

Seynerget



Missouri Western State University
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Missouri Western's campus is engulfed with nature's beauty. Students often take advantage of their surroundings by taking afternoon naps in the shade or evening walks around campus. Photo by Chaele Drew

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GLENN L. BAUER MEMORIAL TOWER

**SYNERGY IS CREATED WHEN THE EFFORTS
OF TWO OR MORE INDIVIDUALS
WHOSE END PRODUCTS ARE GREATER WHEN
COMBINED RATHER THAN
THEIR INDIVIDUAL END PRODUCTS**

MMUSU

- WESTERN LIFE = 6**
- SCHOLARSHIP = 82**
- WITNESS = 134**
- ATHLETICS = 144**
- WESTERN COMMUNITY = 178**
- ADVERTISEMENTS = 230**

The football teams always draw a large crowd for their games. The NWMSU game was the highest for attendance this year. *Photo by Kailey Alexander*



Western Reports and U News prepares to tape another edition of their show. Both shows hit the air waves this year for the first time. *Photo by Linda Shireman*

Segment



Richard Pott leaves for home after he finishes his daily activities at Western. Most of the Western faculty put in many extra hours. *Photo by Linda Shireman*

The Griffons work very diligently on their defensive plays. They finished the season with a 9-3 overall record. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*



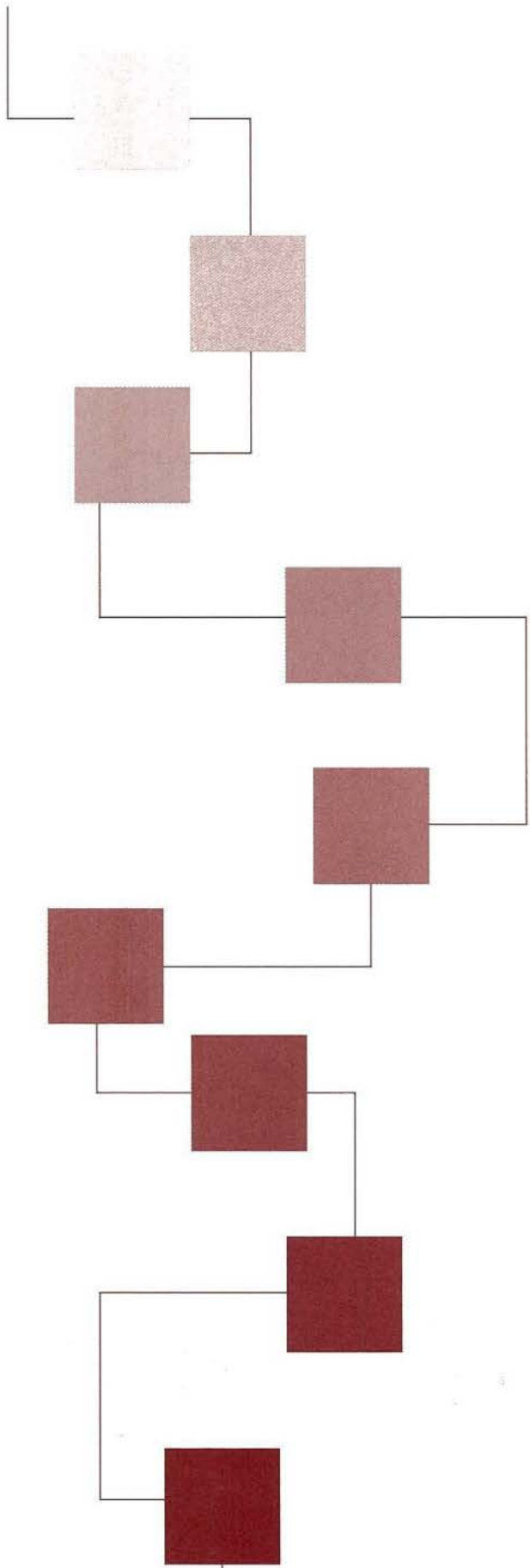
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Senior Jill Johnson is announced Homecoming Queen for 2006. Western won the football game 24-12 against Emporia State. *Photo by Jenny Weikel*

