

Fun & Sunshine

Sophomore Heather McCreery walks to the library on a beautiful spring day. Students took advantage of the warm weather Missouri Western experienced.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

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Three students walk to class during the spring. Students enjoyed the warm weather that spring brought.



Dogwood trees line the sidewalk to the library. The trees added a visual beauty to the campus.

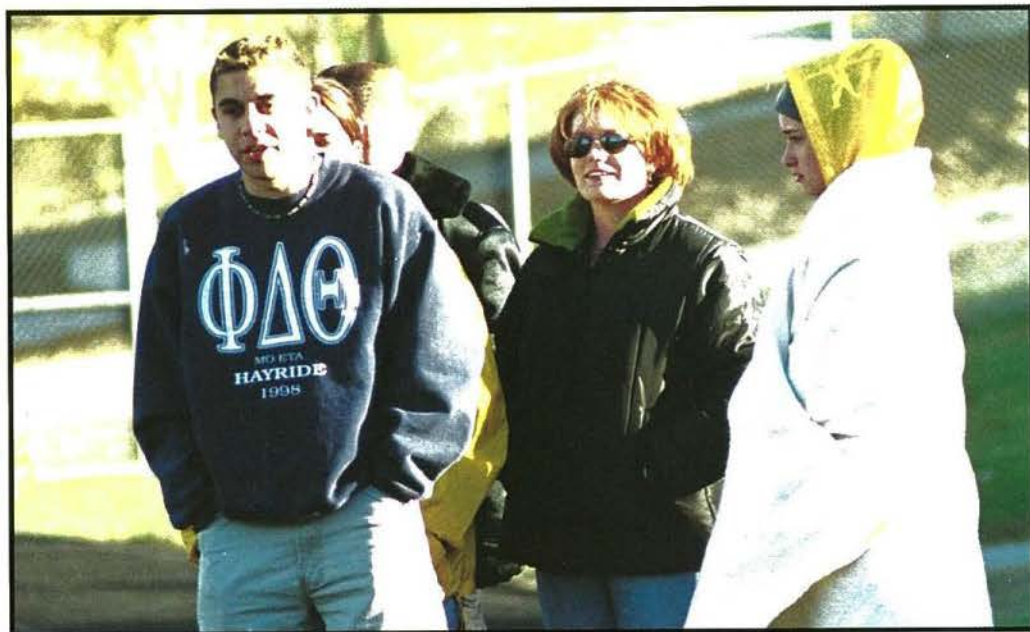
Juxtapose: v. to place side by side in an unexpected combination of colors, shapes and ideas.



The lives of college students are so diverse. We each come from such a unique background but while on campus, we all have something in common. We are all students. We are all

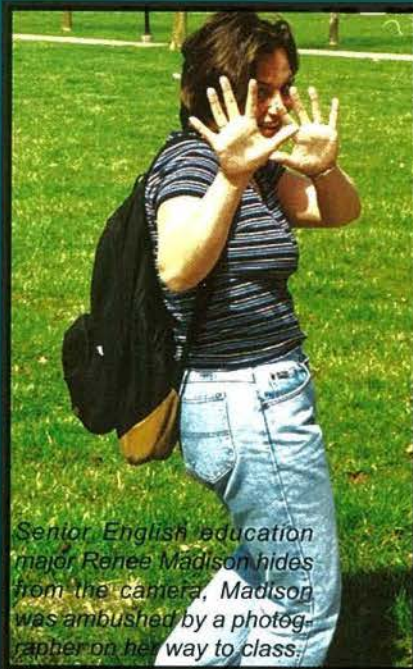
Griffons.

A "griff rat" runs to his hole. "Griff rats" could be seen everywhere throughout the warm weather months.



Several students watch a Griffon football game. The school had many options for students to go out and have fun.





Senior English education major Renee Madison hides from the camera. Madison was ambushed by a photographer on her way to class.

Alpha Gamma Delta dedicates their Homecoming float to late professor Dr. Mehl. The sorority worked hard on their float.



Two Griffon football players celebrate a victory. The team had a winning season.

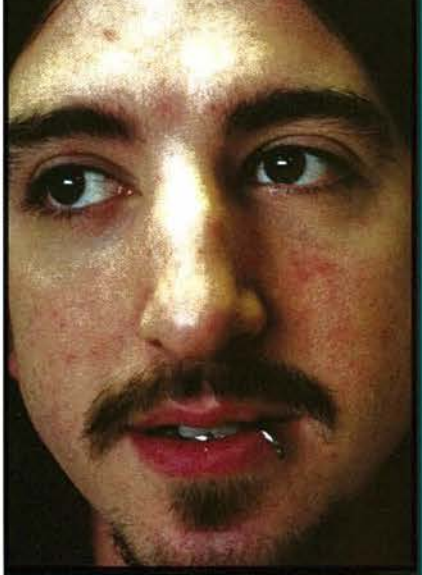


Students gather by the baseball field to watch the bonfire. The night was perfect for pepping up the students.

College is said to be one of the best times of our lives. And why shouldn't it be? It's an all-new experience that should be treasured for years to come. Many new things are juxtaposed into our lives.



Chris (Monty) Montega shows his lip ring. Many students chose piercings as a form of self-expression.



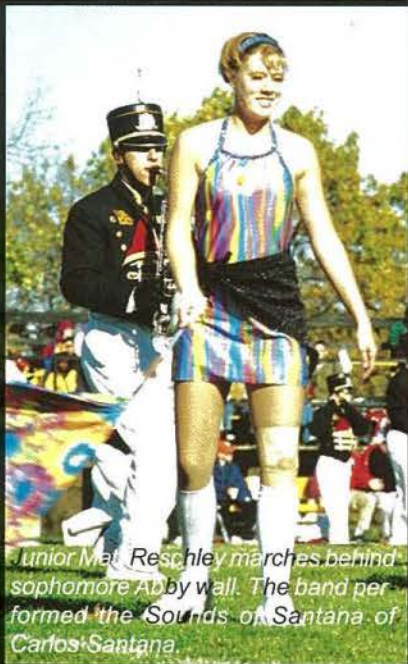
Homecoming queen Dusty Jestes rides in the parade. Jestes was crowned by her sorority sister senior Mary Zook.



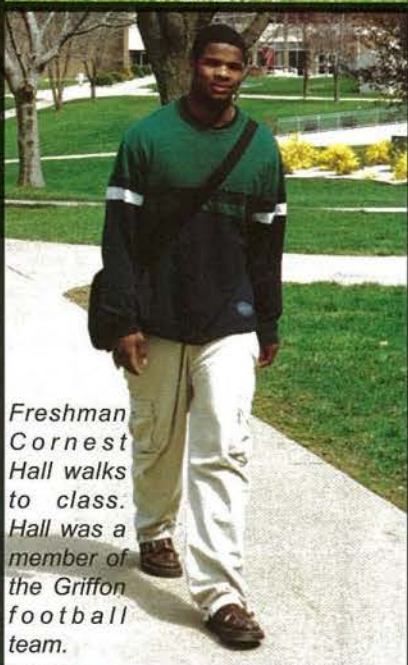
A former student gets her sorority letters painted on her face. Face painting was only one of the booths at Family Day.



Two students walk to the math and science building. Students took advantage of the beautiful weather.



Junior Mat Reschley marches behind sophomore Abby wall. The band performed the 'Sounds of Santana' of Carlos Santana.

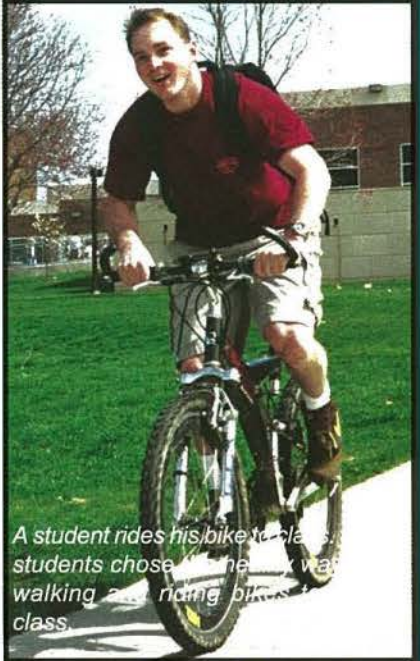


Freshman Cornest Hall walks to class. Hall was a member of the Griffon football team.

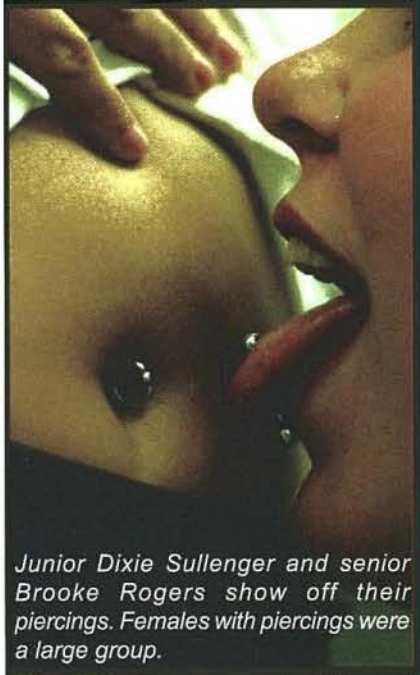


The Golden Griffon Marching Band plays the fight song during the Homecoming parade.

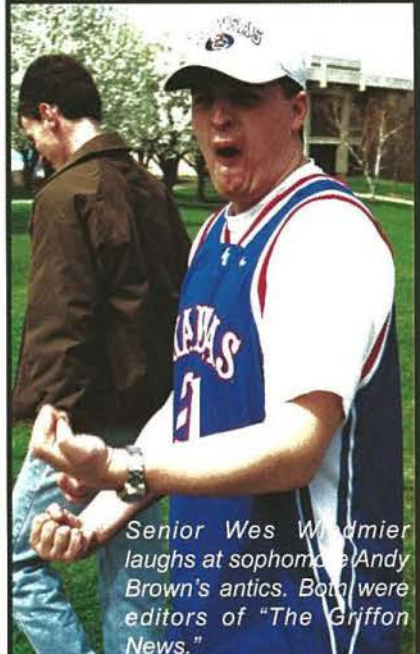




A student rides his bike to class. Most students chose to walk, but some were walking and riding bikes to class.



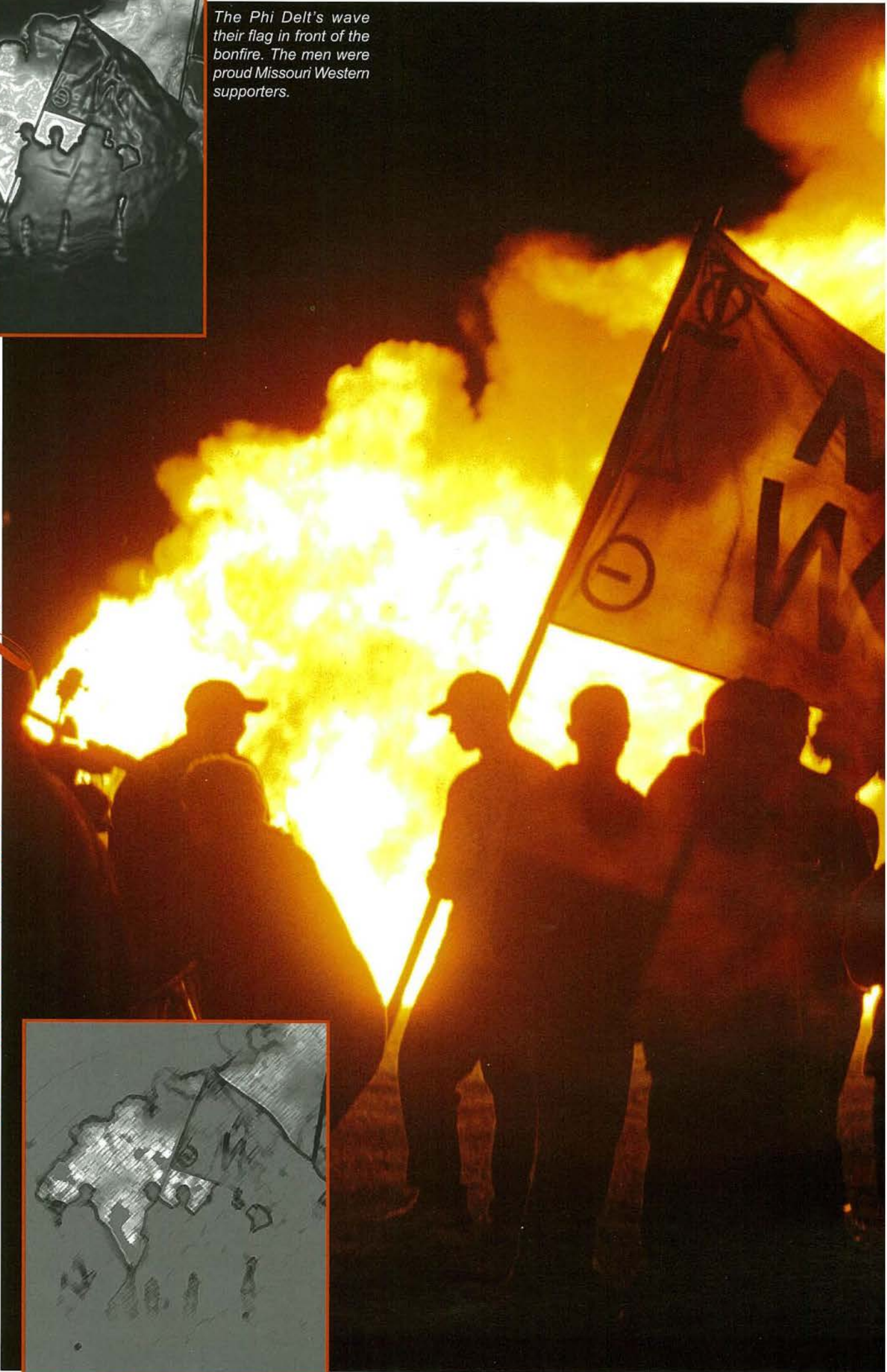
Junior Dixie Sullenger and senior Brooke Rogers show off their piercings. Females with piercings were a large group.



Senior Wes Windmier laughs at sophomore Andy Brown's antics. Both were editors of "The Griffon News."



The Phi Delt's wave their flag in front of the bonfire. The men were proud Missouri Western supporters.



Student Life





"Juxtaposition" in 2000 saw students branching out and weaving things together through events, issues and trends.

Participation in events like Family Day, Homecoming and Greek Week was an option for students, as well as CAB Movie Week.

Trips were other popular events, as students trekked to France, Mexico or even across the United States, learning all the while.

Student involvement was also shown with the issues they dealt with. Most faced changes to the Internet and housing. Issues also gave students a chance to become more involved. Groups like SLUR and Sigma Lambda were formed to educate students and the community about the problems society faced from day to day.

Trends played a major role in both the events and issues. Without the individual students who showed off through female body art, clothing styles, calendars and unusual collections, Missouri Western would not have been the same.

While at the same time showing individuality, they were able to create bonds with others who held the same beliefs. The hangouts the students frequented, whether they were raves or playing a healthy game of paintball, strengthened those relationships. Movies like "The Blair Witch Project" even managed to pull people closer together as they were scared silly.

Students were able to show their true selves thanks to the juxtaposition of college life.



Li'l Griff poses with sophomore, Clara Ebbons and her family. Family Day was a time for everyone to join together and enjoy the events.

WELCOME

~Story by Taira Hill

Welcome

Students greet their family

What better way to spend time with loved ones than to take them to Family Day? The weather was beautiful and the day included festivities like raffles, balloon animals, lots of food and so much more.

Families gathered under the sun on September 25 to drink lemonade, visit the booths and share some laughs. Children enjoyed having their faces painted by Delta Sigma Theta members, and also had fun participating in the jellybean-guess the organization held at their booth. Visitors of all ages enjoyed the sponge toss and were also excited to see that the residence council had a clown for entertainment.

"It brings campus organizations together," said junior Rachel Jackson. "I was really excited about seeing my family and showing them how involved I am."

The campus was a maze of people and fun things to do as music played and happiness filled the air. Tempting aromas lured hungry guests to concession stands and thirsty children scurried for drinks after completing each activity. The Christian radio station KGNM also attended the event and was very pleased with the spirit of the students. Alpha Phi Alpha led a free-throw contest, and Tau Kappa Epsilon com-

peted with the funnel cake booth by selling baked goods.

Several organizations made themselves known by drawing visitors to their booths with candy and chances to win various prizes. Some booths handed out free popcorn and even gave families a chance to win cash. Students and faculty made sure there was something for everyone to enjoy.

"I had so much fun," said one impressed youngster. "I think the sumo wrestlers were my favorite. There was so much to do. I can't wait until next year!"

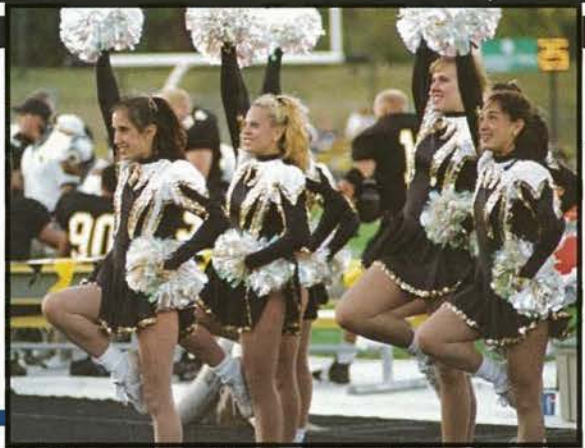
The Steel Drum Band performed at the beginning of the day, followed by a planetarium show and a performance by the jazz ensemble. There was plenty of food set up afterwards for a dinner buffet. Despite all the great things to eat at the fair, families still could not resist munching even more. There was a tailgate party to pump everyone up for the football game and, finally, the Griffons conquered the Washburn Ichabods 42-10.

"It's really cool to see the campus join together and to let the families see what goes on," said senior Tara Minear. "It was great to see so many organizations participate in Family Day."



The Mystics and the Color Guard wait anxiously to make their appearance on the field. The performers have many viewers during home games.

"It's really cool to see the campus join together and to let the families see what goes on"



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

The Mystics showed their school spirit at the Family Day football game. Families enjoyed all the excitement the dancers, cheerleaders and players provided.



~Photo by Kryss Franklin

Children are a major part of Family Day. There were games, food and music to keep everyone entertained until kick-off.



~Photo by Kryss Franklin

Sumo wrestling was just one activity Family Day had to offer. The crowd gathered around to see who would be the first to roll to the ground.



Fans fill the stands with cheering and suspense as the Griffon football players work together up until the final touchdown. The crowd was very pleased with the outcome of the game.

~Story by Christina Hazelwood

CELEBRATE

Celebrate

MWSC celebrates the Century

~Photo by Brandon Jennings



Yell leaders lead the crowd at the Homecoming game. Once the crowd got into the game, they were really responsive.

The last Homecoming week of the century started off on Monday, October 18, with a "Swing Through the Decade" dance, at which there was a contest for best-dressed couple and best dancers.

Many students showed up for the talent show on Thursday night, which was sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha. The winners included five members of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. who did a step show for the dance competition. Six Steps won the best song, and Fo-te won the best rap. The best overall winner was Asa Barnes, who sang "Blessed Assurance." Barnes was awarded a plaque and a \$50 cash prize.

Friday night was the pep rally and bonfire, possibly the two most awaited events of the entire week. During the pep rally, the band and the Mystics dance team performed, and the cheerleaders showed off some new stunts. Everyone, five girls in particular, waited anxiously to hear the results of the week's voting. Homecoming Queen candidates were Kendra Browning, Tia Meredith, Dusty Jestes, Gabrielle Martin and Tai Aregbe. Jestes, a senior criminal justice major sponsored by Phi Sigma Kappa, was crowned Queen.

The Homecoming Parade began at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning and took place downtown. The parade included high school bands, the Homecoming court, campus organization floats, the band and yell leaders.

"We followed about 50-100 yards behind the band," said sophomore yell leader Chad Fehr. "While we were on the parade route, we stopped several times and tossed basket tosses, and we did several other

stunts we can actually walk around with."

The competition between campus organizations for the most interesting and creative parade entries got people spirited and involved.

"We wanted to make sure SHO was involved on campus," said junior Scott Adler, vice-president of the Student Honors Organization. "Our goal was to get our float done, and to make it look good by Saturday morning. It was a lot of hard work, but it was fun."

The Phi Mu sorority received first place in the car competition, Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity won second and Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority took third. Tau Kappa Epsilon won first place in the truck competition, Alpha Gamma Delta took second and Phi Sigma Kappa received third. Phi Sigma Kappa took first place in the float competition, Alpha Gamma Delta received second and Phi Mu won third.

All the activities were intended to increase school spirit for the game played against Central Missouri State University on Saturday evening.

"Once the crowd got into the game, they were really responsive," said Fehr. "I noticed on quite a few occasions that the crowd really responded to what was going on, which really helps the atmosphere of the game."

Despite having the lead for most of the game, it was lost when CMSU scored in the last three seconds for a final score of 35-28.

"The game was really exciting," said sophomore Jeff Siasoco. "I was on the edge of my seat until the very end."



These Phi Delt's find something to cheer about as their float heads down Jules. The Homecoming theme was "Celebration of the Century."

~Photo by Brandon Jennings

"I don't put on
a show for anyone,
 so what you see
is really what
 you're going
to get."



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

The bonfire draws a big crowd after the pep rally. The pep rally and bonfire was possibly the most awaited event of the week.

~Photo by Brandon Jennings



The Newman Club's Santa Maria ship sails down Jules in the Homecoming parade. The parade returned to the downtown area after being held on campus in 1998.

Queen Dusty

- 1. WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE YOU INVOLVED IN?** ALPHA GAMMA DELTA, RESIDENCE COUNCIL, PSYCHOLOGY CLUB, PSI CHI, RESIDENT ASSISTANT AND REGISTRATION ORIENTATION ADVISOR.
- 2. WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ON BEING CROWNED QUEEN?** I AM COMPLETELY HONORED. I NEVER REALIZED I MADE SUCH A LASTING IMPRESSION ON OTHERS THAT THEY IN RETURN FELT ME TO BE DESERVING OF THIS HONOR.
- 3. WHAT DOES HOMECOMING MEAN TO YOU?** SPIRIT, DEDICATION, FUN, HARD WORK AND MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST LONG AFTER WE HAVE GRADUATED AND WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS INTO THE WORLD.
- 4. WHAT ARE SOME CHANGES THAT YOU HAVE NOTICED ABOUT PREVIOUS HOMECOMING'S?** I HONESTLY FEEL THAT MORE STUDENTS ARE BEGINNING TO GET INVOLVED WITH HOMECOMING, AS CAN BE SEEN BY THE INCREASING NUMBER OF CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS ENTERING FLOATS, CARS, TRUCKS, PAINTING WINDOWS AND SIGNS AND HOSTING EVENTS DURING THE WEEK-LONG FESTIVITY.
- 5. WHAT IS THE "REAL" DUSTY LIKE?** I DON'T PUT ON A SHOW FOR ANYONE, SO WHAT YOU SEE IS REALLY WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO GET. I LIVE BY THE MOTTO "SMILE, IT MAKES OTHER PEOPLE WONDER WHAT YOU'RE UP TO." OVERALL, I TRY HARD TO ALWAYS BE AND DO THE BEST THAT I CAN IN LIFE BECAUSE THAT'S ALL I CAN ASK FOR.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Dusty Jestes is congratulated by last year's Queen, Mary Zook. The election results were announced at the pep rally.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Junior Sarah Johnson shows her spirit during the pep rally. Alpha Gamma Delta was one of the most spirited organizations at the pep rally.



~Photo by Brandon Jennings



The drum line performs Santana for the crowd. The week's festivities were brought to a climactic ending with the game.



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

A member of the parade marches by the crowd. The Homecoming parade included high school bands, the court, campus organizations, floats, the band and yell leaders.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Members of Phi Delta Theta run past the crowd to celebrate each touchdown. The crowd was very responsive to the way the Griffons played

The Mystics settle into one last pose to end their Homecoming routine. They sported their go-go outfits and danced to "American Woman."



"They are bigger than they used to be, but no near the quality. The old floats were the prettiest."

~Photo by Brandon Jennings



Photo by Aaron Steiner

Senior Courtenay Wills performs during half-time. The band played a major role in the Homecoming festivities.

~Story by Jody Deering and Adina Murrell

Juxtapose

Past Homecomings compared

Things change over the years, but Homecoming was a time-honored tradition that survived the ages.

In 1967, the college celebrated its first Homecoming. Unlike Homecoming's in the 1990's, which lead up to a football game on Saturday, the original Homecoming celebrated a basketball game. The theme was "The Roaring Twenties."

In 1972, the era of the flower children, the Homecoming football game was held at Noyes Field and other activities for the week included Banner Day, a Day of Mourning, a Student-Faculty Football Game, Color Day and an Alumni Reception. The Computer Science Club and Phi Mu sorority tied for first place in the float competition, and Delta Zeta received first place in the car contest.

"The Griffs Make an Oscar Winning Performance" was the 1976 Homecoming theme. The Ag Club (a club that no longer exists at MWSC) held the Ag Olympics during which participants competed in events ranging from the bucking barrel to tobacco-spitting and cow chip-throwing contests. The Ag Club won first place in the float contest, second place went to the Civil Engineering Club and third place went to Phi Beta Lambda.

In 1992, "MWSC Visits Oz" was the Homecoming theme. The week started with a scavenger hunt that

sent ten organizations searching the city for unusual items like an 8-track tape and Dean Forrest Hoff's senior yearbook from college.

"That was the funniest item," said a female student who found the yearbook. "I swear, he looked just like Howdy Doody."

"Griffons Around the World" was the 1997 Homecoming theme. Many activities were held throughout the week, such as a window painting contest, sheet contest and talent show. Alicia Copeland of Phi Mu won the Most Spirited Fan award

Hoff dedicated 29 years to Missouri Western. He had fond memories of all 29 of the college's Homecomings. He remembered when the first parade started on Francis Street, and went on to Fifth Street and then Edmond. The parade route changed again, beginning at Fredrick Avenue, then moving on to the East Hills Mall and ending downtown at City Hall. In 1998, the parade was held on campus for the first time, and returned to the downtown area in 1999.

Hoff felt that the quality of the floats were what changed the most about the parade through the years.

"They are bigger than they used to be, but no near the quality," said Hoff. "The old floats were the prettiest."

Looking Back

~Photos taken from previous yearbooks

1967-



Griffon yearbook editor, Greg Ortman, shown with staff members, Betty Muench, Greg Nichols, and Reed Kline.

1967-



Queen, Cheryl with her escort, Jim Beaver.

1972-



Phi Mu shows their Lady Bug spirit in the Homecoming parade.

1976-



Rodney Evan tosses a 50 pound hay bails at the Olympics.

1992-



The Alpha Chi Delta float featured characters from the Wizard of Oz. Angie Paden dressed as the Cowardly Lion.

Le Louvre is the biggest museum in the world. The tour of Paris included visits to museums, churches and historical sites in the area.



"There are not enough words to tell of all my experiences and memories I brought home with me."

The Camps El Ysees is the most famous boulevard in Paris. The ambiancy of street cafes and quaint shops made the trip an unforgettable experience.



The group pose on Part Neuf, the oldest bridge in Paris. The 1999 trip to France included 15 students and Professor Hennessy.



The Arc de Triumphant is a monument to war heroes from France. Students learned about history while on the tour.

~Story by Christina Hazelwood

LA TOUR de France

French students visit Annecy



Art deco restrooms at La Madeleine are fancy public restrooms all over Paris. Even the restrooms were beautiful in France.

Over the summer, fifteen students spent time in France for a study abroad program directed by French professor Susan Hennessy. Students had the opportunity to earn up to nine credit hours. Those who earned all nine credits had to complete a two-week preparatory course, participate in a cultural tour of Paris and complete a four-week home stay with a French-speaking family in Annecy. The students attended language classes with other international students at the Institut Francais des Alpes.

English/technical communications major Janice Lee said the preparatory class was very informative and a lot of fun. The tour of Paris included visits to museums, churches and historical sites in the area. Everything was scheduled, with visits to sites of interest such as le Centre Pompidou, le Louvre, les musees Rodin et Cluny, Notre Dame, la Sainte-Chapelle, Montmartre, le Quartier Latin, la Tour Eiffel and l'Arc de Triomphe. Every day had something scheduled except for one free day, during which Lee went to Disneyland Paris.

"There are not enough words to tell of all my experiences and memories I brought home with me," said Lee. "My most memorable moment in France was getting to go to the crypts of famous people and authors underneath the Germain-des-Pres and seeing the medieval monastery of Cluny. History just came alive."

Lee said the local Parisians tended to have a thin and chic aura about them, but could be friendly and helpful, especially if the students tried to speak the

language.

"The weather was gorgeous," said Lee. "The food was superb. I liked the ambiance of the small, intimate street cafes, as well as strolling through neighborhoods like the Ile St. Louis area, with its tiny, quaint shops and narrow streets where buildings have flower-strewn balconies."

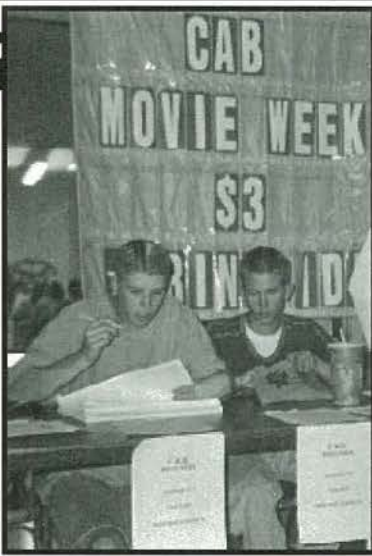
Following the tour of Paris, students attended classes for four weeks in Annecy. Classes were held Monday through Friday for four hours each day, and were taught by native speakers. Students were tested after they arrived in France for placement in the level of classes they would attend. They were small, and provided ample opportunity for discussion. Each course aimed to develop and improve French speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.

During the four-week stay in Annecy, the students lived with a carefully selected French family. Students learned to appreciate French culture and customs, and improved their language skills while participating in everyday life with the family.

"Having the students stay with the family is probably the most beneficial aspect of the program because the student is in an environment where he has to use French in order to communicate in everything he does," said Hennessy. "It is probably what helps the program the most during their month stay in Annecy. It is the source of the most frustration initially, but also where they get the most growth."



This Gothic church, Notre Dame de Paris, is the most famous in Paris. Many famous sites were visited.



David Bass checks off students' names as Josh Wilson assists. The reduced tickets were easier for students than to drive to Kansas City.

Let's All

...Go To The Movies...

~Story by Adina Murrell

Have you ever been sitting around at home, staring at the same old Friday night line-up on television, about to go crazy because you are both broke and bored? Suddenly, the phone rings, and it's some friends you haven't heard from all day. They tell you to grab your stuff and meet them because you're going to the movies! You thank your friends, wondering how on earth they got a hold of some cash. You are pretty sure they were as broke as you were the last time you spoke with them. What you have yet to learn is that they scraped up enough quarters to buy a couple of movie tickets. They went the cheap route, but hey, what are friends for?

Okay, so who wants to pay \$3 for a movie ticket anyway? Obviously, the students who stood in front of the cafeteria in the Student Union to purchase one of the 300 movie tickets the Campus Activities Board sold each month.

CAB Movie Week was a movie ticket distributing operation that had been going strong for six years. According to coordinator Akami Eayrs, senior, the purpose of CAB Movie Week was "to give the students the chance to go to the movies for half-price."

If you dialed the number of any of the movie theaters in town, a recording informed you that the ticket price for adults and students was \$4 before 6 p.m.,

and \$6.25 after that. So, CAB's selling price of \$3 was actually a \$3.25 discount from theater prices, a discount that students really appreciated.

Some students traveled as far as Kansas City to attend the movies for a cheaper price. That was one of many reasons that, for students, CAB's monthly Movie Week was worth the wait.

"The tickets in St. Joseph for the movies are twice as much as you pay for CAB tickets," said junior Melissa Adams. "CAB gives you a chance to get a student discount, which is what I am used to in K.C."

CAB Movie Week brought with it some fun times for students. Junior Annie Sigler said the funniest thing that happened to her while out using a CAB ticket was that she "screamed so loud at the movie 'The Blair Witch Project' that the person next to me spilled her drink all over me."

A student could purchase one CAB ticket with their student I.D. By only allowing 300 tickets to be sold each month, CAB workers usually sold out before Thursday or Friday of the selling week. Where did all of the money go? Because CAB activities were included in the cost of tuition, the money made during CAB Movie Week went right back into CAB's funds so that the organization could purchase another batch of tickets for the following month.



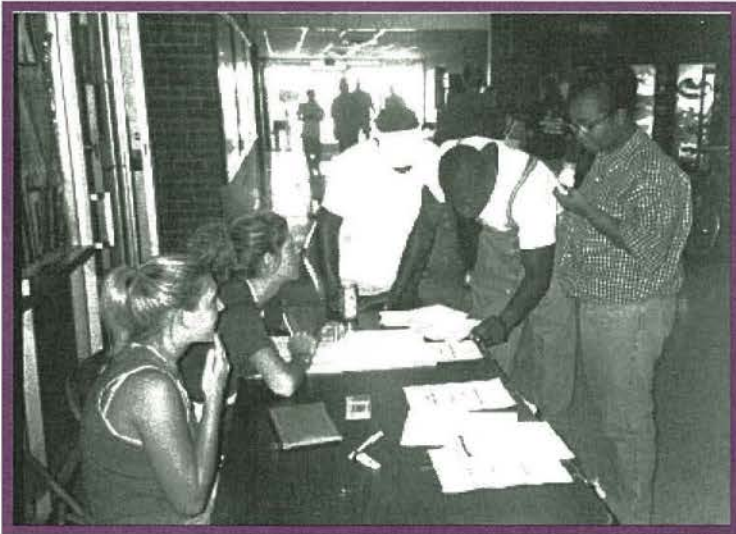
David Bass and Ernie Lopez exchange movie tickets for cash during Movie Week. CAB movie week brought with it some fun times for students.



"The tickets in St. Joseph for the movies are CAB as you pay for tickets!"



Keri Triplet, Lacey Clements and Olu Aregbe sell tickets to students. The \$3.25 discount was a student service brought by CAB programs last year.



Keri Triplet and Lacey Clements are attentive to the questions of CAB movie patrons. Over 300 tickets are sold each week.



Senior CAB coordinator, Akami Eayrs, handles CAB business over the phone. She said that the purpose of CAB movie week was "to give the students the chance to go to the movies for half price."

~All Photos by Kryss Franklin

Brandi Phillips and Zach Ramsey worked to make sure CAB movie week tickets were available to MWSC students. CAB tickets are usually sold out before Thursday or Friday during the week.



Jayme Babcock signs up for Young Life camp. Between 100 and 150 high school students attended the weekly meetings.

Young Life helped both leaders and high school students grow closer to God and gave them an understanding of Jesus Christ.

Rick Gehring and Raeann Pichardo act out a skit trying to encourage kids to go to camp. Young Life helped students grow closer to God.



Luke Werten slams a pie in his face during a game of musical pies. There are 30 college students who are Young Life leaders.

~All Photos by Aaron Steiner



Casey Spears celebrates as he gets a pie in his face. Young Life has helped change high school students attitudes towards God.

Close to God

Students share their passion for God

Not many people see college students as role models. Usually college students put off the persona of being slackers who are only interested in their own lives. However, the students involved in Young Life were actually seen as role models interested in helping others.

Young Life was a Christian outreach program for high school students that introduced them to Jesus Christ, while keeping things fun and exciting.

Thirty college students served as Young Life leaders, people with strong faith in God and religion. The leaders were split between four St. Joseph area schools: Benton, Central, Lafayette and Savannah. An average of 100 to 150 high school students attended weekly meetings at each school. Students interested in having God in their lives could join.

Senior Jaime O'Brien, a leader for three years, got involved because of her love for God and the passion she had for kids to know God and Jesus. Helping high school students and showing them Jesus helped her strengthen her relationship with God.

"I grow closer to God and, at the same time, I strengthen my faith," said O'Brien. "I have formed friendships with my high school friends that will hopefully last a lifetime."

Junior Rachelle Pichardo was a three-year leader at Central High School. Her goal was to teach high school students more about Jesus and the importance of having a relationship with him. "It has helped me open my mind up to where high school kids are in

their life and has taught them how big Christ's love is for us," said Pichardo.

College students were encouraged to become Young Life leaders. Being a leader allowed them to get involved with the community and high school students. It helped them head in the right direction and demonstrate an example of where they could go to stay away from trouble.

Leaders saw the changes that occurred in the lives of the high school students from the time they joined as freshmen through their senior years. The leaders got to experience working with students with different backgrounds and lifestyles. Students became more serious about growing with God, more responsible and more in tune with others around them. Some quit doing drugs, drinking and partying, choosing to concentrate on Christ instead.

"Seeing high school students form a relationship with Jesus Christ is the biggest thing we can ever hope to happen," said O'Brien. "Being a Young Life leader gives you a chance to see the relationship form and that is cool."

"Attitudes are helped to feel stronger because of what is learned through Young Life," said Pichardo.

Young Life helped both leaders and high school students grow closer to God and gave them an understanding of Jesus Christ. It gave them a purpose, a positive attitude and a changed life, and let them know God.

Young Life members, Sarah Pickeral, Katie Slanky, Heidi Kennedy, Lindsay Fowler, and Stacie Schnietter gather to sing songs before the night events get underway. Members attend weekly meetings at either Benton, Central, Lafayette or Savannah high schools.





A student climbs up a rock wall. Three professors and 24 students participated in the trip.

~Story by Jodi Deering

North South

MWSC Students Trek

across the count

Exploring the great outdoors, learning about different cultures and getting credit at the same time can be enticing for any student who wants adventure and a valuable learning experience.

In September and November of 1999, 24 students; Elizabeth Sawin, professor of English; James Reidy, assistant professor of health, physical education and recreation and James Grechus, associate professor of health, physical education and recreation, took part in the Outdoor Semester.

Thirteen students spent 17 days on the North Trek in September. They visited various places in Minnesota, Canada, North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska, stopping to visit different nature centers and American Indian reservations.

Eleven students participated in the South Trek in November, visiting Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico, where they met different Native American tribes.

The trip offered many things. "It's a valuable learning experience that's difficult to duplicate with only on-campus study, with a hidden curriculum involving other area studies involving student participation," said Grechus.

Sophomore Hayley Thomas went on the North Trek. The trip helped Thomas consider leaning her education major towards recreation. Combined with her love of being outdoors, the trip gave her the opportunity to learn about other cultures.

"Experiencing a different culture is totally different from anything I have known and has helped me

to be more patient and understanding," said Thomas. "It broadens your horizons, teaching you to focus on other cultures, especially that of the Native American cultures and appreciate the outdoors more."

When the students on the North Trek visited the badlands, they had the opportunity to meet Orviler Reddest, a Lakota medicine man. He invited them to a powwow at Potato Creek with Grandpa Earl Swifthawk, a medicine man with 65 years experience.

Sophomore Laura Pinkerton attended the South Trek. From the trip, her understanding of Native Americans deepened through her beliefs and practices. She learned she could have a voice and, if the situation was right, learning could be fun.

"I learned that I can be independent traveling so far from home," said Pinkerton. "I bettered my group dynamic skills. I also had opportunity outside of the classroom, which made learning more enjoyable."

The South Trek met Dilbert Sauzo, lead singer for Tiwa Pueblo. He ate dinner with the group, then sang traditional songs and told stories. The students were invited to a social gathering with Pawnee singing and then played a hand game similar to "button, button, who's got the button."

The Outdoor Semester provided an opportunity to meet people and make contacts that would help in the future. "I recommend the semester only to those who are willing to work hard, cooperate in group decision-making and step outside themselves to learn more about their surroundings," said Pinkerton.

The sun shines over the Wyoming plains. The students learned about Native Americans and their cultures.



"It broadens your horizons, teaching you to focus on other cultures, and appreciate the outdoors more."



The group meets at the beginning of the day. The Outdoor Semester provided an opportunity to meet people and make contacts that would help in the future.



James Reidy leads a discussion. The South Trek went to Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico.



The sun sets over North Dakota. Each trip lasted 17 days.

~All Photos by Annie Sigler

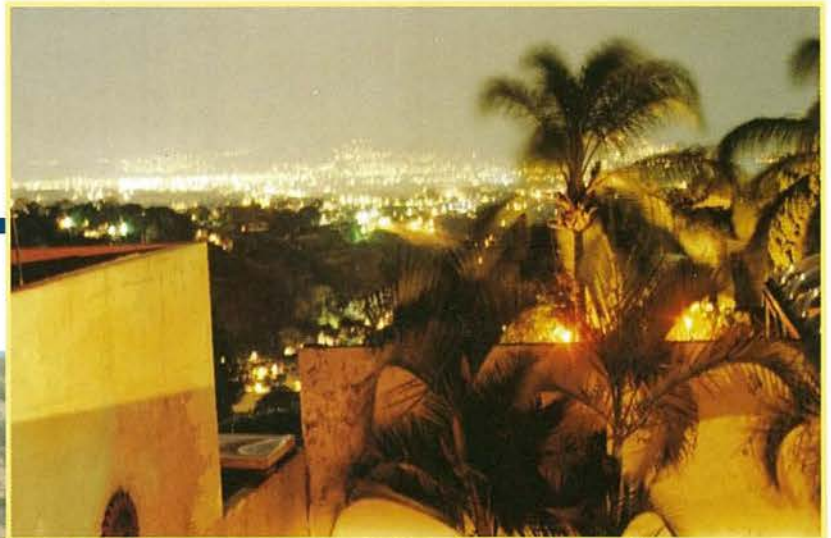
Students watch the sun-set. The North Trek visited Minnesota, Canada, North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska.



A facial sculpture of the god Quetzal Coatl looks down from a Mexican Pyramid. The experience was memorable for everyone involved with the program.

"Going on the Mexico trip was one of the most life-changing experiences I have ever chosen."

A cityscape of Cuernavaca as seen from the roof of a student's house. Thirty-nine students made Cuernavaca their home for three weeks.



Students sit atop the Pyramid of the Sun from an elevated view. Among the feature attractions of the three-week expedition were the authentic historical sites for which the region was famous.



Students stop for a group photo in front of the Benito Juarez Monument on a weekend excursion to Mexico City. Other featured excursions into Mexican culture were visits to Taxco and Tepotzlan, legendary cities known for their colonial and Native American archaeological ruins.

~Story by Zach Ramsey

Buena

Spanish students

make memories



Charles Wheeler, David Johns and Leigh Ann Feuerbacher listen intently to one of the instructors at school. Students spent their days actively, attending classes at the Spanish Language Institute in Cuernavaca.

Cuernavaca. A city of Mexican tradition and historical significance, as well as a stronghold of modern cultural flourishing. While all of this made for a desirable package to a travel agency, what did it mean to Missouri Western, located demographically in the middle of the United States? During the summer, 39 students made Cuernavaca their city of residence for three weeks.

Robert Shell, assistant professor of Spanish and trip coordinator, commended the program for its self-reflective benefit. "The cultural issues, which they face, will help make students understand things about their own lives and perspectives that they never would have remotely considered," he said.

The Mexico trip, traditionally sponsored by the college's Study Abroad Program, was a unique opportunity offered to students to help fulfill foreign language requirements. Program fees came to a total of \$1,899, which included tuition, airfare, room and board in the city, daily transportation, tours and an additional hotel stay in Acapulco, Mexico. A complete and total immersion in the Spanish culture was buffered by the toned down suburban life of middle-class Mexican host families. Many of the students who went on the trip said that the host family's hospitality was the most lasting impression from the program.

"Going on the Mexico trip was one of the most life-changing experiences I could have ever chosen," said senior recreation administration major Mandy Milligan. "I learned so much through the encourage-

ment and support of my host family that I couldn't ever duplicate here in the classroom. The whole trip was incredible; different cultural awareness, different family environment and the weather was great too!"

The experience was memorable for everyone involved with the program. Students spent their days actively attending classes at the Spanish Language Institute in Cuernavaca. Focusing on grammar, conversation and functional Spanish curriculum, the classes emphasized fluent Mexican conversation within the culture itself. Although there was a limited knowledge of the English language among the inhabitants of Cuernavaca, students found it directly practical to improve their proficiency in the language through conversations in Spanish.

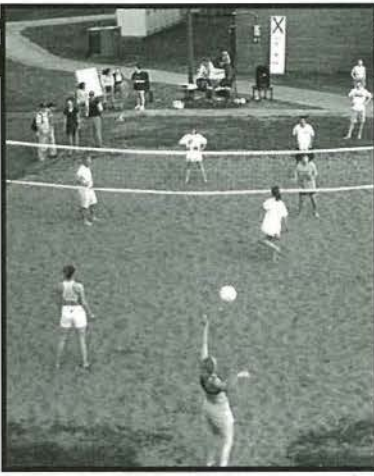
Among the feature attractions of the three-week expedition were the authentic historical sites for which the region was famous. They took weekly trips to places like the Pyramid of the Sun and the ruins of the ancient capital of the Aztec's, Tenochtitlan. Other featured excursions into Mexican culture were visits to Mexico City, Taxco and Tepotzlan, legendary cities known for their colonial and Native American archeological ruins.

"I would recommend the Study Abroad Program for anyone in any language because there is no practice like real world experience," said senior public relations major and Spanish minor Angela Pasley. "You have the opportunity to meet a lot of unique, exceptional people that you will never forget as long as you live."



English/public relations major, Dan Riggs, plays his trumpet with a mariachi band. Students took weekly trips to places like the Pyramid Sun and the ruins of the ancient capital of the Aztec's Tenochtitlan.

~Story by Adina Murrell



X Week participants have some fun in the sun playing sand volleyball. Many activities and music was seen and heard around campus.

Greek Week

The week of April 17 was one full of events for Greeks and Christians

What was up with the string of clothes stretched for miles around the campus and the men dressed up as cheerleaders? What about the softball, basketball and volleyball games, or the weird looking guys dressed in outrageous clothing walking around like everything was normal? Clearly, everything was not normal.

There were multitudes of men and women hanging around campus, Bode Ice Arena and Belt Bowl wearing T-shirts with Greek letters on them. If students had paid attention to the posters plastered around campus or the chalked messages written on the sidewalk, they would have known that it was all part of Greek Week 2000.

The annual festivity included events like the MS Walkathon, "Goofy Greek of the Week," a clothing drive, "Win Dr. Vander's Money," powderpuff football and cheerleading, chariot races and "Who wants to be a Greek?" just to name a few.

"We do Greek Week because it's a good way for all the Greeks on campus to get to know each other and each others' organizations," said co-Greek Week chair Karen Medici. She, along with her co-chair junior Zach Ramsay, worked hard to put together the program.

In the mindset of wanting to promote Greek life in general, Medici and Ramsay wanted to show the rest of the campus how proud they were to be a member of the Greek Social Letter Society, a society that has

helped them grow as individuals.

"We do this also to promote Greek life as a whole so that people who want to rush in the future can come," said Medici. "They are more than welcome to do so."

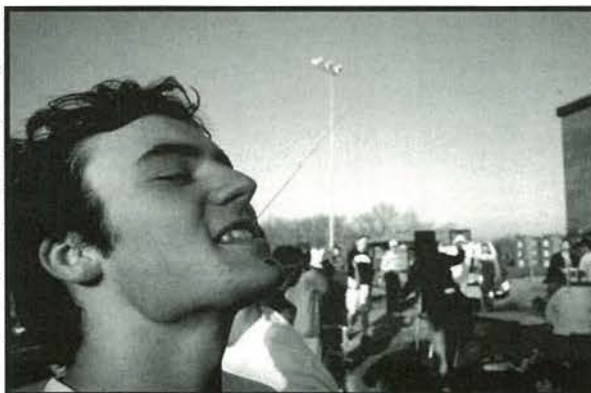
With funny getups, dancing, singing, skit performances and friendly competitions, members of Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Sigma Sigma Sigma and Phi Mu sororities, and members of Phi Sigma Kappa, Phi Delta Theta, Theta Xi, Tau Kappa Epsilon and Phi Mu Alpha fraternities were sure to have a good time in the name of Greek love for Greek Week 2000.

What else was going on that week? X-Week! Those festivities were brought to campus on behalf of The Baptist Student Union, The Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Chi Alpha. The organizations offered X-Week to students to encourage them to get involved on campus and learn what it meant to be a Christian.

Students were able to enjoy themselves with activities like basketball tournaments, sand volleyball, ice cream and pass, punt and kick contests. With a guest speaker who spoke on the Bible, they were able to receive the word of God as well.

"I feel like we accomplished our purpose because we got a lot of people involved," said campus minister Tim Luke. "The speaker shared from the Bible what it meant to be a Christian and how to accept Christ in your life."

Gleeking King Mike Milbourn shows one of his many talents during X Week. Having fun and getting students involved was a high accomplishment to campus minister Tim Luke



"We do Greek week because it's a good way for the Greeks on campus to get to know each other and each other's organizations."



Pushing the energy to extremes, X Week participant Stan Pearson sets the ball high in the air. Volleyball was a popular event in the sand and sun.



Champions in every right, the students support their beliefs at X Week. Music, hot dogs and games ran wild at X Week.

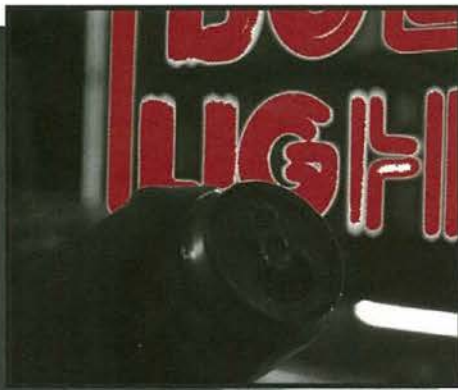


Shooting it through for two! 3 on 3 basketball was a highlight of X Week.



~All Photos by Aaron Steiner

Lacey Clements makes sure her string of clothes is tied tightly. The Greeks had a clothing drive to give back to the community.



A Phi Delt pours out a can of beer as a symbol of being alcohol-free. The group felt that alcohol was not the center of the organization.



The group trashes their booze, finally alcohol-free. They found that without alcohol they could think clearly and improve their grades.



The Phi Delta Theta shield hangs with pride. The group claimed to offer more to students than other organizations.

*"I am proud
that a group of
young men can still
have fun without
constantly consuming*

VALUES

Values



Phi Delt's kick the old habit of drinking alcohol on campus and on fraternity property. Instead, members enjoyed a full social calendar and their control over life.

~Story by Taira Hill

The Phi Delta Theta Fraternity recently made a choice to be alcohol-free, despite the belief that young people can only have a good time if they are in a party atmosphere. Many people had questions about the men's beliefs on the issue, and it became a confusing issue on campus. The greatest myth about the fraternity was that they were not allowed to consume alcoholic beverages.

"We had three main reasons to rule out alcohol in our fraternity: the insurance cost, academics and the quality of our houses," said James Clark, chapter advisor. "We received money for the different educational programs, positive press and we have become a good example for other fraternities. We were praised for our achievement on 'Good Morning America' and many metropolitan newspapers."

The fraternity had until June 30, 2000, before all chapters had to become dry.

"Our chapter, as well as 40 other chapters, has already taken the step early, and we are strongly urging other chapters to see for themselves that it is not that difficult," said Clark. "The men will have more value for friendships, education and life. Besides, the social functions are really exciting."

The members of Phi Delta Theta were allowed to do as they pleased when it came to alcohol, as long as it was off the fraternity property and the members drinking alcohol were of the legal drinking age. The

group felt that alcohol was not the only aspect they had to offer to individuals.

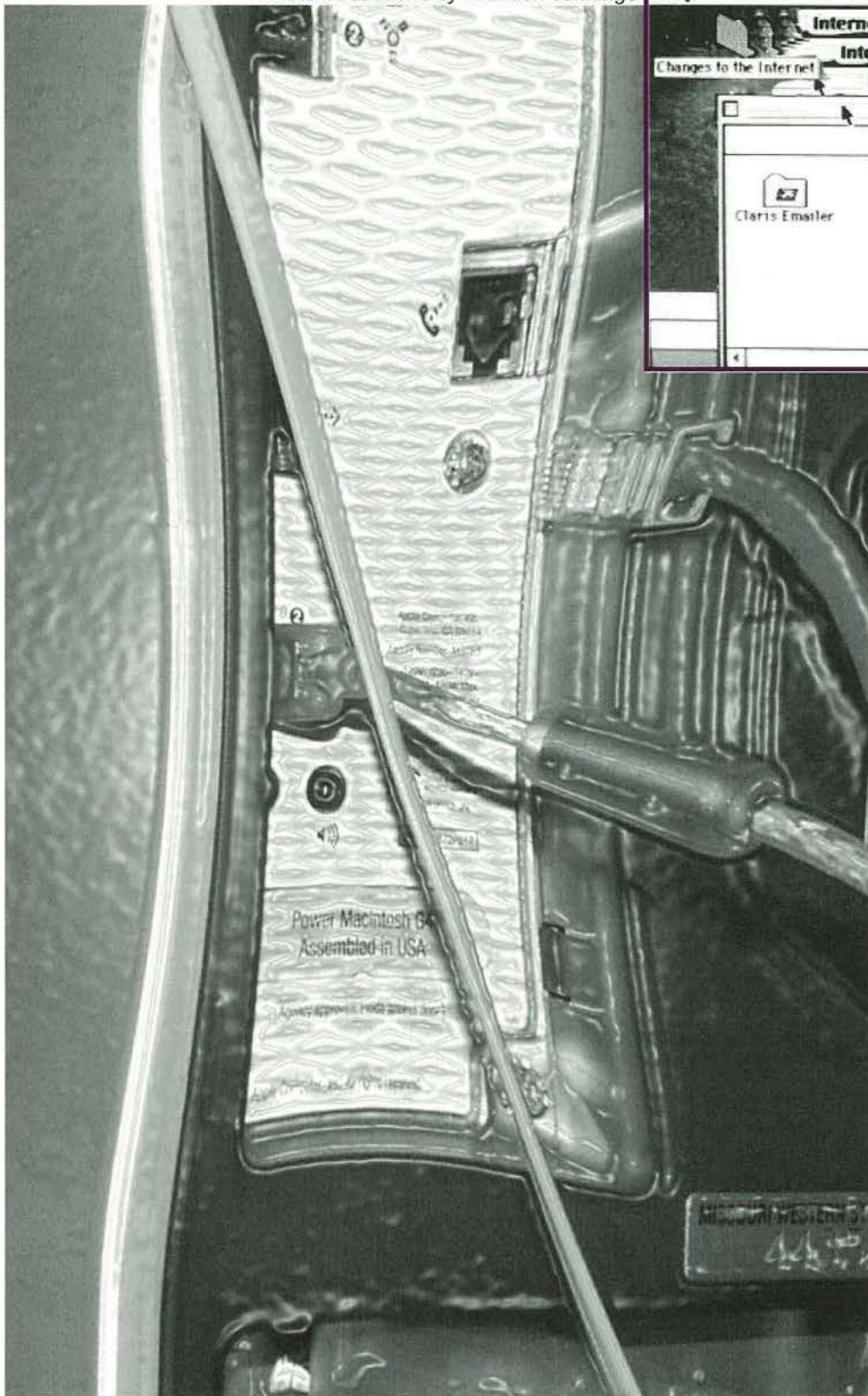
Junior Gary Sellers, exercise science major, felt that he would become a success if he kept his mind on the books and off the booze.

"The rush number hasn't dropped at all; in fact we have had more people than ever," said Sellers. "There wasn't much we could do about it, but we now realize alcohol isn't really a big issue anymore."

Members of the fraternity felt there was a misconception in Greek life, and it was their duty to make it right. Clark set the record straight.

"I am proud that a group of young men can still have fun without constantly consuming alcohol," said Clark. "There is a myth that we are not allowed to associate with organizations, such as sororities, who are not alcohol-free. We do not tell our men who or who not to associate with. It is entirely up to them who their friends are in life."

There were many other things for the fraternity to take part in so that alcohol was not the center of the organization. The brothers enjoyed many campus activities, mixing with other organizations, participating in intramural sports and helping in the community. The fraternity claimed to offer benefits to students that others did not. They had a full social calendar planned and plenty of opportunities to have fun.



A computer screen shows the new options for off-campus students. Students had to either come to campus or get their own provider for Internet access.

This on-campus computer requires an Ethernet card to access the Internet. Cards ranged anywhere from \$20 to \$40.

"Being a computer science student and living off-campus makes it tough for me to get some assignments done, being I have to use some school programs."

ETHER = WHAT?



~Photo by Mike Bagby

~Story by Jodi Deering

Off-campus computers like this one face many changes due to the new server. As of August, students could no longer access the Internet for free if they lived off-campus.

"Hacker" and "cyberfreak" were words commonly associated with computers, and college students were especially familiar with them because they spent a lot of time using the Internet and email.

As of August, students living off-campus could no longer access the Internet for free using a phone number to the college. After studying costs to replace the modem pools, it was the decision of the Student Government Association, the Prexy Club and President Janet Murphy to quit offering the Internet server off-campus. In the end, it was cheaper for students living off-campus to go with a local Internet server. "With the new Web Mail access, it was probably an inevitable decision," said Jane Frick, English professor and chair, department of English, foreign languages and journalism.

The majority of students lived off-campus and found the change an inconvenience because they would have to commute to and from a destination whenever they needed to use a computer. Some students with a computer at home were unable to afford service from a local Internet provider.

"I can understand why the administration decided not to offer access to off-campus students, but it would be so much nicer to be able to dial into the school," said junior Aaron Chleborad. "Being a computer science student and living off-campus makes it tough for me to get some assignments done, being I have to use some school programs. I can't afford to make a special trip to the college every time I want to

work on my computer homework."

For students living on-campus, it was recommended that an Ethernet card be purchased. Prices for an Ethernet card ranged from \$20 to \$45, plus \$7.50 for a network cable.

"An Ethernet card is the only way dorm students can get connected to the Internet," said Mark Mabe, director of the computer center. "We have been hooking up dorm students' cards, but don't know how long we will be able to continue to do so."

Many students living on-campus had a computer in their dorm for convenience and dependability. Some students didn't mind purchasing an Ethernet card because it meant they could still access the Internet and check their email from their room.

"By having a computer in my room, I don't have to fight the crowds like I would if I went to the computer labs all the time," said freshman Jessica Coldiron. "I can use the email and Internet anytime I need to."

Internet services provided in the St. Joseph area were A-R Computer Systems, CCP Online Services, GTE Internet, M & S Computers Incorporated, Pony Express and S Jcket Internet. Prices for those services ranged from \$10 for 50 hours through CCP Online Services to \$18.95 a month for unlimited access with A-R Computer Systems.

Students who had a computer with Internet at home could still access their school email through the MWSC website, they just had to connect to the Internet through another source.



Coca-cola is the only beverage in this Phi Sig's refrigerator. The alcohol-free program was called SOBER: Stregthening Our Brotherhood and Ex-emplifying our Rituals.

~All Photos by Laura Powers



Junior education major Rick Wright takes part in the Phi Sig's alcohol-free month. Wright lived at the Phi Sig house full-time.

The refrigerator in the Phi Sig house is full of everything BUT alcohol. The fraternity went dry for one month.

"We stand for
a lot more than
having a good time,
and with that
in mind, we
decided to go ahead
with the idea of being dry."

SOBER



Phi Sigma Kappa letters let everyone know that this is their house. The house was located on Mitchell Street across from the college.

~Story by Christina Hazelwood

People often stereotyped fraternities as the typical "Animal House", but one fraternity turned heads when they went dry for a month.

The Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity was put on probation for an incident that occurred at their house between fraternity members and some football players, but that was not the reason for their decision to go alcohol free. The terms of the probation included a formal apology to the Student Government Association, and five pairs of students, including one football player and one fraternity member, had to go to local schools and give a presentation about the effects of alcohol.

"I think the reviews were mixed," said Don Willis, associate dean of student affairs. "Some felt they were dealt with fairly and the results were appropriate. Others thought the penalty was too harsh and unneeded."

Willis said that the group itself pursued the mission of going alcohol free, and that it was not a requirement of their probation. College rules already covered that issue where applicable. They called the alcohol free program SOBER: Strengthening Our brotherhood And Exemplifying Our Rituals.

