from a male's point of view, senior Olu Aregbe felt that women were excellent workers and were an asset to leadership teams. As Student Government Association president, Aregbe has had the experience of working with two different women as vice presidents, and he felt that both of them were very reliable and proved to be strong leaders. Aregbe has developed confidence in the capabilities of women to perform well as leaders. "There are a lot of females that have many leadership positions, and they perform very strongly and hold these positions well," he said.

The faculty of Missouri Western also had several women working in and excelling in various leadership positions on staff.

Jeanne Daffron was a leading lady as the Dean of Professional Studies. She felt that Missouri Western offered a fair chance for women to rise to leadership positions and also that in society, women generally received an equal amount of respect as compared to men. "I think a lot of that comes from how you treat people," she said.



**Top:** Senior Brandy Bray stays involved in school through her leadership roles in several campus organizations. Bray didn't let her gender hinder her in any way; she set high goals and accomplished them.

**Left:** Jeanne Daffron, Dean of Professional Studies, is a prime example of a woman in a leadership role. Daffron's leadership capabilities allowed her to rise to her leadership position at Western.

**Above:** Allison Sauls works on her daily duties. Sauls showed leadership by not only being an art professor but also being the chairperson of the art department.

Students find it easy to fall into credit card debt. Every semester students receive many publications from credit card companies offering them huge credit limits. These offers are tempting to college students, and they often lead to problems.

# Cash or C

Story by Shannon Paul

Photos by Michelle Lakebrink

Easy access to credit cards has led many students to struggle with credit card debt. When students enter college often they are bombarded with credit card offers. Freshman Amber Voltmer was just one of those students. "I get credit card applications in the mail ever day," Voltmer said. "Some don't give up and I have been offered the same one at least three times." Many students have never dealt with credit cards before and are unaware of the high interest rates and other hidden charges that come with the card.

When the bill arrives students are often shocked at how small purchases have added up, a pizza, cd's and interest often lead to a much higher balance than expected. Freshman Amy Kerner learned this when her mom let her use her credit card and at the end of the month found that she had charged a thousand dollars. Kerner learned what many others have learned before her about credit cards it is easy to get into debt and over your head. Kerner knows that she is lucky that her mom was her debtor. "I'm lucky that it was my mom's credit card and that now I don't use it," Kerner said.

For other students using credit cards is the only way they can afford to get by while they are in college. Often when this is the case students can only afford to make the minimum payment and end up paying more money to the credit card company, because very little of the payment goes toward the balance.

When someone pays only the minimum payment on a credit card only two to three percent of the payment goes toward the actual

balance the rest goes towards interest and fees. This means that a card with an 18 percent annual percentage rate and a balance of \$ 2,748 will end up paying as much in interest as originally charged. Freshman Josh Stover found out that if a payment is late interest gets worse and even less of the payment goes towards the balance. "Interest continues to rise every day your late," Stover said. "This makes it almost impossible to get the balance paid off."

Today 95 percent of all college students have credit cards and the average amount owed is \$12,748, which means that most graduates leave college with huge amounts of debt. Student loan debt in addition to credit card debt can make it difficult for graduates to pay living expenses after college and can lead to problems like depression and anxiety. Another problem students don't often think about is how long credit card debt can last and how it can affect their life in other ways.

Credit cards have the power to ruin someone's credit rating and this can haunt them for years to come. A bad credit rating can lead to higher interest on loans from banks and car dealerships and if it is bad to be turned down by lenders. "One late payment resulted in a negative mark on my credit rating," Stover said. "Any time I apply for any type of loan that late payment shows up." The best thing a student can do if they decide to get a credit card is to charge responsibly and pay their bill on time.



dit?



**Above:** Students are bombarded with credit card offers, which often results in debt. Students found that interest charges added up to a large percentage of their monthly payment.

**Left:** Freshman, Erika Helin uses her credit card to make a purchase. Students found that it easy and more convenient to make small purchases with a credit card.

**Below:** Students discover that credit cards can easily be acquired. However, the debt acquired was not easy to get out of.







# Goin

**Above:** A popular road sign for many commuters shows the way to the highway. Some commuters used I-29 and Highway 36 to arrive at school on time.

**Right:** Junior Erin Snow's commuting time is doubled due to construction. Students had to find alternate routes to campus.

**Below:** A full parking lot is a frustration to commuters arriving late. Commuters woke up extra early to ensure a parking space.



Red lights and gas prices didn't stop students from getting a higher education. Students drove around obstacles that caused road blocks in their futures. They committed to commute for their education.

# The Distance...

Story by Teresa Turley  
Photos by Kim Anderson

When somebody lives on campus getting to class is not usually a problem, but what about those who commute for their classes? There are many things that could cause problems for commuters, such as the fluctuating gas prices or the constant roadwork. For some commuters, these factors have affected their college experience.

Shannen Hill, a freshman government major, was one person who was affected by these changes. Hill commuted Monday through Friday from Hamilton, Mo., a 45 minute commute. "It takes about 15 minutes longer when there is road construction," Hill said.

Darick Conkling, an exercise science major, also commuted from Hamilton, Mo. He said that the roadwork made his commute longer. "In some places the speed limit is 40 miles per hour, so I have to leave home earlier," Conkling said.

However, it was not just those with a long commute that had problems with road construction. Ashley Cruz, a senior art major, lived 10 minutes from the campus, but when the road construction was in

progress she was always about 10 minutes late. "There's an abundance of traffic from everything being closed," Cruz said.

Unsteady gas prices also gave commuters some grief. One day it would be 99 cents a gallon, and the next day gas prices would substantially rise to \$1.04 a gallon. "It costs me \$20 to fill my tank, and I have to fill it every two days," Hill said.

Conkling agreed with Hill. "Lately prices have been going down, but when they do go up, it definitely has an affect," Conkling said.

Commuters felt that they should utilize all of their time while on campus. Junior Erin Snow said that with her free time she goes to the library to study. "Once I'm on campus, I'm there for the day." Snow, a junior nursing major, said.

No matter how far one commuted, whether it was 10 minutes or an hour, they still dealt with the same obstacles that stood in the way of them getting their education.

Most students weren't too excited about sharing a room with two other people. The thought of having already cramped quarters invaded by two other people made some students uneasy. However, in the midst of a overwhelming freshman class some students find comfort in triple room occupancies.

# Three's C

Story by Teresa Turley  
Photos by Kim Anderson

There was a larger number of applications for housing last school year. At the beginning of the fall semester, there were 150 students on the waiting list for on-campus housing.

The reason for the overcrowding of the dorms was not exactly known. John Comerford, the Director of Housing and Residential Life, and the assistant dean of students, felt there were overcrowded dorms because there were more freshmen than usual.

"It's hard to say what caused it. The freshman numbers are higher, and there are mostly freshmen in the residence halls."

Something had to be done for those who had nowhere to go. A campus-wide e-mail was sent out to all faculty members asking them if they could house a student until other means of living could be found.

"We had two students live with professors. The faculty and students enjoyed it and thought that it was fun," Comerford said.

There was also discussion of housing students in hotels, but nothing came of it. "Some students did stay in hotels, but they did it individually," Comerford said.

Another alternative was to add a bunk in the residence halls to make it a triple room occupancy. Both residents of the room had to approve of having another person move in. "We either had to do that or put someone on the street," Comerford said.

One person who lived in a triple room was freshman communications major Mystery Hensley. "I didn't want to be in a triple room because it would be crowded," Hensley said.

Hensley said she later adjusted to the lifestyle, and living in a

triple room was not a problem.

"At first it was hard because I'm not a person who keeps everything organized," Hensley said. "At home my room was not clean, but you have to be organized and keep stuff clean."

Another person who experienced these accommodations was freshman Kendra Harrison. Harrison agreed with Hensley and that it didn't bother her. "It hasn't really cramped my lifestyle; it's hard getting used to having two other people in the room," Harrison said.

Hensley also found it a good way to meet people.

"I enjoy it now," Hensley said. "You get to meet one new person, and there are more people in the suite to hang out with."

She also discovered that it did not affect her ability to study. "If someone is studying, everyone is quiet, and there is always someone to help you with your homework," Hensley said.

The triple suite seemed to receive a positive response.

"I didn't really want to live in a triple suite," Harrison said. "At first I was kind of mad, but I like it now."

Although some liked the triple rooms, the possibility of new living new residence halls was discussed.

"It has not been talked about too seriously. First we want to make sure that this year is not a fluke before building a new residence hall; to make sure that we don't have an extra building we don't need," Comerford said. "The earliest that it would be seen is the fall semester of 2003."

company



**Above:** Freshman Mystery Hensley manages to study, even in the shadows of her loft. Due to the overwhelming number of students living on campus, dorm space was limited.

**Right:** Freshman Mary Hatfield, Heather Huff and Kendra Harrison take advantage of having several roommates. Some students enjoyed living in cramped space.

**Below:** Shampoo bottles fight for room to breathe on the counter. Finding room for everyday necessities was a challenge for the multiple girls sharing the bathroom.

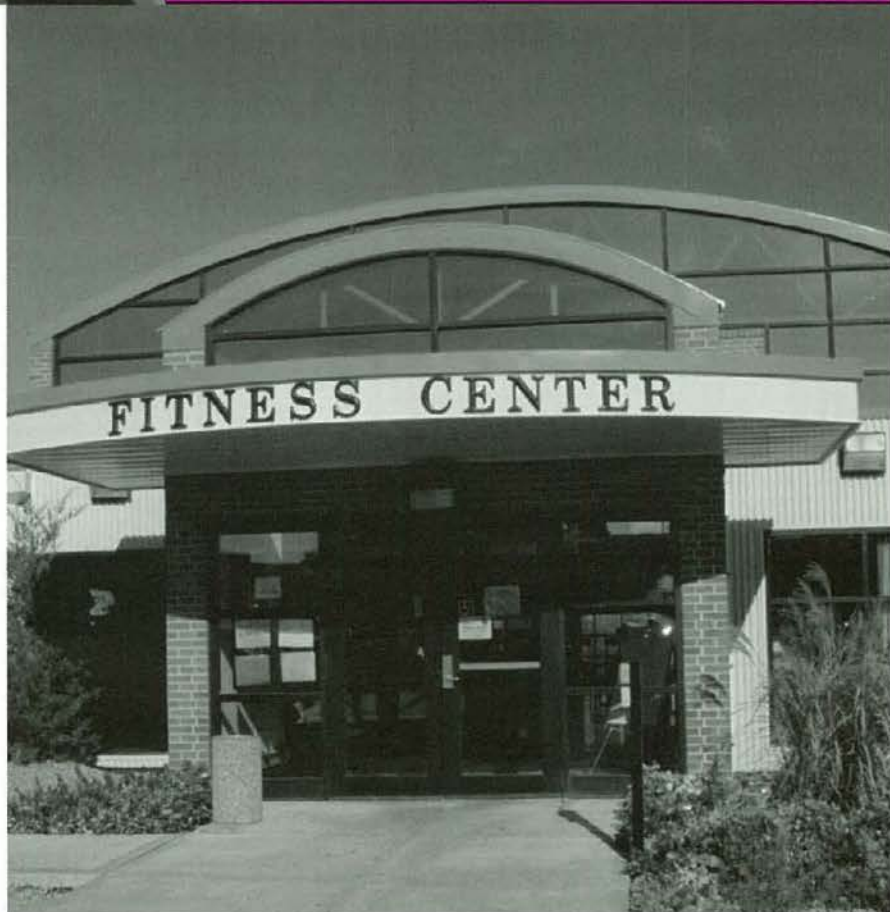




**Above:** Students Terrance Parker and Danny Perkins lift weights to stay in shape. Students had many exercise options including free weights and Nautilus equipment.

**Right:** Students take advantage of the fitness center on campus. Many students didn't realize that the fee to use the center was already paid for in their tuition.

**Below:** Many dietary supplements are available for weight management. Students usually took supplements when they didn't have time to work out.



Little exercises, poor eating habits and too much partying often caught unsuspecting freshman in the pesky "Freshman 15". Between classes, work and family, students tried to make time for a balanced diet and ward off those unflattering pounds.

# Gain 101

Story by Carol Wilson

Photos by Shannon Stracener

Do these pants make me look fat? Do you think that I should be on a diet? These are questions that have plagued the college student since the beginning of time. When you entered your freshman year of college, people told you to watch out for that pesky "Freshman 15," but they never tell you how to keep the weight off.

Dr. Nanette Wolford of the physical education department thought that a good idea for losing weight was to take a one-mile walk every day so that by the end of the year a person could lose 10 pounds or more. "It is simple to work out, just move and get active, walk the stairs, park far from the entrance to shopping areas, there is a lot people can do," Wolford said.

Fat burning trends and fads changed over the years, but one thing remained the same. People were always fighting to control their weight. Wolford felt that a high protein diet was increasingly popular but she felt that the diet was not one that students should follow due to possible health risks. "I just see people using all kinds of ridiculous methods to lose weight when the solution is to cut back on quantity and exercise," Wolford said.

According to the Fitness and Wellness textbook that was used

in the physical health lectures, the average American should consume no more than 30 percent of fat calories in their daily diet. However, with all the rushing around that college students had to do between classes and work, who had time to calculate how many calories were being eaten in a day?

Freshman Ian Anderson felt that people weren't eating the right types of food. "I think that the majority is in the right direction about what to eat, but there are some who make a meal of nothing," Anderson said.

Freshman Jacqueline Brush, who worked in the Student Success Office, also felt that a lot of students weren't eating as well as they should.

"I see students come in here all the time and take a handful of candy out of our bowl, and that will be their lunch. I always make sure to get three meals a day," Brush said. "I just make it a point to eat right."

Eating right and exercising seemed to be the key to not looking fat in those pants.

Carie Benton, Jeff Winn, Melanie Copenhagen and Jessica Twyman relax together before singing and devotions. The Wesley Foundation gathered every Wednesday to strengthen their relationships with God and friends.



# FAITH IN FELLOW

Story by Jeanette Kragel  
Photos by Daniel Grover

"Students gather for a season and scatter for a lifetime," Matt Clark said. "When students gather on campus we make an impact with the gospel of Jesus Christ. That impact will scatter with them when they leave and reach far beyond the bounds of the campus."

Clark was the director of college ministries for the Caring First Church and the Chi Alpha coordinator. Chi Alpha had around 50 members from campus who met every Friday at noon and 1 p.m. Each week they served a free lunch, and students participated in a Bible study or prayer time. One of the Chi Alpha activities was a prayer walk. They went to a department or building on campus to pray about their personal areas of interest or concern.

Chi Alpha was one of at least eight recognized Christian organizations on campus. Some of the other groups were the Baptist Student Union, Alpha Omega, Living Eternally Victorious, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Loud Fish on Campus, the Newman Club and the Restoration Outreach.

The Christian Campus Fellowship was a relatively new organization. Annie Paxton, Ashley Carnes and Josh Tackett worked with

students from the Northwest Missouri State campus to start the group. They had about 20 active members who met for weekly worship.

"We're non-denominational and are going for an intimate relationship with God," Paxton said. "We want to be a Christian family on campus."

Another recognized organization was the Wesley Foundation, guided by campus minister Mary Norris. Sponsored by the Methodist Church, they had nearly 35 active members. They met weekly for dinner, followed by singing and devotions. They also worked on service projects throughout the year.

"This semester we worked for Habitat for Humanity," Norris said. "We also worked with the Noyes Home for Children, and one month we volunteer to participate in local church services."

The goal of the Wesley Foundation, as well as most of the other Christian groups on campus, was to maintain a campus ministry, help the students to grow in the Christian faith and to provide faith-based support for the students who wanted something to believe in.

"I met my best friend there, and I feel like I belong," Paxton said.



# SHIP



**Above:** Nathan Clair warms up before worship. He played the background music while others kicked back on the sofa.

**Below:** Robb Smith and Susan Soendker work on their scrapbooks. Making scrapbooks was one of the many activities the group did.

**Left Below:** Brandi Pinkston diligently works on her scrapbook. Pinkston was a member of the Wesley Foundation.





**Above:** Holding her Bible, freshman Michelle Lakebrink abstains from sex for religious reasons. Many students believed in waiting for that special someone.

**Above Right:** Posters advertising sex are a popular choice for decoration in many dorm rooms. Many students often felt pressured to have sex.

**Below:** Many students choose to abstain from sex due to their religious beliefs and ideals. Others made the same decision based on fears such as STD's and pregnancy.



Having casual sex was the norm on campus, wasn't it? For some students, the answer was yes. However, others felt that some things were worth waiting for.

# Wait A While

Story by Rashad Givhan  
Photos by Cody Dragon

Partying, drinking, and more importantly, having sex is a necessary part of college life, isn't it? To some students, apparently not.

Some MWSC students decided to abstain from sex for several reasons. Despite pressures, Freshman Adrian Gray, a vocal performance major, stuck to his morals by not having sex until marriage.

"It will be special with my bride that God has blessed me with," Gray said. "There's nothing more special than to know that you've waited for that special someone."

Freshman Michelle Lakebrink, a business major, also wanted to wait until marriage.

"If I have sex now, what is there for the wedding night?" Lakebrink said. "It's not like I don't want to, and it's not easy. It's just something that I'm waiting for."

While some wanted to wait until their wedding night, others were waiting for the right one. Junior Amanda Felice, an English major, felt that waiting for the right one was important.

"There hasn't been that right guy," Felice said. "Until I meet the right person I do feel things for, I am not going to have sex."

Sophomore Becky Jackson, an Early Education major, agreed that waiting for the right person and situation was important.

"I haven't found 'Mr. Right,'" Jackson said. "It has to be the right time and place, and if it happens, it happens."

Apparently, students were not only waiting on sex because of marriage and "the right one." Felice felt that other factors came into play.

"There are so many issues to deal with," Felice said. "It's just not a priority to me right now."

Sophomore Katie Noyd, a recreation administration major, felt that some of those issues included the possibility of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy and other mishaps.

"Things get more complicated if you have sex," Noyd said. "I think about how many people get pregnant or get STDs and all of the things that could go wrong."

Despite the various reasons students were abstaining from sex, some students felt they were looked down upon, as well as admired.

"I took a lot of criticism, and I also gained a lot of respect," Gray said. "And that gives me confidence."

Lakebrink, who was with her boyfriend for three years, had a lot of confidence in her choice to wait until marriage. In fact, she felt that people should not be embarrassed of their decision to abstain from sex.

"Be proud of it, and don't let it bother you," Lakebrink said. "You only have one time, and it's something that you can't get back."

Twins share more than similar appearances; they share relative friends, experiences and for some, college life. They offer companionship and support through the ups and downs as students at the same schools.

# One Plus One Equals

Story by Rashad Givhan  
Photos by Jill Kirkendoll

No, you're not seeing double, but you're seeing twins, genetic clones of one another. But the sets of identical twins on MWSC's campus urge people to look beyond their matching faces and respect them for their individuality.

Despite wanting to retain their own separate identities, the twins on campus readily admitted their many similarities. Besides their obvious physical characteristics, many of the twins shared some of the same interests, goals and aspirations.

Sophomores Melissa and Michelle Figg were among the campus' handful of identical twins. The sisters, both physical therapy majors, had very similar lives when it came to school, and they were accustomed to sharing with one another.

"We have all the same classes, and we like to study together," Melissa said. "We share a lot of things. We share our car, clothes and other household stuff."

Aside from school, the Figg sisters had also been members of Phi Mu for a year and a half.

The Figg sisters were not the only identical twins that shared many of the same interests and ideas. Seniors Clint and Kent Lauhoff were both biology majors and wanted to pursue a career in the medical field.

"We'll probably be doing the same thing," Clint said. "We both wanted to be involved in dentistry."

The Lauhoffs also enjoyed football, basketball, running cross country and working out.

The Lauhoffs shared their love of sports with another set of identical male twins on campus. Darwin and Derrick Pitts, both communi-

cations majors, played on the Griffon Football team.

"Football is our first love," Derrick said. "I've been playing football since I was 6 years old."

Although many of the twins shared in the same activities, they felt that they had their fair share of differences. One difference showed in the area of dating.

"As far as girls, we have totally different opinions," Derrick said. "I like outgoing women."

On the other hand, Darwin admitted liking a different type of girl. "I don't like an out-of-control woman," he said.

Although some felt that twins were exactly alike, some of the twins also acknowledged their distinct personalities.

"They think we're one person," Michelle said. "Once you get to know us, we're totally different people."

The Pitts brothers also felt they had their own separate demeanors. "A big difference is that I am more outspoken in public," Darwin said. "He knows when to shut up."

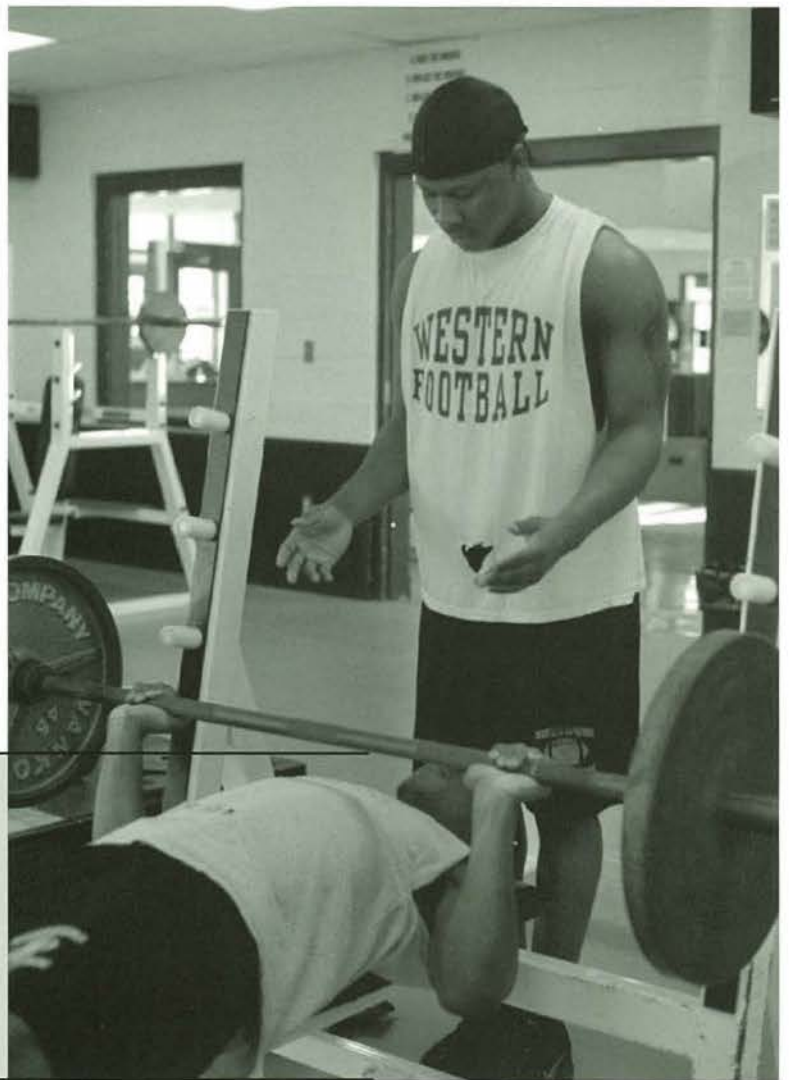
Aside from their unique personalities, they also led their own separate lives.

"We have our own friends," Kent said. "You have to have your own space to an extent."

Although some agreed that they liked to be alone at times, they all said that they were truly fond of one another and enjoyed each other's company.

"I have someone to talk to when times get hard," Darwin said. "It's always good to have someone around."

# als Two



**Above:** Darwin and Derrick Pitts get pumped for the next football season. They played together on the Griffon football team.

**Left:** Being twins has given Michelle and Melissa Figg advantages most students don't have. They shared college essentials such as a car, their clothes, and other household items.

**Below:** The Lauhoff twins chat in the Student Union. They enjoyed hanging out together at school.





# Deco

**Above:** Residents choose to showcase a colorful Lava lamp. Students chose to add their own personal touch to the dorms.

**Right:** A trendy lamp adds more than just light to the dark corner. Lamps were a way of making the room brighter and more stylish.

**Below:** An animal-print pillow shows off a student's unique style. Residents highlighted a part of their personality with every decoration.



Before the beginning of the semester, the residence halls appear very  
bald and bare, but once students begin to move in, all that changes.  
Students replace those bare walls with eye-catching posters, trendy  
lights, colorful bedding and other decorations.

# Decorated Dorms

Story by Teresa Turley  
Photos by Kim Anderson

Before the start of the fall semester, the resident halls appear  
very empty and drab, but once the students begin to move in this emp-  
tiness is replaced with eye-catching posters, trendy lights, colorful bed-  
ding and other decorations. Every room is different and has the per-  
sonal touch of the students living there.

Sophomore Barry McArdle had his dorm room walls covered  
with collages of posters. On one wall was a tribute to the goddess of  
Love, Britney Spears, and the other wall was reserved for sex symbol  
James Dean.

"My roommate brought all of these posters with him and we  
put them up together," McArdle said. "Both of the girls are hot, and the  
posters give me something good to wake up to in the morning."

But it is not just the dorm rooms that are decorated creatively.  
Many suite-mates decorated the living area in order to make the room  
feel like a real home. When people walked into the suite that was  
occupied by sophomores Elizabeth Beeson, Sara Batchelor, Anna Ristic  
and freshman Lori Larson, they could not help but notice many tennis

decorations.

"All four of us play for the Missouri Western tennis team,  
and we want to highlight and emphasize our love for the game," Ristic  
said. "All four of us also put up posters of Andy Roddick to show our  
support to the great player."

Many people decorated their rooms with the things that they  
loved the most. Sophomore nursing major Amy Hrastich had her  
room tastefully decorated with many different things. "They're my  
favorite things, suns, moons, stars and my obsession with Justin  
Timberlake," Hrastich said.

Despite all the time people spent decorating their living quar-  
ters, at the end of the year everything was taken down and moved out.  
The next year that same room took on a whole new personality. No  
matter where you looked, you could see a part of the resident in the  
room. There was a meaning behind every object and a love that no-  
body else may have understood.

Ryan Sevcik and Steve Allee listen and prepare to respond to Olu Aregbe and Rachel Siron during the SGA Presidential debate. Sevcik and Allee beat out two other parties for the position.



# LET THE GAME

Story by Amanda Rafferty  
Photos by Deliese Brewster

Once again, Missouri Western students took the dizzying ride as student government politics prevailed again meaning two elections for voters.

For the Student Government Association the poles were a very visited place. Electronic ballots erred again putting voters back on the merry-go-round and left candidates wondering about fairness. Instead of being able to be twice as democratic, students found themselves incapable of casting one ballot.

The poles were to be open at certain times so that they could be monitored and all Missouri Western students got their chance to vote. Instead, voters could only vote at the opposite times for a short duration. Students took it upon themselves to show up in great numbers and vote in their candidate, whether there were one or two elections.

Ryan Sevcik and Steve Allee were elected into office as the new president and vice president of the SGA. The Sevcik/Allee win put an end to Olu Aregbe's two-year term in office.

Sevcik was excited about the number of people that voted in the final election. Last year's voters totaled 504 students. A larger number of 770 students voted in the Sevcik/Allee vs. Aregbe/ Siron vote. Dean Willis said that more people had voted two days into the final elections than the total number of students who voted in the

primary.

"I was kind of disappointed by the small number of students that voted in the primaries," Sevcik said. But the final vote prevailed that number immensely.

"It felt really good to win," Allee said. "I'm especially proud of Missouri Western because during the debate, Olu raised the question about the lack of diversity in our ticket. It was good to see that Missouri Western students thought otherwise."

Sevcik was extremely excited about serving his term. Looking forward in keeping his campaign promises he made to the student body. One issue covered by Sevcik and Allee was utilizing the SGA funds so that the students of Missouri Western could see where their buck was going.

"We plan to make good on the promises we made," Sevcik said. "Students deserve a chance to witness their dues in use."

Sevcik was involved in Residence Council, Western VIP and the Barbara Sprong Leadership Challenge. Allee was involved in the Presidential Service Program, served on the facilities and grounds committee for the Missouri Western Strategic Planning Commission and was involved in Phi Delta Theta Fraternity.



# EGIN



**Top:** Olu Aregbe tries to sway the voters in his direction for the third straight year. After encouraging a revote, Aregbe was defeated by Sevick and Allee.

**Above:** A student panel threw out questions to the parties for a presidential debate. Voter turnouts started out at a low number and tripled by the final vote.

**Left:** Rachel Siron puts her ideas on the floor for the student body. Siron agreed with Aregbe on many issues, however the thought of a revote was not one of them.



Wales helps decorate the volleyball and football lockers during Homecoming. She was joined by her sorority sisters of Sigma Sigma Sigma and the brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa. Photo by Crystal Kieser



# HER FIRST YEAR

*In the midst of a hectic year, Ashley takes time to enjoy life.*

Story by Amanda Rafferty

A quick drive over from her home in St. Joseph where she resided with her family, Tri Sigma rush spent the last year living the college experience here at Missouri Western. Sorority girl and Sisterhood chair, as well as a student worker in the P.E. Building at the Recreation Services Desk, Ashley Wales had a great year.

"I don't miss home because I am home!" Wales said. "I have lived in St. Joseph all of my life. I currently live with my parents still, which can have its advantages and its disadvantages. I used to be very insistent on moving out, but since my parents don't really pose any restrictions upon me, the idea of staying at home has grown on me."

Wales said that living at home wasn't so bad although she did think that the college experience was different for her because she didn't go away to school.

"Sometimes I don't get along with my brother because he is 17 and we butt heads," Wales said. "But most of the time living at home is not so bad. I will move out eventually."

Wales said that the best time she had this year was Homecoming. Being involved with her sorority was a big part of her year.

"Everyone was there together," Wales said. "Working hard to get our Homecoming float done. Although the stress level to finish our work was overwhelming, it was still unforgettable because we were all having so much fun just being together."

Working with her sisters for the Missouri Western Homecoming Parade really brought unity and clarity to Wales' college life. "In the end, the sense of accomplishment I felt was awesome because we had all worked so hard to create something from scratch," Wales said.

It was a fun year for Wales. Starting college was always something that was a bit scary but being able to live at home and the support she got from her sorority sisters helped Wales to get through the year and made her able to say that she survived freshman year.

"I have made many new friendships in the sorority which have been active in it," Wales said. "I am very grateful for the opportunity it gave me to meet all of these wonderful girls. I have met many new people in the classes I attend."

Attending Missouri Western was a great experience for Wales and she looked forward in spending the next few years here as a Grid

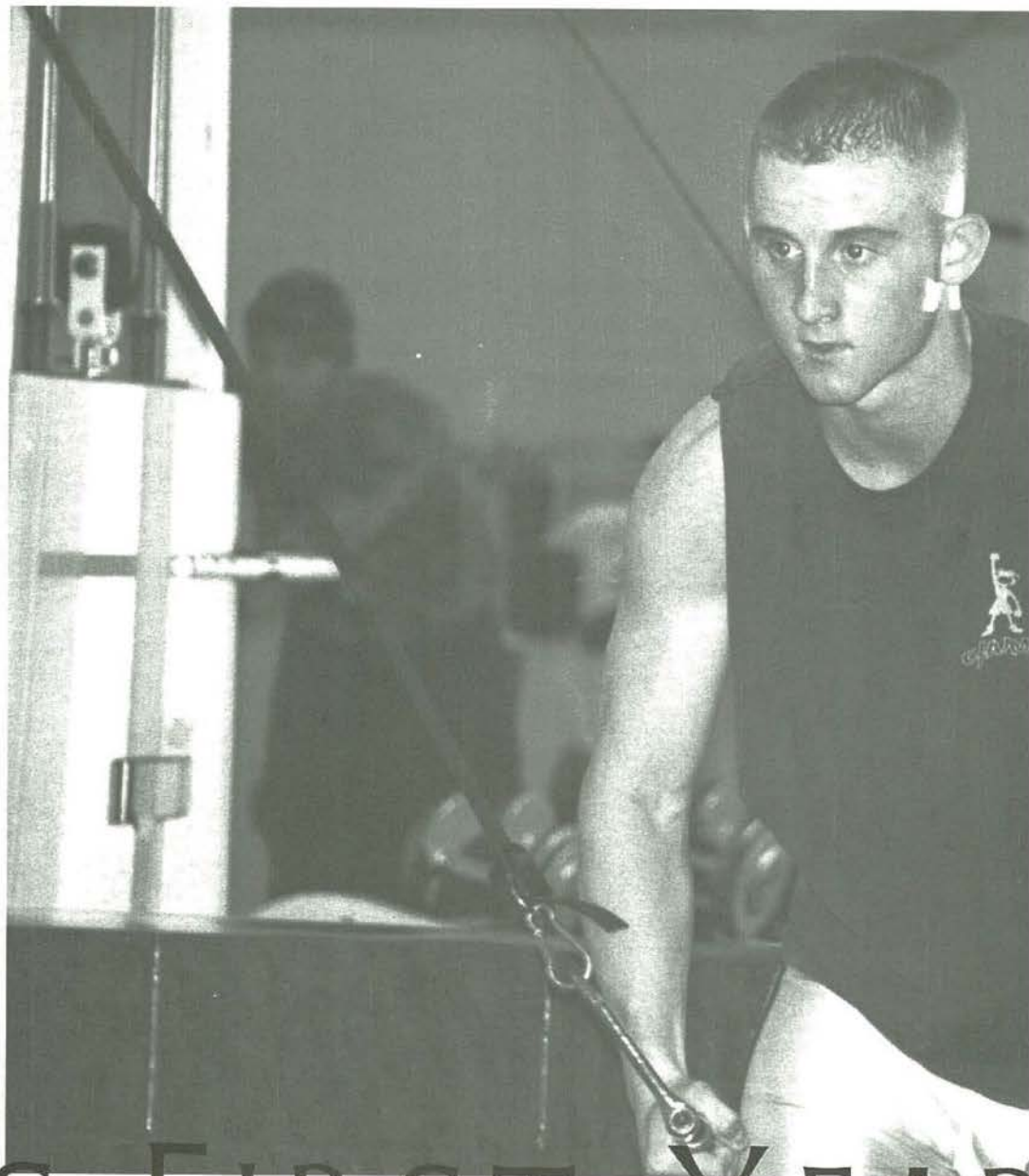


**Top:** Wales participates in the Greek Week talent show as an obsessed fan on a mock TRL set. She was very dedicated to her sorority as a first year member. Photo by Deliese Brewster

**Above:** Wales works as a secretary at the Athletics desk for extra cash. She had many extracurricular activities through the duration of the year. Photo by Kim Anderson

**Left:** Wales shows the audience her skills during the skit portion of the talent show. She overall enjoyed her first year here at Missouri Western. Photo by Deliese Brewster

Andy Davis continues to strengthen his body for the upcoming season. Throughout his freshman year he devoted his time to football and classes.



# HIS FIRST YEAR

Story by Amanda Rafferty  
Photos by Kim Anderson

Nearly two hours were traveled from Garden City, MO to St. Joseph to attend Missouri Western. A quarterback for the football team riding through school through the ROTC program, Western VIP and Orientation Assistant Andy Davis had a great freshman year.

Davis came to Missouri Western through the ROTC program. They funded his education here and then the football coach caught on. Davis said that he really enjoyed his first year and looks forward to the remaining years.

"There are so many opportunities here," Davis said. "There are so many doors that have opened."

Davis lived on campus in Breshears Hall. He said that by staying on campus, he really got to know what college life was all about. He advised that everyone should live on campus sometime in his or her college career because it gave a sense of unity and brought the campus closer together.

"I'm a people type of person," Davis said. He loved living in the hall and intended on getting the same room again for next year.

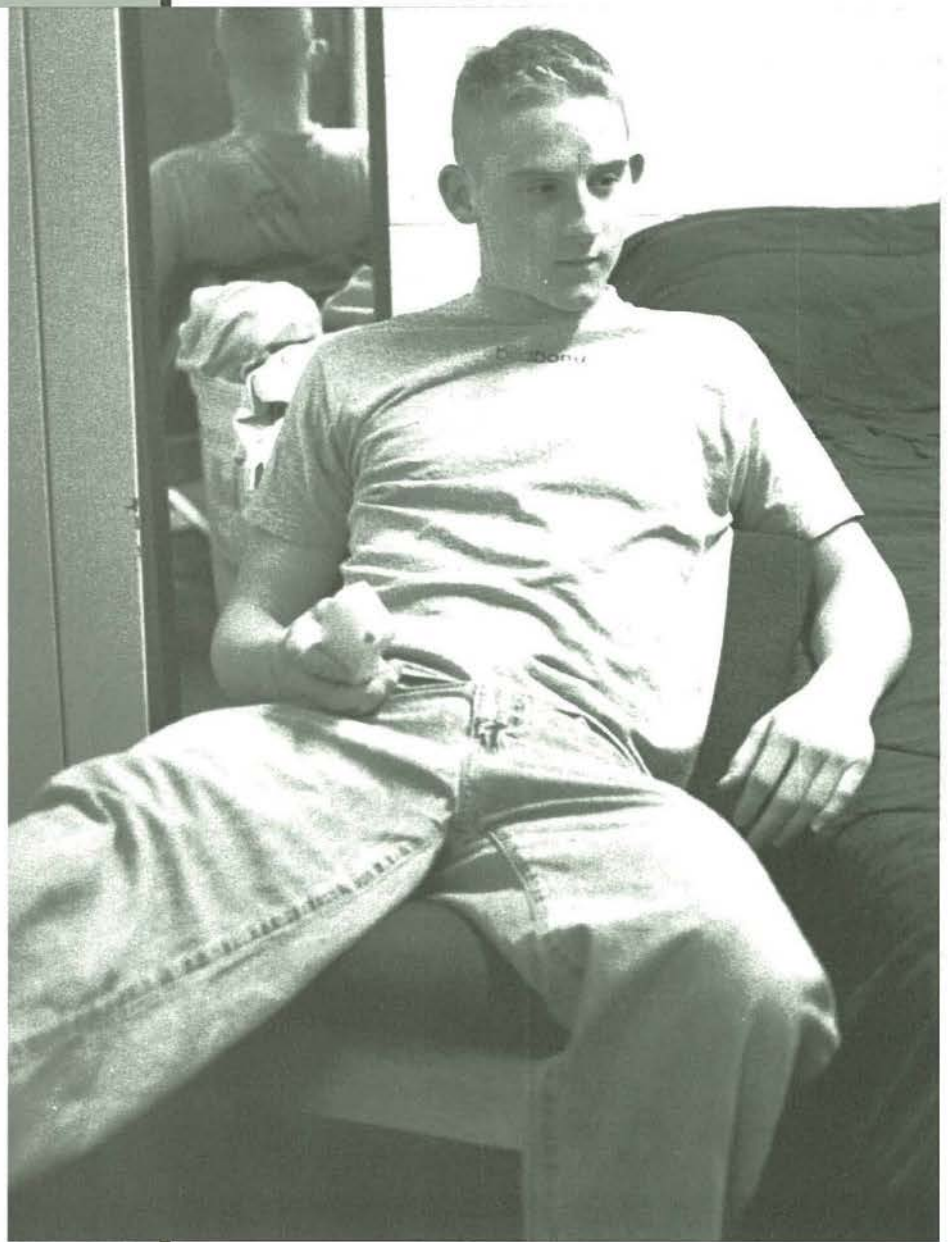
Davis said that, for the most part, he was a very independent

person. His parents kept on him through high school to get good grades and to do well in life. They were a big help directing him in the way that was best for him. Missouri Western was his choice and his parents backed him in that decision. "My choice was mine," Davis said.

Davis thought about joining a fraternity but decided against it. He said that football was like a fraternity. The players got along well and were friends on and off the field. He enjoyed Homecoming the best this year when the bonfire was blazing. He also enjoyed traditions night and dancing with the Mystics at the Homecoming rally.

"There's a sense of pride here at Missouri Western," Davis said. He also said that the school was really headed in the right direction and that he was proud to be a part of that.

Davis planned to graduate from Missouri Western with a major in criminal justice. He said that with the activities that he was involved in kept him busy. He also said that with each activity, a lot of time was needed to put into that group and that he wanted to do his best. His advice to incoming freshmen was to get involved with campus and make lots of new friends. Oh, and don't go home all the time.



**Top:** Davis takes a few minutes out of his busy schedule to relax. When a break came for Andy, he took advantage of it.

**Above:** Coming to MWSC Andy has found many new friends. Andy adjusted well to the dorm life activities.

**Left:** Andy picks right back up for post-season practice. The upcoming season was something he is looking forward to.

One of the competitions included in Greek Week was volleyball. Sigma Sigma Sigma won the girls' volleyball competition and Phi Delta Theta won the men's. Photo by Ashley Reynolds



# GREEKS: A DAY IN THE

Story by Misty Musselman

Throughout the week of April 7-12, many Greeks participated in various events around campus to compete for the title of Greek Week champions for the year.

Some of the events that took place for Greek Week were football, basketball, bowling, volleyball, academic trivia and a talent and skit show competition, which was the highlight of the week.

These events were topped off with a closing awards ceremony which took place April 12.

During the beginning of the ceremony, Greek Man and Greek Woman of the Year were announced and given trophies. Zach Ramsay received the Greek Man title, and Beth Tuttle received the title for Greek Woman.

Tuttle, a proud member of Alpha Gamma Delta, was nominated by Tau Kappa Epsilon.

"I was very honored to be nominated for Greek Woman of the Year by Tau Kappa Epsilon," Tuttle said. "I have been very proud to be a member of Alpha Gamma Delta, and being recognized by the entire Greek community in this award was an amazing experience."

Ramsay, a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, was elected Greek Man for the second year in a row.

"It's an honor to be elected for the second year, but I am trying to remain humble about it," Ramsay said. "Honestly, my packet, the one we had to submit to the judges, was not as convincing as some

other top-quality men up for the award that did better jobs this year. However, the numbers and accomplishments don't lie and I've always had pride in the fact that I don't rest on my laurels."

Among some of the other awards that Greeks received at the ceremony were for the skit and talent show competition, Greek fraternity and sorority of the year and excellence in scholarship and philanthropy.

The women of Alpha Sigma Alpha took first place in the skit competition. This was not their first time winning it. They won first place two years ago and took third place at last year's show.

Tau Kappa Epsilon took first place in the talent show.

Alpha Sigma Alpha won Greek Sorority of the Year and Tau Kappa Epsilon won Greek Fraternity of the Year.

Excellence in scholarship was awarded to Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority and Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. Excellence in philanthropy was awarded to Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority and Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity.

Individuals from the sororities and fraternities turned in packets to be judged for their accomplishments (academically and philanthropically) which helped determine some of the winnings.

At the very end of the awards ceremony a check for \$17,000 which was raised and donated by the Greeks throughout the week was presented to Habitat for Humanity.



FE



**Top:** Beautiful weather allow students to play basketball in the sun. Alpha Gamma Delta took first place in girls' basketball and Phi Delta Theta won the men's. Photo by Michelle Lakebrink

**Left:** Andi Stevens and Mandy Freeland sang "Love Can Build a Bridge," in the talent competition. Music is a popular choice when participating in talent competitions, because students enjoy singing. Photo by Dan Grover

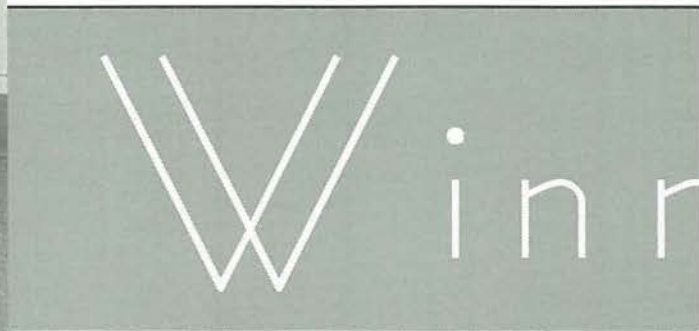
**Above:** The Tau Kappa Epsilon's rendition of "American Pie," created controversy because they used the Phi Sig song and sang about other fraternities. Regardless, they won the talent competition. Photo by Jill Kirkerdoll



**Above:** Lacing her lucky left shoe, junior Nicole Lindsey prepares for a basketball game. Wearing the same underwear and bra for each game was also one of Lindsey's superstitions.

**Right:** Three MWSC students walk to class, remembering their superstition. Aaron Jones, Danell Thomas, and Jason Mudd were afraid to split the pole due to their superstitions.

**Below:** Wearing one of his three lucky sweatbands, senior Ty Moss feels he has more confidence in his game. Superstitions such as this kept Moss playing strong.



Students know there is more to superstition than black cats and  
stepping on cracks. Superstitions give students a positive mindset in  
sports and daily life.

# g Superstitions

Story by: Kellie Feuerbacher

Photos by Deliese Brewster

Step on a crack and break your mother's back. Sayings such as this, as well as fear of black cats, the number 13 and walking under ladders, are all common superstitions believed by some to alter one's

Some superstitious students, however, took their superstitions to a new level. From sports performance to simply walking along with a friend, superstitious actions and rituals were believed to affect various aspects of life.

Senior Ty Moss was a guard on the men's basketball team. Although much of his performance was attributed to skill, he also had rituals he followed during each game.

One superstitious ritual was that he always wore one of three specific headbands during each game. He wouldn't allow himself to wear any new headbands, nor did he allow others to wear them at all. In addition, whenever Moss had to have his ankle taped, he always made sure the initials "CMS" were written on the tape, in memory of a friend who was killed in a car accident.

Moss' superstitions weren't just for good luck. They also held a certain amount of comfort for him. "They set my mind at ease before every game," Moss said.

Senior Trina Denison, who played first base on the softball team, agreed with Moss that superstitious rituals did create a calming effect. "It gives you something to think about instead of worrying about the game," she said.

One of Denison's superstitions was that she always put her left shoe on before the right. Denison also wore a certain wristband at every game to bring her luck. On the wristband was the jersey number of a deceased friend.

Although Denison wasn't extremely strong in the belief that her superstitions had a major effect on her life, she did remember one game in a game when she didn't wear the wristband and her team played badly.

Another sports player who used superstitions to give her an extra boost at her games was junior basketball player Nicole Lindsey. Her superstitions lay in the way she dressed herself for games, left leg first. Lindsey also wore the same underwear and sports bra for every game. Even at a weeklong national tournament she participated in, she wore the same underwear and bra for every game, and she had to wash them by hand each day, she remembered.

Another student's superstition had nothing to do with sports performance, but he incorporated it often into his everyday life. Senior Chad Higdon believed that when two people walked side by side and came across a pole, sign, tree or some other object they should not "split the pole." Instead they should walk together on one side or the other around the object. Higdon followed this rule most of the time, but he did make some exceptions once in awhile. "I do it as long as people don't make fun of me," he said.



Students converse on their cell phones while finishing their lunch. Using cell phones was an easy way to keep in contact with friends and family across campus or across the state.



# CELL PHONE MAD

Story by: Melissa Groce  
Photos by: Melissa Groce

Ring, ring! That is what many students heard as they walked between classes or just sat down and relaxed.

Cell phones became a part of everyday life for many students on campus. As they walked to their classes throughout the day, they likely saw several students on cell phones. Some were on their phones checking with their friends to see what they were doing, while others were checking on their children.

While most phones served these same basic purposes, the most popular type of cell phone to have was a Nokia phone. There were several series of Nokia phones. The two most popular were the 3300 series and the 3360 series. The 3300 series had changeable front covers, a ring tone composer and games. The 3360 let the owner download new levels from the Web for the games. The phones' ring tones varied from the latest hits to sports theme songs.

With the desire to stay in touch and ringers that played a variety of tunes, cell phones became more and more popular.

Although they were popular and handy, cell phones did not come without a few dangers. Students often used their cell phones in their cars as they drove around campus. Trying to talk to a friend on

the phone while at the same time trying to park could be a challenge times, but students felt there was no reason to worry. Junior Jenni McGeorge was one student who felt cell phones weren't dangerous. "It is just like sneezing and driving or arguing with kids," McGeorge said.

Angie Baugh, a nursing major, agreed. She said, "It is different than talking to a passenger in your car."

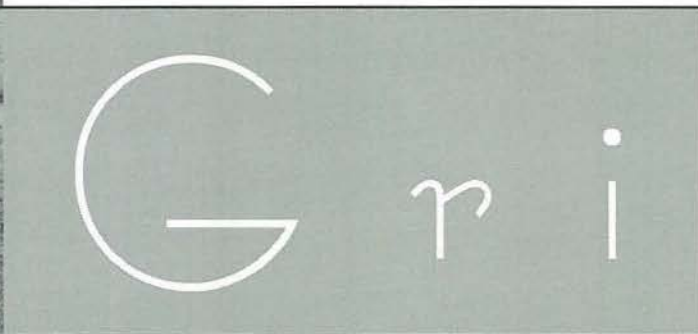
Most students who had cell phones felt they couldn't live without them. Jennifer McGeorge, a junior, said that having her cell phone was too much of a convenience to give it up. Baugh felt the same way. "It's my lifesaver," she said.

Phones allowed students to stay in touch with family and friends. Baugh said, "There are times when a friend is late for class. I will call them right before class starts to see where they are."

Not only did students call friends and family, but they also checked their messages often to see whose calls they missed when their phones were turned off since most students turned their phones off during class time. "I completely turn my phone off during class. I do not want it to ring in the middle of class," sophomore Crystal Trautman said.



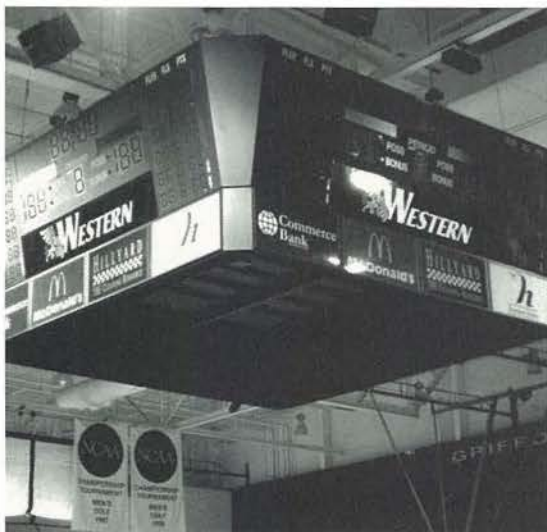
**Above:** A female student receives directions from a friend by using her cell phone. Cell phones were a helpful way to locate directions.  
**Left:** A male student talks on his cell phone. For many students, cell phones were a part of everyday life.



**Above:** The new marquee stands tall relaying college information to all who drive by. The funds for the billboard and other additions were provided by a corporate sponsorship.

**Right:** Pete Chapman is the athletic director of MWSC. He was the prominent advocate behind the creation of the billboard.

**Below:** The new four-sided scoreboard hangs proudly in the field house for all Griffon fans and visitors to see. Besides the scoreboard and marquee, new game clocks were also added.



Corporate sponsorships allowed the college to receive funding for much needed additions to the college. Among these additions were a marquee which displayed information about game times and other important facts, a new four-sided scoreboard and new game clocks.

# on Marquee

by Melissa Groce  
photos by Sandy Scott

What was that? That was the question that many students asked themselves as they drove past the M.O. Looney Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building, noticing a big billboard in front of the building. Many students wondered why it was there, how it got there and what it was going to be used for. Athletic director Pete Chapman was the leader behind the creation of the billboard marquee. The marquee was set on display in mid-October.

The marquee was put up to run announcements for the college. Announcements included information on athletics, the time and date and other facts about the college. "It's an informational thing about the college, and there has always been a need for information on campus," Chapman said.

With the addition of the marquee, students and faculty didn't have to worry about looking up information. The marquee gave them information about events as well as game times. The marquee was beneficial to students because they were always busy and on the go, so they needed information quickly.

"You can drive by the marquee and know in minutes what is going on," Ellen Smither, Non-Traditional Student Center coordinator, said. "You get an instant message for busy students."

Another appealing aspect of the marquee is the fact that you can see it from the north bound and south bound lanes of Interstate 29. "You can read it from the Interstate very easily," Bourn said. Some students thought that the marquee brought attention to the campus, and Chapman hoped it would do just that.

A student on campus, Ashley Reynolds, felt that the addition of the marquee was a good idea. She felt that running information on the marquee about the campus was a good way to get information out to students. The location of the marquee, though, she felt was not as good. In her words, "Good idea, bad location." The reason students felt the marquee's location was bad was because many students didn't regularly go to that side of campus, and so they didn't benefit from it.

The marquee was part of a corporate sponsorship. The sponsors for the marquee and other additions to the college campus were McDonald's, Hillyard Technical Center, Heartland Health Systems and Commerce Bank.

One of those other additions was a new four-sided scoreboard that was put up in the center of the field house. Drew Bourn, assistant athletic director, said, "The first time that the new scoreboard was used, students from the opposing team were amazed by the looks of the scoreboard."

In addition to the marquee and scoreboard, three new score tables were also added, the middle one having the rotating sign on it. Also, new game clocks were another part of the corporate sponsorship. The game clocks were put in the two home locker rooms and the official's locker room.

Bourn said these items were chosen "to make the college have top notch facilities and make the campus more appealing to visitors and students."

*Who says learning must take place in the classroom? Many students chose to attend conferences to enhance leadership, professional, and communication skills.*

# Out of School

Story by Jared Hoffmann

Photos by Ashley Reynolds

Aside from the education students received from their teachers on a daily basis, many chose to attend conferences that would help them in the future. A wide variety of conferences were held throughout the year so that groups of individuals could learn more about their specific areas of interest.