The Shoppes at North Village has become one of the fastest growing areas in St. Joseph. Many students not only shopped here, but were also employed. *Photo by Linda Shireman*







Western Life

Destination Griffon Edge

Griffon Edge program stirs mixed emotions of importance between participants and leaders

Story By Amy Chastain

As the sweat was wiped off of several hundred incoming freshmen faces, feelings of nerves and excitement took over the heat that had consumed them that hot August day. Freshmen weren't alone with their feelings; they were shared by a majority of their fellow classmates. To help ease the nerves, a program known as Griffon Edge stepped in to help these worrisome freshmen. They soon met future roommates, future best friends and future enemies.

Griffon Edge was designed to help ease the tension that incoming freshmen encountered in their first few weeks as Western. It was also a one-hour course where students were introduced to a world of information about the university. Freshmen learned about the campus as a whole and about various organizations such as Campus Activities Board and Student Government Association.

As Griffon Edge was designed to help freshmen, there were still some who questioned its overall purpose. Freshman Abbey Jameson felt that Griffon Edge and Destination Western, another orientation program that freshmen were required to attend throughout the summer, were quite similar.

"Griffon Edge was a lot like Destination Western," Jameson said. "We sat and listened to boring speakers."

Jameson also felt that Griffon Edge was a waste of her time.

"It was not worth the time because we were there for way too long," she said. "The experience was ok just because you get to meet some new people and get to know more about the campus."

Nursing major Heidi Young, on the other hand, believed that Griffon Edge was worth the time and experience.

"I had fun," Young said. "I think Griffon Edge helped me out because

I knew where to find pretty much everything."

Griffon Edge Leader Tricia Dickson agreed with Young that it was important for incoming freshmen to be there because there was valuable information to learn.

"Whether you are a transfer student or a first-time freshman, I think everyone should take it," Dickson said. "It is a great way to know the campus and the school."

Despite Griffon Edge's success in attempting to help freshmen, Jameson held her ground. She, as a student, would have liked to learn more about her major.

"I didn't hear anything about my major," Jameson said. "I had to go to an A-plus meeting, instead of listening to someone talk about what I actually wanted to do. I think they should consider talking to everyone about different majors and helping them out with that; actually focus on what students want to hear."

Jameson thought that Griffon Edge should have different yet interesting things for freshmen to experience instead of sitting in a classroom, listening to a boring speaker.

"I just don't think students want to sit and listen because we had enough of that at Destination Western," she said. "They should cover it all in orientation and then have fun things for Griffon Edge."

On the contrary, Dickson felt that Griffon Edge was a great way to meet new students.

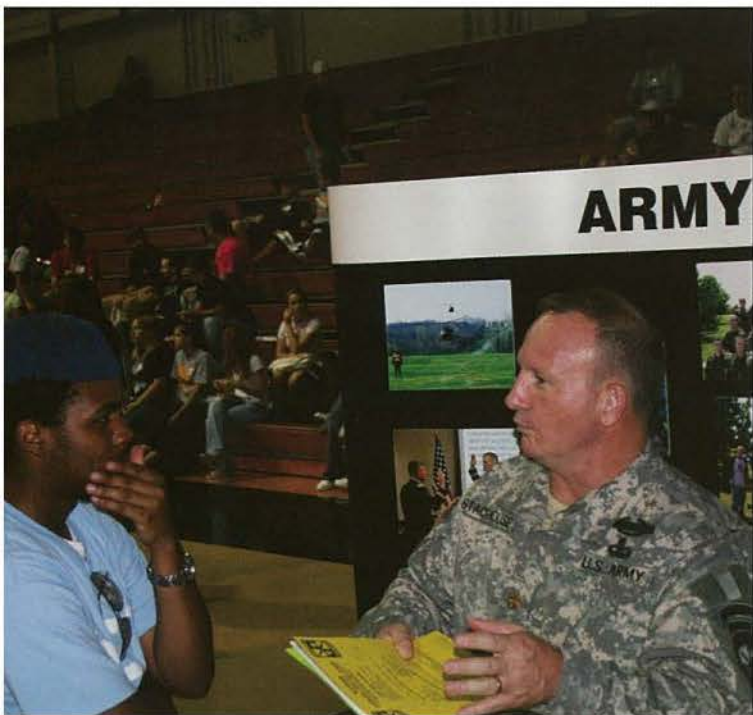
"Griffon Edge is a great bonding experience for incoming students," Dickson said. "It's an awesome way to get to know other incoming students just like you. These people are going to be there with you for the next four to five years. It is not only the cheapest credit hour here at Missouri Western, but it is also one of the most fun credit hours you will ever have."