"It was brought up at our meetings that we should show a sign of good faith to the school and community that this is not the stereotypical 'Animal House'

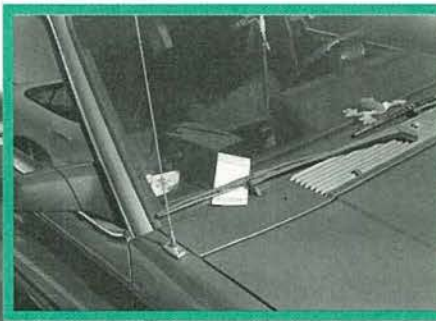
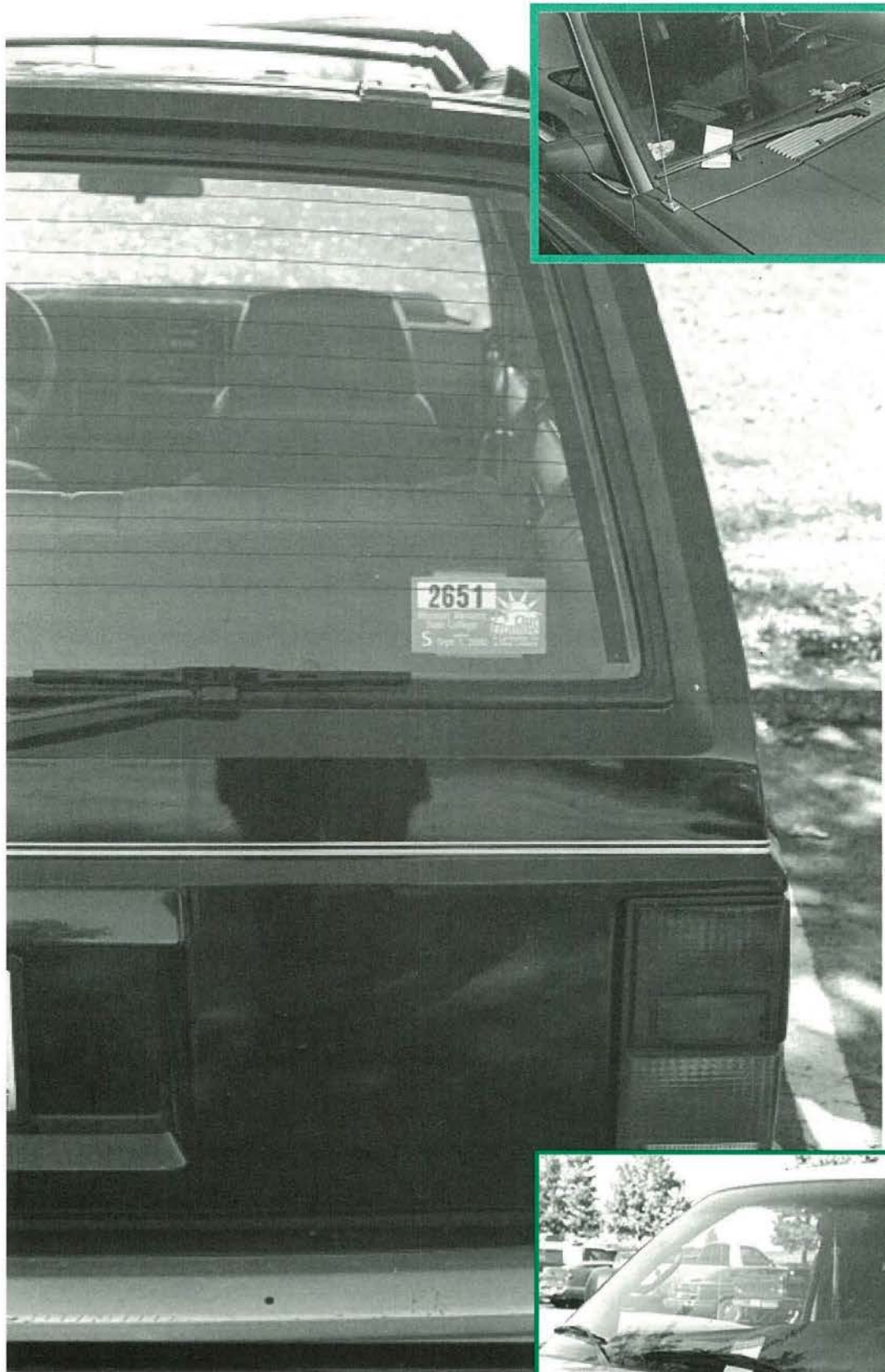
fraternity," said junior Chad Scheiter. "We stand for a lot more than having a good time, and with that in mind, we decided to go ahead with the idea of being dry."

The commitment was made for one month, and the fraternity stood their ground. In the Sept. 21 issue of "The Griffon News", Phi Sig President Aaron Stiegler said social activities ended at 1 a.m. to avoid the bar crowds and prevent uninvited guests from getting in.

"Not often do you find a group of people, especially men the age of 21 to 23, who will all go dry for one month for the same cause," said Scheiter. "Not having parties helped us work on other aspects of fraternity life, such as scholastics and community service. We focused on these things, and I think that the month helped us regroup and will help us continue to grow and prosper."

Future views of fraternities may have been changed by this act. The Phi Sig's hoped it would show those with a negative view of greek organizations that they could be a positive influence.

"I would hope this will send a message that they reconsider their mission and principles," said Willis. "Hopefully, they will conduct activities that are in the best interest of the student members and the fraternity."



One student returns to her car to find a parking ticket. Things like parking in a reserved space or remaining in a 15-minute space past the time limit were reasons security personnel ticketed cars.

A 1999-2000 parking sticker is taped to the inside lower right corner of the rear window of a student's vehicle. One of the rules in the parking handbook was that stickers be placed on the outside of the vehicle, not the inside.



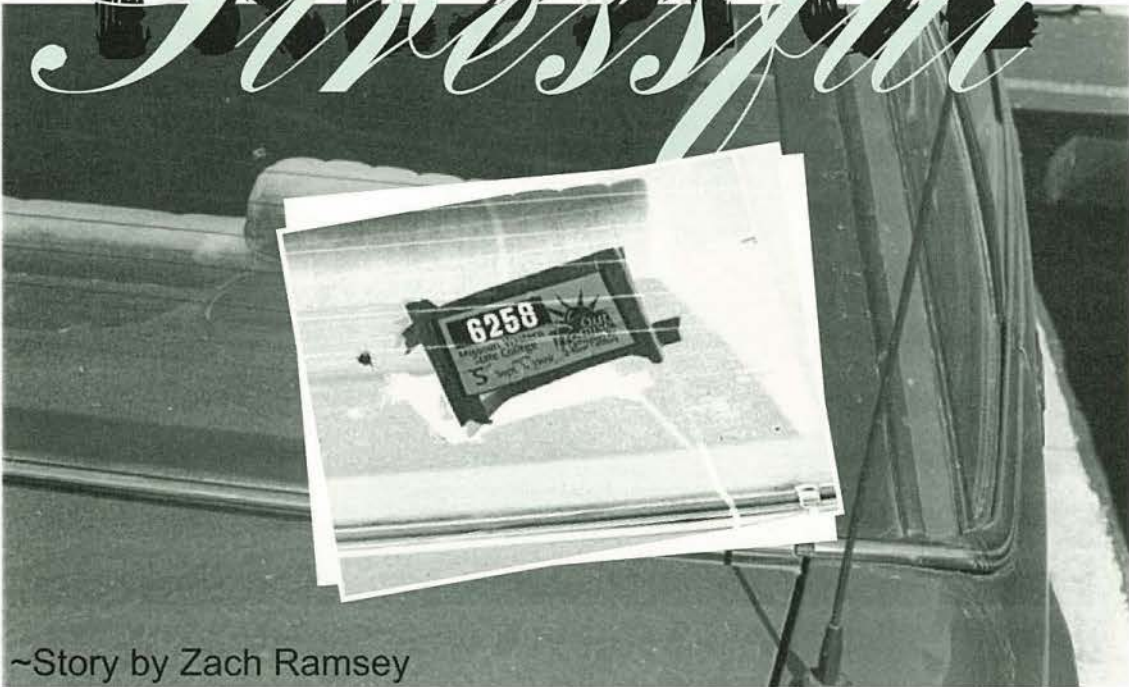
A parking ticket is placed under the wiper blade of one student's vehicle. Some students chose to disregard the rules and regulations of parking on campus.

~All Photos by Laura Powers

Disgusted at this
obviously inhumane
incident of parking
space hoarding,
you cynically drive
on to the next
available lot.

STRESSFUL

Another student chooses to tape their parking sticker inside of the rear window. Parking stickers were supposed to be located on the lower right corner of the rear window or bumper, but some students were afraid of damaging their vehicle.



~Story by Zach Ramsey

You squeal wildly into the parking lot, fish-tailing in your effort to get to a 3:00 class in the Multi-Purpose Classrooms building. Driving with reckless abandonment around the upper lot, you realize that it is a futile effort and move on to the overflow parking. Frantically circling the lot, you eyeball every two-foot gap as a potential parking spot and enviously notice one vehicle occupying two spaces. Disgusted at this obviously inhumane incident of parking space hoarding, you cynically drive on to the next available lot, frustrated and conceding that you will never make it to class.

Parking at the college was always a major concern for administration, faculty and students. The commuter nature of the student body prescribed an obvious need for convenient, accessible and available parking for everyone. Many students felt they were singled out by security's efforts to maintain a civilized parking environment. Accusations bombarded the security department and the institution, citing everything from "playing favorites" to "not assessing student interests", and even allegations of "false indictment". Jonathan Kelley, head of campus security, dismissed these allegations as specific incidents that did not take into account the interest of the entire student body.

"According to the numbers, we are issuing less tickets per year than we did two out of the last three years," said Kelley. "I think if you are to discuss fairness, you must look at the community as a whole, not as individual students or employees. In that, I feel all college parking regulations are more than adequate."

One student recalled an incident in which he

felt a campus security official treated him very rudely.

"I was stopped in the lot for no more than 30 seconds, telling a friend to meet me back at my dorm room," said Marion Petty III, sophomore psychology major. "A Security guard pulled up behind me in his car, flipped his lights on and rudely told me to 'get moving before he gave me a ticket'. Some of the officials can really get an attitude and should remember common courtesy when performing their service to the campus."

Emotions naturally ran adamant on both sides, especially since financial interests came into play over rule violations. Isolated incidents turned into student-versus-official confrontations, and many students harbored feelings of resentment and oppression when dealing with campus security officials.

"Parking has gotten very stressed in the overflow lots, and that's just in the four years I've been here to witness it," said senior Spanish and human resource management major Angie Schneider. "I think many university-style changes need to be made to parking accommodations, such as typical freshmen exclusion rules prohibiting those who live in the dorms from parking in the lots. Money allotments should be refocused into efforts to build new parking lots instead of frivolous spending on luxuries like new Dodge Intrepids for the Security Officers."

Administration response to parking frustrations was understanding and sympathetic, but they had to take a hard-line on parking due to the increasing student population and projected campus growth.

I Miss You

Freshman Kiara Grant shows a picture of her mom. After students became involved with classes and organizations, homesickness decreased.



~Story by Adina Murrell

As your father starts the family van, you get a strong whiff of exhaust fumes, then they pull away and your eyes begin to water. Are those tears from the fumes, or are you scared of being on your own for the first time, afraid that you will miss your family and your dog, Lucy? This is college, and there are new faces, first roommates and no home-cooked food from Mom or hugs from Dad. To top it off, you are facing more responsibilities, homework and studying. Ugh, you want to go home!

First thoughts of college were usually of getting a higher education and having fun. It was a known fact that a number of freshmen who moved away from home to attend college admitted to missing their families and experiencing homesickness. These students spent a lot of time on the phone talking to family during their first weeks of college. However, once they got the hang of things, made new friends, socialized and got into their studies, the homesickness decreased.

Students like freshmen Yanire Navorro and Kiara Grant phoned home countless times when they first arrived at college. After a few weeks, Grant was able to limit herself to one call per week, but she still went home every weekend.

"I was missing it," said Grant. "But, I'm starting to try and stay now 'cause I know I can't go home in the winter."

Navorro continued to call home every night, yet had only been home twice by the middle of the first semester.

"I have to call every night," said Navorro. "It's a must. My mom worries about where I'm at. Try calling her at 10:30 and she's all worried. She's protective of her baby."

Grant liked the college's small size and the one-on-one learning. She also enjoyed meeting new people from other cities, such as her roommate from Saint Louis.

While freshmen like Grant felt that the school was small, some students who had never stepped foot on a campus before thought it was big.

"I was like, man this place is big, I'm gonna get lost," said freshman Adam Kovac. "I didn't think that I was going to be able to make it. I thought that it would be too hard for me to handle."

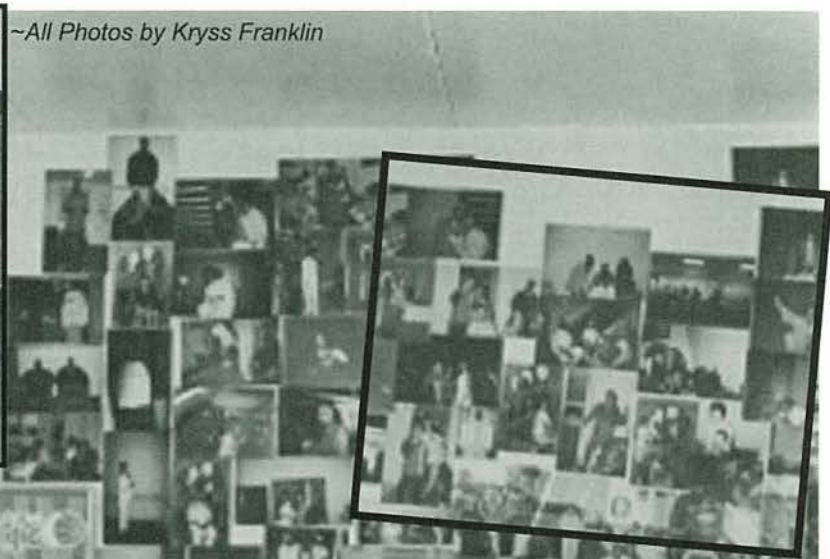
Being around other's who felt the same way made these students feel more comfortable. FIG classes helped students get to know each other better. "Being in a FIG, I am able to fit in easier," said Kovac.

Fitting in and getting comfortable in a new environment was a major challenge for college freshmen. It was the main reason students suffered from homesickness, but most found that things got better as long as they hung in there.

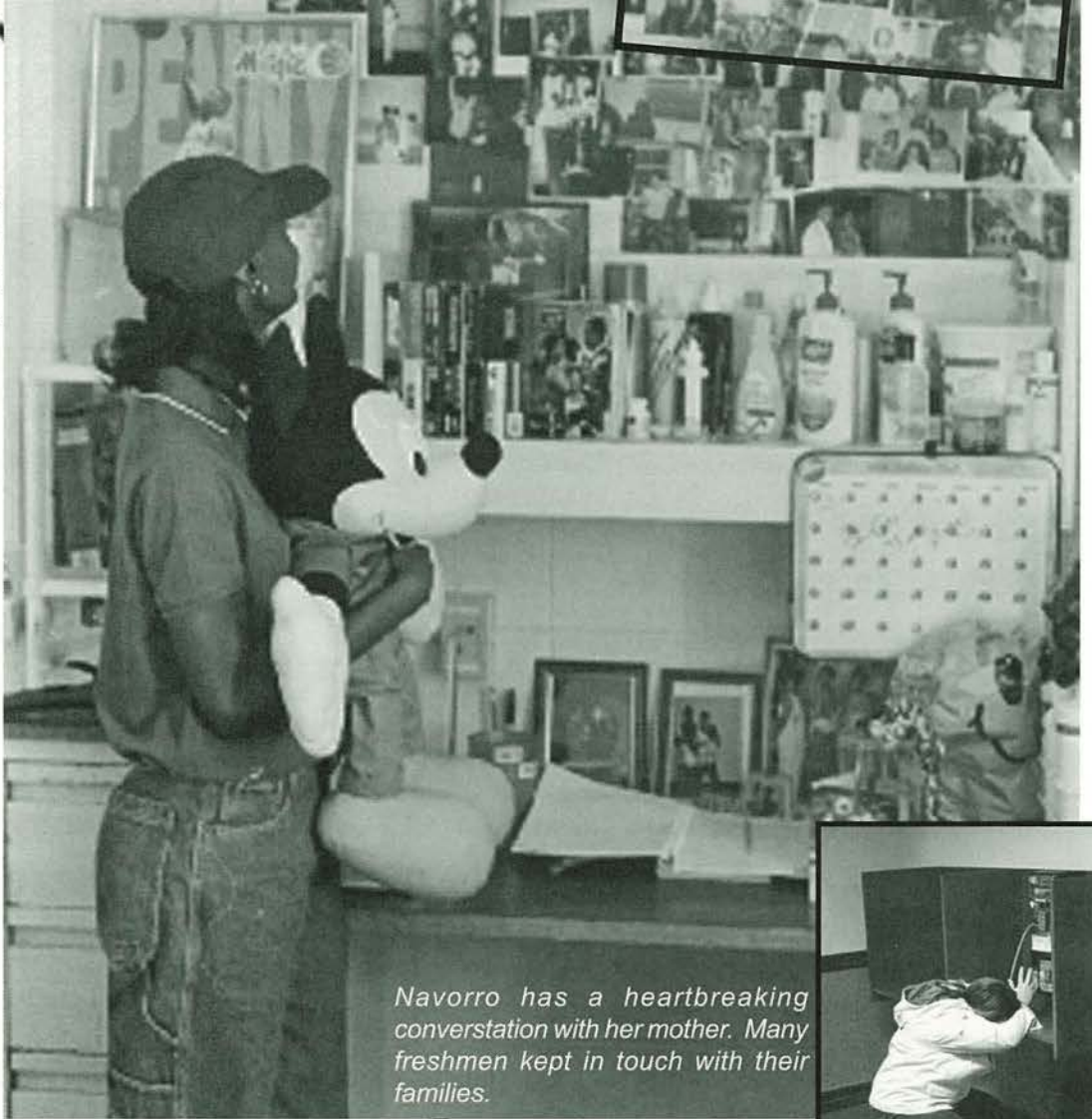
Freshman Yanice Navorro cries due to homesickness. To many students, Missouri Western seemed large and scary when they arrived.



~All Photos by Kryss Franklin



Grant looks longingly at photos of her family and friends. Grant admitted to calling her family frequently and visiting them every weekend.



Navorro has a heartbreaking conversation with her mother. Many freshmen kept in touch with their families.



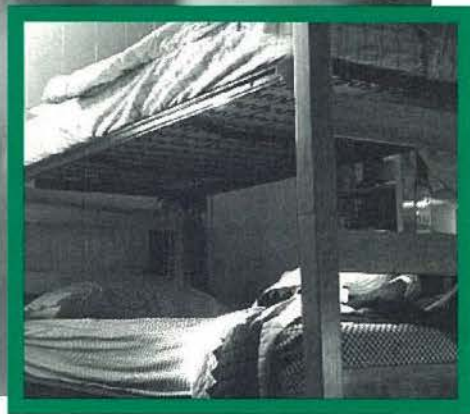
Fitting in and getting comfortable in a new environment was a major challenge for college freshman



Three female students curl up wherever they can conveniently find a place to sleep. It was not uncommon to find three people sharing sleeping arrangements in one room.



Bunk-beds are common place in many dorm rooms and suites. Extra beds became a necessity as more students were asked to move into temporary housing.



~All Photos by Brandon Jennings

What's your dorm number? Which hall?
Broadmoor? Which one in Brittany village?
Are you a townie?
Where's your place?

HOME??



The entrance to Broadmoor Apartments off of Gene Field Broadoor was a major site for off-campus student housing.

~Story by Zach Ramsey

What's your dorm number? Which hall? Broadmoor? Which one in Brittany Village? Are you a townie? Where's your place? Oh, you're on the South Side... where at on the South Side? Questions like these were common due to the high number of commuters at the college and the significant amount of St. Joseph residents that comprised the student body.

"There are many students who come in here almost a semester in advance to insure that they will have housing," said Shyra Jackson, leasing consultant for Broadmoor Apartments. "Students really like the location of the complex, and we make every effort to accommodate their vacation down-time by offering programs like summer storage."

Broadmoor Apartments was one of many alternative routes for housing available to students who were unable to gain access to residence halls already filled to capacity. Many chose to live locally in efforts to gain independence, liberate themselves from dorm policies or live with friends they met through college. Other apartment complexes, such as Brittany Village or Chatsworth, offered competitive rent pricing that attracted many off-campus students.

Resident housing made every effort to insure that contracts made with incoming students were fair and credible, especially since waiting list woes required that many students temporarily reside with others in the same dilemma. Campus housing administrators

pointed out that the alleged "problems" with students' housing were simply disgruntlements raised every year.

"Essentially, there are the same number of rooms available each and every year, and this year's waiting list was no longer than the years before," said Annette Diorio, director of residential life. "The only thing I noticed, personally, was that off-campus housing seemed to fill much earlier in the season than before."

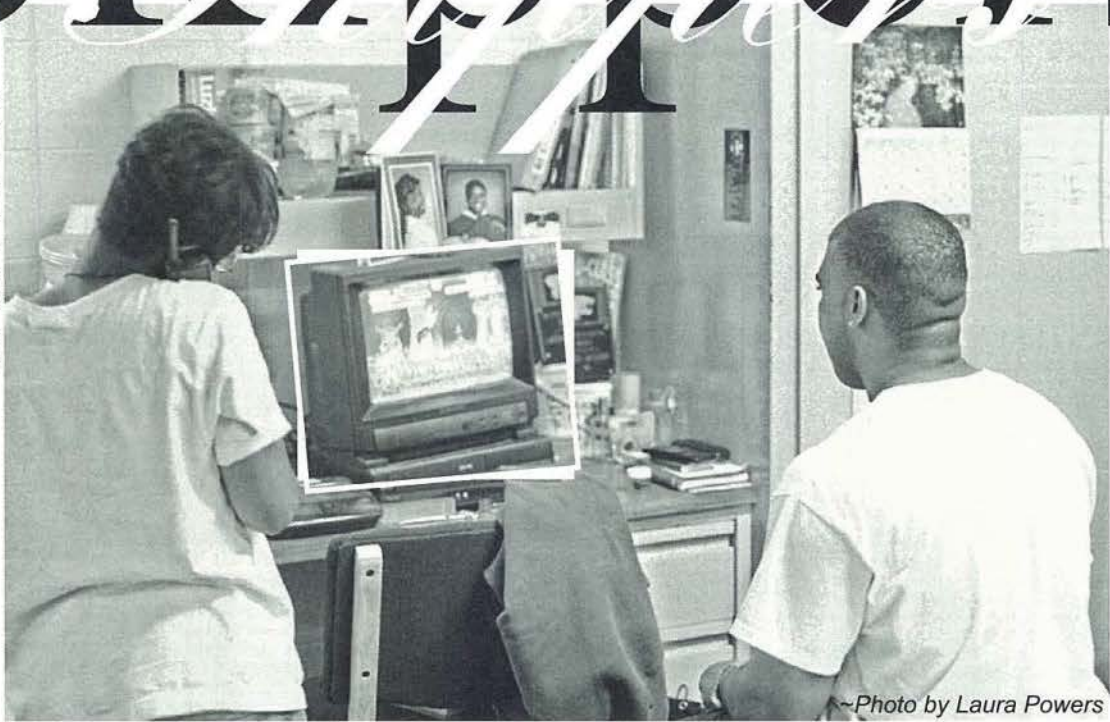
To accommodate for this lack of foresight, many empty rooms were quickly transformed into useable triple rooms, allowing those on the waiting list additional possibilities for temporary housing. This gave housing officers extra time to make the necessary corrections to house as many students as conditions would conveniently allow.

Senior criminal justice major Richard Mason was a returning student who had to live in temporary housing.

"We were moved into Vaselakos Hall at the beginning of the year, just on a temporary basis, because we all signed for suites," said Mason. "However, there were consistent updates from the Housing Office, and we all soon grew to like the people we had grown to know in our suite. There were no problems or sudden moves, so I am very pleased with the arrangement I had permanently that was originally on a temporary basis."

Skipppers

Talking on the phone and watching television are higher on their list of priorities than going to class. One student said that he tried not to skip any of his major classes.



~Photo by Laura Powers

~Story by Christina Hazelwood

Some students spent more time ducking out of their teachers' sight than sitting in class. Why did students skip? Was it because the weather was nice and they'd do anything, but sit in class? Was it because there was a foot of snow on the ground that they didn't want to trudge through? Or was it simply because they just didn't want to go?

Senior Dennis Walling said that the classes he skipped the most were general studies courses early in the morning, or classes that he thought were boring. He was more likely to skip classes taught by teachers who seemed bored themselves than those who were interested in the lecture. He didn't want to be in classes where even the teachers acted like they didn't want to be there. Freshman Joni Gebhards said she usually skipped her 8 a.m. classes and the ones she knew would be covering a boring subject. Junior Andrea Plummer said she skipped class when she had an exam to study for the following hour.

"I really don't skip any of my major classes," said senior Chris Adler. "I usually skip my electives that I really don't care about. I skip classes if the instructor won't notice I'm gone and I feel like I really don't need to be there. If I have stuff to do for other classes, then I go ahead and skip."

Attendance points sometimes affected students' willingness to get up and go in the morning. Many teachers had a policy of dropping grades when a student missed too many classes.

"I just skip one class because it is too early in the morning and I accidentally forget to set my alarm," said Jessica Brandt. "I don't get into attendance trouble because I turn in all of my work, and we don't get credit for attendance."

Some days were just too nice outside to be trapped in a classroom gazing dreamily out of the windows at the sunny, blue sky.

"I skipped class twice because it was pretty outside, and it was totally spring fever," said senior Amy Newman. "If a class gives extra credit for good attendance, I usually won't skip those."

Some students found that the freedom of being at college and away from their parents' watchful eyes gave them the "skipping classes" bug.

"When I first started school, I would skip about three classes a week and then, depending on my schedule, sometimes I would skip class all week," said Walling. "I skipped especially when it was a nice day out and I had any excuse not to go, like golf, fishing or going to the park."

Students like Walling soon found out that some teachers had no tolerance for "skippers".

"I have gotten into a lot of attendance trouble," he said. "I have been kicked out of my PED 101 class twice for attendance. It seems that it doesn't matter if your work is good, timely and correct. If you've missed the class more than three times, your grade will be affected."

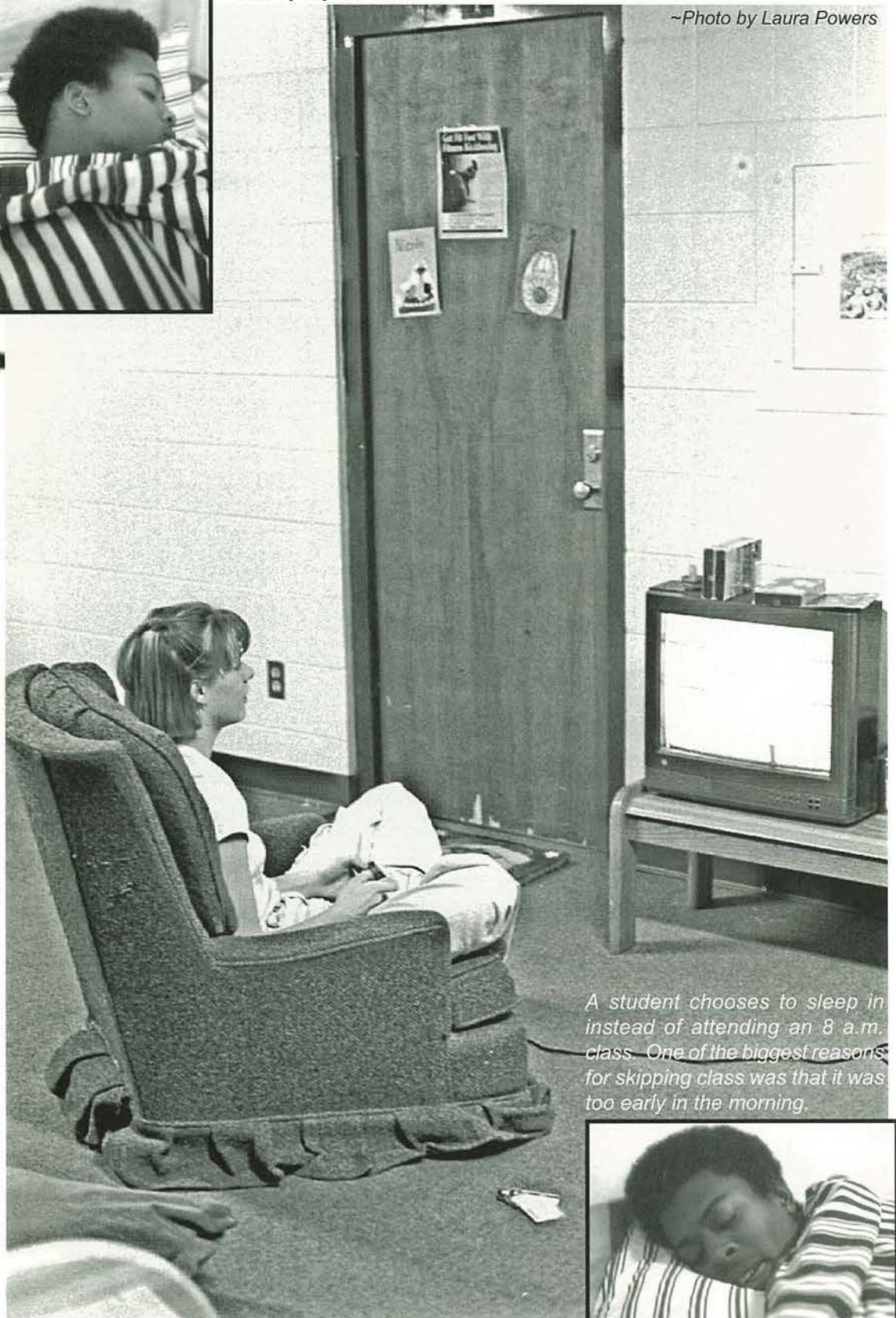
...ent chooses not to crawl out of
...arm bed and go to class. One
...ent said she skipped an early
...ing class because she forgot to
...er alarm.



~Photo by Kryss Franklin

~Photo by Laura Powers

A student finds
daytime televi-
sion more inter-
esting than
attending
classes. Many
students said
that they
skipped "bor-
ing" class most
frequently.



A student chooses to sleep in
instead of attending an 8 a.m.
class. One of the biggest reasons
for skipping class was that it was
too early in the morning.



~Photo by Kryss Franklin

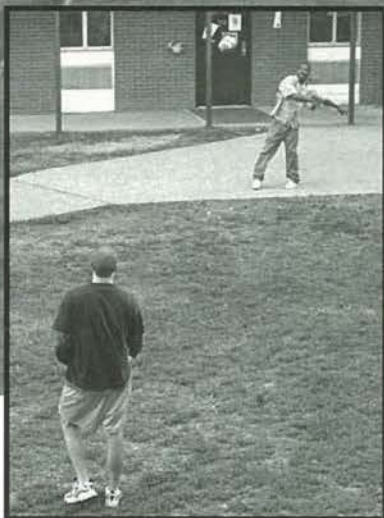
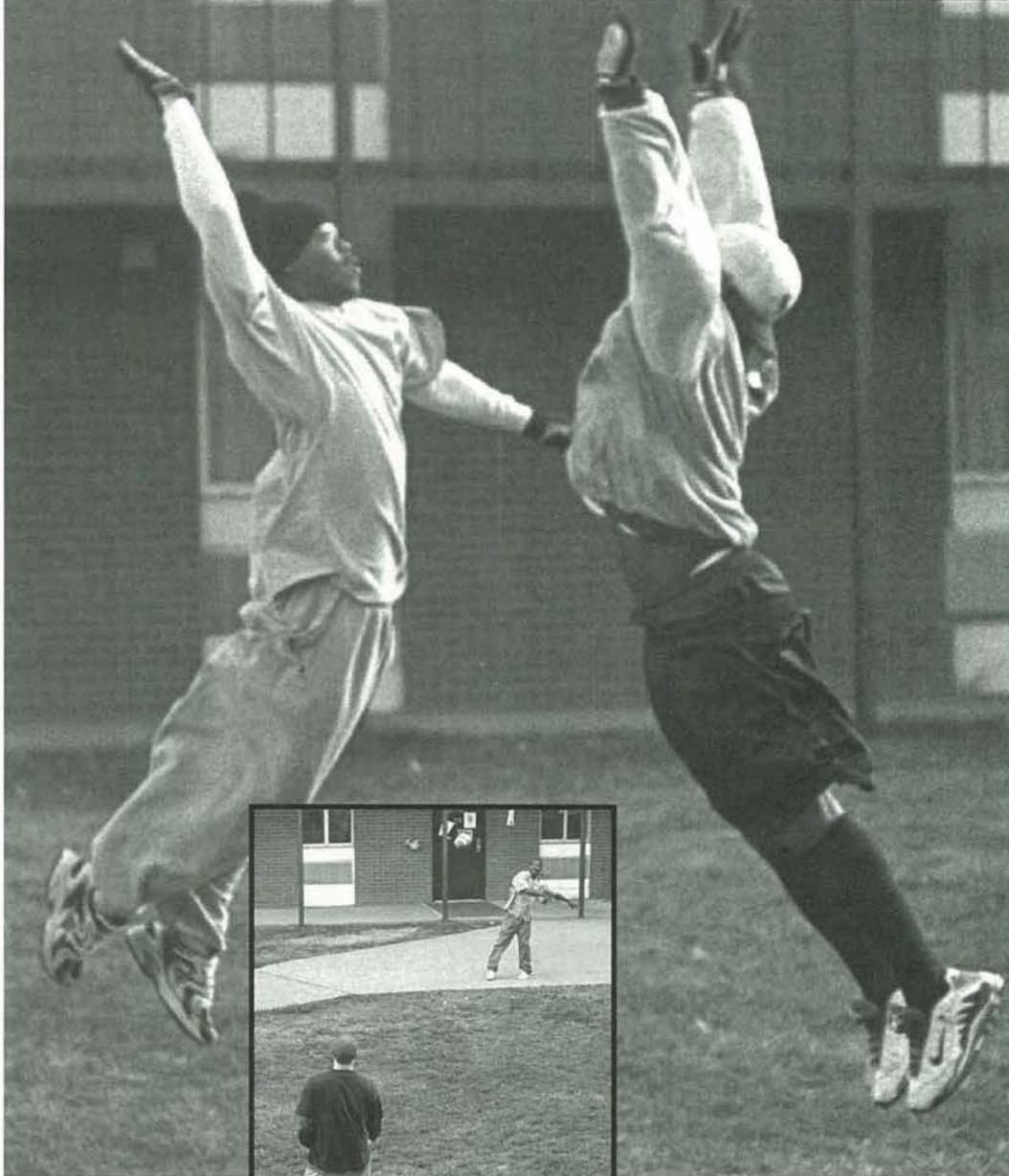
"I skipped
especially when it was
a nice day out
and I had any
excuse not to go,
like golf, fishing,
or going to the park."



Students take advantage of the nice weather. Many students were wishing for snow and more winter-like weather.



Students didn't expect to be playing outside of the residence halls without a winter coat at the beginning of December. Temperatures were in the 80's in late November.



Students play catch outside of the residence halls. The warm weather seemed out of place.

~All Photos by Kryss Franklin

“Humans have
messed up the
environment,
now we are
paying for it.”



80's in Nov.



Students take some time out to play football and enjoy the unseasonably warm weather. Students were wearing fall clothing in November and early December.

~Story by Jodi Deering

Temperatures were in the 80's and people were walking around campus wearing shorts, sleeveless shirts and sandals, but no coats or jackets. No, it wasn't the spring weather of May, it was the end of November!

Missouri didn't experience the usual winter snowstorms that typically left students bundled in winter apparel like thick, heavy coats, scarves, earmuffs and gloves for the five minute walk to class everyday. Across the campus, students were dressed for summer in the month of November.

According to predictions by the "Farmer's Almanac", the temperature and precipitation in November was supposed to be fairly normal and the weather was to be mild.

"The weather should be like this all year round," said freshman Jennifer Pray. "We don't need snow, no snow."

The "Farmer's Almanac" also predicted that the first heavy snow would arrive in late December, with more snows in mid and late January, mid-February and mid-March. The months of January, February and March were predicted to be the coldest ever.

There were advantages to having warm temperatures in the fall, like not having to bundle up in winter clothing, or get up earlier than usual to go outside and scrape the snow and ice off of the car. The extended wearing of the summer wardrobe made the weather that much more enticing. The weather was at a reasonable temperature to dress in fall clothing, but

the warm temperatures still seemed out of place.

"It is not too cold," said sophomore Amanda Felice. "I can still wear some of my fall clothes."

It was natural to expect the weather to be blustery from September to March. Everyone found his or her own reason for the weather to be so warm. Some blamed Mother Nature, while others chose to lay their blame elsewhere.

"Humans have messed up the environment, now we are paying for it," said freshman Joni Hayes. "We are going to see snow in the spring."

For others, the warm weather gave them a reason to worry about what would come.

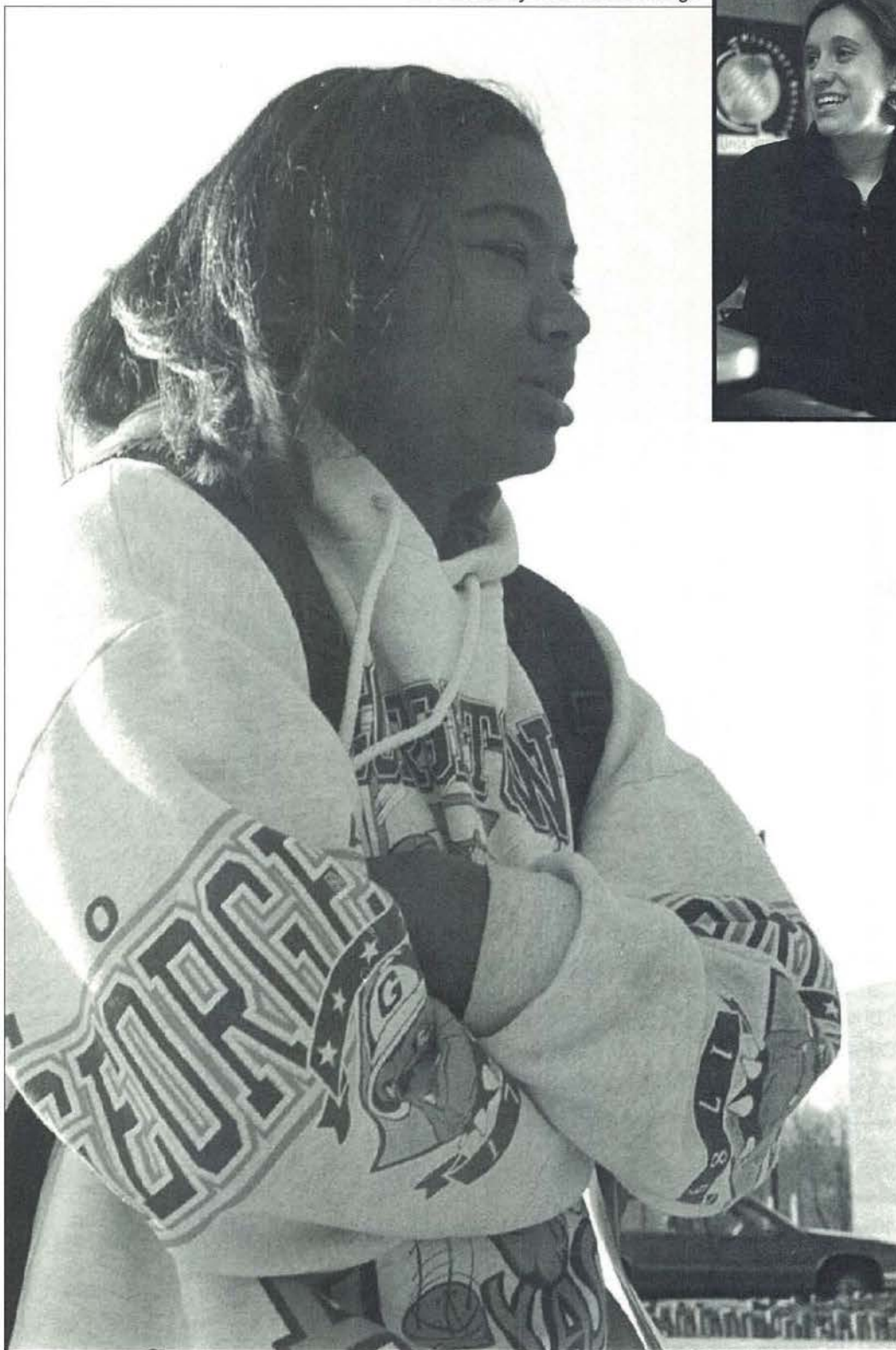
"It makes me nervous," said Susan Hennessey, assistant professor of French. "I think we will pay for it later."

Others wished for winter weather with snow and freezing temperatures. They were ready to bundle up in nice, warm winter clothing, and go outside to see the first snow kicking off the winter season.

"I miss the cold weather 'cause I want to wear my warm clothes," said freshman Laura Defenbaugh. "I think the snow is beautiful."

Predictions for the weather in 2000 included a summer that was hotter than normal, a possible drought and an early snowfall in October. Would those predictions come true? Only time and Mother Nature would tell.





"I just don't believe it's possible for so much phenomenal change to occur with the overnight coming of the millennium," says senior psychology major Sarah Kesse. Most students tended to downplay the impact of Y2K presented in the media.

"I would think that living a happy, peaceful life with a goal and a purpose would be the best hope that anyone could have," says freshman speech and dramatic arts major Tiffany Edwards. Generally, students believed that life would continue despite the realities of the new millennium.

"It's kind of like the end of the world. You see it coming in the rear-view mirror, but there's not really anything you can do about it."



Y2K



"The world has been going on for several thousand years, and I don't think it will melt down now," says junior commercial music major Josh Tackett. Students' Pre-millennium opinions of Y2K tended to be optimistic.

~Story by Zach Ramsey

At the conclusion of the fall semester, a burning question raged in the minds of students that could only be answered with doubt, insecurity and collegiate ambiguity. What was the new millennium going to present to the next generation? In the early weeks of November, some students were asked what their hopes, dreams and aspirations were to ease the Y2K apprehension saturating American society.

"It's kind of like the end of the world," said freshman music education major Ashley Baines. "You see it coming in the rear-view mirror, but there's not really anything you can do about it."

Adversity that came with Y2K "bugs" was a serious concern to top experts in the computer, communication and security fields, and constituents of the college were quick to pick up on that. Many acknowledged that there were bound to be a few glitches in crucial informational systems, but nothing that could not be corrected by the experts and professionals who created the technology originally.

"I think that a reasonable amount of computer failure will occur, but nothing as drastic as some radicals think will happen," said junior commercial music major Josh Tackett. "The world has been going for several thousand years, and I don't think it will melt down now."

Most of the students' consensus tended to downplay the impact of a "life-changing turning point"

event that Y2K skeptics emphasized in the media. Level-headed collegiates focused more on the gradual changes that came through progressive social reform, government legislation and global-minded revelations.

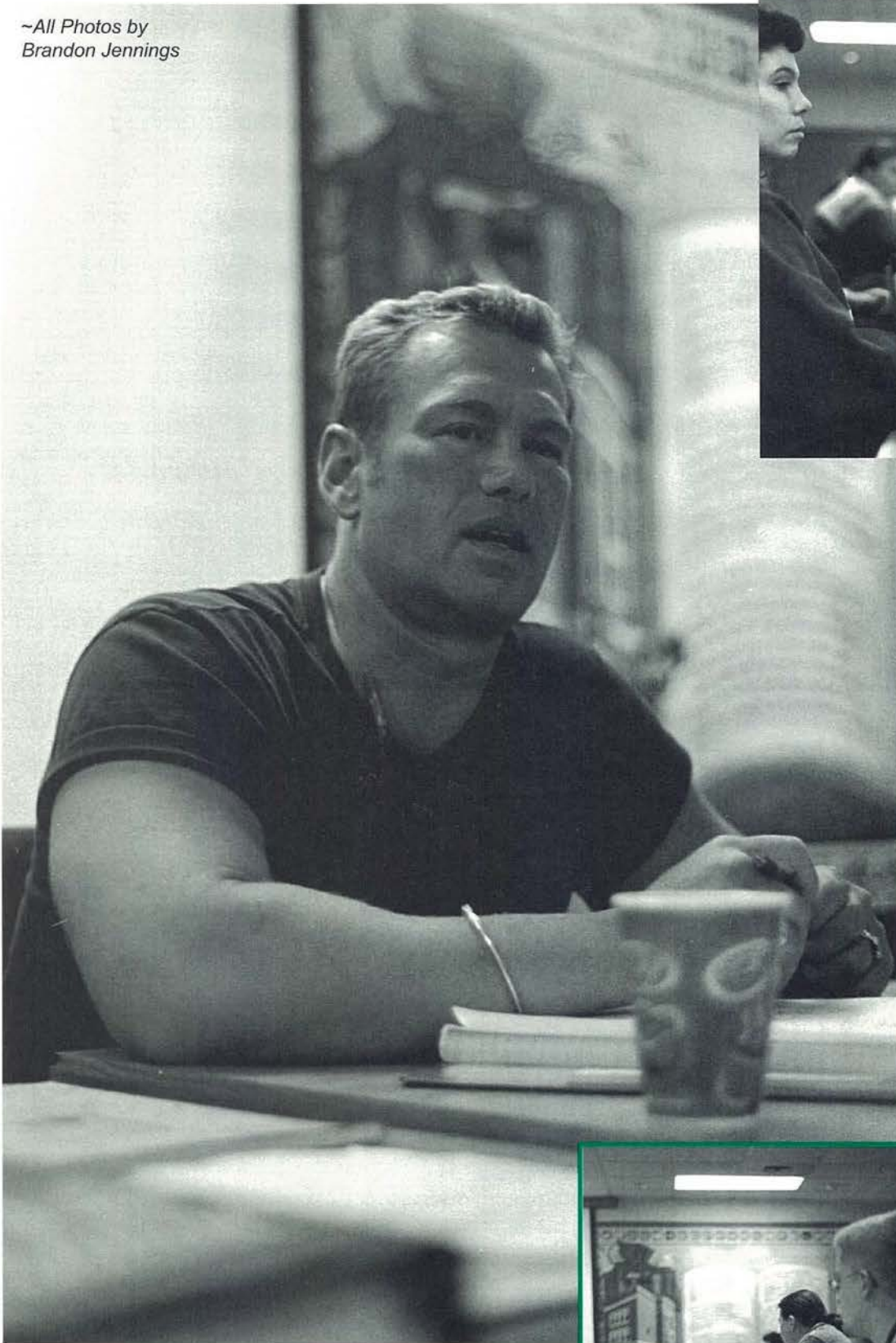
"Society could always improve, and there are some changes I'd like to see made to American culture," said senior psychology major Sarah Kesse. "I just don't believe it's possible for so much phenomenal change to occur with the overnight coming of the millennium. Right now, the focus for many of us is pursuing a better life through the completion of our college education, so I guess academic success would be my goal for the millennium."

In general, pre-millennium opinions of Y2K tended to favor an optimistic viewpoint. As ominous and inevitable as Y2K was for the global economy, most students weren't as dubious, skeptical or frightened as Americans were taught to be. Essentially, students believed that life would go on and classes would continue despite the realities of the new millennium.

"I would think that living a happy, peaceful life with a goal and a purpose would be the best hope that anyone could have," said freshman speech and dramatic arts major Tiffany Edwards. "Sure, we have class and social problems with the have and the have-not's of life, and I think that we all should get involved and make a change. Ultimately, however, I just want to be successful in what God wants me to do."



~All Photos by
Brandon Jennings



Christa Adam, a supporter of Sigma Lambda, listens to discussion. Centeno's hard work led to the passing of the group.

Vice president Rich Fine helps conduct a meeting. Fine initially came up with the idea for Sigma Lambda after two events occurred in his life.



Kenton Wilcox and Renee Van Dyke discuss various concerns they have. The group worked with the community and health department.

"We have had
lots of positive
support from
media, professors
and from students
who aren't
homosexual or bisexual."



~Story by Mindy Kinnaman

MAKING A *Difference*



President Barbara Centeno holds a pamphlet as she discusses issues at a Sigma Lambda meeting. The group was formed to help provide a safe zone for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered teachers and students.

"It's the sum of us at our highest and lowest points," said senior biology/health science major Rich Fine, describing the scientific premise of the name Sigma Lambda. The organization was formed for students and faculty who were gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, and their supporters. The Student Government Association unanimously approved it on Sept. 27, 1999.

The idea for the group came from Fine three years earlier after two events occurred. The first came from a friend who had died from steroid abuse because he had never felt good about himself. The second event occurred while Fine worked out in the Fitness Center.

"I watched kids walk by that dressed creatively," said Fine. "I figured that they were probably from a small town and wanted to change. After a while, they changed back to the way they dressed before. I wondered if someone gave them crap for being different."

These two events led Fine to go to Unity Services to see if a group for gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender students existed on campus. He was told that there was not, and that he should start one. However, Fine's schedule did not allow him to devote the time necessary to form the group. It was then that he was directed to junior Barbara Centeno. It was Centeno's hard work that led to the passing of the organization.

"Her enthusiasm and drive made it happen," said Fine. "It took three years and Barbara's hard work for it to come to pass."

Centeno was surprised by the SGA's approval. "It showed their maturity and willingness to be cooperative, and their wanting to make a difference on campus," said Centeno.

The group worked with Unity Services to provide workshops on gay/lesbian awareness to help educate the public. Guest speakers included Reverend Kim Giacometti and members of P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays).

The organization works in the community with the health department to provide testing and teach safe sex practices. They also offer counseling for people with diseases and refer them to the counseling center here, said Centeno. "The main issue we're preventing is the suicide. We want to educate them to stop the fear, prevent isolation and suicide."

With the formation, there was also negativity. A letter published in *The Griffon News* denounced the group and its supporters, resulting in a stream of letters supporting the group.

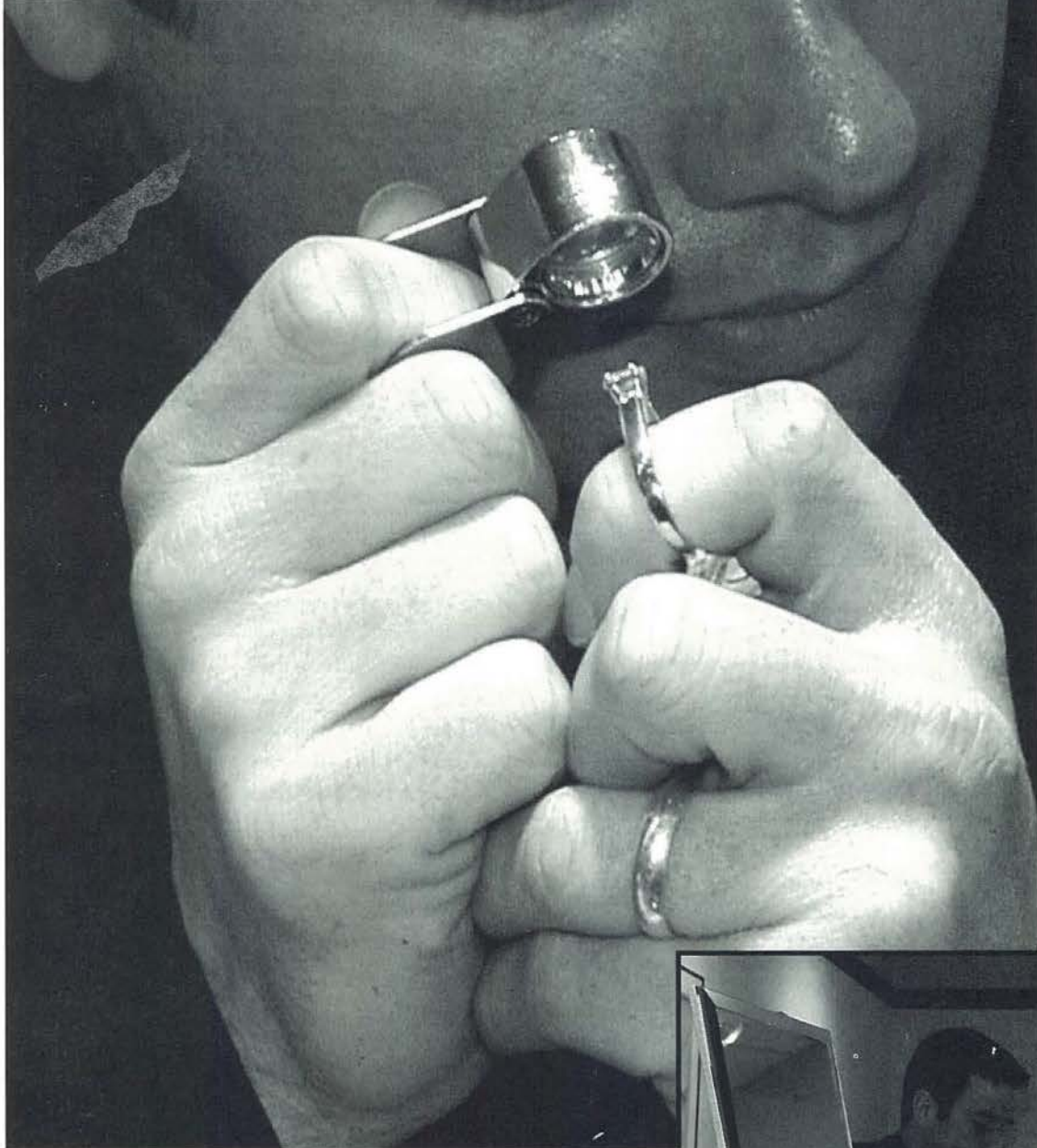
"The content of the letter proved the need for our existence," said Fine. "It did cause students to talk. I was surprised. I'm pretty proud of the students on campus. We have had a lot of positive support from media, professors and from students who aren't homosexual or bisexual."

Membership in the organization was open to any student who supported them. "Anyone willing to work with us or help us, can," said Centeno.





LEFT: Piatt selects a ring from the display. Piatt bought items ranging from electronics to Star Wars memorabilia.



Senior Shaun Piatt examines a prospective engagement ring. He said he had been a shop-a-holic for eight years.

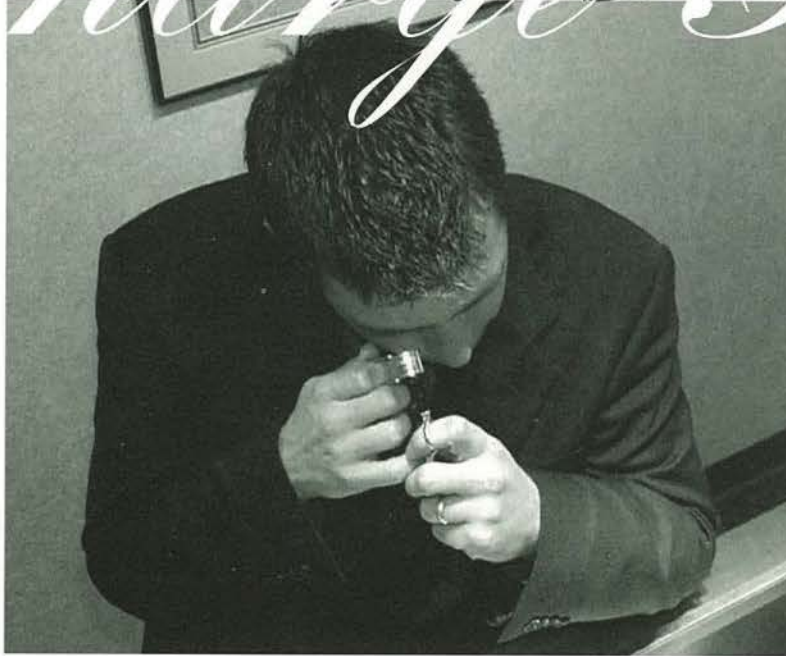
"I know I need to stop, but it seems like every week there's something I really need or really want."



Piatt pulls out another ring. Piatt said that \$20,000 would get him out of debt and leave him some money to invest.

Story by Mindy Kinnaman

CHARGE IT



Piatt gets a close look at a ring. Missouri Western students leave college with an average credit card debt of \$14,000.

For some students, having money to spend is like finding a needle in a haystack. It's very rare. For others, the money is easy to accumulate but just as easy to spend. Many students had a problem with compulsive shopping, and their problems often went unnoticed, even after the credit card bills piled up, and the bank accounts went down.

Senior mathematical science major Shaun Piatt admitted to being a compulsive shopper. He once bought a rare poster from a "Star Wars" convention, autographed by director George Lucas. The price of the poster reached well over the \$100 mark and was only one of the many expensive purchases that Piatt made over the eight years in which he had been a compulsive shopper.

Piatt said that he could spend anywhere from \$100-500 per week on items varying from CDs and DVDs to electronic equipment. "I have a high standard of living, even for a meager college student," said Piatt.

The expenses added up, however. "Let's just say that \$20,000 would get me out of debt and leave me a little bit to invest," said Piatt.

Don Willis, assistant dean of student affairs, said that some students left college with large credit card debts due to compulsive shopping.

"College students leave with \$12,000-13,000 in student loan debt," said Willis. "Missouri Western's average is \$14,000. It's not uncommon for students to leave with a credit card debt equal to or in excess of that."

Piatt did not think that he was shopping to replace any parts of his personality.

"I wouldn't consider it a feeling of inadequacy and masculinity," said Piatt. "I like to have the best."

Piatt knew that he had a problem with shopping but did not feel that it had a detrimental effect on his personal life.

"I'll pinch pennies every now and then," said Piatt. "I know I need to stop, but it seems like every week there's something I really need or really want. There's a little voice inside my head that says, 'You need that,' combating the one that says, 'If you get that, you're screwed.'"

Willis offered suggestions for students to help keep them out of debt. During Griffon Edge, he showed the students and their parents the realities of what could happen if they chose to shop, spending more than they could afford.

"What I used to do with Griffon Edge was scare the students," said Willis. "Now I scare the parents. I would take the average salary of a teacher, divide it by 12 and take out taxes, rent and other bills. With a credit card, they can't live on it. It scares the parents that their children will end up moving back in with them."

Willis said that students needed to know what they could and could not afford. "You just have to keep your priorities straight and realistic expectations in line," said Willis.

Piatt was content with his compulsion. He even planned on buying "Star Wars: Episode One," the wide-screen collector's version and the video game. Piatt planned to continue making money to help pay off the debts he incurred and to continue shopping.

~Story by Kristi Bailey

DRIDE



Signing autographs is a pleasure for former All-Star, Buck O'Neil. He was the first African-America to hold a coaching position in the majors.

Melanie LaRue sings her praises to the Lord. The choirs presented a mixture of entertainment.

Jamel Bell and Emery Allen do a reading of "I'm not going to give my black back." They left the audience with a feeling of pride and community.

A guest singer lifts her voice to the Heavens. Many praises were sung at the Gospel Extravaganza.

"We are not here to entertain, but to praise the Lord together," said a member of the Jesus Tabernacle Choir at the 14th Annual Gospel Extravaganza presented by The Ebony Collegians.

The extravaganza began the campus-wide celebration of Black History Month. An electrifying mixture of entertainment and praise enveloped the audience, as well as the six choirs that performed.

Missouri Western alumnus Reyhan Wilkenson returned for his fourth viewing of the spiritual event.

"I really enjoy the choirs," said Wilkenson. "They evoke emotion and make you feel good inside."

Senior communications major and TEC member, Jamel Bell, was a hostess for one of the choirs during their time on campus.

"There is a wonderful spirit that surrounds the event," said Bell. "Everyone comes together."

TEC President Olu Aregbe felt the event went well and was pleased by the turnout.

"The purpose of the extravaganza was to give spiritual enlightenment to students," said Aregbe. "I feel that was accomplished, and I am looking forward to next year."

The spirit that kicked off Black History Month with the extravaganza continued with a lecture series sponsored by Unity Services. The first speaker was Carolivia Herron, author of the children's story, "Nappy Hair." Herron's presentation was a favorite event for junior elementary education major, Temeca White.

"She was very real," said White. "She encouraged audience involvement while she explained the controversy in her book and the meaning behind the

title 'Nappy Hair.'"

The second speaker in the lecture series was John "Buck" O'Neil. O'Neil, a former all-star player and manager for the Kansas City Monarchs, was the first African-American to hold a coaching position in major league baseball.

As O'Neil spoke of his childhood growing up in Florida, he told inspirational stories of his lifetime in baseball and the lessons he learned from players Jackie Robinson and Satchel Page. He told stories of his past but wanted the students to focus on developing their futures. "Take care of your mind and body because we need you," said O'Neil.

Students of all races enjoyed O'Neil's presentation. Senior communications major Jason Hunter felt O'Neil was a warm speaker and very interesting. "He let the audience know that we can do whatever we set our minds to," said Hunter.

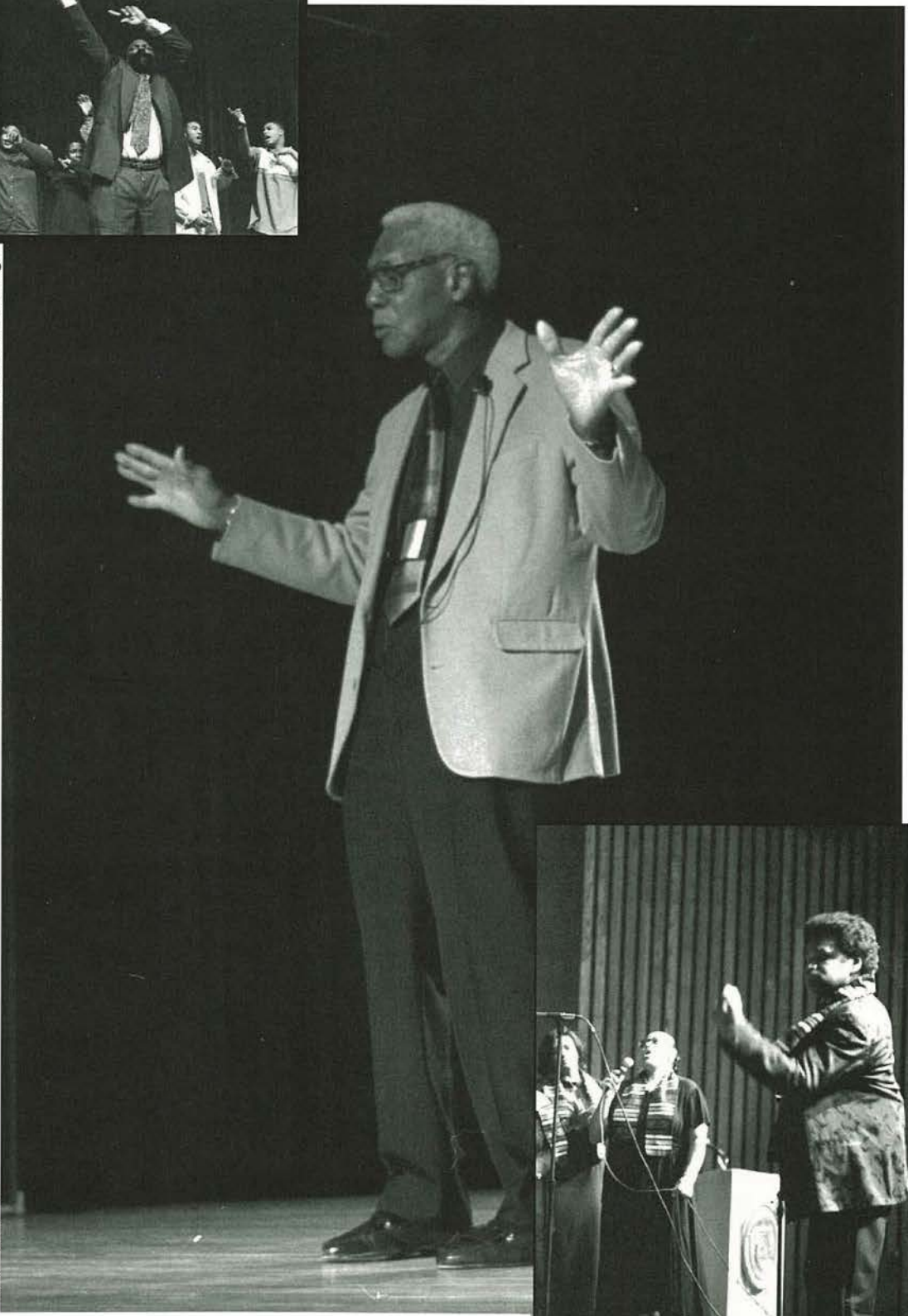
Black History Month ended with a panel discussion titled "Exploring Our Blackness." The panel members included English professor Ruth Kocher, Wilkenson and White. The panel members and students from the audience discussed topics such as ebonics, being a "sell-out," leading by example and giving back to the community.