One conference that was held annually was the Governor's Leadership Conference. This conference was attended by over 200 students from surrounding schools and was held in Jefferson City, Mo. Students attended a special prayer/breakfast where politicians and leaders gave them advice about how to let their personal values and beliefs be reflected in their roles as leaders. One student who attended the conference was Steve Allee.

"People came from colleges all around," Allee said. "We were taught how to do our jobs, be a leader and how to reflect our personal values at the same time."

Students were chosen to attend the Governor's Leadership Conference based on recommendations made by teachers. Another individual who was elected to attend was Kevin Callaway who, like Allee, said he learned many things from the conference.

"A few things I took from the meeting were how to be a better leader and how to set a positive example for those around me," Callaway said. "I also realized that even though the people at the conference were far away, I am just like them and have to deal

with the same issues as they do."

Callaway also said that going to the conference was a learning experience for him.

"We visited a jail in Jefferson City and it was a total reality check," he said. "It made me realize that without faith and values, jail is a place you might end up."

There were many campus organizations that attended conferences, and each one focused on a specific topic according to the interests of its members. One such club was the Catholic Club. The primary activity of the Catholic Club was attending retreats with clubs from other schools to learn more about their faith. Abbey Houseworth was one member who took advantage of the opportunities that the club had to offer.

"The retreat was a great experience," Houseworth said. "I've been a Catholic all of my life, but ever since my best friend got me to attend, I've taken a more active role in my church. The retreats were also special because that's where I met my boyfriend."

Members of the Catholic Club also went on several retreats with students from Northwest Missouri State University and Truman State University.

Overall, conferences seemed to be beneficial to students. They helped to both educate students about their interests and encouraged them to apply what they learned to everyday life.

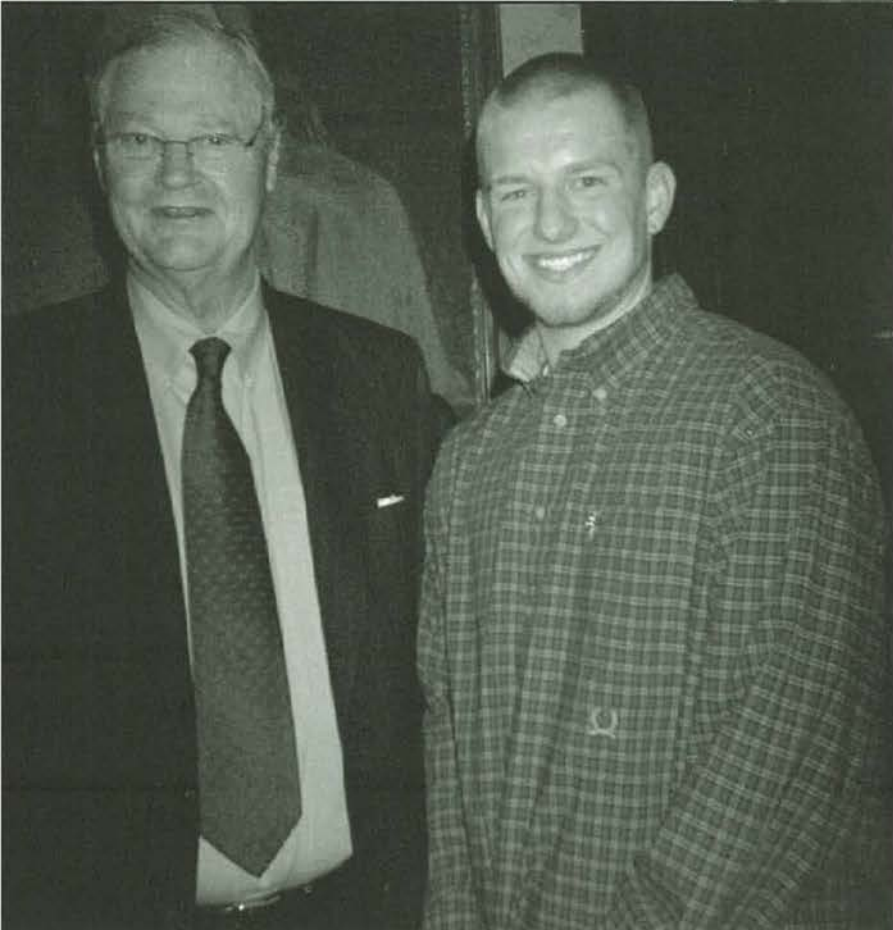
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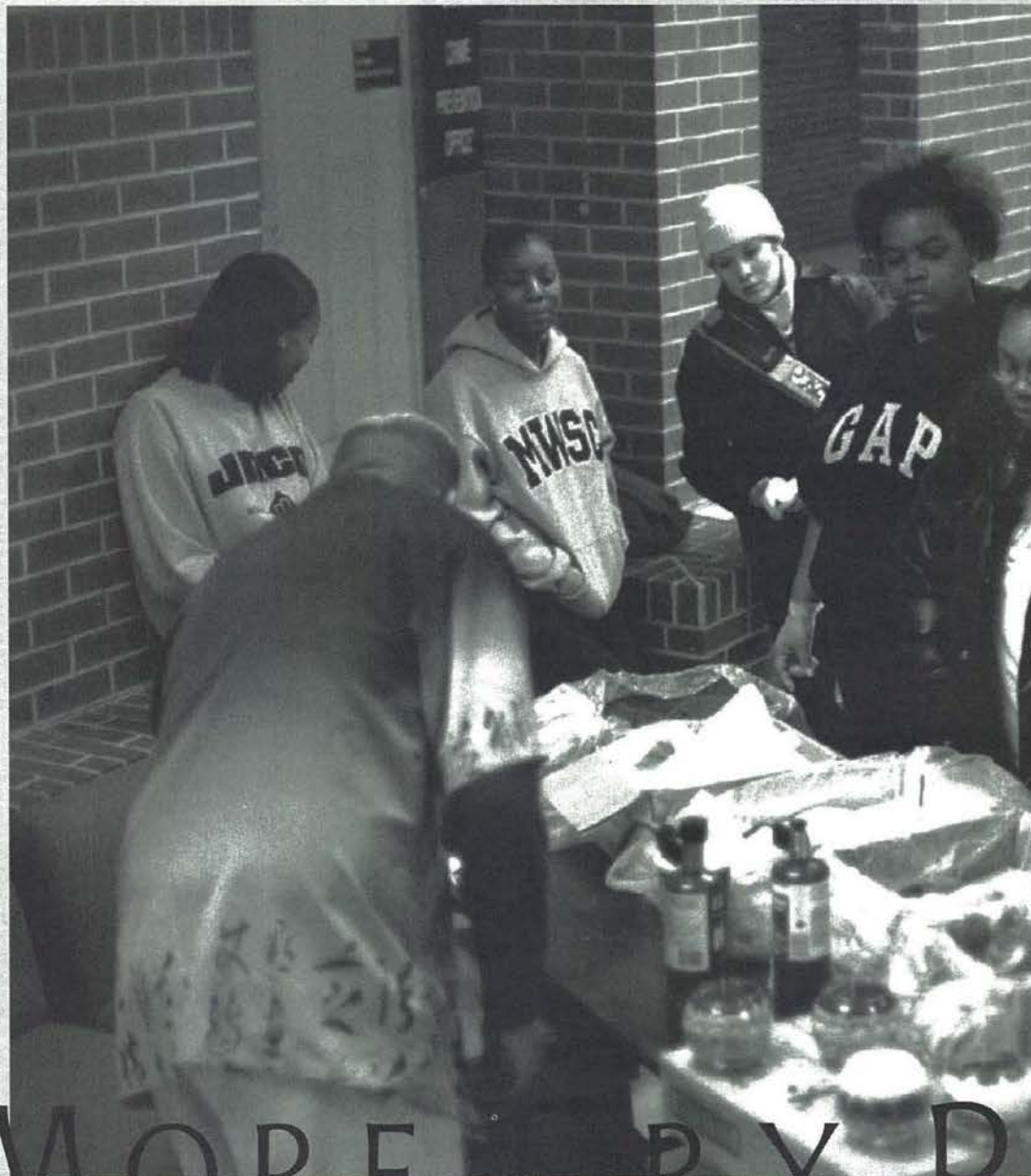
**Above:** Standing beside Gov. Bob Holden, MWSC student Maria Grothaus shared a moment in the spotlight. The conference provided the students with additional leadership skills.

**Right:** Steve Allee, the elected vice-president for the 2002-2003 school year, poses for a picture with state Rep. Ike Skelton. Allee was an active member in the student senate.

**Below:** Kevin Callaway, Rachel Siron, Sylvester Brandon, Maria Grothaus and Steve Allee pose for the camera. The group attended the Governor's Leadership Conference.



MWSC students stand in line to make candles. CAB sponsored week long activities for students to participate in. Photo by Dan Grover



# NO MORE DRY P

Story by Stephanie Radel

Politics was not something that a lot of people cared to get involved with. That was especially true with most college students. However, there was a group of students at Missouri Western who chose to bring politics to the forefront and make a difference doing it.

The Student Government Association, or SGA, was the student led governing body at Missouri Western. The students voted all officers to their positions. During the spring semester, SGA implemented a new system. Instead of having the traditional cabinet with positions like secretary, treasurer, vice-president, etc., SGA added the positions of director of communications, director of finance, director of internal affairs, director of external affairs, director of community outreach and director of clubs and organizations.

There were three branches to the Student Government Association. They were the Senate, Residence Council and the Campus Activities Board. Each worked separately and in conjunction with the others to provide activities and services to the student body.

"Student Government Association is there to represent the student body of Missouri Western State College. If there are any issues that students feel need to be addressed, they can come to the meetings and do so. If they feel uncomfortable doing that themselves, they can bring their issue or concern to one of the representatives on Senate, Residence Council or the Campus Activities Board, and they will bring it to the SGA meetings," Burretta said.

*Student Government represents the student body in new innovative ways*

SGA was responsible for many of the activities on campus and in the surrounding community. In the fall, they sponsored *The Event*, a large community service event throughout the St. Joseph community. They also brought CAB football and bumper cars as well as speakers on diversity, alcohol and other important issues.

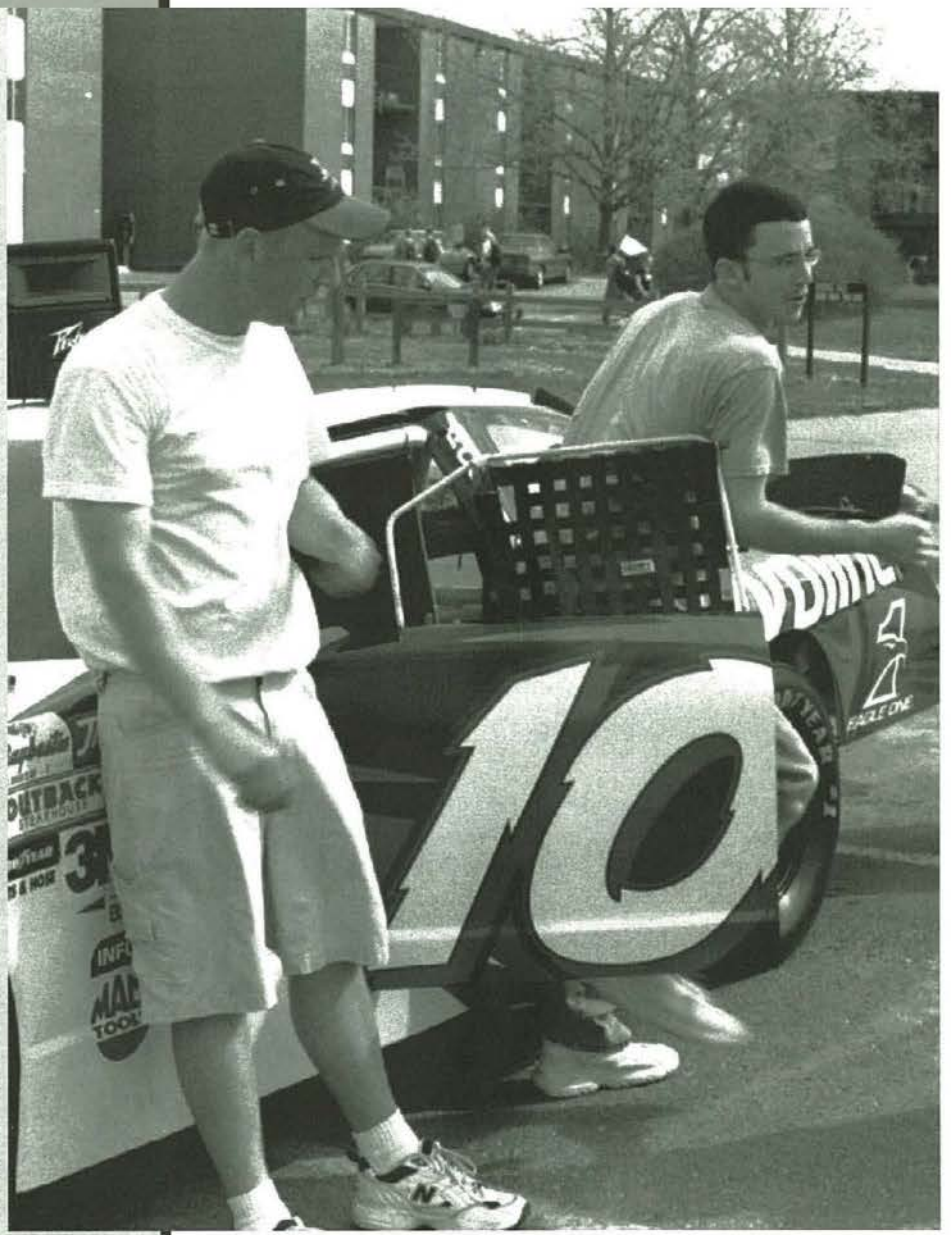
"SGA is very beneficial to the students," Brandy Bray, a senior psychology and education major, said. "They bring a lot of activities for us and do things beneficial for us that we don't know about. They really try to make everything better for us."

For all that Student Government Association did, there were some that felt it was still not quite enough.

"There is so much that SGA does, but it could also do more," John Fabsits, SGA director of finance, said. "SGA's budget is so small. I just feel like we cannot do much of what we could. I would like to see SGA's budget increased so we can do more for the students."

In order to better MWSC, it was important for all students to get involved any way they could.

"The Student Government Association does a lot of things for MWSC that most students don't even realize. We try to take on the problems of the student body, but we have to take them one at a time, and I think that people should come and see for themselves what SGA is all about," Burretta said.



# ITICS



**Top:** Two students take part in one of SGA's many activities. SGA provided a variety of fun events for the students. Photo by Dan Grover

**Left:** Olu Argbe and Kim Beretta ponder during an SGA meeting. Argbe was the student body president for MWSC. Photo by Nicole Gentry

**Above:** A couple girls enjoyed bumping into each other while riding in bumper cars. Bumper cars gave students a chance to relax and relieve stress. Photo by Dan Grover





# ADay

**Above:** Jessica Neel helps Chad Fehr during a visit to the housing office. Assisting students was one of the responsibilities of an RA.

**Right:** Along with Neel's RA duties and school studies, she is planning her wedding. Her future husband was also a graduate of MWSC.

**Below:** Neel answers the phone in the housing office during her work hours. All residence assistants were required to work a certain number of hours in the housing office.



They welcome residents. They sponsor social get-togethers. They keep the peace in the dormitories. Residence assistants had many responsibilities beyond the standard academic requirements.

## The Life of an RA

Story by Rashad Givhan  
Photos by Jill Kirkendoll

They lurk among the shadows, invading your privacy and personal space. They rummage through your personal belongings, leaving no stone unturned. And they even roam throughout the halls day and night, making sure every nook, cranny and crevice is covered with ... decorations.

Resident assistants were the people that made sure students living in the residence halls had a satisfactory, worthwhile living experience. They made rounds, making sure the halls were quiet and safe. That included responding to alcohol and curfew violations and noise complaints. They also served as mediators in various student conflicts.

But the RA's jobs didn't stop there. Part of making sure that their residents had worthwhile living experiences had to do with the overall look or feel of a particular hall. For example, some RA's chose to decorate their halls from top to bottom, incorporating a funny theme or joke throughout. Other RA's plastered the hallways with posters and flyers, ensuring that their residents were updated on special on-campus events.

Junior Jessica Neel, 21, felt that being an RA was a good experience. She had been an RA for two years.

"I had a really good RA when I was a freshman," Neel said. "I thought it would be really fun."

It seemed like the job of an RA was never done. Many times, they were on duty while everyone else was asleep.

"Duty can be fun, but it can be bad, especially when it's cold out-

side," Neel said. "There was one duty night that I stayed up until 3:30 a.m."

Neel felt that the campus didn't realize all the work that RA's did behind the scenes.

"No one realizes all that we do," Neel said. "We come to school at least a week and a half early, and we stay a lot later than everybody else."

Neel, however, had a rather unusual task than most. In addition to all the tasks of an RA, Neel, a communications/public relations major, juggled her RA duties with the duties of a bride-to-be.

"I'm getting married next June," Neel said. "I'm getting married four hours from here. It's really frustrating because you can't see things in person."

It's no surprise that things became a little frustrating. On top of her already busy schedule, Neel also worked 20 hours in the fitness center and usually took 16 to 18 hours a semester.

Although being an RA entailed hours of work and dedication, it also had its benefits.

"I like interacting with my residents," RA Tywin Handson said. "It also helps pay for school."

Neel felt that her position as an RA helped her become a better, more effective communicator among other things. She also felt that it enhanced her leadership skills.

"It takes a certain person to be an RA," Neel said. "You just have to prioritize. Once you become an RA, you know how to approach certain situations and handle things differently."

Through the budget cuts Missouri Western encountered, a group of students began a campaign to show Missouri State Representatives and Senators the students care. Nearly 500 letters later, the students were heard in Jefferson City.

# Have you written y

Story by Aimee Pike

Missouri Western senior Zach Ramsay and communication and orientation coordinator for the Student Success program Duane Bruce conjured up the idea of a letter writing campaign after learning about the higher education budget cuts here in the state of Missouri.

Ramsay wanted to do something to try and affect change about this particular issue. He scheduled a meeting with Western President James Scanlon, Dean of Student Affairs Don Willis, Director of External Relations Beth Wheeler, Bruce, and several students to discuss the letter writing campaign idea.

After deciding to move forward with the letter writing campaign, a small group of students and faculty met once a week to determine how to proceed with this campaign. In order for this campaign to be very effective, they realized the student body would have to become greatly involved. Ramsay, Student Government President Olu Aregbe, and a few other students went around and spoke to different campus organizations asking for their help. Ramsay and Aregbe also sent out approximately 600 letters to students inviting them to attend a presentation in the Nelle Blum Student Union.

Besides the 600 letters that went out to students, Ramsay sent e-mails to 400 more students urging them to attend the meetings. One student involved, Ryan Sevcik, Western junior, said that the presentations focused on the numbers and how they affected the students.

"We gave the same type of presentation at the meetings and in the SU," Sevcik said. "We basically outlined all the points and

gave students the numbers. Once the students saw what was going on, the numbers talked for themselves."

In order to reach even more students, Ramsay set up a more populated area of the SU, encouraging students to help. Ramsay explained to students the budget cuts and the great affect that would have on Western. If students were willing to help, they were asked to fill out a sheet with their name, high school, home zip code (not campus), present year in school, local mailing address, and intended major. With this information, those working on the campaign wrote the letters and located the congressmen and women of each student's district.

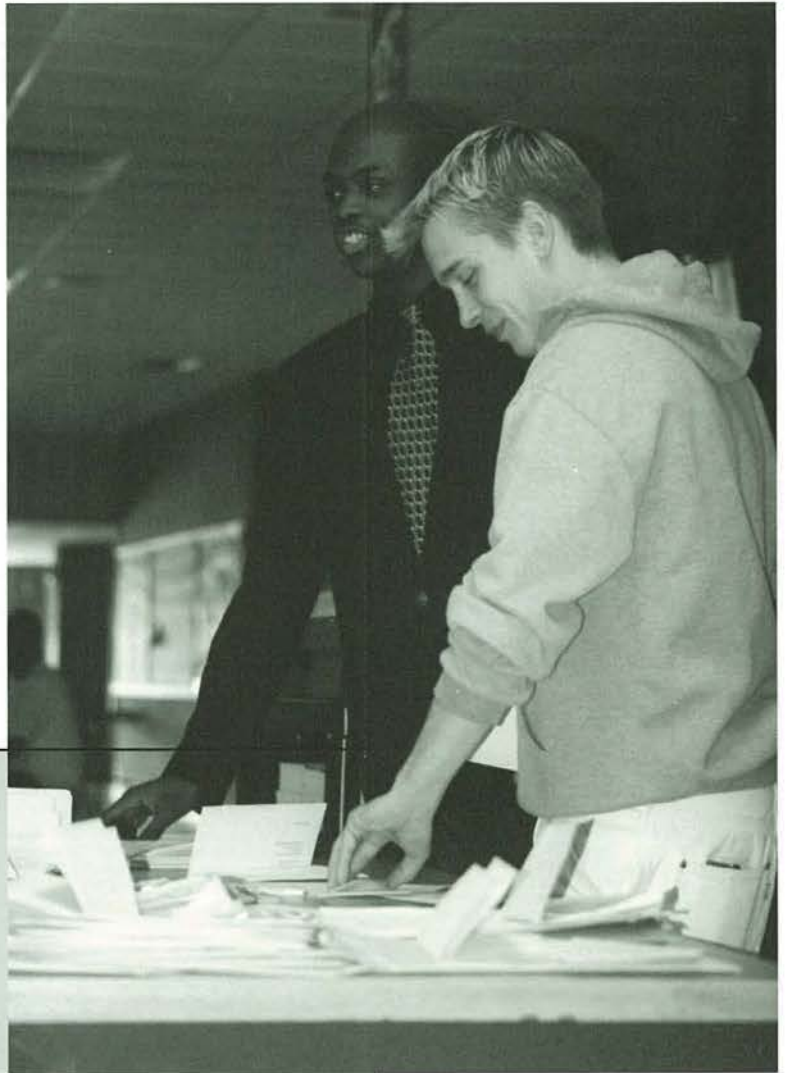
After the letters were written, students were asked for their signatures in order to send the letters to their representatives and senators. Nick Francis, Western senior, helped out by giving his information and signing his letters.

"I thought it was an excellent way to show students that they actually have a voice," Francis said. "Hopefully the folks in Jefferson City will sit up and take notice."

More than 650 letters have been sent to Missouri congressmen and women. Ramsay said that the goal amount of letters they wanted to have sent was only 200. With the number of sent letters being a greater number than the goal amount, Ramsay has become very appreciative of all the help given and proud in the student body.

"I am extremely impressed with the results from the student body and with the work of my committee," Ramsay said.

r letter?



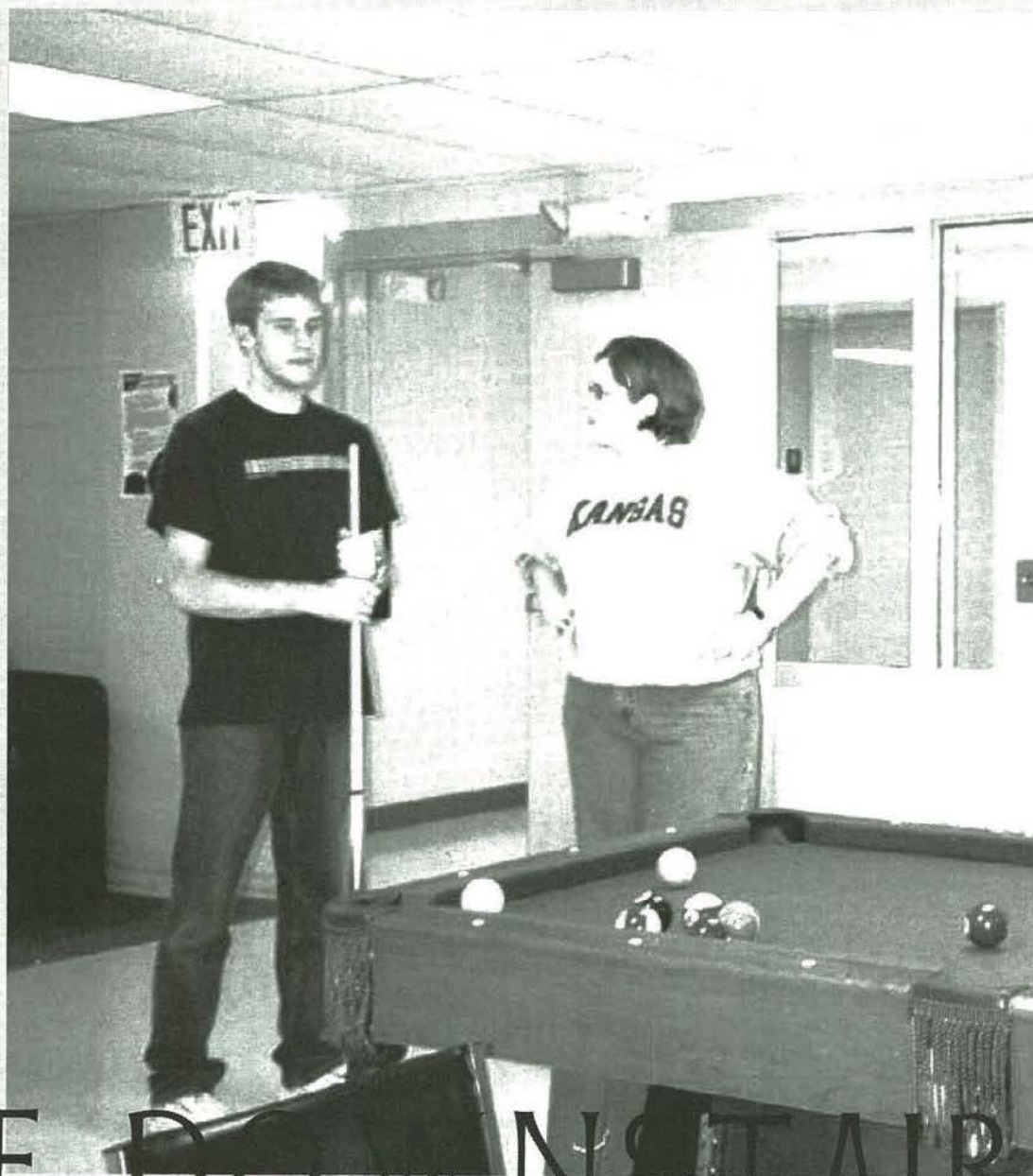
**Above:** Senior Zach Ramsay and senior Olu Aregbe look for potential letter-writing students. The committee made presentations during lunch and dinner periods for nearly two weeks. Photo by Deliese Brewster

**Left:** Students take note of the many letters left to sign. The campaign helped send out over 650 letters to legislators. Photo by Dan Grover

**Below:** A student looks over his letter before signing for send-off. The letters came in various formats and students were asked to look over their letter before signing. Photo by Dan Grover



Jake Jordan and Stacy Fulk discuss their next move against their fierce competitors. The new pool table and ping-pong table drew much attention from the student body.



# THE DOWNSTAIR

Story by Amanda Rafferty  
Photos by Amanda Rafferty

The clamoring and whirring of the washers and dryers were no longer the only noises coming from the Vaselakos Hall basement.

Thanks to two residential assistants, Jake Jordan and Tricia Gerlach, a new pool table and ping-pong table were added for students' enjoyment. The two RA's talked about how people would use the Griffon Spot more, which was located in the Student Union basement, if it wasn't so far. Plus, the idea of having to supply quarters for the pool table was nearly unbearable to college students who thought that quarters were gold. Jordan commented that he liked to play pool but didn't want to pay money for each game.

Free pool and ping-pong was an idea that struck Jordan. He then asked Gerlach if she would want to pool their RA money together to purchase the tables.

However, it wasn't enough money to cover the price of both tables. That's when the Housing Department and Residence Council stepped in.

Jordan first took his and Gerlach's plan to Josh Bauroth, Residence Coordinator of Leaverton and Vaselakos. Bauroth agreed that it was a good idea. Jordan and Bauroth then talked about how to fund it and possible problems that might arise. Then steps were made to purchase the equipment.

"When we're brought a good program idea, we do our best to make it a reality," Bauroth said.

John Comerford, Assistant Dean of Students, said that the Housing Office and Residence Council covered what was left of the price. He said it was a good investment and even if it only lasted a few years, it was still worth the money. "I was very impressed that it was student led," Comerford said.

Comerford also said that the new tables weren't competing with the equipment in the Griffon Spot. The new tables were just something that students could enjoy on their own time.

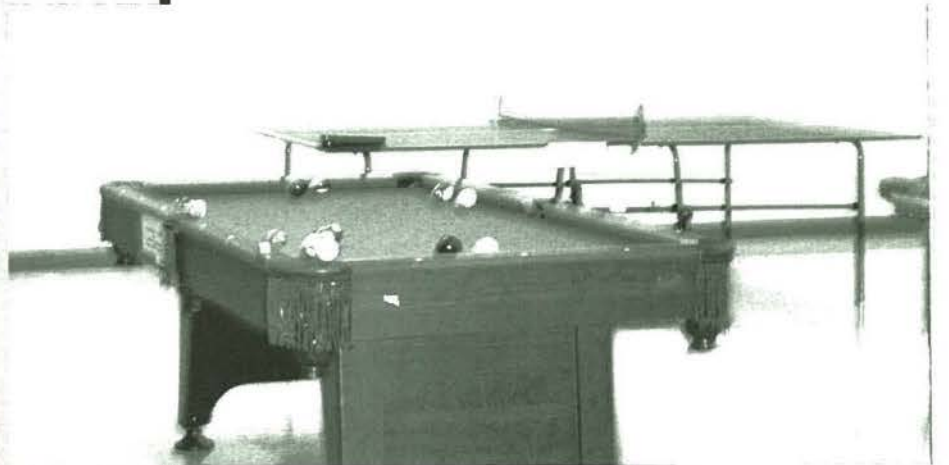
Once the tables were set up, students were able to check out the equipment in the Leaverton Housing Office. They had to turn in their student ID's and log in at the time of checkout.

"Anytime I do laundry, I frequently go and check out the equipment myself," Jordan said. "It helps pass the time and is kind of relaxing. It's awesome to be able to play pool without having to worry about having quarters."

Save the quarters for the laundry and enjoy a game of pool or ping-pong while the clamoring and whirring, along with the clanking and ping-pong noises come from the Vaselakos Hall basement.



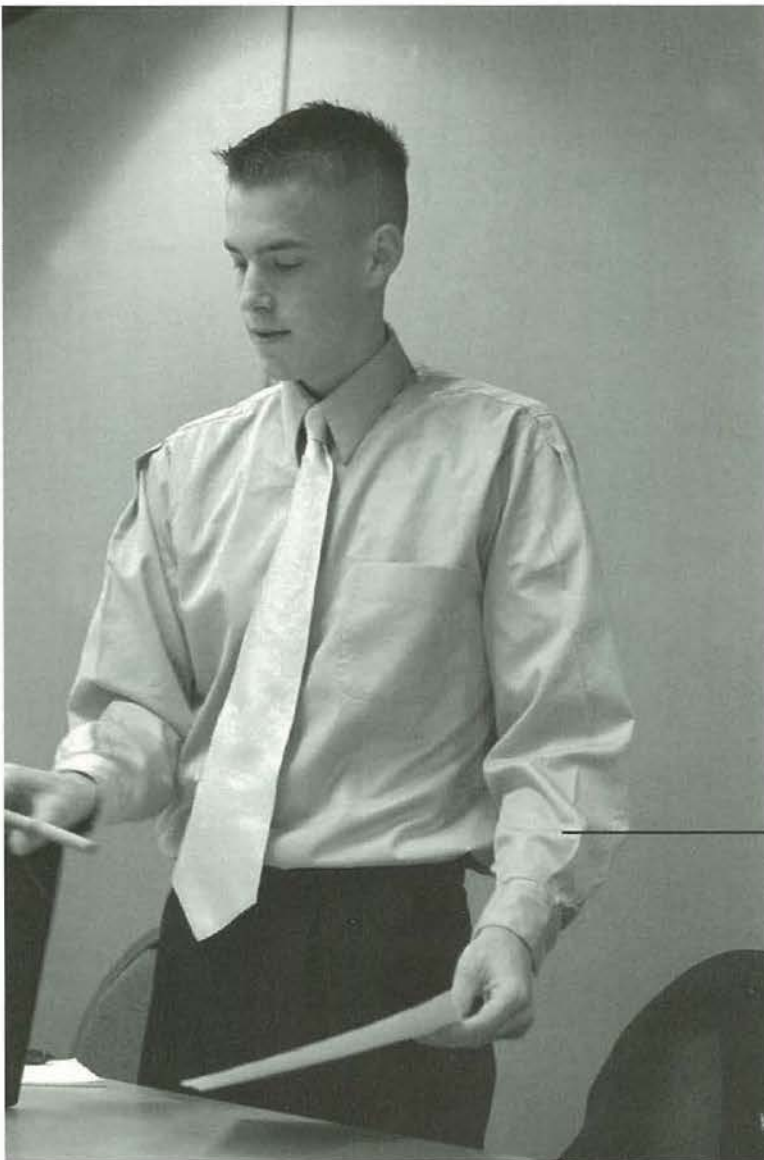
# AVEN



**Top:** Christine Jones lines up her shot. She shoots, she scores.

**Right:** The noise of the dryer has to compete with the noise of pool balls and ping-pong. Students can now dry their clothes and shoot some pool and ping some pong.

**Above:** Did someone say free? A ping-pong table and pool table were donated and placed into the V-Hall basement for open use.

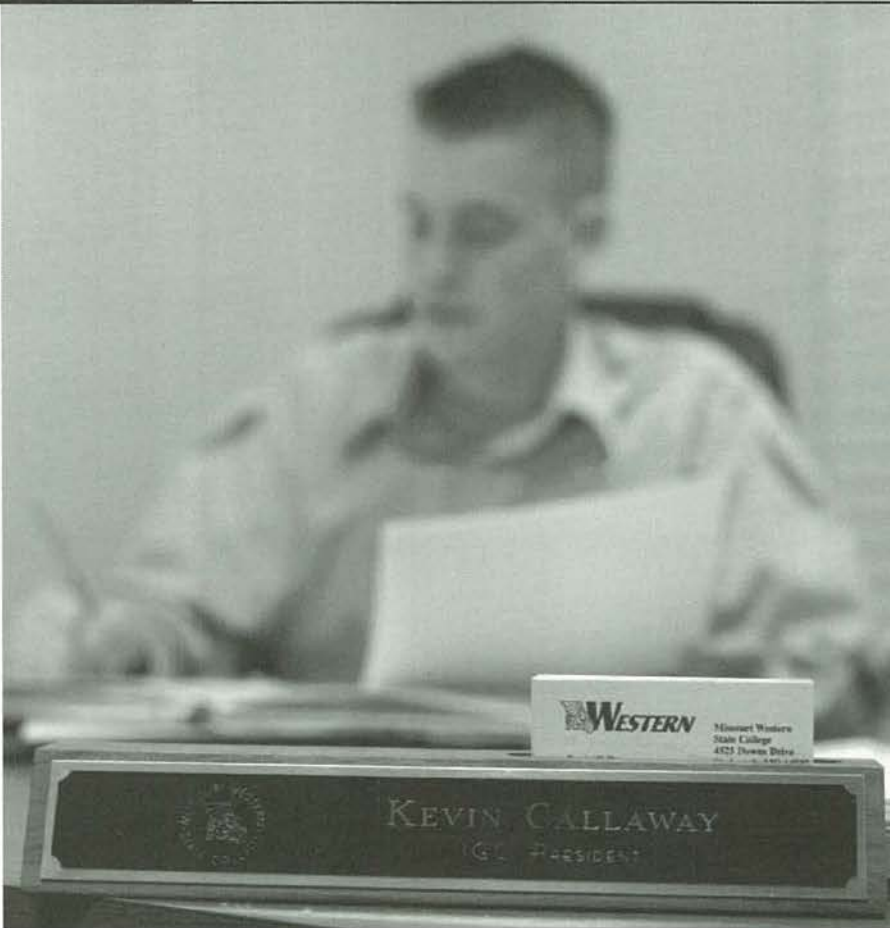


# S t u d

**Above:** Kevin Callaway calls the Inter-Greek Council meeting to order. Callaway's leadership abilities made him a great choice for the student regent position.

**Right:** Kevin Callaway works at his desk. Callaway had been Inter-Greek Council President before taking on the student regent position.

**Bottom:** Working on his computer, Callaway prepares for his day. As student regent, he spent most of his time fulfilling his duties.



Student Regent Kevin Callaway acts as a liaison between the Board of Regents and the student body. With a charismatic personality and open mind, Callaway unites the campus by voicing student concerns.

# Student Voice

Story by Jared Hoffman  
Photos by Ashley Reynolds

Kevin Callaway wanted to be more than a student. He wanted to be a voice for the students, and make sure that their ideas were heard. And, in his position as Student Regent, he did just that.

Callaway was elected to become Student Regent after a lengthy process of applications and interviews. First he had to send his application to be reviewed by a committee. The committee then chose eight applicants to be interviewed by a panel. The panel's job was to select the three individuals they thought were best for the job. Once they had done that, the three finalists went to Jefferson Community College to be interviewed by the governor's right-hand man, Chris Kinnaman. Callaway was the man they saw best for the job.

"The duties of this position are somewhat vague," Callaway said. "But my main job is to relate ideas of the student body to the Board of Regents. I am always having to redefine the duties of this position. I also get to be a big voice for the school down in Jefferson Community College."

Olu Aregbe, Student Government Association president, said that Callaway had a unique connection with the students. Aregbe said that the regent must represent the students, know how to work with students, and will work with students. Callaway not

only met these requirements, but he exceeded them.

"Kevin has a lot of fire in him," Aregbe said. "He has a great vision and a lot of fortitude to make things happen. He's always thinking outside the box."

Callaway said that the student regent appealed to him because he wanted to have an influence on the decisions made for the student body. "I wanted the opportunity to sit on a board which decided things for the school," he said.

Sophomore Adrian Gray, who worked in the SGA office through the works study program, witnessed Callaway's work ethic first-hand. Gray, like Aregbe, believed that Callaway's devotion to his position made a big difference.

"He's very productive in whatever he puts his mind to," Gray said. "He is a role model for others who will take the position after him. He's a very outgoing person."

The role of student regent proved to be a vital asset to the campus, specifically the student body. According to those who saw Callaway work, he had a unique drive that helped voice the views and concerns of students.



When students decide to attend Missouri Western, crime is not a concern for them. Students might feel differently after the recent on-campus problems that have occurred. School officials have enforced a "no tolerance" attitude towards crime, which many students have learned the hard way.

# Crime exists

Story by Kellie Feuerbacher

Photos by Michelle Lakebrink

Crime can happen anytime, anywhere, even on a college campus. As on any college campus, students committed several crimes of different types and varying degrees of severity on campus throughout the year.

According to Director of Security Jon Kelley, the most common forms of crimes on campus were vandalism, theft and traffic offenses. Those, however, were not among the most memorable to students.

One of the most unforgettable crimes was the assault on Theodor Otto in February. Two students, Christopher Eads and Jay Courtney, were arrested and charged with third-degree assault. The altercation occurred due to a fight begun at a local fraternity/sorority mixer.

Another less dangerous crime but still fairly serious was artwork stolen out of the hallway in the Thompson E. Potter Fine Arts Building. A 3-D piece and a glass-beaded piece on display were both stolen.

Art theft involves more than just the actual pieces that are stolen. The students' time and effort they put into the projects make the crime even more serious. However, Missouri Western generally doesn't have a large number of art thefts. "It is very rare that artwork is

stolen," art professor Jeannie Harmon-Miller said.

Another crime that occurred several times throughout the year was the stealing of women's undergarments from the campus laundry rooms. Some women who left their laundry unattended returned to the laundry room to find everything still in its place with the exception of their panties.

This sort of theft was comical to some, but to the victims, it was frustrating.

"Almost all my underwear was stolen, so I had to go to the store and buy some more," dorm resident Misty Musselman said.

Unfortunately, the undergarment theft on campus was not a one-time occurrence.

"This has been happening on a regular basis for the past two semesters," Kelley said.

Although the Western campus had many crimes committed throughout the year, one as serious as a charged assault, Kelley felt that compared to most campuses, MWSC was a very safe campus.

"I think we're pretty fortunate we don't have more crimes like that happen," he said. "If you compare the crime stats to the other campuses across the country, you'd see ours is a very safe campus. I'd put it up against any campus in the U.S."

# ampus



**Above:** As a party thief lurks among laundry rooms, many residents find their washers and dryers empty. Students in the dorms were shocked and disgusted by the theft of such a personal item.

**Right:** The long hours one student spent on her art was lost when it was stolen. Like her artwork, her time and dedication was lost.

**Below:** Acting in a fit of rage, two football players attacked a man in the dorms. The assault was being taken seriously by school officials and disciplinary action were taken.





**Above:** Brian Miller looks over some papers with an elementary student. Miller spent his spring break working with elementary students.

**Right:** Lauren Meyers, Ashley Reynolds, and Nicole Gentry, pose with a New York fire fighter in front of his truck. This fire station lost 8 men, a chief, and a captain in the World Trade Center tragedy.

**Below:** These MWSC students chose Florida as their spring break destination. The cool 60 degree weather over spring break didn't stop them from enjoying the sun and water.

S pr in



Many students saw spring break as a way to take a break from school, but others saw it as a way to party, relax and have a good time with friends. Either way it was a highlight for many students.

# Break 2002

Story by Rashad Givhan  
Photos by Nicole Gentry

For plenty of students each year, spring break is the highlight of the semester, allowing students to travel, relax and just have a good time. Although some chose different locations and had different plans, students at Missouri Western were no different from a lot of students across the country; they wished spring break would never end.

Some students chose to spend their break as far away from Joseph, Mo., as possible. One of those students was junior Dawni Collins. Collins, a criminal justice major, decided to go to a resort in Florida with eight of her friends. "We wanted to go to the beach, somewhere warm," she said.

Unlike some students who spent months planning for spring break, Collins and her friends made last-minute plans.

"We decided to go a couple of weeks before spring break," Collins said. "Someone mentioned it, so we went."

Instead of spending a lot of money, the group found a way to save money on expenses.

"Between the eight of us, we all stayed in one room," Collins said. "We had the room for eight days. Each person only had to pay \$100."

Collins felt that they found time to relax and have fun. She felt she might return next spring break.

"We went to the beach," Collins said. "Three of us went sailing."

Collins and her crew were not the only students that traveled. A group of students from the Griffon Yearbook made a trip to

New York for an annual media convention.

The students got a chance to experience trendy, busy New York life. Among the many places they visited, one of the most memorable sights was the Sept. 11 memorial named Ground Zero. The students felt that seeing it was truly an eye-opening experience.

While some students spent their break participating in leisurely activities, others chose to offer their time and assistance.

Freshman Jacque Hartley, along with other students from the Baptist Student Union, took a mission trip to St. Louis, Mo., to help underprivileged children.

"I've always gone on mission trips," Hartley said. "I like to work with kids."

Hartley felt that by giving of herself, she was able to make a difference.

"We helped them with their homework," Hartley said. "We also talked about God."

The trip made Hartley perceive things in a different way.

"I realized that I take a lot of things for granted," Hartley said. "A lot of people need love."

Hartley felt she was unlike most spring-breakers who simply looked for fun.

"Instead of going to a party, going somewhere for me, I went for someone else," Hartley said. "We went just to let someone else know we love them, just to be a witness."

Freshman Brett Strum rests on a bench near the residence halls. Strum's long-distance relationship was on the rocks when the couple found it too difficult to support each other from far away.



# LOVE ACROSS T

Story by Rachel Siron  
Photos by Jill Kirkendoll

Absence makes the heart grow fonder. For some couples, absence was an everyday occurrence. Through long distance relationships, couples learned to manage a relationship over the miles.

As students left home for school, some students left their girlfriends and boyfriends behind with communication as their only bond to each other.

Freshman Tabby Larson felt communication was one thing that she and her boyfriend needed to improve on to stabilize their long distance relationship.

"We had to have communication," Larson said. "It was and is the only thing that we have. He attends Iowa State University, and it is not realistic for us to see each other on a regular basis."

With the guessing game of not knowing when a couple will next be able to see each other, it was difficult to plan around schedules and events. This caused couples to encourage each other as much as they could over the phone.

Freshman Brett Strum felt it was difficult for him and his girlfriend to support each other from such a distance. He felt supported in most activities that he placed himself in, but found it difficult to support her.

"It was not only straining for us to be away from each other, but it sucked that I could not be there for her," Strum said. "Whenever she was having a bad day, I wanted to hug her. It just wasn't possible."

The distance and lack of support caused Strum and his girlfriend to break up. For Strum, coming to college was hard, and he was

scared about the possibility of meeting someone else, but felt he could deal with the temptation if he was confronted with it.

"It was scary to leave her at home and not know if she would find someone else or if I would find someone else," Strum said. "When I would go out with the guys, they would flirt and have a good time, but I knew that I had what I wanted at home. I would block out the idea of doing something that would harm us in the long run. The long distance got to us."

Some students thought that having a relationship during college took away from the college experience. However, Strum and Larson felt they have experienced college and having someone to love did not affect their fun.

"I still went out when I was with my girlfriend and had fun with my friends," Strum said. "The only thing that was different was I had a girlfriend. I did all the stuff that my friends did, I just didn't go out on dates with other girls."

Through driving and communication over the phone, some students would ask if it were worth it to continue a relationship if they could not see the person on a regular basis. For Larson, all of the additional costs of driving and phone bills were worth it.

"The strain on my pocketbook is a strain I am willing to manage," Larson said. "It is always hard to adjust to the fact that I cannot see him, but I love him. As long as I know we are together and I can see him on a regular basis, everything is worth it to me."



# MILES



**Top:** Freshman Tabby Larson packs her bags to visit her boyfriend. Larson and her boyfriend found ways to keep the relationship alive despite the distance.

**Left:** A couple joins hands to make the most of their time together. Couples in long-distance relationships learned to value every moment they had together.

**Above:** Marie Goodman, senior, concentrates during painting class. She was in a long-distance relationship, and now they are married.

Many trends seen in magazines are also worn by students on campus. Students use fashion to make a statement or to attract members of the opposite sex. Students find that part of expressing their individuality is through their style of clothing. There is truth in the saying, "clothes make the man (or woman)."

# Fashion 101: the d

Story by Jared Hoffman  
Photos by Ashley Reynolds

Many students use clothes to express their identity and individuality. Often this means wearing the latest fashion trends while others create their own style. Many trends seen in magazines were worn by students on campus. Long sweater coats were popular and worn by many students. One Missouri Western student, Megan Ashley liked the long sweater coat because she thought that it was flattering to all figures and it was practical. "I love the way sweater coats keep you warm," Ashley said. "At the same time they aren't bulky and unflattering."

Another popular trend worn by students was the wide belts with low rise jeans. This style was reminiscent of the eighties, but the belts were twisted and the jeans looked dirty making them fashionable in 2002. The low-rise jeans also went low sitting right on the hip bones and only those brave enough and thin enough could wear them. "You have a really flat stomach to look good in the really low jeans," Ashley said.

Other students prefer to dress down at school, comfort being more important than fashion. Jeans, tennis shoes and sweatshirts are worn by many to reflect their personality.

Junior Stephanie Tillman loves to wear casual clothes in and out

of school. "I live in jeans and tennis shoes," Tillman said. "That is what I have in my closet, because they reflect my personality and lifestyle." Junior Heather Martinez dresses down for school, but wears fashionable clothes when she goes out. "I love to wear funky, trendy clothes when I go out," Martinez said. "But at school, definitely I am casual."

As the weather warmed up new styles began to appear on campus as they began to shed their winter clothes. White was definitely the most popular color for summer and was the color of belts, shirts and pants. A lot of students like to wear white because it suits their summer tan. "I love wearing white because it makes me look really dark," Martinez said. Denim continued to be a popular trend for summer and is worn faded and worn and dark and crisp. Denim was worn by students in jackets, jeans, skirts and even shoes.

Many different styles and fashions are found on campus and they reflect the diversity found at Missouri Western. Times change, people change and fashion does its best to reflect those changes. When you look back at days gone by one reflection of life is the clothes worn by the people. This year's fashion was fun and individualistic people created their own style, which was definitely a reflection of the times.

# of style



**Above:** Students wore long sweater coats to keep warm and at the same time look fashionable. Belts continue to be fashionable in the cold and warm weather.

**Right:** Denim continues to make a statement in new and fashionable ways. Mules and sandals are popular shoes worn by students.

**Below:** Leather wrist bands were a way for guys to add fashion to their wardrobe. Big bold watches in unusual shapes and sizes are being worn by men and women.







"Change does not necessarily assure progress,  
but progress implacably requires change.  
Education is essential to change, for educa-  
tion creates both new wants and the ability to  
satisfy them." Henry Steele Cummings

## A c a d e m i c s





LaShandra Randolph voices her concerns over the variety of meals that the cafeteria is currently serving. Questions were raised at a panel discussion covering the changes to the cafeteria.

# HALLWAY CAFE

## Students question cafeteria renovations while voicing concerns

Story by Jeanette Kragel

Photos by Dan Grover

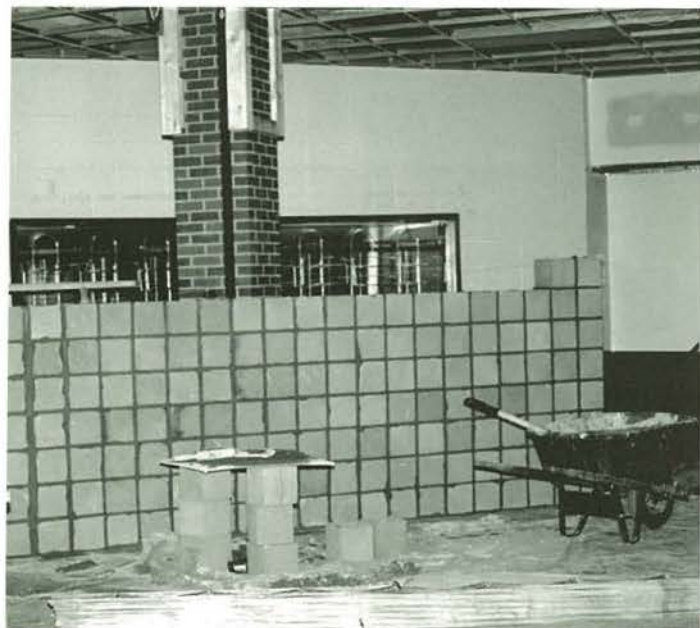
We rode a wave of renovation on campus. It washed up the shores of the Student Union, all the way up to the cafeteria. Students returned to campus in August to find the cafeteria in the throes of construction.

The original renovation plan was to complete the transformation of the cafeteria in three parts, enabling the food to be served behind the glass walls and allowing about 30 seats in the dining room during each phase. Other seating would be moved to the hallway.

The food services committee selected a small group of students to represent the campus population. The representatives opted to change the plan, allowing the whole cafeteria to be remodeled in a full swoop.

"The students made the decision to get it done in the shortest time possible," Dean of Student Affairs Don Willis said. "Getting it done all at once shortens the amount of time we're inconvenienced and also saves the college money, and that saves the students money."

When faced with the problem of providing food services during the renovation process, Mary Shoemaker presented the food services committee with a proposal. "Mary Shoemaker came to me with the plan to serve out of the student lounge," Willis, chairman of the food services committee, said. "The biggest problem has been getting



**Top:** Cafeteria is in the throes of construction. Due to the red tape delays, construction plans were put on hold until August 2001.

**Bottom:** The old cafeteria can be seen through the reconstruction. Students received a guarantee that construction would be complete by Spring 2002.

**Right:** Don Willis explains the possibility of going to a meal plan as TEC Vice President Armand Carr listens intently. The proposed meal plan covered flex spending.



ough power to run all the equipment.”

Many students were surprised to find seating moved to the hallway, thus, creating the “Hallway Café.” Some students expressed dissatisfaction with the temporary facilities. Questions were raised at a panel discussion sponsored by the Student Government Association and the Ebony Collegians.

One student asked why there seemed to be less variety of food this year. “We are dealing with limited space this semester,” Shoemaker said. “We have a three week menu cycle and are trying to work within that.”

Some students, disappointed with the inconvenience, said they could have made different meal plan choices if they had prior knowledge of the conditions. “Don’t wait until December to come to me about problems with your meal plan,” Willis recommended. “I can’t help you if you wait until the end of the semester.”

“If you or anyone you know has special problems or needs, please come right to me,” Shoemaker offered. “I will do whatever I can to help you. My job is a whole lot easier when students are happy.”

Shoemaker offered to make meals to go for those with unusual schedules. She would find solutions for anyone who was not making full use of their meal plan because of the construction or for

any other reason.

Sanitary conditions were also a concern of students. There were complaints of flies, dirty tables, uncovered food and staff use of gloves. “The problem with the flies is partly due to a broken air conditioner,” Willis said. “Also, wherever you have food, you have flies.”

Shoemaker addressed the questions relating to her staff. “Food brought from the kitchen should be covered with plastic wrap, and the staff should all be wearing gloves,” Shoemaker said. “If they are not, that means the staff is not doing their job. I’ll look into it.” All students were reminded to help keep the area clean and to report any spills or messes to a staff member.