Western VIP, Trevor Parker, guides potential freshmen and parents around Western's campus. Freshmen visit days gave families a chance to experience life at MWSU for 24 hours. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



A Griffon Edge leader helps new incoming freshmen to complete a team building exercise during Griffon Edge. This year, many freshmen attended Griffon Edge. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



MAJ Stackhouse talks with a prospective student about the Army program here on-campus. The ROTC provided many opportunities to students. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



"The experience was ok just because you get to meet some new people and get to know more about the campus."

-Abbey Jameson



Members of Western's Orientation Ambassadors and VIP's join together on stage to sing the alma mater. Students were encouraged to learn this and fight song. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Quiznos

“We Dare to be Different”

Western's food court receives a major renovation and new options for breakfast, lunch and dinner

Story By Eric Ross

Hundreds of students' jaws dropped at the sight of a sign hanging above the entrance of the Blum Union reading, “Quiznos Subs, Now Open.” At the beginning of the fall semester, Western added Saint Joseph's first ever Quiznos to the Food Court. A number of these puzzled students were also wondering: “Why did we get a Quiznos in the first place?”

“Quiznos was a great fit for popularity, cost of installation and fit with our existing space,” Director of Aramark Jim Maides said. “[It] was added to the Food Court to add value to Western meal plans.”

Students agreed with Maides' statement. “I have 400 flex dollars; and I plan to spend them all on Quiznos,” said freshman Jesse Rice who had not eaten at a Quiznos prior to the Western chapter. “Their sandwiches are quite delicious!”

Plans for Quiznos began in the spring of 2006. It was chosen because of affordable price, healthy food and was a healthier alternative to burgers and fries. With the addition of Quiznos to the Food Court, students began to eat on campus more often.

“Before Quiznos, I used to eat on campus only four or five times a week,” senior Steven Hickman said. “The Food Court and cafeteria used to have such similar choices and the selection of sandwiches weren't appealing. Now, with the addition of Quiznos, it is much more convenient and enjoyable eating.”

As limited as the on-campus food was before Quiznos, the addition wasn't in response to dissatisfaction, as it may have seemed.

“It was an attempt for more satisfaction and to create positive outcomes for both Residential Life and Dining Services,” Maides said. “The goal of the whole effort in the Food Court was to make it a fun destination for students.”

The overall positive reaction of the Quiznos addition prompted the question whether or not there were more Food Court additions in the works.