African-American students were left with the idea that they should talk to the younger generations of their community and lead by example. They were urged to be proud of their heritage by Jamel Bell, as she recited a poem that stated, "I'm not going to give my black back."

Gospel singers wave their arms in praise and pride to feel the spirit of the event. Spiritual Enlightenment was heightened and strong during Black History Month.



~All Photos by Aaron Lueders and Brandon Jennings



John "Buck" O'Neil entertains the crowd with his speech, "Take care of your mind and body." O'Neil was an all-star and manager of the Kansas City Monarchs.

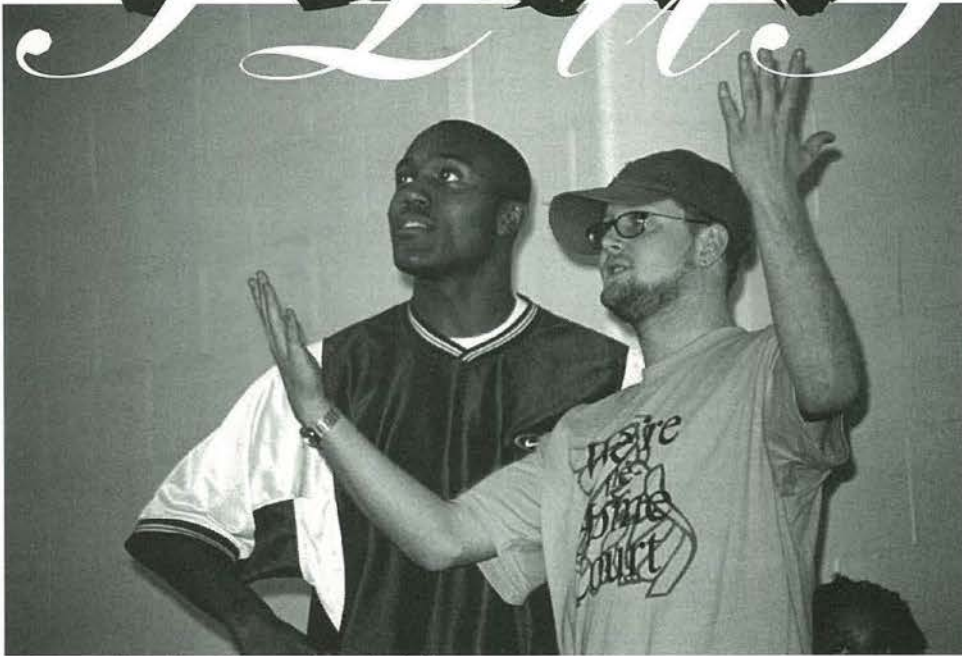


Dancing and singing were in abundance at the Extravaganza. Many faces, colors and backgrounds fill in the rainbow of our Nation.

"She encouraged audience involvement while she explained the controversy in her book and the meaning behind the title 'Nappy Hair'."

SLUR

Junior Matt Maher and sophomore Stan Pearson discuss the issue of racism. A skit on why blacks can use the "N" word and whites can't was a popular one.



~Story by LaShandra Acklin

A group of students take to the stage. This is not the usual stage production. Instead of performing Shakespeare or Sophocles, these students will act out a different type of play. This will be a play that focuses upon topics concerning high school students in the St. Joseph area.

The high school students needed a way to discuss the issues that they faced on a daily basis. The Director of Unity Services, Howard Milton, had a vision of how to solve that problem.

"We needed to talk about diversity," said Milton. "We needed to talk about it in a mixed company, meaning those of different races, gender and religion. Students Learning Unity and Responsibility was the perfect solution."

Eight students recognized these issues, with a vision of unity and responsibility. These students formed SLUR in order to explore the crucial issues that shaped the lives of young adults. The team consisted of sophomores Stephen Lane, Matt Maher, Todd Maher, Andrea Purnell, Stan Pearson, Shanese Shields and Amber Weeg and junior Stephanie Helton.

The purpose of SLUR was to help youth explore contemporary issues, such as interracial relationships, racism, religion and bigotry, in an interactive group of peers. Pearson said he thought it touched on issues that others were afraid to speak about. "It was something that I knew I would learn from, as well as

educate people in a fun, yet serious way," said Pearson.

The student leaders created a relaxed environment through theatrical performances that allowed students to discuss serious issues. Purnell said she felt it gave her not only a chance to talk about important issues, but also an opportunity to do what she loved best.

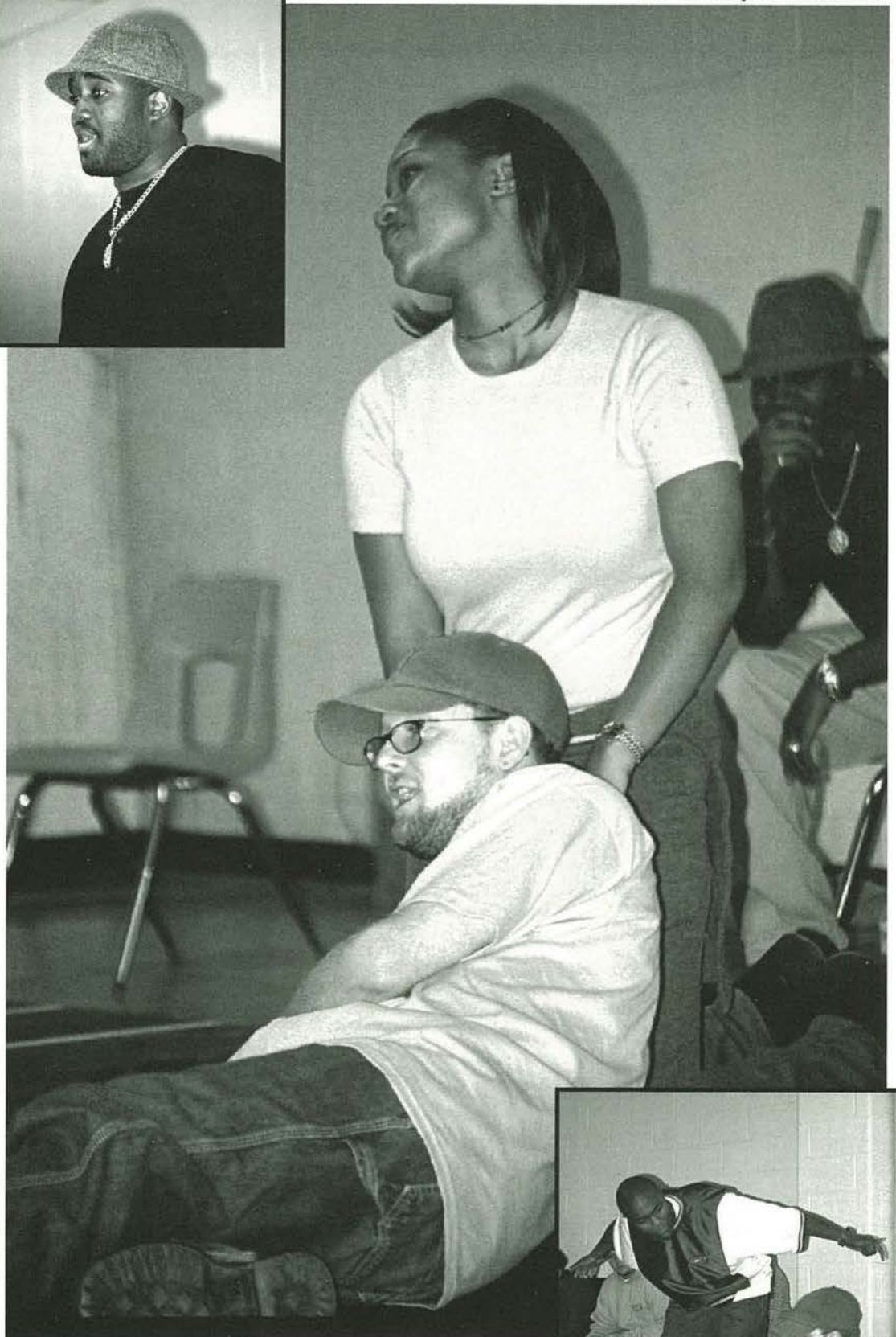
"I love to act and speak," said Purnell. "It's part of my major. This is giving me a chance to brush up on my acting skills and help others learn about issues that everyone faces in this world."

The members of SLUR invested the best of their talents and teaching abilities into each performance so audience participants could receive an optimal learning experience. No two productions were the same because each production was unique for the members and audience participants.

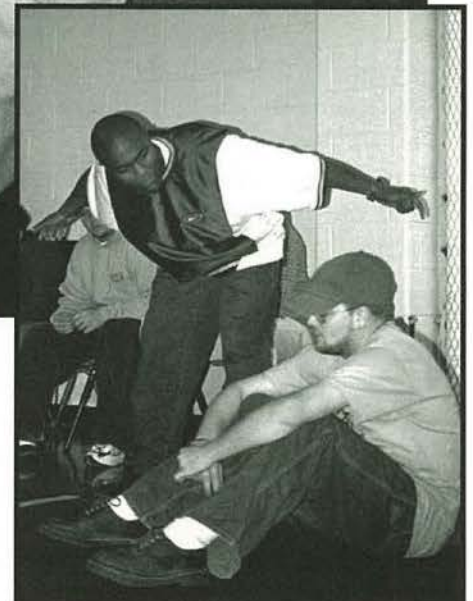
"We have to switch things up on them," said Lane. "Maybe one day it's all about racism, but the next performance we may be feeling a little bigotry. It keeps things alive."

Through these individual learning experiences, SLUR encouraged unity and responsibility while teaching leadership and friendship among members and audience participants. Presentations offered a creative, educational and entertaining opportunity for peer education. The experience inspired participants to break stereotypes and begin forming healthier foundations for unity and responsibility in their lives.

Sophomore Steven Lane answers audience questions. Members of the audience had the opportunity to give feedback on the performance.



Purrell and Maher display their affection during an interracial dating skit. The group performed skits from racism to bigotry.



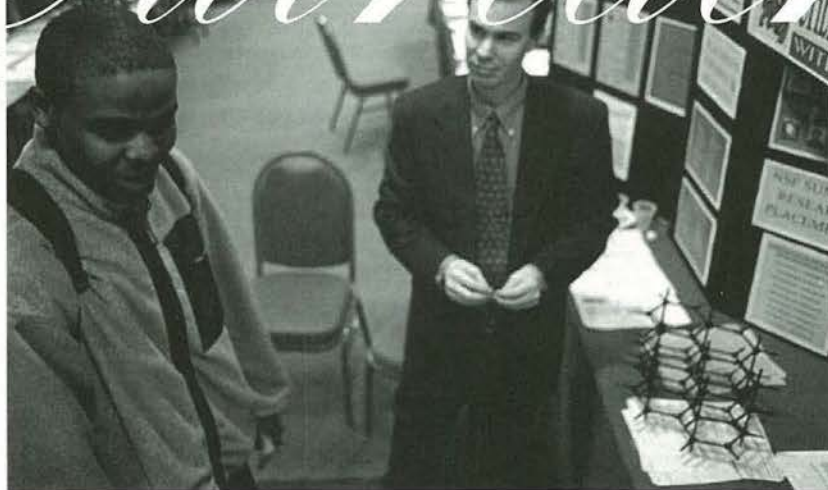
Pearson talks Maher out of suicide during a performance. SLUR focused on issues from racism to suicide.

SLUR encouraged
unity and responsibility
while teaching
leadership and friendship
among members
and audience
participants.

~Story by Zach Ramsay

AMBIENT

A student talks with the Chemistry Club's advisor. The communications department offered History Bowl for high school students.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

College for high school kids? That doesn't sound right, does it? Actually, Missouri Western had many outreach programs that encouraged high school involvement and gave the students an opportunity to become familiar with the campus.

One program, sponsored by the social sciences department, was the 12th annual History Bowl on Feb. 26. The tournament gave high school Brain Bowl teams a chance to compete academically. Fourteen high schools from the Northwest Missouri area participated. It gave students a chance to gain additional experience at bowl competition in a relatively low-pressure tournament.

Steven Greiert, chair of the department, said that the tournament was a wonderful opportunity for both larger and smaller high schools to hone their skills.

"Even though the History Bowl consists of only American, European and Third World history questions, this gave an excellent opportunity for Brain Bowl teams to get another competition in," said Greiert. "The tournament gave seasoned teams a chance to get better and new teams the opportunity to make themselves better."

Another high school competition, hosted by the communications department, was the 29th annual Forensics Tournament, Feb. 4-5. Twelve local high schools participated in the tournament that included a variety of different aspects geared towards forensics studies. The tournament allowed high school teams a chance to be judged impartially by experienced Missouri Western students. It also gave them an opportunity to explore their interests in the forensics field at the college level.

Director of Forensics, Jessica Leonard, said that

there were also several other areas of high school aid that the campus gave to promote forensics.

"Besides the annual Forensics Tournament, our office also recruited judges to go to area high schools for their tournaments," said Leonard. "We also execute demonstrations where our students speak in front of the high school, and we have a Missouri Western demonstration night for our students where high schools are invited to attend."

In a workshop atmosphere that encouraged creative thinking and active participation, the English department sponsored a High School Writing Day for four area high schools. This outreach program, held on Feb. 22, was attended by writers from Central, Benton, Lafayette and Savannah. The program gave prospective writers exposure to college English professors and their standards through two separate writing workshops. It gave them the opportunity to try some novice writing of their own.

Professor of English, Karen Fulton, said the workshop was beneficial for aspiring writers because it gave them opportunities to see different genres of writing. It also allowed the students to do group and individual work and then present them in front of an audience.

"The activities were excellent and we got a lot of positive participant feedback," said Fulton. "Students would put things like, 'This gave me a wonderful opportunity to open my mind,' and, 'This day gave me an opportunity to see Missouri Western. Thanks a lot!' It's a great program and it gives Missouri Western good local exposure to high school students."

Missouri Western planned to continue extending invitations to area high schoolers.



A student browses through a club's information. High schools from Northwest Missouri participated in History Bowl.



Natasha Stonerock stops by a table at the Major's Fair. The college provided many opportunities for high school involvement.

~Photo by Brandon Jennings



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

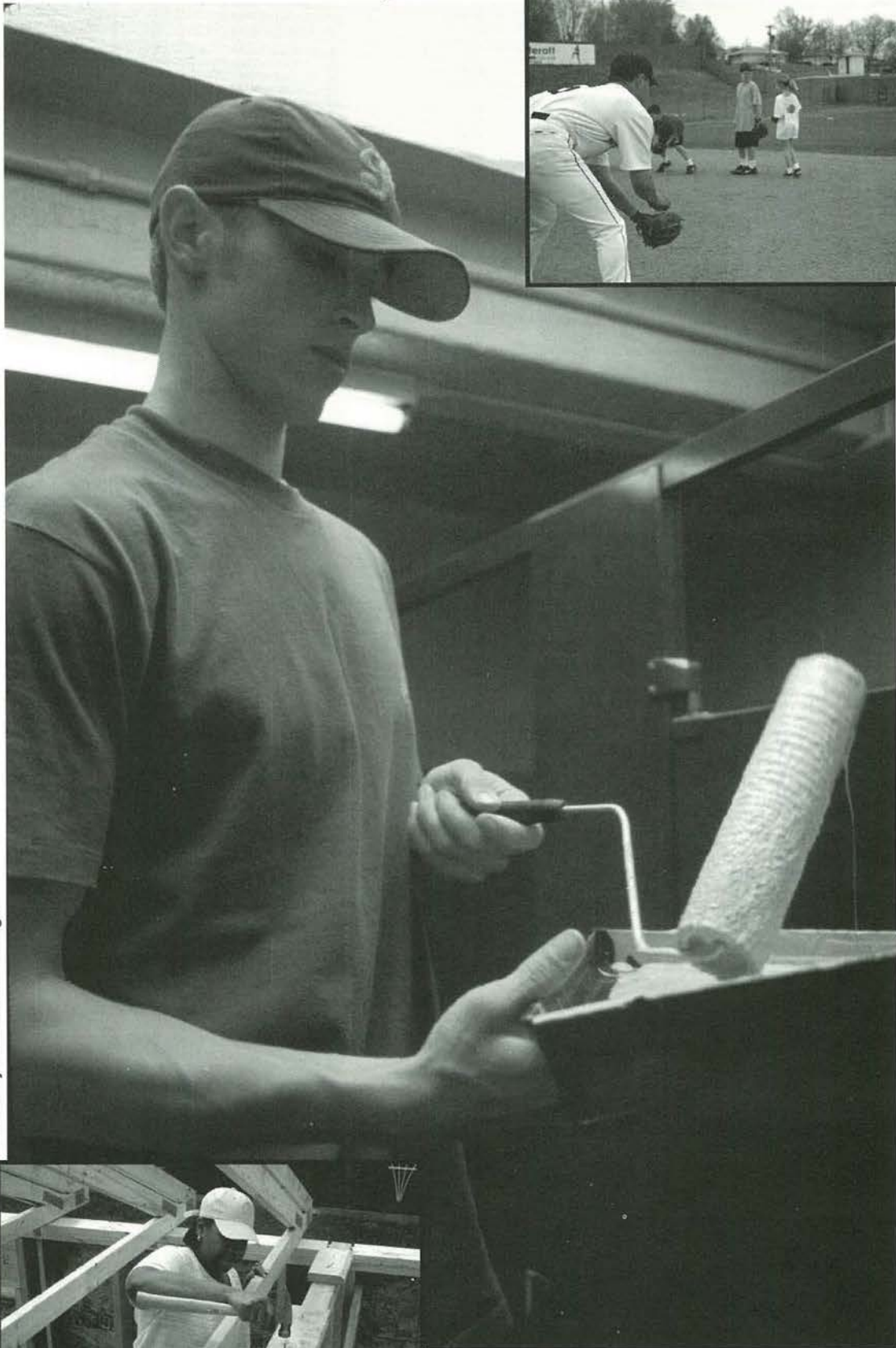
A member of Engineering Technology Club smiles for the camera. The English department sponsored High School Writing Day.

Missouri Western had many outreach programs that encouraged high school involvement and gave the students an opportunity to become familiar with the campus.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



It's Lil' Griff day at the ballpark. The Griffon ball players spend time with the children and raise community spirit.



Sean Harvey gives back. Helping paint the Battered Womens Shelter was rewarding not only to those they helped, but also to the volunteers themselves.

~Photo by Brandon Jennings

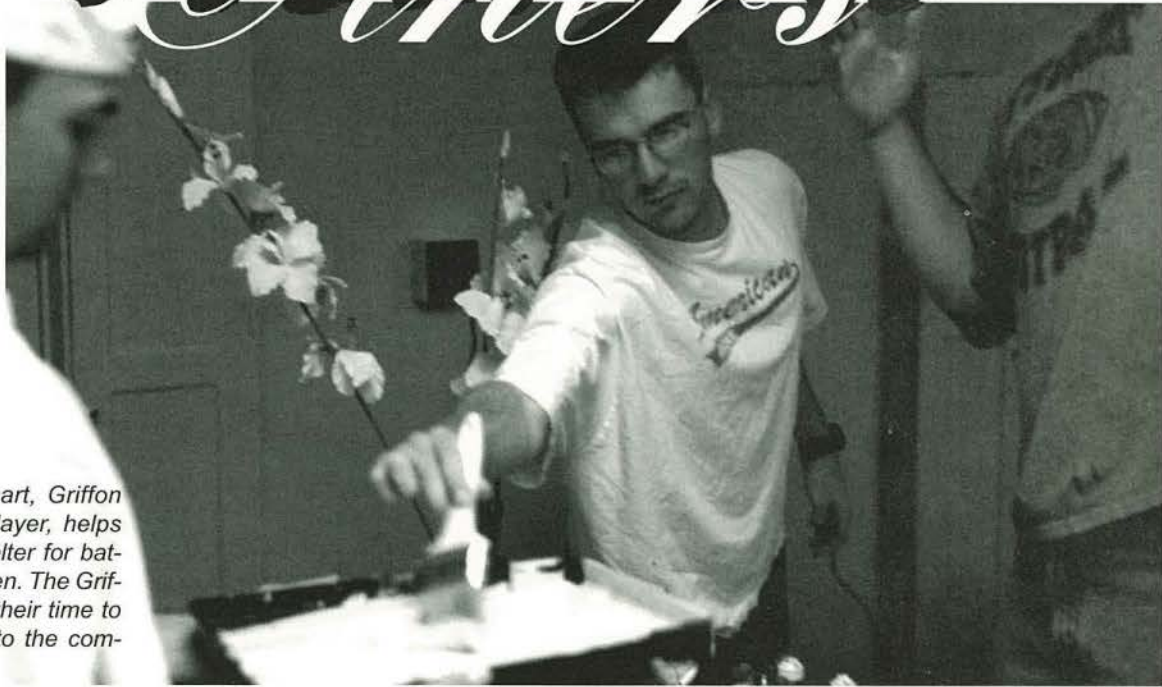


~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Krystal Franklin nails some volunteer time. Habitat for Humanity built many homes in the area with the help of student volunteers.

"Growing up within the St. Joseph community, we've had many opportunities to take. Now it's our turn to give back."

HELPING



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

Karl Barnhart, Griffon baseball player, helps paint a shelter for battered women. The Griffons used their time to give back to the community.

By lending a helping hand and giving back to the community, people help others help themselves. With college so stressful, how many people can take time to care?

Members of Phi Delta Theta stepped in quickly when Quaker Oats closed its downtown plant and could no longer donate large amounts of produce to local food kitchens. By late April, the fraternity had donated over 3,000 cans of non-perishable goods to local food kitchens.

Phi Delta Theta warden Noel Sanger, said that besides the canned food drive, the fraternity engaged in other volunteer activities. Those included highway clean-up each semester and alcohol awareness seminars for local parochial schools.

"Growing up within the St. Joseph community, we've had many opportunities to take," said Sanger. "Now, it's our time to give back."

A sizable outreach program by Phi Mu recruited members to volunteer for Carriage Square, a local nursing home. The sorority held weekly bingo games for the residents and participated in various other holiday events for the home throughout the semester. Phi Mu also volunteered for the Albrecht-Kemper Museum, Second Harvest Food Bank, Citadel Nursing Home and Special Olympics bowling.

Alpha Gamma Delta also participated in a wide continuum of area volunteer opportunities. They focused their efforts on the St. Joseph Pumpkin Fest in October, Green Acres convalescent home and Special Olympics miniature golf. President Beth Praisewater

said that the motivation of their efforts was not only required national policy but also reciprocated by local appreciation.

"We have a good time giving back into our community," said Praisewater. "We appreciate all the things they support us in, and this is our way of returning the favor."

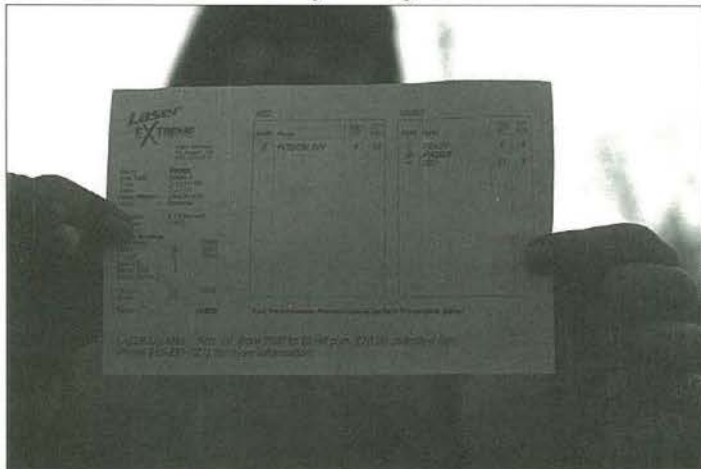
Other social organizations, such as Alpha Sigma Alpha, Phi Sigma Kappa and Tau Kappa Epsilon offered their membership resources to the community. Through such programs as highway cleanup, Noyes Home Days, nursing home volunteering and Meals on Wheels, these organizations showed their desire for St. Joseph's improvement socially and economically.

The Inter-Greek Council of Missouri Western, comprised of 12 social organizations, took major strides to extend its community interaction. The council sponsored a community blood drive on campus and played a significant role in executing the MS Walk-a-Thon. All organizations consolidated their abilities to pull off these two large functions. IGC vice president, Brandi Blackburn, said that the combined efforts of all organizations established a good rapport with the St. Joseph community.

"On the whole, all organizations involved in this get a bad rap for the negative things they are associated with," said Blackburn. "With large outpourings like these, we are improving the reputation of the campus and gaining the respect of the community at the same time."



A student shows off her laser tag score. Laser tag recently came to the area and became a hobby of many individuals.



A live performance by Beans and Frank livens up a night at Legends. Beans and Frank took a comical approach to music with songs like "Phone Book."

HANG-OUTS

Hang-outs

~Story by Taira Hill

in St. Joe????

With the stress of classes and the pressures of having to deal with roommates, what was there to do to get away from it all? Well, with the help of new developments, St. Joseph became more equipped to solve that problem.

A paintball park opened up, as well as a place to enjoy an action-packed game of laser tag. New bars were also common hangouts for students.

River Ridge Paintball opened for business in the area to see how much interest the community held. The owner of the park enjoyed paintball so much himself that he was sure the game would catch on with students. People of all ages could join in on the action, but usually the people most interested were from the ages of 10 to 30 years old.

River Ridge manager Scott Uhlin said paintball was the second fastest growing sport in America, and he encouraged everyone to try it at least once.

"We have noticed that there is a lot of interest in the sport," said Uhlin. "I play the game for the adrenaline rush. It's really fun to shoot other people, but I admit the game can be very painful if you are hit in the wrong places. After one game, you'll find it's very addictive."

There were three different fields people could play on, and many different games they could learn to keep the game exciting. The park had night games with or without lights that remained safe, although very intense.

Another new game was laser tag. It was popu-

lar on the West Coast and made its way to St. Joseph. Its popularity didn't surpass paintball, but it had potential.

"Laser tag is really exciting and a lot less painful," said freshman Ben Doornink. "However, I think it's more fun to attack your opponents with a ball full of paint than a laser that will leave nothing to show for yourself."

For students not interested in war games, there were many exciting new bars where students could meet other people and enjoy music and dancing. This was a lot less dangerous, and the atmosphere was more calm and less of a mess.

Legends Bar and Grill was a hot place for college students, especially since the newly remodeled loft was open for college night each Wednesday. The loft offered four new pool tables, electronic darts, 4500-watt sound system, huge dance floor, live DJ from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. and what they claimed were the "best drink specials in town."

Legends owner Tim Tucker put a lot of hard work into organizing and scheduling fun events, such as comedy shows, in the loft. Some comics Legends scheduled were Skippy from "Family Ties" and Tommy Chong from the Cheech and Chong movies.

"Legends has really great comedy shows," said senior Kara Dorr. "I think Tim did a good job of creating a place for people to have a good laugh and a lot of fun."

With the stress of
classes and the
pressures of having
to deal with roommates,
what was there to
do to get away
from it all?



Legends Sports Cafe has become a popular local hang-out. Owners of the cafe hoped to attract more college students with the addition of the new loft.

~All Photos by Kelly Stanton



Laser Extreme is a popular place for students to hang out. Laser tag had not surpassed paintball but was growing rapidly.

Senior Jason Hart takes great care in making sure Josh Green is properly camouflaged. The cadets worked hard to make each man or woman stronger and better.



"Military life often becomes habit-forming. It grows on you because it is challenging and there is a sense of teamwork."

Reuben Doornink salutes recognition back to a fellow cadet. Communication is vital in military life.

Hockman listens to major Stackhouse as he explains shooting procedures. Older and more experienced students helped younger cadets as they assumed leadership responsibilities.

Junior Edie Hockman looks to her bright future with the Armed Forces. The ROTC program helped students develop life skills.



~Photos by Aaron Steiner



Hockman instructs a fellow ROTC member. There was a true sense of camaraderie among all members of ROTC from the youngest cadet to the most experienced officer.



Ellen Jones holds her position. Although most cadets were men, the women recommended that more women get involved.



Maj. Stackhouse not only recruits students to the ROTC program, but he leads them also. The major said ROTC is for people who enjoy challenges.

Right

~Story by Kristi Bailey

ROTC students learn good habits.

Army ROTC? Early mornings, weekends and summers? Why waste valuable time and effort in military science?

For many students the time spent in ROTC was an investment in their future. Leadership skills, career development and camaraderie were just a few of the benefits of ROTC. Some cadets had long-range career goals in mind.

Junior Spanish major Edie Hockman planned to develop a career in military intelligence.

"Being bilingual is an asset for military intelligence," said Hockman. "ROTC will prepare me for the rest of my life. I will be given a job, a good rate of pay and free health insurance. They will take care of me for the rest of my life."

Maj. Brian Stackhouse, whose responsibilities included recruiting students to Missouri Western, said the average rate of pay for a graduating cadet was \$26,000. This salary would jump to approximately \$50,000 after four years. For students who did not wish to make the military their ultimate career goal, ROTC and military life was still recommended for a short time.

"Employers know the responsibility the military teaches," said Stackhouse. "It is good to know you can finish a career in the military and get a job doing anything you want."

Stackhouse said ROTC was for people who enjoyed a challenge.

"Military life often becomes habit-forming," said Stackhouse. "It grows on you because it is challenging, and there is a sense of teamwork."

Habits started forming quickly in military science courses. Sophomore business major Ben Tiernan started in ROTC by taking the freshman-level, non-commitment courses and the Ranger Challenge. After a year in the program, he decided to make the Army his career.

"ROTC sets you up for life after college and adds to your resume," said Tiernan. "It helps you learn how to balance a time schedule, develop leadership skills and responsibility."

Both Tiernan and Hockman agreed that the ROTC program helped them improve their grade point averages and their study habits.

"I have better grades this semester," said Hockman. "ROTC helps develop leadership skills, self-discipline, study skills and helps you become strong mentally."

There was a true sense of camaraderie among all members of ROTC, from the youngest cadet to the most experienced officer.

~Photo by Aaron Tebrinke



Kate Gentry shows off her flip phone. Many students used their phones as a form of protection if their car should ever break down.

The reasons to own a cell phone varied depending on the student, although one thing was certain; it helped in times of need.

~Photo by Brian Hunt



Brian Staggs, commercial art major, talks to a friend on his pocket-sized cell phone. As cell phones became more prominent in everyday culture, they also became smaller in size.



~Photo by Aaron Tebrinke

Sophomore Brian Childress is just chillin' on his way to class. The cold winters were a good reason to have a cell phone.

~Photo by Brian Hunt



On the run Andy Menke makes a quick call in between classes. Many students waited until breaks in classes to make their calls.

Freshman Andy Menke goes outside of the library to take a call. Many people were annoyed with others talking on the phone.

~Photo by Brian Hunt



~Photo by Brian Hunt



RIGHT: Freshman Brandy Barton chats to keep up on current news. Keeping up with friends was a major plus to those who are hard to get a hold of.



~Photo by Aaron Tebrinke

LEFT: Menke hides in the plants to obtain a little privacy. Many students felt the need to hide their cell phones.

~Story by LaShandra Acklin

Ring... Ring

Students feel the need to be reached at all times.

You're a college student, trying to make it through another hectic day. There are meetings to attend, classes to take notes in, work to do and studying to complete. Many students are away from their rooms the majority of the day. How can others find these busy people?

Junior Courtenay Wills had the advantage of owning the most popular solution to the problem.

"I'm always on the go," said Wills. "A cellular phone only enhances the chance of someone getting a hold of me from day to day."

The cell phone craze flooded the campus. Freshman Kelley Wallace said it was common to have one.

"Cellular phones are seen just as much as student textbooks on this campus," said Wallace. "It is almost like a necessity for a college student."

The reasons to own a cell phone varied depending on the student, although one thing was certain; it helped in times of need. Junior Andrew Hersey believed cell phones were popular because of the safety issue.

"I needed one because I traveled to different schools a lot for different organizations," said Hersey. "I didn't want to take the chance of being stranded somewhere."

Hersey wasn't the only student who owned a

cell phone for safety reasons. Junior Brandize Bush shared his view.

"I feel safer with a cellular phone when I leave my apartment," said Bush. "I know that if I ever need to get help, I have that phone with me at all times."

Despite the students' beliefs that a cell phone was needed, the craze became a problem in the classroom setting. In the middle of a lecture, James Huntermark, psychology professor, heard the ringing of a cell phone. Not only was it obnoxiously loud, but it played a rhythmic, upbeat song.

"That is the one thing that bothers me about my students," said Huntermark. "I will not tolerate cellular phones in my class."

Huntermark was in the majority of teachers who did not allow phones in their classrooms. Indeed, cell phones came in handy for many things, but many professors felt that turning the ringer off for a class period or two wouldn't hurt the students.

Unfortunately, a few students felt they should be able to be reached every hour of the day. Sophomore Kassim Carney said he couldn't afford to miss any calls.

"I rarely turn off my phone," said Carney. "I mean, what if I miss the call I've been waiting for my whole life!"



Farwell flirts with Crockett while she stands in the doorway. Many couples deepened their feelings by spending time in each other's company.

Senior Monica Dunkin and sophomore Bradley Bates give each other love taps during a pillow fight. Love wasn't always a bad thing.



UTOPIA? Utopia?

~Story by Christina Hazelwood, Mindy Kinnaman and Patrice Meyer

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Everyone has one in some way, shape or form. Whether they were good or bad, no student could deny that relationships occurred in their lives.

Sophomore communications major Aimeé Steger felt her relationship was great. She summoned courage and asked out the man whom she later became promised to.

"I'm really happy with the way things are going now," said Steger. "I always show him unconditional love. He's the best thing that ever happened to me."

Although some students found happiness in romantic relationships, many found male/female friendships just as satisfying.

Stereotypically hard to maintain, junior Spanish major Kirk Priebe and freshman music performance major Clarissa Houser had a close friendship. The two did many different activities together during weekends.

Houser loved having Priebe for a friend, just as Priebe enjoyed Houser's company. Each said that they were proud to have the other's friendship.

A bad side was the dreaded "I just want to be friends," or the fact that some friends were lost to arguments. Both caused stress.

Male/female friendships were uncomfortable when one person's feelings changed. Sophomore Byron Shelton was friends with a woman whom he developed feelings for but never admitted them.

"If you ever think you might want more than a friendship it makes everything awkward," said Shelton. "You never know what to do or say."

Shelton thought that, despite the awkwardness of mixed feelings, it was easier to be friends with women because he had a bad experience with a male friend.

"Guys are guys," said Shelton. "There is always competition. I never want to introduce my friend to the girls I like because there are two things that can happen: he will either tell embarrassing stories or try to steal her."

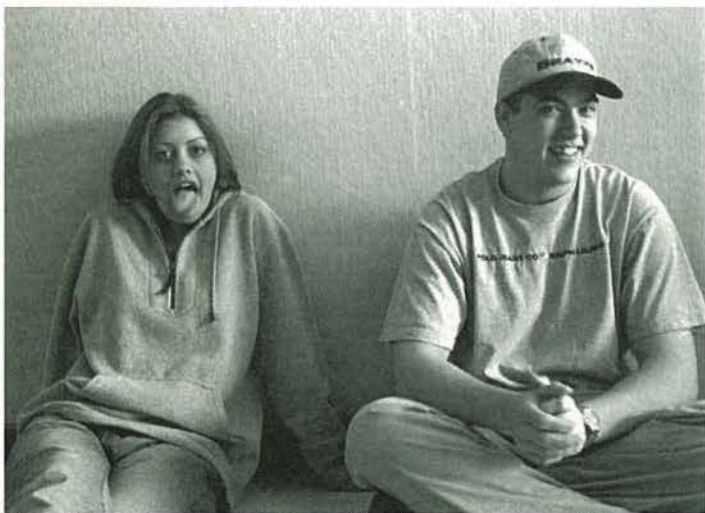
Friendships were hard, but with romance the situation was worse. Freshman Stephanie Jones dated a guy, started having problems and broke it off several times. After a year and a half, they gave up. "You would like to make it work out, but every time you try, you realize it's never going to," said Jones.

For some, love sucked. It picked them up, made them think they were on top of the world and then dropped them to the earth, their hearts ripped out and stomped on.

Some were lucky enough to be hit with the reality of love. Residential Life Coordinator Sebrina Allen had a horrible experience.

After two months of bliss, four of comfort and two of falling down a rocky hill, Allen and her former boyfriend decided to call it quits because he was having an affair with a guy. Allen didn't get revenge, she got lucky. "Even though I wasn't trying to, I kept him from getting SGA president, the one thing he wanted most in college, because everyone took my side instead of his," said Allen.

Okay, love wasn't always bad. The pain and fear were horrible, but there's hope out there for those who dared to stand inside the fire of love. "Although it is one of the toughest and most emotionally draining events you can ever go through, in the end, no matter what the outcome, you have grown and become a better person," said Allen.



Mica McEwan and junior Duane Stoute make faces at the camera while enjoying each other's company. Stereotypically male/female relationships were hard to maintain.

Juniors Bryan Farwell and Ashley Crockett embrace each other. Whether they were good or bad, no student could deny that relationships occurred in their lives.



Dunkin and Bates hold each other. Friendships were hard, but romance took a lot of work.



A group of sorority sisters share their ideas amongst one another. Sisterhood was one of the many bonds formed on campus.

"Although it is one of the toughest and most emotionally draining events you can ever go through, in the end, no matter what the outcome, you have grown and become a better person."



Farwell lovingly hoists Crockett onto his shoulders. Couple interaction varied from romantic interludes to fun and games.



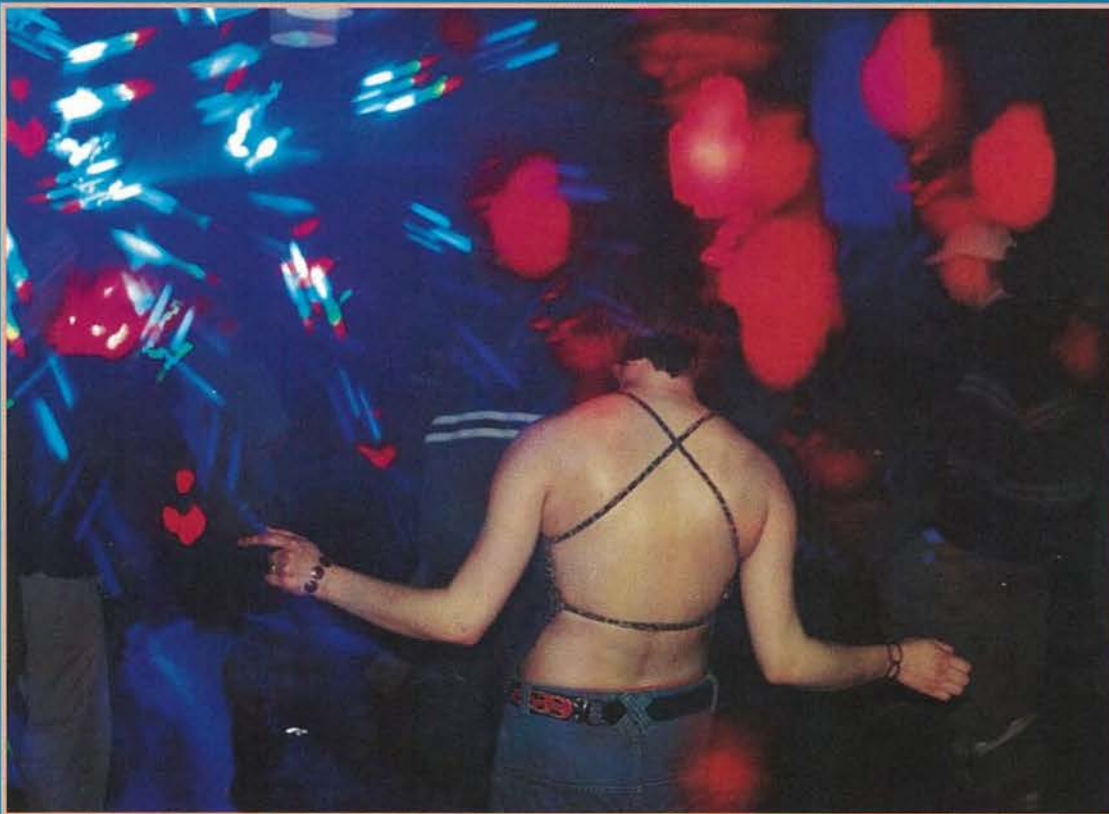
Farwell and Crockett enjoy a bubble bath together. Couples enjoyed spending time together in various different ways.



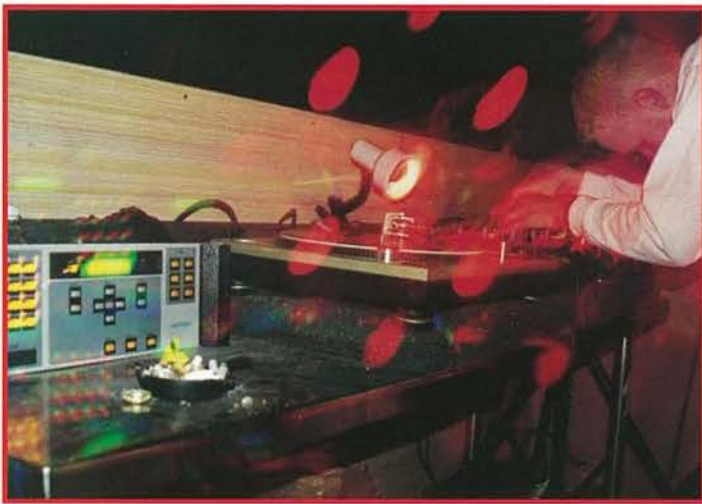
Kate Gentry dances the night away. Dancing was a favorite pastime for college students and the Rave was the latest place to check out.

It is one of the only
places kids of all ages
and backgrounds
can come together for
one night a week
to appreciate the
music and the dancing
involved in a rave.

~All Photos by Aaron Tebrinke



One rave-goer shows off her dancing abilities as well as her party attire. The rave was packed with outgoing personalities and trendy fashion statements.



One D.J. concentrates on his job in hopes of pleasing the club kids. The music created the perfect atmosphere to socialize and dance.



D.J. Pat Nice spins for the clubbers. The night was full of excitement as the latest hits were played for the many dancers that attended.

Any **Raves** Goes

~Story by Sheree Miller,
guest writer

Relief at the end

of a week

Several thousand waited outside in the cold weather attempting to catch a glimpse of the flashing lights coming from inside. All decked out in their "raver" outfits, the students stood, money in hand and hopes in their heads.

Many spent hours deciding what to wear since wardrobe defined a person's style. Shiny shirts, baggy pants and anything else with a unique texture to it were worn in efforts to draw hands to touch them. Trendy accessories and multi-colored jewelry were given from one stranger to another as peace offerings, in order to form new friendships. Sparkles radiated from freshly gelled hair dusted with plenty of glitter, and backpacks from numerous cartoon shows, filled with candy and toys for the masses, adorned backs everywhere. Hundreds of glow sticks or light-up toys flowed around in the hands of students.

A random beat erupted from within the building, usually home to Woodlands horse and dog racing events, transformed into a play land for all. The anticipation of the magic held in by the doors could be felt. The doors swung open to allow a night of fun after a week of dealing with stress from parents, school, work and reality in general. Freshman Douglas Arrow admitted that was the reason he attended raves on a weekly basis.

"I just find them a great way to release tension that has built up over the week," said Arrow. "It is one

of the only places kids of all ages and backgrounds can come together for one night a week to appreciate the music and the dancing involved in a rave."

Raves had been an important element to societies around the world for over a decade, contributing in many ways to mainstream music, fashion and style. Raves became more accessible to those interested in attending them and even more accepted by those who had previously looked down upon them.

"I actually thought raves were kept a secret from average people, and that they were illegal," said Arrow. "There is a rave almost every weekend as close as Kansas City, which is a small drive to have that much fun."

People often had negative perceptions when it came to raves, feeling as though they were based solely on the drugs present. That was just one part of the whole atmosphere, and not everyone participated in every aspect of a rave. When a rave was broken down to its basics, there was something for everyone to take part in.

A lot of work went into making a rave successful. The key elements to a good rave were: the venue chosen to house the rave, the line-up of DJ's, the vibes brought to the rave by party kids and the allowance of what could be brought in from the outside. Dancing, playing and living all of it for up to 12 hours in one night made for great experiences and memories.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Freshman Alaina Everage gives senior Mike Taibi a high-five after completing her drawing. The game was one of many activities sponsored for students to participate in.



Senior Dusty Jestes draws an image for Sexual Pictionary. The program had a great turn out.



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

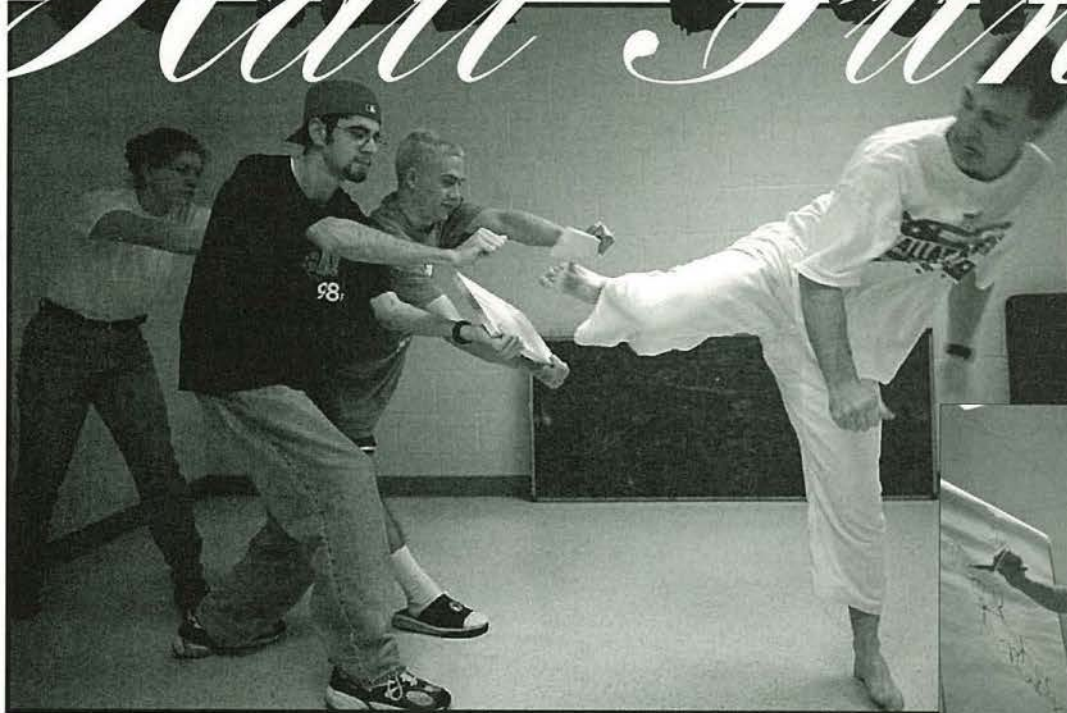
Sophomore Stan Pearson yells out ideas for the pictures displayed. The game gave students an opportunity to explore sexual issues.

~Photo by Brandon Jennings

"We have many different types of activities so that the residents can have something to participate in at night."

~Story by LaShandra Acklin
and Mindy Kinnaman

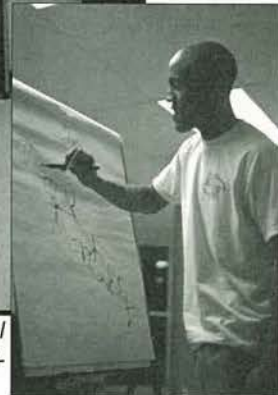
HALL FUN



Senior Gary Chaney breaks boards with his feet during a self-defense program. Chaney was one of the RA's involved with the new event.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Pearson shows his artistic side during Sexual Jeopardy. The events were offered by Residence Council and Housing Staff.



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

Imagine going to a college where nothing is offered to keep students entertained in the evenings. What would students do?

Members of Residence Council and Residential Life were Missouri Western's saving grace. They planned creative and fun activities for the students who lived on campus. Sebrina Allen, Housing Coordinator and Residence Council advisor, said that the programs gave students an opportunity to stay active outside of the classroom.

"We have many different types of activities so that the residents can have something to participate in at night," said Allen. "We want to have a variety of activities for each semester."

There were three types of activities provided for residence hall inhabitants. The groups provided social activities such as luaus, picnics, barbecues and bingo. The larger programs offered many prizes ranging in variety and price.

Residents that participated in bingo won anything from gift certificates to DVD players. Head Resident Jenni Potter, senior, loved bingo. "They have great prizes and a lot of people go," said Potter.

Senior HR Buckley Brockmann felt that students were attracted to activities that gave out free things. "It seems like most people attend programs that involve them receiving tangible items for free," said Brockmann.

Educational programs ranged from safe sex to

alcohol and drug awareness. Those programs included "Sex in the Dark," "Do Aliens Exist?" and "What the *@#* is a Normal Relationship Anyway?" Each program dealt with an aspect of college life or the pressures of being a college student.

Sophomore April Ellison said that the programs were informative.

"I think they have a meaning to them," said Ellison. "I always leave learning something I didn't know or getting a question answered."

Potter also enjoyed the educational programs. "I think we should have more of them, and more people should go to them, because people may actually learn something from them," said Potter.

Brockmann also enjoyed the activities put on by the RAs.

"My favorite program so far this year would have to be the Valentine's Day program that two of my RA's and I came up with for their residents," said Brockmann.

Every year, the RAs and HRs provided one major event for students to participate in. On April 20, they offered "Who wants to be a Griffonaire?" The event had a large turnout, and a variety of prizes ranging from snacks to cash were given out to participants.

The residence activities appealed to students because it gave them something to do and relax at after class hours. "We get a lot of participation because we cater to the whole campus," said Allen.



The models seduce the camera. Many of the models said that it was very fun to interact with each other and the community.



Four models look through the sunroof of the limo. The calendar featured women because they received a large response to a survey.



Two models pose in a doorway at a photoshoot. Instead of focusing on one woman each month, the calendar featured multiple group shots.

"I am very proud to represent my school in the calendar, and it was a lot of fun. I chose to be in the calendar because it was fun."



A model autographs her picture. The calendar featured a wide range of women.



Sophomore Taira Hill emerges from a limo at a calendar signing. Record Wear House hosted a calendar signing events for the girls.



Boom Productions owner Brian Ously talks on the phone during a shoot. Ously anticipated that this would be the 1st in a series of calendars at area schools.

~Story by LaShandra Acklin

WANTED Models

MWSC girls

pose for calendar

Many students thought it was just a joke. The sign read, "Wanted: Models." The newest attraction, the "Girls of Missouri Western" calendar, was no prank at all.

"I wanted to create a little excitement on campus and in the community," said Brian Ousley, owner of Boom Productions and Missouri Western graduate.

The calendars, featuring a wide range of women, reached stands in February. Ousley featured women because they received a large response to a survey he presented.

Senior Vicki Thompson said she thought it would be a great way to network.

"I thought it would be fun meeting so many people," said Thompson. "In the end it was the best part out of the whole experience."

Many of the models said that it was very fun to interact with each other and the community, but it took dedication.

"I enjoyed taking the pictures and hanging out with the other models the most," said senior Sarah Wieneke. "It was time involving, but Brian spaced the time out around our schedules."

Instead of focusing on one woman each month, the calendar featured multiple group photos. Senior Keisha Fair said she thought it was a good representa-

tion of the women on campus and the variety of females.

"I am very proud to represent my school in the calendar, and it was a lot of fun," said Fair. "I chose to be in the calendar because it was fun, it was the first one and it was a great learning experience."

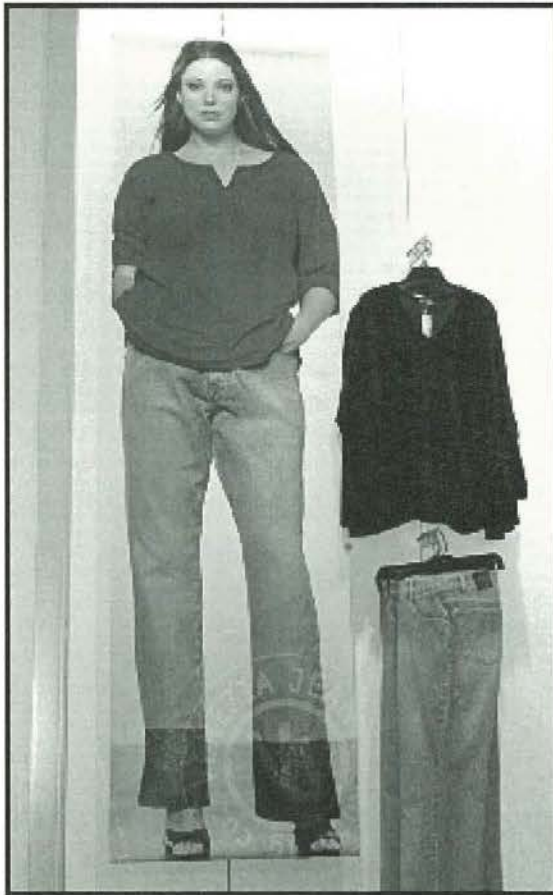
Ousley also said that the calendar had a wide variety of styles. The women were allowed to dress in anything from swimwear to formal wear. "I like the idea of having a choice in my style," said senior Blair Lee.

Ousley said that the idea originally formed when he was a student. "Back then I had this great idea, but no time to devote to it," said Ousley.

After he graduated and started his photography profession, he had more time. It was something he thought the community could get involved in and use for fundraising. Ousley said he planned for the calendar to become a fundraiser for clubs and organizations.

Ousley said it gave the women experience, and he anticipated that this would just be the first in a series of calendars at area schools.

"This will be an on-going project," said Ousley. "In addition to this school, I will hopefully be at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Northwest in Maryville. You will definitely see this calendar again."



A poster shows typical female fashion. To some students, fashion was as important as making it class on time.



• “If it’s 8:00 in
the morning, I’m
just rolling out
of bed, so it’s
all about p.j.’s”



Popular brand names, such as these, are worn by students daily. Students like junior, Matt Munson, felt that a person’s statement was made by the name brand of clothes they wore.

~All Photos by Stacy Calcote





A popular dress hangs from a rack at a department store. Some students preferred to wear the best looking outfit in their closets.

A poster shows the type of pajamas worn, both to bed and class, by students. Usually the style depended on how early the class was held.



Tek vests are one of the many clothing accessories worn by students. If an outfit was in style, so was the person's state of mind.

Fashion

The Fashion Statement's of 1999

~Story by Zach Ramsey

"Are you trying to make a fashion statement?" That was the question some students heard when they arrived in class wearing pajama bottoms and a tee shirt.

To some students, fashion was as important as making it to class on time. Those students had to wear the best looking outfit in their closet, whether it was slacks and a dress shirt, a stylish dress or a chic sweater and a pair of jeans. If the outfit was in style, so was the person's state of mind.

Other students took the opposite approach. Fashion to those students was not as important as getting to class on time. They arrived in class wearing sweats and a tee shirt, pajama bottoms or the outfit they wore the day before to a set of entirely different classes. As long as they had on clothing and made it to class on time, it did not matter what they wore to get there. Sometimes, what mattered most was the time of the day.

Sophomore Dorian Davis felt that a person's attire depended on how early they had to be in class.

"If it's 8:00 in the morning, I'm just rolling out of bed, so it's all about p.j.'s," said Davis. "Later in the day, like around 12:00, you can change clothes and throw on nice, creased jeans and a nice shirt."

Junior Sarah Farnon preferred to wear casual dress.

"It's what's most comfortable to me," said Farnon. "Sometimes I wear pajamas too."

Junior Matt Munson felt that sometimes, a person's fashion statement was made by the name brand of the clothes they wore, such as Tommy Hilfiger, Ralph Lauren, Levis or Lucky. He personally felt that it didn't matter what name brand of clothing a person wore, as long as the attire was sensible for the season and comfortable to wear.

"Right now, I wear jeans and a tee shirt because it's comfortable," said Munson. "In the winter I'll wear sweaters and pants, and in summer I'll wear tee shirts and shorts."

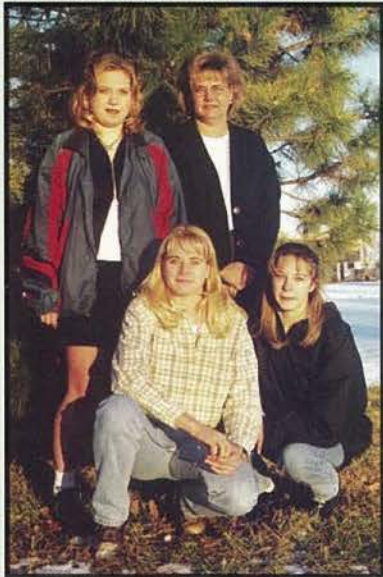
The type of clothing a student wore to class also depended on the mood they were in. Sophomore Rufus Morgan didn't think that people felt like "flossin'" every-day.

"Everybody doesn't wake up in the morning thinking, yeah, let me wear my tight gear today so that people can see I've got nice clothes," said Morgan. "They might not feel like flossin' that day because they were not in a good mood or something."

If the time of day was right and the mood of the individual was suffice, then style shone bright, no matter what type.



~All Photos by Aaron Steiner



College is a "family thing" for Carrie, Veronica, Kristy and Brenda Kemper. Veronica enjoyed being able to call her mom if she left a book at home.

Who says that
after you graduate
from high school,
you should get as
far away from
your family as
possible?



Veronica, Brenda, Kristy and Carrie Kemper all attend Missouri Western. "It makes us unique," says Veronica, a freshman.



Veronica, Kristy and Brenda take time out from classes to play in the snow together. Mom Brenda said that she enjoyed seeing her daughters everyday.



Veronica, Carrie, Kristy and Brenda Kemper walk to class together. Carrie, a freshman that a big reason she chose MWSC was because her mom and sisters were enrolled.

Kemper's

~Story by Jodi Deering

The exception to the rule

After graduating from high school, most students can't wait to leave the nest and get away from the folks and their siblings. Of course, they might return home for the occasional home-cooked meal or laundry washing. Many students found it hard to imagine themselves attending the same college as their mom and siblings. Kristy, Carrie, Veronica, and their mom Brenda, were the exceptions to the rule. All of them could be seen walking the campus, maybe even at the same time.

"It makes us unique," said Veronica, freshman. "It's kind of nice to see your family members on campus."

Brenda was a senior with an associate's degree in criminal justice who transferred from a community college in St. Joseph. She spent quality time with her daughters and was fortunate enough to have a class with her daughter, Carrie.

"I enjoy seeing them everyday and just being able to spend time with them," said Brenda. "I know what college life is like for them because it is something I can relate to." The oldest Kemper girl, Kristy, was a sophomore majoring in physical therapy. Besides attending the same college as her mom and sisters, she lived with Veronica just one hour away from her mom and Carrie.

Carrie was a freshman who was leaning toward a business major. When on-campus, she spent a majority of her time with her mom and didn't really get the

opportunity to interact with Kristy and Veronica. A big reason she chose the college was because her mom and her sisters were enrolled.

Last, but not least, was Veronica. She was a freshman who was headed toward a communication major. It wasn't a hard decision for her to choose Missouri Western because no one in her graduating class was enrolled, her family was there and she could live close to home. Going to the same college as her family proved to be beneficial to Veronica. When a book was accidentally forgotten at home, she could just call and her mom would pick it up for her on her way to school and personally deliver it.

Going to the same college had some disadvantages. If one of the girls were doing something they weren't supposed to, they had to make sure mom was no where to be found. Mom knew all of the school's rules and regulations, so it wasn't easy to get away with anything. For mom, it was a disadvantage that she could easily be tracked down on campus whenever one of her daughters needed money.

Who says that after you graduate from high school, you should get as far away from your family as possible? If they looked at the Kemper's, they would see that they were wrong. The Kemper women proved you could be at the same college, still get along and be as close as ever.



Hupp displays her vast collection of condoms. Hupp began her collection four years before, during her senior year in high school.

Hupp digs through her collection searching for the perfect condom. Hupp owned a musical condom that played "Love Me Tender."



Hupp shows her hot fudge sundae condom. Hupp collected over 105 different varieties of condoms and related paraphernalia.

"I'm a very proud virgin, and I was tired of everyone thinking that being a Christian meant that I was boring and a carbon copy."

Harbold keeps his collection close to heart. Harbold had seven monkeys, including a dog monkey and a penguin monkey.



Hupp shows her body condom. Hupp's collection included a female condom and a condom kit.



Bennett keeps his cats from running off. Bennett's collection included a Play-zer light, which drove his cats crazy.

Junior education major Alissa Hupp shows her finger condom. Hupp chose to develop her unorthodox personality through another form of expression: condoms.



Honors Director David Bennett poses with his two cats. The cats had a vast collection of cat-related toys.