Willis reported that there were red tape delays in getting started with the project, but they were slightly ahead of the original schedule. “The most difficult part of the job is done, that’s running power conduits under the concrete floor in the cafeteria,” Willis said. “I’m going to guarantee, even though I shouldn’t, that we will be in by spring.”

Bruce Turnbough, Aramark assistant director of food service, hoped the students would be tolerant with the whole process. “We all have to be patient,” Turnbough said. “We’re going to have a lot better facility in the end.”

# DEPARTMENT SPLIT

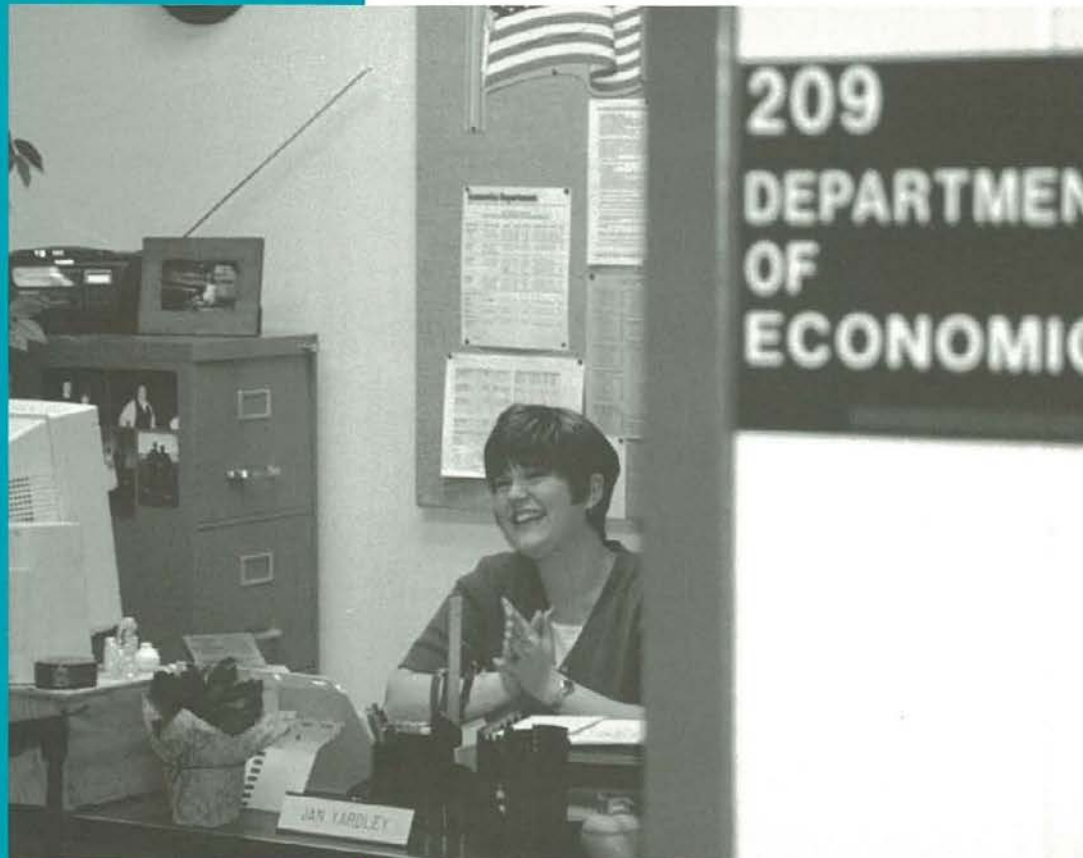
Business and economics split, enabling more students to obtain an economics degree.

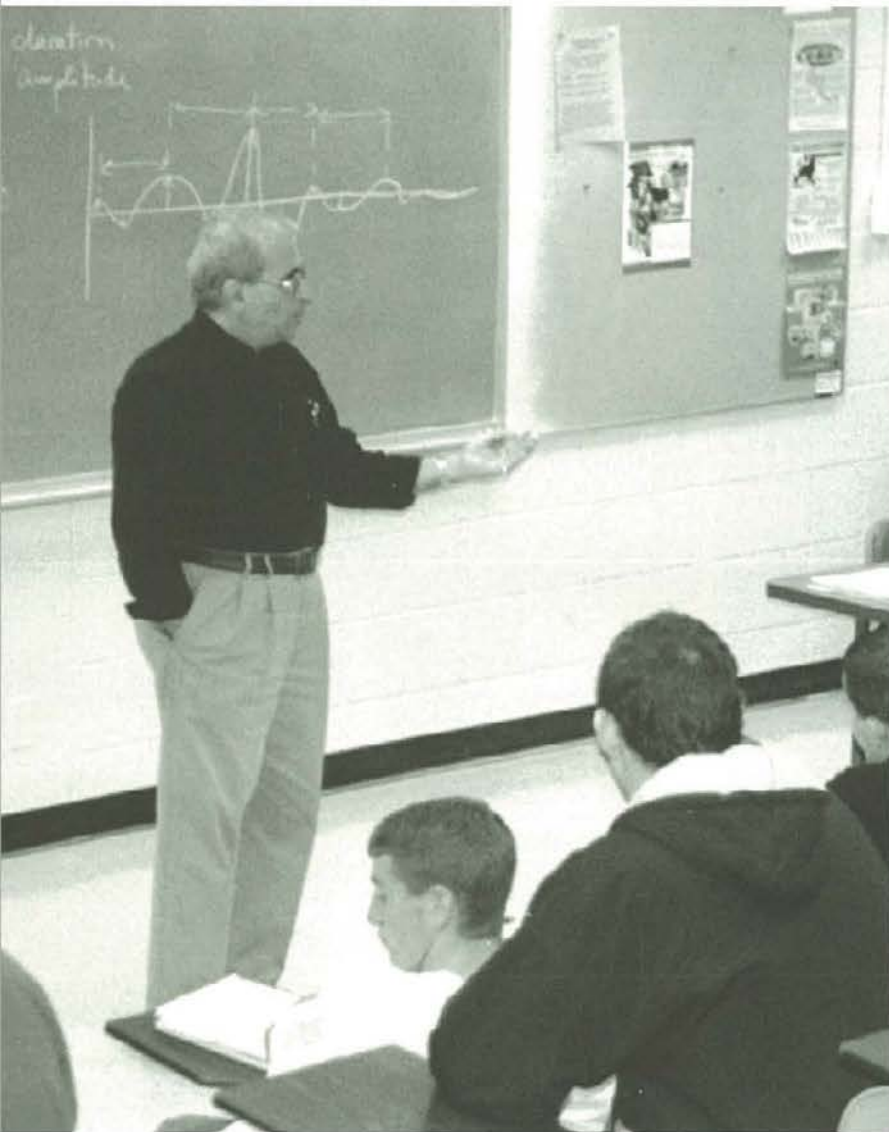
Story by Kellie Feuerbacher  
Photos by Deliese Brewster



**Above:** Cathy Lawson works busily in her new economics office. Lawson was made the chairperson of the new economics department.

**Right:** The economics secretary manages the new department. Splitting the departments provided more opportunity for students.





**Left:** Nader Vargha teaches his economics students. The decision to split the departments was made during the 2001 summer.

**Below:** Patrick McMurry instructs students in economics. More students were able to take economics classes due to the division.



Less is more.

Less requirements for an economics degree equaled more opportunity for students. Over the 2001 summer, college administration decided to split the business and economics department into two separate departments.

This division helped each department distinguish itself as a different field of study - economics as more of a social science that focused on how market economies functioned and business as a relatively new study that focused more on management, accounting, marketing and finance.

Also, not only did the two areas of study split into different departments, but economics also changed their division of study. While the business department remained in the division of professional studies, the economics department moved into the division of liberal arts and sciences.

Catherine Lawson, economics professor and the chairperson of the new economics department, was glad to see economics move to the division of liberal arts and sciences.

"It is more accessible to students in the liberal arts school," Lawson said.

Along with the intangible changes that were made, the economics department also physically changed locations by moving to a new office on the second floor of the administration building.

Economics students welcomed these changes with open arms,

knowing the adjustments were much needed.

"Economics really is a social science," senior Taylor Crouse, an economics major, said. "It's not a professional study."

The benefit the change would provide to students and the promotion of the economics area of study were the main purposes of the alteration.

"We wanted to encourage the growth of the econ major," Jeanne Daffron, dean of professional studies, said.

Making economics separate from business made it easier for students to major or minor in the area by cutting out the business core classes, which decreased the total number of credits required.

For example, obtaining a major in economics before the division required a total of 57 credit hours. After the change there were only 36 hours required since the business core classes were taken out of the list of requirements for an economics degree.

The administration hoped the alteration would make it more feasible for students to major and minor in the area.

"It [the change] was to increase opportunities for our students," Daffron said.

Fortunately, the division of the departments created no adverse situations or alterations of degree requirements for business students. Students in the business department were able to continue in their classes as normal as if no change had occurred at all.

# OPEN ADMISSIONS POLICY



Does the admission policy lower academic standards?

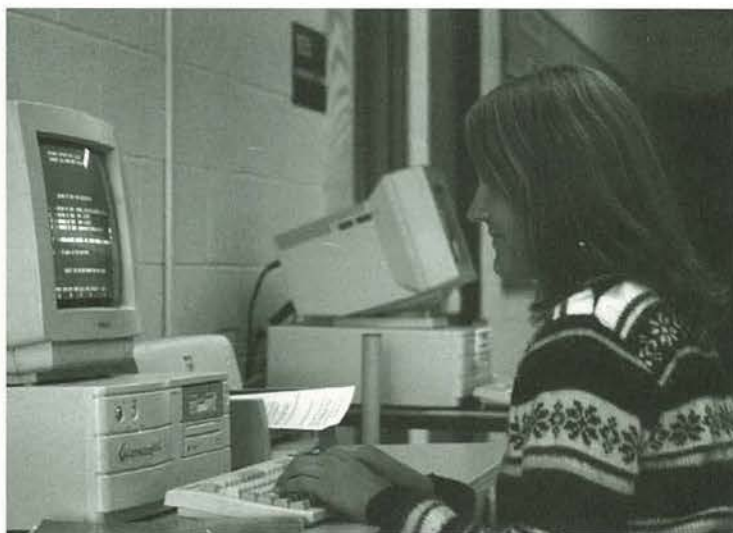
Story by Carol Wilson

Photos by Shannon Stracener

A student rustles through spring schedules. Students felt they had to get an early start on registration.

Students stand in line waiting to talk to the business staff. Lines grew longer and longer as students rushed to pay their bills.





**Above:** Sophomore Chelie Gilbert types in her schedule. Remote terminals made registering easy for returning students.

**Left:** Danielle Jones skims over the new class schedule. As fall semester came to an end, students prepared for the spring semester.

For some, Missouri Western was their first choice, but for others it was their only choice, as Missouri Western was one of the few four-year colleges that had an open admissions policy.

“The open admissions policy was enacted in 1989-90, when a rather huge campus committee called the admissions task force sat down and looked at a lot of different things that affect the admissions,” said Robert Hines, Head of Registrars. “The fact that we are open admissions means that we have academic standards as any other institution, but that it gives a student the opportunity to come to Missouri Western when they might not have that opportunity at other schools.”

Because Missouri Western had an open admissions policy, they accepted all students who completed their high school education with the recommended high school courses. Incoming students were not required to score 17 or above on the ACT, or they could only take one credit their first semester. However, the University of Missouri Western admissions policy stated that a student needed a score of 21 or higher to be accepted.

The most common requirement that MWSC, and other schools required was the 40-60 rule. The 40-60 rule stated that a student must

complete English 100 and Math 090/095 within 40 hours and English 108 and Math 110 or higher within 60 hours.

So what did our students think about the open admissions policy?

“I think that it allows people who didn’t take high school seriously a chance or maybe just people who didn’t do good in high school,” senior Brandy Phillips said. “I don’t think that they should be deprived.”

Freshman Jaqueline Brush also felt comfortable with the open admissions policy.

“I think that it’s a good idea that we’re accepting all these people, but at the same time we catch a lot of flack for it,” Brush said. “I don’t think that having an open admissions policy hinders us in any way though.”

Hines felt that it was motivation and endurance that kept students in college. No matter whether a student made a 30 or a 17 on the ACT, Missouri Western accepted all students and gave them an equal chance to succeed.



# MEAL PLANS EVOLVE

Students continue to adjust to new meal plans.

Story by Carol Wilson

Photos by Shannon Stracener



**Above:** Preparing a lunch, the employee makes each meal made to order. Quality food and fast service was a must among many students.

**Right:** A food court employee offers a friendly smile. Some students felt the cafeteria staff made dining a pleasant experience.





**Left:** Two students enjoy eating while sitting in the food court. Many students took advantage of their meal plans.



**Left Below:** Students stand in line to place their order. Some felt the cafeteria staff worked quickly to ensure prompt service.

**Below:** A food court employee works to prepare a pizza. Some students enjoyed eating the variety of pizzas.



You go into the food court expecting to purchase a bottle of juice for a dollar. However, the cash register reads \$5.35.

Many changes took place in the cafeteria, and the meal plan changed as well. Over the summer the meal plan was changed to 15 meals in the cafeteria plus five in the food court or 10 meals in the cafeteria plus two meals in the food court. Each time an item was bought in the food court, about \$5.35 went toward that whole transaction. Whether it was a bottle of juice or a chicken finger basket, \$5.35 was completely used. The flex plan stayed the same, allowing money to be used without having to carry cash. It also allowed one to put money into the flex plan at any time.

On the one hand, the change did cause confusion about why one person had to use all of his or her \$5.35 of the meal plan when buying something as inexpensive as a cookie. "I think that the meal plan is not a good thing because you don't get your money's worth, and you're just wasting it," freshman Leann Shepherd said.

On the other hand, Don Willis, dean of Student Affairs, felt there was no change in the meal plan. "There never really was a change in the meal plan," Willis said. "Students just did not understand how to use it."

Although some students did not understand the meal plan, the administration made attempts to clarify the changes.

"We have held three meetings to try to educate the students, and listen to what they have to say so we could minimize the confusion. When no students ask questions, we can't do anything," Mary Shoemaker said. "There have been numerous flyers sent out to help students learn about the meal plans but with no results."

"The problem is that students don't sit down and eat anymore. They are always just stopping in and grabbing to-go plates," Willis said. "People are on their own schedules."

Both Shoemaker and Willis agreed it was better for the students' nutrition to have a meal plan where a whole meal could be purchased instead of just a cookie or a drink. That way, students received a balanced diet and got more for their money.

As to whether the changes affected the incoming freshmen, Willis didn't think they had because freshmen never knew what the meal plan was like before.

"It doesn't really bother me because I've never known anything different," Shepherd said. "But I think that there is room for improvement."

Although Shoemaker did not believe there would be a future change in the meal plans, Willis thought that improvement was still needed. "Maybe in the future we could have a plan that would just involve the flex dollars," Willis said.

# UNITY COMMUNITY THE



The Big Event sparked enthusiasm for volunteering work for those in need.



**Above:** Students clear soil on a construction site. Students and faculty labored away while working with Habitat for Humanity.

**Below:** Cooperation goes a long way for these students carrying supplies. Hauling materials and debris was just one of many tasks accomplished by students and faculty.

Story by Jeanette Kragel  
Photos by Leslie Hancock

"We invited the members of every organization, faculty staff to come in and participate in one day where Missouri West can impact the St. Joseph community," Assistant Dean Danielle Carter said. "We go out to different service sites and perform whatever it need us to do."

Carter was the director of Unity Services. She worked with the Student Government Association to plan a day of community service called "The Big Event."

The Big Event was a day in which students, faculty and staff members of the college had the opportunity to give back to the community of Saint Joseph by doing a variety of service projects throughout the town.

These projects included working with several different local organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity, the Noyes Home and local nursing homes.

For some of the organizations, the volunteer help didn't end with that one day. Some volunteers who helped for The Big Event decided to continue helping the organizations in need in the future.

"This is our commitment to service," Carter said. "We're going out into the community, not only for a day, but to attach ourselves to various groups in need and keep providing service."

Carter joined the staff in July of 2001 and started talking with members of the SGA about the service project at the beginning of



Anna Ristic cleans up debris at Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity helped build homes for lower income families.

Don Willis carries siding materials to the work site. Final touches were put on one of the houses during "The Big Event."



school year, but the planning didn't start until Sept. 24, two weeks before the actual event.

"This was an idea that I worked with the SGA on and we thought it was too late to start," Carter said. "Somebody told me we couldn't do it and that made me want to do it even more. I knew that if we put our minds to it we could do whatever we want, so we just did."

Despite the short notice, Carter, the students, the faculty and staff worked together to pull it off in just two weeks, setting up arrangements to serve as volunteers and making plans to get together to use their time and energy.

"The Big Event" was planned for Saturday, Oct. 13. Carter had hoped that hundreds of students would participate at many sites around the community. Originally there were more than 60 students lined up to serve.

The volunteers met at 8 a.m. for breakfast and to talk about what they would be doing for the day. After breakfast, they were transported by campus van or school bus to one of the service sites.

Service learning intern, Maria Grothaus, was one of the students who volunteered to work. She worked at two different Habitat for Humanity houses.

"Five or six of us from campus worked for three hours," Grothaus said. "We did finishing touches on one house that was almost done, and the other house needed painting and vinyl siding."

Carter and the SGA had arranged for the volunteers to work at seven different sites in the community.

"We painted, we put plastic on windows for the elderly, we worked on a garden for the elderly, and fed the hungry," Carter said. "One group packaged up 6000 pounds of food to distribute to the needy."

After three hours of service on Saturday morning, the volunteers were transported back to campus for lunch and to talk about the impact that was made on the organizations and the community.

"I thought everything was positive and the students were really motivated," Don Willis, volunteer and dean of Student Affairs, said. "The students with me were excited and having fun. I think they took that positive attitude with them."

This was the first time for Unity Services to sponsor an event of this kind. They planned to have another event in the spring.

"The next time, we'll have T-shirts as incentives and some way to say thank you for your service," Carter said. "We were pleased with the impact we made this time, but next time will be bigger and better."

# PARKING PROBLEMS



“Dude, where’s my parking space,” was the question asked by many students.

Story by Rashad Givhan  
Photos by Cody Dragon

Every year students complained about the lack of parking spaces, and every year school officials reassured students that there were sufficient spaces. With a sea of cars that extended to the end of each parking lot, students felt they had a valid gripe.

With the heavy enrollment, it was no surprise that student parking was scarce. The increased enrollment added to the number of filled residential parking spaces, making parking a huge problem. According to Corporal Jason Whittington of the security department, the problem was that the number of parking stickers sold exceeded the number of available parking spaces.

“There was a total of 800 spaces, and 808 stickers were sold,” Whittington said. “That was a mistake.”

Student Government Association President Olu Aregbe said that mistake presented several problems.

“I believed that the security department would have a handle on the number of parking spots that exist,” Aregbe said. “I most definitely thought they would have a handle on the number of parking stickers they were selling.”

Apparently, Aregbe was not the only one who thought



**Left:** Students' cars fill the parking lots to capacity. Finding a parking space proved to be a challenge for many commuting students.

**Left Below:** The residential parking lot holds 800 spaces. However, over 800 parking stickers were sold to residents.

**Below:** Student parking is extended to the overflow lot. The security department voided over 200 citations as a result of the overflow expansion.



Security department could have a better handle on things. Senior Kristen Camy felt that the parking system was lacking.

"It needs major improvement," McCamy said. "There isn't enough parking for faculty and visitors, let alone students. Try to leave in the middle of the day and come back is the worst. I call it the midday cram."

While some complained about parking, other students did not see it as a problem at all. Junior Kevin Amos felt that parking was not a serious issue.

"I haven't had any problems," Amos said. "You just have to look everywhere."

For some, walking everywhere was not a convenient option. Students felt that classes were too far apart, and driving was necessary. Because of the scarcity of parking spaces, some students felt they were forced to park in non-student parking, elevating the number of parking citations. For Junior Brandon Burns, it was a common occurrence to see ticketed windshields.

"Last year, I had \$700 worth of tickets," Burns said. "They

should show a little leniency. They're like Hitler with ticketing."

Aregbe also felt that ticketing was more of an issue on campus.

"Ticketing has become a problem on this campus," Aregbe said. "50 percent of all appeals were traffic and ticket appeals."

Although some felt the security department gave too many tickets, Whittington felt that they were simply doing their job.

"We don't write the violations and laws," Whittington said. "We're just out here to enforce them."

In fact, the security department, in an attempt to right a wrong, voided several citations due to the expansion of residential parking to the overflow parking lot.

"We've voided well over 200 citations," Whittington said. "We're trying to help."

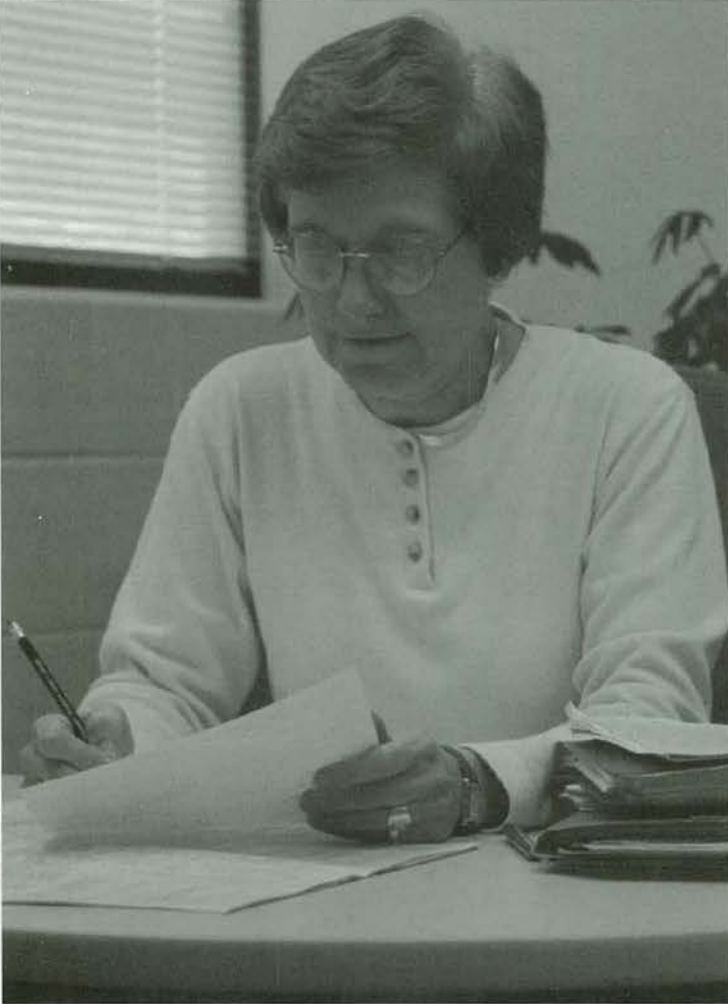
Though several efforts were taken, the fact remained that parking was scarce. That scarcity of parking raised the question, "Dude, where's my parking space?"

# IT PAYS TO

Are some of the limitations of the program worth the benefits received?

Story by Rashad Givhan

Photos by Cody Dragon



Rosalie Guyer keeps busy as the head of the A+ program. Guyer made sure that the program ran smoothly.

Good grades and an average ACT score were not enough to make these students eligible for a program that paid for tuition and books.

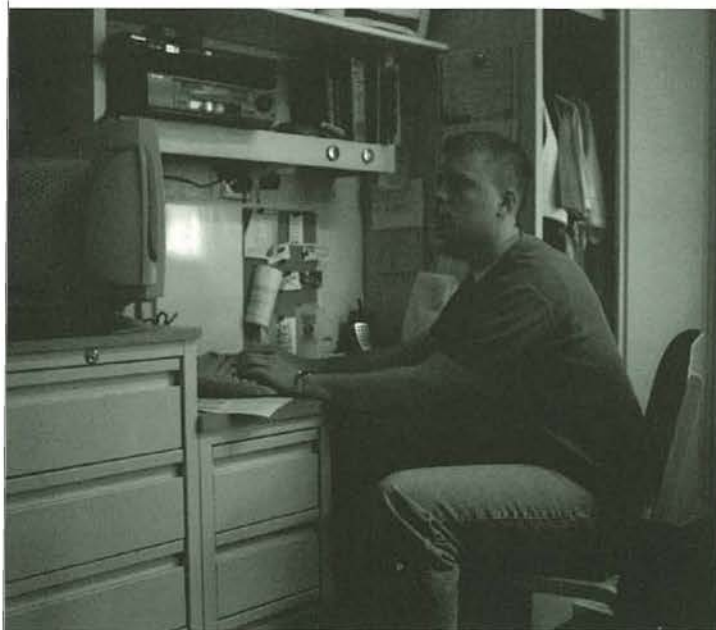
The A+ Program was a two-year program that paid books and tuition for eligible incoming freshmen. In high school, eligible students had to perform 50 hours of community service, maintain a 2.5 grade point average and have a 95 percent attendance record during their senior year.

According to Rosalie Guyer of the Student Success Center, the A+ Program benefited the college as well as its students.

"I'm glad MO West is a part of it," Guyer said. "I think it'd be good for all colleges."

The program was offered in conjunction with Hillyard Technical Center. "If it wasn't for them, Mo. West wouldn't have it," Guyer said.

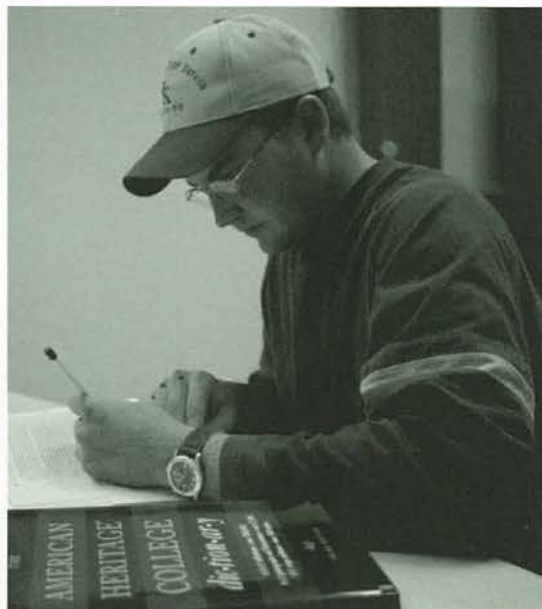
Sophomore Benjamin Barnhart, a criminal justice major,



**Above:** A+ student researches for a homework assignment. Students had to maintain a 2.5 GPA.

**Left Below:** Guyer advises one of the many A+ students. A+ Students had to be enrolled in 12 A+ hours a semester.

**Below:** A+ student studies to keep good grades. The program paid for tuition and books for two years.



also felt that the program was a great asset to the college.

"I enjoy being in the program very much," Barnhart said.

In fact, Barnhart said he still would have chosen MWSC even if there were more four-year colleges participating in the program. "I am satisfied with my education at MWSC," Barnhart said.

Although students liked the fact that the program paid for tuition and books, some did not like the limited amount of classes to choose from in the program.

"There are only certain classes you can use for A+," sophomore Amy Hrastich said. "They only pay for general classes. You must take 12 hours of A+ hours a semester."

Hrastich, a nursing major, felt it was easy to get into the program.

"I did 25 hours of cadet teaching and 25 hours of tutoring in school," Hrastich said. "As long as your high school has it, it's

easy."

Hrastich liked the interaction she received while in the program.

"The people I work with are very helpful," Hrastich said. "It's a good thing"

Even though Hrastich felt the program was very beneficial to her, she felt that it had its limitations.

"I took a summer class at a community college back home, but they would not pay for it even though it was on the A+ program list," Hrastich said. "That's why this is my last semester."

To some, it appeared that the A+ Program was more than just stellar grades and an acceptable ACT score. To others, the program still had to work through some kinks. Whatever the case was, it was apparent that the program was more complex than the elementary ABC's.



# THE SHOW GOES ON



## Missouri Western brings home Steve Martin's Picasso

Story by Carol Wilson

Do you remember Pablo Picasso, Albert Einstein and Elvis Presley ever coming together in a café?

A large amount of the college community, as well as the Joseph community, was in attendance for the first play of the season, "Picasso at the Lapin Agile."

The show went off without a hitch, but as with all forms of art, perfection doesn't come without a lot of preparation. Junior Joseph Joseph Hall, who played the bartender Freddy, said, "We were in rehearsal for four to five weeks."

The production involved many characters, but Hall said, "The main point of the play was for Einstein and Picasso to find out who the other's genius was."

The comedy starred Tracy Hutchison as a womanizing Pablo Picasso, Kellen Perry as a young Albert Einstein and Bryan Clark as a wisdom-bearing traveler, Elvis Presley. The setting was a quaint little café known as the Café Lapin Agile, where artists came to mull over their great masterpieces and have a few drinks.

Hutchison and Rhein played scorned lovers in Picasso. The quality of the show reflects the students' hard work. Photo by Shannon Stracener



**Above:** Elaborate posters advertise the play to students and MWSC. The posters caught the eye of many students across campus. Photo by Shannon Stracener

**Right Below:** Hutchinson and Nelson discuss artwork in one scene of the play. Students found starring in a play to be both fun and time-consuming. Photo by Shannon Stracener

**Below:** Hall and Powell discuss the pitfalls associated with love. Students enjoyed working with one another. Photo by Sandy Scott



In the first half of the play, Freddy, Germaine (Morgan Powell), Suzanne (Marnie Rhein) and Einstein were having a battle of sexes as to who was the smarter of the gender and which art theories were the best to follow. Then entered Picasso, who had a dueling of the minds with Einstein as to what made a person a genius.

Meanwhile, in the background the ever-present Gaston (Jeff Powell) was going to the bathroom and throwing in anecdotes about sexual knowledge and pondering the idea that there sat two of the greatest minds but there had to be a third because all great things came in threes.

At the end of the first half of the play, a shocking discovery was made. The bartender's sexually frustrated wife was having an affair with Picasso.

By the time intermission came, the audience had already fallen in love with the cast. Diane Gorcyca, professor of communication studies, said, "I think it's very good. I think Picasso and Einstein are really portraying the characters as they should be portrayed."

In the second half of the play, Picasso and Einstein still did not know what made a person a genius. As if to answer the question, the ghost of Elvis appears from the future to show Picasso and Einstein that in order to be a genius, a person needed to possess the knowledge of art and science and have the ability to sing and dance.

Freshman Vivian LaPort, a theater student, said, "I think all the characters interrelate really well. I like the style."

Sophomore Jennifer Goucher said, "It looks like they took a lot of time and effort putting it together, and it's turned out pretty good."

Hall thought that Elvis was the most important character because he sang and danced and was the muse for what Einstein and Picasso did. But Hall also believed everyone did an excellent job.

"I think that it was a very successful ensemble cast; everyone fed off each other really well," Hall said.

# MADNESS TAKES OVER

A deceitful mind  
and a plan gone  
awry

Story by Jared Hoffman

Photos by Ashley Reynolds



**Above:** Creeping amidst the shadows, Rodrigo sneaks behind Iago and threatens him with a knife. Iago's plan was thwarted, which was the onset of many un-expected conflicts.

**Middle:** Desdemona tells her father, Brabantio, of her secret marriage to Othello. Her father didn't agree with her decision.

**Below:** Cassio and Bianca share a moment of privacy. They had to keep their relationship a secret.

Romance, deceit and tragedy were all popular elements helped make up the classic writings of William Shakespeare. One of Shakespeare's memorable works was the story of Othello, which was brought to life on stage by a group of select student actors.

The character of Othello was a well-respected figure and a general in the Venetian Army. Ivan McClellan portrayed this role. McClellan said the most difficult part about playing Othello was memorizing all of the dialogue.

"I had to just read the lines over and over again," McClellan said, "just putting in countless hours of rehearsal."

The actors put in a lot of time to ensure that they had their parts down. They sometimes spent between four and six hours a night and Saturday rehearsals were also common.

Getting into character was one of the most important aspects for the actors. In fact, the student actors did a great deal of research so they could get a better feel for how their character spoke and carried themselves in the presence of other people.



*Othello, the Moor of Venice*  
 Setting: Venetian Cavalry in Venice & Cyprus  
 The Players

Roderigo	Kellan Perry
Iago	Ryan Gerster
Brabantio	Steve Burdette
Brabantio's Servant, Cassio	E. J. O'Neil
Brabantio's Servant, Montano, Attendant	Matthew Caselli
Brabantio's Servant, Soller, Guard	Nick Richardson
Othello	Ivan McNeil
Cassio	Walter Johnson
Guard, Cypriotes	Nick Frantz
Candiani	Lindsay Goodwin
Duke of Venice	Ann Hall
1st Soldier	Jeff Howell
2nd Soldier, Attendant	Tom Ball
Boats Officer	Kristin Dale
Boats Officer, Patient Woman	Sherry Fitzhugh-Sims
Officer	Sylvester Thomas
Desdemona	Erika Pontius
Montano	E. J. Lovell
Montano, Cypriotes	Francis Hutchinson
Udolpho	Morgan Perry
Antonio	Rocky Endrich
Flourish	Chris Sawyer
Lighting	Deborah Neumann

**Left:** Othello holds Desdemona in his arms. Othello had been lead to believe that his wife had been unfaithful to him.

**Below:** Cassio lies injured on the ground after being stabbed by Iago. Cassio was one of the many innocent victims of Iago's evil scheming.



"I just looked up things about the period," McClellan said. "I did the most basic research to find out how noble of a person Othello was and how he would react to certain situations."

In the beginning of the play, Othello was secretly married to a woman named Desdemona. Desdemona was a submissive and obedient type of woman according to Erika Pontius. But Pontius said that playing this character was difficult because she would not respond to situations the same as Desdemona.

"She's the opposite of me in certain ways," Pontius said. "She's a very submissive woman, and she often gets walked on, and that's just not part of my character. It was actually fun to play this type of role."

Pontius felt natural in becoming Desdemona. One big factor for her was the costumes of the period.

"Putting on the costumes really forces you into character," Pontius said. "It automatically puts you back in that time period, and wearing the clothes causes you to carry yourself in a certain way."

Another featured character in the story of Othello was Othello's right-hand man, Iago, who was played by Ryan Gerster. Iago was a deceitful character who plotted to ruin Othello's marriage to Desdemona once he found out that Othello was promoted to a position higher than he was.

"I really don't relate to his character," Gerster said. "I heard that I was type cast for this role, but I hope that's not true."

The part of Iago was one of the largest roles that Shakespeare ever wrote. Gerster used a technique called device to help him remember his lines.

"Putting specific actions with my lines helps me out a lot," Gerster said. "For example, when I say 'withdraw,' I place my hand on my sword, and that helps me remember it."

Though Shakespeare's pieces were sometimes challenging, the student actors each put in time and effort to make the production of Othello a success.

# INCLINED TO IRRITATE



## Classroom etiquette. Where has it gone?

Story by Jeanette Kragel

Photos by Daniel Grover



**Top:** Cells phones, pagers, snacks, walkmans and other common articles bring more than just extra baggage to the classroom. These items made it hard for students to concentrate in the classroom.

**Below:** Sometimes hallways can be quiet for studying. They were also a breeding ground for distractions.

Was the guy sitting next to you a mouth breather? Did your neighbor have the exasperating habit of drumming her freshly applied acrylic nails on her desk? Maybe the professor kept pronouncing nucleus as “nuculer” or saying “irregardless,” which, regardless of what you might have thought, is not a word. If you attended classes regularly, you probably sat near someone whose bad habit got under your skin. What prevented you from getting everything possible out of each and every class?

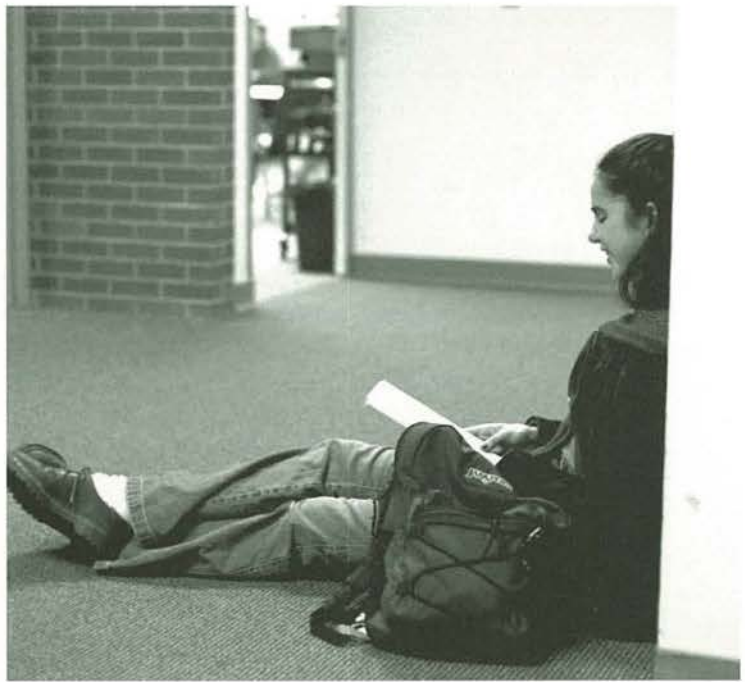
“Nothing much in class really bothers me unless I’m taking a test,” freshman Lacey Barnes said. “When someone finishes an exam they rustle papers, get up and walk through class, get their stuff together and leave. Then I worry that I’m behind and that I won’t get done. I really like to take tests in my own little cubicle.”

Exams could set your nerves on edge and any little noise could break your concentration, but it was the day in and day out, mundane distractions that built up to be down right annoying.



**Above:** Studying her book, Chelsea Hays reviews over the chapters. The hallway was generally a good place for many students to study.

**Below:** Noise from students passing by in the hallways is a distraction to some students. The constant opening and closing of doors presented a problem as well.



“There’s that little broad that sits behind me and bounces her against the table,” non-traditional student Debra Hall said. “I can’t sit and feel it. It’s very annoying. Then there is the couple who sits in the back row; they’re sharp students and fast learners, so they get bored. They talk incessantly while the rest of us are trying to pay attention.”

That last couple defied one of “The Ten Commandments for Effective Study Skills” written by Larry M. Ludewig. It listed the fifth commandment as, “Don’t sit in the back. Successful students minimize classroom distractions that interfere with learning. Why do they expose themselves to the temptations of inactive classroom experiences and distractions of all the people between them and their instructor?”

Several students, who preferred to remain anonymous, thought some of the disturbances were just fine. They were happy to get a break from the usual class work and not at all bothered by what others might have considered rude interruptions.

“People who come in late are a distraction,” Jamie Bears said. “Fortunately, for the most part everybody’s on time and I’m always early.”

Our student handbook covered classroom behavior by saying, “Students are expected to conform to the normal standards of academic behavior in all classrooms . . . Behavior which disrupts the classroom environment or interferes with other students’ ability to learn may be grounds or justification for dismissal from the classroom.” A few students frequently pushed the limits of this policy and the patience of their instructors and fellow students.

Perhaps it was the songs of the ringing cell phones, or the car alarms or the perpetual sniffing and sneezing of the class allergy-sufferer that kept drawing your attention. Of course, there was the remote possibility that you weren’t paying attention from the very start. If that was not the case, it was probably one of the many annoying habits we shared with each other on a daily basis.

# PRESSED FOR TIME



**Above:** The ceramics room is one of the many rooms on campus that is open after hours. Brian Clark worked on his pottery in the evening.

**Below:** In his free time David Ishmael takes advantage of the extended hours of the computer lab. Extended hours offered many students the opportunity to use the computer lab.

Missouri Western students find ways to balance studies, children and work.

Story by Carol Wilson

Photos by Shannon Stracener

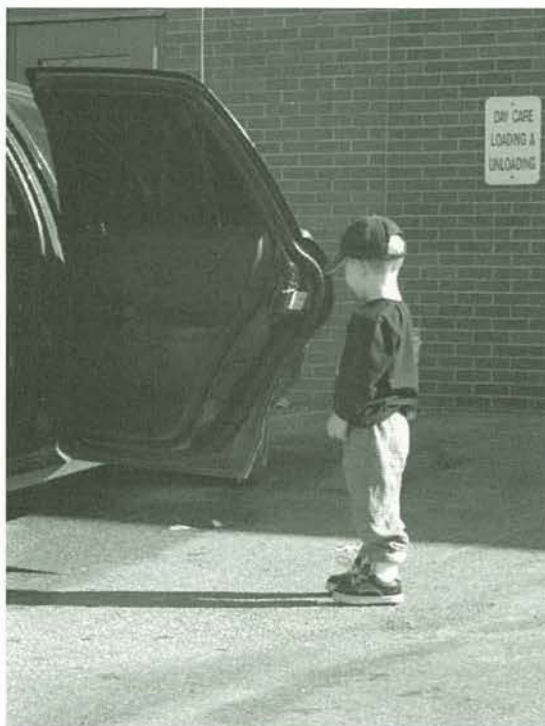




**Above:** The clock tower is a good reference for the time. Students often referred to the clock tower for the time.

**Left Below:** Students working the desk in the Fitness Center work on homework when not busy. Slow time gave students working at the Fitness Center time to study for their classes.

**Below:** Students with children leave them at Missouri Western's daycare while they are in class. Daycare helped provide a place for children to go while parents were in class.



Time management was one of the key factors in a college student or professor's life. Juggling school with work or raising children, along with other extra curricular activities, lead to harmful health problems, especially in a college environment.

"I have noticed that a lot of students and other people are taking on more responsibilities, and they are going to need time management skills to get a long in the world," junior Tara Klocke said. "Time management is something everyone needs to be successful in college."

There were many different ways that students and teachers managed their time. "I use my Griffon Edge planner that I received from being a VIP, and without that I would definitely be lost," Klocke said.

Other students used different methods to help them manage their schedules.

"I don't have a planner. I keep everything in my mind," junior Amanda Gavin said. "I am what you would call an organized person. I like to lay things out the night before."

Students were not the only people that were faced with the dilemma of managing their schedules. Professors could be seen running

from class to class with papers in hand in a mad dash to make it to class in time.

"I don't think schedules are needed. You just need common sense," psychology professor James Huntermark said. "I just do what I need to do; it's all a matter of prioritizing. When you are trained in science you develop a self discipline."

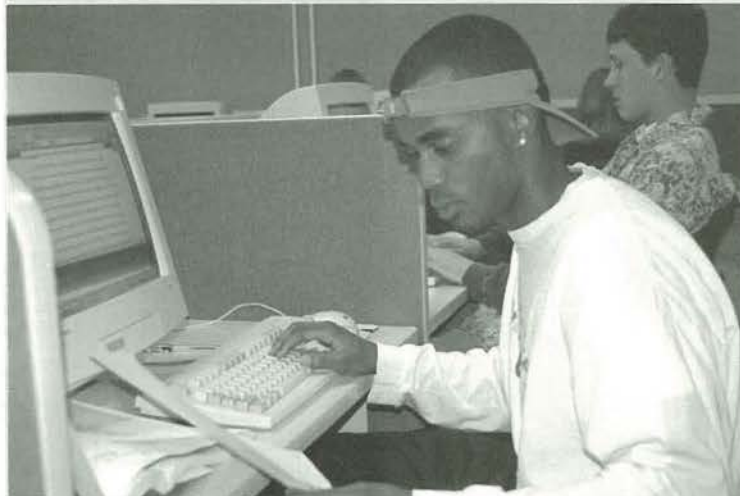
The problem that most college students faced was figuring out how to prioritize. Between school and work, most college students found little time left for studying. Huntermark felt that students needed to anticipate things that might take them off track. He also felt that students needed to take care of things that were more pertinent and then handle less important things later. Certain students felt that society was to blame for the problems that students had with managing their time.

"I think that the society we live in makes you rush around, and do so much," Gavin said. "I think our society is to blame for the way things are."

"Some people are on time, and some people live in time," Huntermark said.



# TECHNOLOGY TEACHING



**Top:** Matt Gilmour inserts a CD in preparation for his televised music class. Professors were paid a stipend for the extra responsibility involved in teaching an alternative class.

**Below:** Senior Darrell Williams works on a paper for his Internet class. His alternative class allowed him to work on his papers during his own time.

T.V. and Internet classes give alternative choices to students.

Story by Melissa Groce

Photos by Deliese Brewster

Trying to enroll in a class that is too full or conflicts with one's schedule can be frustrating. However, some students found their way around these problems by enrolling in classes that were taught over TV or the Internet.

Students began taking advantage of the alternative classes in 1987 when Missouri Western first offered classes on TV.

TV and Internet classes proved to be an effective alternative to the regular classroom setting, as long as the student put forth the effort needed to succeed.

"Students who succeed in TV and Internet classes are procrastinators," Beth Wheeler said. Having good reading skills and being an independent learner were important skills to have when taking a class on TV or on the Internet.

Some types of classes that were offered as alternative classes included economics, chemistry, psychology, archaeology, English, mathematics, education, marketing and music.

Those classes worked well and were convenient for students.



**Above:** Kelly Littrel takes notes for class as she watches her professor lecture on television. Taking class on TV was convenient for students with time constraints.

**Left Below:** Holding up a sign, Kyle Findley counts down the time until taping begins for a televised music class. Much needed behind-the-scenes work went into producing the alternative classes.

**Below:** Students work in their televised class. If they missed a day of class, they were able to catch up by watching their class on TV.



had kids, who worked or who needed to take a class that was not offered on campus at a convenient time or that interfered with another class they were taking.

Sophomore Emily Guinn said, "The TV and Internet classes were very convenient." She said that she preferred to take classes online or on TV. "I work full time, so this way I can tape the classes when I'm not home."

Patricia Donaher, an English professor, began teaching classes over the Internet in the fall of 1999. Donaher said that her classes were the same online as they were in the classroom. However, she did see a few disadvantages to the alternative classes. "There is a burden on the students because they have to read everything that I would normally say in class," Donaher said.

Another disadvantage to taking a class online or on TV was that students were unable to ask questions when they had one.

"Feedback is not immediate," Donaher said. When a student had a question, he or she had to e-mail the teacher and wait for a

response.

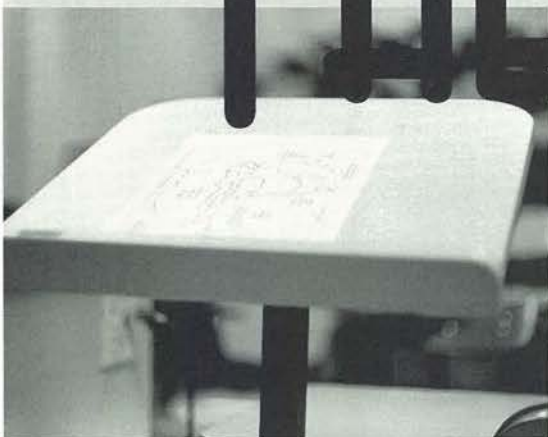
Some classes also required that students took their tests on campus. This was a problem for some students with time constraints and a busy life off campus.

In addition to these drawbacks, classes online were time-consuming for teachers to create. "Everything needs to be done and online before the class starts," Donaher said.

However, it was not hard to find teachers to teach the classes online. Wheeler said that teachers were offered a stipend to instruct those classes.

Despite the difficulties that came with teaching and taking the alternative classes, the classes were offered every semester, and approximately 100 students enrolled in them each semester. Evaluations were done every semester to get students' opinions on how they felt the classes went and how well they felt they did in the classes.

# THE PODIUM



**Above:** Absent professors means absent students. Conventions turned the classroom into a place of solitude.

**Middle:** A podium remains empty during scheduled class times in the Communications Department. This was one of many departments in which teachers attended conventions.

**Below:** Hang a vacancy sign on the classroom when instructors are out of town. Unless attendance was required, a convention meant empty desks and free time to students.

## Optional attendance during conferences leaves classrooms empty

Story by Jeanette Kragel  
Photos by Daniel Grover

All was quiet in the communication department when six of the faculty members attended the National Communication Association convention in Atlanta. This was considered to be a large group to be gone all at once, but all members of the faculty had the opportunity to attend conventions to improve teaching methods and promote their fields of study.

During their absence, if class attendance was mandatory, the tone of the class was definitely not the usual. Typically, classes were cancelled or attendance was optional.

"My oral communications class was cancelled on Friday," said Jessica Hare. "I'm all for it. I live over an hour away, so I don't have to drive so much."

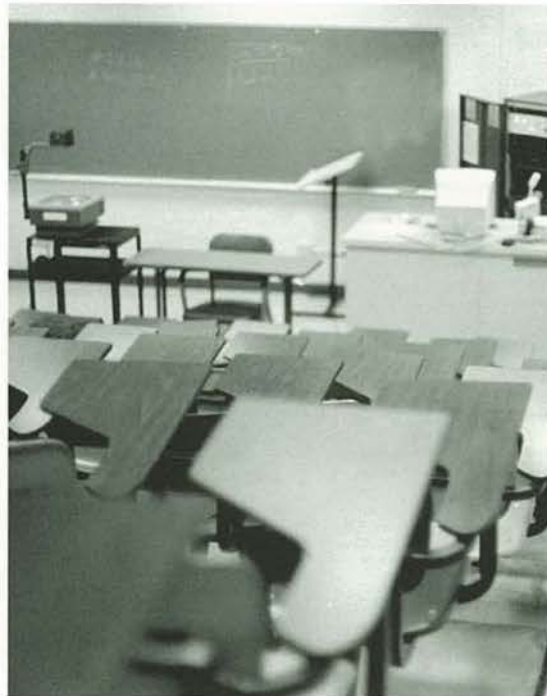
When given the opportunity for optional attendance, many students opted out. They caught up on sleep, did chores, tried to earn some extra money, and some even used the time to do class work.



**Above:** Few students attend an optional class while professors attend conventions. Attendance was low at optional classes.

**Left Below:** All instructors have the opportunity to attend a convention in their field, often leaving behind an empty classroom. Students secretly celebrated the chance to take time off.

**Below:** Where did all the people go? Some students used optional class periods to catch up on homework, while others enjoyed the chance to miss class.



sophomore Nate Smith was one of the students taking advantage of extra free time.

“I didn’t do class work,” Smith said. “I actually got to work extra hours at my job.”

Jessica Leonard, associate professor of communications studied at the NCA convention. Leonard, along with department chair Marilyn Hunt and Diane Gorcyca, presented a panel discussion regarding the senior portfolio as a tool for assessment.

“This is the big convention for the year in our department,” Leonard said. “We network with our peers for professional development and get ideas we can use in the future.”

Some students also got the opportunity to take advantage of benefits offered by attending conventions. Communications students Dave Albers and Cheyenne Dorrell traveled to the NCA convention to participate in a panel presentation with Hunt.

“It was a good opportunity to meet professional people in the field,” Dorrell said. “The department covered our travel and accommodation expenses, but we were responsible for the balance.”

Plans to attend conventions were made prior to the start of the semester. Faculty members submitted an application to attend and permission to miss class. There is no set limit on how much class time can be missed, but the available funds are limited and don’t provide for lengthy absences. Plans for the class time are usually addressed in the syllabus.

Leonard assigned research projects to fill the class time that would be missed while she was gone, and she scheduled office hours for anyone needing assistance prior to the trip.

“Missing classes does affect us, but I understand they have to go,” Smith said. “The well-disciplined student will still get the work done, whether or not they have class.”

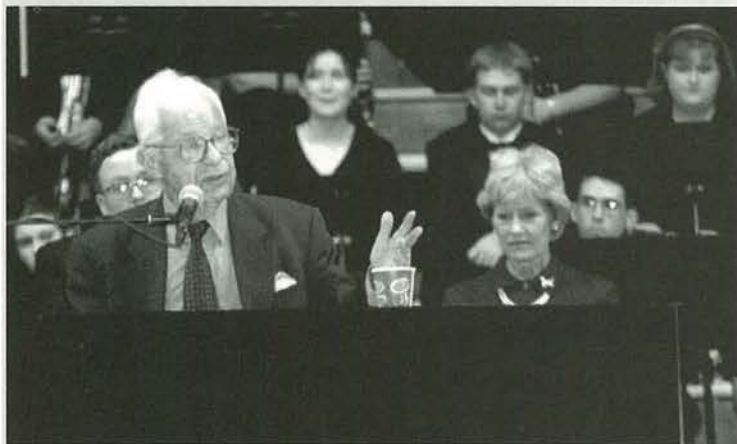
# CRITICAL ISSUES



## Schorr speaks about what the world means after Sept. 11

Story by Jason McLemore

Photos by Dan Grover



**Above:** A student official introduces Daniel Schorr to the large crowd. The 8th annual Convocation on Critical Issues was held on Nov. 6, 2001.

**Below:** Schorr delivers his speech, "American After Sept. 11." Schorr's career spanned more than six decades.

We live in a different world since the terrorist attack September 11.

Daniel Schorr, a veteran reporter and commentator whose career spanned more than six decades, echoed this message in his speech during Missouri Western's 8<sup>th</sup> annual Convocation on Critical Issues on Nov. 6 in the M. O. Looney Physical Education Building.

Schorr began his speech by telling the audience that he spent the last 60 years trying to understand the world. "Never has the world been more difficult to understand than now," he said.

Schorr, who won various journalistic integrity awards, as the Edward R. Murrow Award, was scheduled to speak about personal insights on past and present politics. However, he agreed to change the topic of his speech to "America After Sept. 11." "I did not deliberately plan a speech," Schorr said.

Schorr admitted that he was not sure exactly what "America after Sept. 11" would mean. "I think we need to figure this out together," Schorr said.