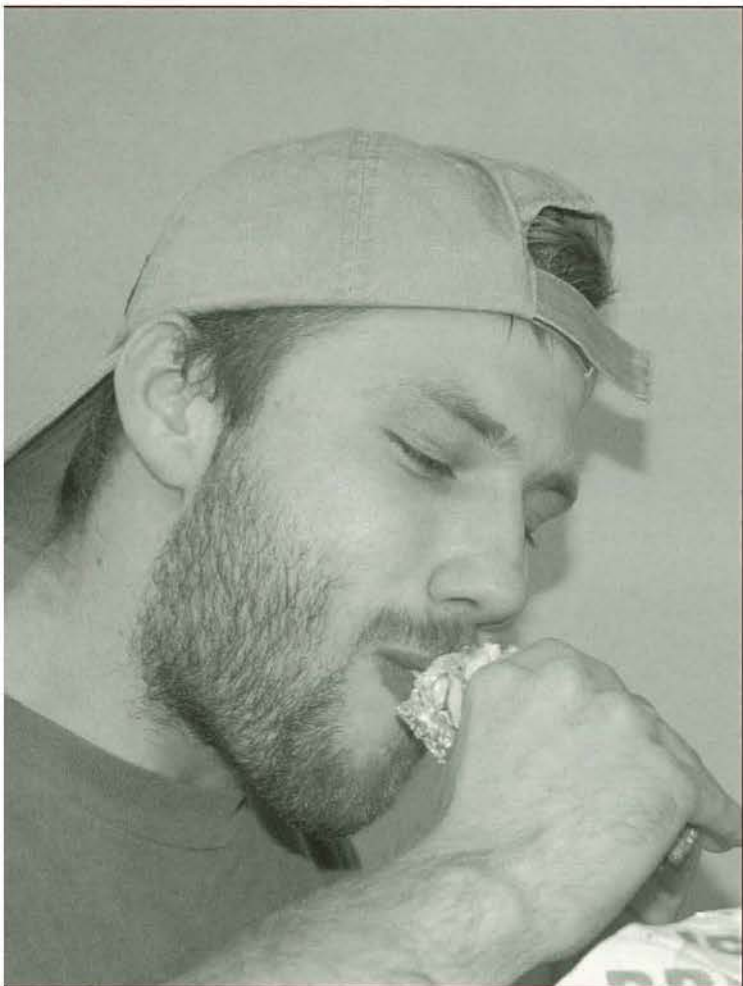
“Quiznos has been very busy,” Maides said. “The dust hasn't settled on anymore plans though. We will want to cycle through at least a year to see how successful it is and what opportunities may arise.”

As far as students were concerned, Quiznos seemed to be just what the campus needed.

“I bought over 20 packages of Ramen before I knew about Quiznos,” Rice said. “Let's just say I still have over 20 packages of Ramen.”



Staff Sergeant Hardman, Sergeant Shelar and Sergeant Barker take a break for lunch. Quiznos not only appealed to students, but also the staff and faculty. Photo by Sam Stanley



“

Quiznos was a great fit. . . it was added to the Food Court to add value to Western meal plans.

-Jim Maides

”

Norman is one of the first students to sample the new sandwiches. Many faces were seen at the food court during the grand opening of Quiznos. Photo by Sam Stanley



Students give us a chance. The grand opening was during the fall of the semester. Photo by Sam Stanley

Wesley Foundation

Story by Dana Heldenbrand

"Students Trusting In God" create a strong force on Western's campus with weekly events and overnight trips

The Wesley Foundation was one of several religious-based organizations at Western. The Foundation was a campus ministry that existed to provide worship, Bible study and Christian fellowship to all students. The Wesley Foundation was more than just a campus religious group to its members, though it was a family of friends and believers.

"What I get out of participating in the Wesley Foundation is friendship, encouragement and relaxation because everyone is so friendly," education major Autumn Todd said.

The organization was made up of student leaders but also relied on a campus minister, Mary Norris. The Western sponsor of the organization was Myron Unzicker, an athletic trainer and instructor for the department of health, physical education and recreation at Western. He was asked to serve on the board of the Foundation many years ago and had been active ever since.

"My best memory of being involved with the Wesley Foundation was to see the building being built and now, 10 years later being used daily for the Western student population," Unzicker said.

The Wesley Foundation had weekly dinners, devotions on Wednesday nights, weekly Bible studies, visited nursing homes and took a spring break mission trip to Carouthersville, Mo., to help with tornado clean-up. Other events included scrapbooking evenings, movie and game nights and a hayride and wiener roast.

There were many reasons Western students attended these functions. "I get spiritual guidance and free food," Tiffany Edwards, a member, said. "It always gives me relaxation from the stress of campus life."

The Wesley Foundation also allowed students the opportunity to expand, not just as a person, but emotionally and spiritually. "When I first came to Western, I was shy but since joining Wesley, I have outgrown who I was and am more involved," Todd said. "I have gone from historian to vice president to president at Wesley. Spiritually, I believe I have grown closer to God by listening to Mary's sermons. She always brings up some good points that get you thinking."