Senior Brad Harbold poses with part of his sock monkey collection. Harbold got the idea from a line uttered by David Letterman in the movie "Cabin Boy."

Bizarre

Students collect strange things
~Story by Zach Ramsey

Strange collections were prevalent on campus for students and faculty alike. "Bizarre", "unusual" and "unconventional" were words used to describe the diversity of interests and defined the individual.

One of the stranger collections on campus was an extensive beer bottle cap collection by junior business management major David Paige.

"I have a basement with a pool table, multiple bar signs and other arcade games," said Paige. "My entire ceiling is covered with beer bottle caps ranging anywhere from ordinary draft beers to rare import brands that you could only buy at wine shops. It really adds a dramatic flair to the bar atmosphere of my basement, and is a great conversation piece. It's cool to see everyone walk around and try to find all the different types."

Junior elementary education major Alissa Hupp chose to develop her unorthodox personality through another form of expression: condoms. She collected over 105 different varieties of condoms and related paraphernalia. Among the more unusual specimens were a musical condom that charmed the listener with a rendition of "Love Me Tender", a soccer ball emblazoned condom, a full-body condom, a feminine condom, a "condom kit" that included a breathalyzer and a colorful array of flavored condoms.

"I started the collection to break the stereotypes that I was dealing with," said Hupp. "I'm a very proud virgin, and I was tired of everyone thinking that being a Christian meant that I was boring and a carbon copy. I enjoy being someone that people remember, and a

collection like mine is hard to forget!"

David Bennett, honors program director, cited his fascination in cats as a healthy interest that developed many years prior to teaching.

"I developed an almost paternal instinct towards the adoption of cats and their complex behaviors that are almost human-like," said Bennett. "They have become lovable companions to me as we have matured together. My bizarre collection of cat-related toys, ranging from ordinary cat-nip balls to a Play-zer light that simply drives the cats berserk, have all stemmed out of my emotional attachment to my cats. I try to buy them something on each out-of-town trip I take."

Perhaps one of the best examples of strange collections was captured in the avid sock monkey collection of senior Brad Harbold. Harbold knew from the moment he saw David Letterman coin the famous line "Would you like to buy a monkey?" in the movie "Cabin Boy" that sock monkeys were for him. His first sock monkey was given to him as a homemade gift, but his assortment rapidly expanded to seven monkeys in a matter of months. Two large monkeys, two small monkeys, a dog monkey, a penguin monkey, a "Plays well with others" clothed monkey and the personal email address were fine examples of his addiction.

Unusual collections like these developed over many years of hard work and tenacious searching. While many people still gathered the usual things like stamps and baseball cards, there were still some memorable individuals who chose to sway from the norm.



~All Photos by Aaron Steiner



Senior English major Hayley Wilson shows off her colorful moon and stars ankle tattoo. Tattoos reflected the personality of the inked person.

Piercings provided for conversation because of their locations. Artwork, such as tattoos, was colorful, expressive, decorative and had an uniqueness all of its own.



Senior Beth Perry, business major, proudly displays the tattoo on her lower back. Body artwork was often found in the form of expressive and personable tattoos.

Beth Perry and Heather Idstein lounge around after a night of partying. Body piercing was very popular with female students.



Senior English major Brooke Rogers admires one of her forms of body art. Rogers had a tongue ring as well as tattoos.



~Story by Zach Ramsay

INDEPENDENCE

Independence

Students express their lust for life

Women, you've heard your parents harp on it, even got the third degree. "Why would any self-respecting woman mutilate her body like that? You could've gotten some awful disease!"

For many female students, body piercing and artwork were two obvious forms of self-expression. Piercings provided for conversation because of their locations. Artwork, such as tattoos, was colorful, expressive, decorative and had an uniqueness all of its own.

Piercing was popular in the form of tongue studs, navel rings and rings in other places. Sophomore English major Leslie Hancock had six ear piercings, two nipple piercings, a navel piercing and a tongue stud.

"I got my tongue pierced, in part to relieve this craving I always have to have something in my mouth, you know, something to move around," said Hancock. "I'm really big into the whole decorating your body thing. The reason I want people to get piercings is to enhance the beauty of the human body, which is the value I place on my own piercings."

In addition to being personal declarations, women also got piercings as mood-enhancers, and because they were not permanently damaging. Senior English major Sheree Miller said that piercing body parts could be somewhat addictive.

"They are almost ornamentation just like jewelry, but are closer in nature to tattoos," said Miller. "It's almost like getting a right of passage."

Tattoos were another form of personal declaration. Junior journalism major Ruth Doornick had a butterfly tattoo on her ankle. "It caught people's eye and

displayed the real me," said Doornick.

The appeal for tattoos came through their visibility. The art depended on the inclinations and personality of the person displaying it. In general, females said that tattoos were decisions requiring serious consideration before a trip was made to the parlor.

Sophomore history major Lindsey Walker said she considered getting a tattoo for a long time, and received encouragement from her experienced friends.

"My friends, Nate and Stacey, were really supportive because they had already gotten some great tattoos done at this place," said Walker, who displayed a small butterfly in the middle of her back.

Tattoos were also a way for some females to solidify friendships. Junior criminal justice major Angie Durbin and sophomore physical therapy major Michelle Zeger strengthened their friendship by getting identical tattoos.

"We both got identical roses with black tribal bands wrapped around them on our lower backs," said Durbin. "We hadn't planned on getting the same thing, but afterwards we were that much closer because of what we had shared."

Females chose piercings and artwork for various reasons. They felt they were thoughtful, passionate and considerate of other's personal decisions. Senior communications major Mary Zook said that she didn't get a tattoo to be known as a conformist, but rather a complete individual.

"Make sure you know what you want to do," said Zook. "If you come to the decision, and it is for you, don't be scared, and go for it!"

T H E B L A I N W I T C H

P R O J E C T



~Photo Illustrations by Aaron Steiner





~Story by Taira Hill

Some called it the scariest movie in history, while others found humor in the mock documentary, "The Blair Witch Project". Many students were strongly affected by the film.

"Let's just say I was afraid to leave the theater in broad daylight, and haven't been camping since," said senior Pamela Gonzalez. "It scared me senseless."

The story was created by two Hollywood unknowns who borrowed nearly \$35,000 to make a \$137 million hit. They had absolutely no idea what the outcome would be, but decided to take the risk. The directors' intention was to make the film so realistic that it would terrify viewers, even in the previews, but some felt they took the scare a little too far.

The previews led people to believe the footage was real, and the movie was a true story. The directors decided this would attract more attention, so they began advertising the movie as non-fiction on web sights and even on the cable TV station A&E.

"It was the worst movie I have ever seen," said junior Centoria Roulette. "I couldn't even tell what was going on because the camera was so shaky! I wasn't scared at all."

The camera seemed to be out of control as the three actors trampled through the "so-called" haunted woods of Berkittsville, Md. Some viewers claimed they left the theater, and some even vomited, due to motion sickness. Other's stayed glued to the screen until the very end, and left wondering about the events that happened after the camera stopped rolling.

Many students, especially males, were afraid to admit their fear of what they saw in the movie.

"I wasn't afraid of the dark until I saw the movie," said one student. "I could finally sleep after about a week of hiding under my covers."

Many critics called the film "cinema's magic potion", and said that if you had invested \$1, you would have earned nearly \$4,000 because the directors broke all of Hollywood's rules. Instead of spending millions of dollars on the film, they used an underdog approach of appealing to the people. There was no script, and the actors were just told to "wing it". The directors got screams from the actors by hiding in the woods and jumping out at them, actually playing the Blair Witch themselves. The movie was the surprise success of the summer.

"It was really scary," said sophomore Tyler Page. "I will never step foot in the woods again."





Academics





Missouri Western was in juxtaposition academically in 2000 through the people and the events.

The faces of faculty changed as loved ones left. Students and faculty said goodbye to President Murphy, Dean Hoff and Director of Residential Life Annette Diorio.

New friends also joined the school's ranks. Housing Coordinator Catherine Hamlin was only one of the many faculty members who called Missouri Western their new home.

Other people defined what it meant to be academically involved in the school. Professors like Don Lillie and James Buglewicz worked with students, making them interested in learning and helping others through performing.

Professors were not the only ones involved academically. Students Melissa and Jamie Bush set standards in learning that few have reached. Some students even branched out and got involved in the job market before they had even acquired their college degrees.

When it came to events that promoted learning, Missouri Western was the place to be. With events like theatrical performances, a faculty spelling bee and convocations featuring astronaut Jerry Linenger and preacher Tony Campolo, there was something for every person to take part in or enjoy.

To round out the year, Missouri Western celebrated 30 years as a state college. Involvement came from students, faculty and the community. The festivities turned out to show just how juxtaposed the academic system was.

Story by ~ Mindy Kinnaman
& Stephanie Howard

Linenger speaks to the audience about the fears he had on the MIR. Linenger had to overcome those fears in order to go outside the space station, as it orbited the earth.



There were tears in the eyes of many whom attended the Sixth Annual Convocation on Critical Issues on Sept. 16 in the M.O. Looney Fieldhouse.

Jerry Linenger was an astronaut and cosmonaut who spent five months on the Russian space station MIR. He received a bachelor of science, two doctorates and two master's degrees. He was also a retired Navy Captain.

During his stay in space, Linenger experienced many situations that changed his life, especially the evening when there was a chemical fire on the ship.

"There were balls that looked like wax shooting out from it," said Linenger. "It looked like a blow torch, and I noticed the balls were really balls of molten metal."

Junior Ryan Oelke was very impressed with how Linenger handled the situation.

"It made me feel pretty lucky to be in my own little cozy part of the world," said Oelke. "To be able to take control of yourself and not flip out, which most people couldn't do. And to top it off, he almost died anyway. Somehow, he managed to keep his stuff together to put out the fire."

On the ship, Linenger was forced to put aside differences to share the space station with Russian cosmonauts. This was during the time that Americans and Russians were considered enemies.

"They didn't speak English, and I spoke little Russian," said Linenger. "We are Cold War enemies, but we had a common goal and put our differences behind us, and we got along."

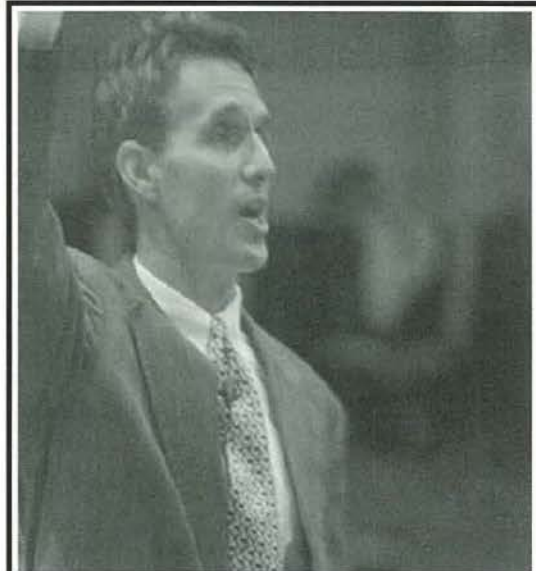
Linenger had to overcome his fears so that he could go outside the space station as it orbited the earth. "I just took my fear and tucked it into a compartment of my brain I never knew I had," he said.

Sophomore Kevin Brenneman felt that Linenger's speech left an impression on him. "There is not one specific thing I can put my finger on that had an impact on me because the whole speech was very good," he said.

Linenger was very happy to have spent time in space, but was even more excited when he saw the American flag on the space shuttle Atlantis when it arrived to take him home. He said that looking at the earth from space was like looking at an atlas. "I heard about the troubles in Kosovo, and I wanted to take all the world leaders up there and have them look at the bigger picture," he said.

Oelke felt that Linenger was an interesting person whose life was one to be thankful for.

"I enjoyed everything he said," said Oelke. "I think he is a great speaker. When he was telling a story, like the fire story, you felt like you were there with him. It was like watching a movie. He made you laugh, panic and cry."



Linenger tells the audience about the fire he witnessed on the MIR. During his stay in space, Linenger experienced many situations that helped change his life.



Linenger adds life to his stories, capturing the audience's attention on the ship. Linenger was forced to put aside any differences to share the space station with Russian cosmonauts.

All Photos by
~ Brandon
Jennings

R

ocketman



Linenger's stories of his exploits in space keeps the audience on the edge of their seats. Linenger spent five months on the Russian space station MIR.



Crowds form outside of the Student Union at the early hour of 10 a.m. It came as somewhat of a shock to administration and students alike when the school year boasted an enrollment increase of over 70 students.

Photo by ~
Laura Powers

n the Rise

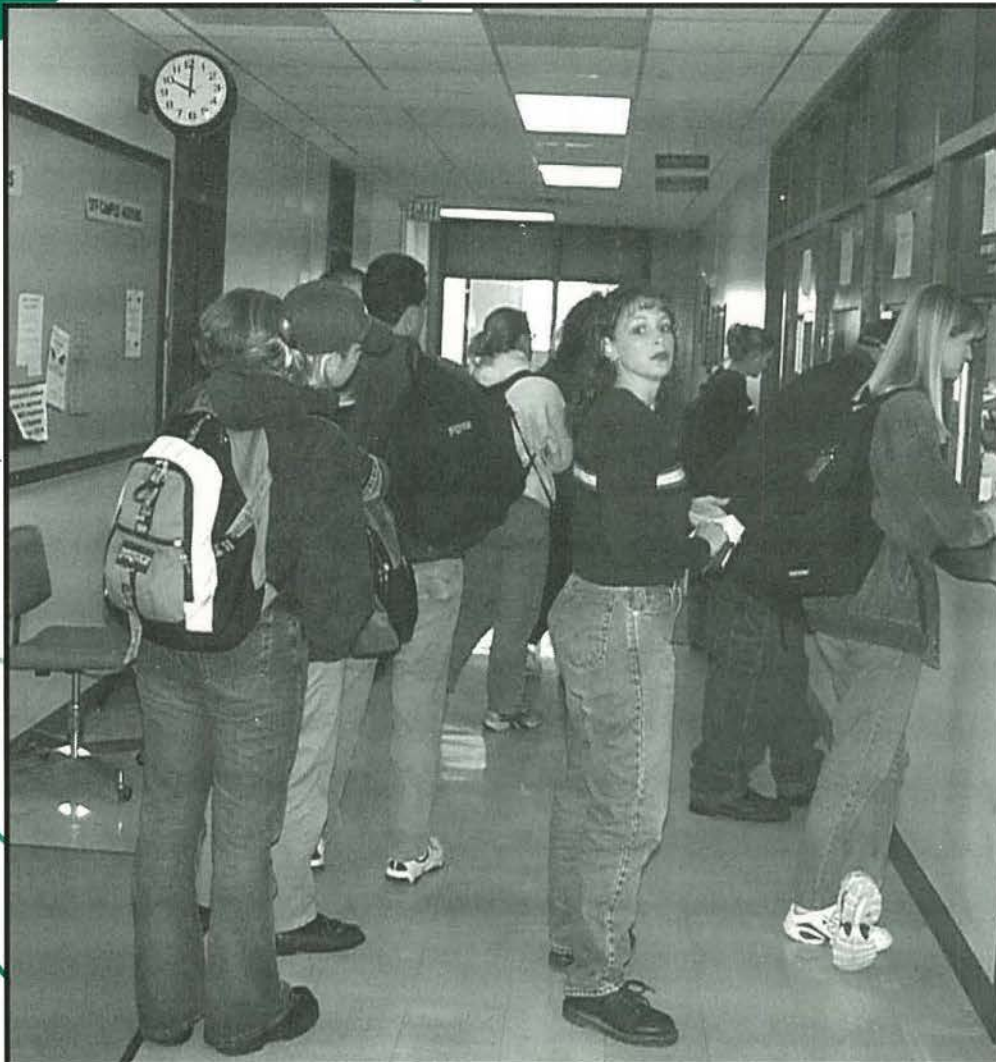


Photo by ~ Laura Powers

Re-enrollment efforts require diligent planning and a positive outlook. Attendance and enrollment increases greatly reflected a commitment to the future felt by all administrators and students.

If one's company and two's a crowd, then what do you get with 5,129? That's right, you get Missouri Western State College!

Turning the corner into a new millennium, the college was poised to accelerate full-speed into the fast lane of education. Steady attendance that began five years before made the institution, student body and community excited and eager to take the campus to technological and academic plateaus other competing campuses could only dream of.

Noteworthy attendance increases could be accounted for through an extended public relations policy that began with a strong push for communication at the individual student and local levels. Working high school counselor relations and increased credibility through personal attention and graduate ambassadors proud of student life were exceptional avenues for public relations and a positive campus image. A broad, all-encompassing team effort by administration and students alike made the institution a large community business draw as well.

Despite the positive image and growing interest in all that the college offered, it still came as somewhat of a shock to administra-

tion and students alike when the school year boasted an enrollment increase of over 70 students. Projections from area colleges led them to expect a decline in student populations due to economic vitality in Missouri and increased job potential for many area young adults.

"We didn't really expect to have more than the current enrollment this year, but our staff and administration did an excellent job accommodating the increase," said President Janet Murphy. "Our campus is the only campus that is a truly active campus, and we are very excited about predicted student enrollment in the near future."

"The parking is a very annoying problem that kind of came with the territory of getting more students on campus," said junior economics major Matt Growcock. "It's just basically an inconvenience that new students aren't really adjusted to. A little time management skill is all anyone needs to get around the problem."

Renovations totaling just under \$20 million thrust the school into the forefront of "smart" education. Attendance and enrollment increases greatly reflected a commitment to the future felt by all administrators and students. These renovations and additions made the college better able to accommodate more students.

"Education, like everything else, is very competitive," said Lonnie Johnson, physical plant director. "We have to stay at the forefront of offering students what they need."

Photo by ~
Laura Powers



Student form orderly lines outside of the Business Office. Fast, friendly and courteous student service was the number one priority of all campus departments.

Photo by ~ Brandon Jennings

Students wait in line for up to 20 minutes to get on Riverside for 8:00 classes. The enrollment increase effected all areas of a student's life.



Story by ~ Mandy Fitzwater
& Mindy Kinnaman

Some may have been a little puzzled when they entered the Missouri Theatre in downtown St. Joseph and were handed a sheet of hymns including "How Great Thou Art" and "Amazing Grace". The mystery began to unravel when the audience was instructed to sing those hymns as a prelude to the Oct. 5 "Convocation on Critical Issues", which was titled "You Can Make a Difference". When motivational speaker Tony Campolo, the perfect mixture of comedian, professor and evangelist, shared religious anecdotes with the audience, the church-like scene from just moments before began to make sense.

Sponsored by the Coalition for Youth and Family Values, the convocation was held off-campus to help make a larger number of the community aware of the event, and to offer a setting more conducive to Campolo's presentation style. According to James McCarthy, executive vice-president of Missouri Western, an advantage of two convocations was to make the community aware of the college's commitment to bringing in speakers with a great impact on issues concerning society.

"I believe students will gain a perspective about life and the way in which people live their lives," said McCarthy. "Dr. Campolo will also raise a social awareness about issues affecting everyone's life."

Campolo was the founder and President of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education and lead Philadelphia Outreach, a political and so-

cial action group. He also founded an organization that helped at-risk children in inner city America, and was a religious advisor to President Bill Clinton. At the time of the convocation, Campolo had already written more than 25 books, including "Wake Up America!" and "Carpe Diem: Seize the Day", and contributed articles to "World Vision".

Campolo's message focused on family values, and how important it was to instill them in children. He said that the family should provide three very important things for children; love, roots and visions. He believed that a lot of people thought of romance and love as the same thing, but pointed out that there was a difference between the two. He said that, if we love someone, we treat them as equals and do not judge them. He thought that one of the biggest problems with parents was that the main goal they had for their children was that they be happy, but that goal should really be that they be good at whatever they choose to do in life.

"In each of us, God plants a dream or a vision," said Campolo. "Without our dream or vision, we perish."



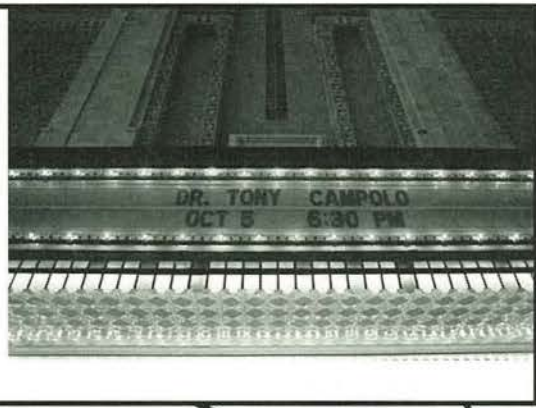
Campolo tells a story about a woman's umbrella. Campolo used humorous stories to point across



Campolo's humorous style catches the audience's attention from the start. He told stories about a vagabond on the street and a bag lady in an expensive department store to make a point about loving others and treating all people equally.



The Missouri Theater's marquee announces the convocation. Dr. Tony Campolo's presentation was sponsored by the Coalition for Youth and Family Values.



Encore! Encore!

Campolo tells attendees his thoughts on marriage. Campolo's message focused on family values and how important it was to instill them in children.

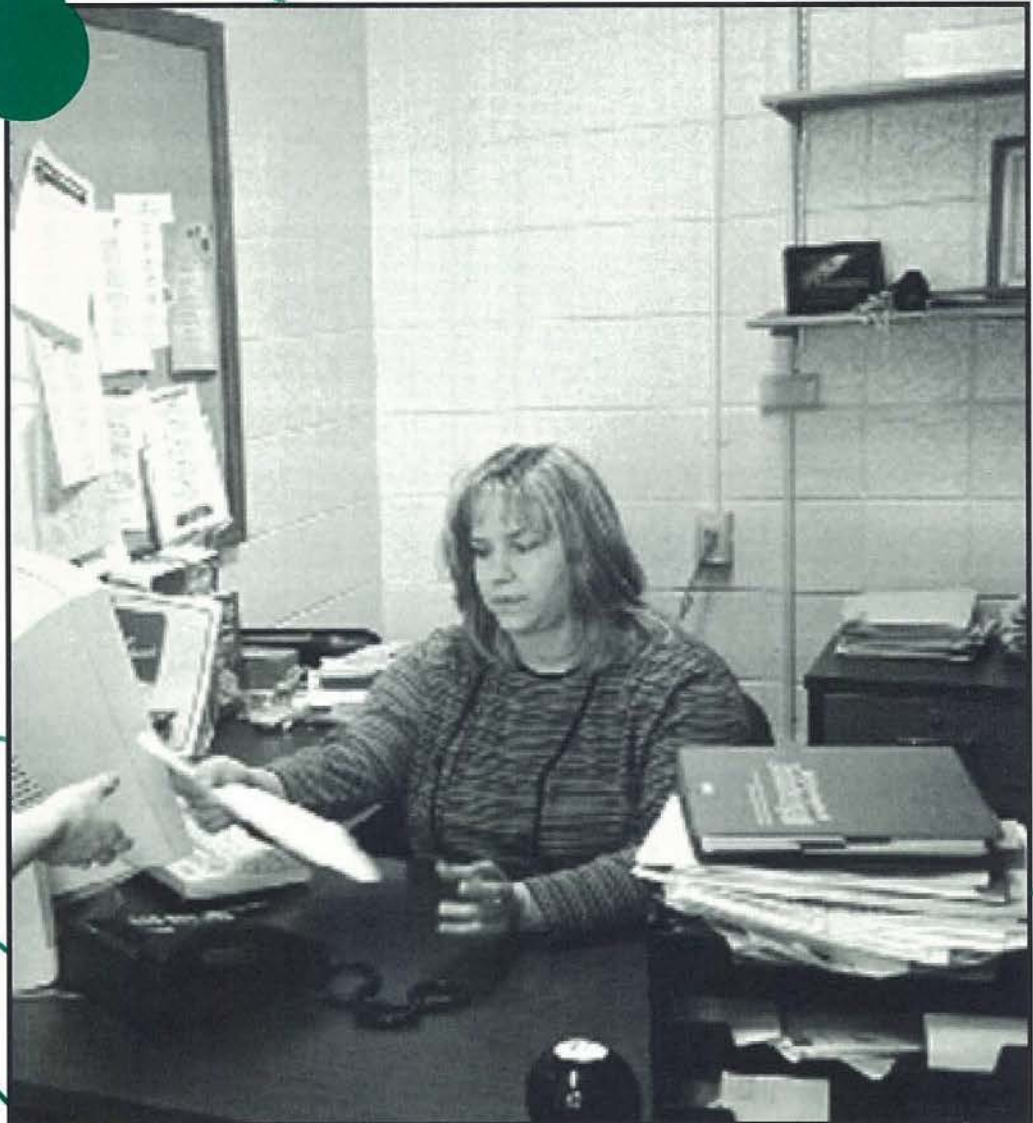


All Photos by ~
Kryss Franklin

Hamlin checks over important documents. Her interest in the college began when she came for a tour.



Housing Mom



Hamlin speaks with senior Sonya Schrader during work. Her job description was to select, train and supervise all of the student staff members in the halls.

After working in Scotland for two years, Catherine Hamlin was Hall Director at Northwest Missouri State University, and then moved on to be MWSC's new Housing Coordinator. She arrived in July, not knowing what kind of atmosphere to expect from the rest of the staff members because the structure was so different from the places where she previously worked. Upon arrival, she began research into the job descriptions of the Housing Office staff.

Hamlin takes a break from her hard work to smile for the camera. Hamlin previously worked in Scotland and at Northwest Missouri State University.



"I pretty much had to read through all the job descriptions and try to figure out what they were talking about, and what they meant about this and that," said Hamlin. "By the time people got here for training, I knew a lot about their positions, but I didn't know a thing about them."

Hamlin's uneasiness was soon laid to rest. She was immediately made to feel at home when, during a summer heat wave, some of the staff helped her move into an apartment.

Although her old job consisted of working with only a professional staff,

she was very enthusiastic about working with a student staff, and quickly learned that they had a lot of ideas and energy.

"The students have been great," said Hamlin. "They come back and visit with me and give me ideas."

Hamlin's job description as Housing Coordinator was to select, train and supervise all of the student staff members in the halls, primarily Resident Assistants (RA's) and Head Residents (HR's). She was a part of various committees and constructed a housing newsletter. Together, she and the student staff worked on a lot of new projects, one of which originated from ideas the student staff had at a successful mediation session during fall training.

Hamlin's interest in the college began when she came for a tour. She liked the casual atmosphere, as well as the staff and student interaction. Accepting the job was a promotion for Hamlin. "It was more responsibility than what I had at my last position," she said.

Hamlin wanted to get students excited about the different student positions available on the Housing Staff, like RA's and HR's.

"I think that we have a lot of students in the halls that would do an excellent job, and I want to encourage them to apply," said Hamlin. "No matter what your major is, you would gain communication and leadership skills."

Junior Erin McCanless speaks with Hamlin about a housing matter. She was very enthusiastic about working with the student staff.



"The Madwoman of Chaillot" was a play in which good triumphed over evil, thanks to the Madwoman herself. It was a work of political and social allegory where everything ran opposite to society. Humanity was valued over industry, and naivete was considered superior to conformity.

The Madwoman, played by Dana Downs, discovered the plot of a corporation to dig up Paris in search of oil. She came up with a plan to destroy all the evil in the city by tricking them in to her never-ending cellar, restoring peace and happiness in Chaillot.

Director Jim Buglewicz said that "The Madwoman of Chaillot" was chosen for three reasons. There were good female parts, it was a large cast that could be cross-gendered if necessary and it told a delightful story with wonderful characters.

"Originally, the script was produced as a serious piece, but I felt that the story was more fable-like, or an allegory," said Buglewicz. "It reminded me of a cartoon called 'Fractured Fairy Tales'. The message of the play came through, yet it was more palatable for a contemporary audience."

Buglewicz said they worked very hard on perfecting a cartoon style to the piece, including the set, props, costume design and acting style. He said that it was necessary for the actors to become comfortable with the broad style and to work very physically when portraying the characters.

"This was probably the most difficult thing about the production," said Buglewicz. "With a large cast of 43, organization is always difficult, but that just

comes with educational theater."

Junior Alissa Hupp played a waiter and was one of many cross-dressed characters. She said the cast had a lot of freshmen in it, and a lot of people that auditioned because they were intro students. "I was amazed at the talent that this show demonstrated," said Hupp.

Many of the students said their favorite part about being involved in the show was meeting new people. With such a large cast, there were many new faces. Junior Matthew Schmidt said he auditioned because all of the shows that Buglewicz did were good opportunities for actors and technicians due to the large casts and sets. "The best part about being in the show was having the opportunity to see some of the new talent find their acting style and make it through some of the difficulties of being in a show this size," said Schmidt.

Junior Derek Davis played another cross-dressed character, a prostitute named Paulette.

"Dressing up as a woman was a little fun because I have never done it before," said Davis. "Hopefully, I'll never do it again. The heels were painful!"

Senior Mary Bishop attended the play, and said that she really enjoyed it. "It was very comical," she said.

All Photos by ~
Aaron Steiner



The Madwoman plays the matchmaker as Pierre and Erma fumble for words. The two characters added to the happy ending of the play.



The deaf mute transcribes as others look on. One comical part of the play was when the deaf mute both heard and spoke.

The Madwoman plots a way to dispose of all the evil in her city. In the play, humanity was valued over industry and naivete was considered superior to conformity.



Fractured Fairy Tale



Others look on as The Madwoman tells Pierre of her morning routine. The play was originally a serious piece, but was performed on a more comical level.

Don Lillie poses with the cast for the fall production, Deathtrap, which was held in the Black Box Theater. Lillie took a break from his normal technical directing duties to direct Deathtrap.



The Total Picture



Lillie reflects as his technical students work on their duties. His former students worked all over the country.



Lillie shows actors how to roll up a dead body in the play, "Deathtrap." There was always cooperation and devotion required to put on good shows.

Story by - Adina Murrell

There was no theater in his hometown of Louisville, Ky., that instilled in Don Lillie a passion for design. Having grown up one of six urban kids in the "big small town," Lillie attempted college twice. First, he tried a major in music, but then he thought elementary education might be a good field for him. Lillie used college as a tool in his quest to get out of the tough environment of the city. When those attempts fell through a second time, he found himself in the military. "It took a war to make me grow up," he said. Even while in Vietnam, Lillie remembered college experiences, and those memories brought him back for one more try.

Lillie remembered performing in a play called "The Student Prince," in which he was part of the chorus. He watched a man strapped into a string from the ceiling with his legs dangling in midair paint a giant purple mountain. This got him thinking that maybe he would try theater as a major. "I'd tried everything else," he said.

His first technical theater classes were passed with A's. "I thought, now this is a career move for me," he said. One of his responsibilities

was doing 50 hours in the shop working on theater props. He got an A in the course, and that was when he changed his major to theater with infuses in design.

It was not the art of design alone that Lillie enjoyed, it was the total picture.

"There's not just the actor or the technician," said Lillie. "There's an appreciation of what the other does, and the cooperation and devotion that goes into doing it."

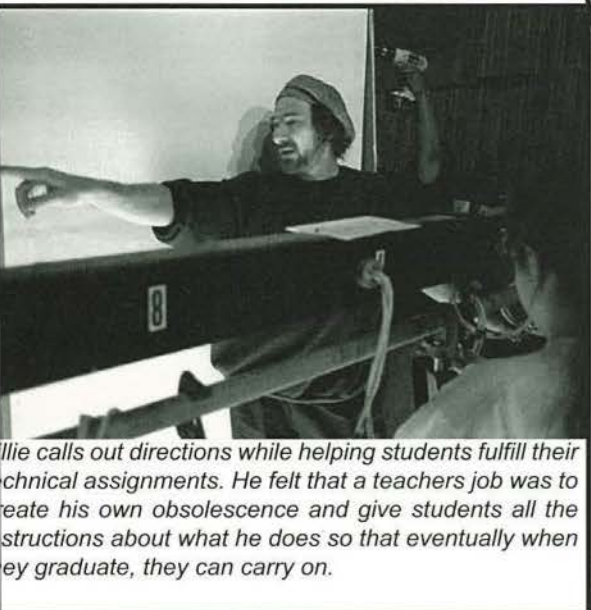
As Assistant Professor of technical theatre at Missouri Western, Lillie could see the glint and sparkle in a student's eyes, and know that the theater bug had bitten him or her. He found it very rewarding to watch students excel.

Senior communications major Corinther Black felt that Lillie was a very down-to-earth person.

"He says honest things," said Black. "If something is good, then he will tell you, and if it's bad, he will tell you. He has a great sense of humor, and he is also very willing to help students out whenever he can."

Lillie's former students worked all over the country. He actually lost jobs to former students, so he knew he was doing his job well.

"A teacher's job is to create his own obsolescence and give students all the instruction about what I do so that eventually, when I go, they will carry on," said Lillie. "In essence, that's what I'm doing."



Lillie calls out directions while helping students fulfill their technical assignments. He felt that a teachers job was to create his own obsolescence and give students all the instructions about what he does so that eventually when they graduate, they can carry on.

Lillie aids students with their technical assignments. He found it very rewarding to watch students excel.



"The Colored Museum," written by George C. Wolfe, provided students with entertainment, as well as an understanding of the importance of unity. It received positive reactions from viewers and reached many people by stressing the importance of accepting others despite their differences.

The play included a series of scenes that featured many actors. The characters in each scene were effective in stressing the importance of unity and acceptance of others' differences, no matter what color their skin was or what country they originally came from.

"Miss Pat," played by senior Jamel Bell, gave a warm welcome to the audience in "Celebrity Slaveship." Bell enjoyed the experience and said it was very educational for everyone. She auditioned because she wanted to perform in a play before she graduated.

"The opportunity came up to do it, and it was the first play of its kind here," said Bell. "The cast was all African American. I was really interested in the symbolism of the play, and it addressed a lot of the stereotypes and racial issues dealing with African Americans."

Another scene included "Cooking with Aunt Ethel," featuring sophomore Krystal Franklin. Franklin, using her vocal talent, taught the audience how to cook.

Freshman Aaron Williams played a very dramatic part in "Soldier with a Secret." The scene expressed the thoughts of a soldier who knew the secret of pain.

Humorous highlights included "The Hairpiece," a look at the problems with choosing a hairstyle, and "The Photo

Session," featuring sophomore Stacia Deckard and Rashad Smith. The scene showed the advantages and disadvantages of life on the pages of a magazine.

"The play was a really fun activity," said Deckard. "We were always messing around, just having a lot of fun and enjoying ourselves. My skit as a fashion model was really a neat part to have. I was very happy to be part of this activity."

The play was written to give an outlook on the African American way of life, describing both the good times and bad. However, it was not strictly written for the black race. The play showed the comedy, sorrow and uniqueness of one way of life compared to that of another.

The overall success of the play was due to the enthusiasm and talent of the actors and the directing by Jim Buglewicz and sophomores Andrea Purnell and Elijah Murray.

The Black Theatre Alliance, a newly formed group, sponsored the play. The group hoped to become a recognized campus organization in the future and to continue putting on productions like "The Colored Museum."



Stacia Deckard and Rashad Givhan pose in "Photo Session." This scene showed the life of a model.



Temeca White cries over the death of her son in "The Last Mama on the Couch." The scene ended with the actors singing and dancing in a musical fashion.

All Photos by ~
Brandon Jennings

Rashad Givhan yells as
his wife, played by
Temeca White, cries on
the floor. Each character
had a specific goal
in this scene.



Unique Outlook

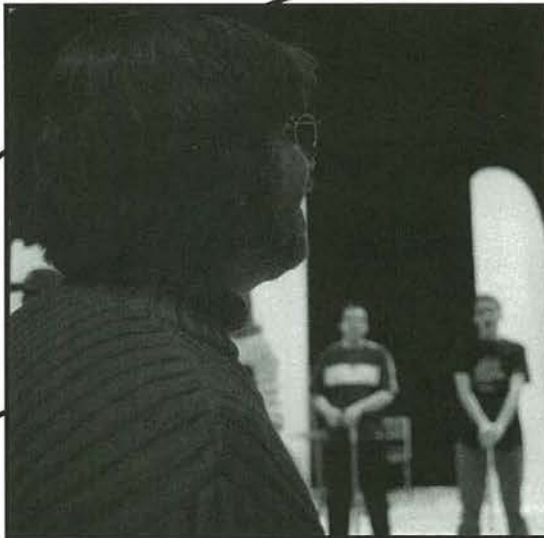


Aaron Williams tells the audience the secret of pain. "Soldier with a Secret" was a very dramatic scene about war.

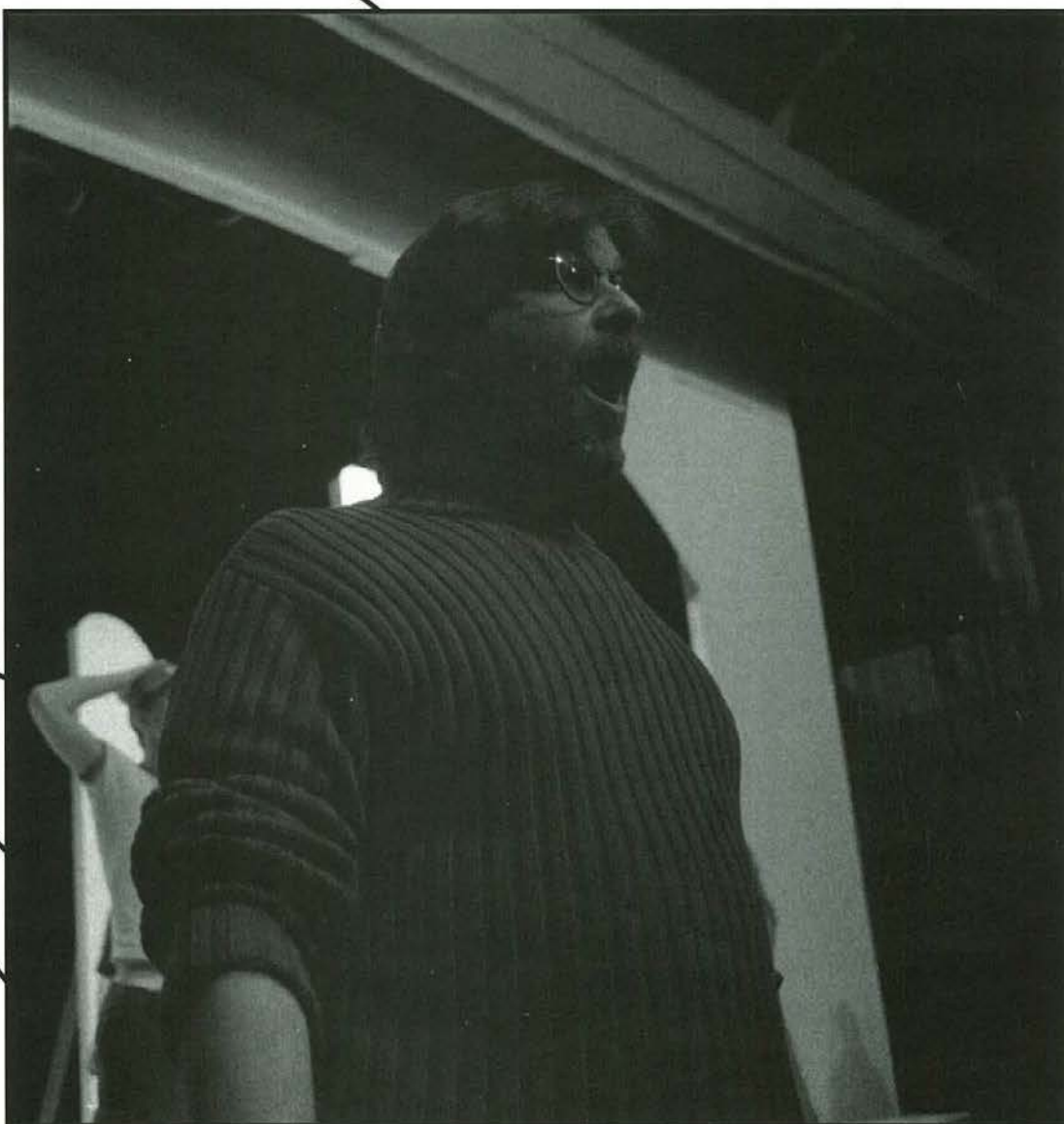


All photos by ~
Aaron Steiner

James Buglewicz leads a vocal exercise before a play rehearsal. Buglewicz was praised for the individual attention he showed each actor.



The Big Picture



Buglewicz directs a play rehearsal. Before he came to Missouri Western, he was a freelance director of film and stage, as well as an acting coach and teacher.

Buglewicz shows proper footwork during rehearsal. He had the most fun with the production of "Caucasian Chalk Circle."

Story by - Adina Murrell

Unlike his colleague Don Lillie, James Buglewicz's passion for theater was realized at the early age of fifteen. After his growth spurt came to an end in junior high, he realized that football would not be his Hall of Fame. Looking for something to take up his free time, he got involved in plays, the first being George Orwell's "1984." Before he got to Missouri Western, Buglewicz was a freelance director of film and stage, as well as an acting coach and teacher across the country.

"I like to see people excel and discover the artist in themselves," said Buglewicz. "It is like discovering a gift."

Buglewicz started teaching as an undergraduate student in an after-school program at a recreation center where 100 kids ran rapid and screamed uncontrollably. He tried to teach six kids at a time in a little room the size of his office at MWSC. "It was crazy, but that's how I started out," he said.

Senior Corinther Black felt that Buglewicz cared about each individual. "He is eager for them to learn, but is also very laid back," she said.

Buglewicz enjoyed directing because he could make big pictures. For him, it was like being a painter. He made three-dimen-

sional pictures by moving people and props around, making a picture for the audience. Theater was a collaboration process that involved working with a lot of different people who all contributed. He had the most fun during the production of the "Caucasian Chalk Circle" because it was something he wanted to do since he was 18. During the summer of 1999, he directed a movie called "To Cross a River." It was great fun for him because it was a full production with a great crew.

"If you're clear in what you want from a piece, then you allow others to put their two cents in about what they feel the piece is about, and you're able to mold it until it's all one big statement," said Buglewicz. "I really enjoy collaborations, not only for the actors, but also for the designers. Everybody right on down the line is important."

Buglewicz felt that one of the best things about being Assistant Professor of Theater was being able to work with Robyn Findlay and Lillie. "Working together from the very start was like we've known each other for years," he said.

Buglewicz wanted to do quality work and have as many people involved in the theatre department as possible. He wanted to get actors that had good, solid techniques so that the department could do more difficult material and be able to make films.

"I just want to be able to have a well-rounded department with a lot of people who have a lot of energy," said Buglewicz. "I want to have a lot of things going on at the same time."

Buglewicz demonstrates a move for video productions major Derek Davis. He was eager for all his actors to learn.



Many people thought they were excellent at spelling. Some were wrong.

Community members and college faculty gathered and spelled to acknowledge Literacy Action Week at the 4th Annual Bee for Literacy on April 11. The St. Joseph Area Literacy Coalition sponsored the event.

A sense of friendly competition filled the Kemper Recital Hall as the teams began to spell. The first word to be incorrectly spelled was 'congratulations' by the "CBS," a team from the business and economics department.

The level of difficulty rose as the rounds progressed. Words such as sapphire, synecdoche, buoyant, euphemism, silhouette, indissoluble, mozzarella, vinaigrette, anemometer and rubefacient were spelled incorrectly throughout the hour-long spelling bee.

"The Terminators," sponsored by the president's office, had won the event for the past three years but were defeated by "The Oxymorons," sponsored by the English, foreign languages and journalism department. "The win was surprising, and I owe it all to my colleagues Dr. Susan Hennessy and Dr. Keith Rhodes," said Ken Rosenauer, associate professor of English and member of "The Oxymorons."

The last word of the competition was 'zucchetto.' It was spelled correctly by Rhodes. "The word zucchetto is Italian and I just tried to picture what it would look like on an Italian menu," said Rhodes.

Each participating team chose a specific philanthropic organization to donate their winnings to. The winning group was awarded a \$1,000 check, and they promptly donated the money to Pass

the Power, an adult literacy program sponsored by the MWSC Foundation. Kim Sigrist, director of Pass the Power, said the donation would go to help add technology at the center.

"We would like to use the donation to purchase computer software," said Sigrist. "Computer technology is an important tool in teaching adults to read."

Sigrist also said that she thought the event was very successful. The number of teams competing rose to 14 teams from 12 the previous year.

"The competition was really good this year," said Sigrist. "It was fun, heated and enjoyable to watch. There is definitely a possibility for the spelling bee to become bigger and better."

Many students from the Student Affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English were present for the Spelling Bee.

"I thought it was interesting," said Whitney Reineke, senior education major. "I would have been out of the competition a long time ago."

James Roever was the pronouncer for the event. He had been involved in the program since its inception in 1997.

"It is fun and it is for a good cause," said Roever. "It is fun for all the groups that participate."

Photo by ~
Brian Hunt



Jeannetta Danford, Anne Manns and Sharon Bottor the accuracy of the spellings. The Spelling Bee was sponsored by the St. Joseph Area Literacy Coalition.

Photo by ~
Brian Hunt



The Big Chiefs sit next to the chairs once occupied by the A+ Spellers. CBS received the Andrew Jackson Award for Creative Spelling for being the 1st team to go out.

S

Photo by ~
Aaron
Tebrinke



Danile Trifan of the social sciences team, the Terminators, spells a word. The Terminators were defeated this year after winning three years in a row.

entence Please

Photo courtesy
of ~ Dr. Hennessy



The Oxymorons pose with the trophy they received after winning the spelling bee. Rhodes successfully spelled zucchetto to outspell Trifan's team.

All Photos by ~
Brad Redmond

Jamie Bush found her calling in an emergency room while she and her sister Melissa were volunteering. That is when she knew she wanted to be a nurse.



Sibling Nurses



Bright whites all the way around! From smiles to uniforms the Bush sisters shared goals, interests, notes and majors that brought them closer together.

It's not very often that siblings share and experience the same things without the predictable sibling rivalry.

Senior Melissa Bush and her sister, junior Jamie were two personalities that stood out in the nursing department. These two were there for each other, helping one another along the way in pursuing their nursing careers.

Jamie said she and Melissa had always been interested in nursing.

"Once we volunteered to work in the emergency room, and we really enjoyed helping people," said Jamie. "Since then, we knew we wanted to become nurses. We have so much in common. Since we have decided to work together to reach some of the same goals, we have developed more than just a sister/sister relationship."

Melissa attended the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota where she was involved in an internship that she would remember for the rest of her life.

"The internship didn't count for any school credit," said Melissa. "I just did what I was told, and learned from it. It was a really neat time in my life. I met people from everywhere, and enjoyed that aspect of it. There were people from the East Coast, West Coast and everything in between. There were even some from Puerto Rico and other far off places. I know she will enjoy the experience

as much as I did."

Jamie planned to follow in Melissa's footsteps and also attend the Mayo Clinic internship. There were more than 500 applicants for the internship, and Melissa felt it was her job to help Jamie fill out her application and accomplish her goal.

"I am looking forward to my sister's success," said Melissa. "I know she will do great at the Mayo Clinic internship."

The sisters were lucky to both have the same interests and goals. They felt it was to their advantage that they lived together and became involved in the same activities.

"Melissa encourages me, and pushes me to get the grades I need," said Jamie. "She has become a very good role model for me, and I look up to her for all she has achieved."

Jamie was the secretary of the Student Nurses Association, and she helped get people involved. Melissa, the president, organized activities.

"We do many activities in the community," said Melissa. "We have done babysitting clinics for the Girl Scouts, and we do a lot of teaching in many other organizations in St. Joseph. My job is just to set up meetings and things for members to become involved in. Involvement is a major issue."

The two sisters had nothing negative to say about their situation.

"We quiz one another and share notes," said Melissa. "Studying is easier when you have a partner to help you out. It is also a good thing that we can get along. I am really excited about graduation, and it has been fun accomplishing that goal with my sister."



Life is good. SNA president Melissa Bush shared her excitement in graduating and accomplishing her goal with her sister Jamie.

Sharing notes and quizzes is one of the benefits of having a sister in the same major. Jamie and Melissa always helped each other out.



Change is inevitable, especially in the fast-paced world of college. Changes in the English and communications departments and to general studies were made, benefiting students.

In the English department, literature courses were revised for fall 2000. Instead, the curriculum was expanded to a broad range of authors from the years of 1660-1800, providing more coverage of writers from all over the world. The professors in the English department pushed for the proposal because it was important that students got an education not limited to only American and British authors. Edward Malone, assistant professor of English, approved of the proposal. "It's a timely move for the institution," he said.

The proposal would require nothing from already declared English majors who fulfilled both requirements of British and American literature. However, those majoring under the old declaration form who only fulfilled one of the requirements had to substitute the course not taken with one of the new courses.

Meanwhile, a shift in the communication, humanities and theater disciplines left major departmental restructuring and location changes.

"I was anticipating that this will be a good restructuring experience for all disciplines involved," said Phil Mullins, chair of the former department. "This will definitely encourage the natural links between disciplines of similar orientation that have the same goals."

Alliances among the departments were made by the natural links between programs. Moving similar disciplines closer together also helped major requirements.

Dean of Liberal Arts Martin

Johnson believed the moves would be advantageous to all departments involved.

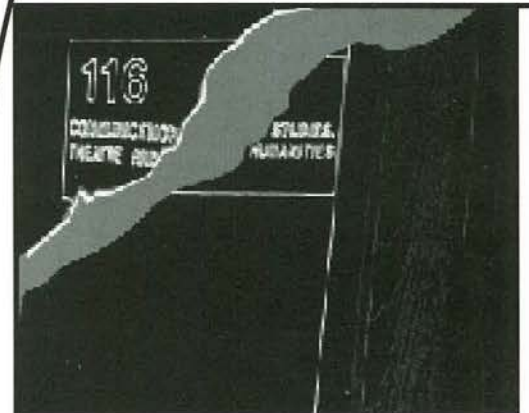
"Bringing the disciplines with similar means of investigation, work and research together will allow them to set more appropriate guidelines," said Johnson. "As a result of the rethinking process that will occur, departments should be able to more effectively strengthen course structure."

Alice Shue, departmental secretary for the former department, said that the change was possible because of additions to the campus' physical landscape.

"Before, we just didn't have room to fit everyone in the same departments and make sure they were all accounted for equally," said Shue. "By moving the communication and theater disciplines into the new Janet Murphy Building, it will allow for department expansion and growth."

Another change consisted of two proposals geared toward general studies. One made by the computer science, math and physics.

"I don't think that it will be that big of a deal because most majors require that you take computer classes anyway," said junior computer science major Masawnee Suthikant. "It would help them gain a foundation before they take the rest of their required computer classes."



The new split in the communication, theater and humanities departments encourages the natural links between departments. Departments found that the change was possible because of the school's new landscape.

Class restructuring makes changes to general studies requirements. From course catalogs to course changes, MWSC reshaped itself for the millenium.



imely Moves



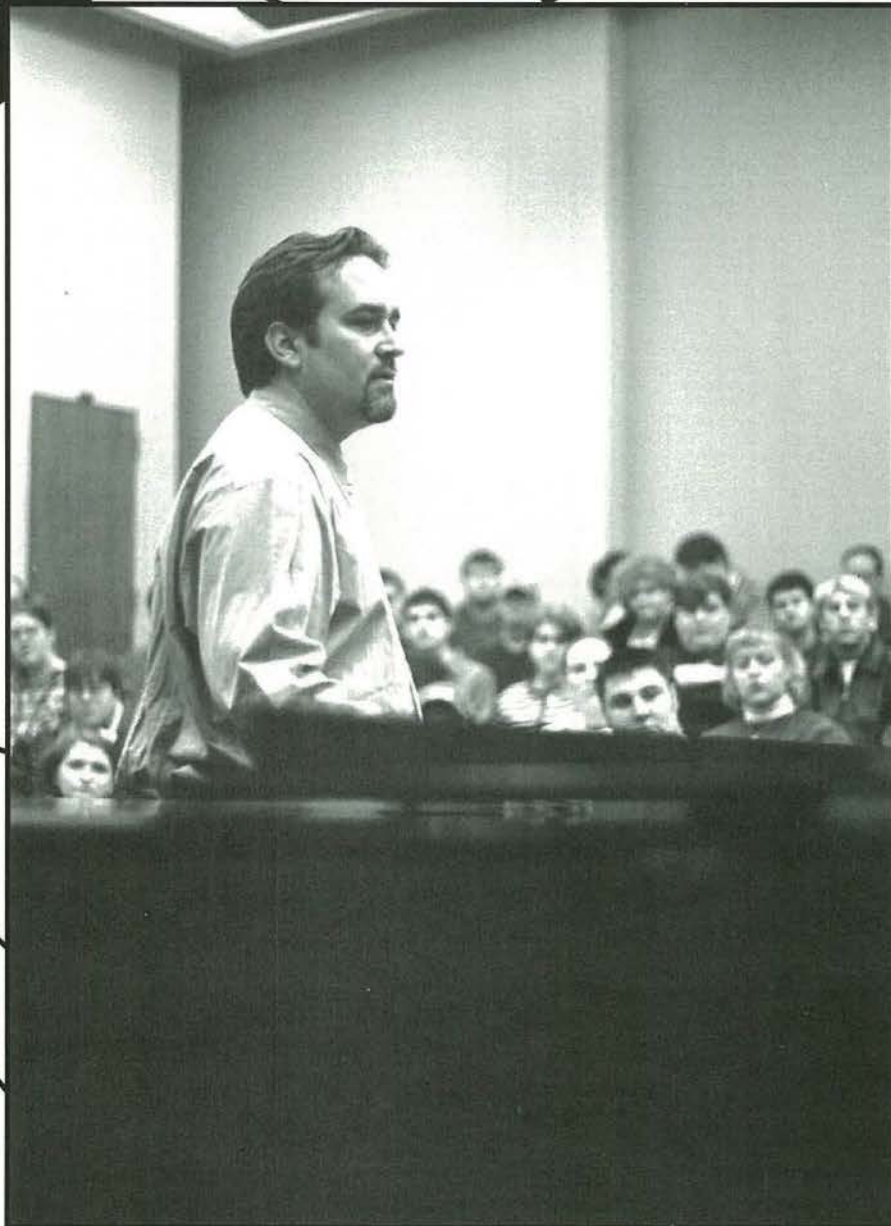
Departmental restructuring is essential to keep up with the expanding campus. The communication, theater and humanities department were divided in the spring.

All Photos by ~
Brandon Jennings

Bisharat describes the themes in each piece as his fiancée plays the piano. He had been developing themes for about 6 months for the Millennium Harmony Project.



One Big Kid



The audience watches as Bisharat plays a set of commercials he wrote the music for. Bisharat's presentation was informative and lively.

It's not every day that a film composer speaks to Missouri Western about his career. However, that is exactly what happened February 4, when John Bisharat visited.

Bisharat spoke to approximately 100 students in the Thompson E. Potter Fine Arts Building as he demonstrated some of his pieces for the Millennium Harmony Project. As his fiancée played the piano, he described the themes in each piece. He had been developing the themes the six months prior to his visit.

Bisharat then spoke about his life as a free-lance composer, saying the rewards were superior, and he couldn't have been happier doing anything else. However, he said the drawback of being self-employed was that there was no job security. There were other negative aspects, as well.

"When you're working for somebody, when you're doing a project, you're on a deadline," said Bisharat. "You have a very short period of time to make a statement. Deadlines are really tight when working with commercials. Inhumanly so sometimes."

Bisharat created sound effects while describing different projects he had done. Although he made his own for projects, Bisharat had a collection of about 45 hours of sound effects; a collection he considered very small compared to some.

"I do have an extensive sound effects library, although this is not something you would be expected to have as a composer," said Bisharat. "I have been purchasing CDs that are designed for use by sound effects artists. It's my own personal curiosity/hobby, and it happens to come in handy once in a while."

Senior music education major Brad Fowler spent some time with Bisharat the day before his presentation. He said Bisharat was outgoing and charismatic in person, as well as in front of an audience.

"I was expecting to gain insight into his profession because that is what I want to do for a living," said Fowler. "He gave me an overview of what it was like to work in the business of film scoring. The presentation was a great experience for me. It's nice to be able to meet people in the business that I want to be in."

In addition to his work on "All Dog's got to Heaven II" and "Doug's 1st Movie," Bisharat was chosen to compose the music for the Millennium Harmony Project in the St. Joseph area.

The project was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Composers Forum. Music was to be broadcast July 4, 2000, in a concert with the St. Joseph Symphony, St. Joseph Show Chorus of Sweet Adelines and St. Joseph Community Chorus.

Bisharat graduated from the UCLA film-scoring program and had been writing music in Los Angeles for 15 years. He composed and arranged the score for "All Dogs Go To Heaven." He arranged, orchestrated and produced "Doug's 1st Movie" and composed and orchestrated "Alvin and The Chipmunks Meet Frankenstein."



Bisharat explains his career to a room full of students. He spoke about his life as a freelance composer.

Bisharat plays the soundtrack to a logo he did for "The Bubble Factory." He said he spent a couple of hours in his pool trying to record the perfect bubble.



Building blocks and dinosaurs are not normally seen on a college campus, but with the Y's Kids World day care facility located in the Professional Studies Building, students have somewhere to take their kids.

Senior English and Spanish major Tamara Stadter took her 4-year-old son to Y's Kids World, and they both liked it.

"He's been at two other places in town, but I feel better having him here on campus," said Stadter. "He's right here, and if I have a break between classes I can go see him."

One of the changes Stadter liked was that the day care no longer required students to pick up their children on their breaks. They kept the kids so the students could go to the library on breaks or work part-time jobs if they needed to. Students could also work during holidays without looking for childcare because the facility remained open.

A regulation Stadter wanted changed was the age limit. Kids had to be two years old and potty trained in order to be registered at the day care. Stadter said that despite her disappointment, she knew the facility was not able to care for infants, as well as older children. "I think it would be great if they could take infants, but the school would have to pay for an addition," said Stadter.

Many people wanted to see Y's Kids World expand from where it began in 1988, including Youth Family Program Director at the YMCA, Amy Hampton. The opening of the day care was a cooperative effort between Missouri Western and the St. Joseph Family YMCA, and any

future addition was not up to the YMCA.

Although having the day care was very useful, some students were not able to take advantage of the facility. Sophomore LaTonya Williams had a daughter who was not yet potty trained. She said she knew younger children required more attention, but the campus should provide facilities for everyone to use. Williams believed the campus should be more accommodating to all students who wanted to further their education.

"A lot of college students have kids who are under two and aren't potty trained," said Williams. "Since the day care is on campus, it should be open for everyone to use. It's not helping a whole lot of students, like incoming freshmen and students like myself, who are trying to do something."

Hampton said that it would take up all the room they had to take in infants and children who weren't potty trained.

"It would be a wonderful thing if we could take in infants," said Hampton. "But the space we have here would not be adequate. We're licensed by the state of Missouri, and licensing says you have to have certain materials per child."



Jack Craft joins other children playing on the slide. Y's Kids World no longer required parents to pick up their children between classes.



Jourdan Karsten, Kaylie Hawkins and Brianna Sweiger enjoy the nice weather. The program was sponsored by the St. Joseph Family YMCA.

Emily Craft and Samuel Willis spend some time on the tire swing. Students benefited from Y's Kids World which provided parents a place to take their children during classes.



Cubby Checks



Alyssa Auxier sits down for a quick snack. Some students found the program's age requirements an inconvenience.

All Photos by -
Kelly Stanton

Sophomore Vince Lippincott looks through CD's while working. Lippincott had been a DJ for 3 years.

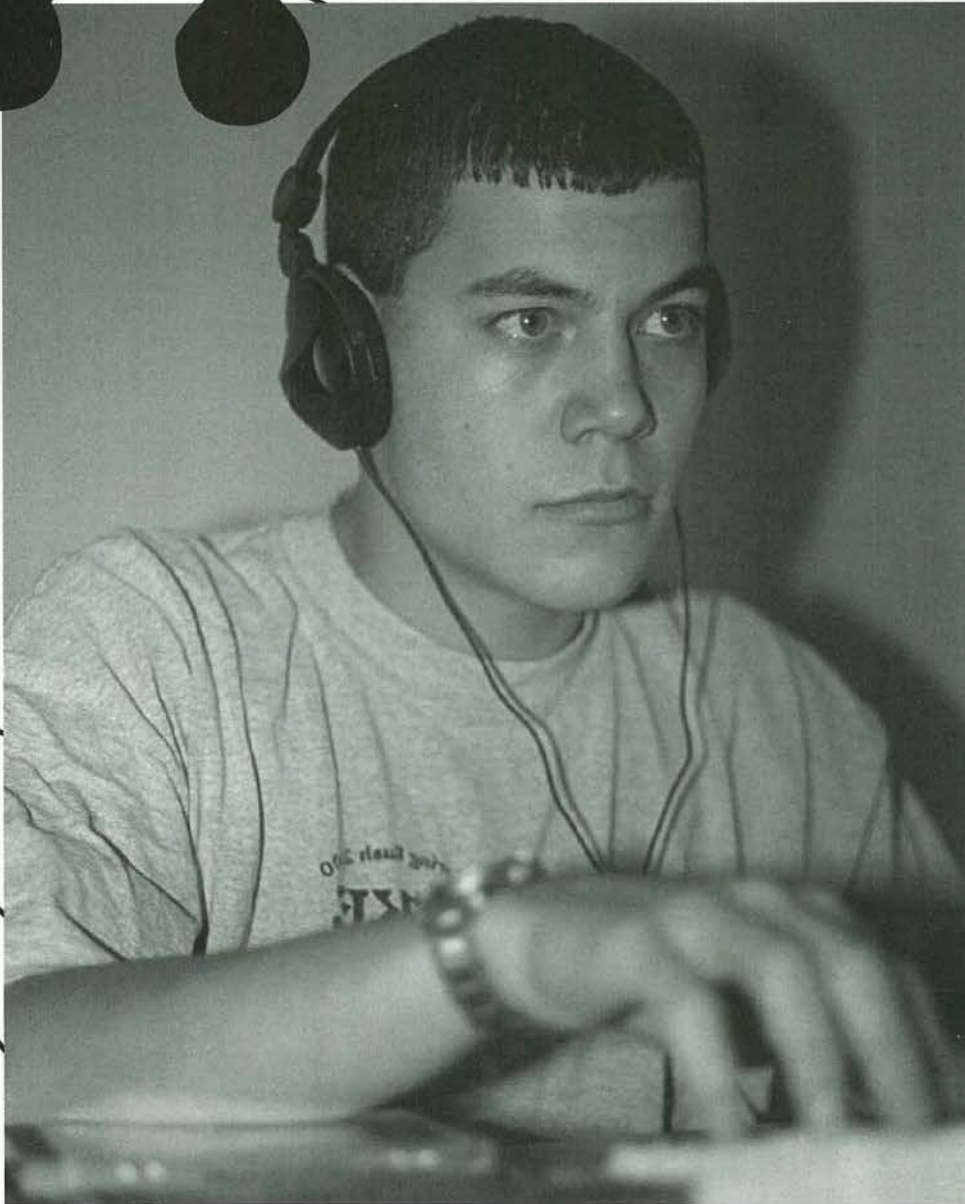


Photo by ~
Brandon
Jennings

M

y Own Boss

Photo by ~
Kelly Stanton



Muller inputs codes and makes decisions in his business. Some of Muller's work included the Tau Kappa Epsilon home page and Greeklife.com.