He immediately sided with millions of Americans in their search for answers as to why this tragedy occurred and what could be done to help. "We are groping for our position, and I am groping as well," Schorr said.



Schorr begins his speech by telling of his years spent trying to understand the world. Schorr received several journalistic awards.

Schorr spent the rest of his time talking about how America changed since the attacks on the World Trade Centers and the Pentagon. He talked about how our conversations, reliance on government and security have changed. He said that America's messiness, in part, allowed these attacks to happen.

"Welcome to the new America . . . the secure America," Schorr said. "Now...now our president tells us, our attorney general tells us, our homeland security man tells us that it's got to be different from now on."

Schorr also talked about the role of media in the government. "The media is as big as the government it covers," he said.

Schorr even expressed his views about the government's position.

"The government uses 'national security' to save themselves from embarrassment," Schorr said. "The news media cannot be a propaganda arm for the government."

Aside from Schorr voicing his opinions on government, Schorr also explained his view of Americans after the tragedy. He felt that Americans needed to make sacrifices in order to overcome the tragic events that took place.

"If President Bush were to ask me what I thought he should

do, I would say he needs to figure out what this country needs to sacrifice," Schorr said. "Americans are not sure what their mission is in this new world."

Schorr felt that President Bush warned Americans to be on high alert, but none of his speeches asked Americans to make sacrifices. Schorr felt that Bush simply urged them to go on with their daily lives.

"What is missing today in America is the spirit in which the president calls on Americans to make sacrifices, and they are ready to make those sacrifices," Schorr said. "It is my sense that America reaches its true glory when it's asked to make a sacrifice for something, and it believes it."

After Schorr ended his speech he received a standing ovation from the crowd.

"The speech was awesome," Shannon Wood, a commercial art major, said. "It was very beneficial to hear someone as experienced as Daniel Schorr give us his views on the current state of our nation."

That was the goal of the annual Convocation on Critical Issues according to Dan Boulware, former regent president. "If we do not deliberate on critical issues, we won't be able to understand them and solve them," Boulware said.

# A HELPING LINE OF COMMUNICATION



Small group communicates on a larger scale by helping the community with service projects

Story by Shannon Paul

Photos by Sara Batchelor and Deliese Brewster

**Above:** The small group communications class was really bowled over with a night of fun. They were able to choose their own organizations to work with.

**Right:** Junior Jeff Dozier leans on a friend at the bowling alley. A night at the lanes was fun for all.





**Top Left:** Senior Jamie Florence drills for Habitat for Humanity. The group worked on hanging sheet rock for the house.

**Below Left:** Junior Chrystal Ficken looks at the job well done. Students worked all day to help build the new home.

**Below:** Bowling proved to be fun for everyone. The communication groups wanted to give back to their community by helping others get out into the community.



Volunteering has become increasingly important in society today and many colleges are promoting student involvement in volunteer work. Small Group Communications, a class taught at Missouri Western made volunteering part of the curriculum. The students were put into groups and the groups chose an organization that they wanted to work with for the semester. Jessica Leonard taught this class and this semester was the first time she had done this.

The students in the class chose very different organizations to work with, Habitat For Humanity, The Blood Center, and The Health Department and Second Harvest. The students worked with the organization for the semester with one primary goal and each group determined that goal. The students that worked with Habitat For Humanity decided that they would try to start a campus chapter of Habitat For Humanity. They wanted students to have another organization on campus that allowed students to do volunteer work.

The group was successful and was approved to become an organization by Missouri Western and Habitat For Humanity. The

students also worked on a Habitat For Humanity house in Saint Joseph. They held a meeting on campus and invited other students to work with them on the house. There were so many students that wanted to volunteer that they had to turn some of them down. The students that worked with Habitat felt good about what they have accomplished and enjoyed the volunteer work.

The students that worked with The Health department wanted to raise awareness of Stds and Aids on campus. The Health department had an event planned on campus and the students helped out by working at the event handing out condoms and talking to students about safe sex. They also attended a drag queen show at Northwest University where they handed out condoms and talked to people.

Many of the students learned a lot about St. Joe from the different organizations, many hadn't realized there were so many people living in unfit housing and how many people use the Harvest Food Bank. The students enjoyed working with the organizations and gained a lot from the class.



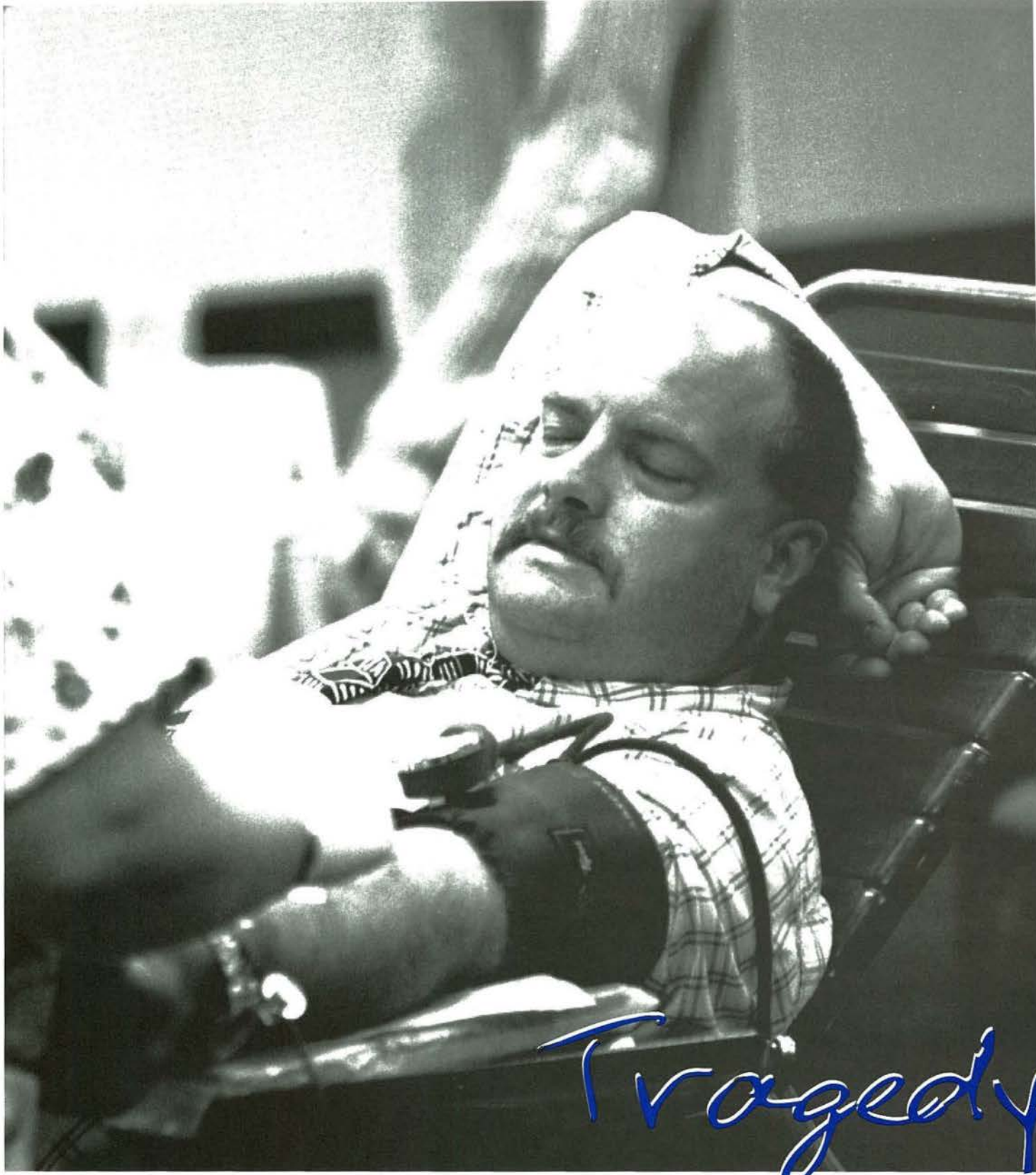


This is a great nation; we're a kind  
people. None of us could have envisioned the  
barbaric acts of these terrorists. But they  
have stirred up the might of the American  
people, and we're going to get them, no matter  
what it takes.

*President George W. Bush*

## T r a g e d y





*Tragedy*

# UNITING TOGETHER

By coincidence, individuals come together to help those in need through blood drives

Story by: Louis William  
Photo By: Dan Grover



Page 116: Closing his eyes, Don Willis anxiously awaits for the pinch of the needle. The blood drive was open to all students and faculty. Page 117: Top: Outside the MC building hangs the Phi Sigma Kappa banner for the blood drive. This was just one of the many events that took place to support the victims of the attack. Middle: Sophomore Dawn Murray donates blood. Many people turned out for the blood drive. Bottom: Watching as the nurse prepares to draw blood, freshman Crystal Hickey patiently waits for the process to be over. Several units of blood were collected.



Thank you for offering the gift of life. Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity, along with the Community Blood Center of Saint Joseph, sponsored a campus-wide blood drive. This event was held just eight days after the terrorist attack.

Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity, which has also sponsored a blood drive each semester for the previous five years, had planned their blood drive before the tragic terrorist attack at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. After the attack, blood donations were desperately needed. Chad Scheiter, president of Phi Sigma Kappa, said, "It is fate that we did what we planned."

Several people showed up to show their support and loyalty to their country. The

blood donation also gave the people in the Saint Joseph community a way to help. The effort was enormous. Despite their fear of needles, the tragedy increased participation from the students.

"It was really nice of the people to wait in lines to donate blood," Scheiter said.

"We extended the hours of the blood drive due to the terrorist attack, and there also was an increase in participation."

Junior marketing major Tamisha Coates was one of the dedicated students who gave blood. "I do not think that people realize the severity of what happened to our great country," Coates said. "Over 5,000 innocent people were either hurt or lost their lives. I am happy to help out in any way that I can."

Though the blood drive was successful, Phi Sigma Kappa's community service chair Ryan Gerster says that people were actually turned away. "People with type A blood were turned away," Gerster said. "They only accepted blood from donors with blood types in the shortest supply."

Dean of Students Don Willis was also there to give blood. "It was a coincidence for our nation that Phi Sigma Kappa held a blood drive in this time of need," Willis said.

The fraternity was pleased with the outcome of the blood drive. "I want to thank everyone who came out and showed their support," Scheiter said.

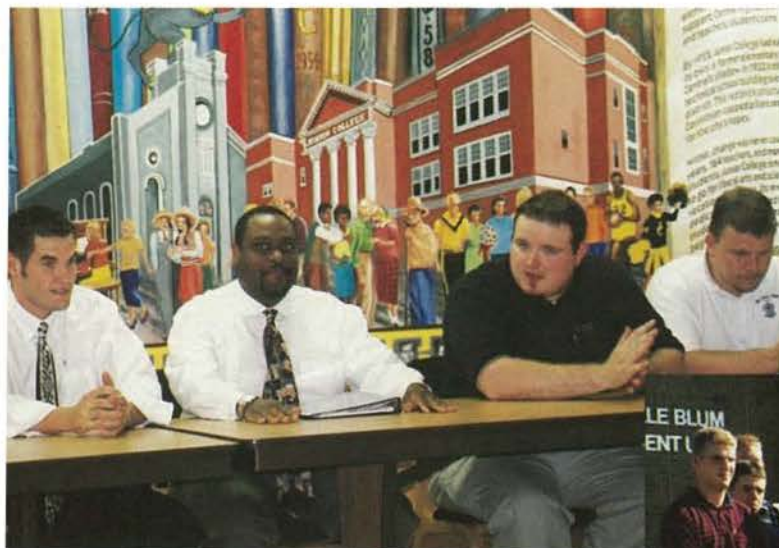


*Tragedy*

# CAMPUS UNITED

Campus organizations come to the aid of victims of terrorist attacks.

Story by: Carol Wilson



Page 118: KQ2 interviews Phi Delta Theta about their efforts to help the victims of the terrorist attacks. Baker led the efforts to raise funds. Photo by Ruth Doornink

Page 119: Above: Phi Delta Thetas discusses ideas for raising money. The ideas were implemented and the organization succeeded in raising funds. Photo by Bradley Redmond

Middle: Phi Delta Theta receives recognition for their efforts. Their work was recognized by many news organizations. Photo by Bradley Redmond

Below: Students show their support by placing bumper stickers sold by Alpha Gamma Delta. All of the money raised went to relief efforts. Photo by Shannon Stracener



With the tragedy that took place on Sept. 11, 2001, a nation was changed. Loved ones were brought closer, and people banded together.

Missouri Western was no different in coming to the aid of the survivors and loved ones of those lost in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The pledges (Phikeias) of the Phi Delta Theta Missouri Eta Chapter was one of the first organizations to respond to the tragedy. Freshman Charles Baker, president of the Phikeias, as well as Travis Goff, vice president of Phi Delta Theta, had the idea to open a fund in order to raise money for disaster relief.

An account was opened under the name of American Pride at Bank Midwest. The Phikeias aimed to raise \$15,000 by Sept. 22, 2001, but the effort was continued until the end of the month.

Senior Levi Felts, treasurer of Phi Delta Theta, believed that groups seemed to band together more to help the cause.

"This is more philanthropy than a fund-raiser," Felts said. "We prefer not to touch the money and to just be a sponsor."

The Phi Delta Thetas were not the only group on campus that helped raise money for the tragedy. Missouri Western VIPs sold raffle tickets for the right to park in the president's parking space for a week.

Junior Tyson Schank, admissions intern, went to Pittsburg, Kan., for an ambassador seminar where it was decided to have the raffle throughout the surrounding colleges.

Schank said, "It's a united cause, and indirectly or directly it will affect us."

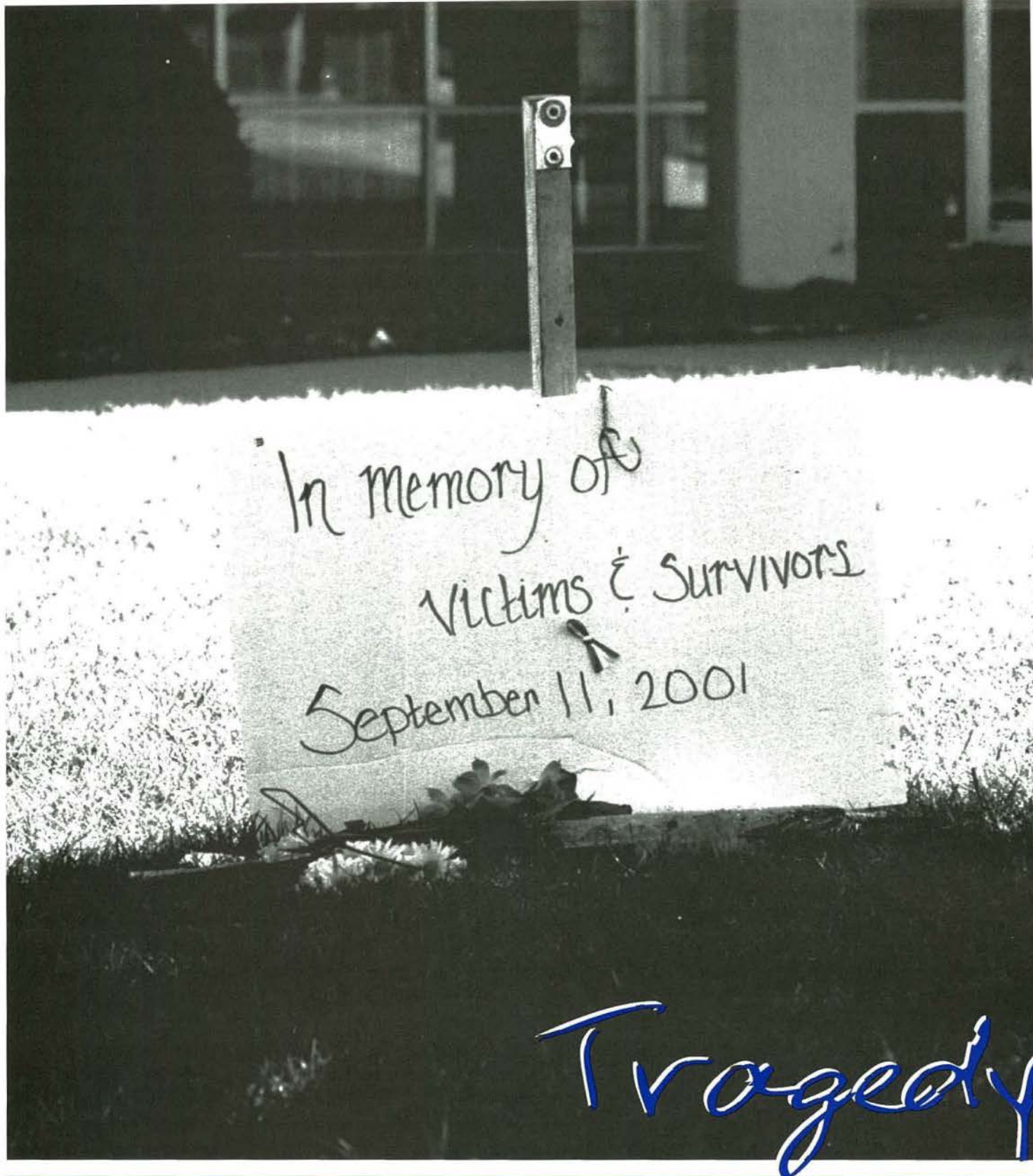
On Family Day, various groups raised money to be sent off to help the tragedy. Such groups included the Psychology Club, the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority, and

the Phi Delta Thetas.

The Psychology Club had a booth in which pies were thrown at people or professors. All the proceeds went to the Firefighter's Fund.

Jamie West, president of the Psychology Club said, "We always like to do a fund-raiser each year, and we're doing Habitat for Humanity, which is our service project. We wanted to find another organization that we could give proceeds from a fund-raiser to, and we thought that this one best deserved it at this time. We just wanted to do something to help."

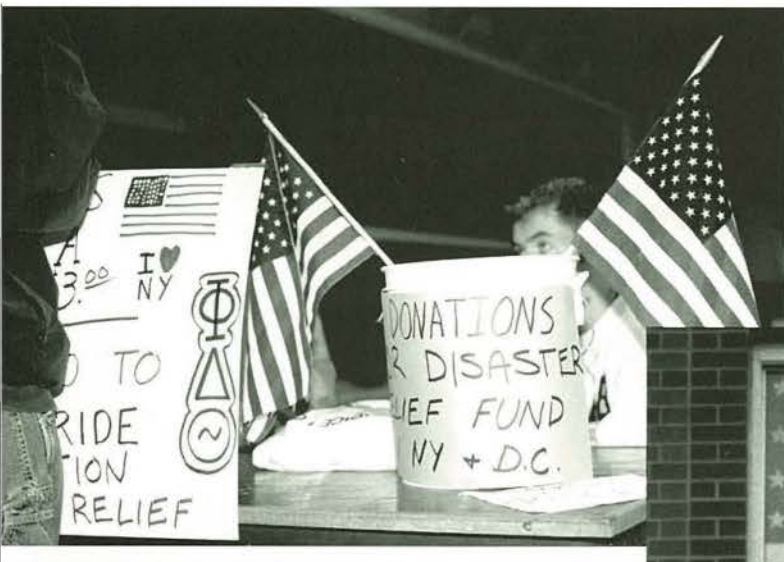
At another booth, the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority sold stickers and lemonade to help raise money. "I don't know if it will make a difference because so much help is needed, but if we can help, then that is our goal," President of Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority Patrice Meyer said.



# TERRORISM SPARKS PATRIOTISM

Individuals remember where they were and what they were doing when they first heard about the tragedy on that bleak Tuesday morning.

Story by: Jeanette Kragel  
Photos by: Daniel Grover



Page 120 : A tragedy-inspired memorial sits at the doors of the library. Rain dampened the sign but not the spirit. Page 121: Top: Phi Delta Theta raises funds for disaster relief. Symbols of patriotism waved throughout their efforts. Middle: Malissa McDaniel proudly displays her patriotism by painting her window. A dorm room window outside of Vaselakos served as a memorial to the Sept. 11 tragedy. Bottom: Nicole Fitzsimmons talks about painting the American Flag in her dorm window. She felt the need to show a sign of support.



All around campus symbols of patriotism appeared. There were flags in windows, on cars and posters. People wore the white and blue colors as a sign of support. "It was like watching a movie." Students gathered around televisions to hear the latest news. Each knew, full, well that they were not watching a movie.

The sentence was a statement of shock and disbelief that was used following the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the American public. Individuals would remember where they were and what they were doing when they first heard about the tragedy on that bleak Tuesday morning.

Malissa McDaniel, Residential Life

Coordinator of Suites and Oklahoma native, was reminded of the Oklahoma bombing.

"I immediately flashed back to the bombing in Oklahoma City," McDaniel said. "I was concerned for the people and wondered if anything had happened there."

Nicole Fitzsimmons and Melissa Vold were each asleep in their dorm with the TV set on. They awoke to fiery images of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"I had no clue what was going on," Vold said. "I thought it was a movie at first and then I realized it was the news channel."

"I thought I was dreaming. I was stunned," Fitzsimmons said. "It took me 30 minutes to realize it wasn't some awful joke."

Fitzsimmons spoke to her mother on

Wednesday. "She wished she had a flag to fly, and I wished I had one too," Fitzsimmons said.

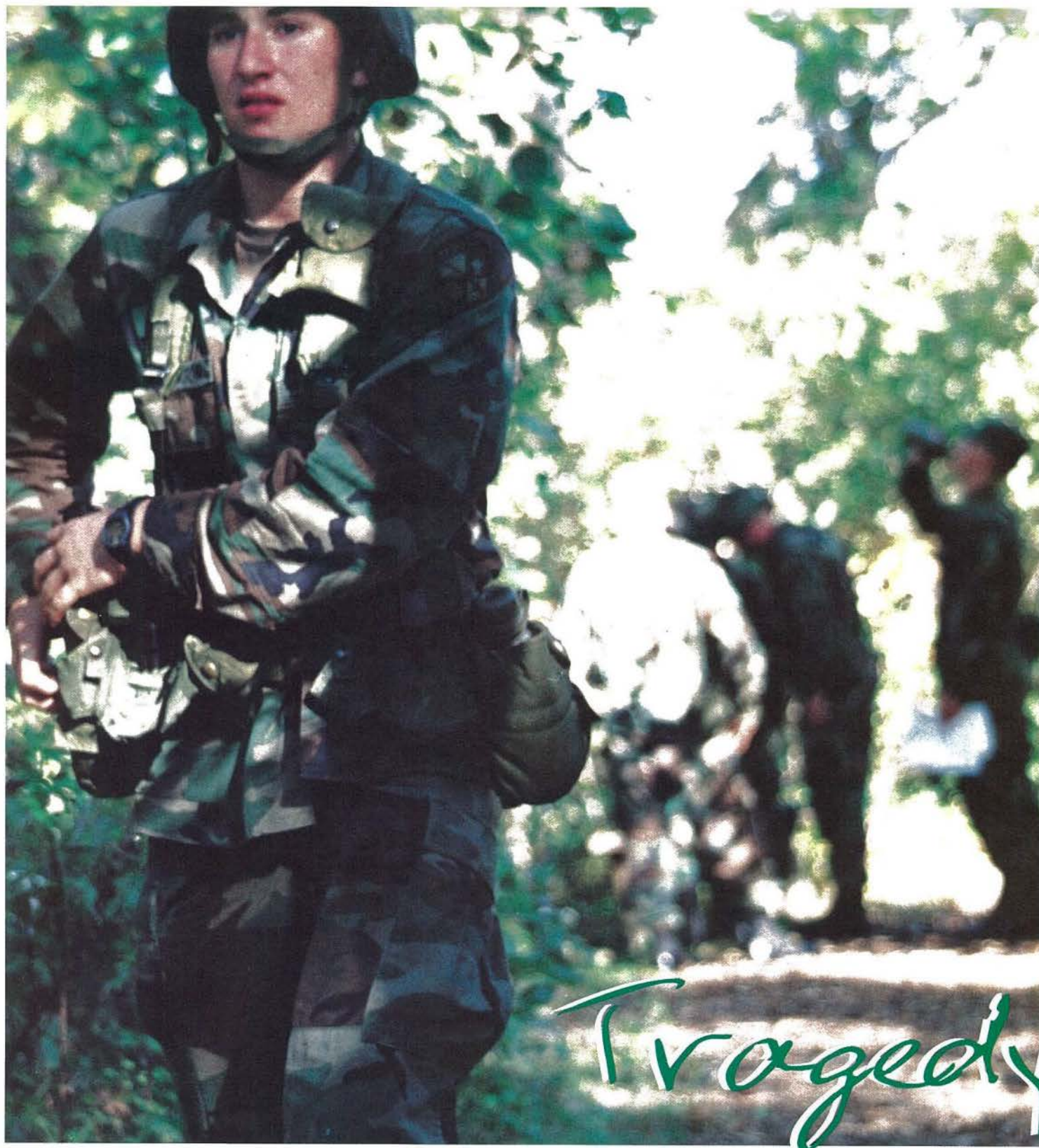
Fitzsimmons and Vold bought paint and star stencils in order to display the symbol of our nation.

"I got a picture of the flag off the Internet," Fitzsimmons said. "We drew it on the window with a dry erase marker and just filled it in."

"We free-handed the flag and stenciled the stars," Vold said. "I'm the crafty one and, Nicole's the perfectionist, so it turned out well."

Through the stars and stripes students were unable to find the Hollywood ending in this calamitous attack.





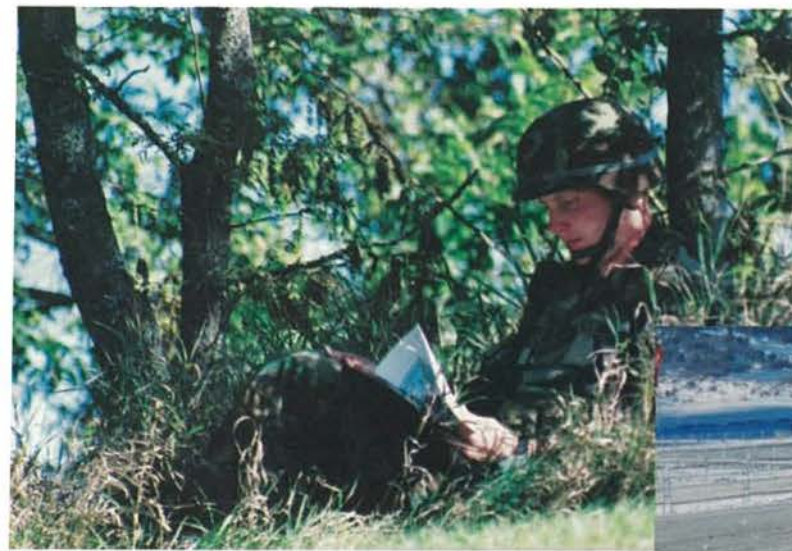
*Tragedy*

# STUDENTS DEFEND THE U.S.A

School life is halted for military students as they serve the red, white, and blue.

By: Kellie Feuerbacher

Page 122 CDT Zane Goforth takes his training seriously, knowing he may one day need those skills in battle. The Sept. 11 tragedy intensified the realization of his patriotic duty and has made each day more valuable. Page 123 **Above:** ROTC students work together on training exercises. The exercises helped to develop military skills for a possible war. **Middle:** Sophomore Jeff Meinders had to spend 33 days in Salt Lake City, Utah for security detail at the 2002 Olympics. Going active duty for a month put Meinders that far behind in school, but he was able to take part in one of the largest security undertakings in US history. **Below:** Star Gann and her family enjoy peaceful times together anticipating what may be to come. Family, education, and social life were just a few of the things students in the military were prepared to sacrifice. Photos by Deliese Brewster



"The world as we know it has changed," Maj. Brian Stackhouse said.

That change affected the lives of all Americans, and we looked to the armed forces to take the lead in the battle against terrorism.

Among those we turned to were some Missouri Western students who were also in the armed forces.

Star Gann, a junior majoring in commercial art with a minor in military science, was a member of the Missouri National Guard and the Missouri Western ROTC program. Gann joined the military for various reasons, including the opportunity to see the world while serving her country at the same time.

However, when she first joined, Gann had no idea that on Sept. 11, 2001, an act of terrorism of such great proportions would occur. Nonetheless, because of her mental preparation, she wasn't shaken by the realization that she may be needed to serve. "I've been at peace a long time, but I knew there was still a very real possibility," Gann said.

Sophomore Jeff Meinders, a criminal justice major with a minor in military science, had a similar outlook. "I never expected to have a flare-up like this," Meinders said, "but the job needs to be done, and I'm glad I'm the one being called to do it."

Stackhouse, a scholarship officer in the Department of Military Science, worked

with many students like Gann and Meinders in the ROTC program on campus. He believed it was perfectly normal for students, including those in the military, to have a certain amount of fear and uncertainty. "That's natural because there is something that happened that's never happened before," Stackhouse said.

However, Stackhouse did believe that the people, including MWSC students, who were in the military had been adequately prepared.

Meinders agreed that his experience in the military was crucial preparation. "I feel safer now that I've been through training," Meinders said.

Although they were ready to do whatever was necessary, those students who were to be called to serve knew they would be making a sacrifice by putting their education, had a similar outlook. "I never expected to have a flare-up like this," Meinders said, "but the job needs to be done, and I'm glad I'm the one being called to do it."

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Although they were ready to do whatever was necessary, those students who were to be called to serve knew they would be making a sacrifice by putting their education and other important parts of life on hold. "I'm a mom, a wife and a student; everything will be interrupted," Gann said.

Although life may have been altered due to the need to go to war, the military students were still confident that they would be able to finish their educational goals.

"I know I'll get school completed. It just may be set back a little," Gann said. "And I know the school will be supportive of any situation."

Despite any initial inhibitions and the sacrifice of their time at school, the National Guard members knew what they had to do and did it willingly. "I felt like it was my natural calling," Meinders said.



Tragedy

# TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT

Students and faculty nearly lose their loved ones  
in the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Story by Rashad Givhan  
Photos by Ashley Reynolds



**Page 124:** Paying his respects, a visitor pauses in front of a memorial. Many people were moved to tears as their emotions overcame them. **Page 125: Top:** Grieving the loss of loved ones, many people leave flowers on the memorials to honor them. Memorials sprang up around the city following the terrorist attacks. **Middle:** The Manhattan skyline is changed forever now that the towers are gone. The collapse of the towers caused a great deal of damage to the surrounding buildings. **Bottom:** Hordes of people wait in line to stand on the viewing platform. The viewing platform allowed people 3 minutes to view the World Trade Center site.

The idea of losing a loved one is enough to frazzle the senses and emotions of anyone. On September 11, 2001, some MWSC faculty and students were confronted with that idea.

On that bleak Tuesday morning, several TV stations ran the headline "America under Attack" as the images of a crumbling World Trade Center and Pentagon flashed before incessant onlookers. For senior Jessica Pierce, that attack almost hit violently close home.

Pierce's father trained hostage rescue and SWAT teams for the FBI. Her stepmother worked for the FBI as an attorney. According to Pierce, it wasn't uncommon for her parents to visit the Pentagon several times a week.

"They both visit the Pentagon often during their jobs," Pierce said. "I was really afraid that one of those days they were in the Pentagon."

Pierce, an English education major, had to go on with class as usual, but that proved to be a difficult task. Pierce, who was bombarded by grim news updates, felt school was the last thing on her mind at the time. "All I could think of is that my dad was there," she said.

Pierce, overtaken by emotion and grief, went to her room, anxiously awaiting any

news from her family.

"I just sat in my room and waited by the phone all day," Pierce said. "Everybody called but my dad."

Pierce finally heard from her dad at approximately 6 p.m. that evening.

"I love my dad very much, and I'm glad he and the rest of my family are safe," Pierce said. "We never know how close we are until a tragedy happens."

Pierce was not the only one that felt the tragedy's piercing sting. Non-traditional student Tamara Gregory had a nephew who worked as a programmer in the Pentagon. Gregory learned of the disaster as she entered her morning class.

"Everybody was crowded around the television watching the news," Gregory said. "When I heard about the Pentagon, I immediately thought of Andy. I tried to search for him in the crowd."

Gregory also found it hard to be in class after hearing the news. She felt it was impossible to think clearly.

"I was frozen," Gregory said. "I couldn't do anything."

Three hours later, Gregory learned that Andy made it out of the building safely. "Three hours seemed like three days," she said.

As many were made aware of the catastrophe that claimed over 5,000 victims,

it was no surprise that faculty, as well as students, were in a state of dismay. Karen Fulton, an English professor, had a daughter who worked within blocks of the World Trade Center.

When Fulton heard the startling news, she immediately thought of her daughter, Sarah.

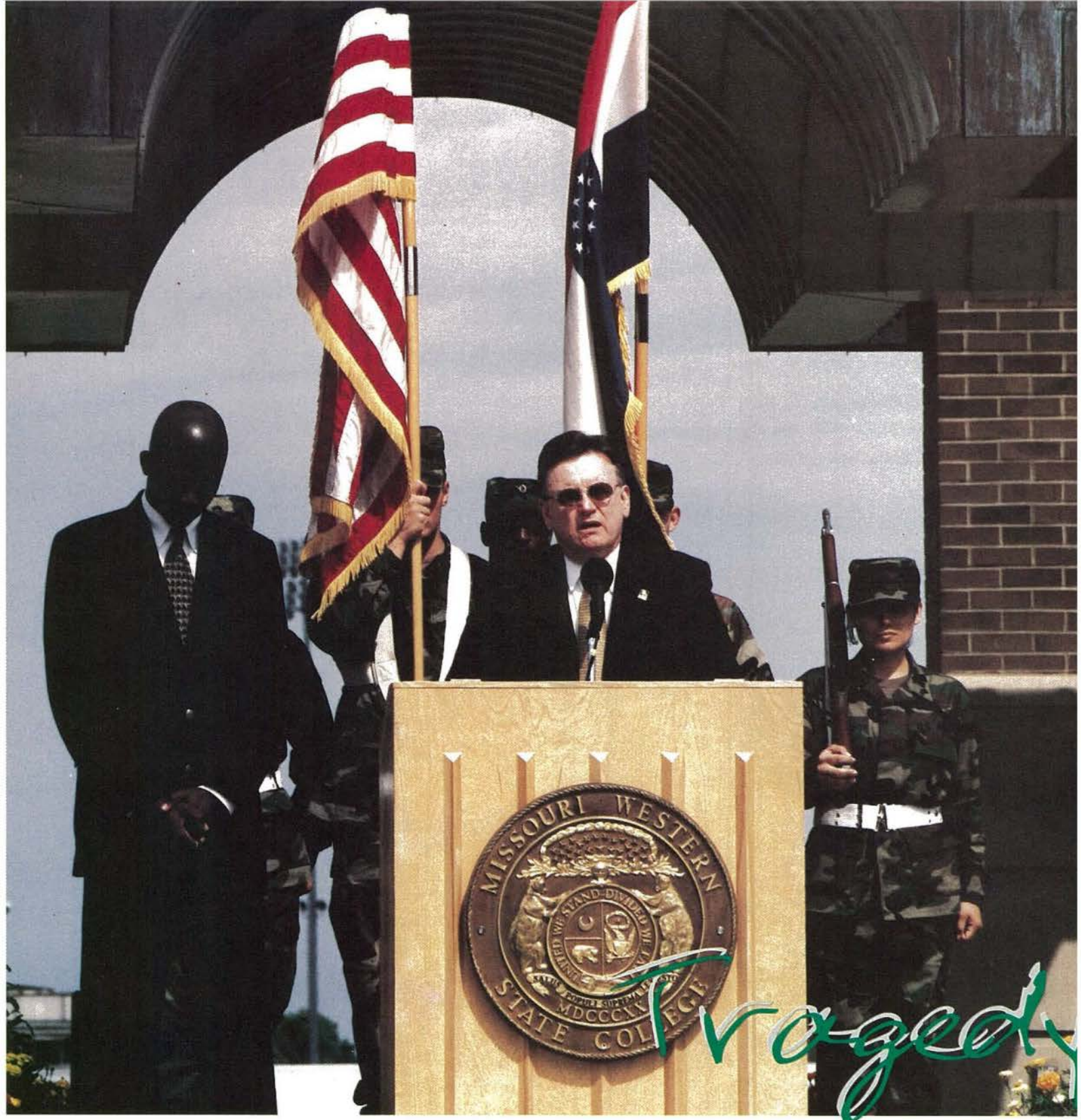
Sarah, a poverty lawyer from Brooklyn, was one of about 14,000 lawyers who worked near the World Trade Center. She normally rode a subway line that went underneath the tower around the time it collapsed.

The fact that there was no way to contact her did not make things any easier.

"I madly dialed her workplace and home, but all circuits were busy," Fulton said. "I had never reached a stage of terror that quickly."

Fulton finally contacted her daughter through email around 12 p.m. It just so happened that Sarah was late to work, just missing the deadly subway ride.

Twists in schedules shielded these loved ones from an almost chaotic end. Was it mere chance that came into play? Whatever it was, students and faculty felt those intimate brushes with death were too close for comfort.



*Tragedy*

# POWER OF PRAYER

People unite together in time of need after the attack on America

Story by: Teresa Tur  
Photos by: Sandy S



**Page 126:** In the wake of a tragedy, Dr. Scanlon addresses the students of Missouri Western. The day of prayer was opened by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Page 127: Above:** Attending the prayer service, two friends console each other with much needed comfort. The prayer service was intended to provide an outlet for concerned individuals.

**Middle:** Missouri Western students join together in prayer to show respect. Students stopped to reflect on the tragic events that occurred September 11, 2001.

**Below:** Senior Patrice Meyer embraces a fellow student following the service. Strong support was shown by students in the time of need.



### Prayer.

That is what many people around the world turned to on the devastating day of Sept. 11, 2001. This day of tragedy will be remembered forever, along with the amazing prayer services that were held in the field house the night of the tragedy and at the clock tower the Friday following the tragic day.

On the morning of the attack on the World Trade Center Towers and the Pentagon, pastor Scott Killgore of the Wyatt Park Christian Church was watching the horrific scenes on television as they unfolded. He knew that something needed to be done. He conceived the idea of a community prayer service and decided to call the president of Missouri Western, James Scanlon.

"I asked Dr. Scanlon if he would make the field house available for a community prayer service," Killgore said. Scanlon agreed and made arrangements on campus.

Killgore also called all pastors around the community to tell them that there would be a meeting at the Wyatt Park Christian Church at 11 a.m. to plan a community prayer

service. He also told them to call any other pastors that they knew.

"At 10:50 (a.m.) I wondered if people would show up, but at 11 o'clock people began to flood in, and we ended up with around 60 pastors there," Killgore said.

This was all planned in one day in a matter of hours by the uniting of people around the community. That night the prayer service was scheduled for 7 o'clock. Killgore said that he was not sure of how many people would actually show up due to the lack of advertising and short notice. However, just before the prayer service began, Killgore was notified that there was an estimated 2,500 people there.

Killgore said, "It was amazing to have something like that that had just been planned seven hours earlier. I think that the prayer service touched people in a way that they needed to be touched. It was a way for people to draw strength from each other and God, and they got what they needed from it."

Another prayer service that was hurriedly planned in one day was thought of by employees in the Student Affairs Office. It

was held at the clock tower on Friday, Sept. 14, 2001, for students and faculty of the college.

A person who wished to remain anonymous so that the service would be focused solely on those involved said, "It was hard to get the message out. We had to rely on students and faculty and also the news item on the web page."

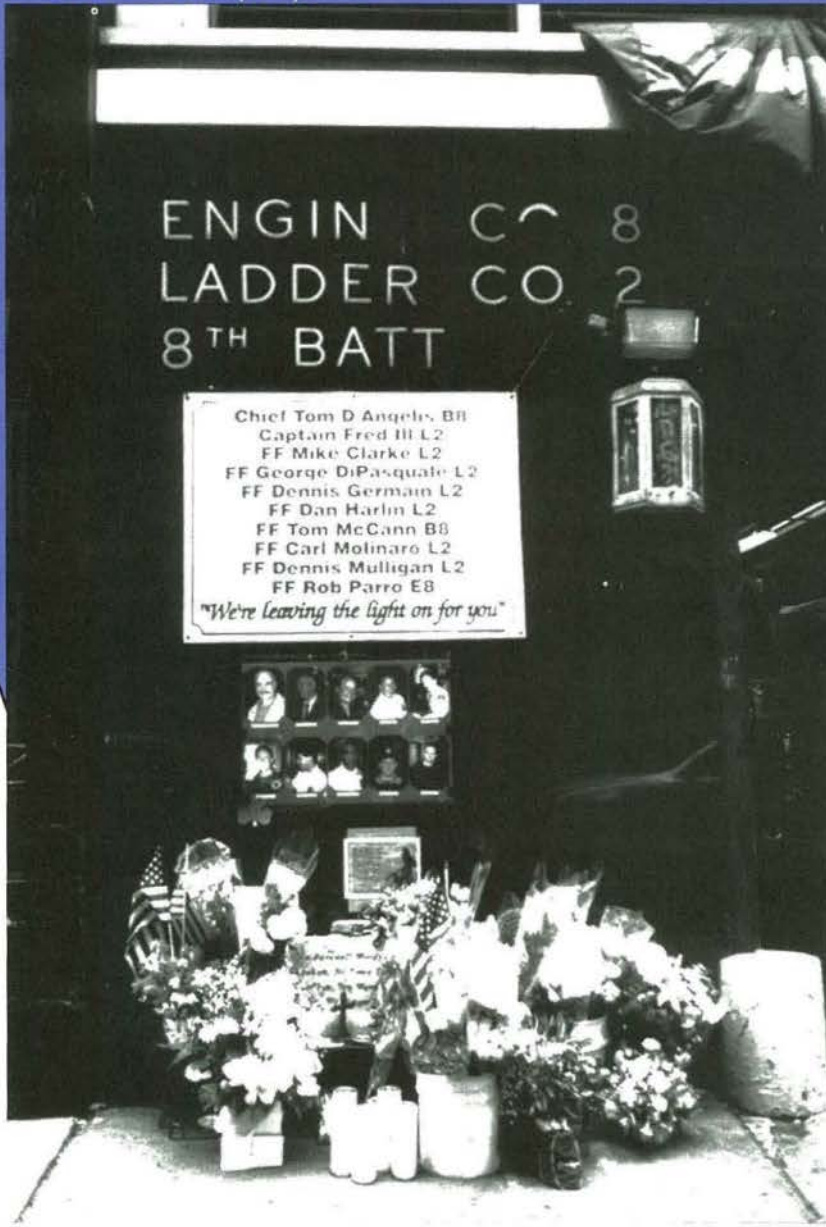
The service opened with patriotic songs playing from the clock tower. Following the music, the ROTC presented the colors, and Scanlon opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. This was then followed by numerous prayers that were led by the heads of different organizations. Following this moving ceremony, many people lingered around the clock tower praying and talking with one another while patriotic songs were played from the clock tower every hour, all day.

The person who wished to remain anonymous stated, "Students had been expressing to the dean that they needed an outlet...I think they got it."

# SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

## United We Stand

PHOTOS BY Ashley Reynolds



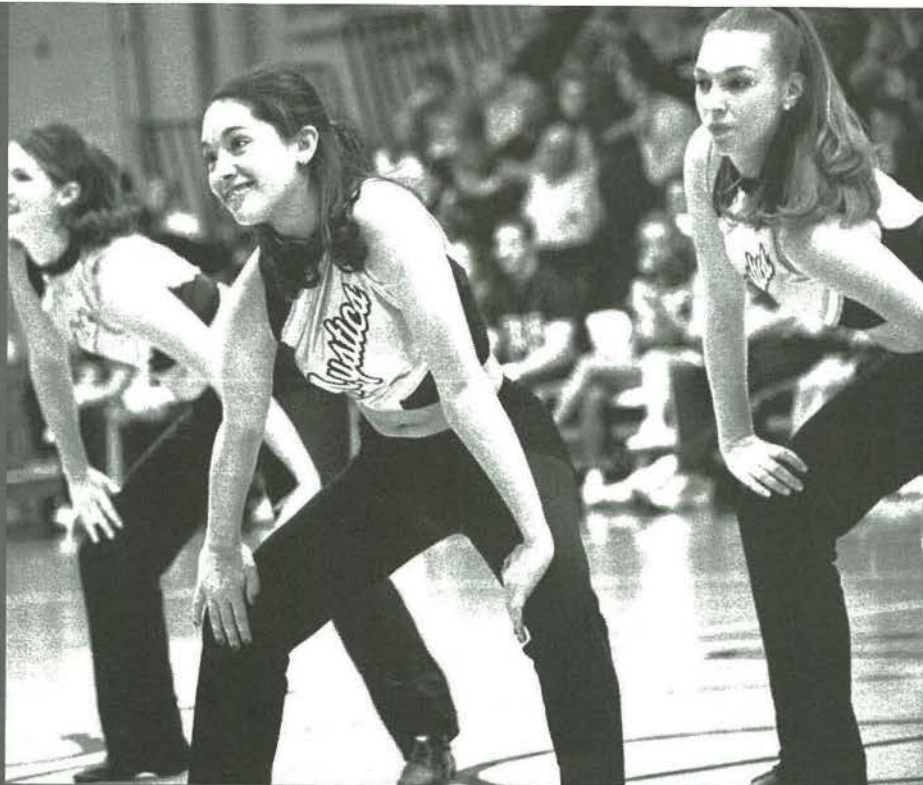
Living in the midwest, many students were overcome with grief as the events of Sept. 11 unfolded. A group of students from the Griffon Yearbook staff traveled to New York for a media convention during spring break. Many of the students chose to visit the World Trade Center site, now known as Ground Zero. The experience was amazing and brought the tragedy closer to home. Many students were unable to contain their emotions as they took in the massive memorial. The chance to pay respects to those who were lost was something that these students will carry with them always.



**Page 128: Top Left:** In tribute to those who were lost, this memorial represents the 10 men lost from Engine 8 Ladder 2. Each station house had their own memorial. **Above:** A woman adds her contribution to the World Trade Center memorial. The memorial surrounded the church across the street from where the towers stood. **Left:** Two New York City firefighters pose for a picture. The firefighters played an important role in helping the city cope with the tragedy. **Page 129:** The silhouette of the Statue of Liberty stands proud and tall. Each year thousands of people visit this well known symbol of freedom.





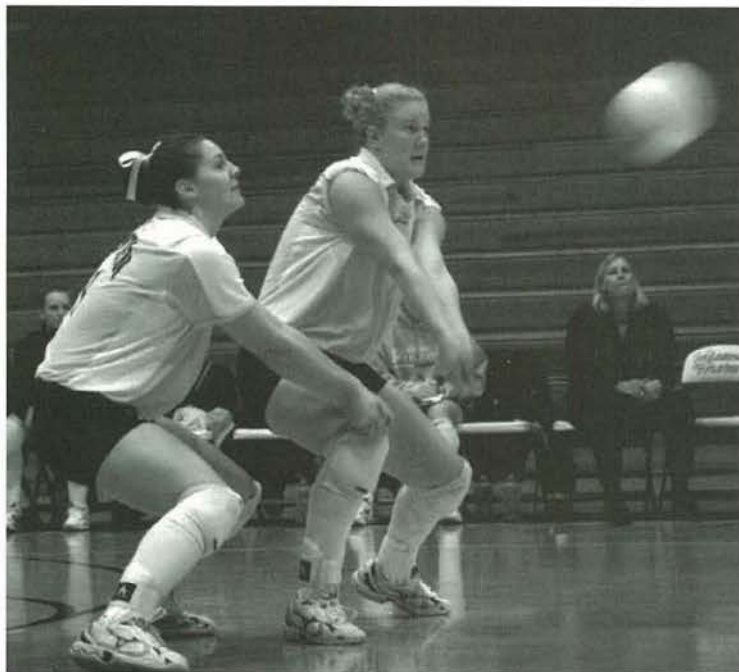


"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." Andrew Carnegie

## Sports



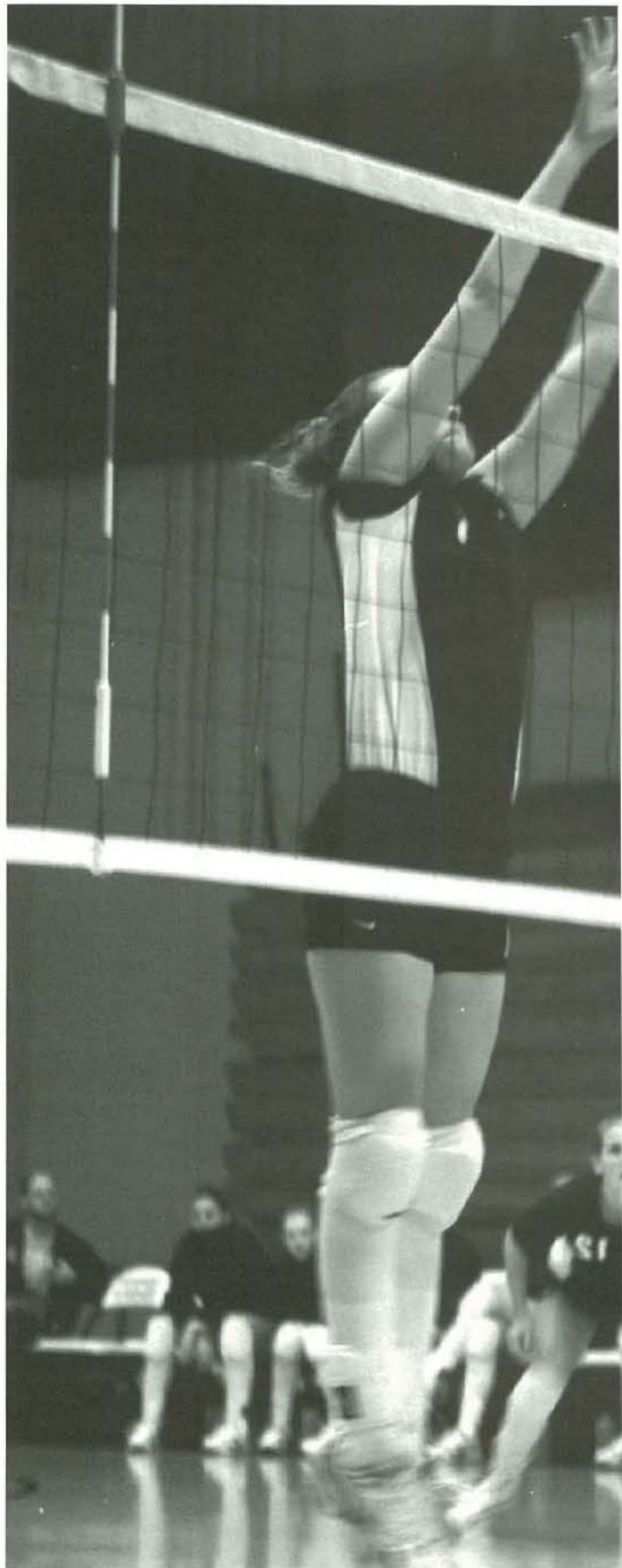
# Griffon V O L L E Y



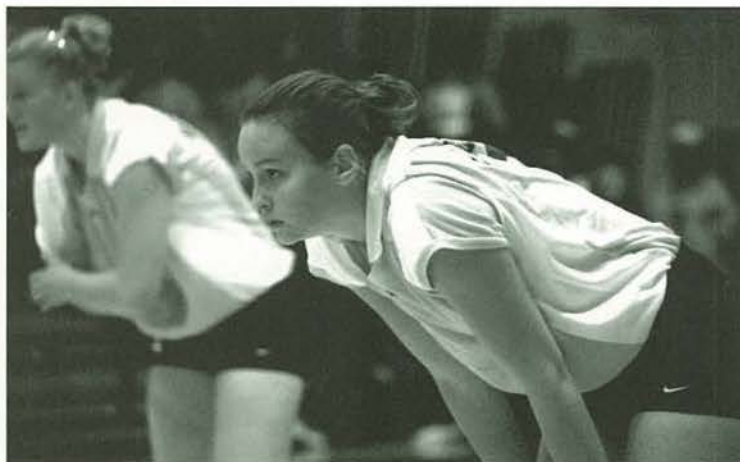
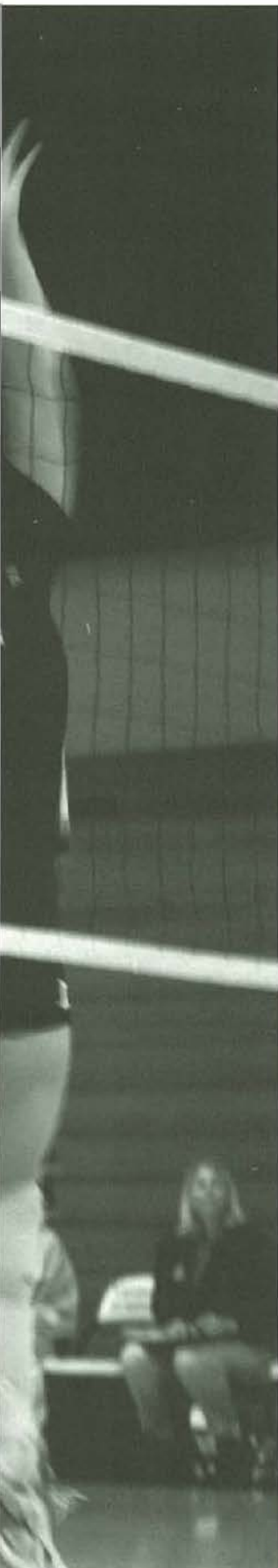
**Above:** Katie Ham and Lindsey Palaia wait to return serve. Ham was one of the top hitters for the Griffons and a key to the Griffon's overall record of 13-17. Photo by Sandra Scott

**Below:** Ham goes up for the kill while Mary Pickert and Katie Schiesl wait to play defense. Instead of quickly defeating teams, the Griffons had longer matches. Photo by Dan Grover

**Right:** Palaia and Pickert have a successful block. The team often reached five matches before conclusion. Photo by Sandra Scott



# EYBALL



Ham and Pickert anxiously await serve during a conference match. The Griffons finished the season with wins over Northwest and Washburn. Photo by Aaron Tebrinke

Through long matches and endless scoring, the Griffon Volleyball team was taken on an emotional rollercoaster.