The Wesley Foundation provided many members with a family away from home. However, for Unzicker, his family was the Wesley Foundation.

"Three of my own children attended Western and I have seen their involvement in the Wesley Foundation," Unzicker said. "It makes me very proud that my children have chosen an area to strengthen and reinforce and witness their faith in Jesus Christ with their peers. Also, throughout the years that I have been on the Wesley board, it has been rewarding to see youth in the college setting attaining strong relationships with Jesus Christ and that they want others to have that same relationship."



Members of the Wesley Foundation gather around the bonfire. The annual wiener roast and hayride was held at the Steven Bunse Farm on October 22, 2006. Photo Submitted



“

It makes me very proud that my children have chosen an area to strengthen and reinforce and witness their faith in Jesus Christ with their peers.

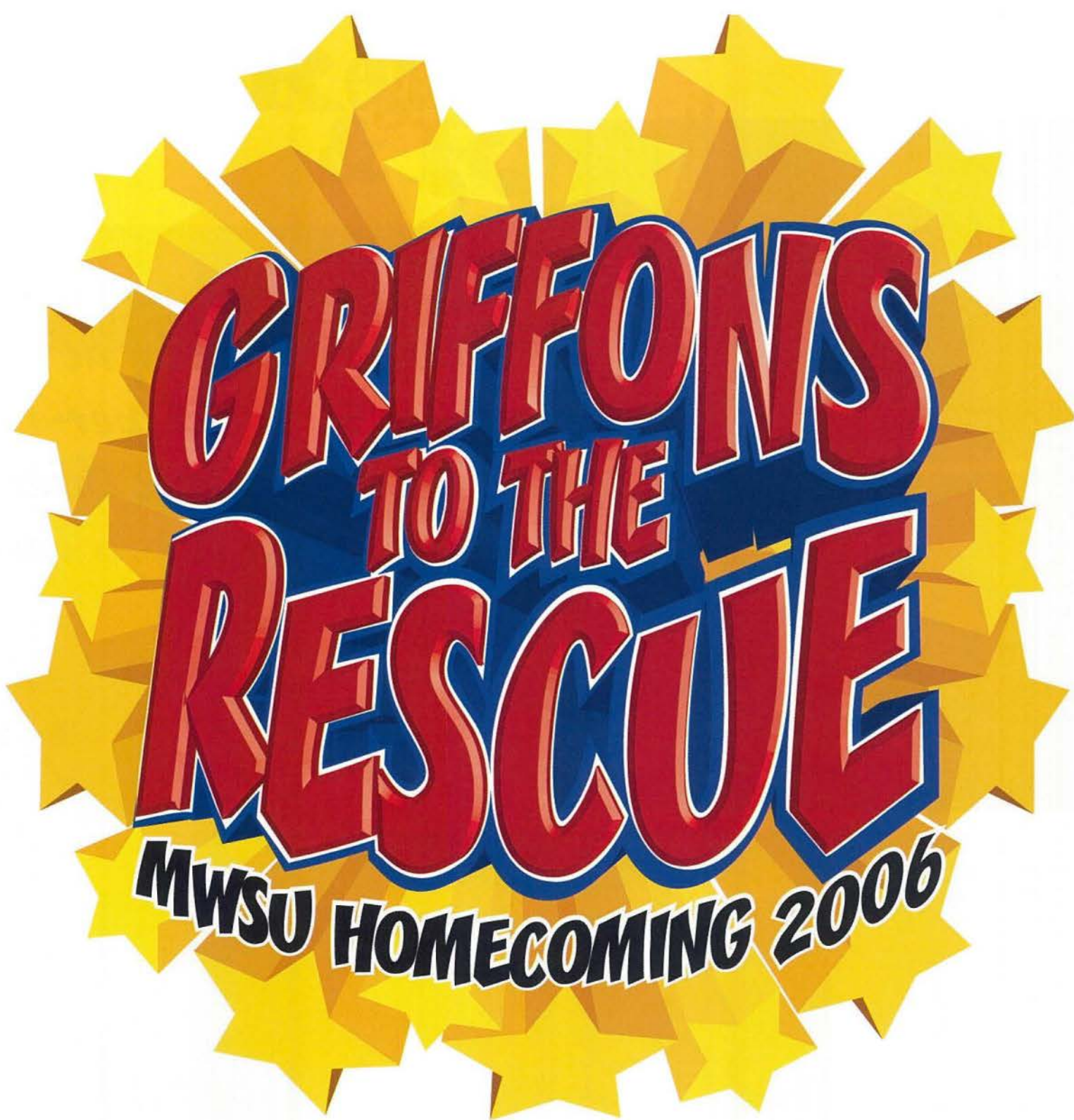
-Myron Unzicker

”

Edwards, Mary Meghan Pieper, mn Todd, Dawn re and Annabell omas gather for uick photo. The ers led worship ice at the Sparta nited Methodist rch. Photo Sub- mitted



Todd and Sha- files float down Niangua River. y participated in annual statewide sley Foundation trip near Bennet s on September 16, 2006. Photo Submitted



After much debate, it had been settled. Homecoming 2006's theme was "Griffons to the Rescue." The week featured activities such as "Yell Like Hell," "Mocktails," "Donation Creation," "Talent Show," "Pep Rally and Bonfire," and of course, the annual parade and game with coronation. Organizations participated throughout the week determined to come out on top, Champion of Homecoming. Everyone pushed forward with their Homecoming plans, even though the weather had a mind of its own. All in all, Homecoming 2006 turned out to be a huge success.

Yell Like Hell

By Katrina Darr