Most people go to college to further their education in hopes of finding a promising job in the future, but some students take on a full load of classes while simultaneously undertaking business ventures.

The department of business and economics offered courses that helped assist students interested in being entrepreneurs. Students were exposed to a broad spectrum of basic business and economic courses and could specialize in a particular discipline to prepare for the career of their choice. The department offered internship programs and practicum courses to give the students practical business experience in conjunction with their academic preparation.

FastTrac was a unique program dedicated to helping people launch or grow their company wisely, successfully and profitably. It gave practical business management skills used by leading entrepreneurial firms.

There were many opportunities for inspiring entrepreneurs including: turning an idea into a marketable concept, creating a business from a hobby, building a home-based business, buying an existing business, joining a franchise system or partnering with family and friends.

It took a lot to be a successful entrepreneur. The requirements were knowledge, dedication, time and reachable goals.

Sophomore Jay Muller, a full-time student majoring in computer information systems, was a well-known entrepreneur. Muller created web pages for small businesses that were just getting started. He had been in the business for two years and enjoyed being his own boss.

"I started this business for my love of the Internet," said Muller. "I've created about 30 web pages in the two years I've been in the business. I want a real job when I graduate from college, but I do want to do web pages on the side."

Some of Muller's work included the Tau Kappa Epsilon homepage and Geeklife.com. He put in all of the codes and made all of the major decisions in his business, but he had to contact other people when it came to the graphic aspects.

Sophomore Vince Lippincott chose to take a more hands-on approach to being an entrepreneur. Lippincott had run his own disc jockey business, DJ's Unknown, since his senior year in high school. He owned all of his own equipment and performed at many St. Joseph area functions. These included organization formals, family reunions and weddings.

"I really enjoy what I do, and it is more of a hobby than an actual job," said Lippincott. "I'm just lucky that there's a demand for it, and I can make extra money on the side of my schoolwork."

Both Muller and Lippincott were examples of how college students could venture out on their own and be their own bosses. Most importantly, they both did what they enjoyed doing regardless of money, and that motivated them to become even better entrepreneurs, even as full-time students.

Photo by ~
Kelly Stanton

Lippincott listens to music to find the right selection. He performed at many St. Joseph area functions.



Photo by ~
Brandon Jennings

Muller creates one of the thirty web pages he has created on the Internet. The entrepreneurs were hard-working students who liked to earn extra money.



Not many people on campus know that there are classes besides the Outdoor Semester that offer trips all around the United States.

The Griffon Yearbook was the place to be when it came to traveling around the country. Editors and staff members had the opportunity to travel to conferences and take field trips to various places.

In October, seven students and advisor Ann Thorne packed their bags and hit the skies. Their destination was the College Media Association convention located in Atlanta.

Design editor and editor-in-chief Kayla Bear, former design editor Wendy Buhs, former assistant photography editor Crystal Sisco, former copy editor and editor-in-chief Mandy Fitzwater, photography editor Brandon Jennings, copy editor and business manager Mindy Kinnaman, copy writer Adina Murrell and assistant photography editor and design editor Aaron Steiner traveled with members of the Griffon News to sit in on sessions held about their respective areas of journalism.

While in Atlanta, the students also toured CNN studios, met actor-director Kevin Smith (which made them the envy of many) and visited the fountains in Olympic Park. Senior Bear's favorite experience was the CNN tour.

"It was during the tour that I realized how important it is to start future journalists off at a young age learning about journalism," said Bear. "The high school that I went to didn't have a journalism department then, and I really wish there had been."

For senior Jennings, the most exciting part of the trip was experiencing the city. "I enjoyed walking around the city, walking with Atlanta people and taking pictures of Atlanta," said Jennings.

Another trip the members of the class took was to the photo studio of a former yearbook class member. Bear, Jennings, Kinnaman, sophomore photographer Brian Hunt, junior photographer Aaron Tebrinke and senior assistant design editor Sheila Thiele traveled to the studio of Ben Weddle, in Kansas City, Mo.

At the studio, they learned about Weddle's company and what it was like to work for companies like Lee Jeans. Jennings enjoyed the trip.

"I liked getting to see art work and how successful they've become," said Jennings. "That's something that I'd like to do."

Hunt also liked the trip.

"It was a wonderful and informative trip that will probably open the door for my career as a model or international sex symbol," said Hunt. "If not, it's back to professional bowling."

There was more to the class than just the trips. For many of the class members, it fulfilled part of their major requirements. People joined with the expectations of working only to fulfill those requirements but stayed for the fun atmosphere.

"I would say my favorite part of yearbook is the hundreds and hundreds of friends I've made," said Hunt. "I also like the cracker-jack staff and the way they treat everyone like they're part of this big, beautiful yearbook family."

Photo by ~
Brandon
Jennings



Aaron Steiner and Aaron Tebrinke monkey around. Many students felt that yearbook was a great opportunity to meet new people.



Christin Yellin hangs signs around campus promoting the new Walk of Fame. Yellin was part of the support staff which helped keep the editors organized and ran errands.



Photo by ~
Aaron
Steiner

Aaron Steiner



Members of the Griffon yearbook and newspaper wait outside of the CNN studio before the tour. It was during the tour that Bear realized how important a high school journalism program is.



Photo by ~
Brandon
Jennings

Photo by ~
Aaron
Tebrinke



Brian Hunt is always the life of the party! His personality was displayed all over the yearbook room with photos such as this one.

All Photos by ~
Aaron Lueders

Karen Elfrits, long time secretary of Dr. Murphy, happily does her job. The friendships Dr. Murphy built with the faculty and staff were strong and long lasting.



Good bye First Lady



"I was a shock for them, and they were a shock for me," said Murphy. Dr. Murphy was the only female president in the state at the start of her career.

When President Janet Murphy came to Missouri Western in 1983, she thought people doubted her because she was from the East, and the only woman president in the state.

"I was a shock for them, and they were a shock for me," said Murphy.

"People were different here, moved around slower. There were a lot of changes. In fact, I had to learn a lot. Students weren't the only ones learning around here."

While Murphy was president, she had the idea to make a 24-hour computer lab and helped with an enlargement of the Student Union. She also worked to get the addition to the SSC building, which the board decided to name the Janet Gorman Murphy Student Center.

As president, Murphy helped raise \$23 million from private businesses. The money went mostly to scholarships and equipment. It was also used for faculty/student research projects and development. Murphy also worked hard to keep the school open-accessed.

"I think that giving people an opportunity is important," said Murphy. "With Access Plus, we've been able to add faculty and more counselors. We've won three national awards with the program, which felt good because it's something I really believed in."

Murphy sensed a very close group of people and noticed that when one faculty and staff

had big problems, people came together and tried to help. They were also very student-oriented. Students came first with faculty and staff. "I think a lot of people who work here are very proud of this school and want to do a good job, and that makes a big difference," said Murphy.

Some of her fondest memories included the party the school threw her for her 10th anniversary as president, painting the gym and having a paint-splashing feud with a student as they painted the walls of the English department.

"I've made a lot of friends here and I expect that I'll come back to visit," said Murphy. "I've never thought that I'd be sitting where I'm sitting and doing the things that I've done, but the key to it all was education."

A graduating student once wrote about Murphy saying, "Don't change, always be a student's president." "That touched me," said Murphy.

She hoped students would work hard so they could be successful when they left. She hoped they would always remember Missouri Western very well.

"I think that what they will remember most is the faculty who is always willing to help, and I wish them every success," said Murphy. "I hope to read some day about great things that Missouri Western students have done."

Murphy thanked the faculty for all the things they did for students. She felt that faculty and staff cared deeply and sincerely about the success of students and went out of their way for them. "I feel students are very fortunate to be here in this sort of an atmosphere, and so it is a nice feeling to leave Missouri Western in the shape its in," said Murphy.

Dr. Murphy has made great strides in her time here. She said it is a nice feeling to leave Missouri Western in the shape it's in.



Dr. Murphy is proud of her 17 year tenure. The average president's tenure is five to six years.



After 29 years as dean of student affairs, Forrest Hoff said good-bye in retirement.

Hoff was involved with Missouri Western for 30 years and was a witness to the many changes that occurred. Missouri Western was St. Joseph Junior College when he first started July 15, 1970. There were only three finished buildings: the Administration, Science and Math and the Learning Resource Center. "I watched all the buildings being built and watched this go from a campus with nothing but typewriters to one with computers," said Hoff.

Hoff could remember when there was only one residence hall that housed 50 students. "I watched Missouri Western State College go from a minimal minority population of students to a sizeable amount," said Hoff.

He recalled when he first arrived here. The students were unhappy with the faculty, and the newspaper wrote nothing but critical, argumentative articles. In the spring of 1971, students staged a sit-in, leading a big demonstration against the faculty. When he became dean, he worked closely with the Student Government Association and helped prevent any further problems of that proportion.

Hoff formed many strong friendships, the strongest being with Marvin McDonald, former counseling center advisor, whom he was still in contact with.

He also formed a friendship with his secretary of 25 years, Kendra Wilcoxson. Together, they made friends with the students, and through the years, former students came in and visited them.

Wilcoxson described Hoff as an approachable person who had great respect for the students.

"The students were his first priority," said Wilcoxson. "They always came first. His open door policy was always available to students.

Through the years, many students had been called to the office to see the dean and they came in nervous. Most left with a new knowledge of how Hoff really is a supportive person."

Hoff showed his support by being an SGA advisor, childcare go-between for the college and YMCA and chairman of the committee that recommended the Student Union addition.

His main duty was to administrate student affairs in the areas of housing, security, intramurals and free time recreation, the fitness and health centers, the diversity center, college liaison with food services, Missouri Western Parent's Council advisor, advisor to all on-campus student clubs and organizations and disciplining students.

Hoff helped establish good relations between all groups on-campus, administrating faculty and students in particular.

Hoff left advice to pass on to the new dean of student affairs.

"Have the door open, and have students come in and see you if you're not busy," said Hoff. "Keep the door open. Don't treat them like you're doing them a favor when doing something for them."



Dean Forrest Hoff takes a breather during a busy day. He was dean of student affairs for 29 years.



Dean Hoff smiles after completing a busy day. Hoff was chairman of the committee on the addition of the Student Union.

S

Dean Hoff patiently answers a question fired at him. Hoff served as advisor to the Student Government Association.



saying Good-bye



Dean Hoff sorts through paperwork on his desk. Hoff retired after 40 years in education.

30th Anniversary



Commercial music major, Armida Orozco, claps at the end of a song. The steel drum band played many songs for the celebration.

Photo by ~
Brandon Jennings

Music major and member of the steel drum band, Tracy Thomas, plays his heart out. The 30th anniversary events were looked forward to by many people.



Photo by ~ Brandon Jennings



The weeks ends with a fireworks display. Over 20 events filled the week of the anniversary celebration.



The steel drum band helps to get the crowd motivated. The end of this school year was one that many students would remember for a long time.

Photos by ~ Aaron Steiner



The beauty of the fireworks leave students with a feeling of pride for attending a school with such a great reputation. Many students voiced that they would come back to anniversary events in the future.

30th Anniversary

~Photo by Brandon Jennings



Amanda Hewitt, commercial arts major, cheers as the steel drum band plays at one of the celebration events. The celebration was held during the week of April 24-30.

The St. Joseph Symphony Orchestra plays for the college. Many performances were given in celebration of the 30th year.

~Photo by Brandon Jennings



The 30th Anniversary of Missouri Western State College was celebrated the week of April 24-30. Members of faculty and staff, especially members of the president's, executive vice president's and institutional advancement/college relations offices worked very hard to make sure the event was a success.

Students were also very involved in the weeklong celebration. The Campus Activities Board, chaired by Akami Eayrs, senior communications major, began the week with "The Psychic Fair," and continued

the week by presenting a hypnotist on Tuesday and holding "Union Fest" on Friday. "Union Fest" was a celebration of the remodeled Student Union and it featured a 3-D FX Theatre.

"Union Fest was a huge success," said Eayrs. "It actually turned out to be a lot better than we thought it would be. There was a great turnout. I'm not sure if it was the location, the other 30th Anniversary events or the weather, but students really came out and enjoyed themselves. Howard Milton and Unity Services really helped a lot to make the event a success. We had never

done the "Union Fest" before, but I'm sure it will become an annual event."

Past and present members of CAB and the Student Government Association were present at the SGA Reunion and surprise party for the retirement of Dean of Student Affairs, Forrest Hoff. The night was filled with laughter and fond memories as Hoff's former students, some that graduated nearly 30 years ago, shared their recollections about time spent with Hoff and their wishes for him in the future.

"I really had a good time," said Hoff. "It was really nice to see everyone come back and wish me well."

Eayrs was asked to speak about her thoughts about Hoff as a representative of the current student body.

"It was an honor to be asked to speak," said Eayrs. "It was nice to see former students, people that were really involved before, come back. Dean Hoff and their involvement when they were students must have meant a lot for them to come back."

Other members of the student body were also involved in the events. Members of several Greek organizations volunteered as servers for the 30th Anniversary Dinner held on Saturday night and the "Diamonds in the Sky" fireworks display on Sunday evening.

The dinner was a combination of three major events to happen to Missouri Western. First, the celebration of 30 years as Missouri Western State College, second, the closing of the "Our Promise: A Campaign for a New Century" Capital Campaign, and third, the retirement of Murphy as president.

Susan Robinson, director of development and associate to the executive vice president, was one of many individuals that planned the dinner. She worked on the budget and assisted with financial coordination for the event and assisted committees with planning.

"I was pleased to be involved in this momentous event for the college," said Robinson. "The dinner on Saturday evening at the Civic Arena was outstanding. What I believe is noteworthy is that faculty and staff, students and members of our community worked tirelessly to make the event a success. I believe this is another example of the cooperative efforts and partnerships the college continues to enjoy."

The celebration of the 30th Anniversary and the closing of the Capital Campaign, which doubled its approximate \$4 million goal by raising over \$8 million for the development of programs for the college as well as the building of a new facility on campus, the Fulkerson Training and Development Center, were both happy and exciting portions of the program.

The retirement of Murphy brought tears to many of the audience member's eyes. Many students were present at the event including VIP's, student ambassadors to the college. VIP Erica Anders was happy to be at the event.

"I was very honored to get to see Dr. Murphy in her last days at the college," said Anders. "She is a phenomenal woman and she has done so much in her 17 years at Missouri Western. Just in the last four years that I have been here, she has changed the campus in many ways."

The week, which included approximately 20 events ended on Sunday evening with the fireworks display at Spratt Memorial Stadium. The sky was full of vibrant and colorful bursts that were synchronized to a performance by the St. Joseph Symphony and broadcast on KKJO.

"It was spectacular and the display was a great way to end the week," said Anders. "Being a student, it was exciting to know that I'm going to a school that has been here for 30 years. I'll definitely come back to anniversary celebrations after I graduate."



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

A photo of Dr. Murphy is displayed at the Student Union dedication ceremony. Dr. Murphy has brought about many changes during her years at MWSC.

Murphy poses with the dedication plaque for the JGM building. It was because of her that the addition was made to the SS/C building.

Murphy stands proudly with a member of the celebration. The JGM building will be remembered for a long time because of her hard work.

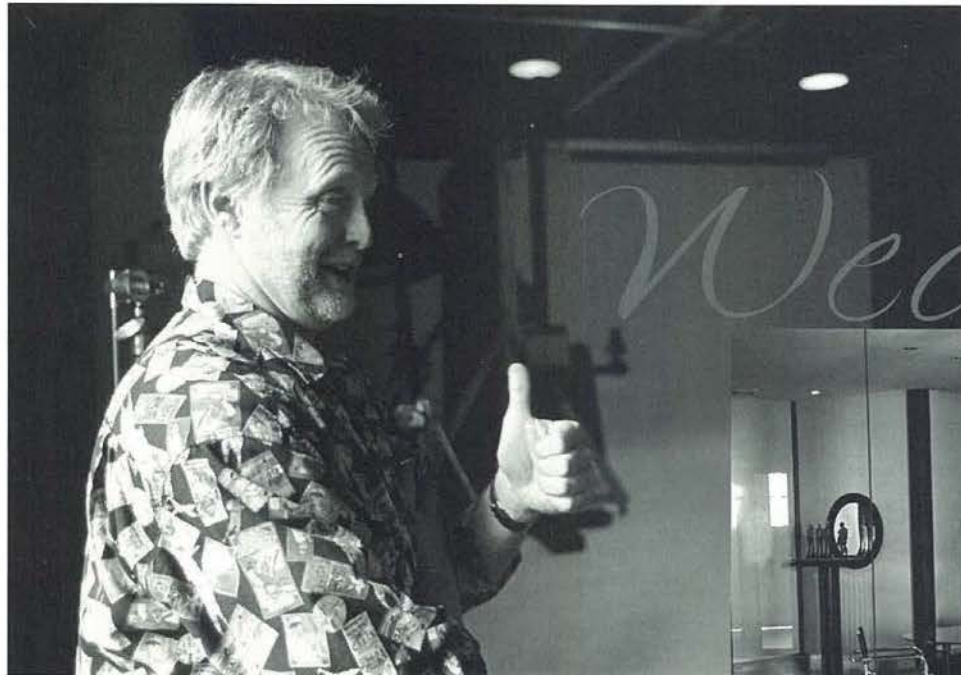


Where Are They Now

For 30 years, students have been graduating and going on to achieve greater success in their lives such as owning a studio to coming back and enriching the lives of students. Many graduates have gone on to do bigger and better things since their days on campus. A few alumni were able to share their current lives and advice they had for students.

Gesturing, Weddle tells a humorous story. Many graduates offered advice for current or future students.

Photos by
Aaron Steiner



Ben Weddle



Ben Weddle attended Missouri Western for three years before transferring to the University of Missouri to pursue a degree in journalism. He was the owner and operator of a commercial photography business in the Westport section of Kansas City, Mo. His business had three full-time employees and a number of interns. His clients included Wal-Mart, Lee Apparel, Helzberg Jewelry and Lexus.

While a student, Weddle was involved with

yearbook and newspaper, enhancing his interest in photography.

“I interact with many diverse personalities who work in a myriad of disciplines,” said Weddle. “It helps if I know a little bit about what they do as well. The liberal arts curriculum has provided me with a wide range of knowledge of assorted subject matter.”

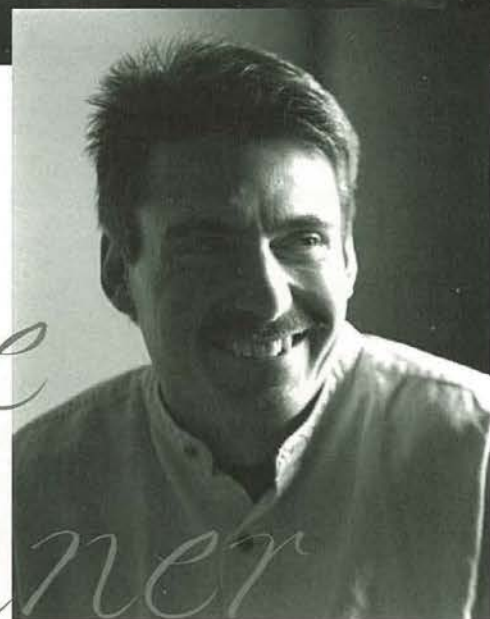


Some advice from another graduate, Mike Brunner, was to get an internship with a company or an individual the student was sincerely interested in. According to Brunner, the college tried to make courses as close to reality as it could, but the students only got real-world experience by going out and doing the tasks themselves.

The experience Brunner gained in his yearbook course as assistant photo editor, photo editor and editor-in-chief was what led to his photographic career.

"I was a business major only because I didn't know what I wanted to do," said Brunner. "Being a photographer on yearbook, since I'm a photographer now, is what helped."

Brunner stopped taking classes full-time because he became employed at a photo studio. He took one class a semester until he graduated in 1993 with his business degree. "By the time I figured out that I wanted to be a photographer, Missouri Western had the journalism minor, but they didn't have the journalism, or better yet, the photography major," Brunner said.



Mike Brunner



Kelly Kurtz, recruitment representative at the Community Blood Center, was a non-traditional student who graduated in December 1994 with a degree in communications with a human relations emphasis. Kurtz felt as though her education was very hands-on and realistic, which prepared her quite well for her career.

"Missouri Western, more than other universities, offers non-traditional students more opportunities," said Kurtz. "I traveled from Oregon, Mo., and I appreciate the opportunity I had to finish my education."

Kurtz felt as though the college understood her responsibilities as both a mother and a student. She advised students to partake in all the resources that the college had available.

"There is no reason for anyone not to graduate," said Kurtz. "If a student uses the Center for Academic Support, the Non-Traditional Student Center and the other resources available to them, everyone should graduate."



Kelly Kurtz

Bill
 After graduating, some may wonder, why come back? English lecturer William Church and Ken Rosenauer, associate professor of journalism and English could be found in the classrooms passing on their knowledge to students.

Church
 Church graduated in 1979 as a non-traditional student and then went on to finish his studies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, majoring in English with a journalism minor.

Church began teaching here in 1990, starting as a writing coordinator and writing tutor in the old learning skills center (now the Center for Academic Support).

"I wanted to teach here," said Church. "This place was good to me. It changed my life and still changes people's lives, and I have a major role in it."

Rosenauer graduated in 1974, majoring in English with a journalism minor and went on to finish his studies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Southeast Missouri State University. Missouri Western was his first choice for school due to it being close to home, and it was affordable.

"Missouri Western was a good practical choice," said Rosenauer. "I have no regrets. It was a fine worthwhile experience. I believe it gave me the basic undergraduate education I needed."

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

English lecturer alumnus Bill Church tightens his chaps. Church graduated in 1979 as a non-traditional student.

Dr. Rosenauer talks with a student about a recent test score. He returned to Missouri Western to teach English and journalism.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

*R*osenauer was in Fort Worth, Texas, when he was hired to come back to Missouri Western as a faculty member. "The choice to teach here was especially inviting and gave me the opportunity to come home," said Rosenauer.

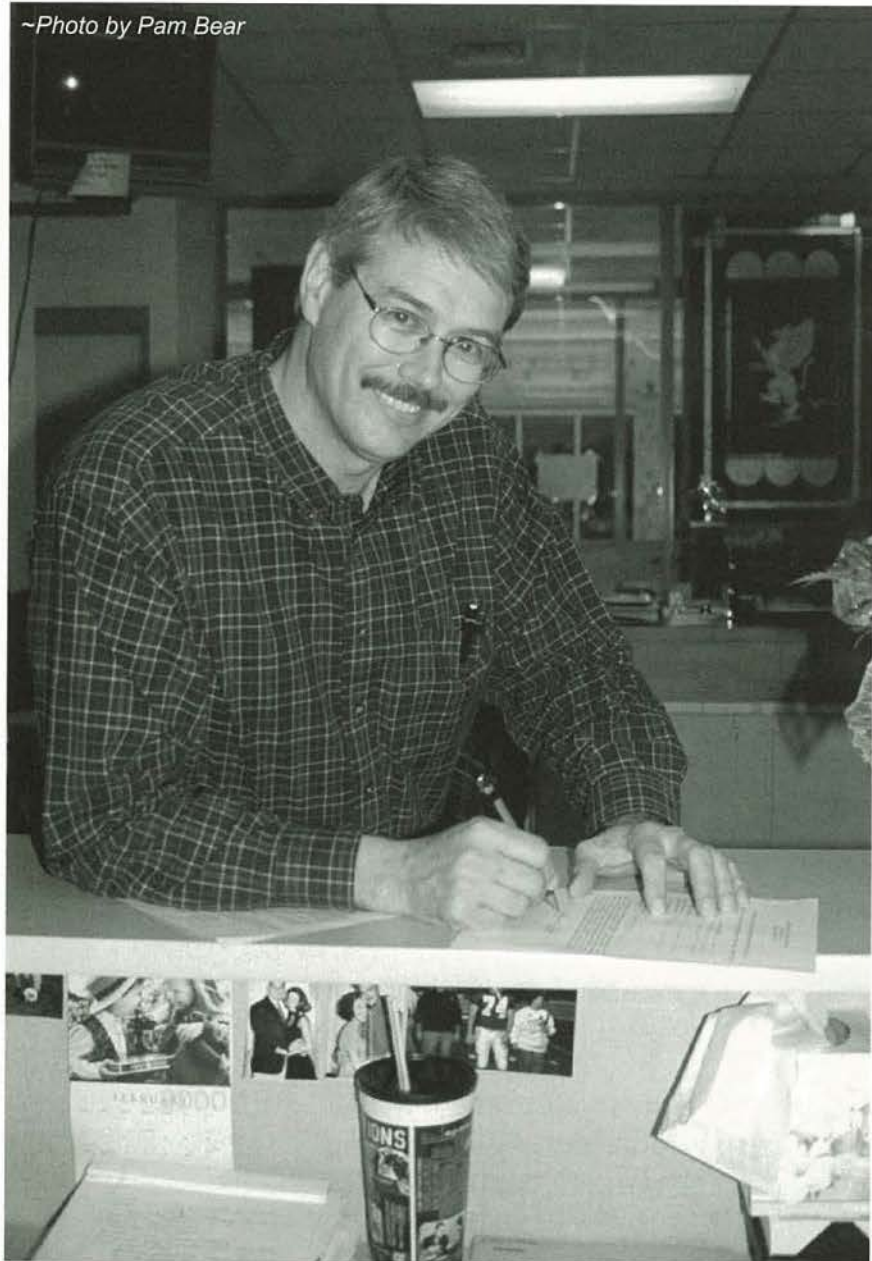
The Alumni Association helped to keep the brotherhood among past graduates by hosting the annual phone-a-thon for all alumni including graduates from the junior college. The board was composed of alumni who help with planning the activities.

Susan Steeby, certified public accountant for the foundation and alumni and a Missouri Western graduate, enjoyed working with the school and the alumni.

"Being an alumni gives you a sense of pride knowing that you have done something for your school that has helped made you what you are," said Steeby.

Ken
Rosenauer

~Photo by Pam Bear



Alumnus Jim Hughes signs his retirement paperwork. Hughes spent 23 and a half years in the North Kansas City School District.

Another graduate that urged students to take advantage of the opportunities the college had to offer was Jim Hughes, assistant principal of Winnetonka High School. Hughes graduated in December 1976 with a degree in health and physical education.

Hughes said that he was very fortunate to have Charles Erickson, former chairperson of the HPER department, as his advisor because under his guidance, Hughes became certified in five areas.

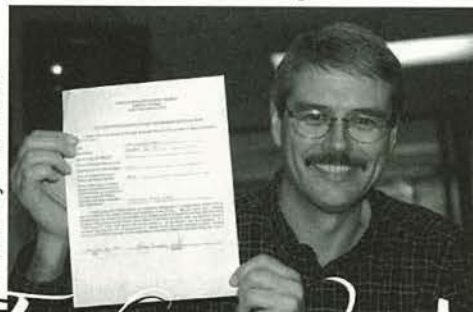
"Without the additional certifications I would not have had a job in the North Kansas City School District, where I have now been for 23 and a half years," said Hughes. "His guidance, direction and friendship have proven to be invaluable to me in my career."

Hughes was very pleased with the education he received at Missouri Western and hoped that students realized the number of opportunities that were available.

"Take full advantage of the opportunities you have available to you," said Hughes. "Insist that your professors give you their very best every day, and expect the same from yourself. Expand your interests and develop a burning desire to learn as much as you can about as many things as you can. Develop a love for reading. It is the least expensive way to travel, and it can take you on great adventures. Good luck, and give back to MWSC as much as you are getting."

Jim Hughes

~Photo by Pam Bear



Hughes holds up his retirement paper. Hughes told students to take advantage of what they were offered.

Where Are They Now?

Class of 2010

Story by ~ Mindy Kinnaman

Thousands of people crowded into the gymnasium, eagerly awaiting the addition of Missouri Western's newest crop of graduates. The hour-long ceremony was worth facing the crowd.

To Richard Wagner's march from "Tannhauser," the seniors entered the field house. The crowd cheered as families and friends showed their joy. The seniors were sad to be leaving, but optimistic for the future.

Senior marketing major Joe Blackshere had many things that he was going to miss about the school.

"Now that construction is finally over, and I'm graduating, I think I'm going to miss this beautiful campus," said Blackshere. "I'll also miss getting crazy at football games because I'm their number one fan."

However, he was proud of the education that he received.

"I got a ticket to my future; a key to open the door," said Blackshere. "Seriously, I got communication skills and interpersonal skills which are vital to the future."

Senior natural science/biology major Jamie O'Brian-Dial introduced retiring President Janet Murphy as the ceremony's commencement speaker. In her speech, O'Brian-Dial recounted her first memory of Murphy.

"During the first week of school I received a letter from Dr. Murphy, saying that she would like to speak with me," said O'Brian-Dial. "It was really unnerving. What kind of president wants to speak with students? Janet Murphy does."

O'Brian-Dial went on to tell of other times that Murphy showed her support of and the bond

that she had with the students of Missouri Western. She said that Murphy wore many hats as president but her most important one was that she was a student's president.

"Dr. Janet Murphy has been such a role model for me," said O'Brian-Dial. "I think that the next four lines sums it up best. *Did you ever know that you're my hero? You're everything I wish I could be. I can fly higher than an eagle because you are the wind beneath my wings.*"

With that, Murphy stood and gave her address. She said that both she and the students were embarking upon a journey. She then challenged the seniors.

"My challenge to you is to keep faith with those who have gone before you," said Murphy. "Keep learning and demand that others receive a better learning than you did."

With that, Murphy sat down and received a standing ovation from the audience. It was one of two that she received during the ceremony. The second came after the seniors received their degrees when Student Regent Taylor Crouse gave her a dozen roses on behalf of the students.

After Murphy was given her flowers, the ceremony ended with the singing of the Alma Mater. The students then left to the Symphonic Winds playing John Zdechlik's "Celebrations."

Senior criminal justice major Athena Carey was proud to have attended Missouri Western.

"I feel that Missouri Western has been a very rewarding experience," said Carey. "Most of all, I think I'm going to miss the wonderful people I've met."

Three graduates sport 2000 glasses. Many graduates were sad to be leaving Missouri Western.



All Photos by ~
Brandon Jennings
& Aaron Steiner



A senior smiles at the camera. Thousands of people packed into the gymnasium to see commencement.



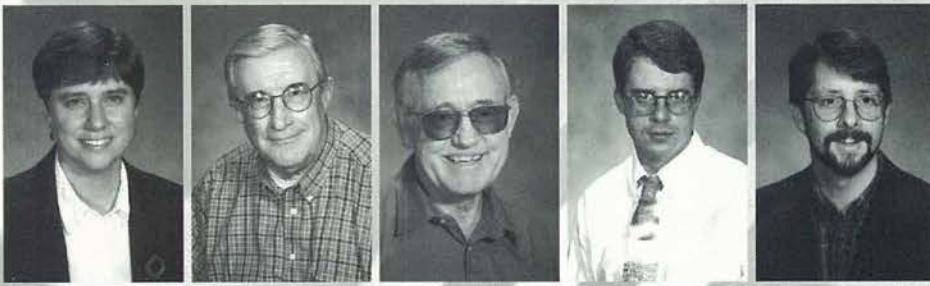
A student receives her diploma from President Janet Murphy. 2000 was the last graduation ceremony Murphy participated in.



A student's hat tributes her father. Many hats were decorated for the audience to see.

Those in Charge

Adkins, Kaye
 Andersen, William
 Atkinson, John
 Bergland, Bob
 Cadden, Michael



Chicchelli, Thomas
 Cookingham, John
 Deka, Teddi
 Fowler, Lou
 Frick, Jane



Fulton, Karen
 Gille, Susan
 Gorcyca, Diane
 Gorsky, Edwin
 Grimes, Judy



Haynes, Solon
 Huffman, William
 Hunt, Marilyn
 Johnson, Darell
 Johnson, Martin
 Kibirige, Joachim



Diane Gorcyca motivated students beyond what was needed to pass her classes and made them want to learn, but coming up with innovative ways to teach students wasn't easy.

Gorcyca organized socials each semester for students in Freshman Interest Groups and their teachers.

"During the socials, students realize that the teachers are human," said Gorcyca. Gorcyca also invited her honors classes to her home to watch a video and eat dinner. She did this mainly for her husband.

"When he was growing up his parents used to tell him that when he would get to college the professors would invite him over to their homes," said Gorcyca. "At his college the professors never even learned your name. Since our classes are smaller, we can do this. They come over, and we have a great time, and my husband really enjoys it. One year he missed it, and he was crushed."



GORCYCA

Going from a full-time position in the English department to the director of the Center for Academic Excellence would be a difficult transition for anyone, but Dr. Judy Martin took it all in stride.

Martin's job as director included taking care of the needs of professors making improvements for the faculty. She observed and videotaped classes and helped with any serious problems that arose with students.

"I work with the college faculty in supporting their teaching needs," said Martin. "I am here to improve teaching and learning in our classes."

The Center for Academic Excellence provided support for faculty and helped the professors serve the students and enhance their learning.

New challenges that Martin faced included being able to listen and understand different situations and finding what techniques worked in teaching.

"I enjoy challenges, and this job brings challenges every week," said Martin.

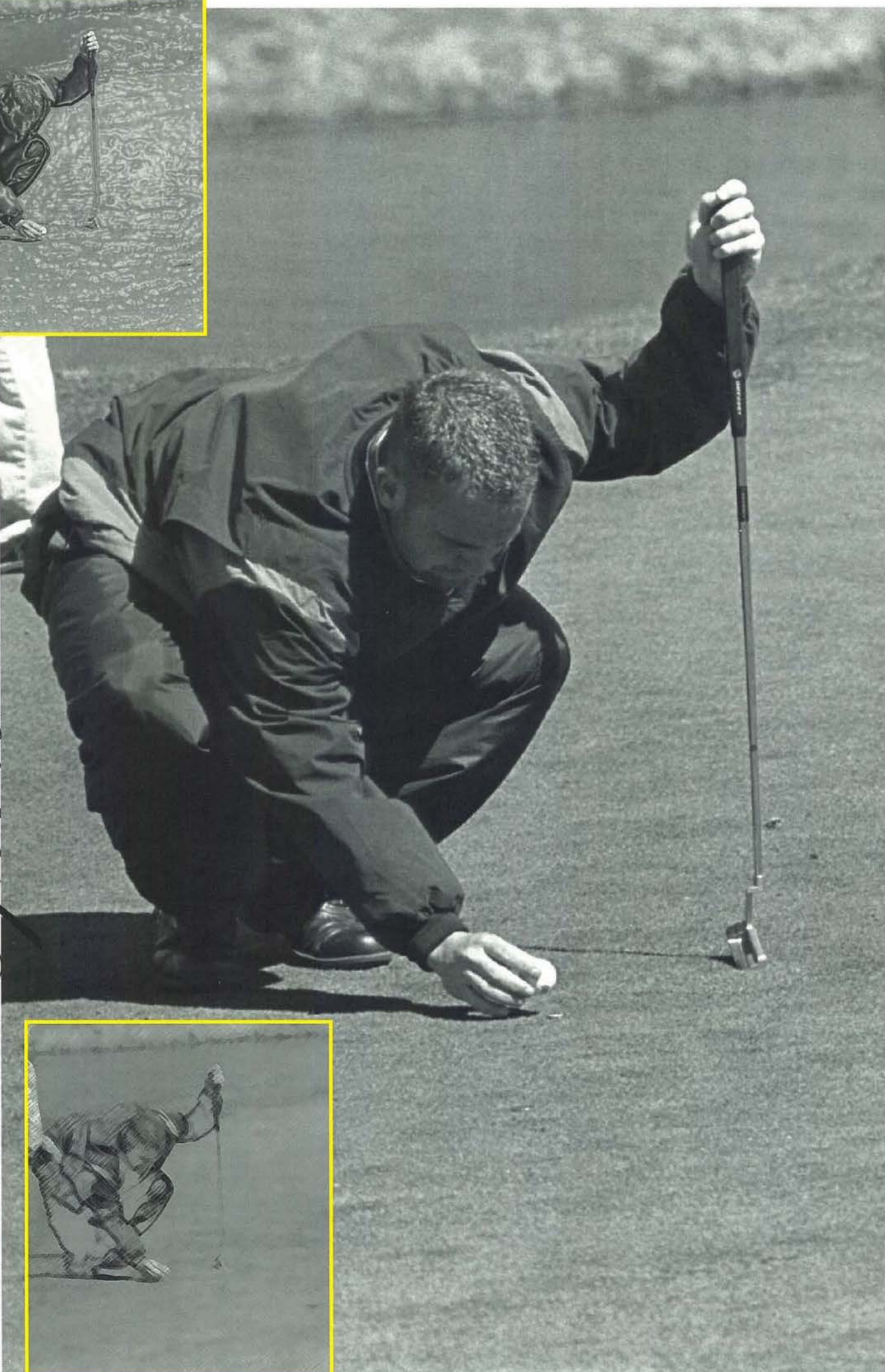


Krueger, Dale
Lillie, Donald
Malone, Edward
Martin, Judy
McMurry, Patrick

Payne, Beverly
Roever, Carol
Schumn, Sandra
Smither, Ellen
Stackhouse, Brian

Summers, Jay
Thorne, Ann
Trifan, Daniel
Wang, Jinchang
Wilkerson, Jerry

Williamson, Tom
Yager, Kenneth
Yang, George
Zhang, Zhao
Zweerink, Gerald



Shorts





Juxtaposition in the area of sports saw students and faculty moving up while branching out.

Missouri Western saw new Athletic Director Pete Chapman become very active. He encouraged involvement in sports, and the attendance at games rose. In addition to student support, Chapman used athletes and his brainchild, ambassador Lil' Griff, to entertain and educate the community.

Lil' Griff was not the only change that Missouri Western experienced. Cheerleading saw the addition of yell leaders and the vision of a new coach. The color guard and Mystics combined, adding more visual effects during their football performances.

In the individual sports, players broke records, moved up to coaching or left their impact on the school and the St. Joseph area.

In football, Kasey Waterman, Mike Connaker, Jered Curl and Brandon and Brent Burnside all tied or set new records. Burger King honored player Rick Moedel for his achievements, both on and off the field, by establishing a scholarship in his name.

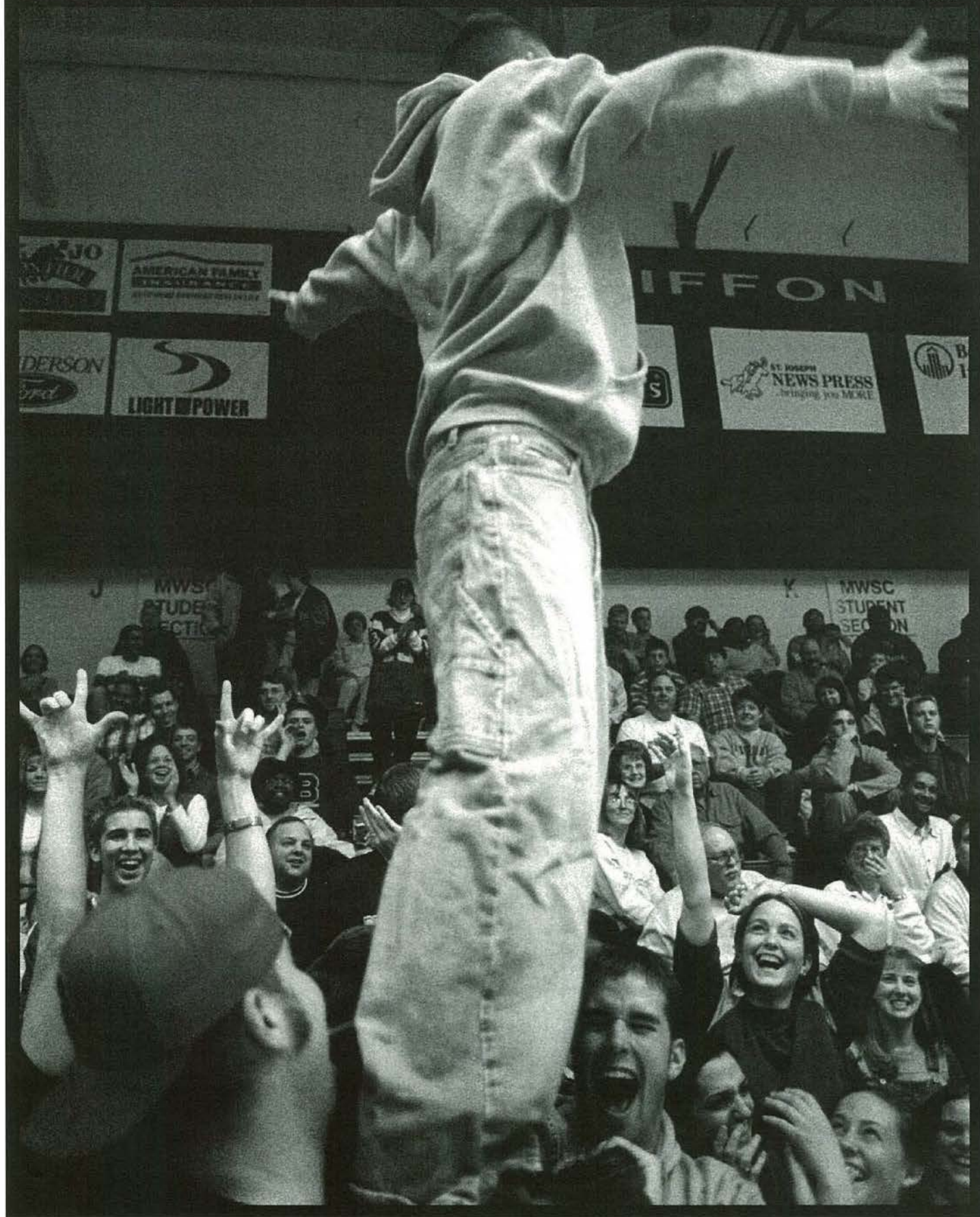
Volleyball players Jodi Weatherly, Airon Scofield and Sarah Ekdahl led the team with their impressive playing abilities. At the same time, player Monica Peck traded in her kneepads for an assistant coaching position.

Along with the usual sports came unique and off-the-wall intramurals. Games like wallyball, pickleball or Uno tournaments were much-loved favorites that many students participated in.



Sports Appreciation

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Fans at the basketball games immitate the cheerleaders by boosting one another up into the air. Their excitement made the game atmosphere full of excitement.

~Photo by Aaron Lueders



~Photo by Aaron Lueders



~Photo by Aaron Steiner



The crowd goes crazy after a big Griff play. The same faces could be seen every game.

Collene Herring cheers with her sorority sisters. Most greeks sat together at games.

Dixie Sullenger cheers and jeers during a basketball game. She came to every game.

Story by Adina Murell

With faces painted and brand new T-shirts in hand, fans of Missouri Western sports provided the teams with appreciation. From their excited yells to disagreeing groans, the fans, made up of students, faculty and community members alike, exuded their energy from the stands, whether it be on the fields or courts, letting the players know that they were there.

Sports appreciation was important enough to keep Athletic Director Pete Chapman enhancing the fun and excitement of college sports. He understood that the stands had to be full of people, and that energy had to be present in the fans, as well as the players, to have the wild atmosphere of an exciting game.

"College athletics should be something that the college student enjoys," said Chapman. "If the students go to the games, enjoy themselves and have fun, then other people enjoy the atmosphere much more."

Because of the belief that

there was a need to elevate the awareness of athletic programs within the community, the athletic department created both billboard and television commercial campaigns. These campaigns emerged, capturing images that were meant to show students and the community that the Griffons were playing for them, and that their attendance at each home game meant their team's "home field advantage."

Reaching out to the Saint Joseph community was very important to the athletic department. Therefore, they made it possible for players to lend their services to the community by visiting different schools and reading to the children.

Senior Consaquela Brown of the women's basketball team acknowledged that the children reached in the reading programs at Park Valley and Mark Twain schools showed their appreciation by coming out to the games. She said more kids came out from the reading program than any other

children did.

Other than drawing a crowd, the athletic department had to come up with a way to keep the crowd's energy surging during games. They came up with new ideas, such as allowing various fraternity and sorority members to run up and down the track while holding the school's flag, during football games. They allowed young people to sit in the dugout for a different view. Free T-shirts were awarded to those who attended basketball games with painted faces.

Junior communications major Monique Young attended most games and knew exactly what she wanted to see once she hit the stands.

"[I want to see] the players looking up at hundreds of black and gold specks bobbing up and down and a menacing roar of voices yelling 'Go Griffis!'" said Young. "Crowds like that in the stands would put a mighty thunder in any tackle, jump shot, block or hit we call the power of the Griffis."



Junior Edie Hockman plays "Hey Baby" during a home basketball game with the Golden Griffon Sound Machine. They performed at every home game during the ball season.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Junior Mike Connaker runs the ball to the goal line, while dodging a tackle. Connaker became the first MWSC running back to rush over 1,000 yards since Tony Williams in 1996.

~Photos by Aaron Steiner

Story by LaShandra Acklin

In spite of lingering at half time in seven out of 11 games the previous season, the Griffons refused to throw in the towel. They came back for a new year with new members and a fresh outlook on the upcoming season.

"This season was an overall success," said head Griffon football coach Jerry Partridge. "Especially when compared to how the men played last year."

Forty-five letter winners returned to the team. The Griffons continued to mature and many starters returned for their second or third year. The team concluded the season with a 7-4 overall record and a 6-3 Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association record. This was the best finish by a Griffon football team since 1995.

"I think the season went well," said sophomore Jerris Evans. "We played hard and as a team. The returning players were a good example for the new members and

showed them what a team was and what sportsmanship was all about."

The team played some very competitive and experienced teams, but always seemed to come out on top. They ended their last game of the season with a 55-7 win against Southwest Baptist.

"It was a thrill like no other," said junior Mike Connaker. "It felt good to end the millennium on a win. It made the whole team feel good about the year."

There were many players who had an award-winning season on a personal level as well. Sophomore quarterback Kasey Waterman tied the single season record for touchdown passes with 24. He also completed 156 passes for 2,111 yards. In two seasons, Waterman amassed 4,221 yards, good for second place on the Missouri Western all-time list. Connaker became the first MWSC running back to rush for over 1,000 yards since Tony

Williams in 1996. He finished the season with 1,042 yards and eight touchdowns on 233 carries. Senior wide receiver Brandon Burnside concluded his four-year career ranking fifth in pass receiving yards with 1,654. Defensively, senior linebacker Jered Curl completed his career at Missouri Western with 344 career tackles, good for third all-time. Senior defensive back Brent Burnside tied the school's single season record with eight interceptions.

The team placed 12 players on the All-Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. They included Phillip Nelson, Burnside, Curl, Rick Moeckel, Waterman, Evans, Tyrece Whyte, Connaker, Ken Curry, Josh Oyler and Dusty Oller.

The 1999 football team ended the millennium proving that working as a team only makes things better.



Sophomore Kasey Waterman gears up for a pass. The team concluded the season with a 7-4 record.



Defensive back Perry Buggs lies on his back after being injured in play. They had the best finish this season since 1995.



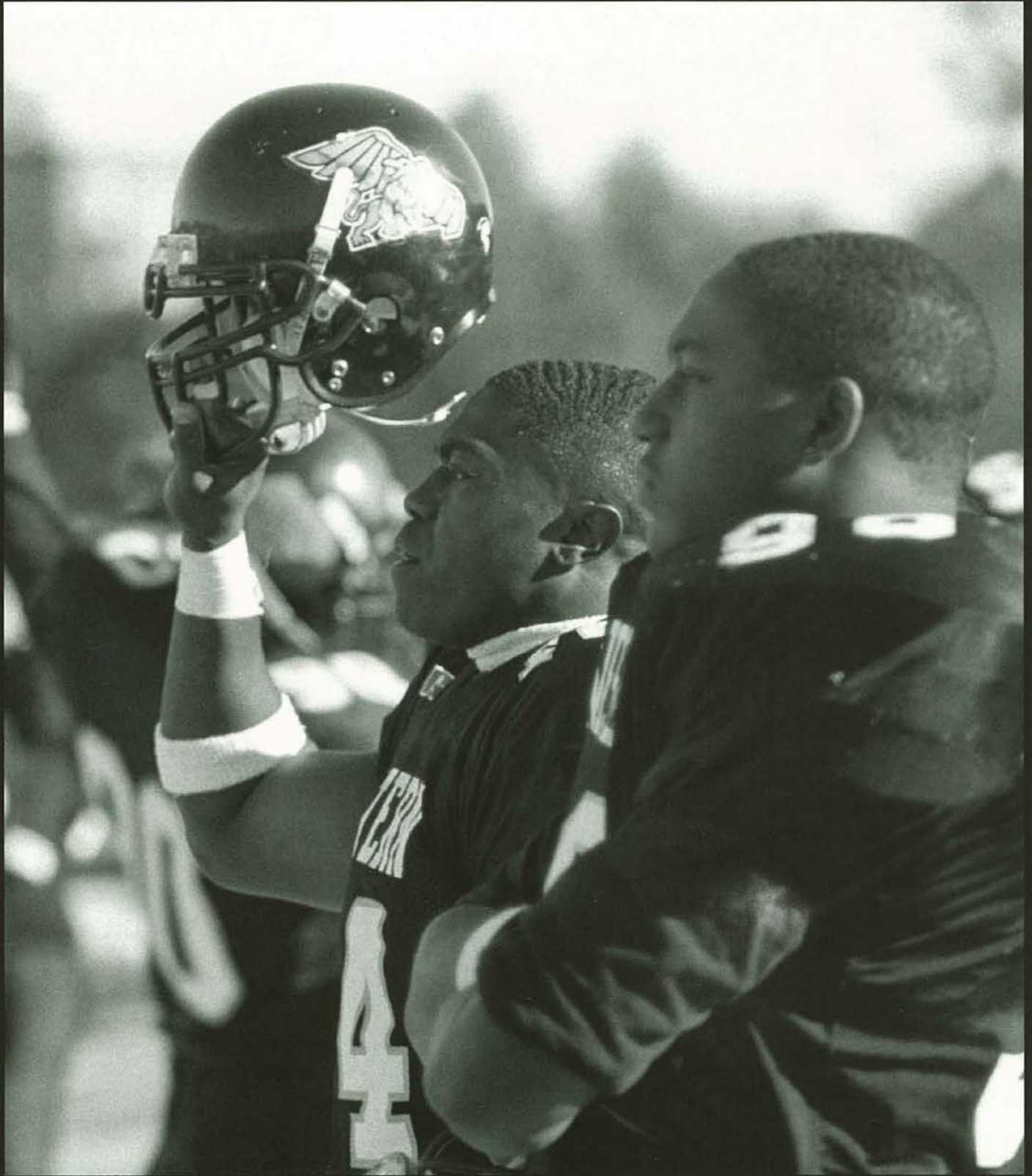
Defensive line coach Bo Hannaford briefs the defense before a play. The team played hard and came out on top all season.



Griffon

Football

~Photo by Aaron Steiner

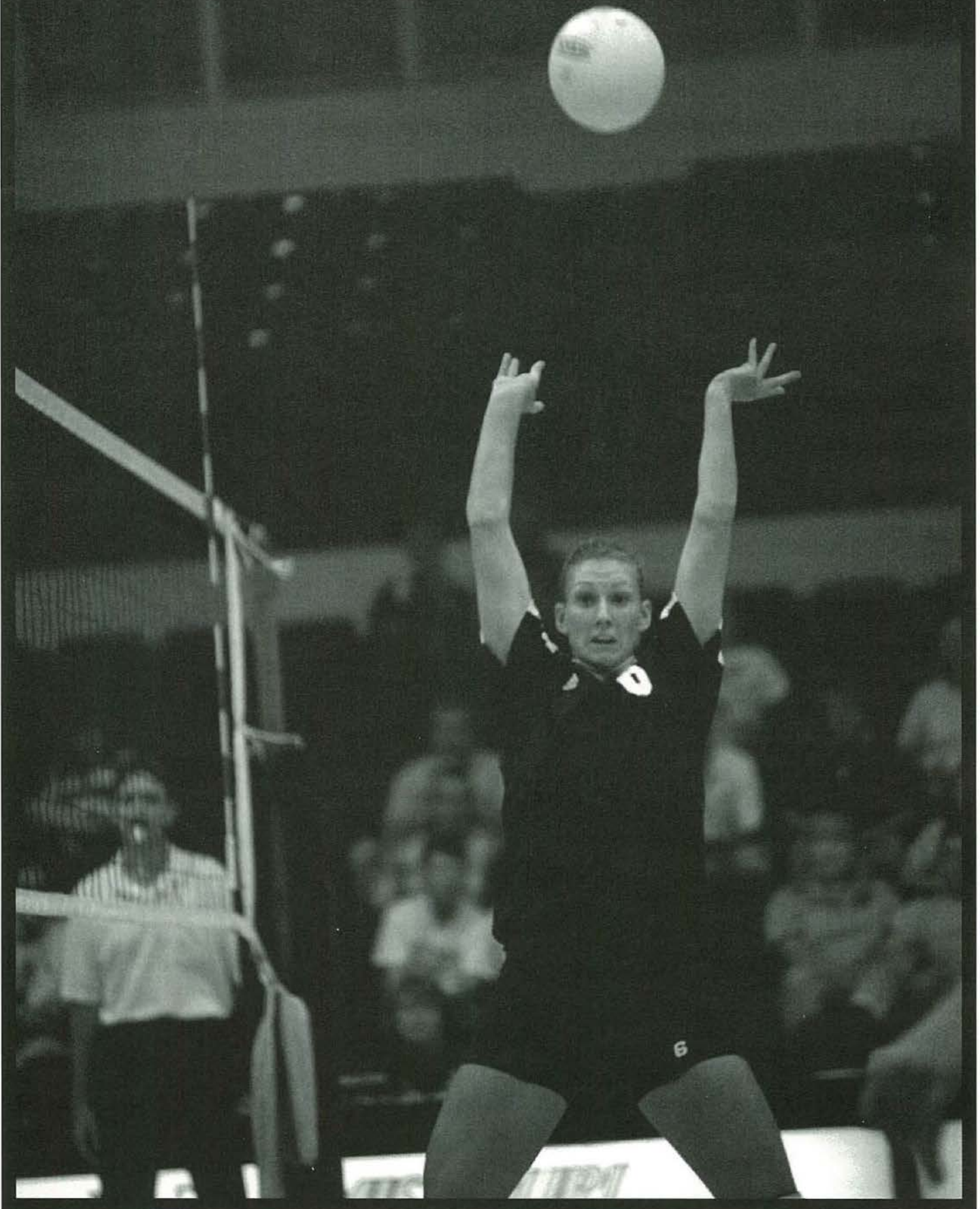


Wrapped up in the game, a football player roots for his team with his helmet in the air. The team placed 12 players on the All-Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

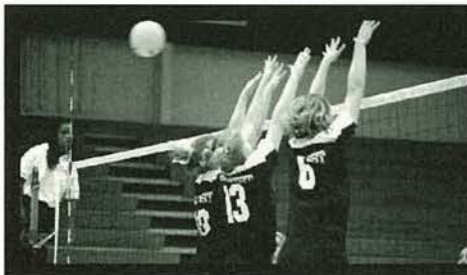
Griffon

Volleyball

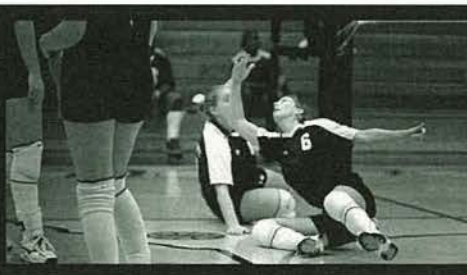
~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Senior setter Jodi Weatherly sets up the spike for a teammate. She was placed on the first team of the All-Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association team.



The girls try for the block, but miss. However, the team never gave up.



Jodi Weatherly digs the ball by Sarah Ekdahl. It was a successful season for them.



Freshman Katie Ham slams a spike. The team finished well with a 14-8 season.

Story

by Taira Hill and Mandy Fitzwater

Despite what the scoreboard read, the volleyball team was a definite success at each game. The team had much to learn. With four freshmen, four sophomores, one junior and one senior on the team, most of the players had little experience at the college level. Despite the challenges they faced, the ladies worked hard to learn all they could under Head Coach Cindy Brauck and her assistants, former players Monica Peck and Sherri Lang.

Brauck thought that the young age of the team gave the players some advantages over most college athletes. The older players usually get more playing time, but since there were not many older players on the roster, the younger ones got to play more.

"Our biggest challenge was our age, not our opponents," said Brauck. "There were times when we became very discouraged

because we felt we were defeated by less skilled teams. Our young players are very talented, they just need more help understanding what to do."

Throughout the 14-8 season, the players grew stronger as a team and acquired experience and a better knowledge of the game. Brauck thought that the season's biggest highlights were beating Arkansas Tech and Emporia State on their own courts, and the home win against Northwest Missouri State.

"I think the team learned a lot during the season," said Brauck. "Most importantly, they learned how to manage momentum. We never remained over-confident, neither did we ever feel we could not accomplish a goal."

Three players were placed on All-Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association teams. Senior setter Jodi Weatherly was named

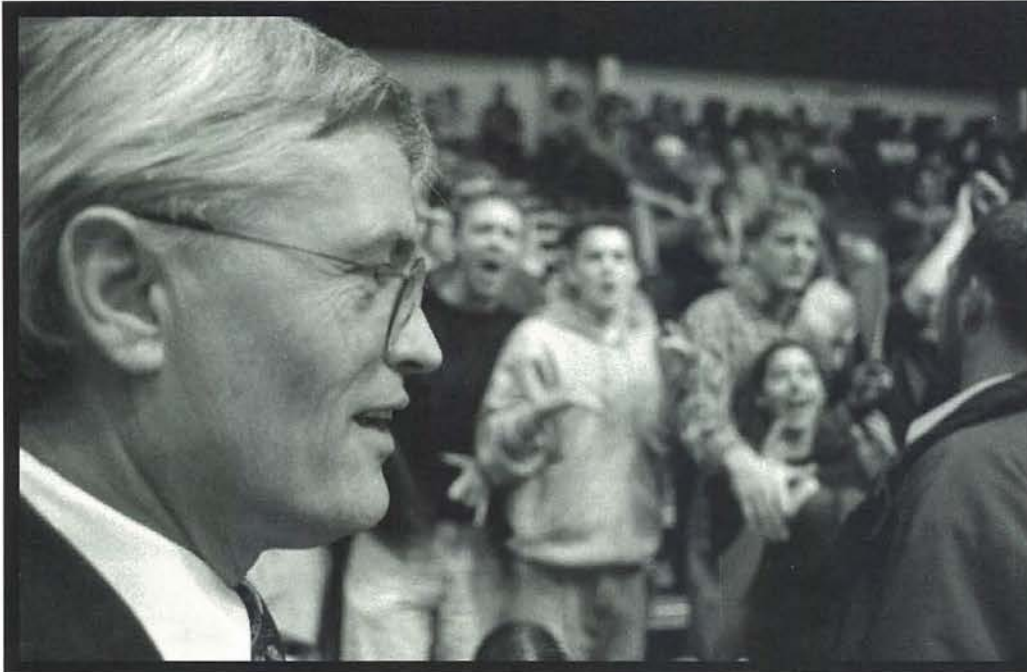
to the first team, sophomore Airon Scofield was a second team selection in the newly-created category of defensive specialist and junior outside hitter Sarah Ekdahl received honorable mention. Weatherly led the team in assists (1,201) and had 358 digs. She was named to all-tournament teams in each of the four tournaments in which the team participated. Her two-year assist total of 2,355 ranked her at fifth on the school's career list. Scofield recorded 320 digs and 39 service aces. Ekdahl lead the team with 437 kills, 411 digs and 53 service aces.

"I'm proud of the team, and I am very happy about what they did during their time on the court," said Brauck. "I'm especially proud of our 8-8 conference record. This is my third season here, and I have noticed physical and mental growth in the girls."



Junior outside hitter Sarah Ekdahl slams the ball in her opponents' faces. She received an honorable mention in the All-Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association teams.

~Photos by Aaron Steiner



Pete Chapman intently watches the game while standing near his favorite excited fans. Chapman constantly created new ways of keeping fans coming to the games, like appearances of the Lil' Griff around town, giving away Griffon T-shirts at the games, and delivering pizza for fans to share.

~Photo by
Aaron
Steiner

Story by Taira Hill

Athletic Director Pete Chapman had many plans for the future of the athletic program. He wanted to do his best to assist the coaches and athletes and to improve student life. And that is exactly what he did according to those he worked with.

"My plan is to take the good programs we already have and make them better," said Chapman. "I have made many procedural changes, but there are still a few goals to achieve."

James McCarthy, executive vice president, was happy to have Chapman on board.

"I am pleased with the opportunity for Pete to assume the reins of our athletic department," said McCarthy. "I know his professional dedication to student athletes will have a great impact on the school and the community."