Story by Ruth Doornink

For the Griffons, the season didn't go as expected.

A year prior, the volleyball team sat near the top of the MIAA and regional standings and were anticipating their trip to the regional tournament in Florence, Ala., the second in school history. The 2001 season was highly anticipated, as they returned almost all starters from 2000 and strengthened the team bond and spirit of competition during the off-season.

But in 2001, they couldn't afford to think ahead, as they struggled to win matches, never quite reaching .500 in either the conference or overall standings.

"We tried so many different things this year, but we couldn't make any of them work," senior setter Katie Schiesl said. "Plus we got panicky when we made mistakes, and you can't do that and expect to win games."

Although the Griffons were expected to fare well according to the preseason polls in which they were picked to finish third behind Truman State and Central Missouri State, they couldn't seem to overcome the biggest change from the 2000 season—the addition of rally scoring.

"With the addition of rally scoring, they made volleyball a scrappier game," senior defensive specialist Airon Scofield said. "It used to require skill to score points. Now that every mistake equals a point for the other team, it benefits the worse teams."

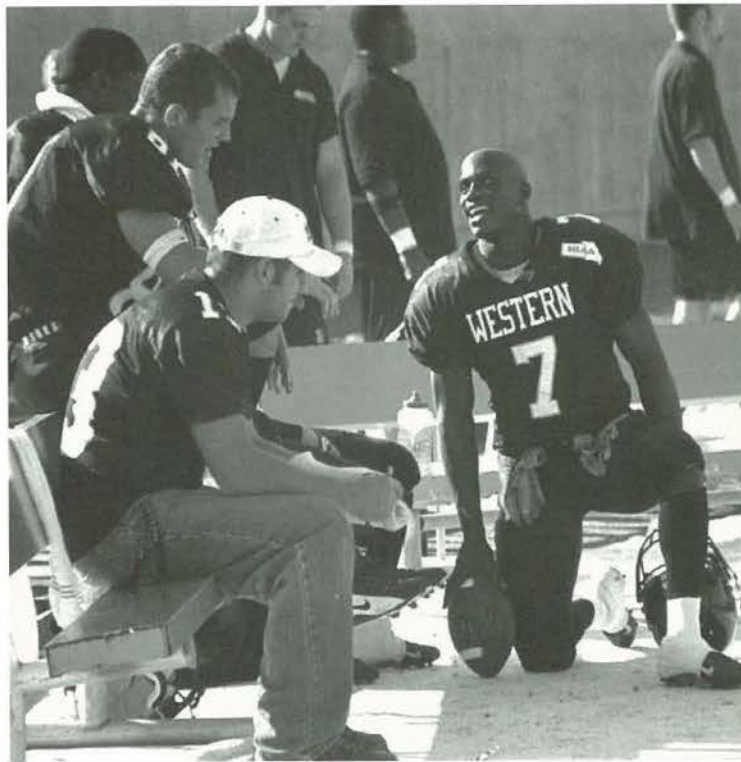
Rally scoring had a bigger effect than expected on the Griffons. Instead of easily defeating teams, matches were longer, often reaching five games before their conclusions. The Griffons played a total of nine, five-game matches in 2001, winning only four. This took a toll on both the performance and spirit of the team, which was noticeable to every member of the team.

"This season was an emotional roller coaster for this team," Griffon head coach Cindy Brauck said. "We started the season with a lot of optimism, but then the girls realized that maybe rally scoring wasn't such a good thing for this team. We lost games, and you could tell the girls were feeling the pressure. It's like falling into a hole you can't climb out of. So, toward the end of the season we worked on having more fun, which is easy to forget when you lose or are concentrating too much on winning. That allowed us to finish the season with a couple of convincing wins."

The Griffons wrapped up the 2001 season with wins over Northwest Missouri State and Washburn, posting an overall record of 13-17. Western graduates four key players from the 2001 season, and Brauck doesn't anticipate any problems filling their spots next season.

"We have a lot of young and very talented girls," Brauck said. "I know they'll work hard until next season, and we'll be ready to play next year."

Senior wide receiver Jerris Evans talks with teammates during a break of the field. Keeping things light helped everyone enjoy the game.



# Griffon

## As another season ends, the Griffon Football team has a season to reflect on and be proud of.

Story by Ruth Doornink  
Photos by Deliese Brewster

The Missouri Western football team had a tough task this season. Their first was to improve on the best finish in school history with nine wins in one season; their second was to make it to the play-offs, an honor that narrowly missed them last season due to selection snafu. Instead the Griffons played in the Mineral Water Bowl, and for a short time it looked as if they would repeat again in the 2001 season.

"We really wanted to make it to the play-offs this season," senior wide receiver and all-MIAA and all-region selection Jerris Evans said. "We felt like we should have last year but we wanted to make sure there was no doubt this year."

The Griffons had a better start than last year as they won both non-conference games and began the conference season with a record of 2-0. But soon after, the real test began. The first conference opponents the Griffons faced were nationally ranked Central Missouri State and Pittsburg State. The Griffons had a chance to come back in both games, but ended up losing both by a total of 10 points.

"We knew those two teams were going to be tough this year since we barely beat them last year," senior quarterback and all-MIAA second team pick Kasey Waterman said. "We knew they were gunning for us because we won last year. We had a chance to pull out wins in both games, but we made mistakes and they cost us."

The Griffons bounced back quickly from the two conference losses and carried a six-game winning streak into their last home game, versus the Truman State Bulldogs, a game most of the team thought might decide if the Griffons made it to the play-offs.

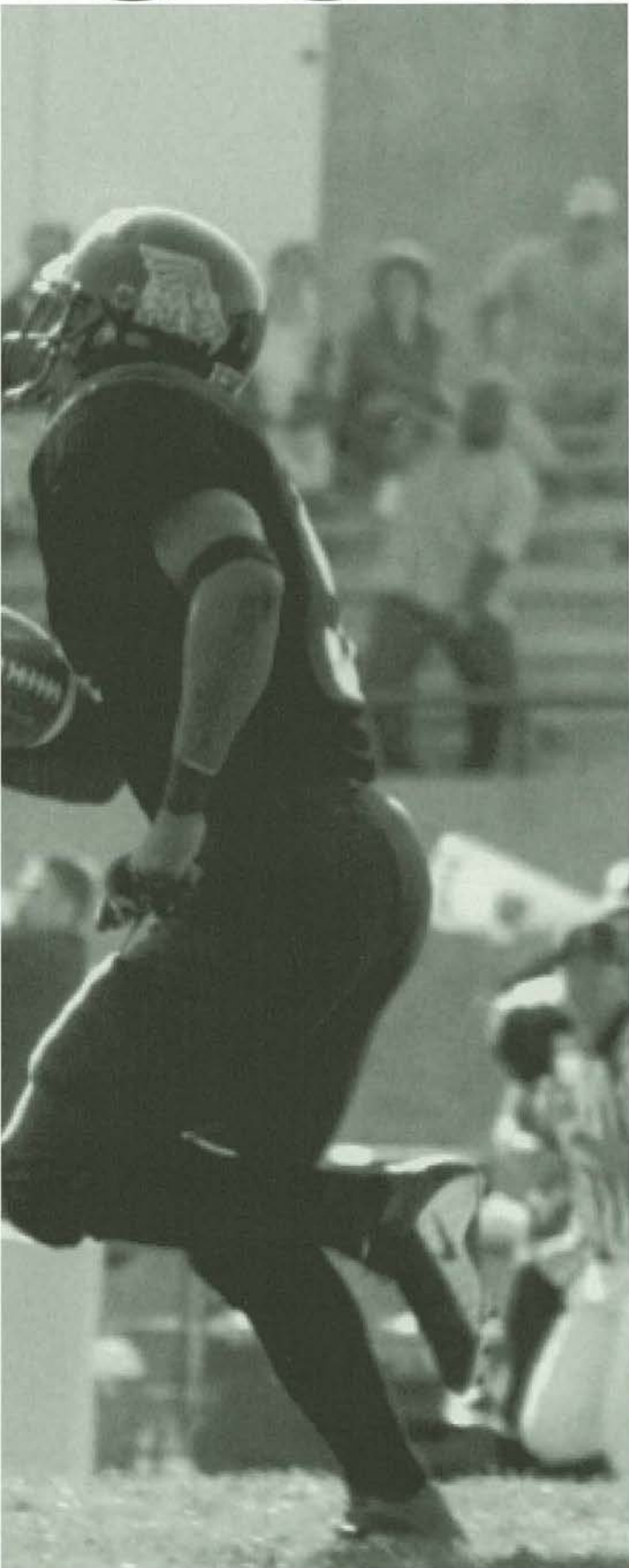
"We knew Truman would be tough, but I thought we would win," Waterman said. "To tell you the truth we should have won, but they wanted it more than we did and they showed it."

The Griffons lost in the last seconds of the game, and with the loss came the end of the dream of making it to the postseason. For the second season in a row, the Griffons were held to eight wins, which ties the school record, but nine wins was a goal they thought attainable. One other dream was accomplished in the 2001 season though. For the first time in six seasons, the Griffons defeated the Northwest Missouri State Bearcats, and had the excitement of doing it in a sold-out Rickenbrode Stadium, an event that made the season to some players.

"We might not have done all of the things we wanted to this season, but I don't think any one of us would consider it a loss," senior defensive end Lamaris Young said. "We won a lot of games, we went to Maryville and beat Northwest, I think we all can consider it a good season."



# FOOTBALL



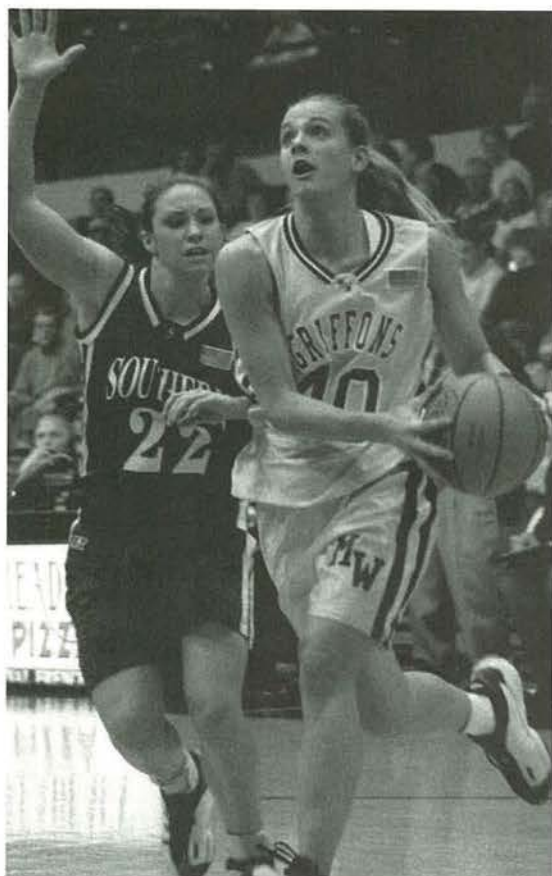
**Left:** Running toward the goaline, a Griffon heads for a touchdown. Lack of fan support didn't stop the Griffons from playing their best.

**Top:** Defensive back Chad Smith tackles a Bearcat. Defeating the Bearcats was a challenge, but it ended with sweet success.

**Above:** Running back Derrick Pitts gains yards toward the victory against Northwest. The victory was the first against the Bearcats in six seasons.

# WOMEN

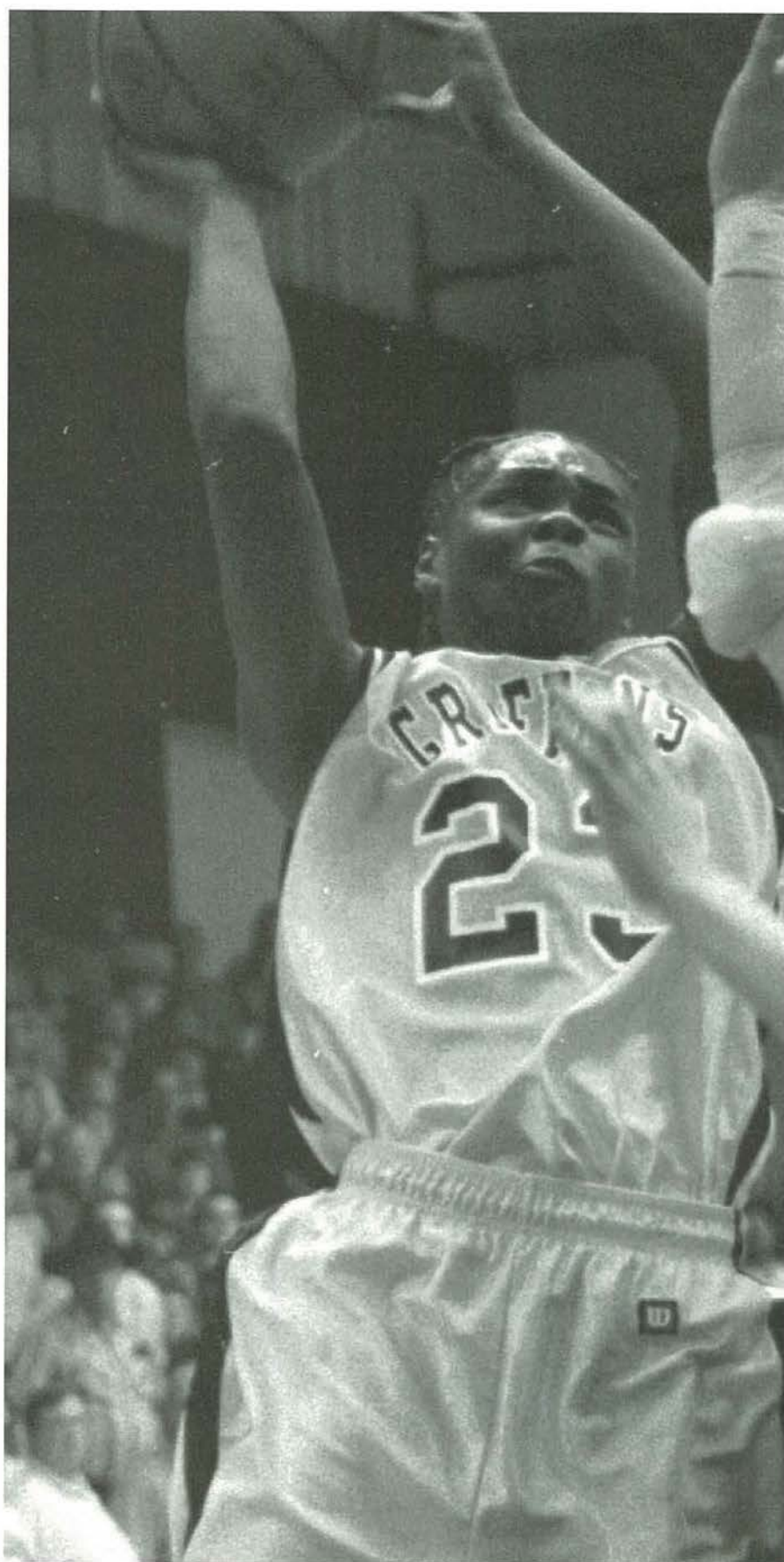
# B A S



**Above:** The Lady Griffons play hard offense against Washburn at home. Their offense proved to be successful in leading them to victory over Washburn.

**Right:** The Lady Griffons won their game against Southwest Baptist and continued to dominate in the playoffs. The quest for a win was uncertain until the last second of the game.

**Below:** JoAnna Stuelke keeps an eye on the ball and hopes for a turnover. The Lady Griffon's defense worked well throughout the whole season, which led them to the MIAA Championship.



# NETBALL



The Lady Griffons won against Truman with a score of 77-75. The win against Truman helped them proceed into the playoffs.

## Capturing the conference title and many victories placed the Lady Griffons at number one

Story by Amanda Rafferty  
Photo by Deliese Brewster

Missouri Western girl's basketball team won the 3<sup>rd</sup> MIAA Postseason Tournament Championship. The championship game was played against Washburn at the MWSC Fieldhouse. Missouri Western led the first half by one point that left the scoreboard reading 23-22. In the second half, Western girls padded their lead with two points over Washburn. The final score was 54-51.

The win put the ladies no. 1 in the USA Today/ESPN/WBCA Division II Top-25, were ranked first in the NCAA South Central Region and made a name for Missouri Western basketball.

The lady Griffons had quite the season with a winning total of 27 games won with only 3 losses. The first loss the Griffs suffered was against Central Missouri State Jennies. Western was behind by two at the half and lost 69-72. The game was tight and so was the competition.

Northwest Missouri State handed down the second loss. A game that ended with only one point separating the two rivals. The final score was 63-64.

The final loss came against Southeastern Oklahoma. Missouri Western led 31-26 at the half with Lakesha Jones leading in points. They went on to lose the game in the second half 76-81. The

game was the semifinal match in 2002 Women's Division II South Central Regional Tournament.

With only three losses, the lady Griffons took on many opponents and sent them home with one more number stacked on the losing side. Lakesha Jones was a key player on the team with 360 points in the overall season. Jones was a 5-10 senior guard from Wharton, Texas. Jones flew high over the players as she went up for the shots.

Nicole Lindsey, a 5-11 junior center from Troy, Mo. racked up 318 total points for the season. Krista Small, a 6-0 senior guard from Ballwin, Mo. and Carliss Holland, a 5-3 junior guard from Portland, Or. also reached over 300 points for the season.

Head Coach Dave Slifer made his way through another winning year. The season put number seven under Slifer's belt at Missouri Western and has beaten last years record of 24-7 overall.

Overall, the Western women gave it their all and had both the desire and determination to be the best that they could be. From the beginning, the fans could see the makings of a winning team and watched closely as the lady Griffons soared to the top scoring their way into a winning season and a winning team.



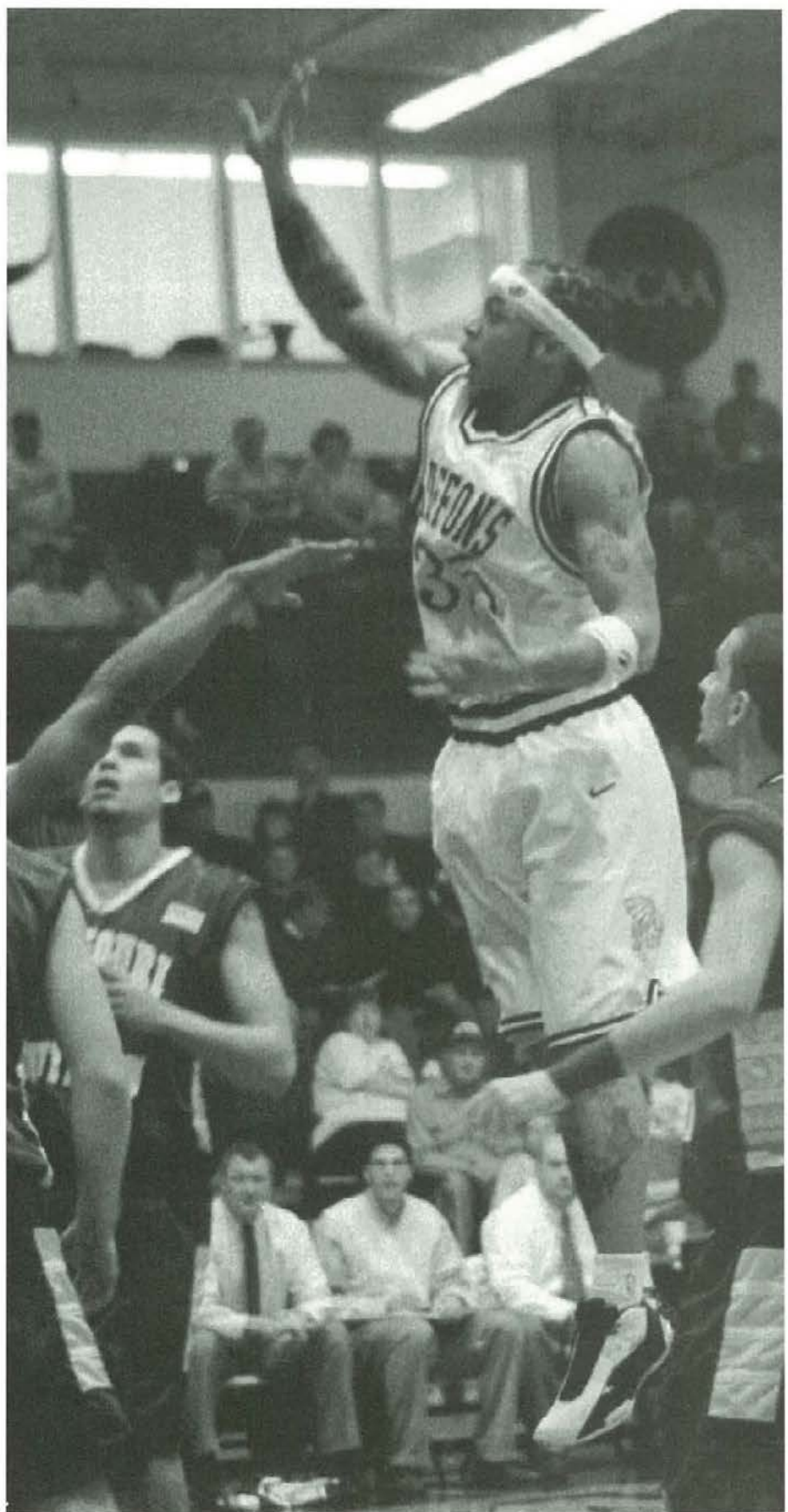
# MEN'S BASKETBALL



**Top:** Senior Ronnie Powell soars through the defense on a fast break. Powell averaged 10 points per game for the Griffons.

**Right:** Senior Lamont Turner elevates over Missouri Southern's defense. Turner received the MIAA Player of the Week three times to close out the season.

**Middle:** Junior transfer Damon Bailey anticipates his next move. Bailey averaged 7.4 rebounds making him one of the top rebounders on the team.



# NETBALL



Left: Senior Ty Moss was one of the many senior leaders on the team. Moss was non-stoppable at the three point range.

## The Griffons catapult to take over the MIAA conference and rank high over many teams.

Story by Amanda Rafferty  
Photo by Deliese Brewster

Missouri Western basketball players gave their all and shot their way to a 23-7 overall winning season.

The season was a success that started off against William Jewel. Lamont Turner led the game with 34 points. Larry Taylor added 23 points to the scoreboard. Western went on to win 125-99 outscoring William Jewel in the second half.

With the new season, old goals were met such as winning 20-plus games. The Western players also went on to win the MIAA regular season championship tournament rocking the house and the fans as each player took turns cutting down the nets. Two thousand three hundred and fifty fans watched the winning game against Southwest Baptist as Missouri Western led the game 83-52. Spirits were high as the men's basketball team were ranked No. 4 in the NCAA South Central Region and would go on to play in the MIAA postseason tournament.

The men's basketball team played hard against Missouri-Rolla in round one. Lamont Turner scored the most points at 18 and Larry Taylor came right behind with 14 points scored. Western won the game 64-54.

Washburn was the next opponent for the men's team. Damon Bailey peaked with 25 points as the Griffons pushed on in round two with a score

of 75-60.

The championship game put the men's team against Northwest Missouri State. Larry Taylor led the game, landing 21 points for Missouri Western. A close game at half, Northwest took over and won in the second leaving Missouri Western at 58 and Northwest at 71.

Missouri Western went on to play in the NCAA South Regional Tournament. In game one, Western men played against Rockhurst University, fought hard and came home after Rockhurst triumphed 75-68.

The men's team had high hopes and went on to play a great season. The seniors included: Nick Orr, a 6-2 guard from Garland, Texas, Ty Moss, a 5-9 guard from Centralia, Ill., Anthony Tyler, a 6-8 center from Ashland, Va., Ronnie Powell, a 6-0 guard from Dayton, Ohio and Lamont Turner, a 6-4 forward from New Orleans, La.

Head Coach Tom Smith, once again had a winning team and a winning attitude. Smith coached 25 collegiate seasons. He built one of the highest ranked programs in the country. Coach Smith had the most wins of any other coach in Missouri Western history, making his 12<sup>th</sup> season with the Griffons something never to forget.



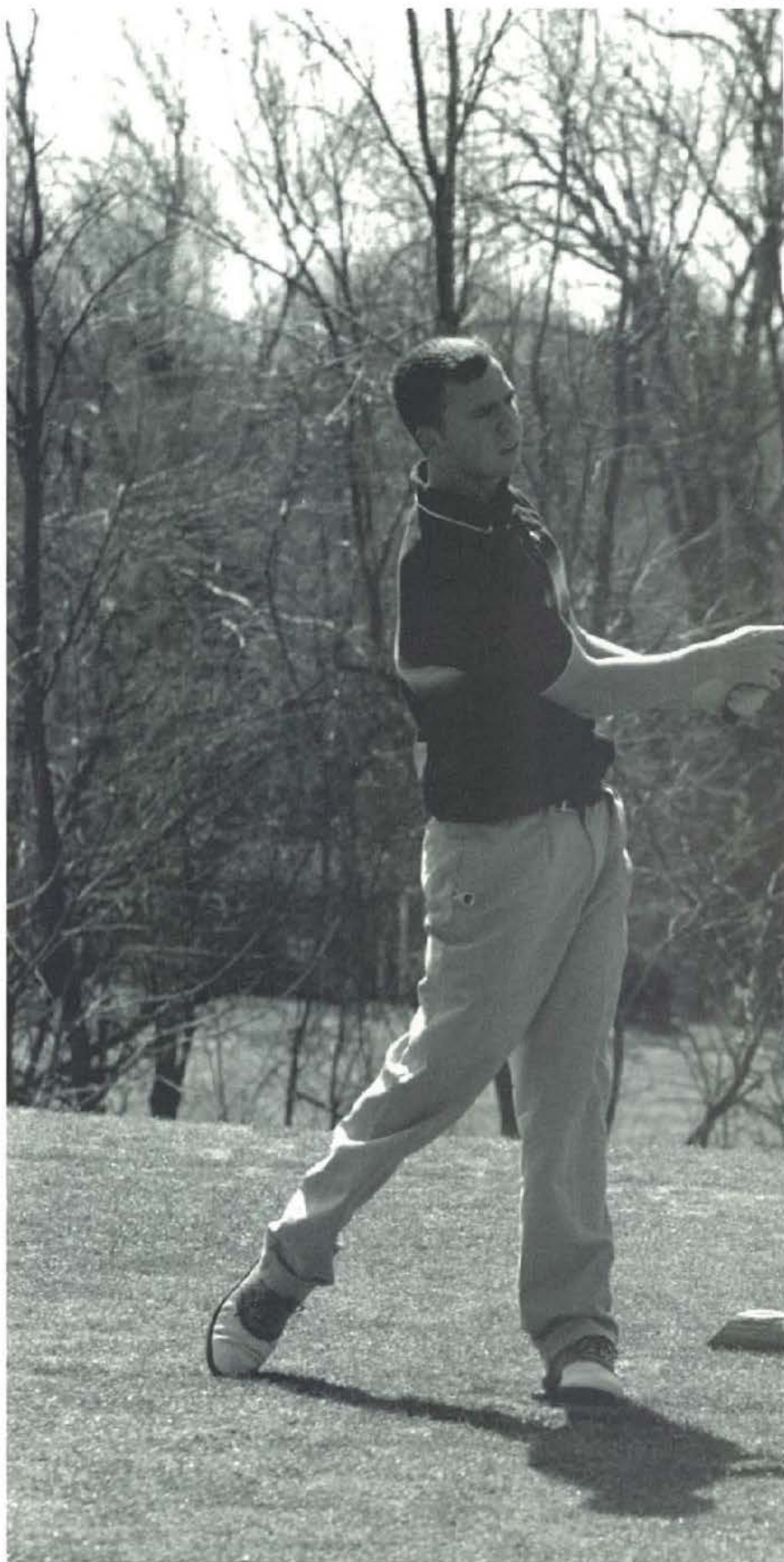
# Griffon G C



**Above:** Ryan Butler walks tall after a round of golf. He strides along with the shadows of the trees casting upon him.

**Right:** Louis Kaiser knocks the ball down the fairway. Lined up perfectly, he watched until his ball bounced to a spot, hopefully near the green.

**Below:** John Perry launches one down the fairway. It's got the height, will it have the distance?



# L F



Scott Crouse hunches down to size up his shot. Much concentration was needed to play such a sport.

## Golf, the game of skill and concentration, was a task taken on by the Griffons.

Story by Stephanie Radel  
Photos by Dan Grover

Golf meant a lot of different things to different people. To some, it was an old man's or a rich man's game. To others, it was a stress reliever, a chance to get away for a few hours.

To the young men of the MWSC Griffon golf team, it was a chance to compete and show off their skills. Being a member of the golf team required many of the same qualities athletes of many other sports possessed.

"When you get down to it, golf is like any other sport," Randy Hughes, junior and three-year member of the golf team, said. "To really compete, you have to have consistency, confidence and a willingness to work hard every day. I feel that this game can do that. We are all equal."

The rigors of the season took freshman Dustin Holcumbrink by surprise.

"There is a lot more pressure than I thought there was going to be," Holcumbrink said. "There is a lot more pressure to perform on a day-to-day basis."

The team, under the direction of Coach Habermehl, had an improvement over last season.

They placed at two of the four tournaments in which they competed, and they had high expectations going into regionals.

"I know the guys were playing really hard," Holcumbrink said. "We had a lot of good wins, and we have been in the top of a lot of tournaments. We placed in our own invitational, which was a big victory for us."

The guys on the team looked forward to next season and harbored a lot of high expectations as well.

"We have everyone coming back next year," Hughes said. "So, if we improve, we will have a pretty good shot at the conference and regional tournaments. That is, if we play up to our abilities."

Louis Kaiser, another member of the team, agreed.

"We had a good season," Kaiser said. "I am looking forward to next year though. It will be great to see the new faces and to see how everyone improves over the summer."

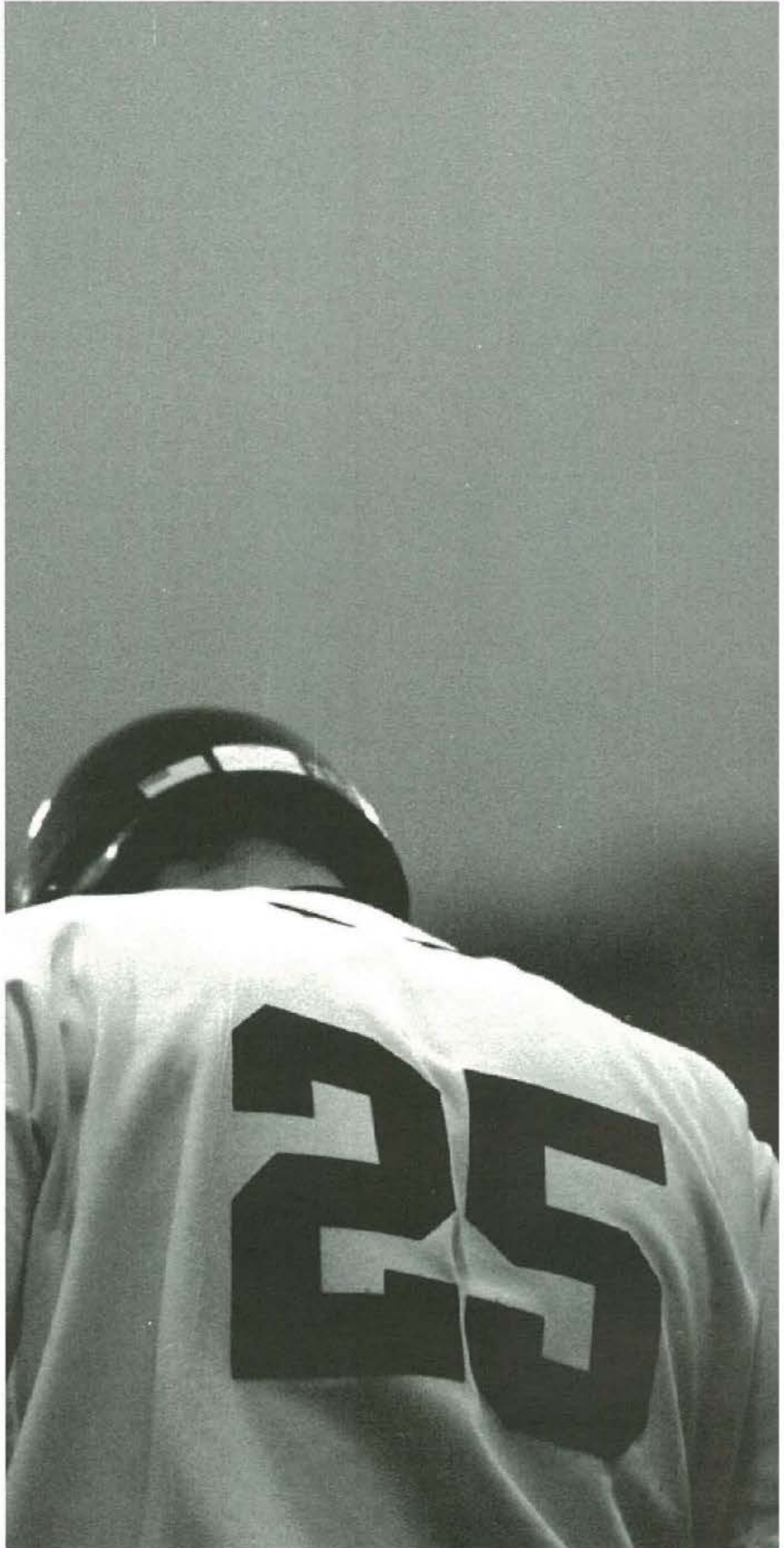
# Griffon B A S



**Above:** Senior Nathan Furguson from Washington concentrates on as he pitches to an opponent. The baseball team consisted of several players from Washington. Photo by Dan Grover

**Right:** Zak Hill prepares his mental strategy in the batters box. Many players found concentration to be a helpful aspect. Photo by Dan Grover

**Middle:** Pitcher Sean Harvey, senior, warms up at the top of the mound with catcher Brian Vernon. Harvey was one out of nine of the players from Washington on the team. Photo by Dan Grover



# EBALL



Aaron Ruiz, left handed pitcher, throws a fast one past their conference rivals. Playing Northwest was one of the most intense games of the season. Photo by Nicole Gentry

## “Washing”ton the dust away

Story by Amanda Rafferty

Washington State came for more than a visit. They stayed to play baseball.

With nine players on the team from the Alki State, an Indian word meaning “bye and bye,” the Missouri Western team played a whole new ballgame.

Ryan Donaldson, out fielder, Sean Donlin, left handed pitcher, Alan Cartwright, left handed pitcher, Brooks Barkley, out fielder, Nathan Ferguson, right handed pitcher, Sean Harvey, in fielder and right handed pitcher, John Dano, baseman, Anthony Auckland, right handed pitcher and out fielder, and Zak Hill, catcher, all joined the team and traveled over several states to play ball.

Left-handed pitcher Sean Donlin commented that it wasn't bad living so far away from home. “I don't feel that far from home because so many other guys on the team are from that area,” Donlin said.

Anthony Auckland, left handed pitcher and outfielder, said that coming to Missouri was like a vacation, a vacation to the Midwest. “It's a totally different atmosphere,” Auckland said.

Donlin and Auckland both knew Coach Verduzco from Washington State. Auckland said that Verduzco was the best coach he has worked

with. He also said that Verduzco was a good communicator.

Donlin also liked playing under the management of Verduzco. “Coach is awesome,” Donlin said. “He demands a lot, expects a lot and really gets the most out of his players. Baseball isn't the only thing on his mind.”

Donlin and Auckland came to Missouri Western simply by calling Verduzco and asking him to play on his team. “Do you want to go to Missouri to play ball?” Donlin asked Auckland.

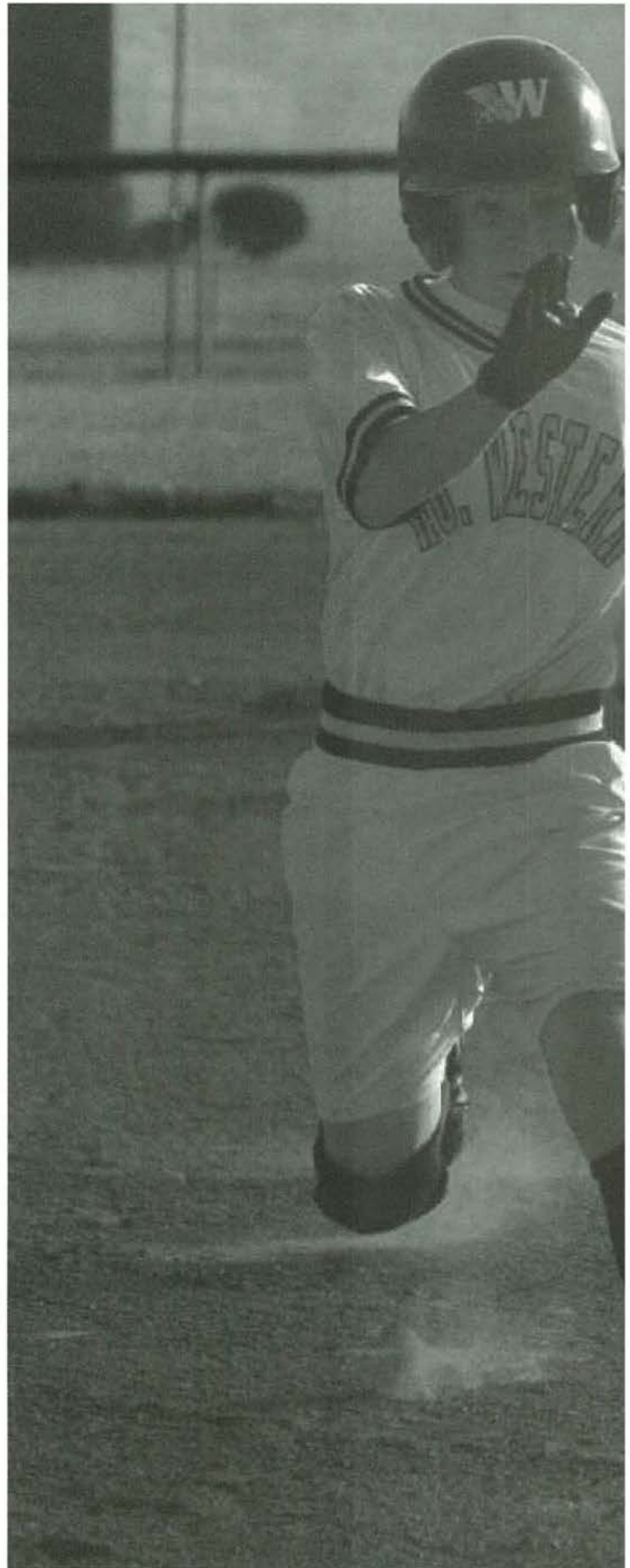
“I like Missouri April 1 through the 25<sup>th</sup> and probably all of September,” Auckland said. The two make trips home every so often on big breaks like Christmas and for the summer.

Auckland commented on the season by saying that it could have been better but he definitely thinks that they have done a lot to set the standard for what a team should look like and play like. “We stay together all the time,” Auckland said. “We are a special mix of people.”

Donlin said that although an education is important, he is at Missouri Western primarily for baseball.

“I came here to play, have fun and meet people,” Donlin said.

# Griffon S O F



**Above:** Warming up, Tiffany Keeney throws the ball to the catcher, Annie Lindgren. Keeney was the starting pitcher for the team.

**Right:** Ali Rudd runs to third base. Rudd played right field for the Lady Griffons.

**Bottom:** First baseman Trina Denison, number seven, makes a solid catch to send a Southwest Baptist player back to the dugout. Senior Denison was a prominent player and effective leader.

# SOFTBALL



Huddling in a pre-game ritual, the Lady Griffons mentally prepare for the game. The pre-game huddle had been a tradition for the team.

## It was a promising season for the Lady Griffons that boosted confidence and team morale.

Story By Jared Hoffman

With a roster filled with underclassman, the Griffon softball team had high expectations. The team entered the season with goals to increase their overall batting average, to have an above 500-win percentage and to become a dominant force in the conference.

The team ultimately achieved their goals. According to sophomore Tearany Carrel, second baseman, the team's success was based on improvement in several key areas.

"Our hitting has gotten so much better," Carrel said. "The defense and pitching are a lot more dependable. The pitchers can have a lot to do with the outcome of a game. We also had two new coaches who came in and did a great job for us."

Although the team had some inconsistencies due to its lack of experience, there were many high points throughout the season. The team had many victories over conference foes.

"Beating North Dakota State and Truman were high points for us," Coach Bagley said. "These games gave us the confidence we needed. You can

talk about winning, but it's just words until you beat the key teams."

Before the start of the season in late February the team went through weeks of vigorous training to prepare for the upcoming season. It was important for the new and older players to bond in order to establish a winning tradition.

"We had to work on a lot of drills to get better at our individual positions," Senior Trina Denison said. "We can't always work with the coach, so a lot of the training we have to do on our own."

The team continued to make strides all season long. With the achievement of their set goals and an increase in fan support, the players looked to the future with extreme confidence.

"We're improving on the bonds we've made this year," Coach Bagley said. "With the new recruiting class coming in, we will just continue to get stronger and stronger."



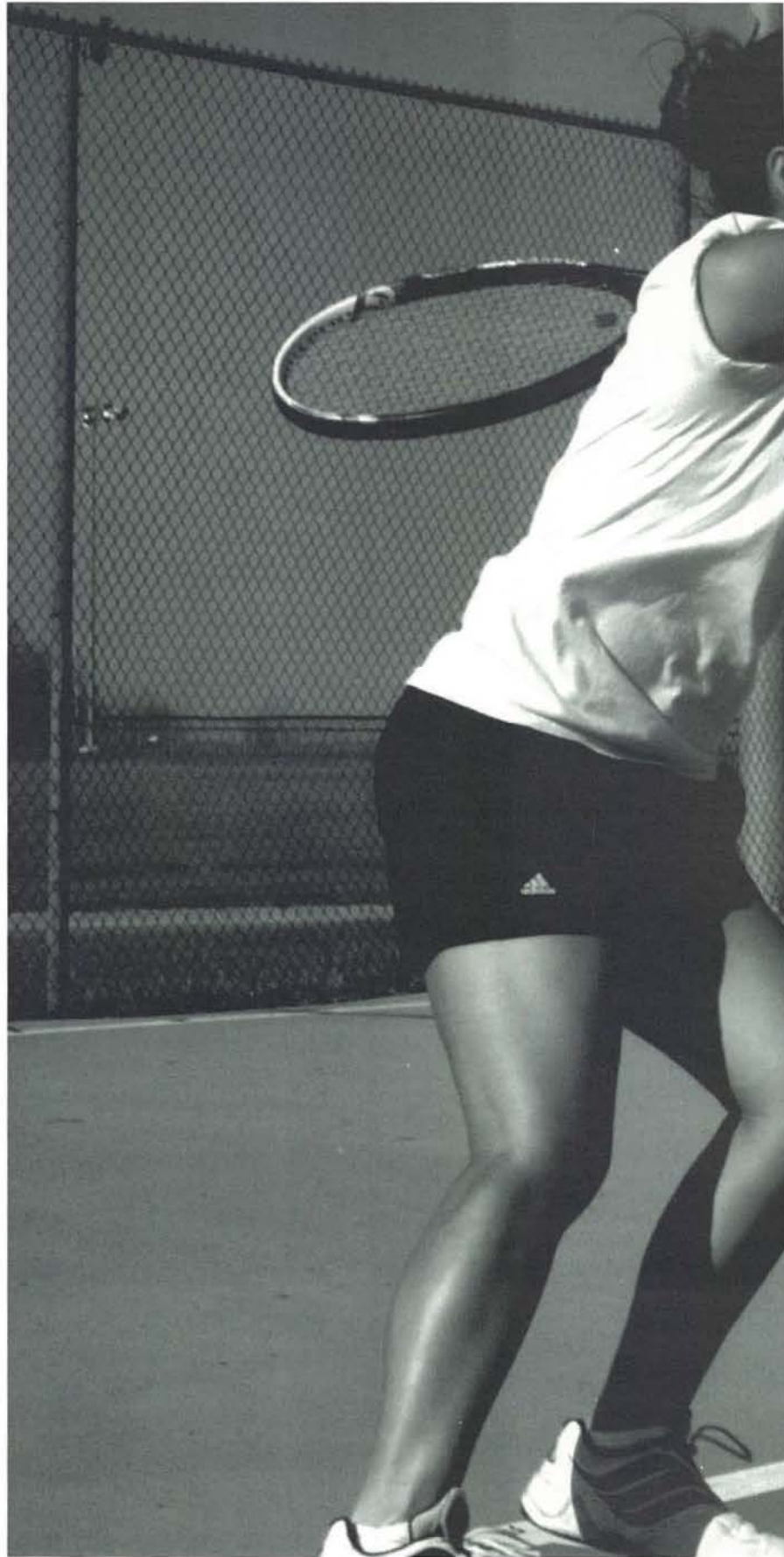
# Griffon T E



**Top:** Sara Batchelor serves to the opposing team. Batchelor was the number one tennis player all season.

**Right:** Lori Larson prepares to deliver a return. Larson played positions two, three, and four for the team.

**Middle:** Junior tennis player Kim Redmon lobs the ball back over the net. Redmon played number three doubles for the team.



# W N N I S



Sophomore Liz Beeson prepares for a backhand shot. She also played tennis as a freshman.

## Western tennis players keep the competition on their toes with continual improvements and comradery.

Story by Kellie Feuerbacher

Photos by Jill Kirkendoll

Companionship and teamwork go hand in hand. For the girls of the Missouri Western tennis team, this proved to be true as the closeness they shared in their friendships, enabling them to work well on the courts.

Although the team didn't have a very successful season, as the players lost the majority of their matches, the Griffons didn't let that get them down. They tried to remain positive by enjoying their time together on and off the court.

"This team is very close, and our road trips are very fun," Head Tennis Coach Shannon Fuller said. "They make it very enjoyable."

Four of the girls roomed together in one of the campus residence halls, and the other two were never very far away. This camaraderie was beneficial to playing together on doubles teams since they already knew each other so well. "I think we're a stronger team because our personalities go well together, and that makes it easier to play together on the court," junior Ashley Collings said.

Despite this strong bond the girls shared, they also realized they did leave room for improve-

ment in their win-loss record, which ended up being 3-12 overall and 1-5 in conference. However, the girls remained positive about their playing.

"It's better than last year," junior Kim Redmond said. "Everyone's playing so much better, and everyone's confidence is higher this year."

Fuller also felt positive about the girls' playing throughout the year.

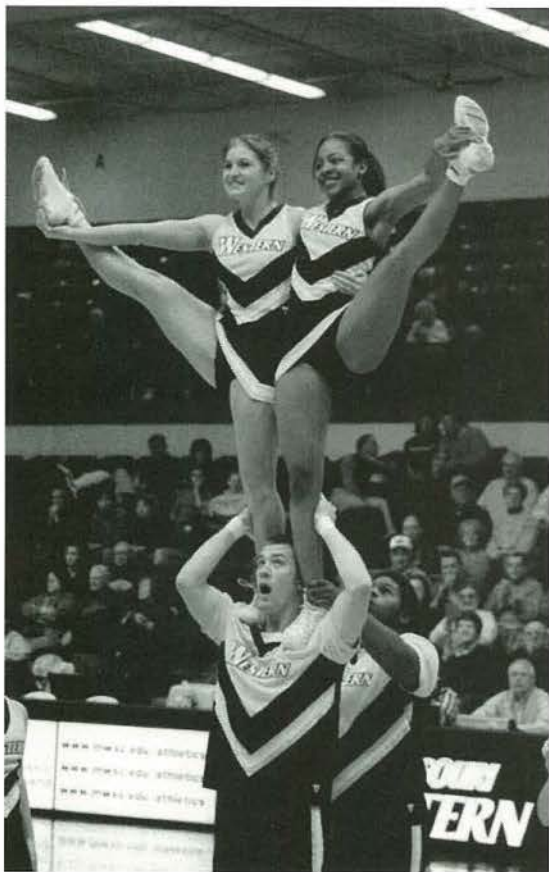
"I could see improvement from the fall to the spring," she said. "The girls had been really working on their game."

One of the most rewarding experiences throughout the year was the game against William Jewell, despite the fact that the Griffons were defeated. "We lost, but we're so happy with how everything went," sophomore tennis player Anna Ristic said.

Coach Fuller, who is a first-time tennis coach for Western, has high expectations for the next season.

"I hope to have a strong team next year," she said. "A goal would be to win a couple conference matches and continue working well together."

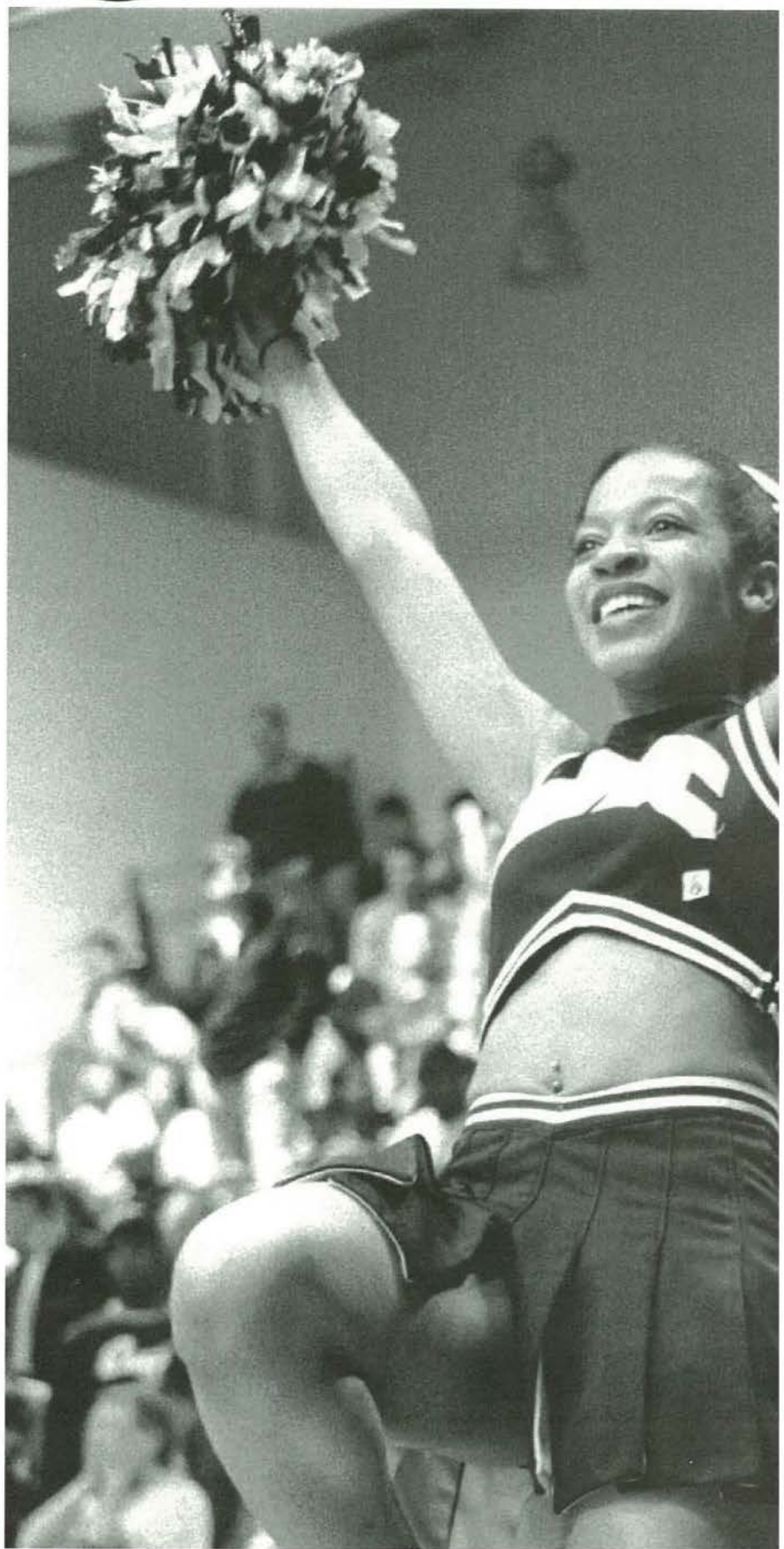
# Griffon CHEER



**Above:** The cheerleaders spend long hours perfecting their cheers in order to excite fans. The Missouri Western cheerleaders' many practices paid off with successful performances. Photo by Deliese Brewster

**Right:** The cheerleaders enjoy entertaining fans. They were dedicated to their fans and each other. Photo by Deliese Brewster

**Bottom:** The cheerleaders' stunts keeps the crowd involved in the game. The fans were excited to see the cheerleaders' new stunts. Photo by Deliese Brewster



# LEADERS



Teamwork and trust is vital in doing the difficult stunts. The manpower needed to perform the stunts kept all the cheerleaders involved. Photo by Michelle Lakebrink

## Being a Missouri Western cheerleader required time and dedication, which led to crowd-pleasing performances.

Story by Melissa Groce

Time and dedication. Those were two very important words to the cheerleaders in the 2001-2002 season.