Homecoming week started off with a roar as the week's first event, "Yell Like Hell." Pratt Hall filled up quickly as students from nearly every sorority, fraternity and organization crowded into the auditorium. Members from many of these organizations performed miniature skits, which were intended to pump up the audience. One group of Tri Sigma pledges waited anxiously to receive their first taste of university involvement.

"It's a bonding experience to get to know not only everyone in your sorority, but others as well," Tri Sigma pledge Tara Abbott said. "We're mainly just here to yell like hell and get rowdy."

Donation Creation

By Tammy Havens

During the week of Homecoming, Western organizations found time out of their busy schedule to help those less fortunate. To celebrate and raise money, an event known as "Donation Creation" kicked off on Tuesday, Oct. 17. At this event, organizations were welcome to join in on collecting donations such as food and clothing for local charities.

The majority of those involved with the event included Greek organizations. The members of Alpha Gamma Delta were one organization in particular who decided to join in on the event. For fun, AGD members decided to build Western's clock tower with their donations.

Donations went to the Second Harvest and InterServ.

"In previous years, the donations went to Second Harvest, but this year the donations are being split between Second Harvest and InterServ," AGD member Amy Prawitz said.

CAB Talent Show

By Tammy Havens

The second day of Homecoming kicked off with Campus Activities Board annual Talent Show. This was a chance for a few brave souls to get up in front of their peers and show off their talented abilities. The talent show included two categories such as the vocalist and musician category. Some new to the talent show like sophomore Katie Penland sang one of Carrie Underwood's songs, "Don't Forget to Remember Me." Other familiar faces that the audience recognized included last year's winner, John Goolsby. Goolsby sang a song that he had written entitled, "The Aftermath of You." In the musician category, student Chris Bates performed