Chapman felt that the greatest reward of being an athletic director was working with so many different people, and the biggest challenge

was keeping his office organized.

"I am honored to work with such a diverse group of human beings," said Chapman. "I love becoming one with the community to improve our program. I interact with the boosters, students, faculty and so many more."

According to many of the people he worked with, he did a lot for the program. Pat Madden, sports information director, was one of those people.

"Pete has improved Griffon athletics in many ways," said Madden. "He has helped us in the attendance area in ways I cannot believe. He has also improved the Gold Coat program and made eligibility easier for students. The most important thing he did was bring in Mark Linder, the academic advisor and compliance officer. Without Linder it was much more difficult for students to play the sports they love."

Chapman's job included working

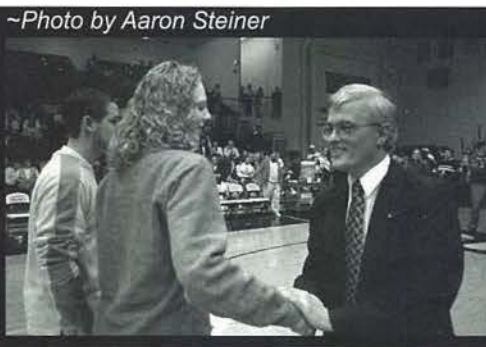
with athletes and getting things done to make sports more fun for the fans. He believed that athletics was a major part of most schools, and it was his job to help everyone enjoy what the college's program had to offer. He wanted to get people involved in the games and activities.

"I want Missouri Western to become even more visual," said Chapman. "I want more publicity for the athletes who work so hard. That is why I am working toward more tailgate parties, ticket sales to grocery stores and especially more appearances of Lil' Griff."

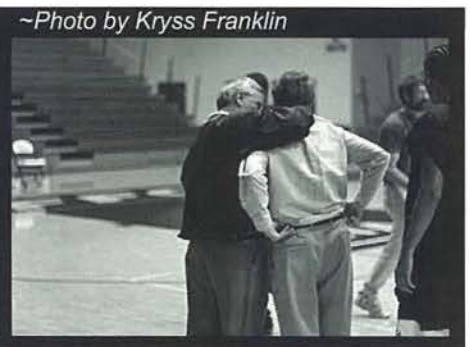
Madden said, "For Chapman, giving is an on-going process; He has done so much for the department because of this. I am really impressed with the way he has turned things around, much like he did the Implemented Student Athlete Advisory Committee. What he has done for the students is absolutely amazing."



~Photo by Aaron Steiner



~Photo by Aaron Steiner



~Photo by Kryss Franklin

Pete Chapman throws another t-shirt to a fan. The fans were very eager to receive the shirts.

Pete Chapman shakes the hand of volleyball player Cathy Mahoney for student athlete achievement. Many students were honored that night for their exceptional GPAs.

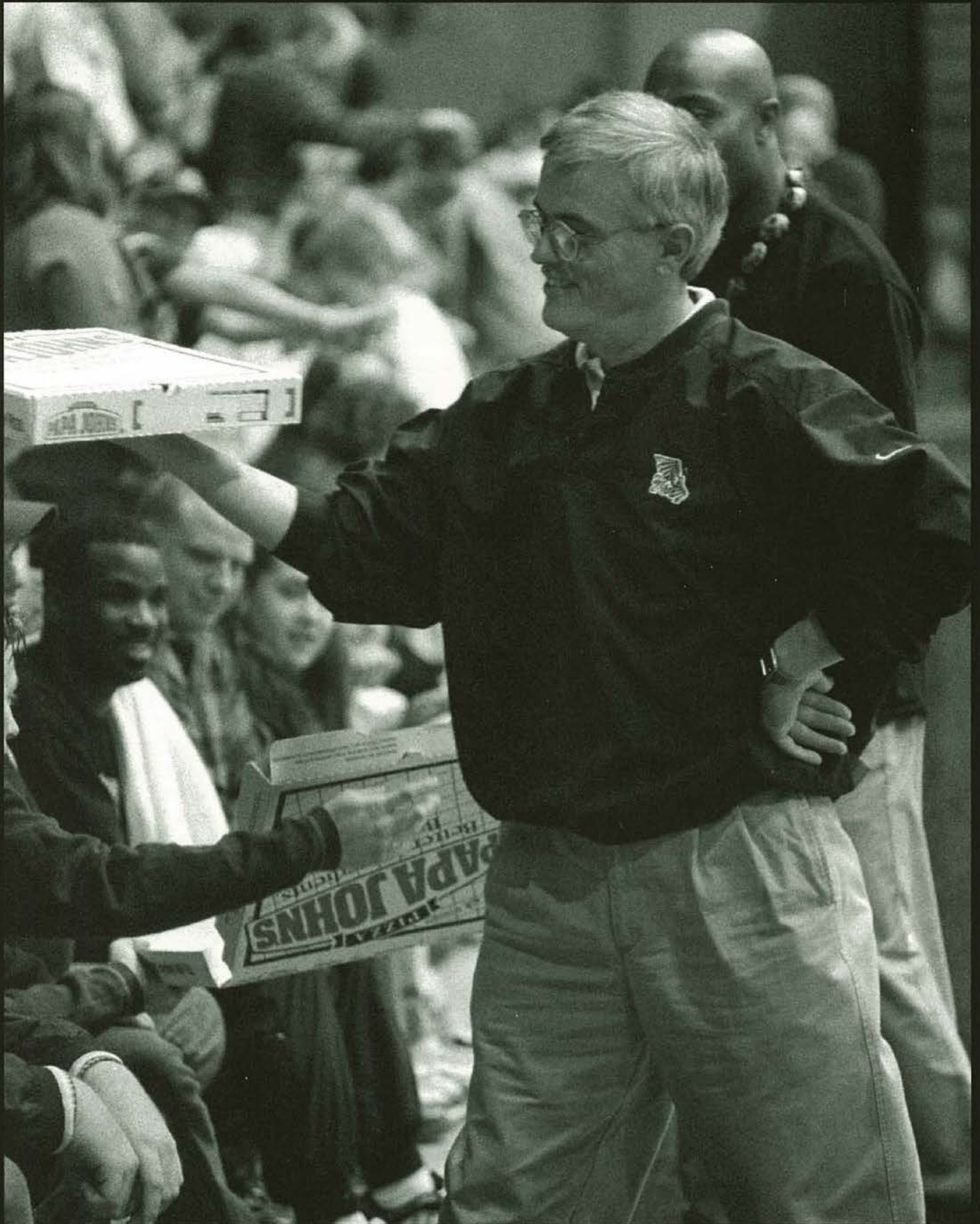
Chapman calms the nerves of coach Tom Smith at a men's basketball practice. Chapman gave birth to the Lil' Griff idea.



Pete

Chapman

Photo by Brandon Jennings



Pete Chapman plays the part of pizza delivery boy at basketball games. He ordered pizzas for the fans of home basketball games to boost morale, and to keep the fans coming back for more.



Yell leader Tyson Schank boosts crowd participation by shouting through his megaphone. The squad even began performing at volleyball games after Shawndra Faucier took over.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Story by Taira Hill

The fans applaud, the teams get anxious and the stands are chaotic. The crowd gets even louder as they look at the energetic group of cheerleaders clapping and chanting familiar cheers. However, there is something different about the squad from previous years. The cheerleaders are now accompanied by their male assistants, the yell leaders. The crowd goes wild because now they see things they have never seen before.

Throughout the years the girls did a wonderful job alone, but something seemed to be missing. The missing piece was strength. With the boys' support, the cheerleaders could spice up athletic events, and they did.

"I believe the addition of the yell leaders has been a very positive change for the program," said freshman Stephanie Crandall.

"The boys are non-stop support and spirit. They allow our stunts to be more complete, and have made the program better as a whole. The crowd loves the yell leaders. They are excited about our new stunts. I think they have a lot of respect for the boys because it takes so much to do what they do."

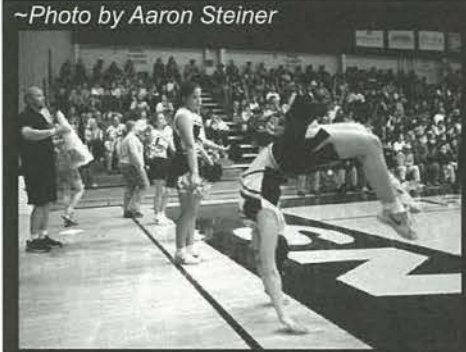
Head coach Shawndra Faucier also felt that the boys' presence was well-received by the crowd.

"The boys added a dimension that wasn't here before, so I can't really compare the reaction to last year's, but I think the fans are very pleased," said Faucier. "I think they are so impressed by them. I know I think they are great."

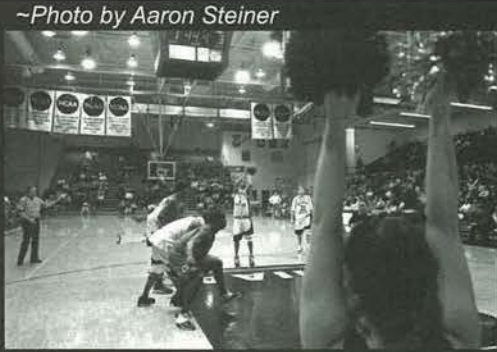
The boys themselves were not so used to the idea of cheerleading and helping with stunts. "This has been sort of

strange for us guys," said yell leader Ben Doornink. "The only one that has ever done this is Chad." Sophomore Chad Fehr was a yell leader in high school, and showed the ropes to his fellow yell leaders in college.

"I got into this because one of the other guys begged me to try out with him," said Doornink. "I laughed at the thought of myself getting in front of a huge crowd cheering. Then suddenly I had a change of heart. I started thinking about college cheerleaders, and I agreed at once. Now I really enjoy the experience. Sometimes the women say we act like animals, and that we need to focus. When we apply ourselves to practice, we get a lot done. I'm not sure what Coach thinks of us yet. I think she's used to the way we act because she has been through all this in the past."



~Photo by Aaron Steiner
Freshman Stephanie Crandall does a back hand-spring. The squad presented a lot of new stunts in 2000.



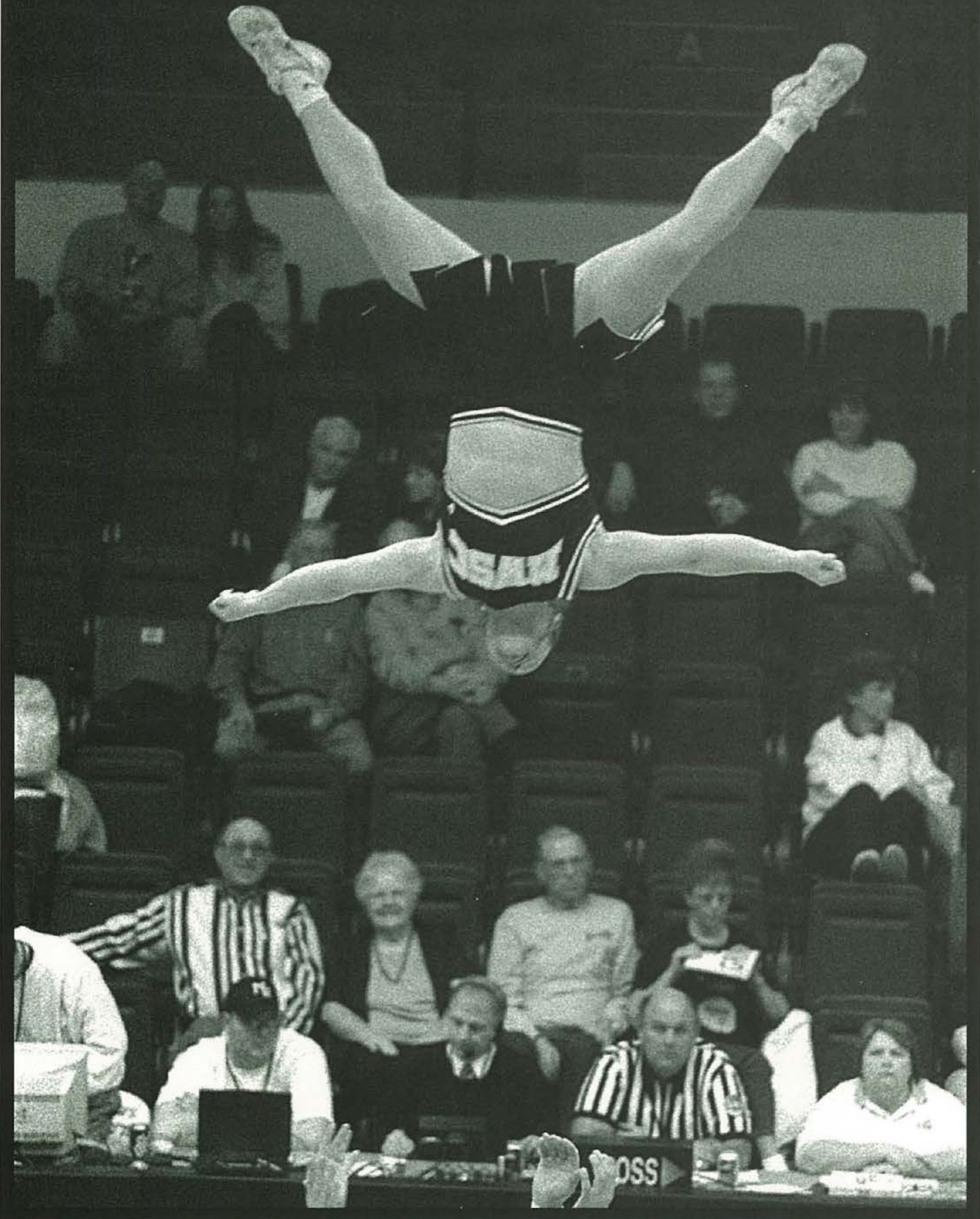
~Photo by Aaron Steiner
Freshman Stephanie Crandall raises her hands for spirit on a freethrow. She was one of the girls who was a flier.



~Photo by Brandon Jennings
Coach Shawndra Faucier gives some quick tips during halftime. She always attended the games to watch her squad perform.

Griffon Cheersquad

~Photo by Aaron Steiner

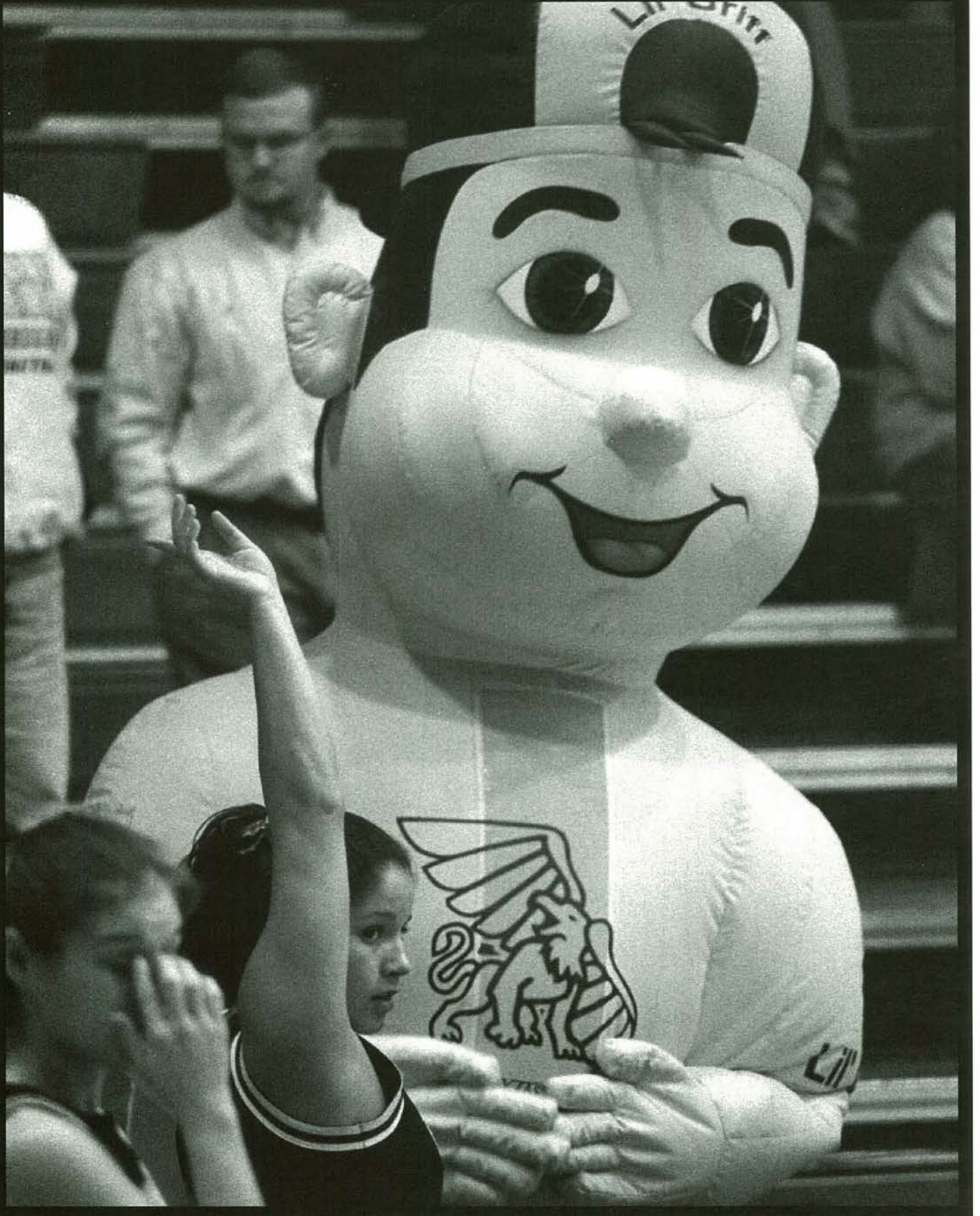


Freshman Maryanne Headley soars through the air at a home basketball game against Truman State University. The new yell leaders made it possible for the squad to perform more difficult stunts in 2000.

Lil'

Griff

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Everybody's favorite Lil' Griff helps out the cheerleaders at the women's basketball game against Truman State University. The Lil' Griff did more than go to games; he also went to special events and pep rallies to boost morale.

Karl Bell, advising specialist, steps into the Lil' Griff suit that has attended every game in every sport this year. Several other people have also been the new mascot.

~Photo by
Aaron
Steiner



Story by Mindy Kinnaman

The campus rejoiced the birth of Athletic Director Pete Chapman's vision, Lil' Griff. However, standing at nine feet tall and wearing a size 22 shoe, Lil' Griff was hardly a baby. According to Chapman, the idea for Lil' Griff came from the school's previous difficulty with mascots.

"When I came here, I heard that there has been difficulty finding something that will stay around," said Chapman. "I wanted something kid-friendly and fan-friendly."

Two years before, the school had Samson the Griffon, whose time had come to move on to greener pastures. Then came Lil' Griff. Technically, Lil' Griff was not a mascot, he was an Ambassador to the school. Advising Specialist Karl Bell, who worked with Lil' Griff, helped explain what Lil' Griff was.

"At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln they have the exact same thing, but it's called 'Big Red'," said Bell. "We're one of three schools in NCAA Division II that has an Ambassador. Schools in the MIAA don't even have it." Bell even had the chance to become Lil' Griff himself. He described the outfit as "very warm".

"You have to prepare to sweat," said Bell. "In a sense, you

need to be in shape."

Hand-picked by Bell, there were six main people whose dedication helped bring Lil' Griff to life. Sophomore Olu Aregbe, freshman Clara Eblen, sophomore Stan Pearson, seniors Robert and Stephen Pratt and freshman Joe Szyc all were able to strut their stuff as the Ambassador.

"A person needs to become energized and involved, become one with who you are going to portray," said Pearson. "[Being the Lil' Griff is] fun because people try to figure out what it is and who's inside."

Bell felt that each student's personality shone through when they wore the outfit.

"Each person inside of Lil' Griff takes on a different personal-

ity, so the crowd is left guessing who the person is," said Bell. "They also think that it's not the same person it was before."

Lil' Griff was busy helping out at sporting events and even made several local appearances at ticket outlets like Kovac's, Food 4 Less, Cub Foods and Green Hills to promote the games. He made several appearances with the Lady Griffs basketball team at elementary schools to promote literacy, and at district and sectional high school basketball games.

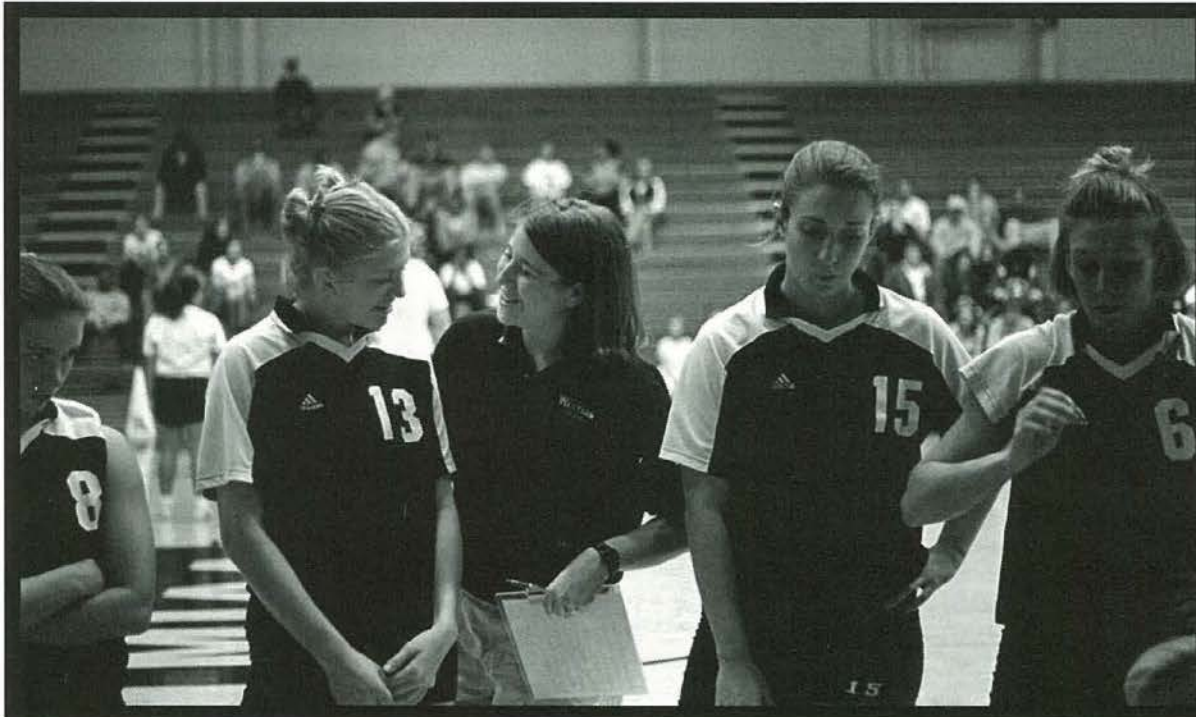
Chapman thought that the Ambassador was working its way to becoming a success.

"I think we're working on it," said Chapman. "We will probably see good steps during basketball season."



The Lil' Griff holds the football for the long-kick contest in which children from surrounding schools participated. The Lil' Griff was a hit with most children who attended the games.

~Photo by
Brandon
Jennings



Peck brings a smile to freshman player Cathy Mahoney on the sidelines of a home game. Head Coach Cindy Brauck didn't mind sharing coaching responsibilities with a former player.

~Photos by Kryss Franklin

Story by Jodi Deering

After playing on the volleyball team, becoming an assistant coach could be a difficult change for some, but for Monica Peck it was all taken in stride.

Peck's roles as a member of the team were setter, leader and a constant player on the court. After transferring from Illinois Central College, she played for Missouri Western and was named honorable mention all-MIAA setter in 1997, and team leader in assists in 1996 and 1997.

Peck graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in biology and secondary education and planned on coaching high school volleyball. Going from player to coach helped Peck understand what the team went through on the court. As assistant coach for the second

season, Peck's responsibility was helping the setters.

Watching a player become an assistant coach is the wish of any coach. Head Coach Cindy Brauck didn't mind sharing coaching responsibilities with a former player.

"It is a weird transition for them to see the other side of the picture, and it is a unique experience," said Brauck. "It is easy for me to see them go from player to coach, it is the next step in their overall development."

Playing the game required skill, while being an assistant coach required time. Coaching demanded double the effort in the office, in the gym with players, recruiting players and watching videos on how to improve the game.

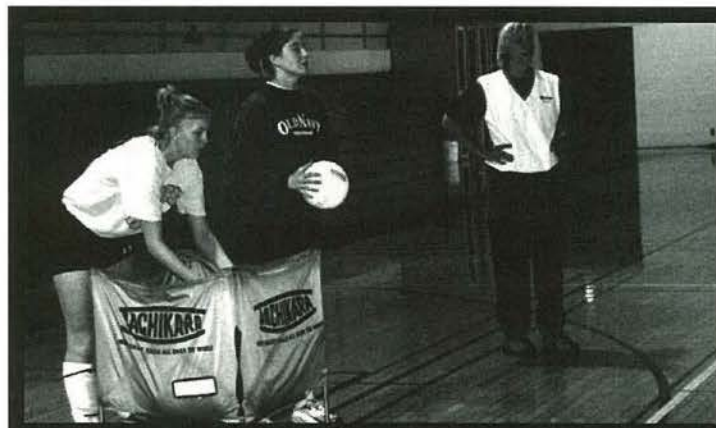
"In a way, it was a big transi-

tion, but in other ways it was really easy," said Peck.

"I spend more time being a coach than I did being a player."

Being a coach gave Peck the opportunity to teach players how to improve their individual skills, handle themselves on the court mentally and expand their knowledge of the sport.

"She has helped me so much with both volleyball skills and academic skills," said sophomore Katie Schiesel. "She cares about all the players on the team, and is an unbelievable coach. She brings so much to practice and puts so much of her own time into our team. She is the most motivating person I have ever met."



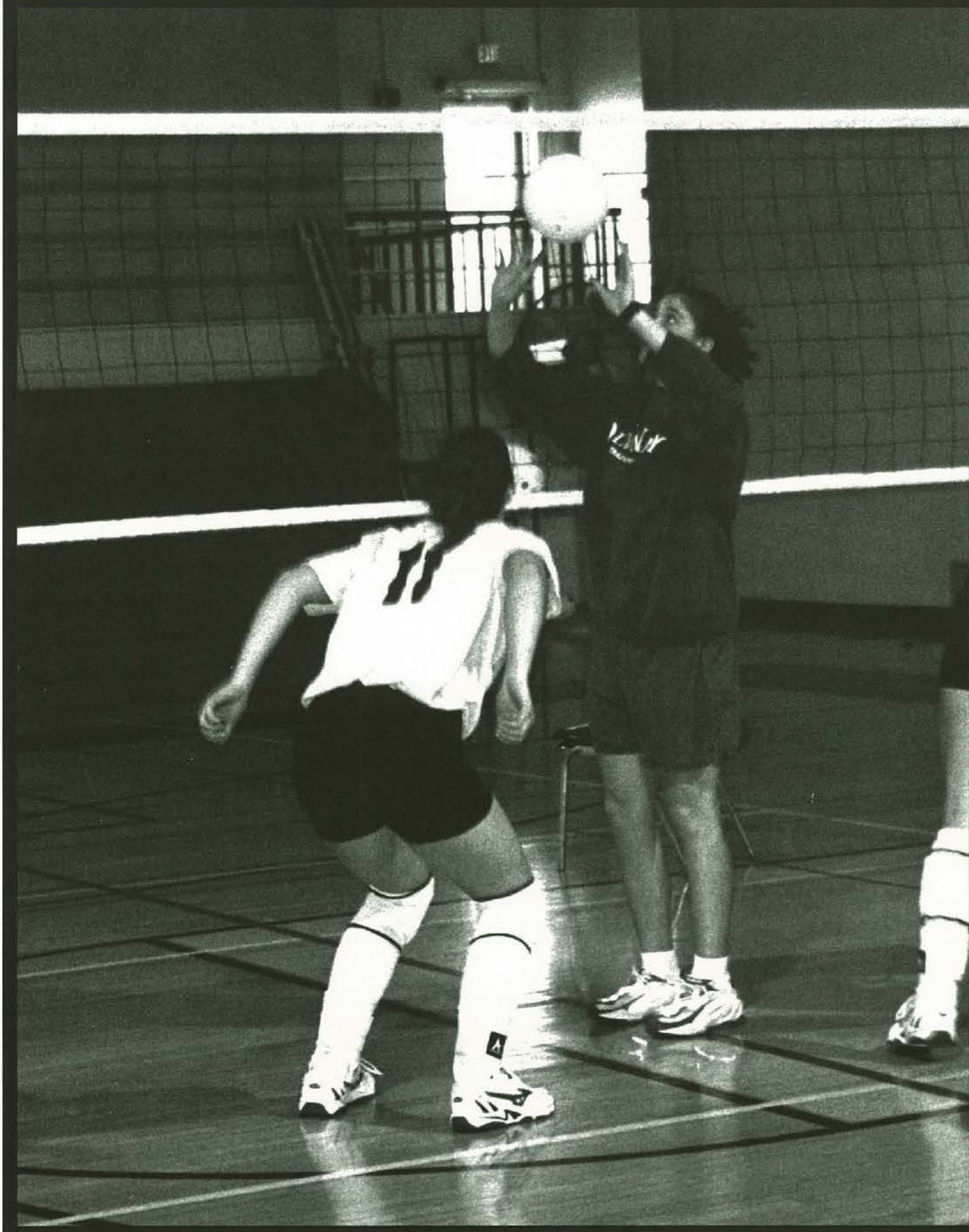
Peck helps at practice by giving balls to the players for drills. She graduated in May 1999 with a bachelor's degree in biology and secondary education.

Monica Peck works with the players during a time-out. She went from volleyball player to assistant volleyball coach.

Monica

Peck

-Photo by Kryss Franklin



Senior Monica Peck helps freshman Lindsay Palaia work on her spikes during practice. Being a coach gave Peck the opportunity to teach players how to improve their individual skills and how to mentally handle themselves on the court.

145
Monica Peck

Mystics Colorguard

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Kristin Turner dances to "American Woman" at halftime during the homecoming game. Both groups put aside their differences to put on a successful show.



~Photo by Brandon Jennings



~Photo by Aaron Steiner



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

The two groups twirl their flags with vibrant smiles. It was a new start for everyone.

Both groups perform to Santana with excitement. They danced at every home game.

Regina Alejandre and Stephanie Howard perform. The merge was a success.

Story by Christina Hazelwood

The football field had a new look for 1999 due to the combination of the Color Guard and Mystic Dance Teams. In an effort to add visual excitement to the shows, Jeffery Hinton, director of bands, felt it was necessary to combine them. The idea was to produce a polished unit where conformity had to be the goal if it would benefit the entire group. He said that the groups were still separate and had different responsibilities.

"The decision to move in the direction of unifying the two groups was mine," said Hinton. "It has been a planned change since I arrived here in 1995, and we waited until now to implement the change because we had such strong captains in place. This year marked the beginning of new leadership within the group, and it

was the opportune time to make the change."

Hinton said the change would bring the band into the 1990's just in time to embark on a new century when they may find that the evolution of bands and visual auxiliaries could take them down new, yet unexplored paths. The combination of the two squads led to some disagreements, but the majority of the students agreed it was a good decision that would benefit the marching band. Captain of the Mystics, senior Kristin Turner, said that combining the two squads made them all work harder and have longer practices, but it resulted in a really big visual effect on the field. "It has been challenging, but it has been fun," she said.

One member of the Color Guard said that there was still some

division between the two squads at the middle of the fall semester. She was quick to point out that, with hard work and patience, the two groups could successfully merge into one.

"I think combining the squads was a good idea," said sophomore Jennifer Friend, Color Guard captain. "We're learning new and different things."

Color Guard member, junior Regina Alejandre, said she saw the combination of the squads as a test of whether or not two totally different groups with different backgrounds could interact with each other. "Some of the benefits of combining the group is that I'm seeing the Mystics as individuals rather than a group," said Alejandre. "We were also able to get new uniforms and equipment."



Freshman Lindsay Fiscus and sophomore Stacey Turner perform to "Se Acabo" during halftime. The show, which featured music by Santana, showed the groups' hard work.

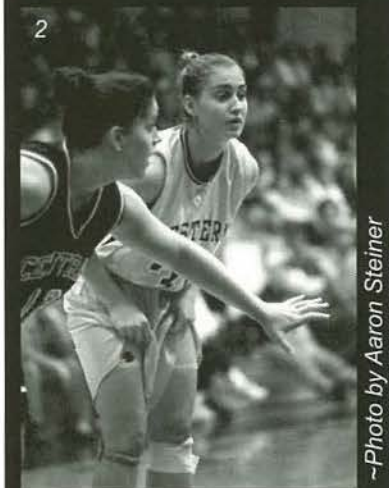
~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Story by Mindy Kinnaman



~Photo by Aaron Steiner



~Photo by Aaron Steiner



~Photo by Brandon Jennings



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Every basketball team has their ups and downs, but for the Lady Griffons, it was mainly ups. The women were able to finish the season 22-8, with a conference record of 13-5.

Not only was their game record impressive, but so were the individual players. Junior Annie Heithoff was placed in the record books for having the most steals in a game, 11. Juniors Jessica Dice and Danielle Knieb; sophomores Jamie Doss and Rebecca Patton and freshman Aubrey Euller led the team with their high field goal percentages. Even with the high percentages, Coach Dave Slifer felt there was need for improvement, especially since the team was ranked ninth in the division for free throws.

At the beginning of the season, Slifer said in a press release that, because the team was so young, he wanted to make the players mentally tough.

Patton said that Slifer was able to attain that goal.

"I feel like coming into his program you have to be mentally and physically tough," said Patton. "We say that we're the number one team in the country when it comes to practicing, and in order to say that, we have to be mentally tough."

However, Slifer felt that it had just begun.

"I think we just started the process," said Slifer. "I think what showed was the two games at Emporia. There was a

crowd of 4,000, and our girls didn't back off. We put up a valiant fight."

When it came to postseason tournaments, the team seemed to have two major obstacles. The first was Central Missouri State University. The team lost to Central at the beginning of conference play. Not only was the loss hard because it was their second loss of the conference that far, but also because the team lost by 35 points.

"We were feeling good before Christmas and then to come back and lose, was hard," said Patton. "We had to have a gut check, and fix what was wrong with ourselves and pull the team back together."

The team was able to do that with Central, and when it came time for faceoffs during postseason play, the Lady Griffons ruled. The first win led the team to the final round of the MIAA Postseason Tournament Championship. Their second win over Central advanced them to the semifinals of the NCAA South Central Regional Tournament.

It was wins over Central that led them to their second obstacle: Emporia State University. Each time the team advanced after playing Central, Emporia blocked their path, keeping them from winning.

"This year was a learning experience, next year we'll be living up to those expectations," said Patton.

Left Bar Pictures:

1.) Sophomores Krista Small and Rebecca Patton celebrate victory. Central MO State University and Emporia State University were two obstacles for this year's team.

2.) Patton waits impatiently at the freethrow line. Patton felt that Coach Slifer made the team mentally tough.

3.) Roulette catches some air fighting for the rebound. When time came for postseason play, the Lady Griffons ruled.

4.) Freshman Michelle Parlett does a behind-the-back jump-ball. The team was ranked 9th in the nation for free-throws.

Right-hand picture:

Junior Jessica Dice has her eye on her teammates looking for an open player. The team finished the season 22-8.



~Right photo by Aaron Steiner

Griffon

Women's Basketball

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Junior Centoria Roulette leans into her drive down the lane while dodging her Southwest Baptist opponent. The team made it to the MIAA Post-season Tournament Championship and the NCAA South Central Regional Tournament.



Rick

Moeckel

Photo by Aaron Steiner



Senior Rick Moeckel takes down his opponent before he can reach the goal. Moeckel worked hard at football and was a team leader who received a lot of respect on and off the field.

A fan sports a sign rooting for the Moeckel brothers. Many fans did the same thing during the season.

Rick Moeckel chases down the opponent's quarterback, looking for a sack. He was also the Vice President of the MWSC chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



~Small photo by
Aaron Steiner
~Large photo by
Brandon Jennings

Story by Andy Brown, Guest Writer

School, football practice, volunteer work and studying were responsibilities that a lot of people on campus couldn't handle all at once, but for senior football player Rick Moeckel, they were all taken in stride.

In the fall, Burger King presented a \$10,000 scholarship to the college in Moeckel's name. Burger King awarded scholarships based on academic achievement, dedication to community service and athletic ability, all of which were things Moeckel excelled in.

"I was awe struck," said Moeckel. "It was something that came out of nowhere."

Moeckel worked hard at football and was a team leader who received a lot of respect on and off of the field. "He shows what a student athlete is really like," said teammate Josh Oyler.

Moeckel was a member of the 1998-99 Student Athlete Advisory Committee and Vice President of the MWSC chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Majoring in construction and engineering, he had a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.50 in the middle of the fall semester.

"I have had the dream to play in the NFL, but if that doesn't work out, I have a good major to fall

back on," said Moeckel. "I just have to leave it in God's hands."

Moeckel earned a lot of respect from the football team, and the players and coaches considered him both a friend and a leader.

"He is the biggest leader on the team and everyone looks up to him," said Oyler. "He is involved in a lot of things, like church, FCA and the community."

Head Football Coach Jerry Partridge was very proud of Moeckel's personal, athletic and academic successes.

"Rick is an outstanding person and a great student," said Partridge. "He is playing the best football of his life right now."

Volunteer work was an important part of Moeckel's life. He volunteered 140 hours a year to help kids at Parkway Elementary School in their reading program. The experience gave him a differ-

ent outlook on life.

"It reminds me of where I came from, and those kids are so eager to learn," said Moeckel. "It just gives me a different perspective on life."

Moeckel said that tutoring the kids helped him get away from the stress of school and reminded him of how to have fun. Working with kids could be challenging sometimes, but Moeckel found it to be a valuable experience.

"It is neat to go and give those kids good advice," said Moeckel. "It is a very rewarding experience because I am such a big fan of kids."

Moeckel said that he would miss a lot of things after he graduated. "The things that I am going to miss the most are the friends that I have made since I have been here, and being a part of the football team," he said.



Community children put up a poster honoring Rick Moeckel at a home game. This was one of many signs made to encourage the team in the season.

~Photo by
Aaron
Steiner



Junior forward Reggie Alexander performs a little 'shake & bake' for the crowd. Alexander was one of the top scorers of the season with a total of 122 points for the season.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Story by **Jodi Deering**

The Griffons set three goals for the season. The first was to win conference, second was to get to the NCAA tournament and third was to win at least 20 games. They successfully achieved winning 20 games, ending the season with a 20-9 record.

"We had a moderately successful season," said Coach Tom Smith. "Achieving 20 wins is good for any team."

The Griffons saw their record gradually progress from 4-0 in their game against Central Oklahoma, 11-0 against Pittsburg State, 16-5 against Central Missouri State and 20-8 against Southwest Baptist bringing them to their final record.

The final against Pittsburg State kept them out of the NCAA tournament and a repeat as conference

champions. Overall, the team performed 115 percent at each game, giving it their all this season. "We started out real good but somewhere along the way we hit some low valleys," said Reggie Alexander, senior point guard.

Alexander was one of the top scorers of the season. He ended with a total of 122 points. He was also one of the top rebounders, ending the season with 82 points along with forward Alu Williams, senior, who had 102 points.

The Griffons had some memorable wins this season beating Midwestern State 102-87 and Central Oklahoma 114-81 at the Hillyard Tip-Off Classic; the win at the Puerto Rico Holiday Shootout against Puerto Rico-Cayey 85-61; and the home win against Northwest Missouri State University 77-75.

Part of being a successful team was the unity and willingness to learn from each other. Perhaps the key to the team's success was keeping the communication lines open and active leadership. Even a good team had skills that could be improved on, such as defensive skills and rebounding.

"Focusing on team unity and playing together as a team, and taking care of the task on hand, not looking past one part of the team or another are skills to improve on," said Ryan Schumacher, senior point guard.

Focusing on the team's strengths: good offense, ability to play together as a team and get inside the game promises a bright future.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner



~Photo by Brandon Jennings



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

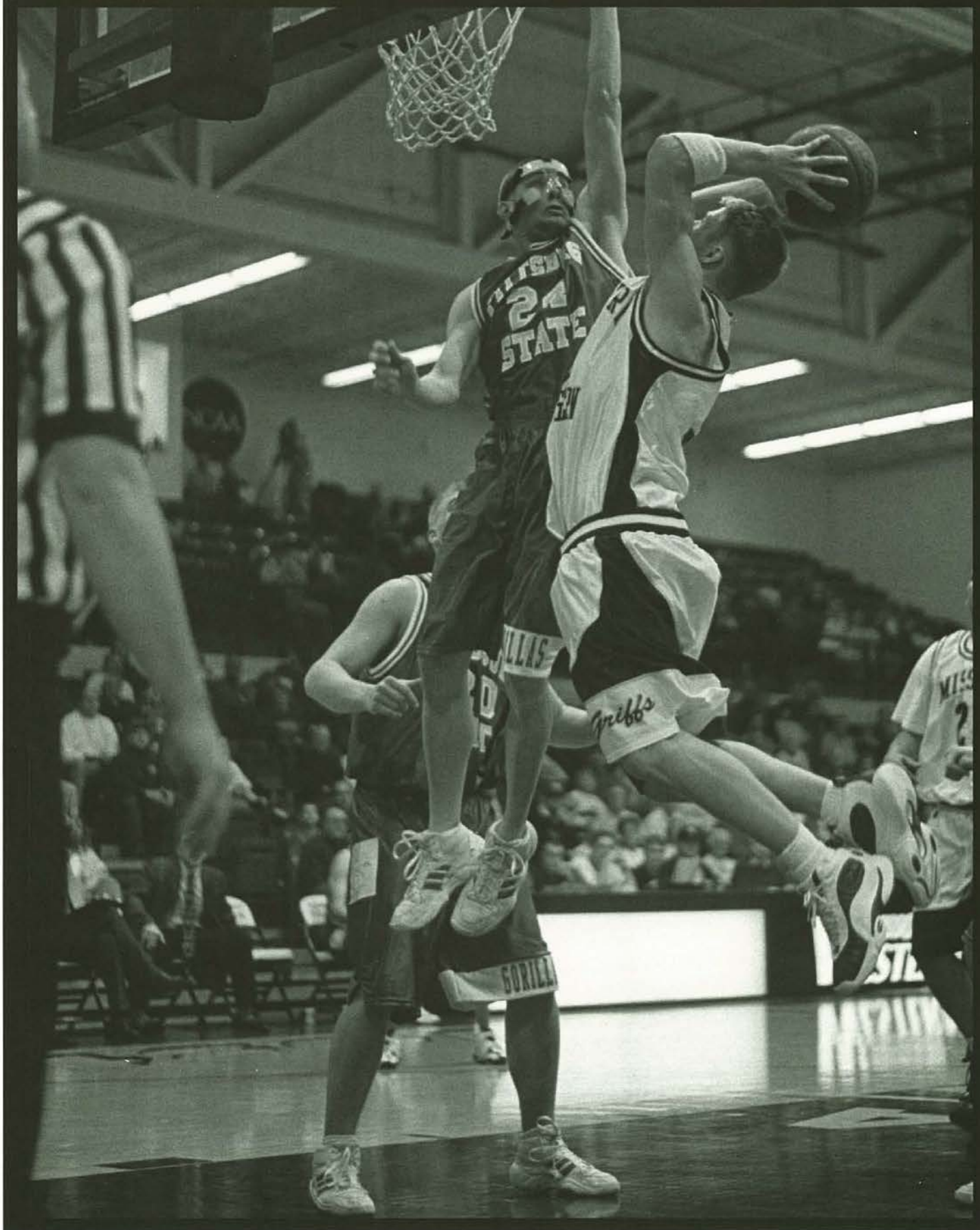
The Griffon starters give high fives on the court before their game. Team spirit was always high at games.

Alexander swings like Tarzan after his dunk. He was good at keeping the fans pumped.

Head coach Tom Smith lays out the game plan for his players. It was Smith's 12th season at MWSC.

Men's Basketball

~Photo by Brandon Jennings

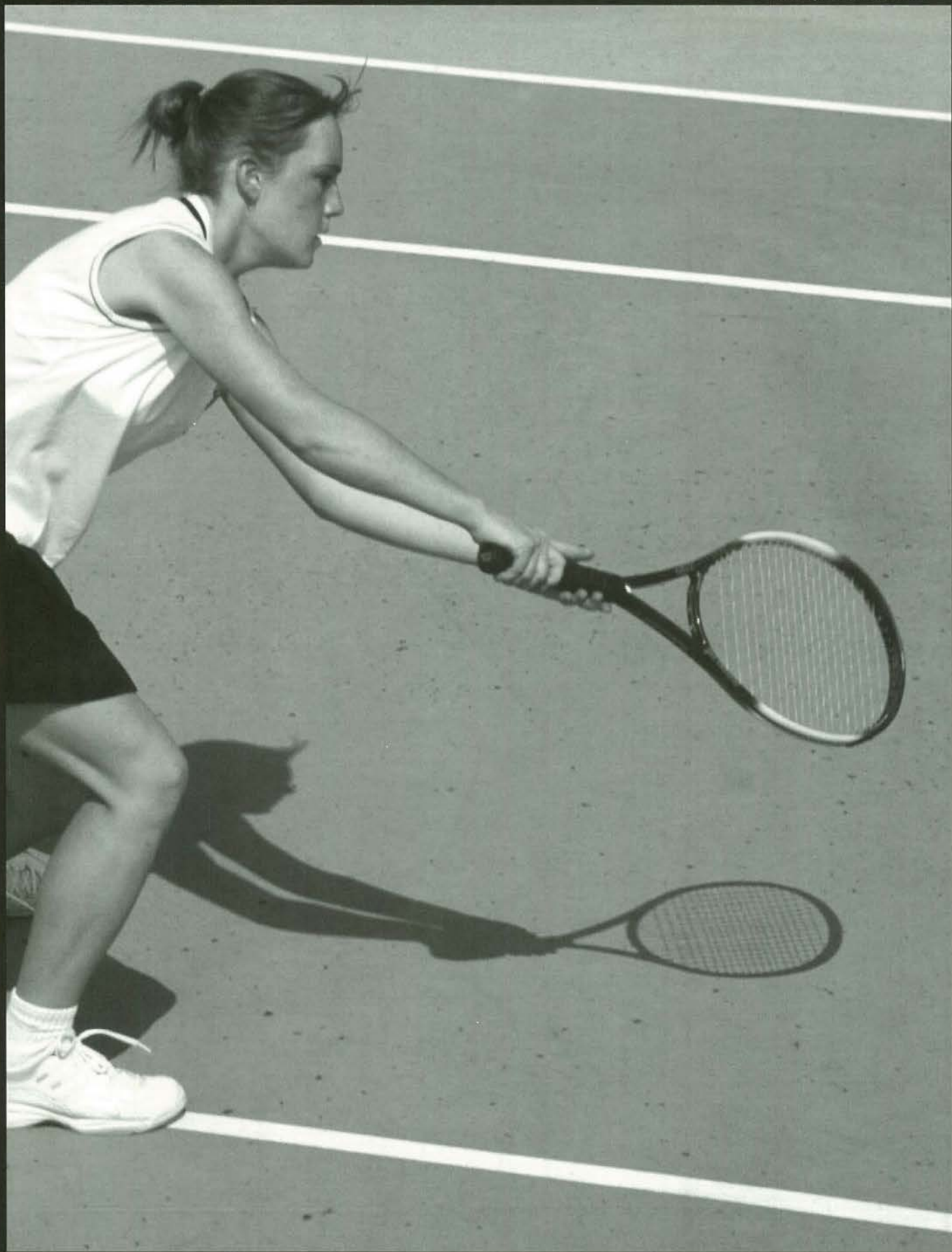


Senior Ryan Schumacher soars above the court as he shoots for two. Schumacher had an incredible season filled with hard work and dedication.

Griffon

Tennis

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



Kim Redmon scoops the ball on her way to victory against her Southwest Baptist opponent. The tennis team finished their season with a record of 3-10.



Assistant Tennis Coach Tracy Jones has a little fun on the court waiting for a new set to start. Tracy Jones was the number one player the previous year, but her eligibility ran out.

~Photos by Aaron Steiner

Story by Mindy Kinnaman

For the Lady Griffons tennis team, the season proved to be a tough one, but their hard work helped make up for it all.

The season pointed out the team's rising stars for next year. With four freshmen, two sophomores and one junior, the women had to work together to pull off a 3-10 season, 1-4 conference.

Coach Patsy Smith was pleased that the team had bonded and was able to pull off the season it did. The team spent time together both on and off the courts, getting to know each other better.

Smith felt that the team's greatest achievement was the win against Southwest Baptist University.

"It was our last match and our first conference win," said Smith. "It was a good way to end the season."

Freshman Kim Redmond was not only pleased about the Southwest Baptist win, but she was happy for the win against Benedictine University.

"Towards the end of the season we

won two games," said Redmond. "It helped us going into conference. It boosted everyone's confidence."

The beginning of the season was rocky for the team, but they worked hard to play better. Redmond felt that, in the end, they did play better.

"As the season went on we improved," said Redmond. "You may not have seen it in the record, but it showed in the matches. It was rough, but it was a good learning experience."

Smith felt that Redmond was a great player when faced with adversity. When junior Nikki Glasgo was unable to play the No. 1 position due to an injury, Redmond had to step up and fill Glasgo's shoes.

"She improved continually throughout the season," said Smith. "Her confidence grew. She had to play number one, and that's a hard position for a freshman."

Redmond felt that, although she did not fulfill her personal goals, she learned a lot from playing No. 1.

"I played with people more experienced, like juniors and seniors, and I think it helped," said Redmond. "It improved my game."

Redmond felt that, even though she didn't play, Glasgo had a major impact on her.

"She didn't get to play because of her injury," said Glasgo. "But she still supported us. She showed up at every game and cheered for us."

The next season's goals, for Smith, were easy to define.

"I want the team to return to being competitive in conference," said Smith. "I want to continue the same academic standards as in the past. Just because we become competitive doesn't mean grades should drop. I don't want to lose that part of it."

Redmond wanted to improve her game.

"Hopefully we're a lot stronger of a team," Redmond said. "I want to improve over the summer and win more."



Sophomore Sarah Clark chomps Cheerios while watching her team play. Clark played at every match during the season.



Kim Redmon slams the ball. The beginning of the season was rocky, but they worked hard to play better.



Redmon angles for a rally. She played the number one position for the team that season.



~Photo by Brandon Jennings

Jamie Combs slides home. The team traveled to Orlando, FA.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Florance fields a line drive. Their plans for next season were to play hard and to win big.



~Photo by Aaron Steiner

Florance tries to out a Bearcat. Jill Bailey felt team consistency was up and down.

Story by Adina Murrell

The Lady Griffs softball team was a team with mighty perseverance. As a young team with most of its players being freshmen, they battled through a tough season. With unshaken determination, they ended the season with high hopes for the next.

"We've had some really big wins and lost to big teams that we should have beat," said Coach Jill Bailey. Bailey felt as if her team had been riding on a turbulent roller coaster with consistency. With two seniors, four juniors, one sophomore and six freshmen, it was a hard combination to master that goal. Losing scores of 2-7, 7-9 and 1-3 and winning scores of 9-1 and 5-1 proved that fact. However, Bailey believed that consistency would eventually come with maturity.

Throughout the season, the team also battled health problems with mono, pneumonia and bronchitis. Those problems caused many

freshmen players to stand up and be leaders because they were thrown into starting positions when they were not ready. They triumphed over the adversity by getting the job done and were proud of themselves, as well as their teammates, for making it through those challenging experiences. "All the freshmen have grown from the fall to what they are now," said Bailey.

Second baseman Melissa Davis was one such player who stepped up, becoming a leader in batting averages. Davis felt that the season was a good learning experience for everyone - an experience that they could use in their everyday lives.

"It's been a rough season because we were not winning," said Davis. "But we all got along really well. We can use these examples in real life because we will be able to handle negativity by trying to remain positive." The season did not go quite as Senior Jennifer Wehrle wanted it to go.

"It's only my second year here,

and I'm glad I got to play," said Wehrle. "But this hasn't been the greatest season."

However, this fact did not diminish her love for the game. "I've had a lot of variety," said Wehrle. Wherle's favorite game was played at The University of Orlando, Florida. There, the team played against the University of Nebraska-Omaha, whose record had been 17-0. To beat them made the team feel especially good.

As far as confidence boosting of her team, Bailey also felt that the game against the University of Nebraska-Omaha was what did the trick. "They had an opportunity to beat us, and we came back and beat them by making runs when we were down," said Bailey.

By winning 7-3, that game let the team know that they could win while playing against the big dogs. Their plans for the next season were to play hard and win big.

Jamie Florance is angry about a call by the umpire and tells her teammate Melissa Davies about it. Florance always showed a lot of energy on the field and in the dugout.

~Photo by Aaron Steiner





No. 6 Katie Miller and Melissa Davies bump chests during a dance routine they were performing between games. The team would do anything to keep spirits high during the games.





Missouri Western golfer sinks a putt. Watching the ball roll towards the hole was one of the most nerve-racking times in the game.

~Photos by
Aaron
Steiner

Story by LaShandra Acklin

Brad Nurski sets up at the beginning of a round. Nurski received an individual title at a tournament.



Two golfers watch to see if the ball makes it to its destination. The team felt its greatest downfall was inconsistency.



One of the most important steps in the game of golf is the tee-off. The team had many expectations for the season.



Every sporting team has its ups and downs. One of the golf team's downfall was consistency.

"I think the season was fair," said junior Nicholas Saccaro. "We have played well at times, but mostly we've been inconsistent."

The cool winds of fall had the team's performance on a chilling edge, but they maintained their rank above fifth place. Their best competition was played in the Truman Fall Classic where the team placed third. The team pulled it off again, taking fourth place in the University of Missouri-Rolla Classics.

Things took a breezy twist as the spring season rolled around. During the spring, the team's lowest placing in tournaments was sixth. The team placed sixth in both the Washburn Invitational and the Southwest Missouri State University Invitational.

"We haven't played up to the expectations we had coming into the season," said Saccaro. "We had a few tournaments in which we finished in the top three, including our own."

Freshman Jason Glidewell was grateful of the crowd turnout at the Missouri Western Invitational.

"It feels good to place high when participating on home ground," said Glidewell. "Knowing that the students from your school are out there supporting you made that day more special."

During the Central Missouri State University Heart of American Invitational, the team placed third

again.

The golf team had high expectations for the season, but many of the players didn't think they lived up to those standards.

"We have worked extremely hard, maybe too hard," said Saccaro. "I don't think we had enough fun on the course. We're all so concerned with playing well that we tend to press a lot."

Although some members felt the performance was not up to the standards they wanted to show, the team had many outstanding accomplishments for the season.

"I thought that the season was kind of a bittersweet one," said junior Justin Fallein. "We had some success, but it felt like we kind of underachieved and didn't play as well as we could have. Our biggest goal was to qualify for the NCAA Regionals, and we didn't accomplish that, so it was a little bit disappointing."

Junior Brad Nurski received the individual title at the tournament by shooting a 3-round total of 219. It was the second season in a row that a Missouri Western golfer claimed the individual title. Chris Riley claimed seventh place, shooting 230, and Fallein shot 233.

All three golfers received all-MIAA honors, finishing in the top 10 in the conference individual standings. Nurski finished 4th with 27.35 points, while Riley came in 8th at 11.5 points and Fallein 9th with 10 points.

Griffon

Golf Team

~Photo by Aaron Steiner



The game of golf isn't as boring as it seems. Freshman Jason Glidewell said, "It feels good to place high when participating on home ground."



Danny Payne autographs his way into the admiration of the children at Lil' Griff Day. The day was planned to get the players involved with the community.

~Photos by Aaron Steiner

Story by Zach Ramsay

The Griffon baseball team surpassed all expectations, and in the process, they discovered a new inspiration for the game and revitalized team unity.

One reason for the team's resurgence was Buzz Verduzco, the new head coach. Verduzco came to Missouri Western after 10 years as assistant coach for the Washington State Cougars. Verduzco brought a philosophy of baseball that promoted a positive atmosphere around the clubhouse and a more mentally prepared team.

Junior first baseman Jon Novacek, business management major, said that from the moment Verduzco arrived there was a noticeable difference.

"We were a more focused, more prepared team that played together," said Novacek. "Coach Verduzco brought a new perspective to the game, and I think that as players get to know him better, the team will be more successful."

In the previous seven years, a

Griffon team never won more than 14 games in any given season. Barely halfway through the 1999-2000 season, they had passed that mark, making a strong statement in the MIAA conference.

Another change in the baseball program was the addition of assistant coaches. Pitching coach Rob Miller was in his second year as an assistant, and former Griffon standout David Lau started as assistant coach.

Members of the athletic program had a hopeful outlook for Griffon baseball. Sports information director Pat Madden said that with the Verduzco hiring, optimism for the program had returned.

"He brought a new, refreshing attitude to the program," said Madden. "Even though there is a significant contrast in coaching styles between Verduzco and former coach Minnis, he did a great job."

Verduzco credited the season's improvement to a work ethic that the coaching staff tried to instill in every player.

"The biggest thing we wanted to do was make sure that the guys played as hard as they possibly could, down to the very last out," said Verduzco. "We wanted them to do this not only on the field, but in all areas of their college life."

The athletic department was supportive of the team during the rebuilding season, and Athletic Director Pete Chapman was shown appreciation by the coaching staff for his hard work. Verduzco was encouraged by the warm reception given to him by the college, but he believed that further student interest would really help the program to take off.

"It really begins with the student body," said Verduzco. "If we can get them involved, even without a field or stadium on campus, then that can make a world of difference in the team's play."

Griffon baseball players made extra efforts to integrate with the community and gain the support of the college and St. Joseph.



Doug Minnis, Pete Chapman, and Jerry Partridge enjoy a baseball game. Chapman raised student involvement greatly his first year.



Coach Rob Miller helped breathe life into the Griffons. The team was stronger and happier with their season.



Kevin Toms, Griffon hurler, gives it his all. The team really came together this year for a spectacular season.

Griffon

Baseball

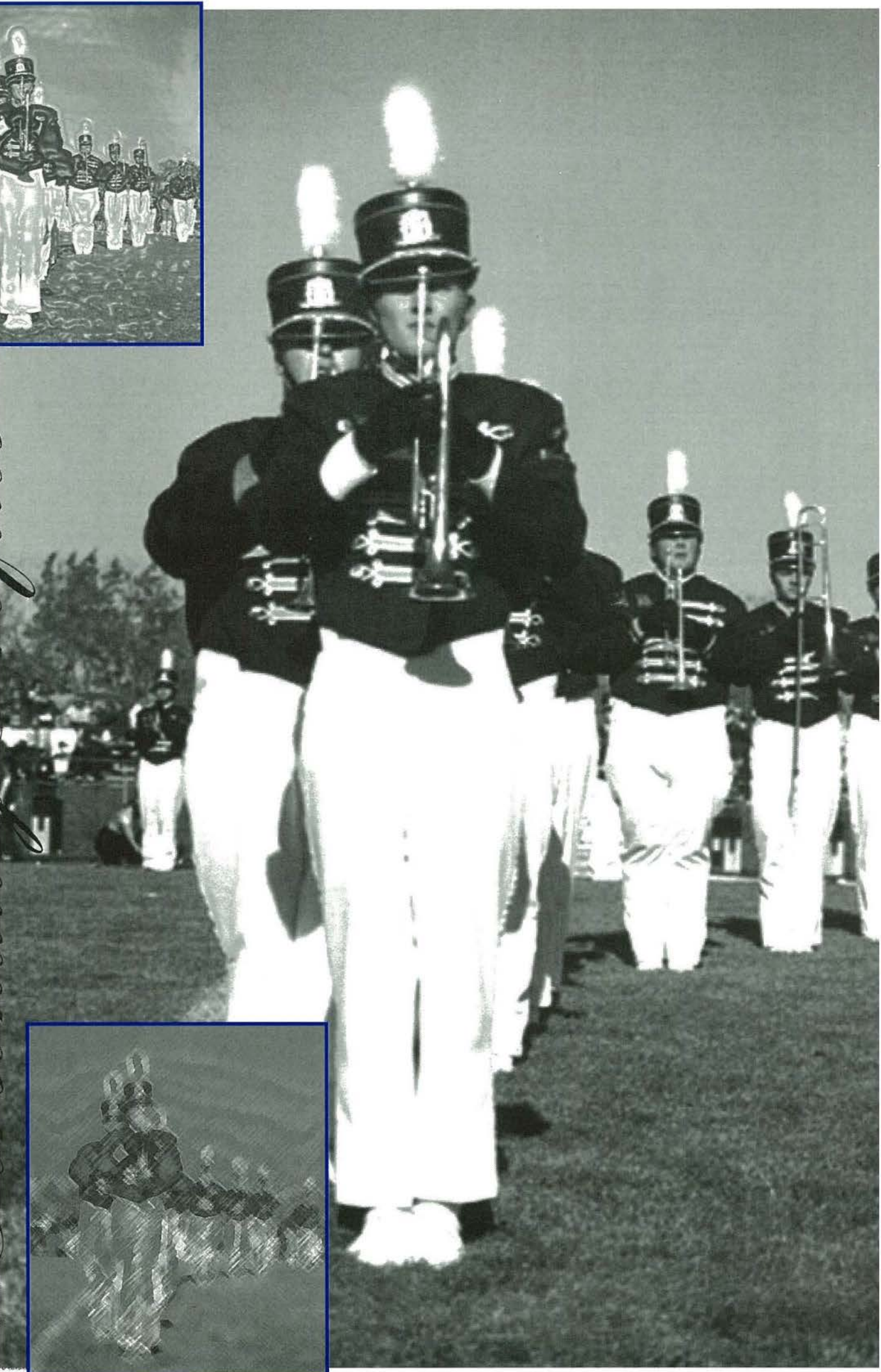
-Photo by Aaron Steiner

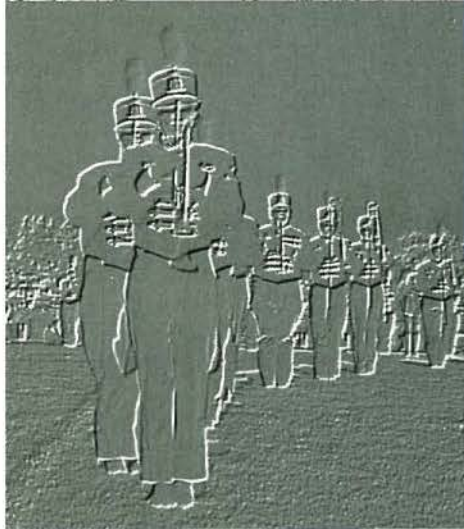


The great American past time is a winning tradition at Missouri Western. Brad Wooley leaned out of the dugout to check on his team.