Cheerleading coach Nicole Huston felt that one had to be dedicated and have the time to practice in order to be a good cheerleader. Over the previous few years there had been a high turnover rate in the cheerleaders. During the 2001-2002 football season, there were 16 cheerleaders, six men and 10 women, but in the basketball season those numbers dropped to three men and five women.

Cheerleader Amber Nold felt that the high turnover rate over the years might have been a result of the coaches changing just as often as the cheerleaders. Huston said that she was a cheerleader when she was a student her first time around, and things became a lot different from what they were then. "As a coach it's definitely been a learning experience for me this year," Huston said.

The cheerleaders practiced two times a week, and they also went to the fitness center at least two or three times a week. They usually practiced from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and then again from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Missouri Western cheerleaders were unable to participate in competitions last season. In order for them to be able to compete, they would have had to keep the same squad for at least a year. With a high turnover rate, it's hard to keep the same squad for that long. "We are not a competing squad," Nold said.

Although the squad members don't compete, they do keep busy with other projects.

During the football season of 2001, the cheerleaders held a camp for the children of St. Joseph and the surrounding areas. The camp was held on a Saturday, and the children were taught how to do different cheers. The children were then able to go to a football game and cheer with the cheerleaders. "It was a neat experience," Cassity said.

Cheerleaders were also responsible for bringing spirit to the team. "We are there for the team," Nold said.

They were there to keep the players and the audience pumped throughout the game. Whether the players were men or women, the cheerleaders were there to cheer them on to the end.

Their dedication paid off in the form of certain benefits. "I like having the front row seat at all the games," Nold said.

It was also a rewarding feeling for the cheerleaders to know that the players appreciated them. Because of that, they felt pride in themselves for a job well done. The women's basketball team showed the cheerleaders their appreciation by giving them high fives and smiles during the games, Nold said.

Though the cheerleaders practiced twice a week and had games twice a week, they liked what they did. Western cheerleaders got a chance to meet a lot of people throughout the season in addition to enjoying other benefits. Freshman cheerleader Amanda Cassity found it to be beneficial in improving her life skills. "I like cheerleading because it makes you set goals for yourself," she said.

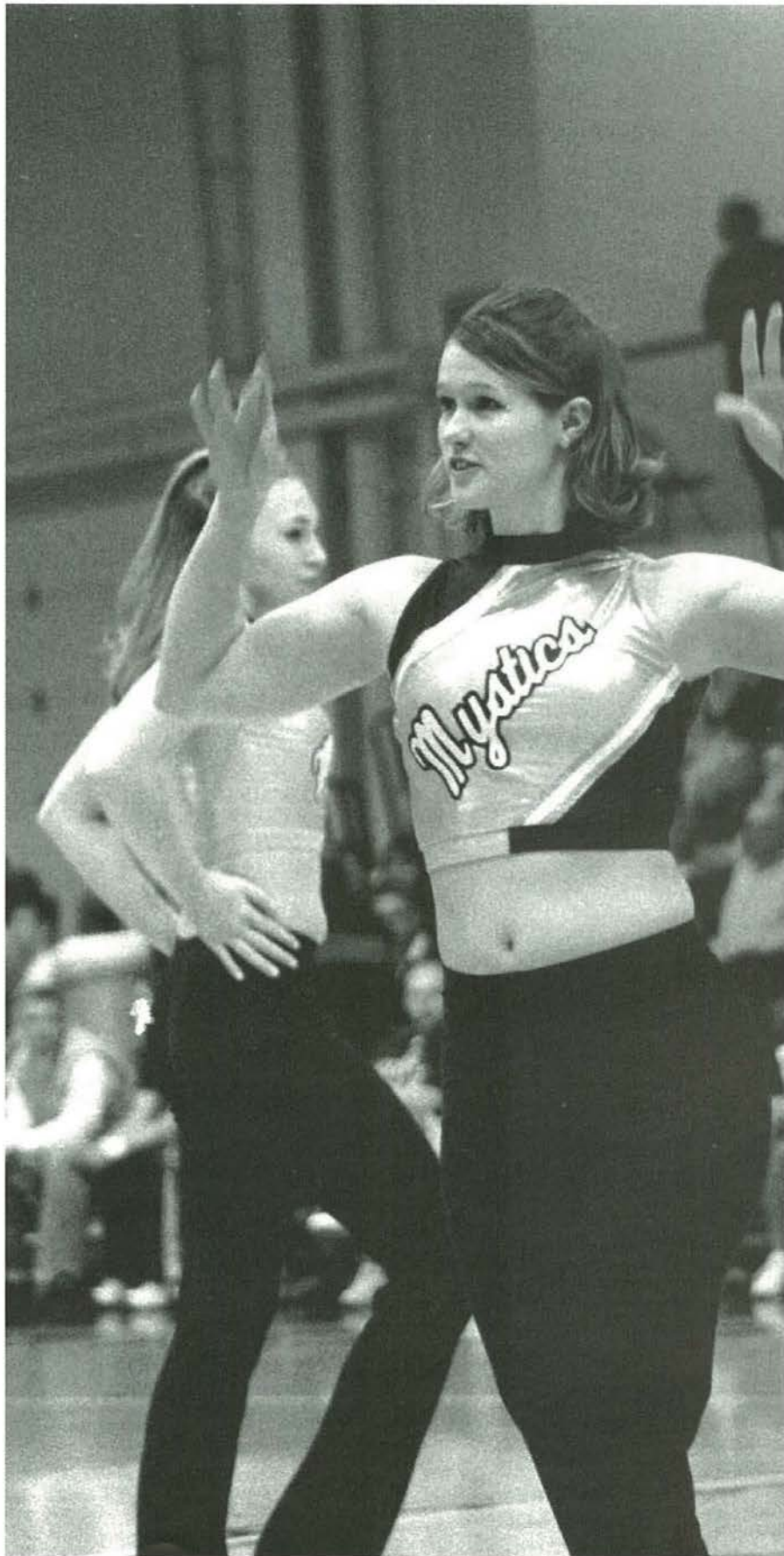
# Griffon M Y



**Top:** Courtney Alberts shows that she still has what it takes to be a Mystic. Alberts became the coach of the Mystics after graduating from MWSC.

**Right:** Stacey Turner shows her enthusiasm for the Griffon fans. Turner danced her way back from a leg injury in full force.

**Middle:** Lindsay Fiscus and Maria Combs dance proud along with the rest of the Mystics and the MWSC marching band. The half-time show always provided great entertainment for Griffon fans.



# STICS



Left: The Mystics Dance team performs their kickline during a halftime show. Mystics showed off their dance skills at many athletic events.

## The Mystics dance team brings spirit and dancing into Griffon athletics while pumping up the crowd.

Story by Teresa Turley  
Photos by Deliese Brewster

Hard work was a part of life for college students. For many, just attending classes and doing homework was enough to stress them out. However, the members of the Mystics dance team tackled this stress along with the stress of practice, workouts and performances.

The Mystics brought great enthusiasm and spirit to the games along with support to those in the athletic events. "We are there to keep the crowd pumped up between time-outs and to keep them entertained and excited about the game," Junior captain Lindsay Fiscus said.

However, easy as this sounded, it took much work and determination to energize the crowd. During football season the Mystics practiced every weekday from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM, and during basketball season they practiced Monday, Tuesday and Thursday to 6:00 PM. Aside from practice and performances, they also had to work out at the fitness center for eight to 10 hours every two weeks.

"I pretty much give all of my time to the Mystics," Fiscus said. "Sometimes it gets pretty stressful. It's just like a job, but you get to hang out with your friends."

As a captain, Fiscus had many responsibilities. These responsibilities included knowing every routine, teaching the routine to the squad and deciding what they would wear for their performances. Fiscus was also the squad's spokesperson when they needed to deal with the athletic director or the president. "I'm kind of like their mom, but

I'm more their friend than their captain," she said.

Lindsay was later joined by sophomore Doria Serrano as a co-captain.

"A captain has to be a leader to the squad and somebody that they can look up to," Serano said.

In addition to working hard on the dance floor, football field and basketball court, the Mystics also strived to excel academically. A 2.5 cumulative grade point average had to be maintained by every member of the squad. The cumulative grade point average had begun at a 2.0, which was then raised to a 2.25 and finally settled at a 2.5.

"You have to get disciplined and find time to study, dance, practice and work," freshman Ashley Moses said.

But their hard work was not over at finals in May. While everybody went home for the summer months, the Mystics dance team attended a clinic in Fort Hays, Kan. At this clinic, the members trained with a woman who was formerly the choreographer for the Dallas Cowboy's cheerleaders.

Despite the hard work and determination that was required to be a member of the dance squad, there were many different reasons that the members enjoyed being part of the squad. Many enjoyed performing in front of the school, but most agreed that the friendships are what made it a worthwhile experience.

"The girls become my best friends," Fiscus said. No matter if I have a bad day, I can always go to them. And the dancing is my life."

For the first time in  
six seasons, it was  
tears of joy, not sadness.

THE

Missouri Western: 37

Photos by Deliese Brewster

Northwest: 30



*"I just dropped to my knees and cried. This is for our coaches, the fans and those guys who never got to beat Northwest."  
-Mike Best*



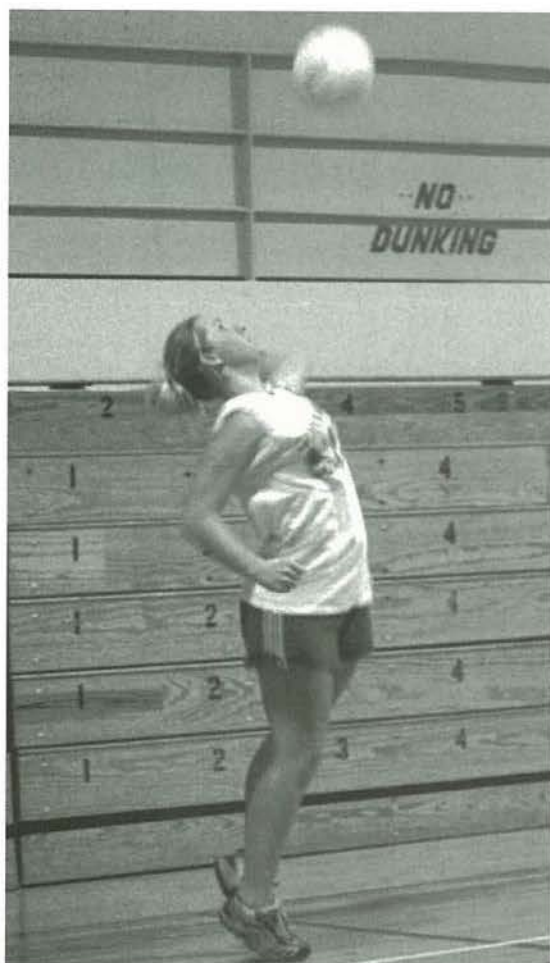
# TREAK IS OVER



*"This is the best feeling  
I've ever had. We came  
here and won here."  
- Jerris Evans*



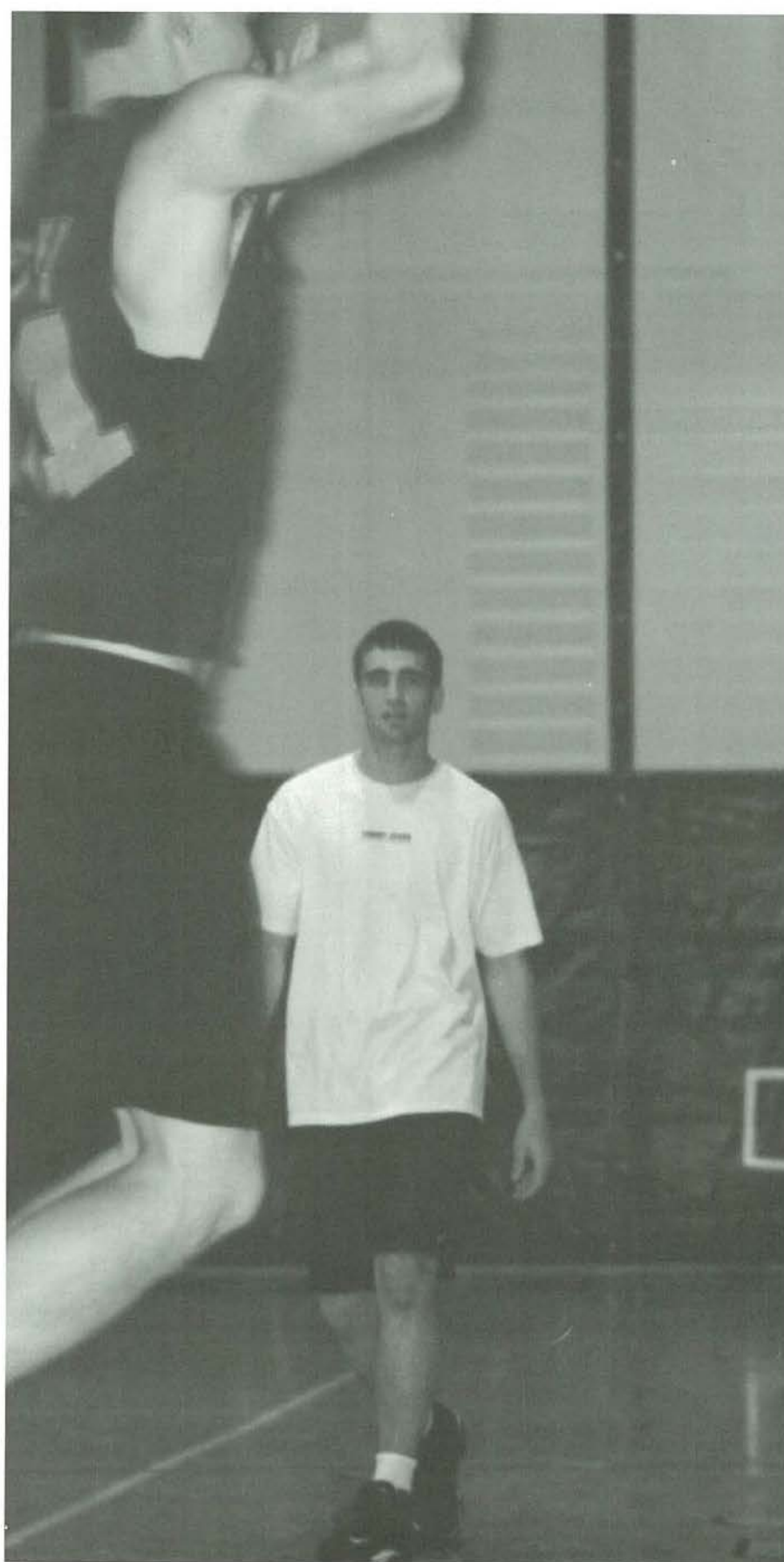
# Griffon INTA



**Top:** Sophomore Sara Batchelor shows off her volleyball skills from her high school career. The scores of the girls games were very close due to the amount of talent on the teams.

**Right:** Guys came out in swarms for basketball. Intramural sports grew in popularity through the organizations over the last few years.

**Middle:** Junior Andi Stephens made sure the call was clear to the other team. Although it was just a game, conflicts had the possibility of occurrence.



# INTRAMURALS



Jeff Winn aims for the home run. Softball was very popular, however took a hard hit with the very unpredictable Missouri weather.

## Intramural sports gave students a chance to show their athletic ability in a friendly competitive environment

Story by Amanda Rafferty

Photo by Deliese Brewster and Kim Anderson

Intramurals provided a time and a place where students left the dreaded homework and studies behind and competed in a variety of activities. Whatever the interest, intramurals furnished fun for athletes as well as for non-athletes.

Wanda Howe, director of intramurals said that by offering activities beyond sports drew in a better group of people.

"We have card tournaments because it appeals to people who really aren't that athletic," Howe said. "There is also Free-Time Recreation which helps people get away from their books and allow them to come out and participate in the gym and in the fitness center on their own time anytime they want."

Intramurals appealed to all interest and skill levels. With the number of activities raised, more students came out to participate whether they were sporty or not.

"When a student leaves high school they want to continue at that same level of play and intramurals can help them achieve that," Howe said.

There were many different types of activities to participate in such as frisbee golf, football, volleyball, card tournaments, racquetball, softball and more.

"Our biggest event is basketball," Howe said. "It is very competitive, especially when a Kansas City team faces a St. Louis team."

Basketball was also popular within fraternities and sororities as well as other campus

groups. The games gave the groups a chance to better know one another and it gave them a chance to understand and know many different types of people, especially with more teams that were co-ed.

Denise Johnson, Alpha Gamma Delta, participated in the intramurals basketball season. "We played some pretty nice girls," Johnson said.

Intramurals was a way for her to get out and meet a wide variety of people as well as to make some new friends.

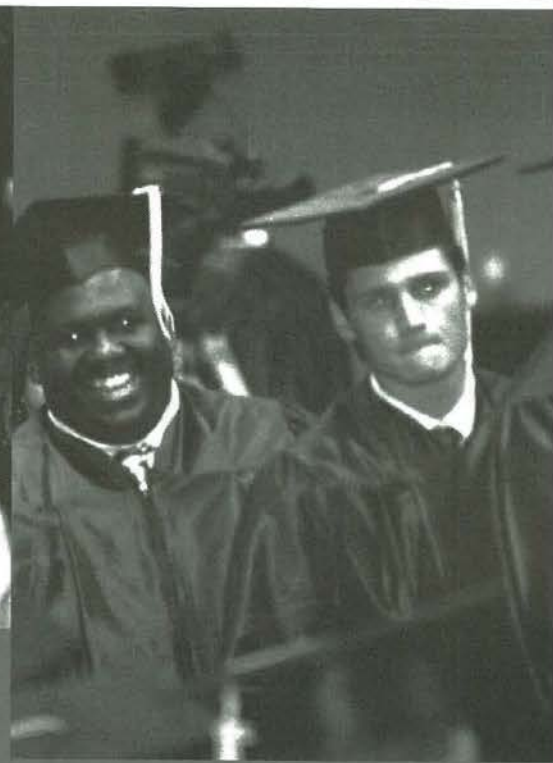
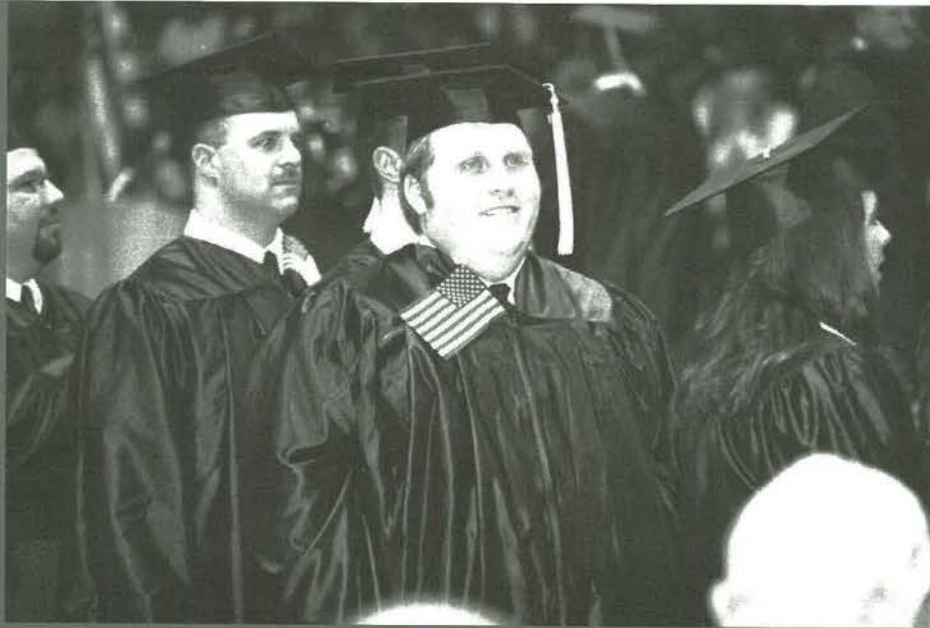
"We weren't really skilled to play basketball but we had a lot of fun," Johnson said. "We even won one game -because of a forfeit- but it was still a good time."

With the different types of people involved in intramurals, control needed to come into play as well as the ball. Tempers found their way onto the playing grounds.

"We sometimes get certified officials to do the games that we think that are going to get out of control," Howe said. Good officials were a key part in keeping intramurals calm and collective.

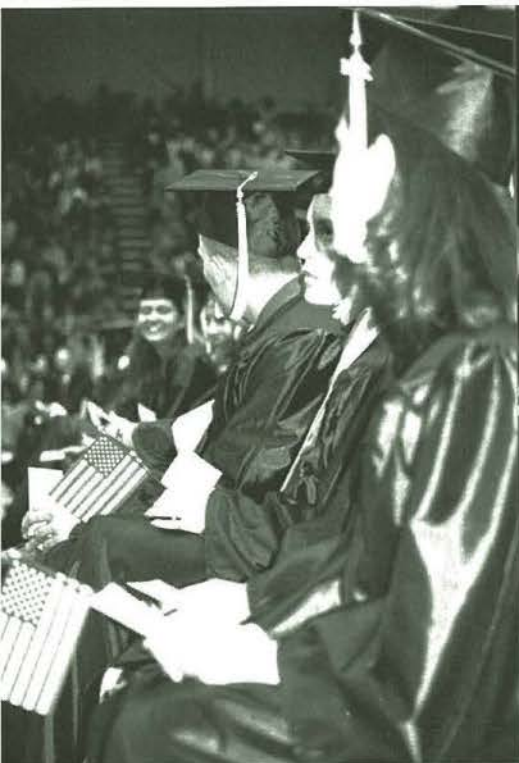
Intramurals helped students relax and also kept them competitive. Being involved in the activities also drew students away from studies and television into a fun environment with other students.

"Most parents look at intramurals and say that they sent their kid to school to get an education," Howe said. "But intramurals is academic and also helps the students communicate better."



"Excellence is never an accident, it is the result of high intentions, sincere efforts, intelligent directions, skillful execution and the vision to see obstacles as opportunities"

## Graduation



# SPRING GRADUATION

Graduates reflect on the years they spent at Western while for-  
ing The Western Advantage.

Story by Rachel Siron

Photos by Sandy Scott and Ashley Reynolds

The smiles, cheers, and let us not forget foghorns, were seen and heard throughout the arena during spring commencement as faculty and staff prepared themselves for a long day of celebration for the graduates of 2002.

Spring commencement experienced change when it was divided into two ceremonies due to the increasing number of guests and graduates. Many saw a problem with the growing number of guests and graduates at commencement. To help this situation, the Student Government Association student affairs committee proposed a change after much discussion. A decision was made to split the commencement into separate ceremonies by the schools of Missouri Western, the school of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the school of Professional Studies.

"We thought of many options, such as moving commencement to the football field and even to Civic Arena, but those options weren't highly favorable by the students," John Fabsits, student affairs committee chair, said. "We had another idea to give each person a limited number of tickets to pass out to their guests, but why limit the number of guests when there are many other ways to have a commencement."

Many faculty and staff had to prepare for a long day of seeing black robes and tassels flipped, but speakers also had to prepare themselves.

President James Scanlon spoke about the Western Advantage and interacted the crowd with his speech. Each time he spoke the words, 'The Western Advantage,' he wanted to hear the crowd say it also. And they did say it numerous times. Dean Don Willis felt the Class of 2002 reflects the Western Advantage well.

"This was a group who had to persevere the first year of budgetary hardship, yet accomplished goals in spite of the hurdles," Willis said. "This group also is the first reflection of the Jim Scanlon era at Western."





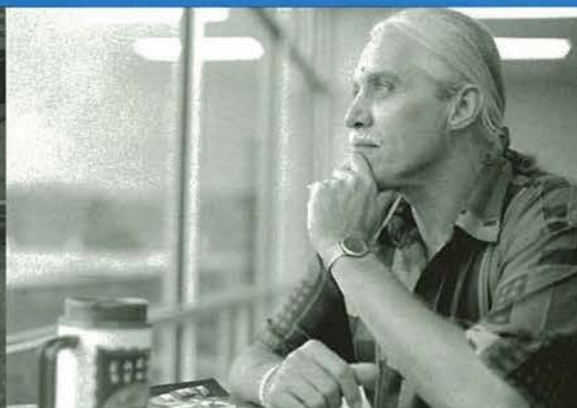
**Page 160:** Missouri Western graduates enter into the arena and a new beginning. **Page 161: Top:** A graduate smiles while waiting for her name to be called. The moment was highly anticipated for many. **Middle:** Graduate Louis Williams pats a fellow graduate on the back. Many graduates supported each other while going through the ceremony. **Bottom:** Graduates listen carefully to President James Scanlon speak about the Western Advantage. The students repeated the phrase many times throughout the speech.





"I cannot believe that the purpose of life is to be happy. I think the purpose of life is to be useful, to be responsible, to be honorable, to be compassionate. It is above all to matter, to count, to stand for something, to have made some difference that you lived at all." Leo C. Rosten

## Personalities





# More Than Siblings

Friends since childhood, Missouri Western brother and sister share the same college atmosphere, yet lead different lives.

STORY BY Kellie Feuerbacher  
PHOTOS BY Dan Grover



**Above:** Proudly supporting her brother Ben, the two of them show off their humorous sides. Ben and Ruth influenced each other by encouraging each other to do their best.

**Right:** Preparing for battle, Ben and Ruth stare directly at each other. Their friendship continues to grow stronger as time goes on.

**Middle:** Laughing, Ruth and Ben share a funny moment together. The success the two experienced is credited to their personalities and their inner strength.

**H**e was a cheerleader. She was the sports editor for the Griffon News. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta. She was a member of Sigma Tau Delta.

With them both being so involved in such different activities, chances are if you attended MWSC for very long, you got to know at least one or both of them. Who were they?

They were the Doorninks, Ruth and Ben. This brother and sister duo shared much more than the same last name—they shared their college experience. Although neither one of them originally planned to attend MWSC, they both eventually chose the same school and were glad they did.

The Doorninks both made a name for themselves in each of their individual areas of interest as they excelled as students, leaders and active members of various organizations.

Part of what gave Ruth and Ben the ability to be successful in their college experience stemmed from their personalities and inner strength.

"They are both very strong-willed," freshman Jimmy Whitaker said. Whitaker was Ben's

"I think I've influenced him a lot, but he's done the same thing for me," Ruth said.

With so many activities on top of their regular schoolwork, these siblings didn't usually have a lot of spare time to spend together, but when they did, they made every minute count.

"Aside from being brother and sister, we're pretty good friends," Ben said.

Ruth and Ben enjoyed going to parties together, attending ROTC functions and eating dinner with their parents before football games. Oftentimes between classes, Ben was also able to drop by the newsroom and spend a little time with his sister.

For some siblings, going to the same college might have been a nightmare, but for Ruth and Ben, it was a blessing.

"I like it because I get to see her," Ben said.

Being so near, they were always there for each other when one was going through a difficult time. They were even able to help each other with their schoolwork since they each had different academic strengths and weaknesses.



close friend since high school, and he later got to know Ruth also.

Although the Doorninks' activities varied, there was one place they could often both be spotted—at sporting events. As a cheerleader for Missouri Western, Ben cheered at football, basketball and home volleyball games. As the sports editor for the Griffon News, Ruth attended many of those same games to get coverage of the sports articles.

Other activities Ruth was involved in included being president of Sigma Tau Delta, secretary of Journalism Club and teaching writers' workshop classes. Ben's other activities included being a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, ROTC and also being an assistant scout master in Boy Scouts in Cameron, Mo.

Part of the reason they were both involved so much in school is that they encouraged each other to be the best, pushing one another to strive for their goals.

"When he was in English 104, I really helped him, and when I was in math, he would help me with that," Ruth said.

The closeness between these siblings did not just occur as they got older. Even as young children growing up in a very small town of about 150 people, they each always had the other as a friend to play with, and as time passed, they continued standing up for each other, encouraging each other and supporting each other.

"Growing up in a town that small made us closer, and all the changes we've gone through together have made us stronger," Ruth said. "He's by far my best friend."

# The Man with a Plan

"I can't stand the thought of failure. If I am going to do something, I want to do it right and give it everything I can...you push yourself to limits you never thought that you'd be able to do."

STORY BY Stephanie Radcliff

PHOTOS BY Dan Grover



**Above:** Operating the camera, Chad maintains the camera's position. He hoped to someday work as a sportscaster.

**Middle:** Answering the phone at the housing office, he works as an residential assistant. He also had other activities he was involved with such as cheerleading and cave exploring.

**Right:** Behind the camera, Chad remains dedicated to his job. His belief in God is what he credits for all his accomplishments in life.

“I am motivated by success,” Chad Fehr, a senior communications major with an emphasis in public relations, said. “I can’t stand the thought of failure. If I am going to do something, I want to do it right and give it everything I can.”

And he did. Especially when it came to getting what he wanted done. Fehr combined his drive for success and his love for physical activity to, among other things, help renew the tradition of the coed cheerleading squad, as well as serving as its captain. The first year of the coed squad was the 1999-2000 school year. At that time there were six guys on the squad.

“I was the first male cheerleader in my high school’s history,” Fehr said. “I originally tried out as a joke, but then I got to where I really liked it.

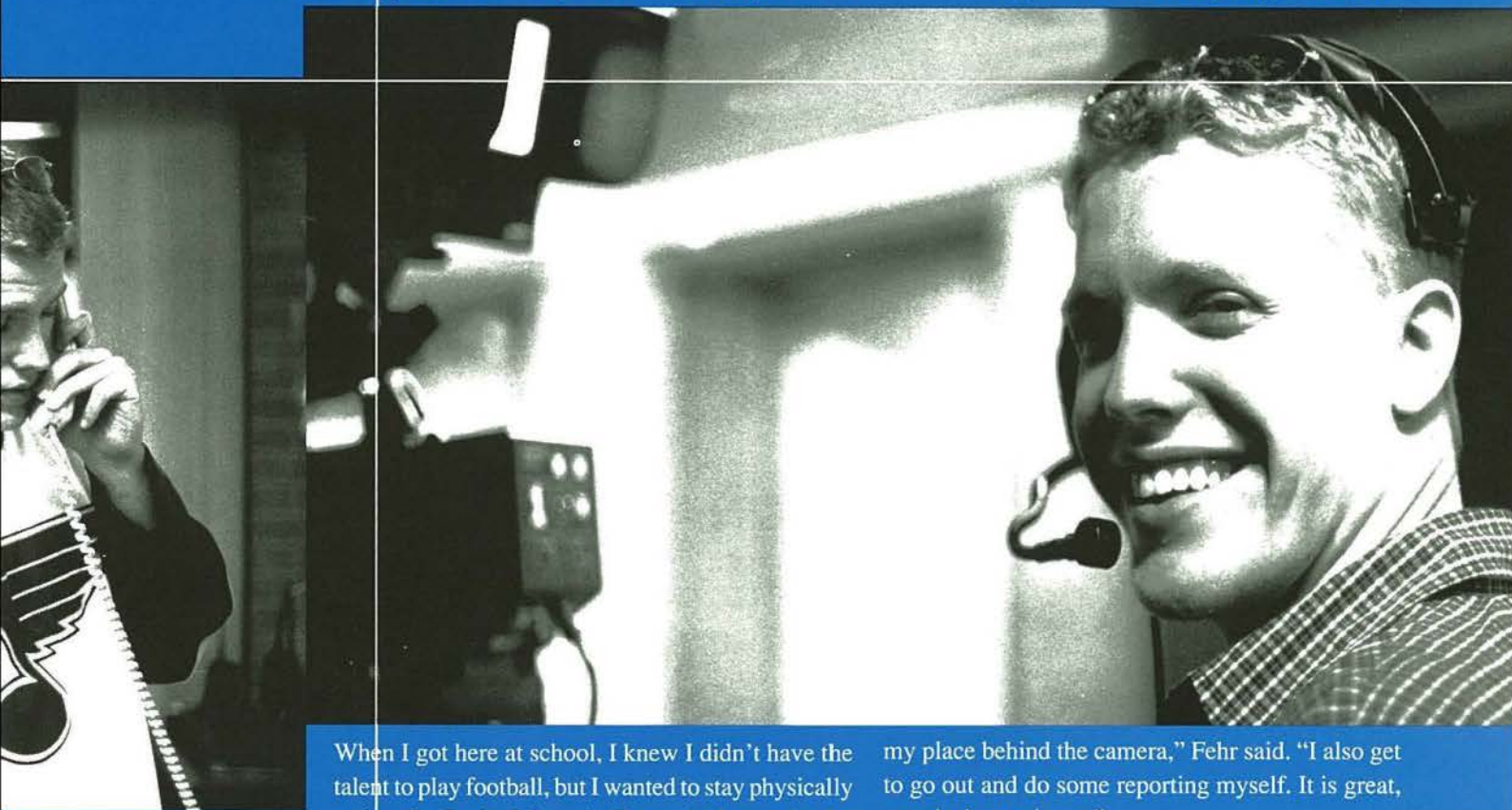
Fehr said. “We worked really hard every week, but eventually it broke apart. It did keep me physically fit, though.”

Through a class at school, Fehr became interested in cave exploring.

“It is incredible,” Fehr said. “You push yourself to limits you never thought that you’d be able to do. In one room of the cave, I sat in total darkness, and it was so still that you could just hear your heart pounding.”

Fehr planned to use his love of physical activity and his communication skills and parlay them into a future job as a nightly sportscaster. He got an early jump on that by working at Saint Joseph television station KQ2.

“I get to see how everything works from



When I got here at school, I knew I didn’t have the talent to play football, but I wanted to stay physically active. So, I asked about it. They asked me to be the mascot, but I really didn’t want to do that. That is when we came up with the idea of a coed squad. I think it’s the first in 15 or 18 years. I just really, really loved it. It was a lot of fun.”

Jim McKinley, a junior business major, was a cheerleader with Fehr.

“Chad is extremely out going and a fun-loving person,” McKinley said. “He is hardworking and very dedicated to his job and to the college.”

Patrice Meyer worked with Fehr as a residential assistant. She agreed with McKinley’s assessment.

“He is really dedicated,” Meyer said. “His blood runs black and gold.”

Cheerleading was not all that Fehr did. He used his cheerleading abilities to help him to excel

“We had several guys in it when we began,”

my place behind the camera,” Fehr said. “I also get to go out and do some reporting myself. It is great, practical experience.”

After his sportscasting career ends, Fehr planned to enter politics, another love of his. He wanted to follow in the footsteps of Attorney General John Ashcroft, someone he looked up to.

“I admire him,” Fehr said. “I think he has integrity and good values that he sticks to.”

For all that Fehr accomplished and planned to, for his motivation and drive, Fehr knew that his belief in God was the ultimate key.

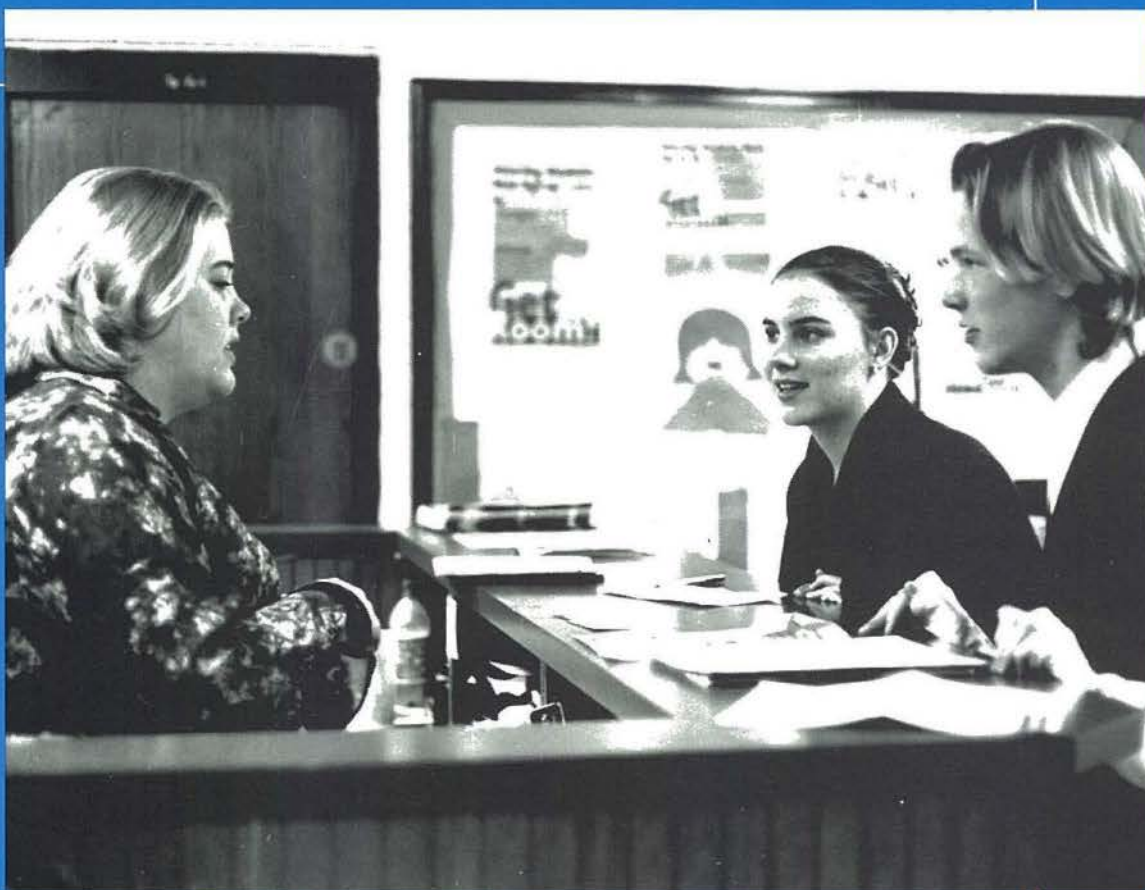
“Religion is very important to me,” Fehr said. “I totally believe that God helps those who help themselves. If you aren’t willing to go out there and do something, if you’re not willing to motivate yourself, then you can’t just expect God to put success in your lap.”

# One Woman, One World

A small town girl came to St. Joseph with high expectations and searching for herself. By getting involved in many activities, Patrice Meyer succeeded beyond those expectations.

STORY BY Stephanie Radel

PHOTOS BY Dan Grover



**Above:** Patrice Meyer assists Josh Campbell and Regan Vaughn in the housing office. Meyer had been head resident for two years at Leaverton Hall.

**Middle:** Taking a moment for herself, Meyer watches students passing by. She rarely had free time due to a hectic schedule.

**Right:** Talking to another student about upcoming events, Meyer plans out her day. She dedicated much of her time to her sorority and other organizations.

“ I am really close to my family,” Patrice Meyer, a senior business major said. “Everyone of us, aunts, uncles, etc., lives right there close together. So moving here for school was really hard because I was on my own in a strange place.”

Meyer came to Missouri Western from Alma, Mo., a town near Concordia. Alma has a total population of about 400 people. Like most rural communities, Alma offered a safe haven but little opportunity for diversity in race, religion or viewpoints.

“There was very little diversity there,” Meyer said. “Alma is basically Caucasian and Lutheran, nothing else. When I came to school here, I met a lot of people that were very different than me and I was exposed to their points of view. It was really eye-opening for me.”

“Being an Alpha Gamma Delta changed me a lot,” Meyers said. “I got to meet tons of new people and gained so much confidence. It made me realize how much I wanted to help others and make people happy. It was a life-altering experience.”

Helping other people and sharing her happiness with others was something that defined Meyer. Among her future plans, she wanted to own a flower shop.

“I love flowers,” Meyers said. “You can’t help it, flowers make you happy.”

Hard work and a helpful nature were also qualities that defined Meyer.

“Patrice is someone who’s always willing to help if you need it,” Kristen Hank, the Alpha Gamma Delta vice president of scholarship said.



Meyer found herself in an unfamiliar position when she arrived at college but because of her willingness to get involved with an array of campus activities, she was exposed to new people and ideas that helped her to adjust to her new life and eventually shape her personality.

“College had a huge impact on me,” Meyers said. “I never would have been who I am if I hadn’t done the things that I did.”

Encouraged by her roommate, Meyer became a resident assistant and then eventually became the head resident of Leaverton Hall. She was involved with the Senate and Inter-Greek Council. She also participated in the theater and was the assignment editor of the Griffon Yearbook. While these organizations helped her to become more open and outgoing, she said being a member of another organization changed her the most.

“She is a hard worker. She never does her job halfway, always does her best. She is a great role model for her sisters.”

Alyssa Holyfield, Alpha Gamma Delta activities and ritual coordinator agreed.

“She made the transition into the sorority really easy for me,” Holyfield said. “She was always there when I had questions and when I needed her the most.”

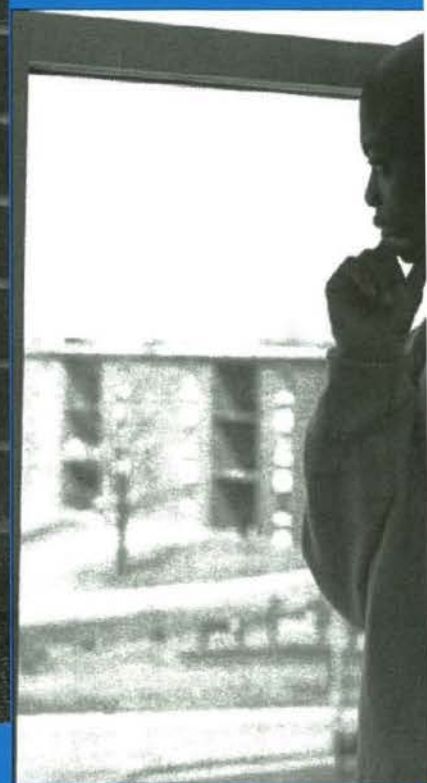
Meyer hoped that her years at Missouri Western had an impact on others.

“Others helped me to become who I am, and I want to return the favor any way I can,” Meyer said. “I hope people see me as a fair, friendly and caring person.”

# Leader in the Making

With expectancy, Olu Aregbe looks toward the future, knowing that his SGA position is just the beginning. Student Government Association today, United Nations tomorrow.

STORY By Jared Hoffman  
PHOTOS By Ashley Reynolds



**Above:** For a third year in a row, Olu Aregbe runs for re-election as SGA president. Aregbe worked hard to represent the students of Missouri Western.

**Middle:** Looking out the window, Aregbe thinks about the days events. He dedicates most of his time to the organizations and committees he is involved in.

**Right:** Keeping busy, Aregbe works endlessly to finish the days tasks. When not working on campus, he likes to participate in outside activities.

Some individuals described him as a progressive thinker. Others said he completely changed the mentality of student government. But it is certain that Olu Aregbe, Student Government Association president, helped set the tone for the future of administration. "The primary duty of president is to be the representative for all students when dealing with rules and policies," Aregbe said.

Aregbe achieved his goal of becoming president of the SGA and set many plans into action to try to make changes around the campus. He enjoyed seeing many of the changes come to pass during his term.

"It was good to see all of the little things come together," Aregbe said. "I served on the committee that decided that the cafeteria needed to be

against particular organizations, even subconsciously," Ramsay said. "But Olu doesn't do that."

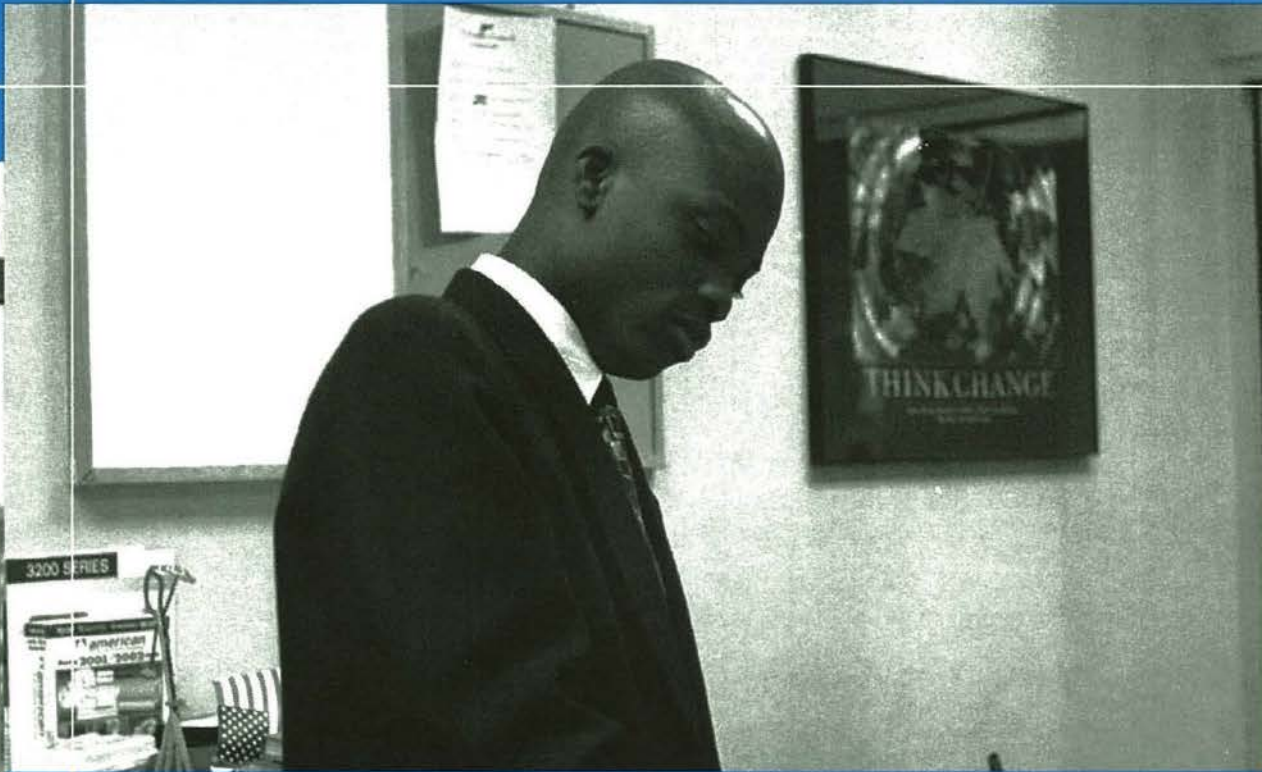
Aregbe said that his responsibilities as president taught him many important lessons about leadership and life.

"I've learned to always be humble," Aregbe said. "Leadership is really about example and leading by example. People will follow you if you lead by example."

Jon Curtis, freshman senator, also witnessed Aregbe's dedication up close.

"He's very dedicated," Curtis said. "If he's not in class, he's in his office. He always goes the extra mile to get things done."

Although Aregbe worked hard and put much of his time into being a president and a stu-



renovated, and I got to see that come to pass."

Aregbe did not take sole credit for the changes that took place around campus, but he felt confident that his hard work and dedication would help him get reelected for the next term.

"It's all up to the students," Aregbe said. "I feel like I've done a good job, so I feel like I will get reelected, but it's not up to me."

Zach Ramsay was Special Projects Director for the SGA. He worked closely with Aregbe and got to see his visionary thinking and strong work ethic firsthand.

"He's a very progressive thinker who always looks to change things," Ramsay said. "He had a good vision from the moment he came in."

Ramsay also saw a big difference in the way Aregbe handled the position of president compared to individuals who held the position in the past.

"Past presidents tended to discriminate

dent, he also found time to do other things that he enjoyed.

"I love to play soccer when I can," Aregbe said. "I also love watching sports. I like reading newspapers to keep up on current affairs and also just hanging out with my friends."

Aregbe said that being president gave him confidence to set goals and to achieve them.

"I said to myself that one day I am going to be the Secretary General of the United Nations," Aregbe said. "I've reached every goal that I've set for myself so far. It's given me confidence to set bigger goals. I would also like to set aside time to just help people. One day I think I will dedicate a lot of my time to helping people."



# Three's Company

Sandy Lopez takes charge of her life. She manages working, and being a full-time student, while being a proud mother of twin girls.

Story by Amanda Rafferty  
Photos by Nicole Gentry



**Above:** Lopez enjoys spending quality time with her two daughters, Maria and Miraki. Being a mom can be difficult, but also very rewarding.

**Middle:** Lopez works very hard to provide her daughters with all the little extras a child can want. Lopez learned from her own mother all the characteristics of being a great mother.

**Right:** Lopez knows that reading is essential for the development of children. Motherhood has brought Lopez new and exciting challenges earlier in life than she would have expected.

**W** Barnes and Noble Bookstore harbored a young woman who worked part time for the previous two years. As a nursing major, she lived with her parents and continued to attend classes at Missouri Western. She was a 19-year-old mother of 3-year-old twin girls.

Sandy Lopez worked hard not only in her studies and work, but also with raising her family. She learned a lot from her own mother by watching her. Her mother played a very important part with the girls as well by quitting her job so that she could stay with Maria and Micaela while Sandy was at work and school.

"My parents have been the ones who have given me the most support," Lopez said. Her parents kept the girls during the day so that Lopez could get through college and really make a life for herself and her twins. She said that living with her parents was a big help to her.

5:00 p.m. with classes in between.

When Lopez arrived home each day she said that the first thing she wanted to do was to relax but instead she would spend time playing with her girls. She said that it was like starting a whole new day again.

"When I get home, that is their big play time," Lopez said. Her and her girls would play outside a lot and Lopez also spent a lot of time reading to Maria and Micaela.

"Sometimes I feel older than I am," Lopez said. It was a lot of work especially when tests came around and schoolwork had to be done or Lopez had to be at work. She said that every morning the twins would tell her that she didn't have to go to work that day. She could just stay at home with them all day. Lopez said that they really tried hard to convince her to stay home when work and school called.



"When I graduate, me and my girls will get a house and start our own life," Lopez said. But for now, she continued to live at home.

A typical day for Lopez was waking up before her girls so that she could get ready for her day. Then, when the girls woke up, she got them around, dressed and fed. Work started at 8:00 a.m. and usually ended at

Maria, older by a minute, was the more dominant twin, the leader. Micaela followed. Maria wanted to run and play and fight while Micaela wanted to sing and dance.

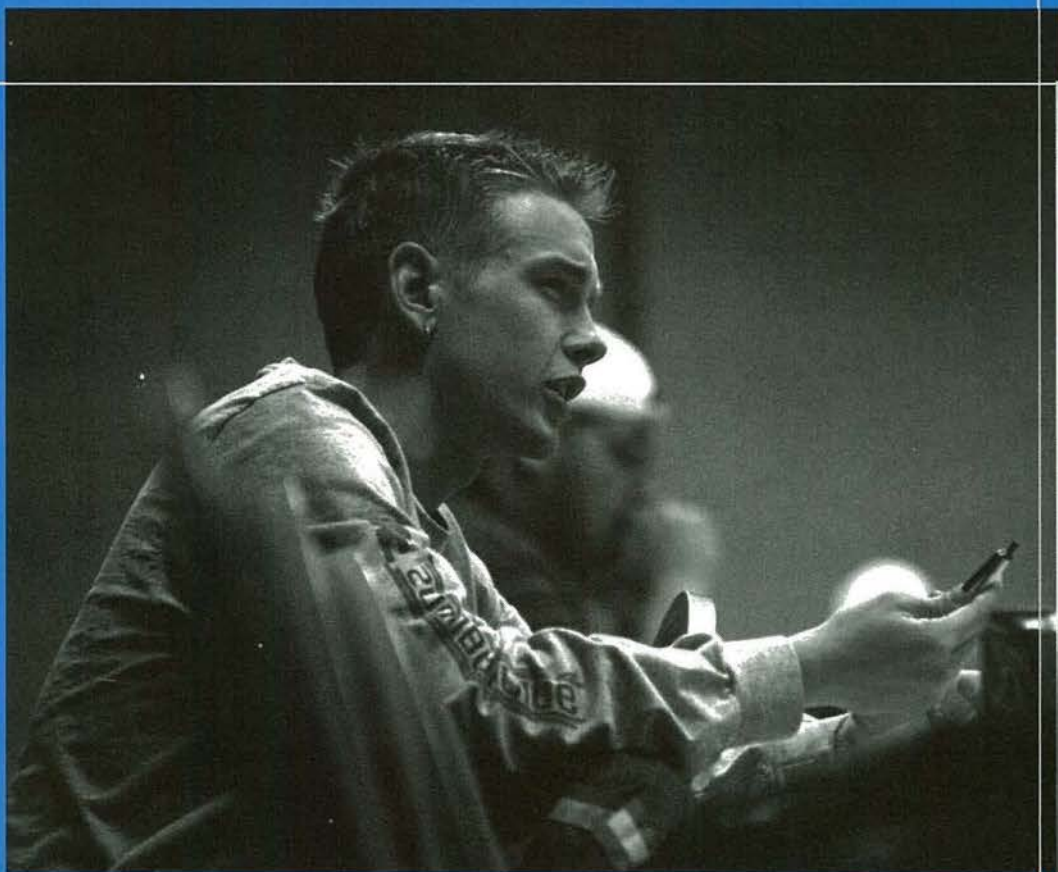
Family ties were strong between the three and will only grow stronger with the years.