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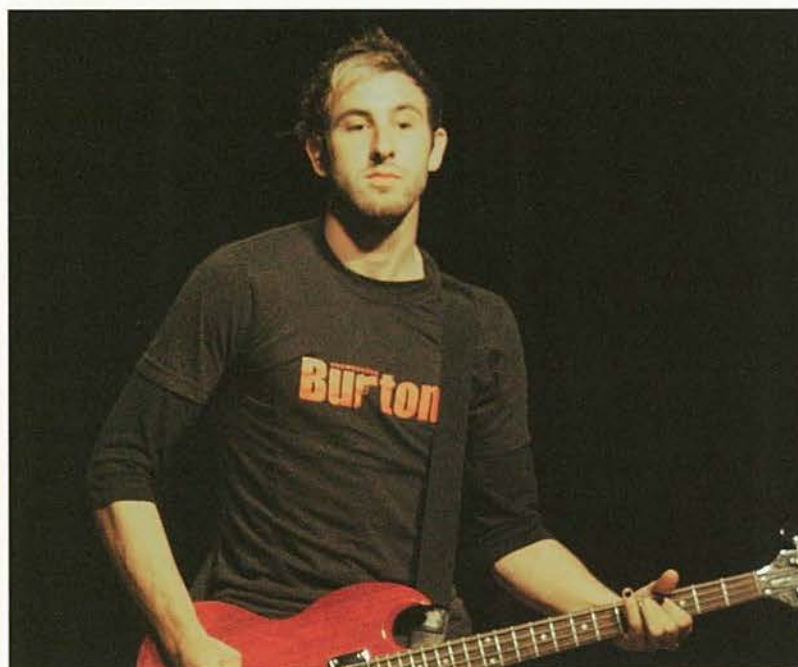


The Residence Council joins in on the fun at "Yell Like Hell." They performed a skit to match their Homecoming theme. Photo by Jamison Burns

Most Greek organizations participated in all the Homecoming events. Alpha Sigma Alpha was one of the sororities to participate in "Yell Like Hell." Photo by Jamison Burns

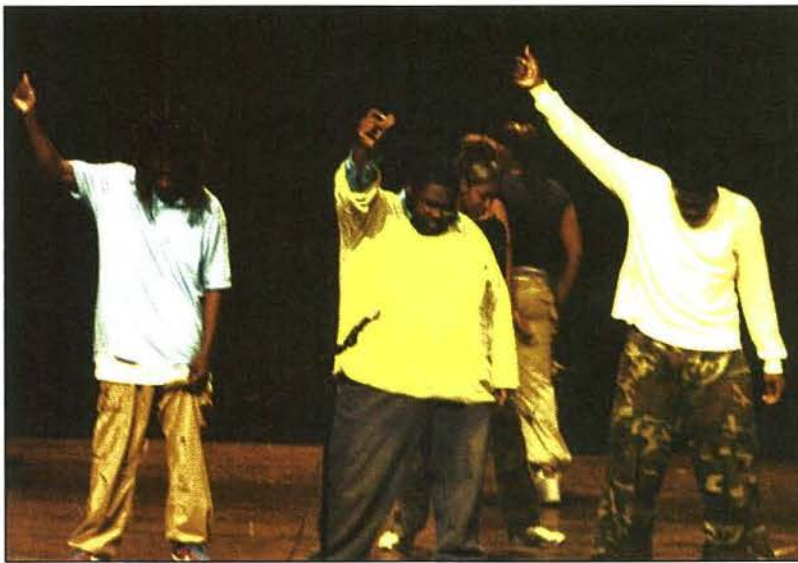


If there's something strange in the neighborhood, who ya gonna call? ASA! Their theme for Homecoming was GhostBusters. Photo by Jamison Burns



Trent Molluns croons his way through the talent show for Homecoming. The talent show was a big success this year. Photo by Adrian Akasaki

The performers of Versatile dance in the CAB talent show for Homecoming week. They were always a crowd pleaser and enjoyable to watch. Photo by Adrian Akasaki



Comedian, Kevin Hart makes the audience laugh while the talent show contestants get ready to perform. Hart was not only a comedian, but an actor also. Photo by Adrian Akasaki



Men's basketball coach, Tom Smith speaks to the crowd about the upcoming season. Griffon Mania pumped everyone up for basketball season. Photo by Kailey Alexander



The ladies of Alpha Gamma Delta prepare their "mocktail" for judging. Organizations created non-alcoholic drinks for University Happy Hour. Photo by Sam Stanley



a drum solo that got the audience up on their feet.