Personality Profiles





The personalities that attended Missouri Western proved to be the most juxtaposed the college had seen in years. Former Student Regent Kerri Clark and BGA president Aaron Stiegler signed off and left the school for the great unknown. The two showed that, although they were leaving, they were not going to be forgotten.

For some students, their jobs helped show their uniqueness. Ryan McDowell chose to spend his summer vacation being a door-to-door bulk salesman in Mississippi, while Mike Tazbi spent weekends churning out tunes at a Kansas City radio station.

Some students, like Ron Corder, were recognized for the accomplishments, both before and during college.

The obstacles that other students faced defined their characters. For instance, Kim Davis, a hearing impaired student, made it her goal to help others with the same problem. Stephanie Howard learned the meaning of true friendship and faith after dealing with an eight-year battle with Alopecia, a disease that killed her hair and forced her to wear a wig.

Basketball player Ali Williams allowed a photographer to follow him around to capture the things he encountered from day to day.

All of the personalities were only a small percentage of the vast majority of individuals at Missouri Western. The juxtaposed lifestyles were what made the school and its students so interesting.

Kim
Kim
Kim

Davis

Senior education major Kim Davis worked hard to overcome some major difficulties in her life. Why? She's deaf.

Davis was born deaf but was told she could accomplish anything, no matter how difficult it seemed. She said she adapted easily through every phase of life.

"In a way, I am different from the students in the education program, only because my needs are different," said Davis. "My main needs are my note taker and interpreter. Without these people, I cannot keep up with classroom activities, expectations and lectures. This is something I am very accustomed to, but it does take some getting used to for hearing students and instructors."

Her goal was to become an educator for the deaf, working in mainstream schools. She planned to obtain her master's by attending a deaf education program.

While at home, Davis used special devices that indicated when either the telephone or doorbell rang. When her children were babies, lights all over the house flashed when they cried. In addition to the devices, Davis used vibrations to assist her.

"I can dance to vibrations in the music, and I am also able to drive," said Davis. "When emergency vehicles are near, I can feel the vibrations from the sirens. I have a hearing loss of 115DB. That means I am completely deaf without a hearing aid."

Davis attended a hearing school in Iowa where she took speech therapy. Her speech became outstanding. She was able to speak well, concentrating on a large vocabulary and learning to hear words with a hearing aid. It taught her to vocalize without

Story by~Taira Hill

sounding monotonous or talking through her nose.

Davis' speech was not entirely clear, but some people did not notice she was deaf.

"Some people have mistaken me for having an accent," said Davis. "I've had a lot of people ask me where I'm from. Once I was at a lake, and there were two guys that were making a bet over my so-called accent. One said I had to be from Germany, and the other said I had to be from France. They sent another guy over to me to verify which one was the winner. As for their losses, they probably will have to hear this for the rest of their lives because they were having a family reunion at the time. The only thing I regret was not going over to the guys to collect their bet."

Davis made many friends including ones from other nations. She was a co-chairperson on the Disability Service Board and then became secretary. The positions helped her meet new people that she could relate to. She was also an exchange student in Australia for a year.

Since then, Davis has traveled to Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Philippines, Hong Kong and China. The friends she met gave her encouragement. Other than friends, her family was her main inspiration in life.

Davis had a few words of inspiration of her own. "My words of wisdom to everybody are these: Grasp all you can, and challenge the impossible."

A sign for hearing impaired...

Senior Kim Davis waits for her math education class to begin, while talking to her interpreter through signing. Davis was born deaf but was told she could accomplish anything, no matter how difficult it seemed.



“Some people have mistaken me for having an accent. I’ve had a lot of people ask me where I’m from.”

~All Photos by Brandon Jennings

Kerri Kerri Kerri Clark

How do you sum up Kerri Clark in just three words? According to the senior political science major, "leader", "motivated" and "outgoing" were three great words to describe herself. Clark was a Student Regent and Western VIP, as well as a member of the Tri-Sig sorority and the Student Union and Fitness Center Expansion committees.

"I really enjoyed working with the students and administration on the expansion and renovation committees of the Student Union and Fitness Center," said Clark. "The expansion of the Student Union is going to be something that will benefit the students of MWSC for many years to come. It will help the campus become more student-friendly, and also more attractive to prospective students looking at this campus."

To be a Student Regent, one needed to have a G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher, be enrolled in the college for at least two years and possess both excellent writing skills and the respect of those at Missouri Western. Clark applied for the position of Student Regent when she was a sophomore, and went through many interviews with people like the Student Government Association. For the final interview, she met with the Governor of Missouri, after which she was selected as Student Regent.

Story by Jodi Deering

Clark listened to students' concerns, such as the availability of parking spaces on campus, cafeteria food standards and the ADA requirements throughout campus. Missouri Western was one of a small number of colleges that allowed the Student Regent to sit in on executive sessions. Working with the administration gave Clark the opportunity to see sides of the school that she wouldn't have otherwise been allowed to. She wasn't given a vote at Board meetings, but she could present a platform to the Board. She enjoyed the chance to meet with several different people on campus and within the St. Joseph community. "It is an honor to be so closely involved to the decision-making process," said Clark.

President Janet Murphy had the opportunity to work with Clark during her term as Student Regent, and commended her efforts.

"Her biggest effort was getting the addition to the Student Union," said Murphy. "She worked really hard and took charge of this project to make sure it happened."

Senior Mary Zook was a Western VIP with Clark for two years. She said that, for everything Clark did, she had a personality that went with it well. "I admire her leadership ability, and the fact that she is involved in lots of things and takes the time to listen to what students have to talk about," said Zook.

Clark's term as Student Regent drew to a close at the end of 1999, and she passed words of wisdom and knowledge on to her replacement.

"Take advantage of what the position can offer," said Clark. "Get involved with the different organizations and students on campus to let them know that you are here to help with their concerns."

Just here to help...

Photo by Aaron Steiner



Kerri Clark uses the words "leader", "motivated" and "outgoing" to sum up her personality. She was a Student Regent and Western VIP, as well as a member of the Tri-Sig sorority and the Student Union and Fitness Center Expansion committees.

"Let the
students
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Ryan Ryan Ryan McDowell

Story by Christina Hazelwood

After fighting off women all summer, junior Ryan McDowell decided that selling books door-to-door was not his idea of a good time and that there were more important things in life.

During the summer, a friend talked McDowell into selling books door-to-door for Southwestern Company in Mississippi. His first day in Mississippi was spent knocking on doors, asking for a place to live. "It's really cool because you're asking totally strange people if you can live with them for the summer," said McDowell. He and two students from Kansas State University rented a house from a family. Monday through Saturday, the three of them got up at 6 a.m. and went out to knock on doors until 10 p.m.. McDowell estimated that he probably talked to about 1,500 people over the summer and, out of all of those people, about 10 percent bought books. McDowell made about \$5000 selling books, but most of it was spent on expenses accrued in Mississippi.

The headquarters in Columbia, Miss. was called the Hall of Justice. McDowell and his roommates, Brian Floyd and Chris Richard, adopted this name for the house they were renting. They each took on the name of a superhero; Floyd was Superman, Richard was Batman and McDowell was Captain America. McDowell said they had a lot of fun, but the superheroes were poor and didn't want to splurge on a gas bill. Each day they showered in cold water while shouting to take their minds off the pain. They spent the summer without hot water or hot food, neither of which McDowell saw as a necessity.

Sunday was the only day McDowell had off and, in their free time, he and his roommates went to different places. One day they went to a water park that McDowell described as the smallest and most expensive water park in North America. They watched alligators eat chickens at a bayou, and met a lot of weird people everywhere they went.

"It's a cool job, and it's a cool experience, and I would recommend it to people because it was such a cool experience, but I don't want to do it again," said McDowell. "I want to move on with my life. I have stuff I need to do here. Selling books is definitely not the most important thing about me on campus."

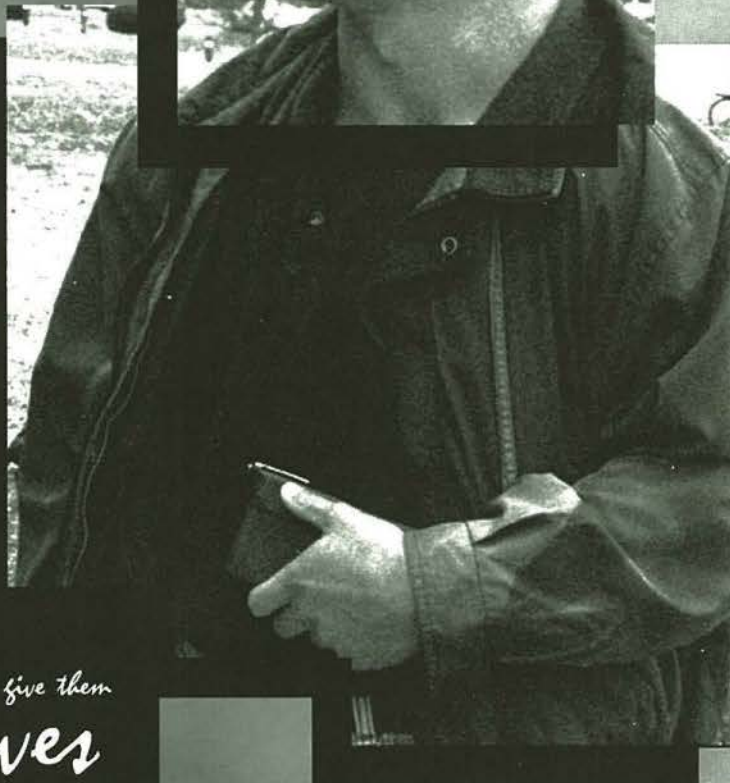
McDowell was very involved in Campus Crusades for Christ, a Christian organization for fellowship and development of young people. He was involved in the organization for over a year and hoped to see attendance grow.

"What we try to do is give them alternatives to the college lifestyle while building their spiritual life a little more than school does," said McDowell. "Not only do we try to attract Christians and people interested in God on campus, but we try to be a haven for people that don't want to drink and do everything like that on weekends."



The spirit of the sale...

A student who was very involved in Campus Crusade For Christ, Ryan McDowell could typically be found with a Bible in hand. "Selling books is definitely not the most important thing about me on campus," he said.



"What we try
to do is give them
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than school does."

Photo by Brandon Jennings



Aaron Aaron Aaron Stiegler

Story by Adina Murrell

In 1995, after embarking on a tour of several Missouri colleges, Aaron Stiegler chose the home of the Griffs as the institution where he would do more than just earn a college degree. It was not long before he settled in and took action. As a Communications/Public Relations major, Stiegler prepared himself for law school by getting involved in the Student Government Association and sitting in on several school board and staff committee meetings.

Obligations like the Senate and Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity, working and staying on top of his studies kept Stiegler extremely busy, making time management the key to his daily success. Stiegler joined the fraternity during his freshmen year because he felt that it was very important to get involved in something. He did not want to attend college only to receive a degree.

"I wanted to make a difference, not necessarily for anybody else, but I wanted to make a difference in my life," said Stiegler. "I wanted to take some experiences and a lot of fond memories with me when I graduated, and what I saw in Phi Sig was a group of guys who had established themselves as the most outstanding fraternity in the nation, at that point. I also saw a group that was outstanding on the campus of Missouri Western. They were a group of leaders. It was just an opportunity to meet a group of guys with similar goals socially and academically."

Stiegler said that it was a lot more rewarding for him to give than to receive. Through the various charities his fraternity actively supported, he helped make a difference in the local community. The fraternity was particularly interested in helping out children.

"A very memorable experience was working with Special Olympic students on bowling games," said Stiegler. "I pride myself in being a good bowler, and I got to watch and instruct some of those kids. The excitement they get from bowling and just being around some of our guys is a really big deal. It's pretty rewarding."

Stiegler described himself as a people person who got more satisfaction out of helping others than he did out of any personal accomplishments. He felt that his leadership roles benefited others because he gave himself to the school, the organizations he was involved with and the students.

"I've always been involved with Missouri Western and helping others, whether it was through community service events, teaching Student Government retreats or just sitting down with an individual student who had a problem with school," said Stiegler. "My door has always been open. I have a cell phone just so that people can get in touch with me."

Stiegler's hopes for the future included a career in law, but that was not all.

"In five years, I hope to be in good health," said Stiegler. "I hope to have my loved ones, my family members and my friends close by me. I hope to be in a position to help others. If those things are all present, then I'll be a pretty satisfied, happy person, regardless of what I'm doing or the goals I make in my life."

A voice for our campus...

Senior Aaron Stiegler waves to the crowd from the Phi Sig float during the Homecoming parade. Stiegler, who has been very active in student government, served his second year as SGA president.

Photo by Brandon Jennings



“I wanted to make a
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Mike Mike Mike Mike Taibi

Story by Zach Ramsay

"If you can't be good, be bad, baby!" Those were words one could hear if they tuned in to Club Z, a dance mix radio show on Z95.7, on Saturday nights between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.. The charismatic and extremely cavalier radio D.J. yelling into the microphone was none other than senior Mike Taibi. "Jack Tripper" (affectionately dubbed "Tripper" on the air) maintained the shrewdness and quick wit exhibited by most radio personalities at work, but in contrast was a very composed and responsible business management major with a marketing minor, and a Resident Assistant.

Taibi began working in radio during his senior year of high school. A neighbor's father used to D.J. for a local radio station, and Taibi realized that the job was something he could really get into. Using that connection, Taibi springboarded himself into the business. He said that it wasn't really as hard as everyone would assume, but it did take incentive on his part to get the job.

When Mix 93.3's Kelly Urich took him under his wing, Taibi learned quickly that the on-radio personality of many local celebrities was very similar to that of their real-life personalities.

"I remember meeting celebrities such as Harris Faulkner, Monica Priese and Joel Nichols, and they were some of the most personable people I've ever met," said Taibi. "People like Kelly (Urich) are just as crazy in person as the ten to fifteen second soundbytes they get on the air."

Taibi's ultimate dream was to be-

come a nationally syndicated radio personality like the notorious Howard Stern. He aspired for things like his own regularly scheduled daily show, and maybe even a Top 40 Countdown, along the lines of Casey Casum or Rick Dees. Of course, Taibi sited the pinnacle of a celebrity career as a Video Jockey for MTV or VH1, but the realist in him knew that those odds were astronomical.

Taibi might have been one of the more ambitious students on campus, but he was also humble enough to realize that the things he was lucky enough to stumble into were by-products of pure luck and incredible timing.

"It's all in the timing," said Taibi. "Just working sound board has taught me that. Look for opportunity and take advantage of it. Also, get involved with everything you can. I know that just from being an RA this last year. I met more people and had more fun than I ever had. I can't tell you everyone's name, but I sure know their face. I strongly suggest that everyone get involved in MWSC campus activities."



Success is in the air...



Mike Taibi sets up sound equipment for the Homecoming pep rally. His ultimate dream was to become a nationally syndicated radio personality.

*"Look
for
opportunity
and take
advantage
of it."*

Photo by Brandon Jennings



Ron Ron Corder

Story by Mindy Kinnaman

Not many Missouri Western students have had the opportunity to play minor league baseball, but senior education major Ron Corder, 45, was able to do just that. It was only one of the many things that Corder had done before becoming a student here.

Corder's story started out quite like a normal student's. He went to the University of Kansas on a baseball scholarship. However, he soon became homesick and transferred to Highland Community College after only one semester. Corder spent only one year at Highland before getting his big break.

Corder was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds. The funny thing was, he had never been coached before playing for the team.

"Where I grew up didn't have any coaches," Corder said. "I got everything from a natural ability and watching TV. I played a lot of baseball; I played every day that I could. I was good, but I could have been a lot better."

While in the minor league, Corder played two months worth of games during spring training in St. Petersburg, Fla., between the New York Mets, Boston Red Sox and the Philly 66, a make-up team, consisting of various players from the Philadelphia area. He also met baseball legends Pete Rose, Johnny Bench and Ken Griffey Sr.

Corder was only able to play for the Reds a short period of time. The team let him go saying that he didn't have a future in baseball.

"It went back to not knowing, not having a coach," Corder said. "They didn't teach me everything I needed to know. They had me play third base, and I had played shortstop the entire time before."

After that, Corder went on to carry numerous jobs before going back to school, including a job as an engineer on a casino riverboat. He was in charge of the electrical systems, engine, generators and small maintenance.

He had married twice and had one son and four stepchildren. It was because of his interaction with his stepchildren that his wife thought he should go back to school and into elementary education.

"My wife thought that I was good with her kids and that I should be a teacher," Corder said. "After a long talk, we decided that I should be a teacher. The job I was in wasn't going anywhere. My wife thought I would get a career and education in one place."

While at Missouri Western, Corder met many people. Because of that, his family started an inside joke about how he seemed to know everybody.

"One time I went to Lexington, Ky., to meet my son," Corder said. "We went to a restaurant and had lunch. I wanted to go up to a guy and pay him five dollars to say, 'Hi Ron.'"

Man of many faces...

Senior Ron Corder tells his story of how he quit college to play ball and then came back. Corder played for a short time for the Cincinnati Reds.

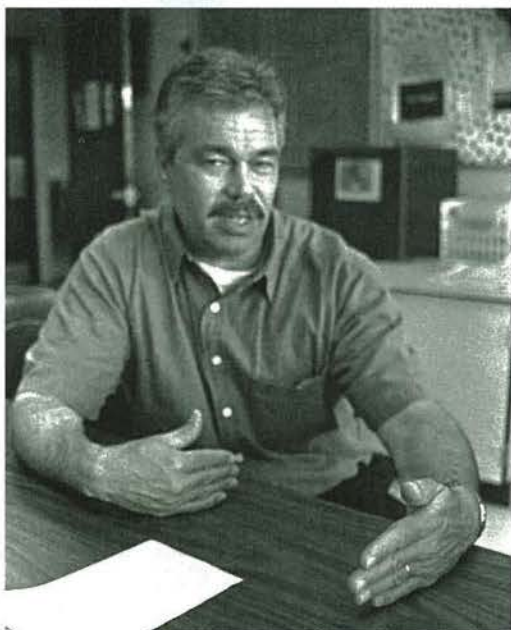
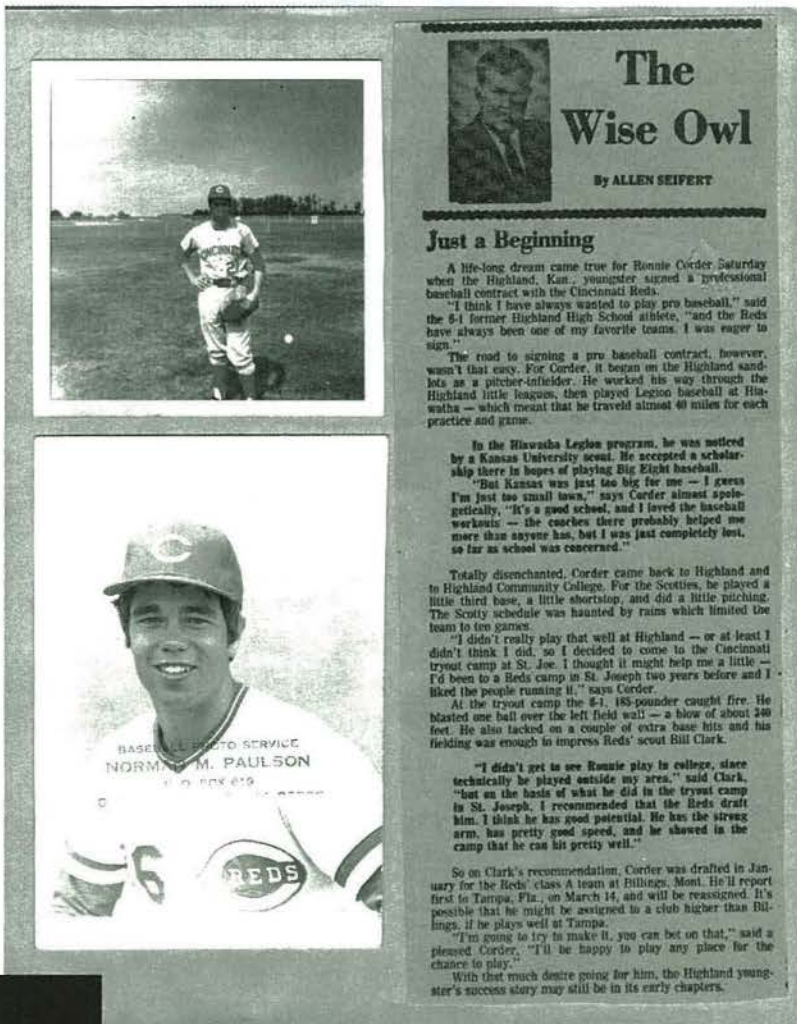


Photo by Aaron Tebrinke



The Wise Owl

By ALLEN SEIFERT

Just a Beginning

A life-long dream came true for Ronnie Corder Saturday when the Highland, Kan., youngster signed a professional baseball contract with the Cincinnati Reds.

"I think I have always wanted to play pro baseball," said the 5'1" former Highland High School athlete, "and the Reds have always been one of my favorite teams. I was eager to sign."

The road to signing a pro baseball contract, however, wasn't that easy. For Corder, it began on the Highland sandlots as a pitcher-infielder. He worked his way through the Highland little leagues, then played Legion baseball at Hiawatha — which meant that he traveled almost 40 miles for each practice and game.

In the Hiawatha Legion program, he was noticed by a Kansas University scout. He accepted a scholarship there in hopes of playing Big Eight baseball.

"But Kansas was just too big for me — I guess I'm just too small here," says Corder almost apologetically. "It's a good school, and I loved the baseball workouts — the coaches there probably helped me more than anyone has, but I was just completely lost, so far as school was concerned."

Totally disenchanted, Corder came back to Highland and to Highland Community College. For the Scotties, he played a little third base, a little shortstop, and did a little pitching. The Scotty schedule was haunted by rains which limited the team to two games.

"I didn't really play that well at Highland — or at least I didn't think I did, so I decided to come to the Cincinnati tryout camp at St. Joe. I thought it might help me a little — I'd been to a Reds camp in St. Joseph two years before and I liked the people running it," says Corder.

At the tryout camp the 5-1, 185-pounder caught fire. He blasted one ball over the left field wall — a blow of about 300 feet. He also tacked on a couple of extra base hits and his fielding was enough to impress Reds' scout Bill Clark.

"I didn't get to see Ronnie play in college, since technically he played outside my area," said Clark. "but on the basis of what he did in the tryout camp at St. Joseph, I recommended that the Reds draft him. I think he has good potential. He has the strong arm, has pretty good speed, and he showed in the camp that he can hit pretty well."

So on Clark's recommendation, Corder was drafted in January for the Reds' Class A team at Billings, Mont. He'll report first to Tampa, Fla., on March 14, and will be reassigned. It's possible that he might be assigned to a club higher than Billings, if he plays well at Tampa.

"I'm going to try to make it, you can bet on that," said a pleased Corder. "I'll be happy to play any place for the chance to play."

With that much desire going for him, the Highland youngster's success story may still be in its early chapters.

“My wife
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After a long talk,
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that I should.”

Corder keeps this collage of his time playing as a memento. The newspaper clipping ran in the "St. Joseph News-Press."

Stephanie Stephanie Stephanie Howard

Story by Mindy Kinnaman

"People come up to me and are like, 'Oh my gosh! What did you do to your hair?'" said junior English/Journalism major Stephanie Howard. "I just tell them that I took my wig off."

On the outside, Howard seemed like a happy-go-lucky junior involved in several activities on campus. She was a Resident Assistant for two years, Events Chair for Residence Council, a member of the Golden Griffon Guard, News Editor of the Griffon News and a member of the Journalism Club. However, many were unaware of the fact that she wore a wig during her first two years of college.

It all started eight years before when Howard looked in the mirror and noticed a bald spot the size of softball just above her left ear. At first, doctors told Howard that the spots were just a phase some people went through and there was nothing they could do for her. Then a dermatologist told her the disease had a name: *Alopecia Aerota*. During her freshman year of college, Howard finally found out that it was an autoimmune disorder that caused her immune system to see her hair as a foreign object. Doctors told her the only thing she could do was buy a wig, and they put her on Rogaine and Elecon (a topical steroid).

At first, people who were supposed to be her friends were horrible, and they made fun of her and laughed. Luckily, she had other friends who told her not to pay any attention to what other people said, but the idea of going off to college without these supportive friends frightened her. Howard was convinced that everyone she met would think that her wig was her real hair. As it turned out, most people could just tell.

"They would ask my friends if I wore a wig because my hair was the same everyday," said Howard. "People were really nice about it, though. They asked questions and seemed really interested in knowing more about my ordeal."

Howard's fear turned to happiness in June when the doctor said she could go without the wig permanently.

"Some days I really miss it, like bad hair days," said Howard. "But, now I love the fact that things most people took for granted, I can do now; like curling my hair, owning my own 'real' hair brush, using conditioner, hairspray, gel and mousse. It's so ironic because I always wanted curly hair when I had straight hair. When my hair was long, I always wanted to cut it. Now, I have short, curly hair, and I complain that it's too frizzy."

Even after the hair on her head returned, Howard was still dealing with *Alopecia*, and her condition had advanced from *Aerota* to *Universalis*. She lost her eyebrows, eyelashes and the hair on her arms. The disease even affected her fingernails, leaving needle-sized dents and deformities.

Howard learned many things over the years she fought her disease. She learned about friendships, faith, confidence and ignorance. She felt that overall her disease was a blessing in disguise.

"I know we all have obstacles in our lives," said Howard. "God gives us tests to keep us on our toes and to see how we handle things. This was my test. I'd like to say that I passed it, because I never let it get me down too much."



Freedom from the wig...

Junior Stephanie Howard sits with her bear, Rosa, happy to be "wig-free." Howard suffered from three forms of Alopecia, a disease that forced her to lose her hair.



"God
gives us tests
to keep us
on our toes
and to see how
we handle
things."

Photo by Aaron Steiner



Mary Mary Zook

A day in the life of senior Mary Zook would probably take most people an entire week to complete. Zook, a communications major, said finding time for an interview would be a feat all its own; luckily it wasn't a Wednesday. "Wednesdays are my really busy day," said Zook.

Zook justified this remark by giving a run-down of her typical Wednesday. She fit in work in the Admissions office, her Western VIP hours and classes. From 6:15 a.m. until 9:30 p.m., she went non-stop, but this one day did not hold even half of her activities.

Zook also participated in Alpha Gamma Delta, a sorority in which she was vice president recruitment and publications chair. Her responsibilities as a Resident Assistant kept her busy most of the week, as well. When she was not with an organization, she could have been found with her fiancé, senior Shaun Piatt.

The former Griffon cheerleader and 1998 homecoming queen said being so involved got stressful at times.

"It's usually stressful when I have tests," said Zook. "They always fall around the same time. It's hard to study while everything else is going on."

Although she was constantly busy with her various activities, Zook found time to study and maintain a 3.6 grade point average.

The past year added even more activities for Zook as she prepared to graduate.

Story by~Stephanie Howard

However, the idea of leaving hadn't bothered her. "That's not really stressful," said Zook. "It hasn't hit me that I'm graduating."

Zook said one reason for her extensive involvement was her resume. "It will show employees that I was involved, and I have people skills," said Zook.

Zook never saw any of her activities as a hindrance, but if she were forced to get rid of one, it would have been her RA responsibilities, because they took up more time than anything else did.

Zook thought everyone should be involved in college because it helped her to meet new people and make it through college. She said the key to her success in college was finding a balance between her activities and school.

"You have to know your limits," said Zook. "Some people focus more on involvement than what they're here for. It's important that we are all here to get an education first."

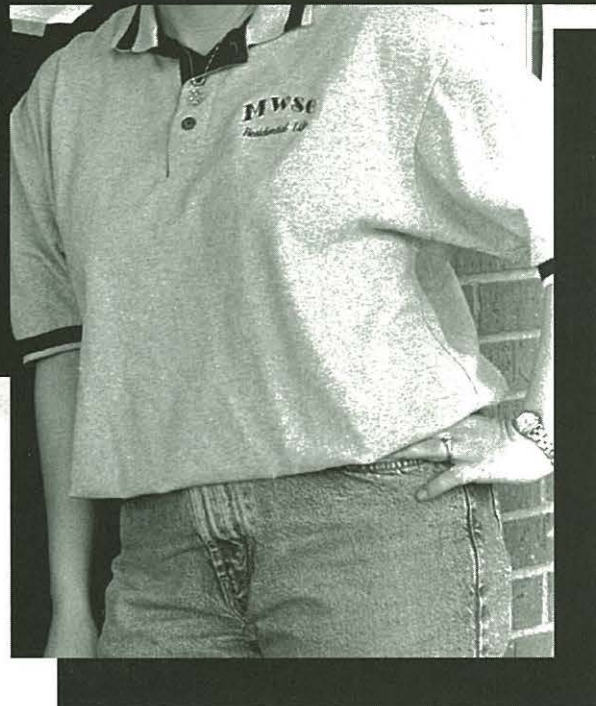
Zook thought she would be just as involved in the future. She said she saw herself being a PTA mom and planned to stay involved in her sorority as an alumna. She said she couldn't imagine not being involved, even if it meant doing extras at work.

Zook said that until she found her extra activities, it would be strange after graduation.

"It'll be weird," she said. "I'll come home at night and have no meetings or homework. I won't have anything to do all day."

Staying Involved

Senior Mary Zook stands near the door to the housing office where she spends much of her time as an RA. She is also a VIP, RO intern, and a member of Alpha Gamma Delta.



"You have to
know your
Limits.
It's important that
we are all
here to get an
education
first."

Photos by Kelly Stanton



CE
MILITARY ENERGY

The many sides of Alu

From court to kitchen

~Photos and story
by Aaron Steiner



Alu prepares for a test in non-verbal communications. He had study partners come over so they could all work together.

Alu at home...

Aygei, Alu's son, displays his wrestling belt. Wrestling was one of his favorite things to watch.



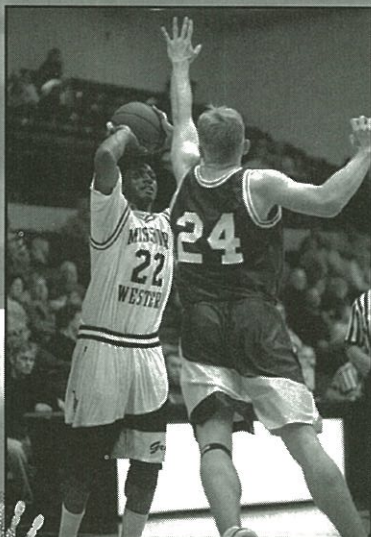
Photo courtesy of Alu and Tonya Williams

Alu pulls his famous chicken and potatoes out of the oven. He did most of the cooking for him and Tonya.

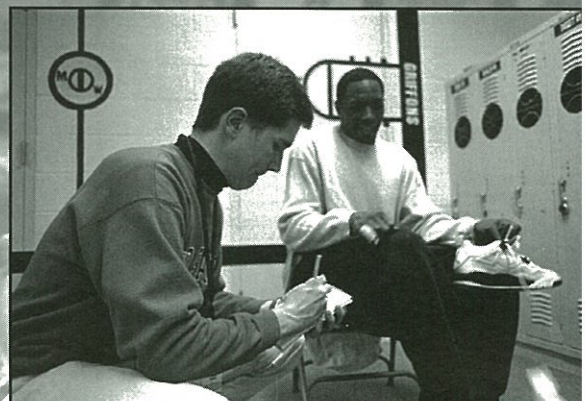
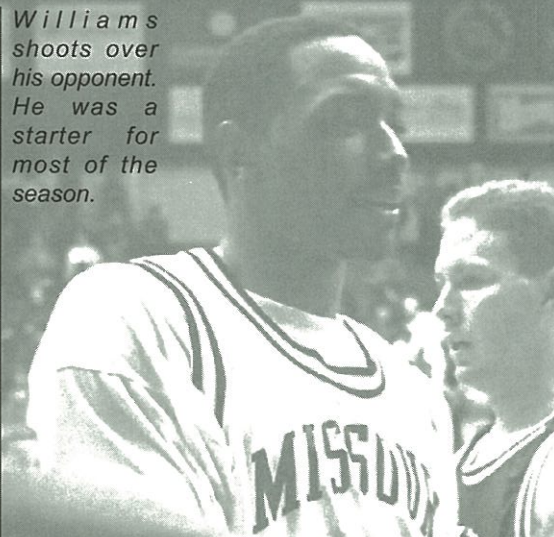


Tonya sorts through one of many social service cases at her desk. She worked everyday in this cubical.

Schumacher and Ryan Schumacher hug after coming off the court. It was their last home game they would ever play at Missouri Western.



Williams shoots over his opponent. He was a starter for most of the season.



Williams is being interviewed by Matt Humphreys from the News Press in the locker room. Williams was interviewed after most games.



...at play...

Most athletes are only memorable for their on-court achievements. However, senior basketball player Alu Williams, 28, will now be memorable off the court.

He was very involved both on campus and off.

"Just call me Mr. Mom," said Alu. "Tonya works, so I clean the apartment and cook."

Alu's wife, Tonya, graduated from the University of North Carolina with a degree in sociology. She worked for the state of Missouri as a child support enforcement officer.

Alu and Tonya were both from North Carolina. Oooh, North Carolina, eh? That's on the East Coast, isn't it? This would lead any normal person to ask the next obvious question: "Do you know how to surf?"

"I've tried the boogie board a few times, but I've never tried surfing," said Alu while cutting potatoes. "The water's too deep for me."

He was preparing dinner that night as he did many nights. Chicken and potatoes with corn on the side—a tasty dish.

The story of how Alu and Tonya got together was an interesting one. According to Tonya, they met at party playing cards. Alu lost \$10 to her, and his form of payment was taking her out on a date. From there, they married and had been together for two years.

Tonya brought Alu back to church, and they attended Holsey Chapel on 14th and Lafayette. There they were involved with helping teach children in Sunday school.

Other than church and playing the role of housewife, Alu played basketball and went to school full-time. This was his senior year for basketball eligibility, so he said he wouldn't return for next season. Alu sacrificed a lot to play ball, considering he had a difficult time walking up the stairs at his church due to the tendonitis in his knees.

Along with all of his other responsibilities, Alu had a 9-year-old son named Aygei. Aygei lived with his mom, Lisa Hackney. He was able to come down to see Alu sometimes during the summer, but he could not always come due to airline costs.

Tonya said Aygei liked everything a normal little boy does. He liked wrestling, animals, (not wrestling animals), candy, cartoons and the pro wrestler, "The Rock."

Tonya said she was the one who had to take charge when Aygei was with them.

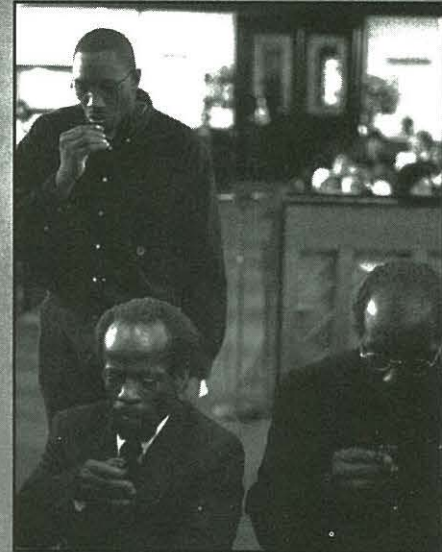
"I'm the strict one," said Tonya. "Alu grew up in a strict house too, but I'm the one who lays down the law."

Williams majored in communications with an emphasis in human relations. He was set to graduate in December 2001. After graduation he wanted to move back to the East Coast.

Ryan Schumacher, Alu's best friend, wanted to be in the story too. So he said, "Ain't nothin' bad about Alu."



Alu and Tonya help Taylor Wilson find scriptures during Sunday school. They helped the children every Sunday.

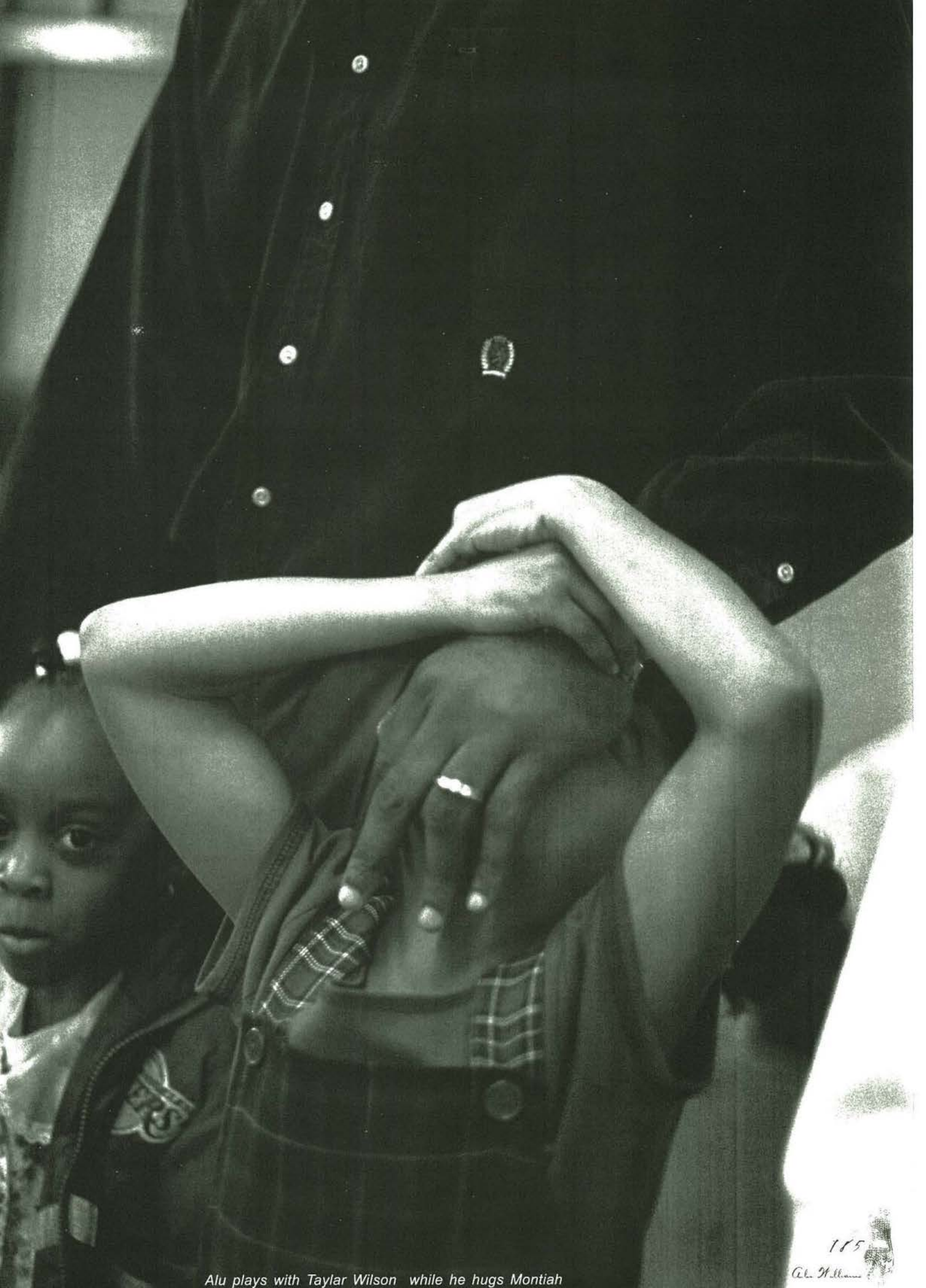


Alu takes communion along with LaVert Johnson and Hamilton Henderson of his church. It was a sacred day.



Tonya shows her spirit as she sings in the Holsey Chapel choir. Her choir really rocked the house.

...at church

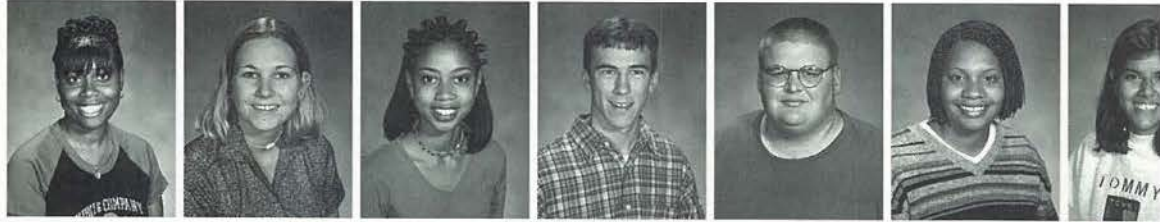


Alu plays with Taylor Wilson while he hugs Montiah

185
Al. Williams

Underclassmen

Acklin, Lashandra
Adams, Dawn
Adams, Melissa
Adler, Scott
Ahles-Iverson, Benjamin
Alberty, Brandee
Aledrandre, Regina



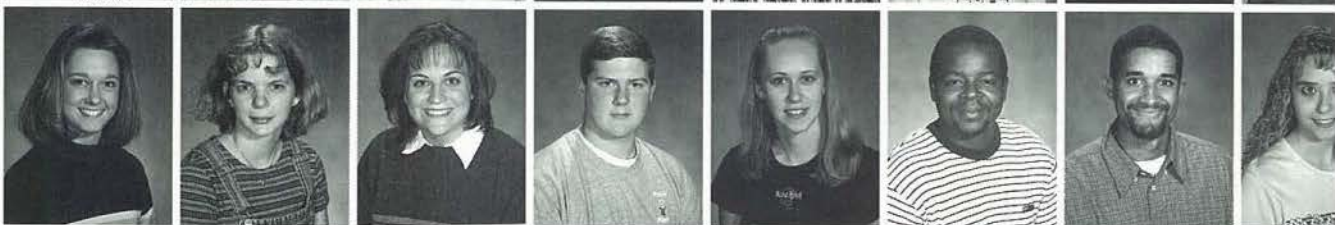
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Allen, Kimberly
Allen, Wendy
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Anderson, Lynn
Anderson, Monique
Archdekin, Carla
Aregbe, Tai



Armilio, Kristen
Atha, Ryan
Auxier, Emily
Bagwill, Serena
Barnes, Asa
Barnes, Cherie
Barnes, Joshua
Barnett, Amy



Bear, Kayla
Beck, Tanja
Beebe, Stacy
Bell, David
Bennett, Brenna
Bentley, Tari
Berry, Shaun
Berry, Winter



Biondo, Bonnie
Bobo, Ayesi
Bodenhamer, David
Bolden, Byron
Booze, Sherri
Borgsmiller, Kyle
Bottcher, Jamie
Boulton, Jennifer



Brackman, Kathryn
Brand, Danielle
Brandt, Jackie
Brandt, Jessica
Briscoe, Aleesa
Brockmann, Kylee
Brown, Michelle
Browning, Laura



Bryant, Keshwane
Bryson, Candice
Burnside, Brenda
Burroughs, Andrea
Burt, Chris
Bush, Jamie
Byard, Jennifer
Campbell, Cris



Carpenter, Shannon
Carr, Elexis
Carter, Kelli
Carter, Megan
Chaney, Julia
Chronister, John
Church, Stancio
Clark, Mykeita



Clayton, Alysia
Coffee, Lenora
Coffey, Stephanie
Col, Heather
Collins, Jessica
Collins, Kelly
Collins, Krishawda
Cordes, Nicole





Cotter, Melissa
Coughlin, Zac
Courtenay, Wills
Cox, Daniel
Crandall, Stephanie
Creach, Jared
Croce, Melissa
Crowley, Amanda



Crumb, Brentlee
Culley, Melissa
Curl, Jessica
Curtis, Wilson
Dale, Kristie
Dalrymple, Jennifer
Dea, Joni
Deering, Jodi



Dickie, Lindsay
Diestel, Aaron
Doleshal, Heather
Doornink, Ben
Doornink, Ruth
Dorch, Jilvonne
Dorrell, Cheyenne
Dowell, Amber



Downs, Dana
Downs, Kristine
Downs, Pearline
Dudley, Dan
Dunlap, Glenda
Durrie, Erinn
Duty, Amanda
Dwyer, Megan



Dwyer, Sara
Eblen, Clara
Ellison, April
Emde, Jennifer
Evans, Jessica
Faris, Sarah Jane
Fehr, Chad
Feuerbacher, James



Feuerbacher, Leigh
Fiscus, Lindsay
Fite, Gini
Fritzwater, Mandy
Flores, Cody
Follett, Tania
Ford, Bradley
Fore, Melissa



Fowler, Brad
Franklin, Kryss
Fugitt, Hope
Fuller, Alisha
Garnett, Adam
Gaston, Amanda
Gateley, Carrie
Gateley, Marie



Gatson, Janelle
Gebhands, Joni
Gerling, Brent
Gish, Timothy
Gleason, Tiffany
Glenn, Janee
Goodine, Kea
Goolsby, Jerome



Gray, Amanda
Gray, Daniel
Gray, Melody
Green, Stacey
Grimwood, Lisa
Haacker, Mikhaela
Hamblin, Lynda
Hannah, Lolita

Underclassmen

Hannigan, Sharon
Hardin, Keisha
Hardwick, Erin
Hardy, Susan
Harrell, Christopher
Harris, Eric
Harris, Melonie
Harris, Tephon



Hartle, Marissa
Harvey, Nicole
Havener, Karen
Hawk, Nicholas
Hawkins, Lakeeia
Haynes, Euresha
Hazelwood, Christina
Heller, Iris



Hellerich, Stacia
Helton, Stephanie
Henderson, Kristina
Hendrich, Kara
Higgins, Sarah
Hilden, Rebecca
Hildman, Kristy
Hill, Katrina



Hill, Taira
Hinds, Tina
Hinton, Sarah
Hockman, Edythe
Hoecker, Mary
Hoefficker, Leah
Hofmeister, Mary
Holmes, Tiffany



Horn, Angela
Howard, Quinton
Howard, Stephanie
Hudson, Davoya
Hulet, Lauren
Humphrey, Kaiah
Hunt, Brian
Hunthrop, Annette



Hupp, Alissa
Jackson, Crystal
Jacobs, Alicia
Jennings, Brandon
Jennings, Janen
Jestes, Dusty
Johnston, Jilly
Jones, Christine



Jones, Kari
Jones, Tiffany
Jordan, Jacob
Joyner, Biana
Kathol, Andrea
Keller, Jeffrey
Kendrick, Andrea
Kendrick, Christopher



Kienzle, Tricia
Kinnaman, Mindy
Kirchner, Erin
Kirkweg, Sara Beth
Klein, Jennifer
Klocke, Tara
Kovak, Adam
Krom, Karen



Kunkel, Jayme
Kunz, Albert
Lamken, Lindsay
Lane, Melissa
Larue, Amber
Lawson, Brian
Lee, Erica
Lee, Janice





Lee, Monica
Leiffer, Scott
Lewton, Shawna
Lindsay, Sarah
Linneman, Stephanie
Long, Erika
Long, Tamera
Lourter, Philip



Lovland, Jennifer
Luke, Alan
Lyons, Jolene
Mahoney, Catherine
Martin, Mynell
Masoner, Erica
Matthews, Audrey
Mays, Margaux



McCreery, Heather
McDaniel, David
McFarland, Melissa
McGeorge, Jennifer
McLwain, Carrie
McKinley, Jim
McMillian, Jannel
Meinhardt, Rachel



Meyer, Katherine
Meyer, Patrice
Miller, Brian
Miller, Michelle
Miller, Sarah
Minor, Eric
Mollett, Rebecca
Moon, Anthony



Morris, Chris
Morris, Jannel
Muller, Brian
Munsterman, Amy
Munyon, Sheila
Murrell, Adina
Murry, Rashaun
Myers, David



Neill, Nicholas
Nelson, Debora
Neven, Holly
Newman, Dewana
Niemann, Heather
Nimerichter, Cathy
Nimerichter, Crystal
Novinger, Kevin



Nowak, Nicole
O'Donnell, Ryan
Palmer, Danielle
Paxton, Annie
Pepper, Rachel
Phillips, Brandi
Phillips, Deanna
Pichardo, Raeann



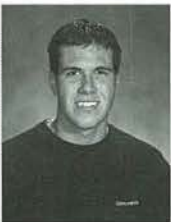
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Poirier, Nicholas
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Priebe, Kirk
Prosak, Kimberly
Pruitt, Karen



Quinlan, Sarah
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Ramsay, Zachary
Rapp, Jacob
Reaman, Cathy
Redmon, Kim
Reed, Shannon
Reendahl, Blake

Underclassmen

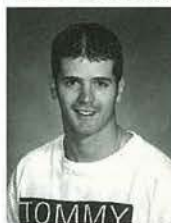
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Roland, Elara
Rothermich, Sara
Runge, Megan



Ryon, Leaha
Ryon, Sarah
Saad, Joanna
Sanders, Lavada
Sandvoss, Jennifer
Saragusa, Rosemarie
Schelp, Krystal
Schmitz, Anne



Sellers, Gary
Shannon, Paula
Shaw, Amber
Sheldon, Andrea
Shellenberger, Rachel
Shepard, Lee
Shields, Shanese
Shiple, Cheryl



Shiple, Kara
Sholtz, Shannon
Siasoco, Jeffrey
Sidney, Jalonn
Siebern, Deborah
Skipper, Robbie
Smith, Julie
Smith, Linzi



Smith, Rochelle
Smith, Russell
Smoot, Lori
Snow, Erin
Spalding, Kara
Spencer, Jill
Spight, Terence
Stackhouse, Christopher



Staggs, Kenneth
Stark, Danny
Steeby, Karri
Steiner, Aaron
Stephenson, Jennifer
Stevens, Erin
Stevenson, Gloria
Stewart, Mildred



Stoll, Sarah
Stone, Joseph
Strong, Marcus
Sullenger, Dixie
Summy, Janette
Thiele, Sheila
Thomas, Alan
Thomas, Tracy

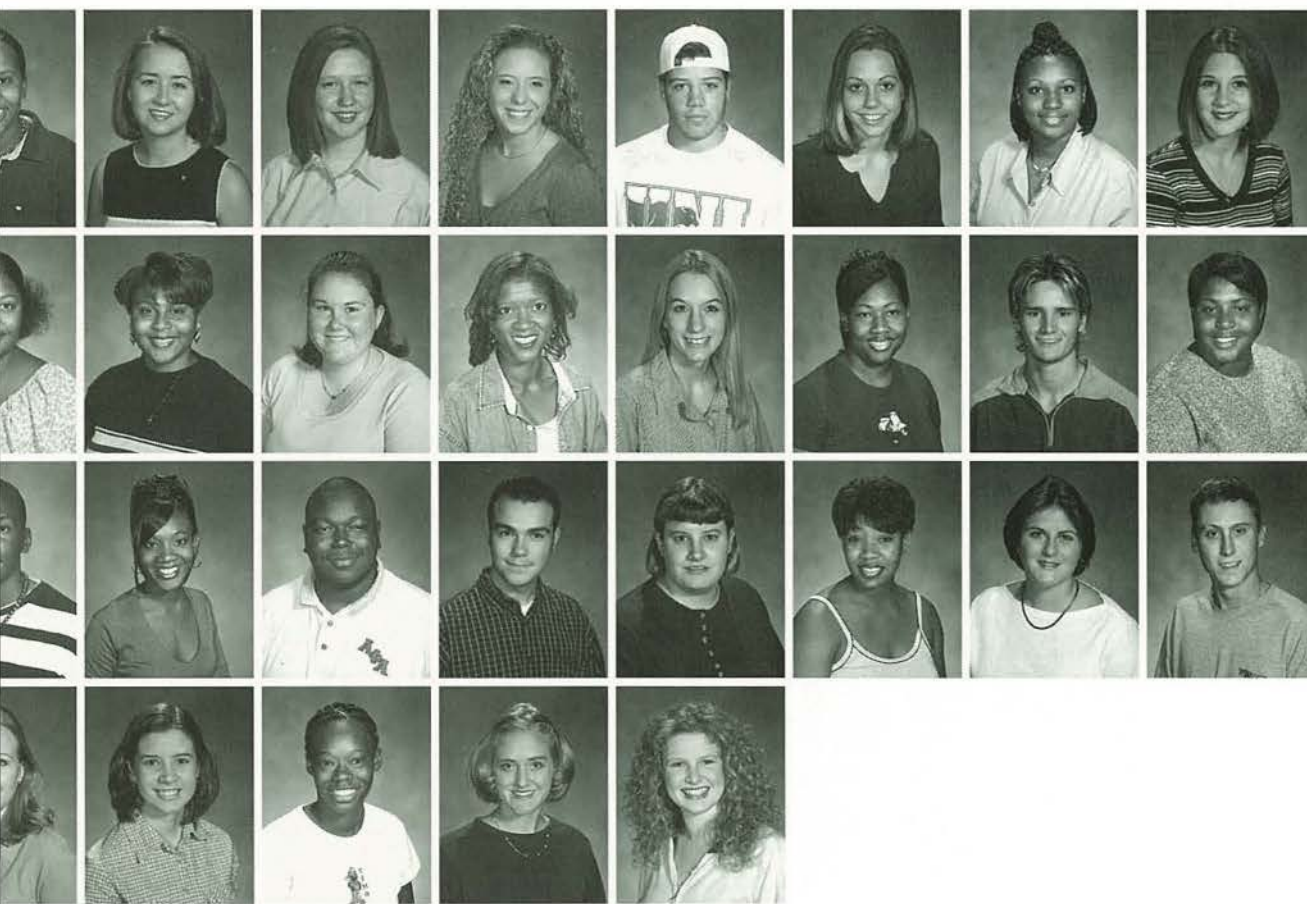


Tidwell, Karree
Tipton, Mat
Toebben, Travis
Trahan, Jean
Turner, David
Turner, Jai
Vance, Lupita
Vaselakos, Athena



Vigliaturo, Elizabeth
Wachtel, Andrew
Wade, Deborah
Waggoner, Steven
Walker, Lindsey
Wallace, Carrie
Wallace, Chris
Ward, Cindy





Watkins, Brandy
Weeg, Amber
Wells, Shannon
West, Lauren
Westrope, Ben
Whelchel, Takeena
White, Diamikia
White, Rebecca

White, Temeca
White, Tyiesha
Whittle, Lori
Williams, Jenita
Williams, Jessie
Williams, Jocelyn
Williams, Jonathan
Williams, Lakeisha

Williams, Louis
Williams, Shaneeta
Wilson, Jermaine
Windham, Tim
Winkie, Jennifer
Winn, Tasha
Wion, Brandi
Wissman, Jon

Wolf, Mendy
Young, Christina
Young, Monique
Young, Tiffany
Zelch, Amanda

New on Campus



photo by Aaron Steiner

Eric Callow sets up studio in the new bar downtown called The Bone. It was one of the many places used to shoot the photos for the Girls of MWSC calendar created by Brian Wisley.



photo by Stacy Calcote

Freshman MaryAnne Headley and Freshman Stephanie Crandall spin through the air at the pep rally the night before homecoming. This was a new stunt brought to Missouri Western by the new cheerleading coach Shawndra Faucier.

Seniors

Adler, Christopher
Aeschliman, Andrea
Allen, Michelle
Anderson, Amy
Anderson, Tamara
Anselm, Amy
Anthony, Christina



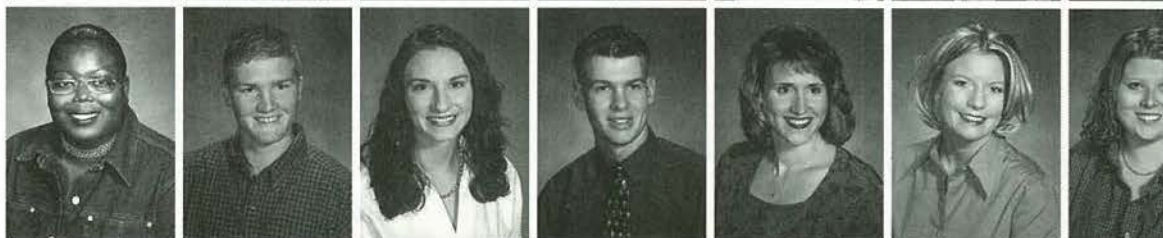
Appleberry, Mary
Atkinson, William
Bagby, Mike
Bailey, Kristi
Ballou, Callie
Barman, Tony
Beck, Allisha



Bell, Jamel
Bell, Jodi
Bethmann, Adam
Bigham, Richard
Black, Corinther
Blackburn, Brandi
Blackshere, Benjamin



Blankenship, Tisha
Bowen, Ivan
Bowman, Heather
Boyer, Travis
Bright, Trisha
Browning, Kendra
Browning, Jeanette



Buhs, Wendy
Burditt, Eric
Bush, Melissa
Calcote, Stacy
Calvert, Rebecca
Campbell, Eric
Carey, Athena



Clapper, Mary Jane
Clarke, Christina
Cline, Terry
Cox, Jennie
Crum, Kristina
Daniel, Elizabeth
Daniels, Chris



Davidson, Dawn
Davis, Malissa
Dickinson, Denise
Dobbs, Doty
Dobbs, Jo Ellen
Dugan, Jill
Eayrs, Akami



Elliot, Bobbi
Ellis, Tara
Fansher, Kimberly
Fenlason, Collette
Fisher, Melinda
Fisher, Wendy
Fitzpatrick, Kim



Corinther Black Profile

by Shanese Shields

Corinther Black, known to her friends and classmates as CB, chose to attend Missouri Western after enjoying a visit to the school. She was also impressed with the school's video production department.

While at MWSC, Black was a member of the Lady Griffons volleyball team and worked in the library.

After graduating as a communication major with a video production emphasis, many students and faculty were able to see Black everyday. She stayed at MWSC as a technical director/video producer.

"The best thing I liked about MWSC is that it's big enough to live your life, but small enough to build a lot of friendships," said Black. "Also the teacher ratio is 17:1, you are not just a number, you have a name and most of the time your teacher knows it."

Black was at Missouri Western for three years and enjoyed her stay and the education that she received. "There is nothing that I just down right hate about MWSC."

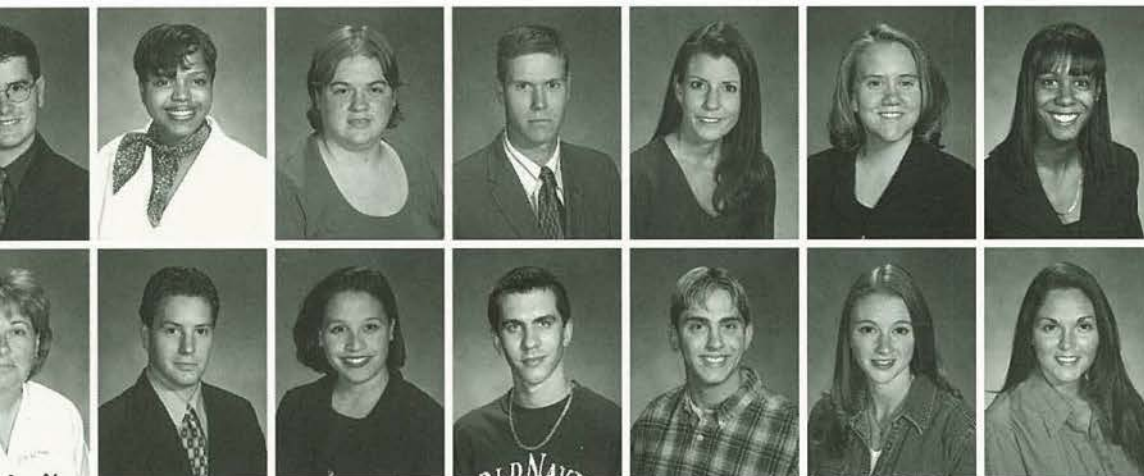


Senior Corinther Black shows off her equipment in the Instructional Media Center. She was the technical director/video producer for MWSC.

Photos by Kelly Stanton



Black works at her computer in the Instructional Media Center. She stayed at Missouri Western after graduating.



Fizer, Marcus
Foote, Tambra
Fulk, Kristina
Gallick, Nick
Gamble, Donna
Gartner, Jennifer
Gause-Fishback, Twyla

Gentry, Debra
Gillett, Brant
Gonzalez, Pamela
Gray, Michael
Griggs, Darrick
Grogan, Jenny
Grouse, Christina

Donna Keith Profile

by Shanese Shields

Donna Keith, a non-traditional student, chose Missouri Western because it was in her hometown and was known for its excellent education department. "I am an education major and wanted to take part in their education program," said Keith. Another reason Keith liked MWSC was the size. "Once you get into your major courses, the classes are usually smaller, allowing for more personal interaction between students and professors," said Keith.

Keith didn't think there were any huge disadvantages of attending MWSC, but she didn't like the teaching styles of some of the professors whose approaches didn't fit her learning style.