# Renaissance Man

Zach Ramsay credits his involvement with the college activities at Missouri Western to his transformation in his lifestyle.

STORY BY Stephanie Radel

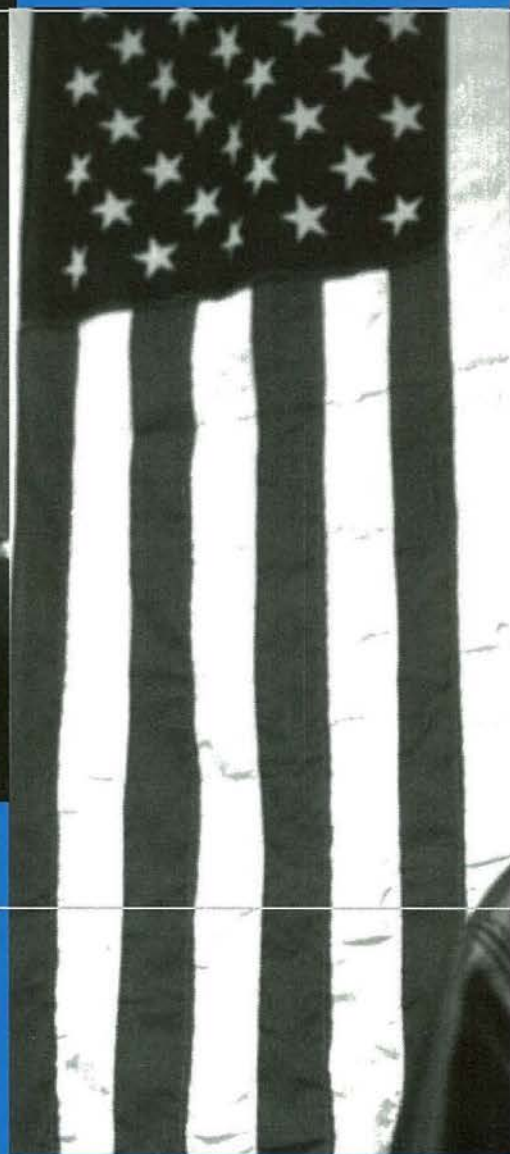
PHOTOS BY Dan Grover



**Above:** At one of his many meetings, Zach Ramsay speaks his mind of an important issue. Being involved in many activities, Ramsay has learned to become an outspoken leader.

**Center:** Zach Ramsay stands patriotically in front of the flag. He had a great passion for the political system.

**Right:** Sitting at his desk, Ramsay works at planning the days activities. His schedule was consistently filled with events for different organizations.





"I like to think of myself as something of a Renaissance man," Zach Ramsay, a senior English major with an emphasis in public relations and journalism, said. "I do a little of everything."

He was not kidding. In addition to his classes, some of his activities included being Student Government Association Special Projects Director, an active member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Inter-Greek Council social chair, a journalism intern with the Dean of Student Affairs plus a participant in community. He also sat on the "Show Me Choices" Alcohol Awareness Committee and the Campus Beautification Committee.

During the summer of 2001, he attended and graduated from the Institute of Political Journalism in Washington, D.C., alongside students from such places as Montreal and Prague. While there, he achieved the honor of being published in the

my take on life and helped me to become the man I am today."

His involvement in Greek life and Student Government were two activities in which Ramsay was really involved in that had a deep impact on who he was.

"The Greek experience is something that I would strongly, strongly suggest for anyone that is having any time of indecision of self-incredulity issues," Ramsay said. "Being a Greek has truly formed me into a leader. It made me take action on a level where other people had to see results before they would trust me. It made my talk become action."

All of what he learned from being a TKE transferred over to his duties in Student Government, just on a different scale.

"I gained a great deal of exposure to racial, religious and personal diversity being in SGA that I



Pueblo, Colorado, newspaper, the *Pueblo Chieftain*, for his article on Colorado Sen. Wayne Allard and was one of three people out of 500 asked to give the Commencement Speech.

"Zach goes beyond motivated," Don Willis, Dean of Student Affairs, said. "He has an enthusiasm for his work that is purely contagious."

Ramsay was not always this way. In fact, he was quite different in high school.

"I got kicked out of my Christian high school," Ramsay said. "I got a G.E.D. four months before I was supposed to graduate and was pretty heavy into an alternative lifestyle—you know, drug usage and the post-grunge Seattle rock music kind of thing."

Things changed when he came to college. He credited his turn around and successes to the work ethic he received from his parents, pastor and through his extensive involvement in campus life.

"College has changed me totally from the person I was before, and I couldn't be more passionate about my loyalties to Missouri Western because of it," Ramsay said. "MWSC really reversed

wouldn't have had otherwise," Ramsay said. "It has formed me into the non judgmental, well-rounded and open-minded person that I am today. Anyone can approach me about anything, just as long as they want to improve some condition that needs it."

Kim Buretta, vice president of the Student Government Association, saw Ramsay as a great asset to Student Government.

"He does a great job at what he does," Buretta said. "If there is a job to be done that no one wants, he volunteers. He takes on anything and is willing to help anyone who needs it. I don't know how he does it."

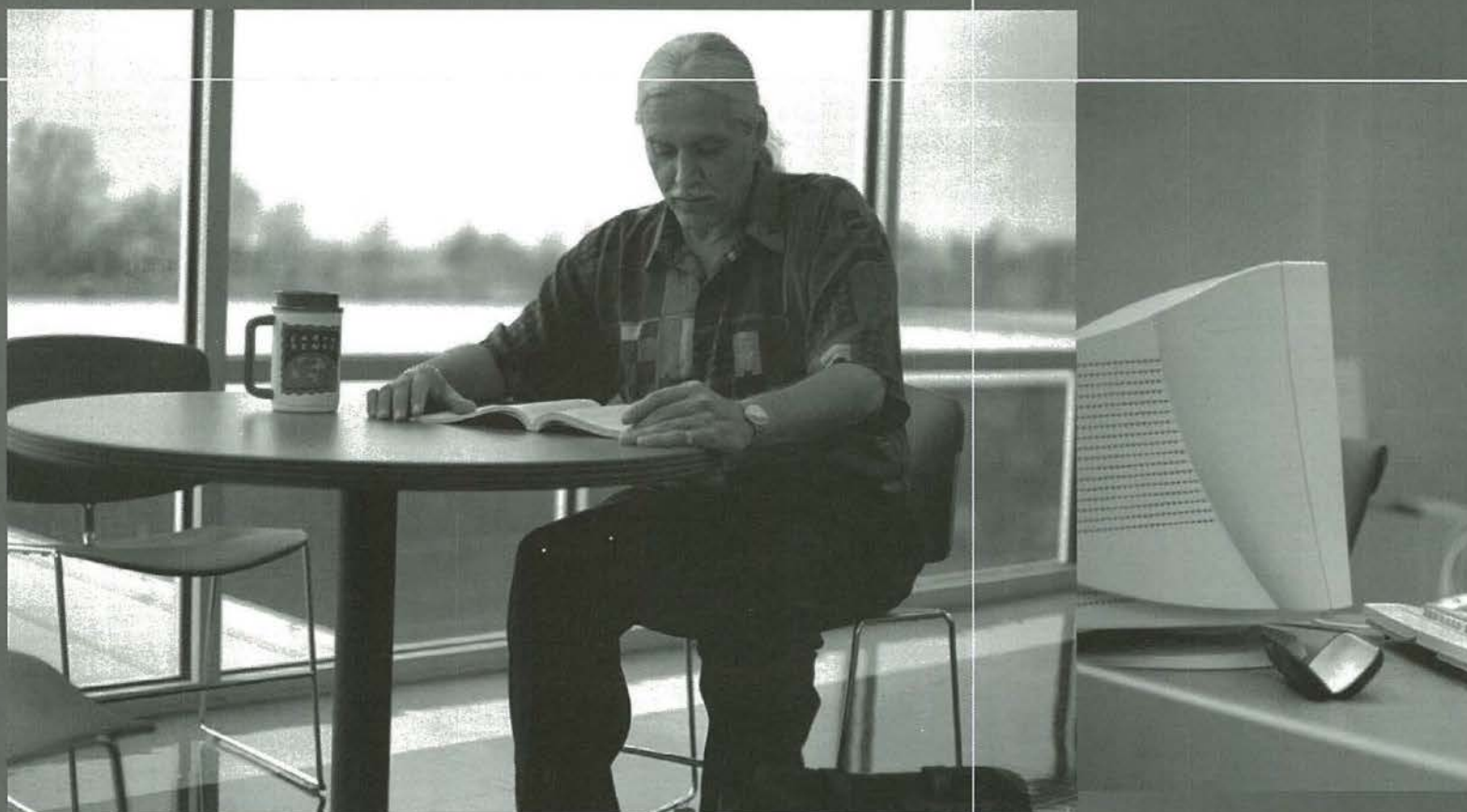
College had a strong impact on Ramsay. So, when asked how he wanted to be remembered, what did he say?

"I want to be judged by the standards of what any given student can do if they're willing to apply their all at this crucial linchpin time in their life," Ramsay said. "Oh yeah, and as a dead sexy, glorious man."

# The "Good" Times

"Everywhere you go you have to be involved, you have to. That's just part of life, being involved in your community."

Story by Stephanie Radel  
Photos by Dan Grover



**Above:** Reading a book, Good takes a quick break during the day. He enjoyed volunteering his time to help those in need.

**Middle:** Working on the computer, Good keeps himself busy with work outside of volunteering. He believed being involved with your community is just a part of life.

**Right:** A non-traditional student, Good proves that anybody can become involved in organizations. With all the hard work and effort he spent volunteering, he believed he could make a difference.

“I find people extremely fascinating,” Joel Good, senior sociology/psychology major said. “That is why it has always been a goal of mine to be able to work with them.”

Good was a non-traditional student. He decided to come to Missouri Western after returning home to care for his ailing father. Despite already having a full life modeling since age fifteen, acting on television and in movies—Good knew that he really wanted to do more.

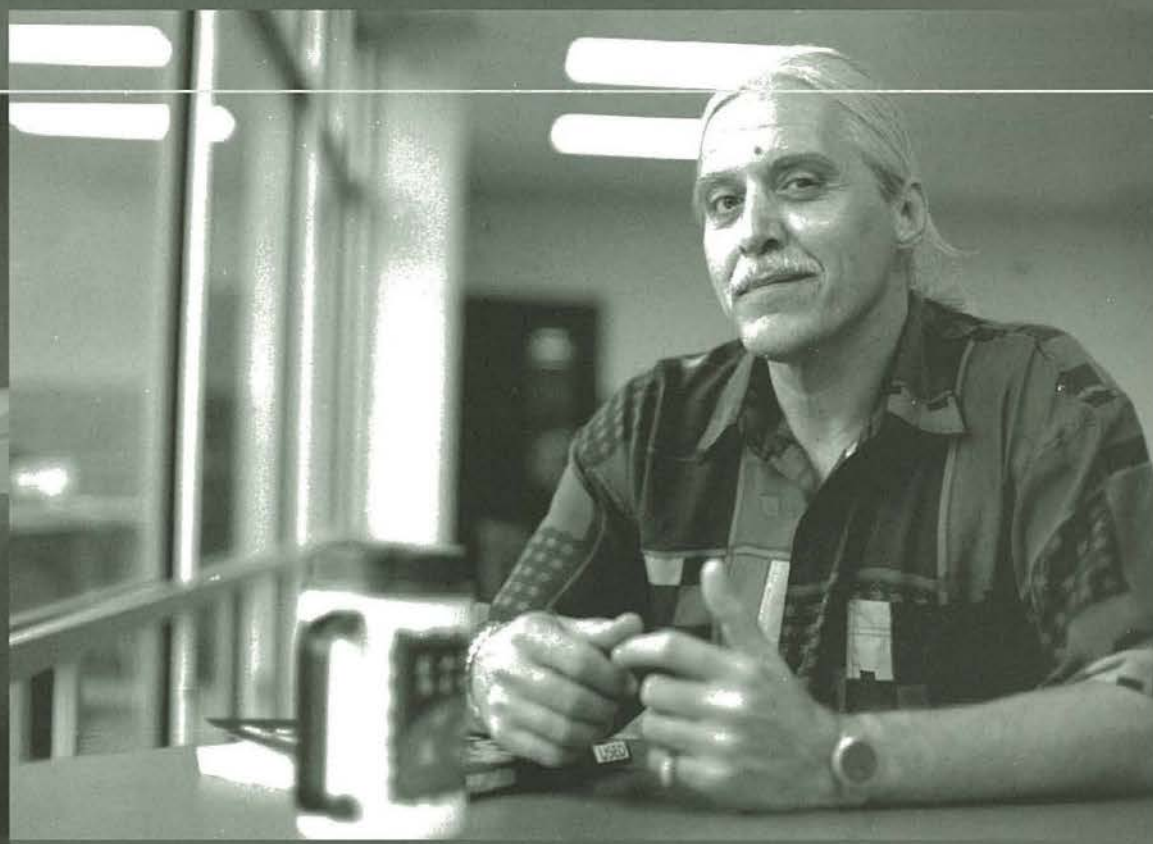
“I want to work with mental health issues because I have always been interested in it,” Good said. “I just see that there are a lot of good people that have a lot of bad behaviors, and they might not be aware that their life could be a lot better if they perceive things differently.”

homes. I also love kids, so I am involved in a lot of activities that help them. I was a big brother for many years for different people. There are so many important issues that need volunteers that do not have money to hire them. It is not that great of a sacrifice and you definitely reap the benefits.”

Brandy Bray, senior president of the Psychology Club, of which Good had been a member for four years, thought that he was a good example of how a non-traditional student can get involved.

“Joel doesn’t let his non-traditional status stop him,” Bray said. “He is extremely involved and dedicated to whatever it is that he is working on. He believes that he can really make a difference.”

Good had been able to meet many famous celebrities through his acting career. One in particu-



Good felt strongly that the best way for him to help people was simply to volunteer his time. He was very active and involved both on campus and in the community. He was a member of the Social Work organization, as well as many other organizations.

“I have always volunteered,” Good said. “I have volunteered for every major organization you can imagine. Everywhere you go, you have to be involved.”

Good got involved in many ways.

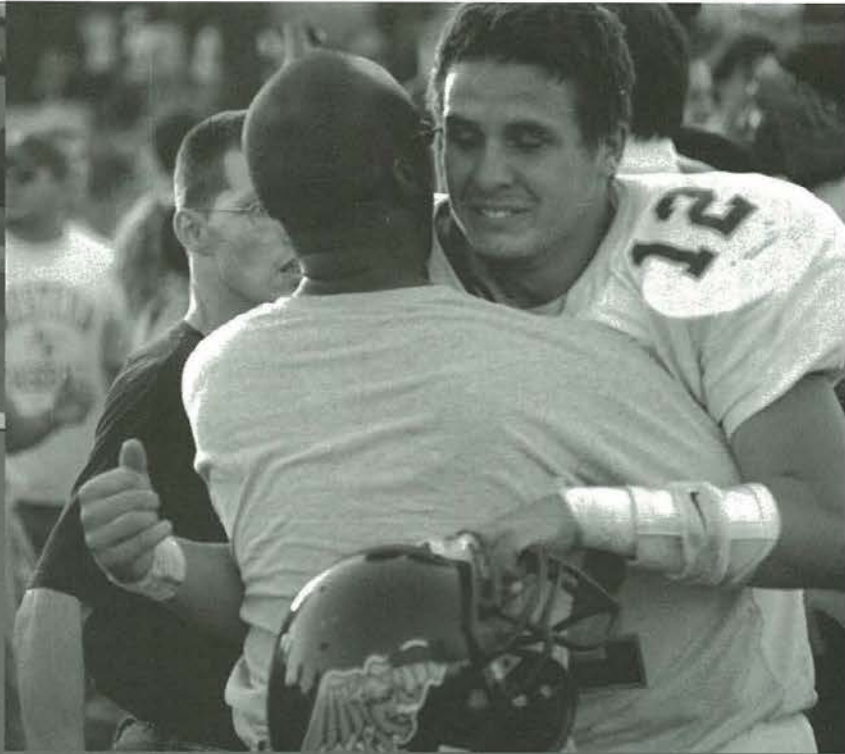
“I am politically involved, so I am usually writing letters or involved in some kind of campaigning,” Good said. “I have always had an attachment to older people, so I like to volunteer at nursing

lar had a great impact on him.

“Through my acting, I got to meet Raymond Burr,” Good said. “He was raised in an orphanage, and nobody really wanted him. Over the course of his life, he was thought to have contributed, I think, two-thirds of all of the money he had earned to orphaned kids. I really respect him for that.”

Good believed that many celebrities inspired others to do positive things. He also believed that a lot of people felt you had to be famous to make a difference.

“You do not have to be famous to be an inspiration to others,” Good said. “You just have to have motivation, drive and an interest in diversity.”



"We are what we think. All that we are arises with our thoughts. Speak or act with a pure mind and happiness will follow. The wind cannot overturn a mountain, like temptation cannot touch those who are awake, strong and humble. Fill yourself with desire. See the false as false, the truth as true. Look into your hearts and follow your nature. Know these truths and you will find peace."

Witness

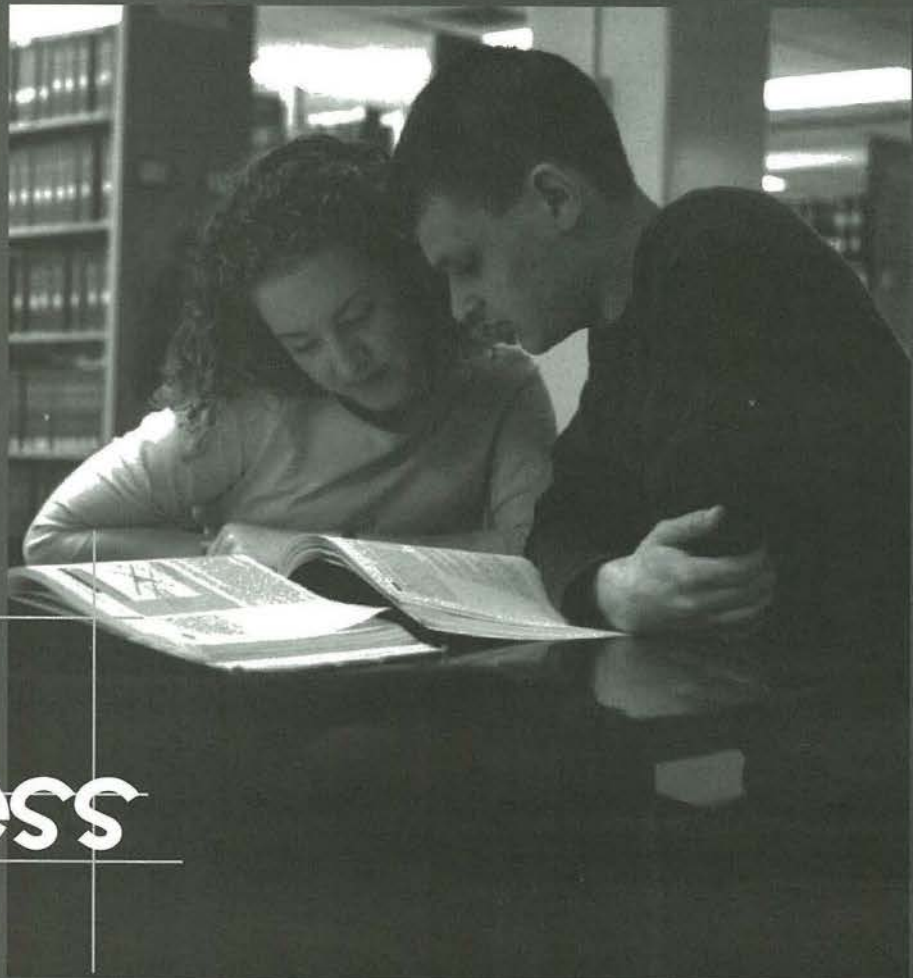




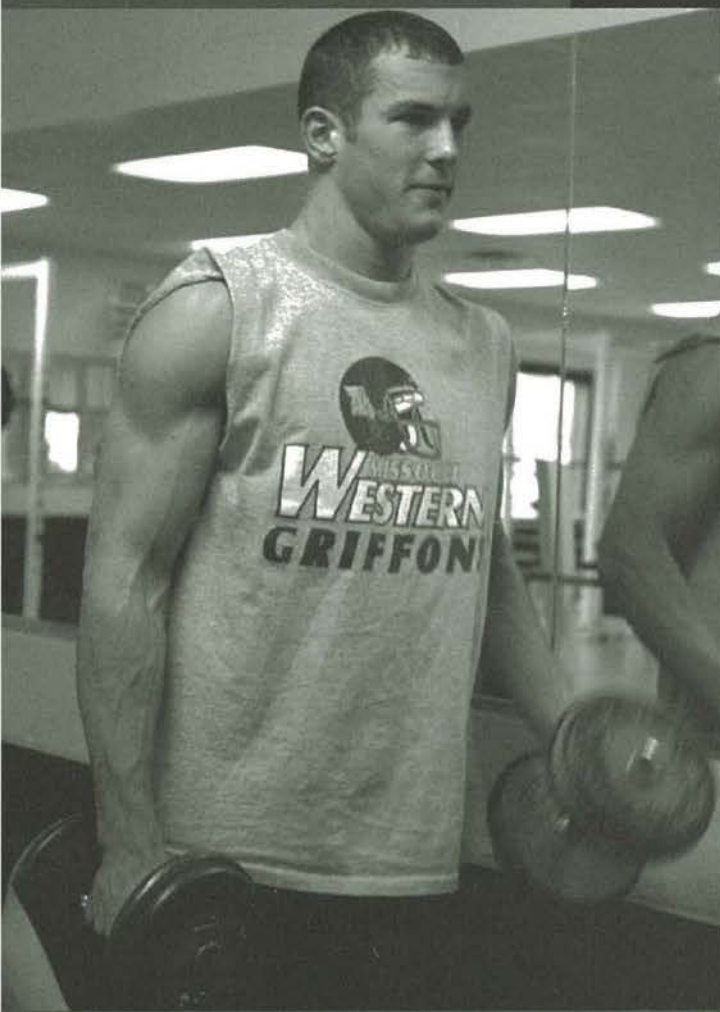


Missouri Western students spend time in the Student Union doing various activities. One student used a couch in the Student Union to catch up on his sleep. Photo by Jill Kirkendoll

Junior Amy Kerling and Sophomore Gabe Wishnic spend time in the library studying. Many students used the library to study because it was quiet and the library aides were helpful. Photo by Ashley Reynolds



# Witness



At the memorial for Bob Berger, the family brought mementos of his life to share with people. Many students and faculty attended the memorial, the loss was felt across the campus. Photo by Jill Kirkendoll

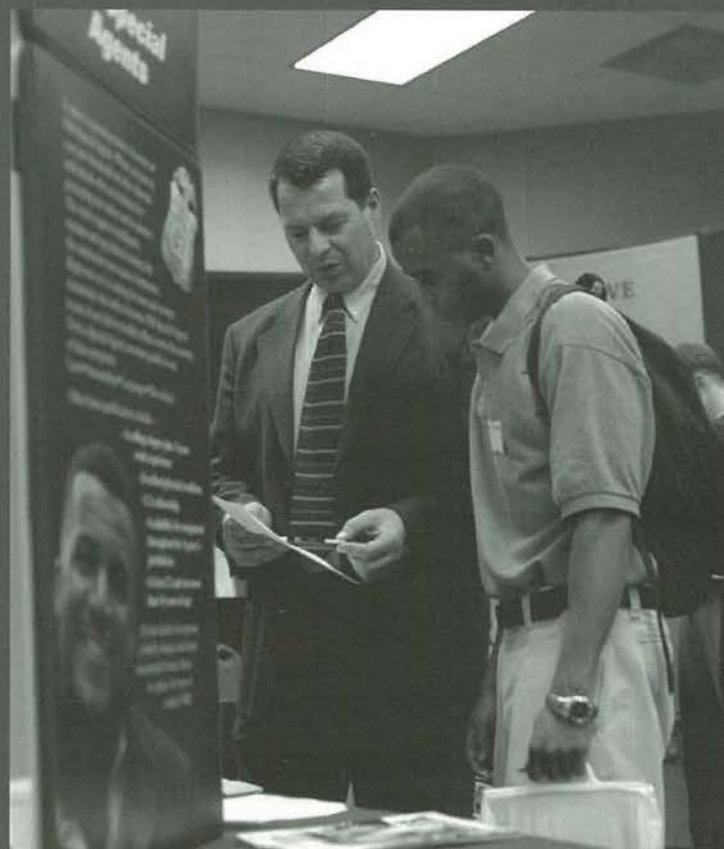
Junior Adam Gilliland looks at his notes at a table in the Administration building. Many students studied in the A building and ate at the deli. Photo by Jill Kirkendoll

Junior Adam Ziesel uses the fitness center to work out for football. The football players utilized the fitness center for their work-outs especially during football season. Photo by Ashley Reynolds



Students enjoyed making candles of all colors in the Student Union. Wax hands was also a free way of enjoying student life. Photo by Dan Grover

A MWSC student stops at a booth at the job fair provided to aid students in locating work. The fair offered many opportunities for students. Photo by Dan Grover



# Witness



Students enjoy a good conversation outside of the A Building. The benches give students a place to break away from classes. Photo by Deliese Brewster

MWSC softball player stretches over the plate to get the out. Fans watched behind the fence as the lady Griffons kicked up the dirt. Photo by Ashler Reynolds

Valerie Lee, freshman, works diligently at the blood lab. Concentration is a key to successful results. Photo by Ashley Reynolds



Missouri Western students show their support for the football team. Attendance was high at the game against Northwest. Photo by Deliese Brewster

Behind the curtains at Othello students got into their costumes. The costumes for Othello were designed by Professor Robin Findley. Photo by Ashley Reynolds



# Witness



Junior Michael Johnson and Junior Aaron Johnson take a reprieve from studying to talk. The library was a popular place to study and students often run into familiar faces. Photo by Ashley Reynolds

One of the many activities for SpringFest includes a Nascar racing simulator. SpringFest was sponsored by CAB and was a way to get students out on campus. Photo by Dan Grover

Students participate in a fashion show sponsored by CAB. The fashion show had many of fun, stylish clothes. Photo by Nicole Centry



Senior Ty Moss takes his turn cutting the net after winning the MIAA Conference title. Cutting the net is a tradition that has been kept over the years. Photo by Deliese Brewster

Junior Nick McKay looks at Missouri Western T-shirts at the campus bookstore Barnes and Noble. Students can find a variety of things like books, clothes, and supplies in the store. Photo by Deliese Brewster



# Witness

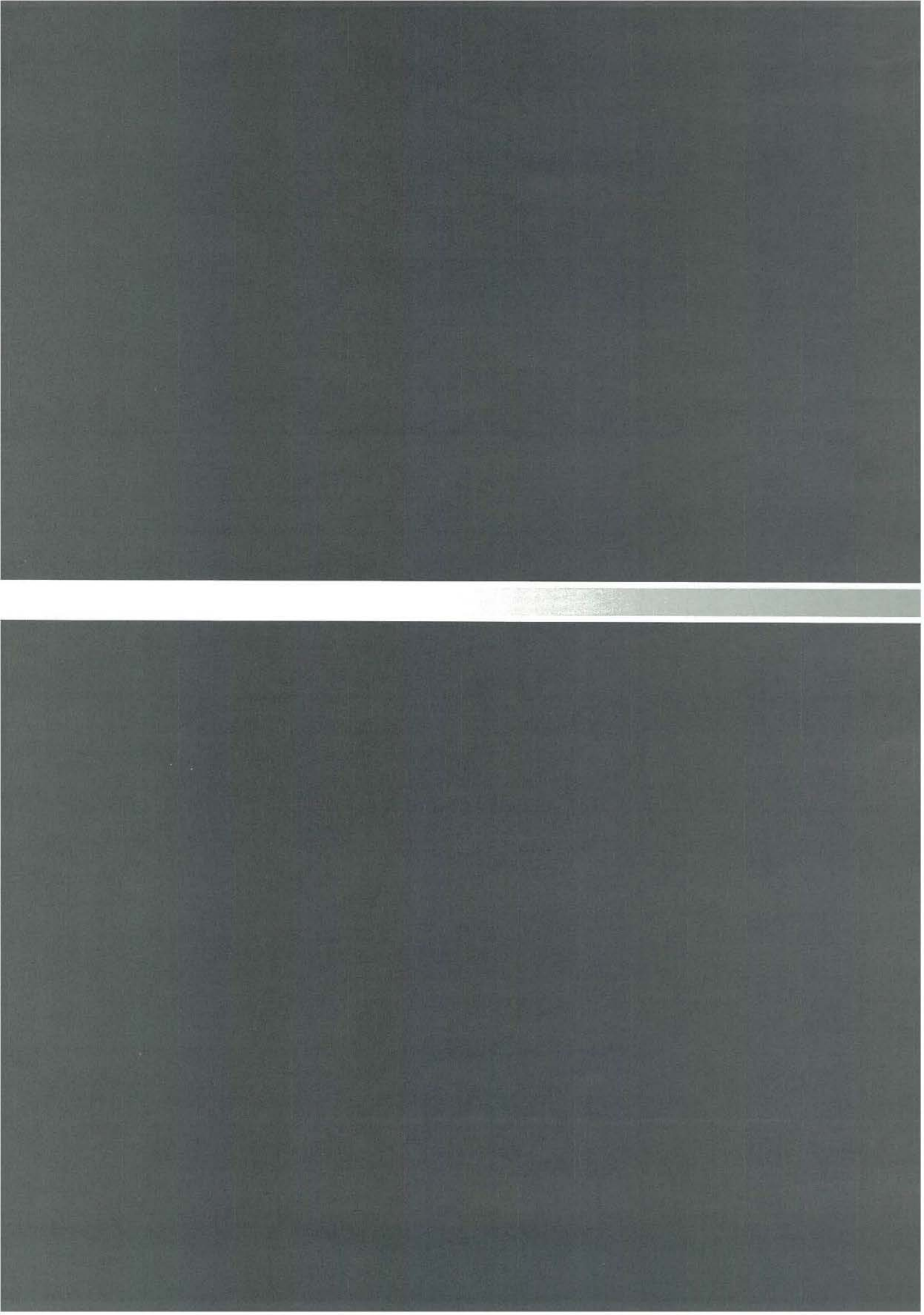


Juniors Scott Caddell, Jessira Tanner, and Freshman Amanda Gann visit while eating in the cafeteria. The cafeteria went through many changes in order to make it a good place for students to eat. Photo by Ashley Reynolds

Sophomore Aaron Johnson works on a project in the Fine Arts building. Students made use of the technology found on the Missouri Western Campus. Photo by Ashley Reynolds

Marcus Words entertains the audience with his electric guitar. Words were left unspoken while playing to the crowd. Photo by Rachel Siron





"The first and most important step toward success is the feeling that we can succeed"

Walter Dill Scott

People

# Seniors

Lashandra Acklin  
 Scott Adler  
 Regina Alejandre  
 Morgan Anderson  
 Olu Aregbe  
 Margaret Ayuk



Serena Bagwill  
 Rachel Bailey  
 Philip Barnard  
 Kelly Barrows  
 Brady Bates  
 Heather Becker



Winter Berry  
 Stephanie Bloomfield  
 Jackie Boyd  
 Kelly Breadon  
 Kylee Brockman  
 Rachael Brotherton



Dana Brown  
 Megan Brown  
 Michelle Brown  
 Tywana Brown  
 Kari Bryson  
 Jason Buck



Crystal Caldwell  
 Catherine Cambell  
 Lance Campbell  
 Jamie Carter  
 Kelli Carter  
 Barbara Centeno



Julia Chaney  
 Jennifer Christman  
 Yuju Chu  
 Wesley Coffey  
 Eric Collop  
 Julie Coon



Melissa Cotter  
 Marissa Cowen  
 Heather Cox  
 Christi D. Critten  
 Amanda Crowley





Bruce Carlton Cunningham  
Jennifer Dalrymple  
Barbara Davis  
Caroline Davis  
Jodi Deering  
Joshua Denbow



Blum Desravins  
Janet Dewey  
Anita Doney  
Ruth Doornick  
Cheyenne Dorell  
Pearlina Downs



Chad Dreyer  
Jennifer Dyson  
Mike Ebbing  
Marlon Edwards  
Dixie Ellsworth  
Elizabeth Evans



Jennifer Evans  
Eric Faes  
Sarah Farnan  
Tiffany Farrow  
David Fattig  
Christina Fierros



Robert Fischer  
Pam Fitzgerald  
Jaime Florance  
Erin Florea  
Allynson Ford  
Amanda Foster



Maureen Foster  
Joann Frick  
Nicholas Gardner  
Kristi Gartner  
Tyrone Gethers, Jr.  
Jessica Gifford



Kea Goodring  
Beth Grady  
Amanda Gray  
Rachel Griffith  
Karla Guthals  
Amanda Guy

Amy Hanks  
 Susan Hardy  
 Mindy Harless  
 Karen Havener  
 Matt Hendren  
 Andrew Hersey



Amanda Hewitt  
 Ann Hines  
 Shelia Hood-Hicks  
 Lacey Hoover  
 Abbie Hornbeck  
 Nancy Horton



Pamela Hull  
 Ruth Hutchinson  
 Erums Iboaya  
 Geriani Jackson  
 Tuanette Jeffries  
 Tiffany Jenkins



Bryle Jones  
 April Keim  
 Krystal Kemp  
 Becky Kendrick  
 Tricia Kienzle  
 Erin Kirchner



Sara Beth Kirkweg  
 Ty Kleffman  
 Jennifer Klein  
 Marlee Kobzej  
 Sherri Lang  
 Clint Lauhoff



Kent Lauhoff  
 Cynthia Lewis  
 Shawna Lewton  
 Stephanie Linneman  
 Jeffrey Loeb  
 Tamera Long



Jennifer Lovland  
 Mark Lynn  
 Brenda Lyon  
 Jenna Martin  
 Ronald Martin  
 Barry Maulden





Kerry McCullough  
Kendra McDaniel  
Ronda M. McDaniel  
Anna McDowell  
Kyla McKown  
Aysha McRoberts



Dana Meyer  
Janelle Meyer  
Katherine S. Meyer  
Patrice Meyer  
Samantha Mitchell  
Michelle Moesch



Christel Molloy  
Margana Morgan  
Jannel Morris  
Rachael Needham  
Ludwig Nelson  
Cathy Nimerichter



Ryan Oelke  
Michael Orr  
Jason Ozenberger  
Stephanie Paalhar  
Danielle Palmer  
Angela Pasley



Rebecca Patton  
Annalee Paul  
Karley Pearl  
Elizabeth Pennycook  
Lois Pettis  
Brandi Phillips



Drew Phillips  
Robin Pierpoint  
Mindy Pike  
Nick Poirier  
Heather Pontalion  
Paula Price



Kirk Pierce  
Kirk Proctor  
Jennifer Przybylski  
Melissa Quint  
Andrea Raffurty  
Zachary Ramsay

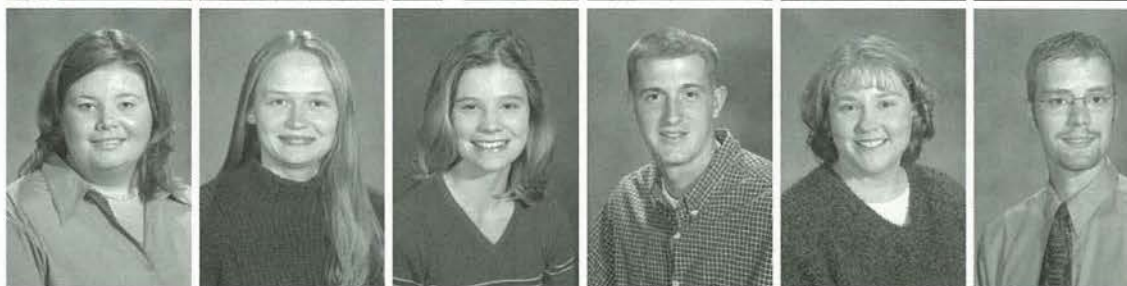
Aimee Ramsey  
 Jeremy Reynolds  
 Sarah Rhoades  
 Megan Rinehart  
 Michael Ritter  
 Stephen Robison



Amy Rogers  
 Elisabeth Rogers  
 Meagan Root  
 Joanna Saad  
 Matha Sager  
 Angelina Salcedo



Nickie Scheulen  
 Charity Schottel  
 Sandra Scott  
 Thomas Sego  
 Stephanie Sevedge  
 Brock Shafer



Paula Shannon  
 Amber Shaw  
 Shanese Shields  
 Annette Sigler  
 Katie Singleton  
 Michelle Slobodzian



Glenn Smith  
 Susan Soendker  
 Kelsie Spalding  
 Andrea Sprague  
 Brandy Stallo  
 Kelly Stanton



Danny Stark  
 Karri Steeby  
 Aimee Steger  
 Larissa Stephens  
 Julie Stockwell  
 Joseph Stone



Sandra Striegel  
 Joanna Stuelke  
 Celeste Sword  
 Teresa Tannheimer  
 Aaron Tebrinke  
 Mikey Thomas





Karree Tidwell  
Leah Tolbert  
Jessica Torrez-Chipponeri  
Jean-Francois Trahan  
Leann Twyman  
Stephanie Tyler



Melanie Vanbelkum  
Athena Vaselakos  
Sheila Veit  
Sabrina Wake  
Carrie Wallace  
Tabitha Washington-Knight



Molly Rebecca Watts  
Kristina West  
Joy White  
Nicole White  
Jehanna Wilkins  
Jonathan Williams



Latonya Williams  
Brandi Willis  
Kimberly Willis  
Courtenay Wills  
Tasha Winn  
Angelia Wright



Betsy Wright  
Christin Yellin  
Stephanie Youtsey  
Heidie Zeigler

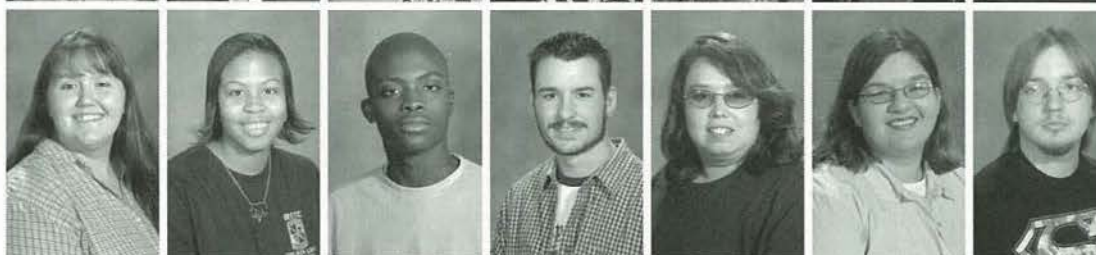


# Underclassmen

Georgette Achimbi  
Maurice Acklin  
Laquitta Alexander  
Steve Allee  
Cynthia Allen  
Drew Ames  
Kimberly Anderson



Rebecca Anderson  
Taleka Anderson  
Olu Aregbe  
Jerad Armstrong  
Stacy Ashler  
Brandi Atha  
Dane Ault



Emily Auxier  
Amy Balias  
Nickolas Banko  
Angela Barnes  
Amy Barnett  
Tamika Barrett  
Lisa Baumgarden



Octavia Beard  
Elizabeth Beeson  
Tiffany Bell  
Erin Bellman  
Emily Benitz  
Jeanette Berger  
Byron Bibby



Julia Biegel  
Elizabeth Blank  
Leann Blank  
Aylesi Bobo  
Danyell Bordeaux  
Sheila Boss  
Crystal Bowen



Amber Bowie  
Sidney Bradley  
Sylvester Brandon  
Stephanie Brauer  
Crystal Bray  
Ashly Brickner  
Vanessa Buckman



Megan Buckmann  
Kimberly Bunten  
Cindy Burke  
Maurice Bush  
Tosha Byers  
Jason Callaway





Cammie Carl  
 Amanda Cassity  
 Lacey Christopher  
 Stanico Church  
 Carrie Clabaugh  
 Alysia Clayton  
 Monica Cleveland



Tamish Coates  
 Dawni Collins  
 Erika Conway  
 Melanie Copenhaver  
 Charity Cordray  
 Michelle Creekmore  
 Darcy Criss



Stephanie Crnkovich  
 Jason Cross  
 Melissa Culley  
 Audrey Cunningham  
 Jessica Curl  
 Charles Curtis  
 Stefanie Dalrymple



Amanda Daniels  
 Ellen Davis  
 Laquita Davis  
 Leon Davis  
 Pamela Davis  
 Wiley Davis  
 Candice Day



Nicole Dejongh  
 Keith Detweiler  
 Dickie Dickle  
 Andriana Dilallo  
 Cassandra Dilley  
 Katherine Dobbins  
 Joy Donelson



Reuben Dorninck  
 Amber Dowell  
 Pam Downs  
 Cody Dragon  
 Amanda Dunham  
 Cody Dunlap  
 Eric Dunn



Sara Dwyer  
 Michael Dye  
 Kimberly Edinburgh  
 Lindsey Edington  
 Jennifer Ellis  
 April Ellison  
 Tiffany Embry

Dustin Enfield  
 Aubrey Euler  
 Becky Evers  
 Rebecca Evinger  
 Heather Ewing  
 John Fabsits  
 Brandy Fager



Kellie Feuerbacher  
 Shanan Finley  
 Lindsay Fiscus  
 Sarah Fowler  
 David Fox  
 Lasilvia Franklin  
 Amanda Fann



Nicole Gentry  
 Amber Gerhart  
 Brent Gerling  
 Jamie Giefer  
 Princess Gilliam  
 Aja Givens  
 Rashad Givhan



Jessica Gleason  
 Aaron Gnuschke  
 Nicole Goetz  
 Elizabeth Goncalves  
 Marissa Gooch  
 Jennifer Goucher  
 Sharon Graves



Adrian Gray  
 Lashelle Gray  
 Melody Grier  
 Amber Grillo  
 Melissa Groce  
 Rebecca Groves  
 Tinasha Groves



Katherine Guyer  
 Amy Halling  
 Jessica Harling  
 William Harmer  
 Rashouna Harris  
 Kendra Harrison  
 Jacqueline Hartley



Pamela Hashman  
 Lekeeia Hawkins  
 Erika Haynes  
 Chelsea Hays  
 Casey Heath  
 Randall Henderson  
 Mystery Hensley





Crystal Hickey  
 Amy Hicks  
 Cara Hicks  
 Erica Hidritch  
 Jerin Higdon  
 Taira Hill  
 Jessie Holeeman



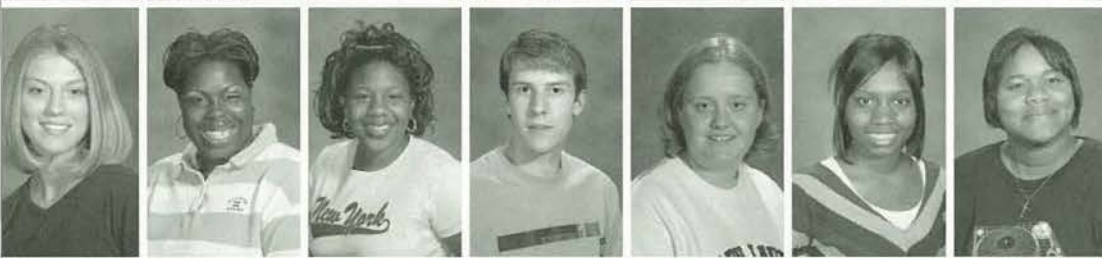
Alyssa Holyfield  
 Jacarra Hooks  
 Joshua Hopkins  
 Sean Horne  
 Sheena Houston  
 Amy Hrastich  
 Heather Huff



Bobbie Hughes  
 Lauren Hulet  
 Mary Hulsey  
 Cara Humphrey  
 Rachael Hunt  
 Annette Hunthrop  
 Rebecca Jackson



Alicia Jacobs  
 Rhonda Jacobs  
 Craig Jennings  
 Daryn Jerenic  
 Tracy Johnson  
 Christine Jones  
 Jamala Jones



Stefanie Jones  
 Tiena Jones  
 Tiffany Jones  
 Jacob Jordan  
 Jodie Kagarice  
 Sheena J Kelley  
 Krystah Kemp



Christopher Kendrick  
 Amy Kerling  
 Shawn Kiehi  
 Tara Klocke  
 Bob Kloster-Meyer  
 Matha Kolster  
 Shelby Kopsas



Barry Korthanke  
 Jeanette Kragel  
 Valissa Kraus  
 Lori Krull  
 Vivian La Porte  
 Lindsay Lamken

Brandi Lane  
 Donny Lane  
 Melissa Lane  
 Lori Larson  
 Tabitha Larson  
 Kristin Lauck  
 Pamela Le



Tiffany Lee  
 Valerie Lee  
 Bridgett Leslie  
 Steven Leverette, Jr.  
 Sarah Lindsay  
 Abra Lippert  
 Kelly Littrell



Adam Long  
 Tiffani Manley  
 Myrnell Martin  
 Audrey Matthews  
 Alyson Lynn May  
 Barry Mcardle  
 Jessica McCampbell



Jennifer McKinley  
 Jim McKinley  
 Kathleen McKnight  
 Jason Mclemore  
 Lauren Mead  
 Ashley Meeks  
 Gerald Merrill



Lauren Meyers  
 Megan Meyers  
 Gwenlyn Midggett  
 Michael Milbourn  
 Lora Miller  
 Kristin Mills  
 Lorie Miner



Anthony Moon  
 Tyisha Moore  
 Melissa Dawn Morgan  
 Sean Morrison  
 Meghann Murphy  
 Bessie Muse  
 Misty Musselman



Michael Nash  
 Rebekah Needham  
 Jessica Neel  
 Kristen Neeley  
 Erica Newsome  
 Heather Nichols  
 Richard E. Nigh





Bridget Nolen  
 Jash North  
 Latoria Norton  
 Arlaysha Osborn  
 Danny Perkins  
 Patrick Petralie  
 Jana Petree



Kacey Pfum  
 Raeann Richardo  
 Jessica Pierce  
 Tiffany Pierce  
 Erica Piggie  
 Josh Popp  
 Lee Alfred Pouncil



Victoria Powell  
 Emily Praiswater  
 Angela Prashak  
 Shaunte Price  
 Lynsey Rader  
 Caroline Radke  
 Amanda Rafferty



Julie Rakers  
 Traci Rapp  
 Caro Jeanne Ray  
 Bradley Redmond  
 Juana Reed  
 Ashley Reynolds  
 Marcina Riley



Anna Ristic  
 Nathan Roberts  
 Penny Robinson  
 Kellie Rogers  
 Tarrop Rogol  
 William Rooney  
 Alisha Ross



Phillip Ross  
 Jessica Ruark  
 Heather Rush  
 Nicole Salfrank  
 Crystal Salmons  
 Shaliese Samuels  
 Lavada Sanders



Shanna Sanders  
 Jamar Sawyer  
 Laurette Scarlett  
 Melissa Searce  
 Adam Schidegger  
 Michelle Scherder  
 Stacy Schneitter

Alisha Schultz  
 Melissa Schwebach  
 Andrea Scott  
 Stephene Scott  
 Angela Seck  
 Chris Seever  
 Ryan Sevcik



Brock Shafer  
 Rachel Shafer  
 Sadie Shay  
 Lee Shepard  
 Jayna Shirley  
 Sarah Shockey  
 Danielle Shoemaker



Corbie Shouse  
 Jaime Shrieves  
 Audra Shriver  
 Shameka Simmons  
 Ashley Singleton  
 Rachel Siron  
 Sarah Slusher



Angela Smith  
 Ashley Smith  
 Danielle Smith  
 Hakim Smnith  
 Melissa Smith  
 Lakita Solomon  
 Robert Sorenson



Erin Spears  
 Valerie Steele  
 Kisha Stegall  
 Kristie Steger  
 Brandon Stevens  
 Mildred Stewart  
 Crystal Stimage



Sarah Stout  
 Tara Stul  
 Jordan Stuppy  
 Candace Sublett  
 Stefanie Summa  
 Vanessa Summers  
 Sharma Suruchi



Ashley Sutherland  
 Jennifer Symmonds  
 Jessica Tanner  
 Julie Taylor  
 Tera Thom  
 Alan Thomas  
 Caleb Tounzen





Shaniqua Townsend  
Teresa Turley  
Shelly Twyman  
Lupita Vance  
Mary Vanderpool  
Catherine Vanzandt  
Aimee Vaughn



Mindy Vauhn  
Dustin Vavak  
Kerri Volz  
Melissa Waddell  
Jerry Wagers  
Ashley Wales  
Lindsey Walker



Rashawnda Walker  
Rychelle Warren  
Annamarie Warwick  
Laura Weber  
Paula White  
Shanta White  
Darren Wibberding

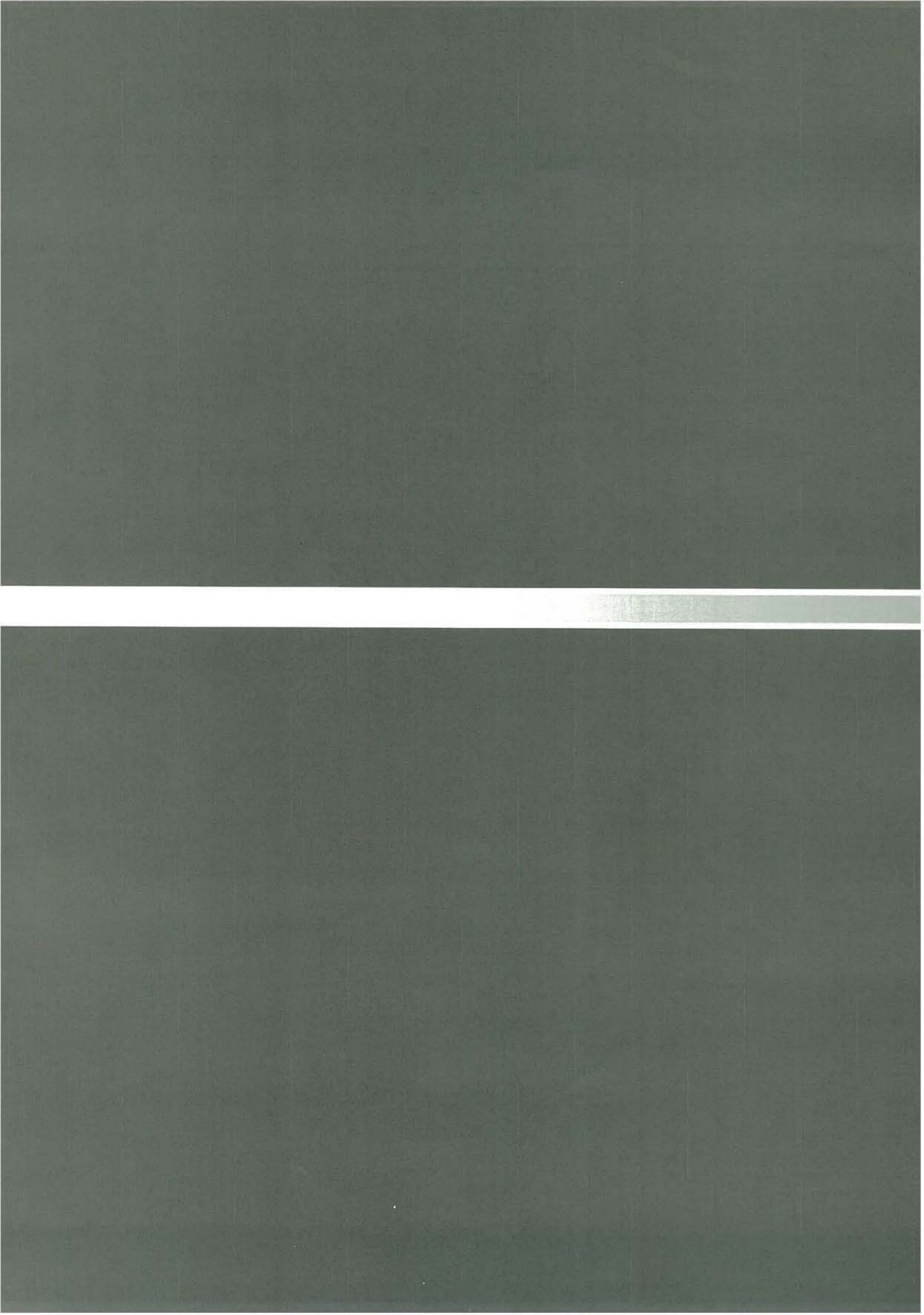


Erin Wierdak  
Shenelle Williams  
Carol Wilson  
Tabitha Wilson  
Neal Wolf  
April Woodbury  
Shannon Wright



Kristin York  
Mark Zschoche





"Once a man has made a commitment to a way of life, he puts the greatest strength in the world behind him. It's something we call heart power. Once a man has made this commitment, nothing will stop him short of success!" W. Lee Howard

## Organizations

# Organizations

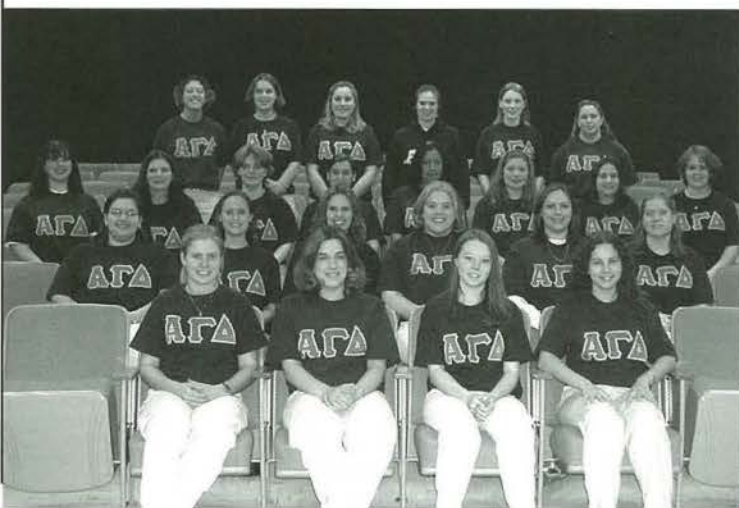


## Alchemist Club

**Front Row:** Yevgeniy Kondratenko, Benjamin Schmid, Elizabeth Jones, Imelda Tye **Back Row:** Chris Buckles, Dr. Steven Lorimor, Dr. Ben Caldwell, Dr. Shauna Hiley

## Alpha Chi

**Front Row:** Richard Hallman, Vanessa Vulliet, Brandy Bray **Row 2:** Phil Wann, Alan Thomas, Bryce Jones, Rachel Bailey **Back Row:** Lacey Dessel, Stephanie Radel, Rachael Needham, Sheila Munyon



## Alpha Gamma Delta

**Front Row:** Becky Evers, Abbey Russell, Juli Phillips, Vanessa Vulliet **Row 2:** Brandi Atha, Mindy Pike, Lindsay Lamken, Patrice Meyer, Tricia Kinzle, Abra Lippert **Row 3:** Sarah Quinlan, Kori Johnson, Kat Couyer, Kim Holt, Candace Collins, S. Nicole Bauer, Wendy Allen, Nicki Buckingham, **Back Row:** Amber Mchear, Kristen Hank, Alyssa Holyfield, Nicole Gentry, Sheila Munyon, Denise Johnson



## Alpha Kappa Alpha

**Front Row:** Gabrielle Martin, Brenda Burnside, Courtenay Wills, LaShandra Acklin **Row 2:** Tiffany Williams, Stacey Turner, Kamita Shelby, Carissa Jackson **Row 3:** NaToya Grates, Margaux Mays, Crystal Bray, Jacarra Hooks **Back Row:** LaTeak Nelson, Crystal Stimage, Tiffany Richards

## Alpha Mu Gamma

**Front Row:** Sarah Rhoades, Sheila Munyon, Rachel Needham



## Alpha Omega

**Front Row:** Jade Wittler, Misty Musselman, DeWanda Weeks, Brandi Pinkston, Tracy Johnson, Dawni Collins **Row 2:** Bridget Nolen, Mary Orender, Chelsea Baines, Danielle Steiner, Stacy Schneitter, Carrie Benton **Row 3:** LeeAnn Fann, Arlene Schwintek, Kellie Feuerbacher, Tabitha Wilson **Back Row:** Micah Wolf, Bridgett Leslie, Jessica Pierce



Alpha Omega, a Christian organization for women, began as a new organization in the fall of 2001. The members held weekly meetings, during which they participated in Bible studies and fun activities, singing praise and worship songs and discussed upcoming events.

Although it was new, the organization became involved in many areas not only on campus but also in the St. Joseph community. The women participated in service activities, such as volunteering at the Citadel Nursing Home, the Second Harvest Food Bank and the Boyes Home.

The organization also held fundraisers throughout the year. One fundraiser was a "\$4 wardrobe" project, in which they collected used but nice clothing, charged students \$4 to look around at the cloth-

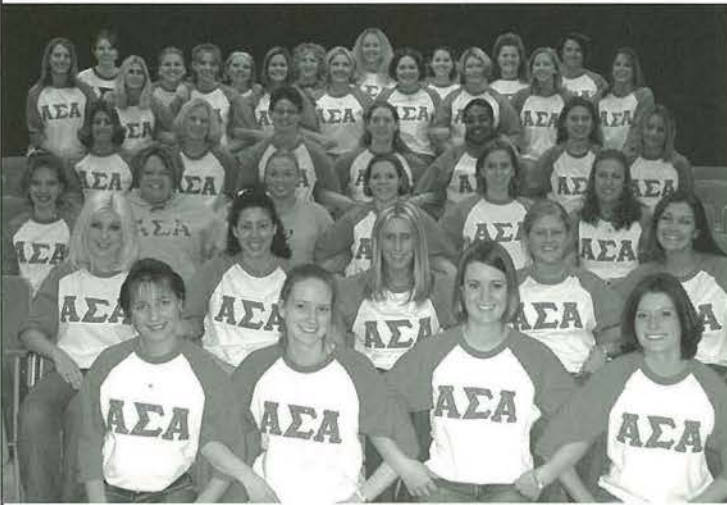
ing and take whatever they wanted.

The focus of the all-female organization was to reach out to the students of the campus, to promote strong relationships between women and to help members grow further in their relationships with Christ. The organization accomplished this by participating in social events such as homecoming, formal, and a sisterhood weekend.

In addition, close relationships were formed by pairing up big sisters and little sisters to meet weekly to pray together, study the Bible and talk about issues important to college-age girls, such as Godly approaches to dating, how to deal with stress and difficult times and how to keep one's faith strong in the face of temptations.

**Story by Kellie Feuerbacher**

# Organizations



## Alpha Sigma Alpha

**Front Row:** Andrea Behrens, Karri Steeby, Aleesa Briscoe, Lisa Walkenbach **Row 2:** Erin Burke, Jill Spencer, Amber Wood, Jennifer Houston, April Stevens **Row 3:** Liz Pipkin, Amber Bauer, Sara Hill, Elicia Palmer, Josie Hummel, Sarah Janes **Row 4:** Allison Lee, Erica Brown, Jennie Holmes, Jennifer McKinley, Gwen Miclyyet, Saralynn Richey, Elizabeth Aderton **Row 5:** Sarah David, Amie Hanson, Melissa Taylor, Erin McBrayer, Mystery Hensley, Brooke Lindenbusch, Erin Caton, Jenny Ballenger, Codi Keu **Back Row:** Shannon Sholtz, Megan Buckman, Jasmine Steele, Kasey Starr, Kim Buretta, Abby Larson, Kristen Neeleg, Maggie Jaynes

## Baptist Student Union

**Front Row:** Dawni Collins, Jeff Winn, Bridgett Leslie, Jerry Bradford **Back Row:** Jessica Tanner, Kellie Feuerbacher, Jessica Twyman, Jacque Hartley, Wade Drossel



## Delta Phi Upsilon

**Front Row:** Shelley Fritz, Jael Haecker, Morgan Anderson **Back Row:** John Clark, Aaron Dillman, Sean Horne



## Delta Sigma Theta

**Front Row:** Shay Martin, Paul Shannon, JeHanna Wilkins, Tamisha Coates **Back Row:** Marielle Maxey, Keisha Jackson, Christina Morton, Tiffani Manley

## German Club

**Front Row:** Sarah Rhoades, Marion Williams, Dr. Timothy Holian, Melanie Pethtel, Rachael Needham



## Griffon Arts Society

**Front Row:** Rachel Ball, Geo Sipp, Sara Barati

# Organizations



## Griffon Newspaper

**Front Row:** Melissa Waddell, Leslie Hancock, LaTonya Williams, Aimee Pike **Row 2:** Amanda Housewirth, Kara McKinny, Monet Lucien, Jacarra Hooks, Misty Musselman, Jessie Holeman **Row 3:** Lucas Chisam, Eddie Acree, Mike Milbourn, John Fabsits, Brad Redmond, Mark Seek **Row 4:** Alicia Jacobs, Erika Conway, Shee Kelley, Tiffany Embry, Kellen Perry, Kathy McKnight **Row 5:** N Brown, John Head, Bob Bergland, Dusty Yungeberg, Ben Garret **Back Row:** Ryan Faul, Dan Grover, Aaron Tebrinke, Tyrone Getl Jr., Josh Hall

## Griffon Yearbook

**Front Row:** Jared Hoffman, Amanda Rafferty, Kellie Feuerbacher, Sandy Scott **Row 2:** Jill Kirkendoll, Ashley Reynolds, Stephanie Radel, Nicole Gentry, Ann Thorne **Row 3:** Mika Snodgrass, Jenny Embrey, Rita Zimmerman, Shannon Stracener, Rashad Givhan **Row 4:** Michelle Lakebrink, Sara Batchelor, Jason Callaway, Lori Larson, Pamela Le, Kelli Dachelet **Back Row:** Roy King, Becky Jackson, Shannon Paul, Jeremy Weikel



## Inter-Greek Council

**Front Row:** Rachel Siron, Sara Hill, Kevin Callaway, Stan Pearson III, **Row 2:** Amber Wood, Jessica Snyder, Mike Kellam, Merrill Atwater, Adam Gilliland, Phil Hultguist **Row 3:** Crystal Morse, Tami Hensley, Kat Guyer, Brandi Atha, Alyssa Holyfield, Zach Ramsay, John-Paul Bellamy, John Carter **Back Row:** Stanico Church, Sarah Rathburn, Edwin Rivera



# Institute of Management Accountants

**Front Row:** Sandra Striegel, Karen Havener, Yuji B. Chu, Lou Fowler, **Back Row:** Michael Young, Jim McKinley, Bryce Jones

# Living Eternally Victoriously

**Front Row:** Carliss Holland, Bruce Cunningham, Tamera Long, Shaliese Samuek **Row 2:** William Holland, Princess Gilliaur, Vivian LaPorte, Aimee Vaughn, Leranda Brewer, Tyrone Gethers Jr. **Back Row:** Shane Gray, LeVar Grace, JoAnna Stuelke, Tiffany Bell, Pam Downs, Arlaysha Osborn, Cara Humphrey, Rashad Givhan



Victory and hope were the main focuses of Living Eternally Victoriously, a Christian organization. Through faith in God and inspiration from the bible, the organization taught its members how to persevere and overcome all of life's obstacles.

When L.E.V. began, it was just an all-male bible study, but it formed into an official organization in the fall of 2001. The organization began with only 12 members but quickly grew in numbers after it dropped its original status as an all-male organization. The organization began to welcome anyone who wanted to attend.

Many of the group's leaders felt that L.E.V. provided an opportunity for students to get a Christian perspective on everyday issues.

"We believe that it's possible to have victory in every situation," L.E.V. President William Holland said. "We believe that by having faith in Christ you can overcome anything."

L.E.V. members credited Jesus Christ as the foremost inspiration for the formation of the organization. They simply desired to spread the message of the Gospel to all that were

willing to hear. Events Chairman Tyrone Gethers Jr. said that he was drawn to L.E.V. because of its encouraging message.

"I could tell that the presence of God was truly there," Gethers said. "The atmosphere just drew me in. Plus, I knew that it would give many people the opportunity to learn about Christ."

While faith and hope in Christ were the most important aspects of L.E.V., its leaders also stressed the importance of unity between students, as well as other organizations around the campus.

"We want to become more united with other Christian organizations around the campus," L.E.V. Secretary Aimee Vaughn said. "We also hope to branch out to other campuses in the future."

Through its message of faith and hope, L.E.V. continued to grow in numbers. It served as an outlet for the Gospel to everyone, regardless of denomination, gender or race.

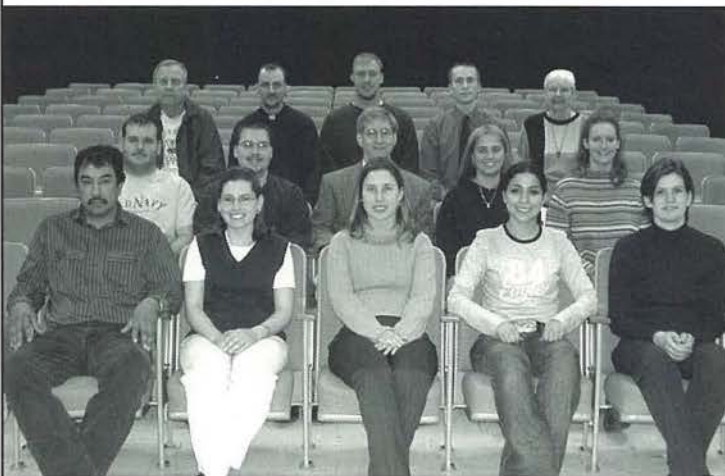
**Story By Jared Hoffman**



# Organizations

## Mystics

**Front Row:** Angie Seek, Kelli Brandts, Lindsay Fiscus, Ashley Moses **Back Row:** Andrienne Kastner, Maria Combs, Stacey Turner, Jennifer O'Dell, Vanessa Buckman



## Newman Club

**Front Row:** P Canchola, Katie Singleton, Abby Houseworth, Lucia Fernandez, Whitney Gates **Row 2:** Michal Evans, Sean Morrison, Frank Kessler, Ann Stock, Michelle Scherder **Back Row:** Solon Earl Haynes, Timothy Armbruster, J. Brent Gerling, John Fabsits, Willie Clark

There were many religious organizations on campus that were available to students who wanted to get together and share in their love of God. The Newman Club was one of these organizations.

The Newman Club was the extension of the Roman Catholic Church to the university and college campus. It offered to all the unity of faith, worship and life of the Roman Catholic Church. Newman Club offerings included weekly celebrations of mass, Bible studies, service projects and social events.

Among their many activities, the members of Newman Club participated in the Missouri Association of Catholic College Students (MACCS) at Conception Abbey in the fall, and they attended the Awakenings Retreat with Truman State University. They bowled after Thursday meetings, hosted a booth at Missouri Western Family Day, donated money to Harvesters and "Trick-or-Treated" for canned goods that they gave to local food pantries.

After a period of inactivity the past few years, Newman Club began to grow in numbers.

"It is an exciting time for us," Katie Singleton, president of Newman Club said. "We have been truly blessed with a great campus minister, Willie Clark; a wonderful faculty advisor, Dr. Kessler; help from local pastors and more student involvement. Through on and off campus activities, we will hopefully continue to grow and share the good news of God's love."

Newman Club was also a great place to meet others who shared similar interests.

"When I first joined, I didn't know what I was getting into," Sean Morrison, vice-president of Newman Club, said. "I found it was a nice place to meet other Catholic students my age."

Newman Club welcomed everyone of all faiths, not just those of the Catholic faith.

"Whether you are Catholic or not, Newman Club is a fun way to meet other Christians," Singleton said.

**Story by Stephanie Radel**



# Non-Traditional Organization

**Front Row:** Ron Abernathy, Stacey Howie, Sherry Anderson, Caroljean Goucher

**Row 2:** Jeanette Kragel, Nancy Horton, Louis E. Fox, Ellen Smither, Joel Good, Roberta Farris. **Back Row:** Bryce M. Jones, Jerry Wagers

# Omega Electronics Association

**Front Row:** Ron Abernathy, Kevin W. Novinger, Kurt Czerwien, **Back Row:** Stanico Church, John Carter, Barry Nelson, J. Brent Gerling



# Omicron Psi Society

**Front Row:** Stacey Howie, Sherry Anderson, Caroljean Goucher, Bryce M. Jones

**Back Row:** Jeanette Kragel, Nancy Horton, Ellen Smither

# Organizations



## Phi Beta Sigma

**Front Row:** Christopher McCloud, Lamaris A. Young, Nick Orr, Stanico Church

## Phi Delta Theta

**Front Row:** T.J. Morris, Aron Gerhart, Phil Hultquist, Adam Gilliland, Dr. Ben Caldwell **Row 2:** Matt Smith, Louis Kaser, Jason Cross, Aaron Bunker, Steve Allee, Bryan Reeves, **Row 3:** Aaron Gerloff, Craig Foster, Luke Brennan, Ryan Searcy **Back Row:** Seth Brockman, Brian Casey, Adam Twedt



## Phi Epsilon Kappa

**Front Row:** Ashley Sheets, Sarah Read, Kelly Roberts, Brandi Johnson **Row 2:** Greg Kriewitz, Justin White, Jenn Croson, Taylor Kirschner, Tim Berry, Lacey Hoover **Row 3:** DeAnna Rodrigues, Laura Wallick, Jillian Haynes, James Perry, Adam Clark, Jeff Keller, Nannette Wolford **Back Row:** Tamera Long, Andrew Hersey, JeHanna Wilkins, Christopher Kendrick, Ashley J. Collings

There were several specialized organizations on campus for each person's individual interests. With health, physical education, recreation or safety as this organization's main focuses, the Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Phi Epsilon Kappa Fraternity helped students gain experience in their profession while helping the community.

The organization was a national professional fraternity for health, physical education and recreation majors. Other areas of interest included dance, human performance, exercise science, sports medicine and sports management. The fraternity was open to males and females.

Fourteen students founded Phi Epsilon Kappa on April 12, 1913, at the Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union in Indianapolis, Ind. In 1917, the organization applied for and received a charter as a non-profit organization. In 1920, the fraternity became a national organization with the installa-

tion of the Beta chapter at the American College of Physical Education in Chicago, Ill.

The organization was open only to men until March 1975, when the National Council voted unanimously to extend the organization's membership to women.

Members were particularly involved in community service and fundraising activities. According to James Perry, who was elected as the organization's president for the 2002-2003 school year, 80 to 90 percent of Phi Epsilon Kappa's activities was volunteer work.

"We're mostly volunteer based," Perry said. "We sell programs for football games, and we work concession stands at high schools."

The organization also helped clean up local communities by participating in trash-pickup projects.

**Story by Rashad Givhan**



## Phi Mu

**Front Row:** Kattie Dobbins, Stephanie Crandall, Heather Huff, Aimee Pike **Row 2:** Joanne Kenison, Melissa Culley, Christina Obley, Melody Grier, Melissa Waddell, Abby Houseworth **Row 3:** Lori Whittle, Kelley Webb, Amanda Coldwell, Kristen Kelly **Back Row:** Angie Rehak, Lindsay Dickie, Megan Gamet, Nicole Wright, Devon Thorne, Kelly Sublette.

## Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

**Front Row:** Jeff Siasoco, Tyler Ives, Phil Ray, Jeremy Schneider **Row 2:** Chris Cartwright, Josh North, Beau D. Brailey, Jason Kikoler **Row 3:** Shaun Agnew, John Carter, Chris Kehr, Benjamin Ahles-Iverson **Back Row:** Jon-Paul Bellamy, Dustin Enfield, Adam Benson, Dustin Wilson



## Phi Sigma Kappa

**Front Row:** Vince Lippincott, Kevin Callaway, Todd Bullock, James Peterson **Row 2:** Jeff Meinders, Ryan Bane, Mike Kellam, Travis Phelps, Blake Moere, Ryan Gerster **Back Row:** Doug Bormann, Tyler Page, Jeremy Wells, Rick Wright, Jason Robinson, Ryan Wear, Merrill Atwater

# Organizations



## Pride

**Front Row:** Jenni Roebel, Becky Wehrman, Michelle Brown, Jannel Morris

## Residence Council

**Front Row:** Jennifer Jones, Maria Grothaus, Tasha Trice, Shelley Fritz **Back Row:** Candace Sublett, Dawn Rogel, Stanco Church, Stan Pearson II, Tyrone Gethers Jr.



## Senate

**Front Row:** Kevin Callaway, Zach Ramsay, Olu Aregbe, Kim Buretta, Steve Allee **Row 2:** Melody Grier, Brenden Burn, Adam Gilliland, Aron Gerhart, Phil Hultquist **Row 3:** Brock Farris, Andrew Hersey, Rachel Siron, Tolu Aregbe, LaShandra Acklin **Back Row:** Jon Curtis, Stanico Church, Lee T. Shepard



## Sigma Alpha Iota

**Front Row:** Amber Bowie, MJ Hulsey, Ellen Davis, Heather Richardson **Row 2:** Clarissa Houser, Emily Auxier, Leah Tolbert, Gina Mumpower **Back Row:** Kristin Lamar, Cassie Williams, Laura Strickland, Elixis Carr, Hope Fugitt, Amy Dunlap, Karree Tidwell

## Sigma Tau Delta

**Front Row:** Kellie Feuerbacher, Ruth Doornink, Rachel Siron **Back Row:** Elizabeth Evans, Rashad Givhan, Nick Francis, Zach Ramsey



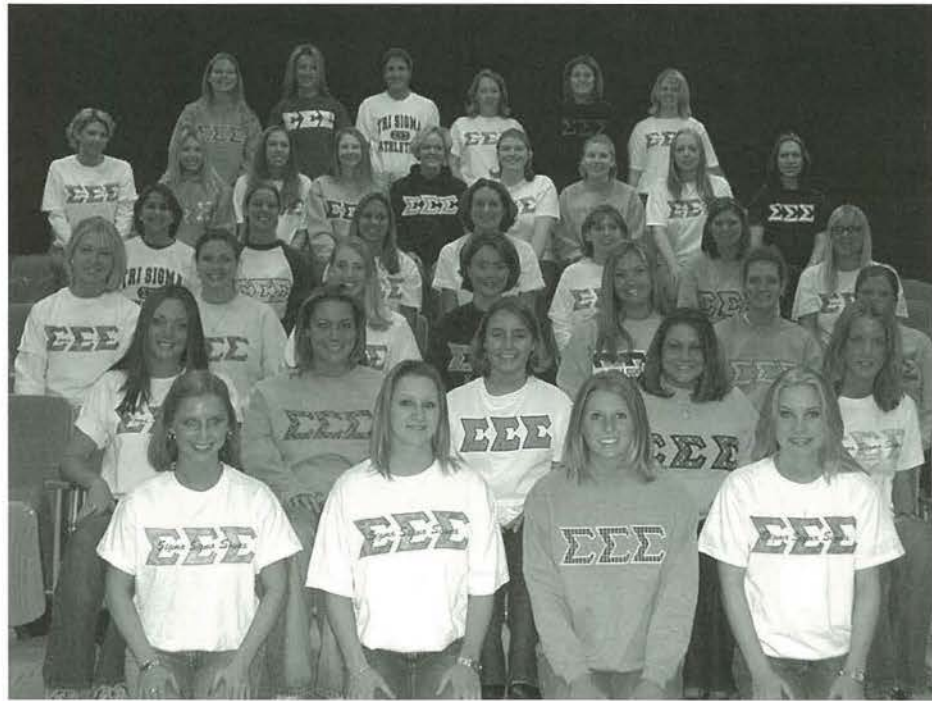
## Spanish Club

**Front Row:** Dr. Alicia De Gregorio, Angela Pasley, Stephanie Campbell **Back Row:** James G. Conant II, Lauren Stehle, Gloria C. Norris, Steve Allee

# Organizations

## Sigma Sigma Sigma

**Row 1:** Lynsey Rader, Teresa Turley, Stefanie Summa, Cody Dunlap **Row 2:** Jessica Snyder, Liz Keeling, Taylor Kirschner, Rachel Hunt, Audrey McCormack **Row 3:** Tracie Walker, Stephanie Frerick, mandy Milligan, Annie Newhouse, Colleen Herrin Readan Cunningham, Jamie Giefer **Row 4:** Brandy Snapp, Lindsey Claussen, Kim Campbell, Lindsey Evans, Becki Davis, Sally Ridder, Cindi Watts, **Row 5:** Ashley Wales, Ehrica Castagno, Christin Hanna, Lindsay Fleischman, Rachel Siron, Michelle Lakebrink, Jennifer glidewell, Angela Pasley, Karen Skroh, **Back Row:** Becky Jackson, Kellie Dachelt, Renee Butler, Monica Lee, Ashley Sheets, Crystal Trant.

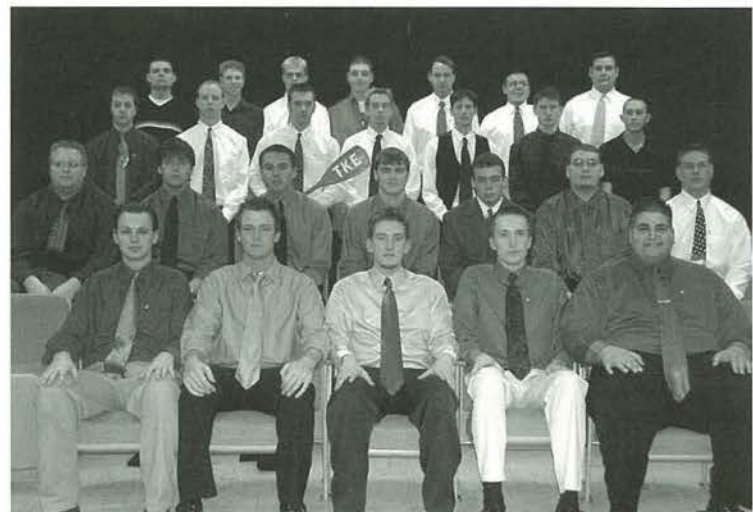


## Student Honors

**Front Row:** Amy Halling, Rachael Needham, Darren Wibberding, Rebekah Needham, Lacey Christopher **Row 2:** Sheila Munyon, Lacey Dessel, Brandy Bray, Stephanie Radel, Jael Haecker, Richard Hallman **Back Row:** Keith Detwieler, Kim Bax, Alyssa Holyfield, Shelley Fritz

## Tau Kappa Epsilon

**Front Row:** Ben Barnhart, Matt Silvius, Josh Wilson, John Fabsits, Edwin Rivera **Row 2:** Dan Pummill, Brian Warren, T.J. Busby, Richard Hassey, Jacob Wheat, Josh Ferrell, Will Vernon, **Row 3:** Jake Elliot, Trevor Huseman, Jeffrey Sarver, Zach Ramsay, James Smith, Wade Speelman, Matt McCubbin **Back Row:** Justin D. Vaughn, Vern Wheeler, Jeff Brandhorst, Circy W. Wilson, Greg Gallup, Danny Smith, Brad McKinzie



# The Ebony Collegians

fani Manley, John Head **Row 3:** Jarrett Dillard, Randall Henderson, Stanico Church, Angela Smith, Stephene Scott, Jamala Jones **Back Row:** Tiffany Bell, Cara Humphrey, Daniel Thomas, LaShaundra Randolph, Tolu Aregbe



The Ebony Collegians organization was more than a club for minorities. It was an organization formed to educate and motivate minority groups and give them confidence to express their ideas.

T.E.C. President Tyrone Gethers Jr. said that he was first drawn to the organization because of its professional atmosphere and multi-racial acceptance.

"It was amazing to see African-Americans running things in a professional manner," Gethers said. "It blew my mind because these people were rising above all stereotypes for African-Americans on campus."

Gethers became president of the T.E.C and continued to set goals to educate others about the purposes of the organization on a regular basis.

"I plan to see the T.E.C. become a stronger voice around campus," Gethers said. "We've attained all of the goals we've

set so far, but I would still like to see other organizations work with T.E.C. and actually learn the truth about our organization. A lot of people tend to down-play T.E.C. before they ever truly know what it's about."

T.E.C. continued to grow and bring new ideas to campus. It proved to be a beneficial for its members in many ways.

"Many people don't know this, but T.E.C. brings large scholarships to its members," Gethers said. "But, the main benefit that this organization brings to its members is the fuel to challenge and change people's perception of minority organizations."

Gethers, and the other members of T.E.C., continued to be a voice for minority groups and hoped to bring unity between organizations and individuals on campus.

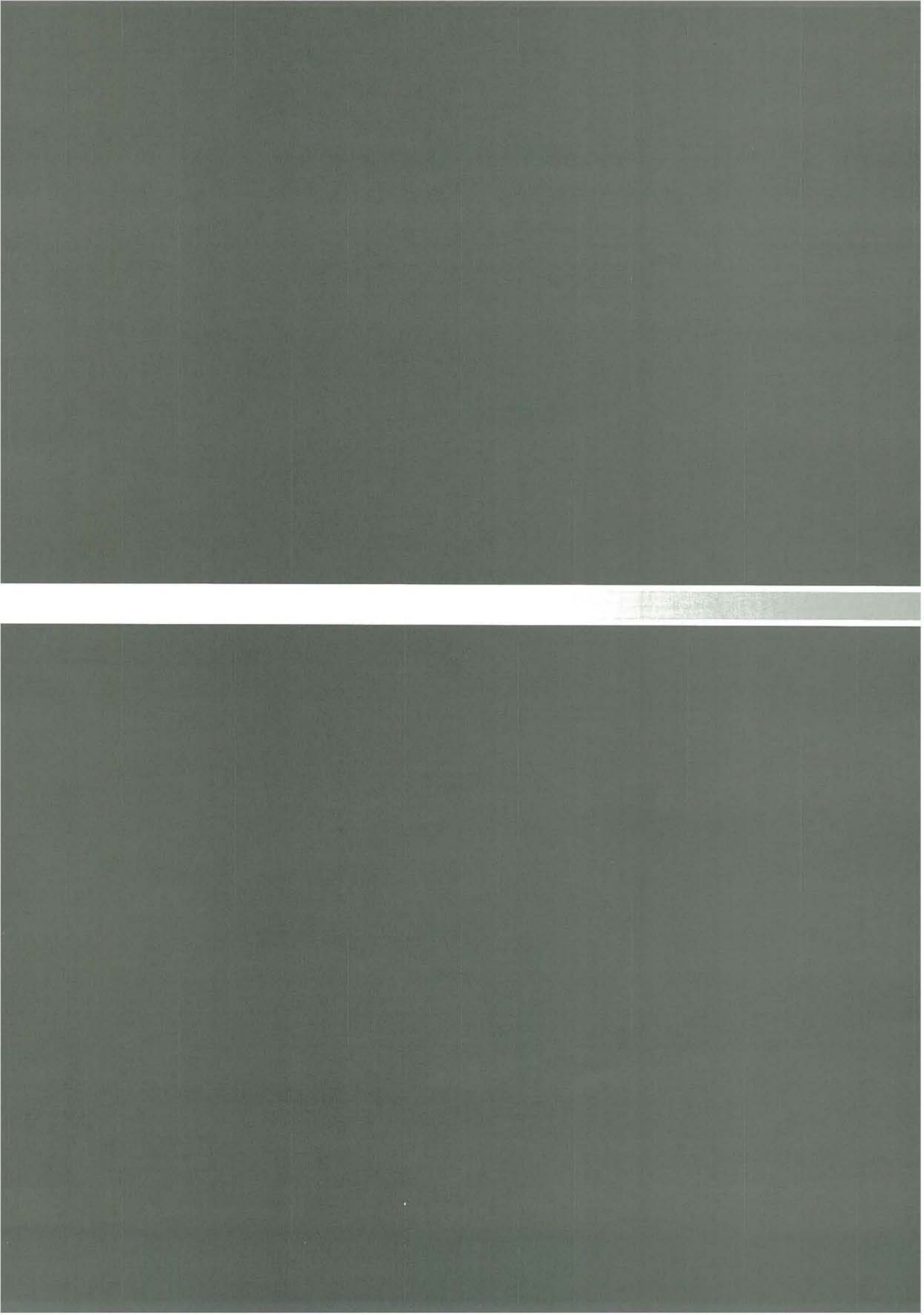
Story By Jared Hoffman



# The Wildlife Society

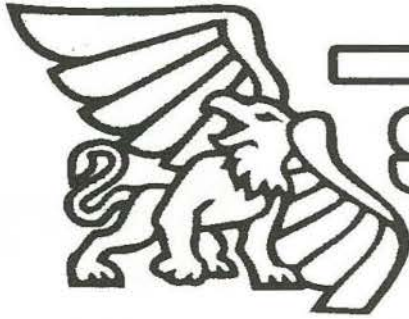
**Front Row:** Sara Rothermich, Shea Armstrong, Megan Sisk, Steven Minter **Row 2:** Barbra Beggs, Bill White, Andy Cormock, Kylee Brockmann **Back Row:** Will Penland, Leonard Hanway, Dr. Cary D. Chevalier, Derek Dorsey, Danny Meyer





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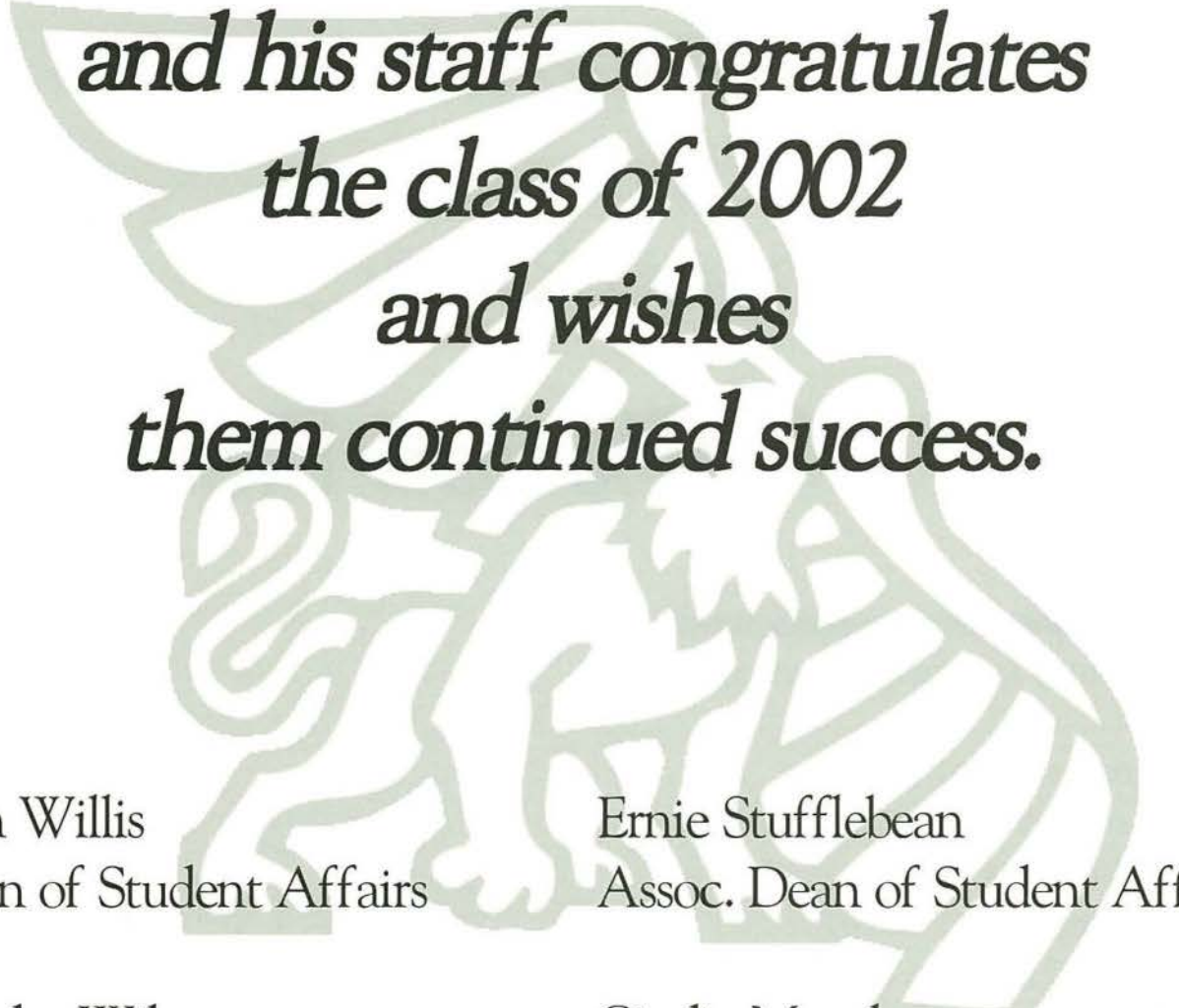
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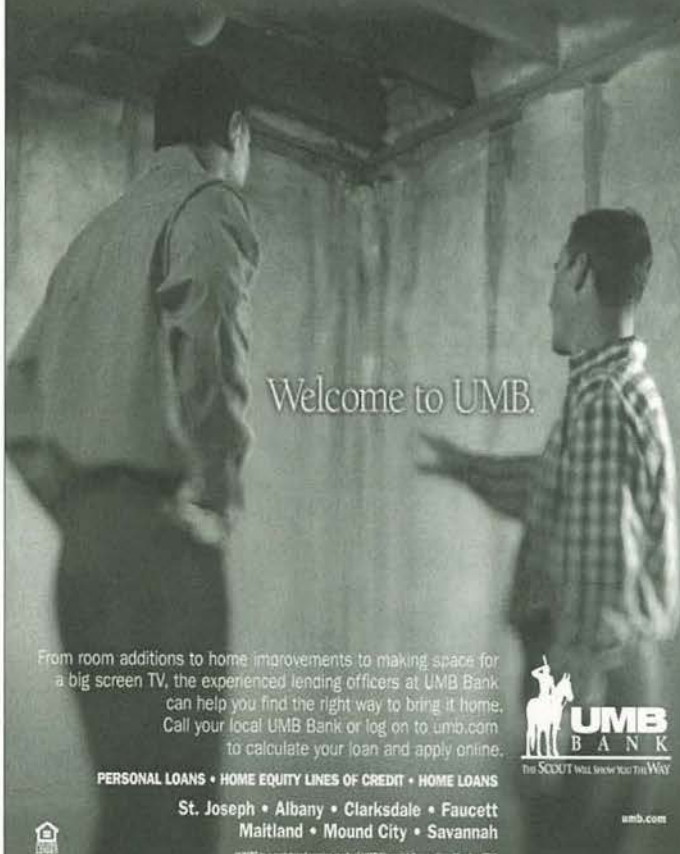
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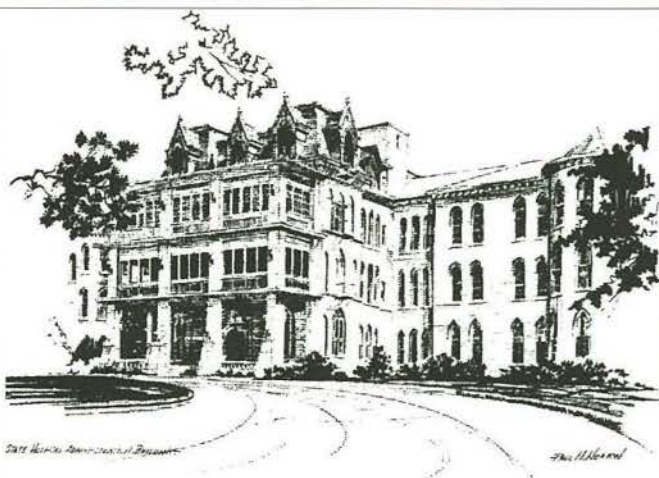
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Jennifer  Annie  Colleen  Angela

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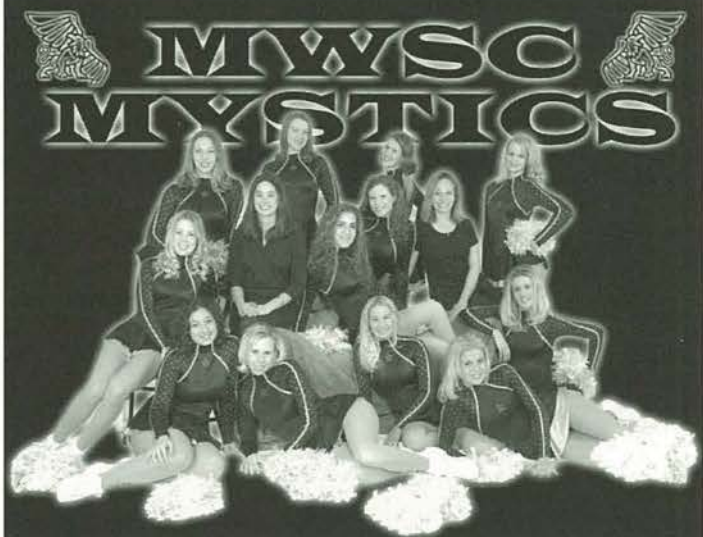


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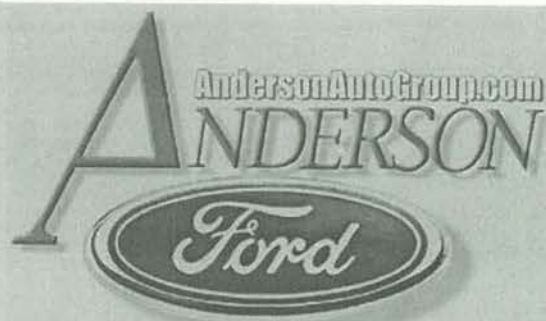
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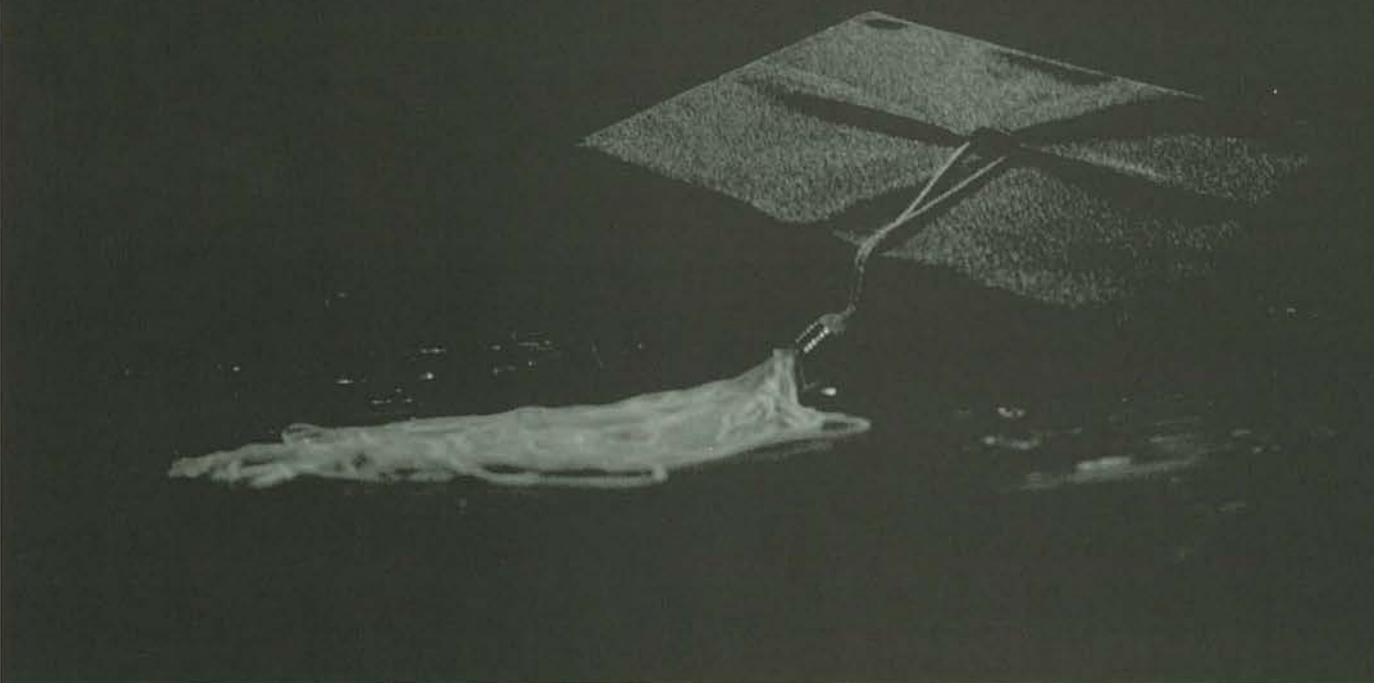
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**Congratulations Seniors!**

Campus Printing



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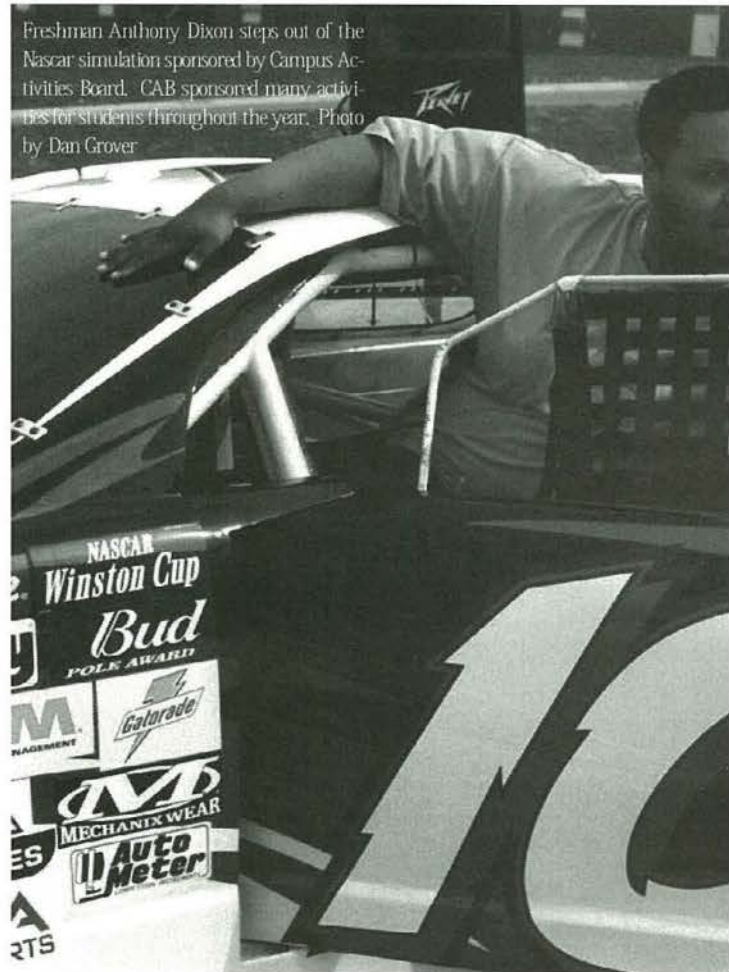
# METAMORPHOSIS

Metamorphosis, by definition, is a striking alteration in appearance, character, or circumstances. Missouri Western underwent metamorphosis in 2002. We transformed throughout for year of change and many things to reflect on.

We looked racial issues in the face and took our first step to solving the problem through communication and forums. Another student government election passed with glitches, although the votes were still cast and we saw a new face take the presidency. Administration experienced change as many new positions were implemented and sought to better the affairs of the students. Dr. Scanlon's first year gave us The Western Advantage. Meetings and committees will continue working on the strategic plan as huge



A student works on a lab assignment for her science class. Many students found themselves working on science classes outside of the lecture hall. Photo by Ashley Reynolds



Freshman Anthony Dixon steps out of the Nascar simulation sponsored by Campus Activities Board. CAB sponsored many activities for students throughout the year. Photo by Dan Grover

Brian Clark portrays Elvis in "Picasso at the  
Lapin Agile." Many characters were seen  
in the production. Photo by Sandy Scott

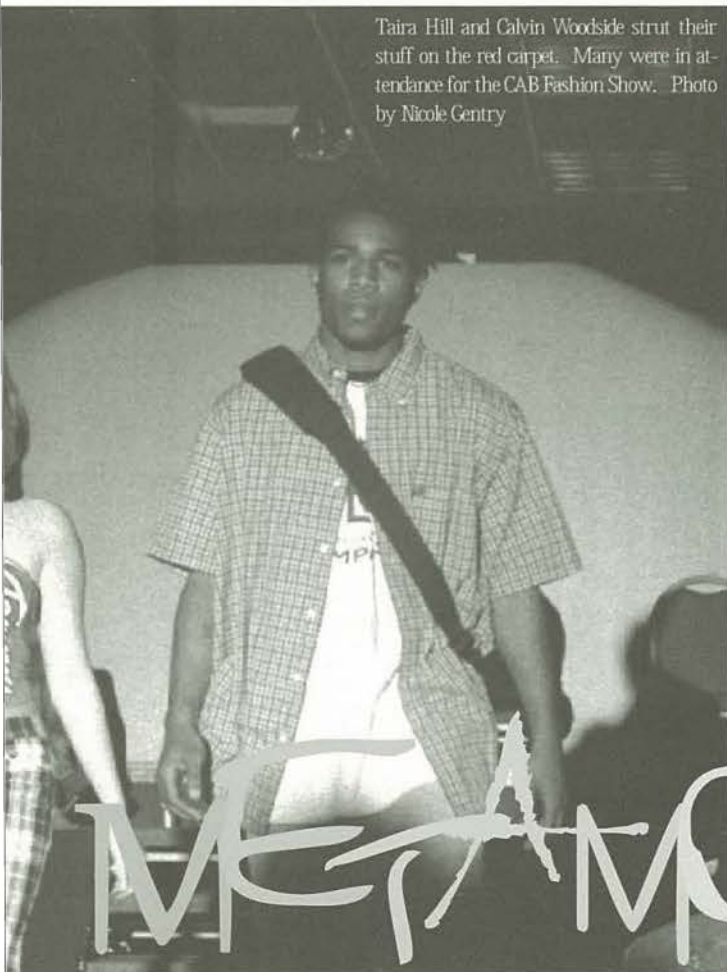


Mr. MWSC candidate Jeremy Wells catches the eye of the audience with his swim wear portion of the pageant. Wells sported a leopard print swimming suit as well as chaps and a lasso. Photo by Michelle Lakebrink





Students converse over lunch in the renovated cafeteria. Many students took advantage of the time to talk with their friends. Photo by Jill Kirkendoll



Taira Hill and Calvin Woodside strut their stuff on the red carpet. Many were in attendance for the CAB Fashion Show. Photo by Nicole Gentry

steps have been made to change our college for the better. We watched the bill in Missouri legislature as it failed to be voted on for a university name change. Western successfully managed a cutback in state funds and students anticipated a tuition increase. Due to the rising numbers of guests in attendance, faculty and staff were called upon twice to attend separate graduations. As we saw boxes being loaded into cars and good-byes being said, another year came to an end.

Through another year, we changed, yet will remain together. One college, two schools, 5,200 students, 756 graduates. The numbers will change and so will Western.

“To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly.” -Henri Bergson

# MELAMORPHOSIS

# MEMORIOS

The 2002 Griffon, Volume 76, was created by a student staff at Missouri Western State College and printed by Walsworth Publishing Company, Brookfield Missouri. The press run was 1200 books. The publishing representatives were Joyce Blanck and Don Walsworth Jr. Individual portraits were taken by Thorton Photography Studio. Organizational photos were taken by the Griffon Photo Editor. Full-time students paid a mandatory yearbook fee of \$5 per semester. Students attending MWSC full-time during the fall of 2001 and spring of 2002 may pick up their yearbook by November 1, 2002. The typography used throughout the book was 11 point AWPCLynn, regular and italic. All layouts were designed on a team of Macintosh G4's with Pagemaker 6.5 software. Inquiries concerning the Griffon should be addressed to the Griffon Yearbook, SS/C 220, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, Missouri, 64507 or visit the Griffon Website at <http://www.mwsc.edu~yearbook>.



Shannon Paul

Shannon Paul is a Communications major with a minor in Public Relations. Shannon has been on staff for three semesters working in design. She has a son Tyler and enjoys spending time reading and playing with him. Shannon plans to move to Houston, Texas when she graduates and hopes to find a job in Public Relations. She has enjoyed attending Missouri Western, because of the teachers and students she has met while attending school.

Jason Callaway has been on staff for four semesters, two as co-design editor. He plans to major in Criminal Justice by taking classes at Missouri Western and the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He plans to reside in New York and his career goal is to have a job as a DA assistant or an editor of a magazine.



Jason Callaway

Kellie Feuerbacher has been on staff for three semesters, two as co-copy editor. As an English/Journalism major and a Spanish minor, her career goal is to become a copy editor at a publishing company. Kellie was also the secretary/treasurer of Sigma Tau Delta, treasurer of journalism club, a reader/proofreader for the mochila review and an active member of Alpha Omega, Baptist Student Union and the MWSC Dance Company.



Kellie Feuerbacher



Rashad Givhan

As a child, Rashad knew that he would someday pursue a career in the field of journalism. It was no surprise that throughout Rashad's academic career, he seemed to excel in his English courses. However, when he took on the position of copy editor, Rashad was truly challenged. Being a copy editor for the Griffon Yearbook has pushed Rashad to move beyond his comfort zone, enabling him to strive for success. Hopefully Rashad will someday use the experience and knowledge I have attained from Missouri Western to achieve future goals and aspirations.



Sandy Scott

Sandy Scott has been on staff for four semesters, two as photo editor. As a Commercial Art major, she plans to work and be successful as a computer graphic designer. Sandy works hard to get what she wants and believes that you can accomplish anything you want as long as you remain true to yourself.

Amanda Rafferty has been on staff for three semesters, two as business editor. She enjoys long walks on the beach and rain on her face. Amanda was a senior. She is a Leo and hates love movies. Those who know her think of her as confident, feisty and colorful.



Amanda Rafferty



Rachel Siron

Rachel Siron has been on staff for four semesters, two of those she served as editor-in-chief/design editor. She was very involved on campus through numerous organizations, many of which she held leadership positions. Siron felt she was giving back to the campus when devoting her time to these organizations. As a Journalism and Public Relations major, Siron hopes to have a career with her sorority through their national magazine, and work as a chapter consultant.