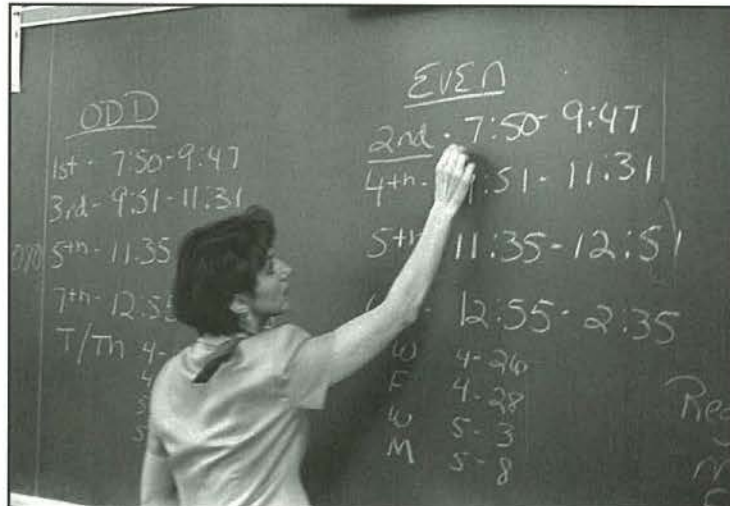
Keith was involved with the Student Affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English during her last two years of school. Keith attended MWSC from 1979-1981, and returned in the fall of 1998, graduating two years later. After graduation, she planned on teaching at St. Joseph Christian School.

"I plan on visiting MWSC after graduation," said Keith. "I have great memories of my educational experience. I feel some of the professors have become my friends, and I want to keep in touch with them, to continue to share ideas and learn from them."



Donna Keith stands proudly in front of the Lafayette Shamrocks sign. She was a student teacher there during the Spring 2000 semester.

Keith in front of one of her classes that she student taught. She was active member of SNCTE.



Photos by Kelly Stanton

Hall, Kelly
Hamm, James
Hannon, Le'Andrae
Hanway, Amy
Harriman, Leslie
Hart, Jason
Hartsock, Amanda



Hass, Jill
Hassen, Jacques
Havner, Nicole
Haynes, Susanne
Hayzlett, Glenna
Heard, Chris
Helberg, Tess





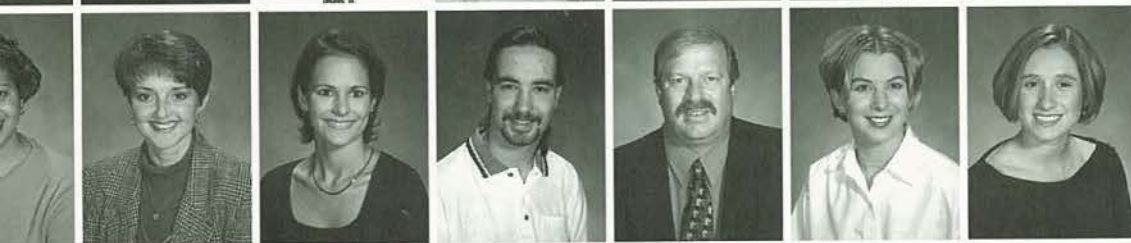
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Henry, Jeremy
Henry, Susan
Hoffelmeyer, Sue Ellen
Hollandsworth, Jason
Huff, Shaunta



Hunning, Michelle
Hunter, Kymberlee
Jackson, Kevin
Jackson, Marla
Jacobs, Margery
Jeffers, David
Jennings, Dennis



Johns, David
Johnson, Sarah
Johnson, Shawn
Jones, Gretchen
Jones, Megan
Kamler, Ronda
Karleskint, Ritchie



Kasey, Bruce
Keith, Donna
Kelley, Shannon
Kelley, Tyson
Kelly, Billy
Kerns, Jenny
Kesse, Sarah



Kimble, Erin
King, Bradley
Kropuenske, Shannon
Kudrna, Corey
Law, Gayle
Lawson, Carmen
Leonard, Natalie



Lumm, Matt
Marasco, Tammy
Martell, Deanna
Martell, Maximino
Martinez, Nancy
Masse, Lance
Matter, Kathryn



Mays, Tania
Mc Avley, Sandra
Mc Afee, Monica
Meyer, Chandal
Miller, Lakiya
Moechoe, Kelli
Moeckel, Rick



Moellering, Steven
Moore, Patricia
Morgan, Vickie
Muff, Conni
Murphy, Cheryl
Muse, April
Musser, Kevin

Seniors

Wesley Wiedmaier Profile

by Shanese Shields

"I have attended Missouri Western State College for five years and have had a blast," senior Wes Wiedmaier said.

Wiedmaier's main reason for choosing MWSC was location. "My family also lives in St. Joseph, and my brother and sister both are alumni of MWSC," he said.

While in college, many students participated in extra-curricular activities to keep themselves busy. Wiedmaier regretted that he didn't participate in very many. He was a member of Sigma Tau Delta and news editor of the Griffon News.

One of the main things that Wiedmaier liked about MWSC compared to other schools, was that the school was small, and allowed more individual attention from professors. A disadvantage of MWSC, he believed, was its lack of prestige that larger colleges and universities had.

Wiedmaier was an English writing major, with a minor in journalism. "I've not changed my major since I declared my freshman year," he said. "I knew that what I did best was writing. The only thing that I was unsure about was what field I was going to get into, and I really didn't figure that out until this semester."

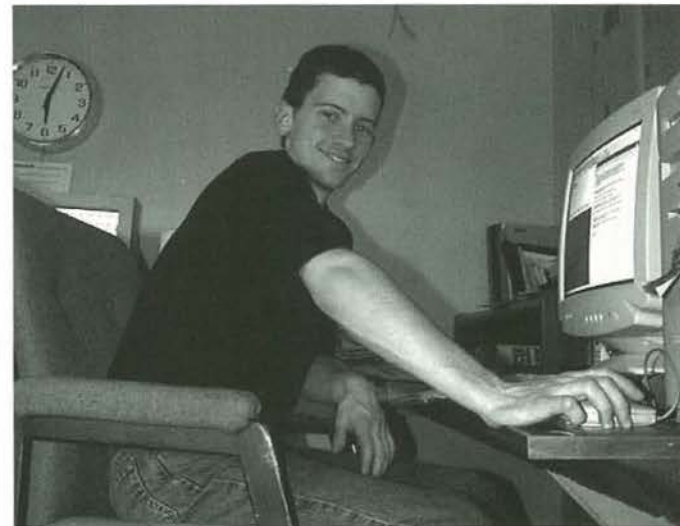
After graduation Wiedmaier planned on being a newspaper reporter. After a couple years experience he wanted to do freelance reporting for newspapers and magazines.

Wiedmaier really had no idea where he would live after graduation, but was prepared to go wherever he had to go. "I'd prefer to stay in St. Joseph a little longer, but it all depends on the jobs being offered to me," he said.



Photos by Aaron Steiner

Senior Wesley Wiedmaier smirks as he thinks about graduation. He couldn't wait to be done with school.



Wiedmaier shoots a grin at the camera while working at a computer in the Griffon News office. He was the co-news editor for the Spring 2000 semester.

Nauman, Tracy
Newell, Otis
Newman, Daniel
Nichols, Dianne
Nichols, Megan
Novacek, Jon
Osborn, Amanda



Overstreet, Karen
Packard, Debra
Payne, Billy
Peck, Monica
Peters, Patricia
Pickering, Nicki
Pierson, Kate





Pilgram, Nancy
Pollard, Tim
Powell, Angie
Powell, Robert
Power, Katie
Pratt, Robert
Pratt, Steven

Rachal, Sterling
Ramlatchman, Lionel
Rehkop, Crystal
Reiner, Keri
Roma, Joseph
Schletzbaum, Angela
Schreckhise, Patrizia

Schumaccher, Ryan
Schwery, Sabrina
Seitter, Heather
Shirery, Bridget
Shockley, Tammy
Shroyer, Christy
Shroyer, Cory

Simpson, Jessica
Sinclair, Shelly
Slabaugh Jr., William
Smith, Shawna
Sollars, Scott
Spainhour, Amber
Spear, April

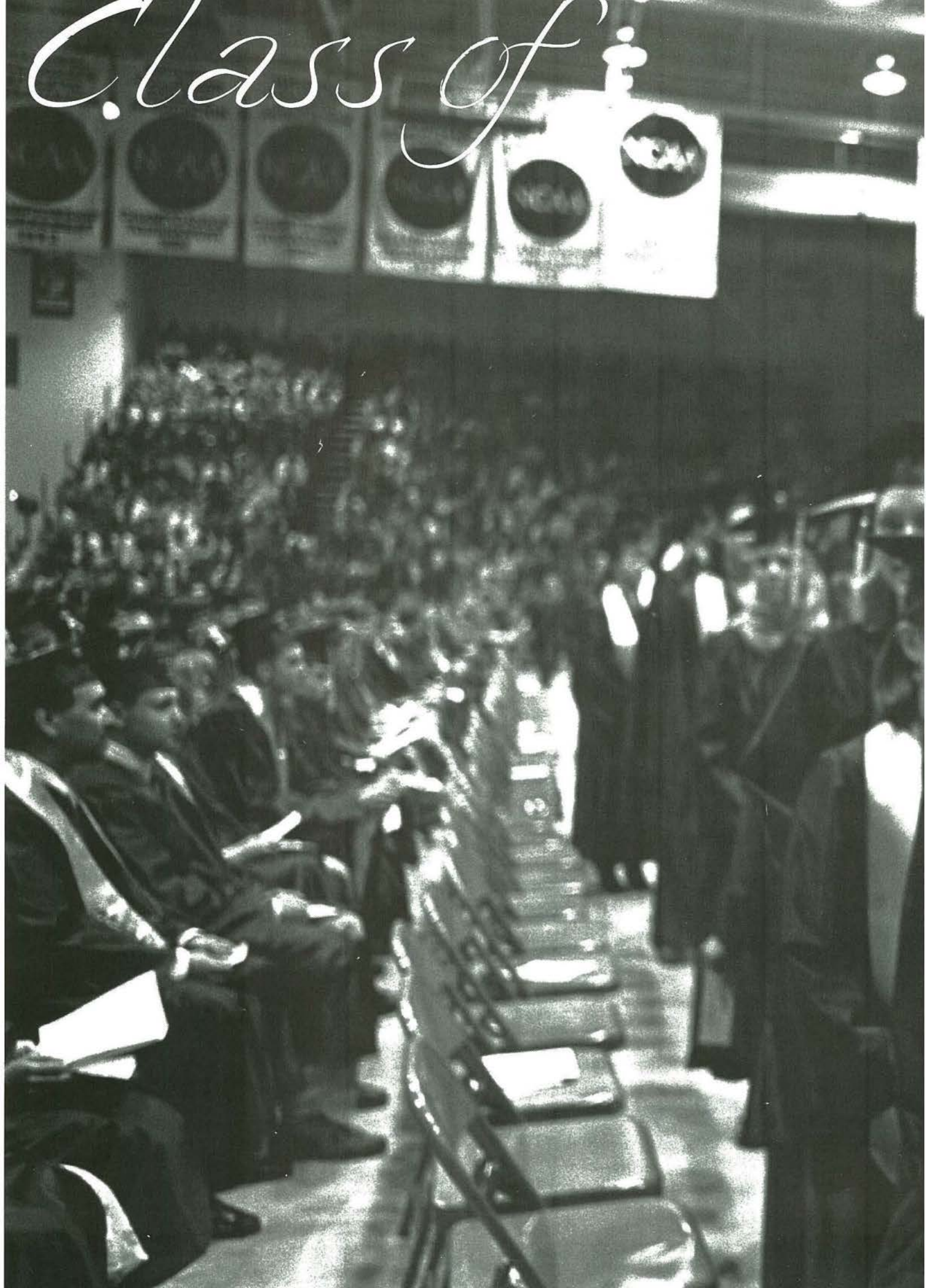
Stigall, Katie
Studer, Diane
Stump, Rebecca
Swindler, Rebecca
Thompson, Ty
Thompson, Vicki
Venable, Kourtney

Vlasis, Melissa
Vorderstrasse, Tyson
Walker, Jayla
Wall, Khristopher
Washington, Rachel
Wenzel, Bennie
Werning, Sarah

Westhues, Debra
Wiedmaier, Wes
Wiedmer, Aaron
Weidmer, Eric
Williams, Brian
Williams, Cara
Wills, Erica

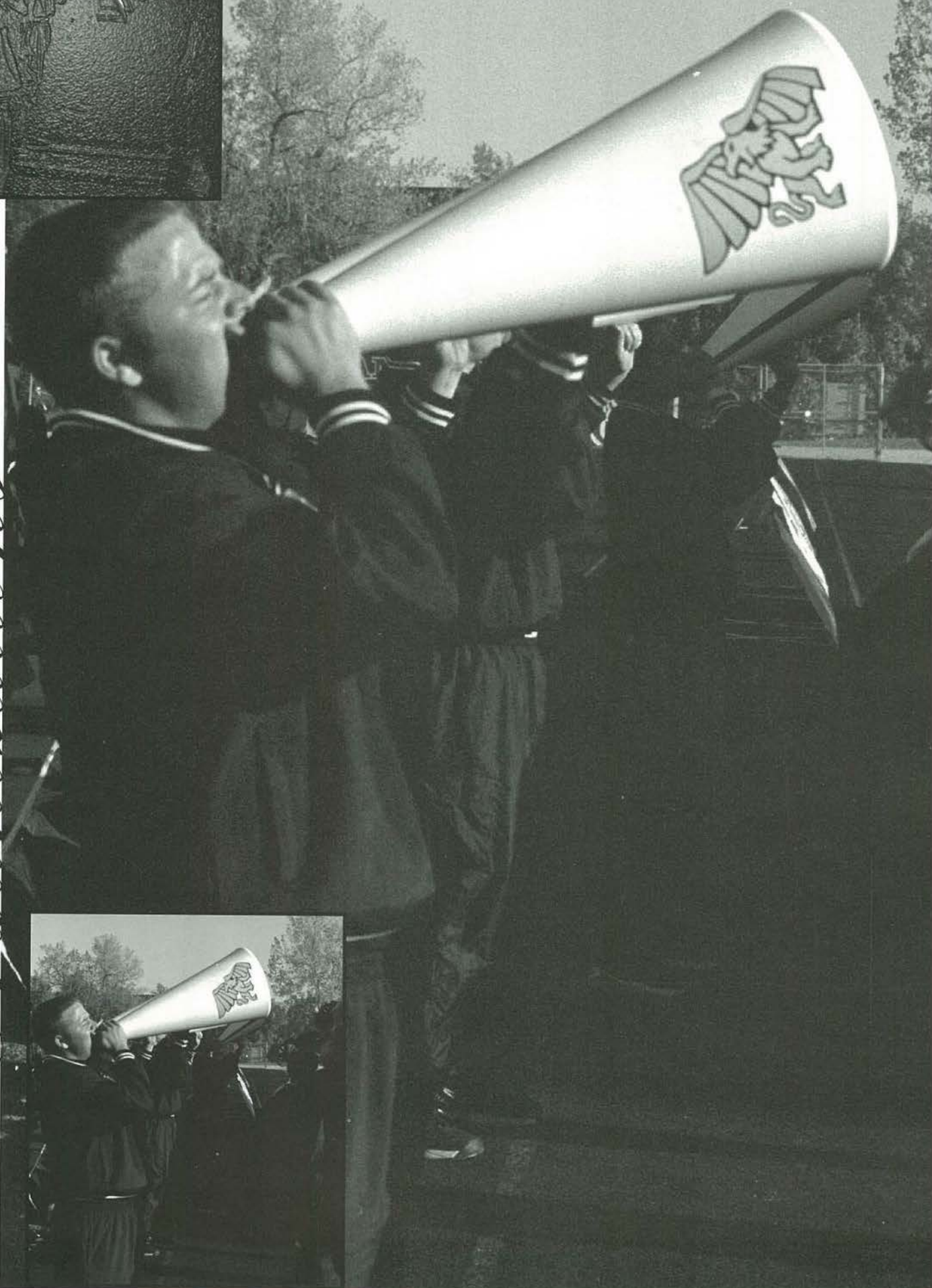
Windham, Shandi
Wine Jr., Jerry
Wolford, Amy
Wright, Amy
Wu, Ruoyun
Young, Michael
Zook, Mary

Class of



Kelly Kauszler, music major, jubilantly strides to accept his diploma. The field house was packed on the night of graduation.

2000



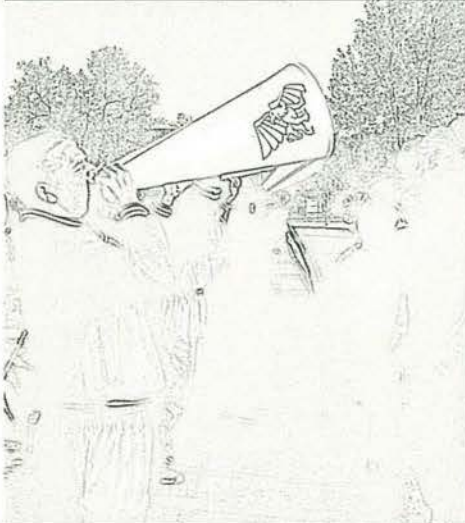
Organizations





For many students organizations were the thing. With groups catering to every person on campus, the true juxtaposition of the student body was easy to see.

Students showed their interests, whether social or professional, in the groups that they chose to be a part of. What better way to represent Missouri Western was there than to be the member of one of the many groups that the school had.



For some people, the groups to be a part of were social in nature. The students could be a part of fraternities, sororities or groups that just catered to their interest. Groups like Phi Delta Theta, Sigma Sigma Sigma and Mystics were offered, giving a venue for the student participation.



For those who chose to be involved academically, there was another large group of organizations to consider. A different organization was offered in nearly every department on campus where students could make friends and build interests while learning more about their own majors. Students could belong to groups like American Marketing Association or Physical Therapists Assistants Club.



There were also academic honor organizations that some students could join. Sigma Tau Delta was only one of those groups.

Students had many options when it came to branching out and joining organizations. These groups were also a great way for the students to get pictured in the yearbook.

ALPHA CHI

ROW 1: Christina Hazelwood, Katie Miller, Tynisa Collins, Angela Pasley. **ROW 2:** Jamel Bell, Bryce Jones, Erin Kimble



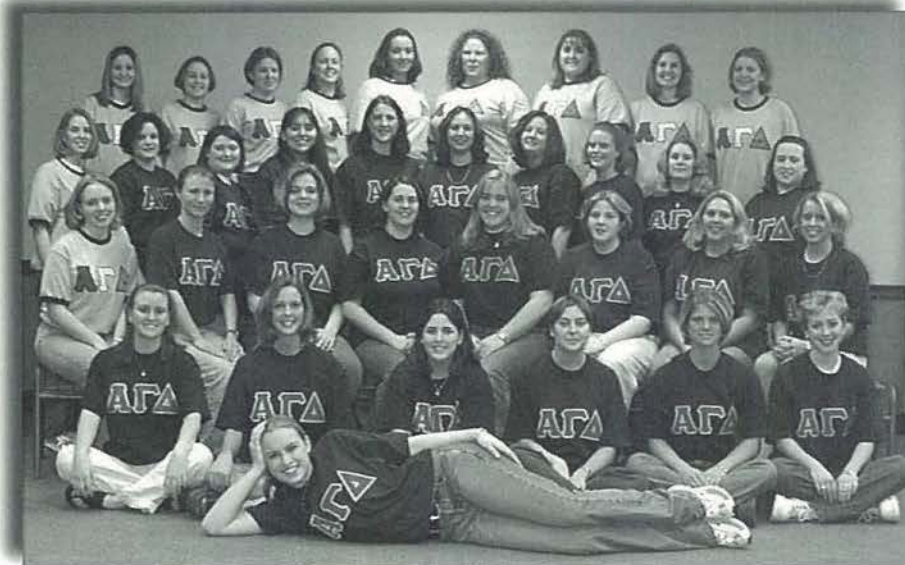
ALPHA GAMMA DELTA

ROW 1: Nicole Nowak. **ROW 2:** Erica Anders, Carie McAlister, Dusty Jestes, Dixie Sullenger, Karley Pearl, Kara McKinny. **ROW 3:** Jamie Otto, Nicole Fitzsimmons, Danielle Summers, Beth

Praiswater, Patrice Meyer, Susan Soendker, Becky Adams, Megan Rineheart.

ROW 4: Aimeé Steger, Angie Durbin, Kari Bryson, Robin Elkthunder, Sarah Johnson, Tricia Kienzle, Brandi Blackburn, Christa Brown, Tona Williams, Gwen Sutlief.

ROW 5: Michelle Smith, Michelle Zeger, Missy Vold, Jennifer Dole, Heather Wallace, Brooke Rogers, Kaycee McLaughlin, Lindsay Lamken, Melissa Lines.



ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA

ROW 1: Kelli Moechoe, LaShandra Acklin, Pat Stillman, advisor. **ROW 2:** Carissa Jackson, Kenya Ingram, Keisha Fair, Shaunta Huff, Chesne Nance, Tabitha Knight.





AMG ALPHA MU GAMMA

ROW 1: Rachael Needham, Claudine Evans, Sheila Munyon, Angela Berra. **ROW 2:** Sandra Schumm, Cathy Reaman, Heather McCreery, Tamara Stadter, Gwylaine Thevenot.

ΑΦΑ ALPHA PHI ALPHA

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. began nationally Dec. 4, 1906, at Cornell University and locally in October 1991. The Sigma Kappa chapter's members live by the motto, "First of all, servants of all, we shall transcend all."

President Louis Williams said possible fraternity members should uphold the beliefs the fraternity foundation was built upon. "Being one of the only black fraternities on campus, we are always looking to grow," said Williams.

The men participated in philanthropies including Boy Scouts of America, March of Dimes and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. They also participated in "Go to High School, Go to College," a campaign to increase education, and "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People," a voter registration drive.

Jermaine Wilson, recording and corresponding secretary and historian of the fraternity, said the organization had many goals for their chapter.

"One of our goals is to help broaden the minds of incoming students and to help them become involved on campus," said Wilson. "The campus is here to take advantage of."

The goals for the chapter included implementing Project Alpha Program, a project to discuss topics such as male sexuality, teenage fatherhood and safe sex. It involved both the campus and the community.

Another goal of the Sigma Kappa chapter was to combine Missouri Western and the community to bring the national fraternity to campus. "It is our goal to host the district convention, which includes chapters from the entire state of Missouri," said Karl Bell, chapter advisor and Sigma Kappa alumnus.



Louis Williams, Rondale Dunn, Asa Barnes, Bilal Hazziez, Jermaine Wilson.



ΑΨΩ ALPHA PSI OMEGA

ROW 1: Laura Defenbaugh, Derek Davis, Alissa Hupp. **ROW 2:** Matthew Schmidt, Patrice Meyer, Mark Fischer, Vickie Hageboom. **ROW 3:** Kimberly Prosak, Sandy Leppin, Jeremy Weikel, Joel Nelson, Amber Shaw.



ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA

ROW 1: Ashley Watterson, Sherree Johnson, Carey Triplett, Linzi Smith. **ROW 2:** Bobbi Elliott, Sheri Hendrickson, Kristi Bailey, Kendra Browning, Debi Weshues. **ROW 3:** Katie Kent, Angela Combs, Angrea Jones, Kim Burette, Aleesa Briscoe, Ella Acree, April Odom, Erin Terwiliger, Shannon Giboney, Jill Spenser. **ROW 4:** Karri Steeby, Katie Miller, Audra Marquez, Kyla McKown, Angie Hilgenkamp, Lacey Clements,

Tara Ridder, Lori Hendrickson, Jennifer Sanders, Jessica Sellers.

AMERICAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION

Mixing business with pleasure, the American Marketing Association was a national association of individuals that worked to pursue better marketing practices.

Members on the collegiate level were among the many who went on to be professional members. Some of the group's goals included assisting the personal and professional development of its members and advancing the science and ethical practice of marketing.

President Joe Blackshere, senior, said AMA was an organization where students had the opportunity to be among those who would be in the field in the future.

"We only meet about twice a month," said Blackshere. "We cover various topics on life in general and then show the relation to becoming a better business professional."

The organization discussed many issues related to the marketing society and surviving in any workplace. Some of the topics covered included time and stress management, goal setting, employee work relationships, perseverance and realities of marketing in 2000.

One of their biggest activities was Marketing Day. This event brought in community business leaders to talk to different marketing and business classes. They also held a panel discussion where alumni talked about their experiences in starting careers.

Junior Brandize Bush felt it was a great way to network and get some experience as well.

"Another activity we participated in was assisting with the promotion and hosting of the career fairs on campus," said Bush. "We also did various fund raising activities. At Christmas, we raised funds to purchase toys for children in under-developed countries. It's something we plan to do in the future."



ROW 1: Stephanie Mitchell, Cathy Reaman, Stephanie Linneman. **ROW 2:** Robert Cook, Jason Luckenbach, Daniel Cox, Regina Alejandre.

by LaShandra Acklin



BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

ROW 1: Sara Barati, Raeann Pichardo, Megan Runge, Cassandra Luth. **ROW 2:** Anna Mullkin, Christina Hazelwood, Alissa Hupp, Elizabeth Evans, Karen Havener, Stephanie Mitchell, Cathy Reaman, Kristy Hildman, Lizz Burris. **ROW 3:** Winter Berry, Janette Summy, Brian Miller, Ryan McDowell, Drew Phillips, Jennifer Dalrymple, Akami Eayrs, Kendra Browning, Stacy Beebe.

ROW 4: Robert Pratt, Joseph Turner, Steven Pratt, Pete Vandever, Ty Kleffman, Alan Luke, Jimmy Combs.

CAB

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

ROW 1: Tamera Long, Monica Lee. **ROW 2:** Diamikia White, Shauntá Huff, Jason Luckenbach, Lacey Clements, Audra Marquez. **ROW 3:** Kim Allen, Jamel Bell, Jacque Troester, Natalie Leonard, Akami Eayrs, Katie Power. **ROW 4:** Zach Ramsey, Olu Aregbe, Quinton Howard, Christian Tanner, Morgan John, Ernie Lupez.



XA

CHI ALPHA



ROW 1: Joy Wade, Becky Castle, Rachael Needham, Chad Fehr, Brian Miller, Jason Flook, Cassandra Luth. **ROW 2:** Amanda Zelch, Jennifer Dalrymple, Winter Berry, Jennifer Goodman, Chris Morris, Joseph Turner, Polly Burgener, Brent Colgan. **ROW 3:** Jason Holaday, Marie Gateley, John Chronister, Alan Luke, Albert Kunz, Mike Milbourn, Stephen Bodenhausen. **ROW 4:** Ryan O'Donnell, Jim McKinley, Brian Poelma, Richie Bigham, Rick Moeckel, Steven Pratt, Jason Merkel, Pete Vandever.

CE

CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Aaron Hopkins, Elton Rust, Brian Thompson, Louis Payton.



DISABLED STUDENTS ORGANIZATION

ROW 1: Jannel Morris, Theresa Perkins, Sara Skroh.
ROW 2: Lois Row, Don Winkie, Sherry Anderson.



EBONY COLLEGIANS

ROW 1: Brenda Burnside, April Ellison, Aylesi Bobo, LaShandra Acklin. **ROW 2:** Carissa Jackson, Tai Aregbe, Temeca White, Andrea Purnell, Tywana Brown, Jarrett Dillard, LaShawnda Rambo, Tyrone Coethers, Jr. **ROW 3:** Albert Kunz, Jermaine Wilson, Jamel Bell, Sheria Hughley, Shanese Shields, Tynisa Collins, LaToya Huston, Armand Carr, Olu Aregbe.

FELLOWSHIP of CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

When a group of athletes is seen together, they are normally trying to establish dominance over another team. People don't automatically think about them praising God.

That wasn't the case with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Their purpose was to challenge athletes and coaches to follow in the word of God and serve Him. They tried to reach and inform college students about Jesus in a social setting. They also shared a common bond in Christ and athletics.

Junior Rachelle Pichardo loved her FCA experience. She didn't know what to expect when she first joined the group, but she had a wonderful experience. "It's a good time and setting to get together and share the word of God," said Pichardo.

In addition to their regular meetings and Bible studies, the group had car washes, went bowling together and had Christmas gift exchanges. They even had a pizza night where a percentage of the proceeds went to FCA. Senior Rick Moekel, FCA president, said his experience in FCA broadened his horizons.

"The time I have spent in FCA has let me get to know some different people that I may never have had contact with," said Moekel. "It was a great experience, and I love it."

The combination of God and sports dominance was not something people expected to see in an organization, but the Fellowship of Christian Athletes brought the two together.

by Patrice Meyer



ROW 1: Les Boyum, Kate Pierson, Kristi Breeding, Raeann Piscardo.
ROW 2: Scott Leifker, Butch DeFelice, Pete Vandever, Kourtney Venable.
ROW 3: Steven Pratt, Rick Moeckel, Joseph Turner, Alan Luke.

GC GERMAN CLUB

ROW 1: Krista Wright, Becky Castle, Dr. Timothy Holian, advisor, Iris Heller, Bernice Dunleavy.
ROW 2: Dave Bell, Jean-Francois Trahan, Don Sklenar, Gloria Moeller, Frances Brown, Valerie Hamann.



GG GOLDEN GRIFFON COLOR GUARD

ROW 1: Amanda Giese, Regina Alejandre, Stephanie Howard, Annette Hunthrop. **ROW 2:** Mindy Kinnaman, Beth Tuttle, Jennifer Friend.

HS HOUSING STAFF

ROW 1: Angie St. Clair, Shaun Piatt, Dusty Jestes, Stephanie Linneman. **ROW 2:** Gary Chaney, Leslie Miller, Erin McCanless, Patrice Meyer, Mary Zook, Jennifer Reinwald, Buckley Brockmann. **ROW 3:** Stephanie Howard, Sebrina Allen, Tracey Hutchison, Ashlie Hammond, Kim Ruess, Jenni Potter. **ROW 4:** Ryan Oelke, Russ Smith, Zac Coughlin, Edsel Edwards, Mike Taibi. **ROW 5:** Chad Scheiter, Dannielle Jones, Catherine Hamlin, Chris McLin, Cathy Reaman, Robin Elkthunder.



IMAA INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS

Karen Hewener, Mike Young.



KME KAPPA MU EPSILON

Jerry Wilkenson, Shawna
Smith, Elton Rust, Mike Young,
Shane Taylor, John Atkinson.

LDS LATTER DAY SAINTS STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Kwin Little, Adam Tervort,
Joleen Claessens, Joni Dea.





CS MWSC CHEER SQUAD

ROW 1: Kristin Lumsdon, Stephanie Crandall, Maryann Headley, Tara Chavez. **ROW 2:** Heather Cole, Melissa Lines, Amber Nold, Anneka Jenkin. **ROW 3:** Chad Fehr, Jim McKinley, Ben Doornink, Tyson Schank, Brian Borho, Shawndra Fauchier, coach.

M MYSTICS

ROW 1: Heidi Hakala, Phylli Fleshman, Kristin Turner, Mykal Hinze, Courtney Alberts. **ROW 2:** Courtney Wills, Lindsay Fisuus, Stacey Turner, Curtese Howard, Kim Anderson.



NC NEWMAN CLUB

Celebrating the Lord during college should not be hard. With the Newman Club as an option, students were able to do so.

The Newman Club was a place where Catholic students were able to congregate in the name of their religion at Mass and dinner every month.

"Newman," the name of most Catholic clubs on college campuses across the country, was derived from the religious educator, John Henry Cardinal Newman.

The original Newman Club at Missouri Western was disbanded because of low membership, but in 1997, with the help of eager student Debbie Aberer, it was reborn.

The club was involved in community service like the Multiple Sclerosis Walkathon, and they held outreach programs for students during finals called "Snack Attack." They also participated in many campus activities such as



by Adina Murrell

ROW 1: Annie Sigler, Christy Thomas, Shauntá Huff, Debbie Aberer. **ROW 2:** Willie Clark, Jay Christensen, Terry Cline, Solon Haynes, Frank Kessler.

Homecoming and Griffon Edge to help publicize the group.

Aberer joined the club because she needed a place where she could talk about her religion with people that would understand. Social science professor Frank Kessler also supported the Newman Club with unfailing attendance.

"I come up here the way I do because you need to realize you're not alone," said Kessler. "I enjoy it myself, just praying with them. It means a lot to me."

President Christi Thomas said lifetime friends were made at Newman Club.

"It increases our friendship and our fellowship," said Thomas. "It also makes you more outgoing. It's a faith strengthener."



ΩΕΑ OMEGA ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION

Tim Pollard, Steve
Abels, Christopher
McLin, Barry Nelson.

ΦΔΘ PHI DELTA THETA

ROW 1: Kirk Lavelle, Jared VanCleave, Raph Ikona, Kevin Cooper, Jason Kimmons. **ROW 2:** James Goodwin, Chris Lanning, Jonathon Davis, Brad Ford, Steve Jackson, Pete Khalil. **ROW 3:** Steve Smithers, Chris Hotchkiss, Steve Lee, Scott Patkus, Gary Sellars, Tommy Jaynes, Scott Sollars. **ROW 4:** Aaron Lueders, Tony Murawski, Louis Kaser, Scott Widener.



ΦΜ PHI MU

ROW 1: Courtney Alberts, Heidi Hakala, Melody Grier, Lindsay Dickie. **ROW 2:** Christina Boatright, Brooke Sollars, Bree Leflet, Monica McAfee, Rosemarie Saragusa. **ROW 3:** Heather Sollars, Megan Peacock, Kristen Kelly, Jessica Simpson, Gini Fite. **ROW 4:** Teresa Lee, Amy McCready, Holly Neven, Kelly Schwerdt, Trina Hall.

ΦΜΑ PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA

ROW 1: Caleb Logston, Mike Scrivens, Jedd Scheider, Aaron Ahles-Iverson, Tyler Ives, Brad Fowler, Nathan Stamper. **ROW 2:** Brad James, Joseph Stone, Daved Turner, Todd Williamson, Thomas Flaska, Matthew Strum, Matt Reschly, Andy Nolke, Chris Wallace, Benjamin Ahles-Iverson. **ROW 3:** Aaron Edwards, Lester Thompson, Phil Ray, Shaun Agnew, Jeremy Schneider, Aaron Diestel, Kevin Brennaman, Adam Tervort, Jeff Siasoco.



ΦΣΚ PHI SIGMA KAPPA

ROW 1: Brandon Burns, Eric Przygoda, Shaun Piatt, David Frazier, Adam Lichtenberg. **ROW 2:** Paul Crain, John Shoemaker, Todd Bullock, Jason Luckenbach, Kevin Callaway, Danny Helberg, Nate Smith, Luke Haney. **ROW 3:** Aron Almond, Matt Maher, Kevin Dickerson, Nathan Bopp, Matt Graves, Sam Westling, Wes Coffey, Morgan John, Jason Bane, Mike Kellam. **ROW 4:** Jason Hill, Andrew Klaus, Jason Robinson, Jason Hunter, Ryan Wear, Chad Wilkens, Chad Scheiter, Tyler Page, Brent Russell, Todd Maher.



PTA PHYSICAL THERAPIST CLUB

Many clubs and organizations were unknown to students outside of their respective majors.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Club was a professional organization whose members were required to pursue the physical therapist assistant major. The goals of the club were to increase group unity, academic support and awareness of the program.

President Marie Johnson said the purpose of the organization was to increase opportunities for students after graduating.

"The physical therapist assistance major is still pretty small, and we need all the internal support we can get," said Johnson. "However, the PTA Club has not only increased the lines of communication for all students in the major, but it has given many students a chance to make social connections outside of their college classes."

Maureen Raffensperger, faculty advisor for the club, was excited about the progress the program had made since its probationary accreditation status in 1998. She believed that full accreditation would encourage additional enrollment in the major.

"We are hoping for full accreditation by October 2000, but right now, all we can do is wait for the judgment from the APTA Commission," said Raffensperger. "We are all very excited about the strides we have made and the potential that the program has."

Johnson said that the aspirations of the PTA Club were reflected in her membership in the organization.

"The encouragement to join is very strong, and it makes sense," said Johnson. "I know that it has helped me to broaden my horizons, and I feel now that I know how to communicate with people, which I didn't have confidence in before."

ROW 1: Leasa Moore, Marie Johnson, Brandi Jordan, Jennifer Fisher. **ROW 2:** Janelle Meyer, Tiffany Holmes, Jeremy Burke, Megan Rinehart, Kristy Kennedy. **ROW 3:** Carie McAlister, Mark Fagan, Stan Boswell, Anna Burdick. **ROW 4:** Ashley Glenn, Kristi Sprague, Justina Auer, Joel Dunbar, Kristi Gartner, Kelly Jarrett.



by Zach Ramsay

RC RANGER CHALLENGE

ROW 1: George Patton, Gary Cross, Ben Tiernan, Josh Green.
ROW 2: Jeff Crubaugh, Jason Walsh, Robert Borgmeyer, Paul Hodge. **ROW 3:** Edythe Hockman.



RC RESIDENCE COUNCIL

ROW 1: Jennifer Sawin, Annette Hunthrop, Mindy Kinnaman, Tricia Kienzle, Jay Christensen. **ROW 2:** Megan Carter, Angie St. Clair, Gina Alejandre, Patrice Meyer, Dixie Sullenger, Stephanie Howard, Tony Brengarth. **ROW 3:** Brett Normandin, Ben Barnhart, Mitchell Kerr, Robert Cook, Holly Neven, Brad Harbold, Jeremy McKnight, Cathy Reaman, Kala Corethers, Kim Ruess. **ROW 4:** Travis Woodward, Jessica Brandt, James Helm, Tony Gitta, Heidi Hakala, Sheila Munyon.

ROTC ROTC MILITARY SCIENCE

ROW 1: Edythe Hockman, Mattie Fontenot, Melissa Pugh, Geraldine Staber. **ROW 2:** Gary Cross, Jeff Crubaugh, Kirk Duncan, Jerry Mayers, Ben Tiernan, Robert Borgmeyer, Paul Hodge, Josh Green. **ROW 3:** Brian Carr, George Patton, Omar Bradley, Robert Lee, Jason Walsh, Scott Coleman, Scott Leifker.



SIGMA SIGMA SIGMA

ROW 1: Annie Mayrand, Ashley Sheets, Jennifer Bixler, Heather Johnson, Angie St. Clair, Janet Wilson, Annie Newhouse. **ROW 2:** Tiffany Darby, Jessica Pierce, Rebecca Davis, Molly Basinger, Messa Ciesielski, Christy Grouse. **ROW 3:** Lindsay Fleischman, Kari Kemper, Sally Ridder, Brandi Jordan, Jennifer Matney, Missy Wright. **ROW 4:** Colleen Herrin, Renee Butler, Tara Bresley, Jennifer Koslosky, Angela Pasley.



SIGMA TAU DELTA

Just when you thought they had an honor society for everything another one popped up.

Sigma Tau Delta was an international English honor society that recognized scholastic achievement. It was established in 1924 and adopted a seal that listed the three parts of the organization: sincerity, truth and design.

"Sigma Tau Delta is a wonderful organization," said president Mindy Matter, senior. "It essentially offers students in the discipline of English outward recognition for their scholastic achievements."

There were many opportunities for students to socialize in the program. They concentrated on building friendships, having fun and bettering themselves for their future careers. "Sigma Tau Delta offers a good resume item, graduate assistantships and scholarships, as well as the opportunity to present and publish writing at a national and international level," said Matter.

It was at annual conventions that members could publish their writing. Three students qualified to go to the March 2000 convention. This gave the students a chance to present papers and resumes for graduate school.

The group focused on many literary aspects and offered activities dealing with literature, rhetorical theory, compositions, critical theory, English education, creative writing and linguistics.

"We have many events planned for each semester," said faculty advisor Bob Bergland. "Events vary from chapter to chapter, but we make sure there is always something going on. I enjoy Sigma Tau Delta, and have been involved since 1988. I am a former student representative and feel that the organization has a lot to offer students. It gives them chances for internships and scholarships, and some are published in literary magazines. This program definitely benefits students majoring in English."

by Taira Hill



Janice Lee, Mindy Matter, Sandi Bibb, Bob Bergland, advisor, Becky Morgan, Kristi Bailey, Hayley Wilson.

SNCTE Student Affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English

ROW 1: Amanda Vessar, Kayla Bear, Rochelle Smith, Katie Singleton, Whitney Reineke. **ROW 2:** Stacia Hellrich, Cheryl Wampler, Chris Reuscher, Carol Brown, Tamara Stadter.



SC SPANISH CLUB

ROW 1: Julia Chaney, Dr. Alicia de Gregorio, advisor, Janette Summy.
ROW 2: James Conant, Angela Pasley, Sandra Walsh, Rich Fine.



SHO STUDENT HONORS ORGANIZATION



ROW 1: Christina Hazelwood, Stephanie Radel, Joni Dea, Travis Toebben, Sara Barati. **ROW 2:** Sheila Munyon, Jennifer Byard, Lacey Dessel, Karri Steeby, Aleesa Briscoe, Shannon Sholtz, Sarah Miller, Julia Chaney, Cassandra Luth. **ROW 3:** Jeremy LaFollette, Aaron Williams, Scott Adler, Jeremy McKnight, Beth Tuttle, David Bass, Katie Miller, Sara Beth Kirkweg.

by Jodi Deering

What better way was there for honor students to strut their stuff than the Student Honors Organization. The program started in 1988 and rose to approximately 230 students by 2000. In order to be eligible for the honors program, an entering freshman must have had a 3.5 high school grade point average and an ACT score of 26. Missouri Western students who earned 15 hours and had a 3.5 GPA were also eligible.

Junior Travis Toebben, president of SHO, oversaw meetings, organized fundraising and social activities and helped other officers. At the beginning of the year, he set a goal for himself as president.

"I want to have an organization that will help honor students get to know one another out of the classroom," said Toebben. "I want to have a community within the honors program."

General studies honors courses were small, making it easier for the professors to focus more on each student. The difference between honors classes and regular classes was that the students had to take interdisciplinary courses consisting of two-hour colloquiums dealing with information from different areas and had open-minded topics without obvious answers.

"The teachers are the best of their department, the classes are around 20 people and you get one-on-one attention with the teachers," said Karri Steeby, sophomore. "Though the classes are challenging, they can be fun. You get more out of honors classes than regular classes."

Sponsor David Bennett had his sights set on the future of the program. "My goal is to increase institutional support of the program through increased administrative release time equal to one full-time position," said Bennett.

TKE TAU KAPPA EPSILON

ROW 1: Zach Ramsay, Taylor Crouse, Tony Gitto, Josh Wilson. **ROW 2:** Brian Bentrop, Joseph Alderton, Jeremy McClure, Josh Ruhnke. **ROW 3:** Steve Rahmoeller, Dennis Walling, James Helm, James Deckard.





ΘΞ THETA XI

ROW 1: Zachariah Hill, Brian Borho, Benjamin Hultgren, Jared Williams.
ROW 2: Mark Combard, Thomas Carubo-Lerit, Caleb Hunt, Darrick Griggs.
ROW 3: Dave Ballantyne, Trevor Brown, Nicholas Brown, Richard Mason.
ROW 4: Alex Rummel, Jason Arnold, Mike Mitchell, Wade Harms.

USO UNITY SERVICES ORGANIZATION

ROW 1: Olu Aregbe. **ROW 2:** Tai Aregbe, Mary Hofmeister, Tywana Brown, Mellisa Adams, Kea Goodine. **ROW 3:** Tyrome Gethers, Emory Allen, John Head



GY GRIFFON YEARBOOK



ROW 1: Jodi Deering, Brandon Jennings, Patrice Meyer, Christina Hazelwood, Kayla Bear. **ROW 2:** Angela Gergeni, Rayane Thorburn, Hilary Atkins, Aubrey Maguire, Mindy Kinnaman, Jeremy Eaton, Taira Hill, LaShandra Acklin, Shanese Shields. **ROW 3:** Tandra Foote, Lori Rhoads, Kelly Stanton, Tricia Kienzle, Sheila Thiele, Christin Yellin, Ann Thorne, advisor, Kristi Bailey. **ROW 4:** Brad Redmond, James Harrelson, Aaron Steiner, Aaron Tebrinke, Aaron Lueders, Brian Hunt, Zach Ramsay.

Student
Government
Association

**Congratulations
To Our Graduates**

**“A step in
the right
direction”**

- **Senate**
- **Campus Activities Board**
- **Residence Council**

**CONGRATULATIONS
SENIORS!**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE,
MATHEMATICS, & PHYSICS**



1. The crowd rises to cheer on the basketball team. 2. Athletic Director Pete Chapman watches a basketball game. 3. Reggie Alexander makes a slam-dunk. 4. A student buys a movie ticket during CAB Movie Week. 5. A cheerleader roots on her team. 6. Fans cheer at a basketball game. 7. Karl Bell advises a student. 8. Composer John Bisharat speaks to students. 9. Ryan Schumacher scores. 10. Tony Campolo speaks at the second convocation. 11. Mary Zook and Dixie Sullenger show Greek pride. 12. Anthony Powell slams the ball. 13. James Buglewicz helps a student during a play practice. 14. Sarah Clark cheers on her team. 15. The cheerleaders perform.

Division of Professional Studies

- Business/Economics
- Criminal Justice/Legal Studies
- Education
- Engineering Technology
- Health/Physical Education & Recreation
- Military Science
- Nursing

We want to wish all the graduates of Missouri Western State College good luck and continued success!



Congratulations to the graduating class of '99-'00

The Center for Academic Support congratulates the 2000 graduates and wishes them continued success!



1. The Lady Griffons basketball team form a circle for a pregame ritual. 2. The color guard and Mystics learn a flag routine. 3. Director of Residential Life Annette Diorio poses with her dog Harley. 4. Three Griffon football players watch a game. 5. Two Lady Griffons basketball players hi-five each other. 6. Kerri Clark smiles for the camera. 7. The sign for the communications sign hangs as a symbol for the department split. 8. A Griffon football coach advises the players. 9. Several students form a human pyramid. 10. A Griffon baseball player gears up for play. 11. Chapman talks with a coach. 12. Dean of Student Affairs Forrest Hoff works in his office. 13. Chris Reiley prays for the ball to go into the hole.

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*...wishes the class of 2000
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1. A Griffon football coach talks to the players.
2. Lil' Griff participates in a kick competition.
3. Don Lillie helps with set decoration.
4. Ryan McDowell smiles for the camera.
5. Jennifer Wherle pitches during a game.
6. Reiley tees off.
7. A Griffon football player lays on the field, injured.
8. Astronaut Jerry Linenger speaks at the first convocation.
9. A student looks at information during a major's fair.
10. Stan Pearson participates in Sexual Pictionary.
11. Lil' Griff hugs a fan.
12. Matt Humphrey of the St. Joseph News-Press interviews a basketball player.
13. The Mystics perform during a basketball game.
14. Lillie works during play practice.
15. Laser Extreme offered a hangout for students.

THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS WISHES TO CONGRATULATE THE CLASS OF 2000.

James Roever--Vice President of Academic Affairs
Kathryne Mueller--Administrative Assistant
Jennie McDonald--Administrative Assistant
Judy Fields--Research Analyst

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1. Members of "The Madwoman of Chaillot" perform. 2. A Griffon baseball player slides home. 3. A Lady Griffons volleyball player spikes the ball. 4. Stephanie Howard goofs off. 5. KyLee Brockmann demonstrates fighting techniques. 6. A Lady Griffons softball player slides in safe. 7. Aaron Steigler waves during the Homecoming parade. 8. Clark returns a volley. 9. Richie Fine conducts a Sigma Lambda meeting. 10. Jay Summers gets a basketball player's autograph. 11. Gary Chaney breaks a board with his foot. 12. Mike Taibi assists a student in the housing office. 13. A Lady Griffs volleyball player sets the ball.

Congratulations Class of 2000

Remember:

“Things may come to those
who wait, but only thie things
left by those who hustle.”

Abraham Lincoln

Good Luck and best
wishes from
Dr. Martin Johnson, Dean
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1. A team spells during the spelling bee. 2. Ryan Schumacher shoots the ball. 3. Statues line a shelf in Ben Weddle's studio. 4. The Lady Griffons shake hands with an opposing team. 5. Alu Williams washes dishes. 6. A student participates in Greek Week. 7. The interios of Weddle's studio. 8. A student serves food during Family Day. 9. Shaun Williamson stands outside a plane at his second job. 10. A player wrestles for the ball. 11. A child at Y Kid's World looks at the camera. 12. Mike Brunner tells a story. 13. A student paints a house. 14. Shaun Piatt shops for an engagement ring. 15. Centoria Roulette rushes for a basket. 16. Students participate in the X-Week volleyball tournament.

I would like to thank the faculty, staff and the many students who have made my career at Missouri Western a memorable one.

I am proud to be part of a lasting legacy on this campus and owe a sincere thanks to all the people who have lended a hand and made every part of my career possible.

Good Luck 2000 Graduates

Sincerely,
Forrest Hoff
Dean of Student Affairs
1970-2000

Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies

Congratulations Seniors!

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Jill Miller Chairperson | • Larry D. Andrews Professor |
| • Michael T. Hannah Assistant Professor | • Joanne Katz Associate Professor |
| • Robert Klostermeyer Assistant Professor | • LeRoy Maxwell Assistant Professor |
| • Frederica Nix Lecturer | • David Tushaws Assistant Professor |
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1. Alu Williams empties his dishwasher. 2. Shaun Piatt examines a ring. 3. X-Week volleyball goes to the extreme. 4. Henry Ford sits on a quadricycle. 5. Charles Lindeberg stands by his airplane. 6. A student volunteers during his free time. 7. A tennis player returns a volley. 8. Solar eclipse in London on Aug. 11, 1999. 9. World War I troops hide in a trench. 10. Charlie Chaplin and Jackie Coogan in "The Kid." 11. Piatt and Greg Coleman participate in "Who Wants to be a Griffonaire?" 12. Mary Zook stands outside the Housing Office. 13. The solar eclipse as seen between the minarets of the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, Turkey. 14. Samuel Clemens, a.k.a. Mark Twain. 15. The Titanic leaves from Southampton, England on April 10, 1912.

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1. Albert Einstein writes out his equation for the density of the Milky Way at Carnegie institute on Jan. 14, 1931.
2. Walt Disney draws Mickey Mouse at Pancoast Hotel in Miami on Aug. 13, 1941.
3. Marilyn Monroe's famous pose from "The Seven Year Itch," Sept. 9, 1954.
4. President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy exit the White House.
5. Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr. walks on the moon, July 20, 1969.
6. Adolph Hitler addresses the German people in May 1937.
7. Marines of the 28th Regiment of the 5th Division raise the American flag on Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima on Feb. 23, 1945.
8. Elvis Presley dances on "The Ed Sullivan Show."
9. The Challenger space shuttle explodes, killing 7, Jan. 28, 1986.
10. The Hindenburg explodes.
11. The USS Arizona sinks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.
12. Martin Luther King, Jr. give his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial, Aug. 28, 1963.

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1. Princess Diana at a dinner for Breast Cancer Research in Washington. 2. Presidential candidate and Texas Governor George W. Bush speaks. 3. Fireworks explode at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Day in Times Square in New York City. 4. New Year's strikes, and people celebrate at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. 5. John Bailey of New York City walks through Times Square. 6. The fireworks explode as celebrations occur in Beijing, China. 7. The New Year's fireworks light up the pyramids in Cairo, Egypt. 8. Charles Schulz, who died of cancer on Feb. 12, 2000, sits at his drawing table and shows a picture of his creation, Snoopy. 9. The Washington Monument gets in on all the New Year's festivities. 10. The Eiffel Tower lights up from all the partying. 11. President Bill Clinton gives the final State of the Union address of his career.

Congratulations and Best Wishes Class of 2000...

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1. Hurricane Floyd attacks Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. 2. John F. Kennedy, Jr. and his wife, Caroline Bisset Kennedy leave the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. 3. Former football player Walter Payton died in October 1999. 4. Five were killed and over 25 injured when a wood pile collapsed at Texas A&M, Nov. 18, 1999. 5. New Year's fireworks dazzle over the Iwo Jima statue. 6. St. Louis Rams quarterback Kurt Warner, MVP for Superball XXXIV, throws a pass. 7. Tiger Woods wins the American Express World Championship in Spain. 8. Stan Musial and Hank Aaron clap as Pete Rose is introduced as a member of the Major League Baseball All-Century Team.

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Zook, Shaun Piatt, Mike Taibi,
Athena Carey Shaunta' Huff,
Tambra Foote and Kristi Bailey.**

**Good luck in life. We're
going to miss you!**

~Mindy & Patrice~

Congratulations to the Class of 2000!

Janet Gorman Murphy

~President~

Missouri Western State College

the **Griffon News**

Congratulations Wes,
Jeanette, Bruce and the rest
of the class of 2000!



GOT NEWS ?

Congratulations!

The Griffon Yearbook
staff sends best wishes and continued
success to Mandy Fitzwater,
Crystal Sisco and the graduating
class of 2000! Good luck in life, and
may all your hopes and dreams
become a reality.

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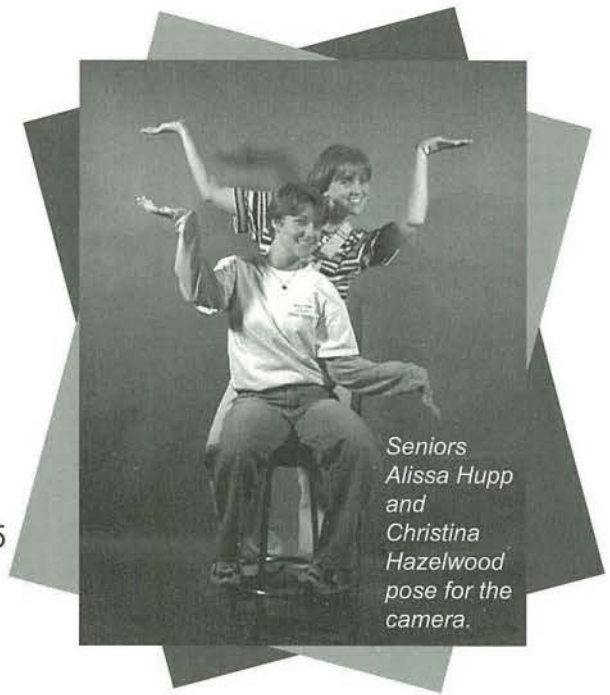
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and
Christina
Hazelwood
pose for the
camera.*

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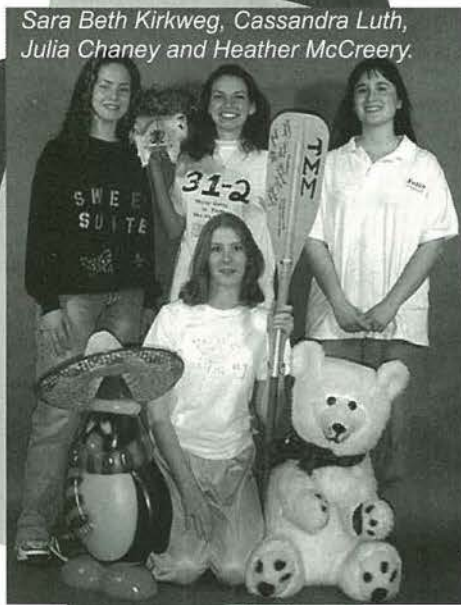
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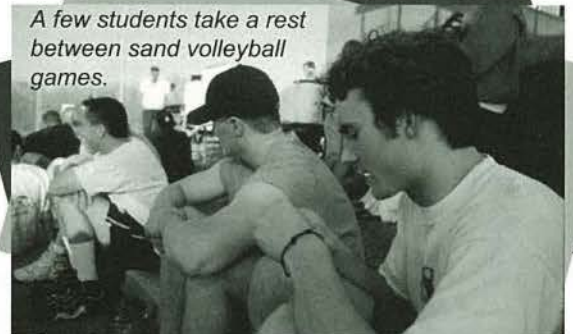
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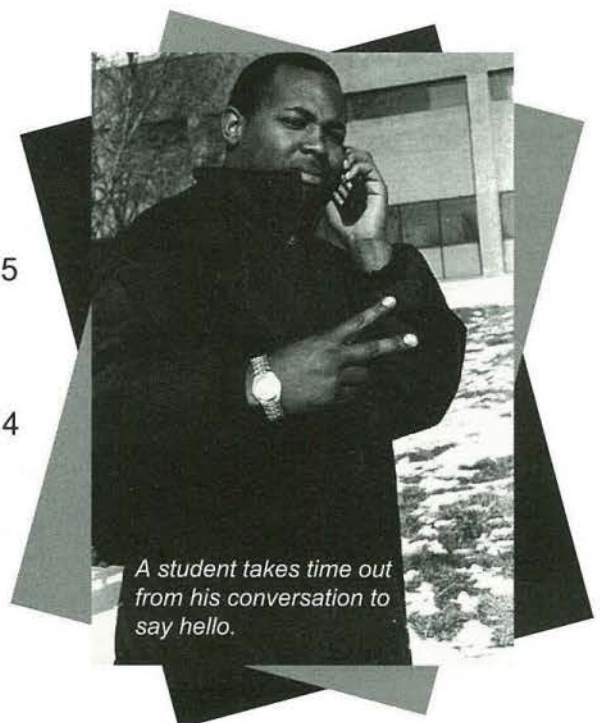
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A student takes time out from his conversation to say hello.



A young spectator eats a hotdog while watching the Griffons play ball.

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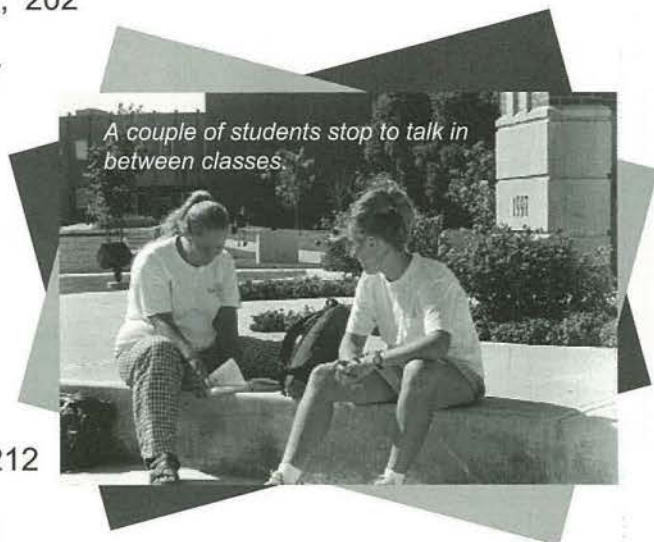


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*Plays like The Colored Museum
 provided entertainment for students.*





*Anne Marie Schmitz
August 29, 1979 ~ December 4, 1999*

*“Please shed no more tears
For my soul is at rest.
Just love one another
Live life to its best.”*

Anne Marie Schmitz, daughter of Leo and Mary Ann, and sister of Mary Beth, was very close to her family and friends and loved spending time with them.

Anne Marie’s friends knew her as a very animated and caring person. She loved working with children and was constantly telling jokes and stories.

She was a sophomore English major with an emphasis in writing. Her focus was on writing children’s stories and she was trying to publish a children’s book she had written. Anne Marie was an active member at Seven Dolors Catholic Church where she participated in the

CCD program by teaching and writing Christmas plays. She also was involved in many activities with the MIR House of Prayer and Twin Spires.

Anne Marie was a member of the Missouri Western choir, and members of the vocal music faculty, along with members of the choir, sang at her funeral.

The Anne Marie Schmitz Memorial Scholarship was established by friends and family with the cooperation of the Missouri Western State College foundation. The scholarship will be awarded to one student from the music department each semester.



1999-2000

I once had a friend in high school tell me that we don't meet our true friends until we get to college. I just knew she was wrong; I had everything that I wanted in my friends at that time. I had grown up with them. They knew me as well as I knew myself.

Now as I look back at what she told me, I realize that she's more correct than what I gave her credit for. Where are those friends now? Not still my true friends!

Yearbook has been my passion for quite a while (quit laughing, Aaron!). It's a project that challenges me as well as lets me work without really thinking about everything else that is going on. But what makes it the most enjoyable for me is you guys. The people that I can honestly say have become my true friends. So you've never been to my house (although that'll change if you don't get scared first), never met my family, and have no idea what I looked like when I was 5. It doesn't matter though. You know my dreams, my fears, the people that matter to me, what's happening in my life now and I in return know the same about you.

Besides all the personal stuff though, we work really well together. I couldn't have asked for a better editorial staff! We met every deadline with no problems and we're going to have a beautiful book to prove just how well we worked together. An editorial staff that falls apart could never complete a book with this much ease or this much class.

I have so many memories of just this past year, ones that I'll carry with me for a very long time and it's the people that has made this year the most memorable, not the events. Thank you guys so much for your friendships and your hard work!



All of us in front of our new epiffy sign. I'm not sure that Aaron and I are on the right shoulder!



Mindy and Patrice playing in the fountain. Patrice broke her daley shoe.



Ann, Patrice, Mindy, Sheila, Aaron, Brandon, Christina, and me.



Wonder how Aaron got his Monkeyboy name???



Peek-a-bool Christina and Sheila peeking at the camera.



Adina, (not an editor) me, Mandy, Crystal, and Mindy at lunch that we didn't have to pay for in Atlanta.



Aaron can't quite decide who/ what he wants to be. First a monkey then Superman!!!



Seeeehhhh, don't tell anyone we did this! The handbook says we aren't allowed in the fountain....



Brandon couldn't let Aaron out-do him! I guess he couldn't find a light pole.



Sheila, me and Christina looking oh-so cute!



This wasn't my ideal I'm just glad I hadn't made them mad at me lately!



Colophon

The 2000 Griffon Yearbook, Volume 30, was created by a student staff at Missouri Western State College and printed by Walsworth Publishing Company, Brookfield, Missouri. The press run was 1500 books. The publishing representative was Brenda Moon. Individual student portraits were taken by Thornton Photography. Organization's photos were taken by the Griffon Photography Staff. Full-time student paid a mandatory yearbook fee of \$5 per semester. Students attending MWSC full-time during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000 may pick up their yearbook by November 1, 2000. The Griffon was printed on Monarch Gloss paper. The typography used throughout the book was 11 point Arial, 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 202, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, Missouri 64507 or visit the Griffon Website at <http://www.mwsc.edu/~yearbook>