At the end of the night, the winners were announced. Goolsby took home first place in the vocalist category for the second year in a row with Penland placing second. In the musician category, Bates received second place while a group called The Band placed first. English major Traci Haug enjoyed the talent show, but felt that one of the groups, Versatile, should have placed.

"I thought it was unfair that Versatile didn't win," she said. "They should have at least placed, but The Band was awesome."

Griffon Mania

By Amy Chastain

Griffon Mania took place on Tuesday evening, Oct. 17 in the Looney Complex. There was free pizza and prizes for those who attended. The evening showcased the Men's and Women's basketball teams for the 2006-2007 season.

University Happy Hour

By Amy Chastain

University Happy Hour took place on Wednesday, Oct. 18. Organizations created mocktails that celebrated the theme. Groups had to bring all the materials needed and create drinks in the Blum Union. Alpha Sigma Alpha won the event for the best mocktail.

CAB Comedian

By Sarah Derr

Comedian and actor Kevin Hart came back for a second year and visited the Western campus during the week of Homecoming. Hart, who has appeared in movies such as "Scary Movie IV" and "Soul Plane," didn't just bring his hilarious act with him, but also comedian and opening act Jus Jay.

Western students filled the M.O. Looney Complex to listen to the hilarious duo.

"I'm really glad there are two comedians so that people get a variety of entertainment," math major Julie Allen said.

Freshman Robin Noble missed just a few of her favorite television shows for the evening. "I'm missing "Grey's Anatomy" and "CSI" for this," she said.

Pep Rally & Bonfire

By Katrina Darr

Friday night proved to be a crowd pleaser for several Western students. Many students swarmed into the M.O. Looney Arena to show their support for the Griffons. To pump up the audience, the pep rally began with students performing humorous skits. "Goofy Griffs," as they were called, were members of fraternities and sororities. Also, to keep

e crowd going, fellow sororities Alpha Gamma Alpha and Tri Sigma battled it out in a lengthy scream match.

Western students were delighted with today's festivities. Freshman Heather Scott came out to show off her Griffon pride. "I wanted to come out and show my school spirit," she said.

The annual bonfire followed after the pep rally. The Western band performed while students gathered around the fire to keep warm. As the night ended, students left full of excitement for the next day's football game against Emporia State.

Homecoming Parade

By Amy Chastain

The rain couldn't wash away the Griffon spirit on Saturday, Oct. 21. It was a pouring madhouse, but the Western community, students and faculty came out to grab some candy and watch the annual Homecoming parade.

"I never miss a parade," senior Drew Bell said. "Despite the weather, I enjoyed the bands and watching the different floats.

Homecoming Game

By Erik Ross

The weather had been horrible all week, and it didn't show any signs of stopping. However, the rain didn't keep hundreds of football fans from attending the Western homecoming game against the Emporia State Hornets.

"The game was cool," freshman Orthel Little said. "The weather wasn't great, but it didn't stop people from coming to support the team."

The Griffons were trailing the entire first half of the game, but the second half proved to be the deciding factor for them. Three touchdowns and a field goal gained Western's fourth straight victory at Spratt Stadium. The Griffons beat the Hornets 24-12.

Western fans walked out of the stadium soaking wet, but they all had smiles on their faces. The weather may have held them down for the first half of the game, but they came back with a vengeance.

Coronation

By Amy Chastain

Coronation was announced at the game during halftime. Women's basketball player All Johnson took the crown and Men's football player Gijon Robinson was named king. Runners-up included senior and Campus Activities Board President Becky Monnig and student Seth Logston. The 2006 Homecoming Court included Mallory Hall, Alie Poole, Ashley Rockhold, Kyler Keith, Logan Compton and Kelly Malloy.

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Homecoming candidates Seth Logston and Ashley Rockhold strut their stuff at the pep rally. Logston was runner-up for king, while Becky Monnig was queen runner-up. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

SpiderMan shows off his climbing abilities during the Homecoming parade. Instead of catching the bad guys, he rode along with Alpha Sigma Phi on the first place float. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



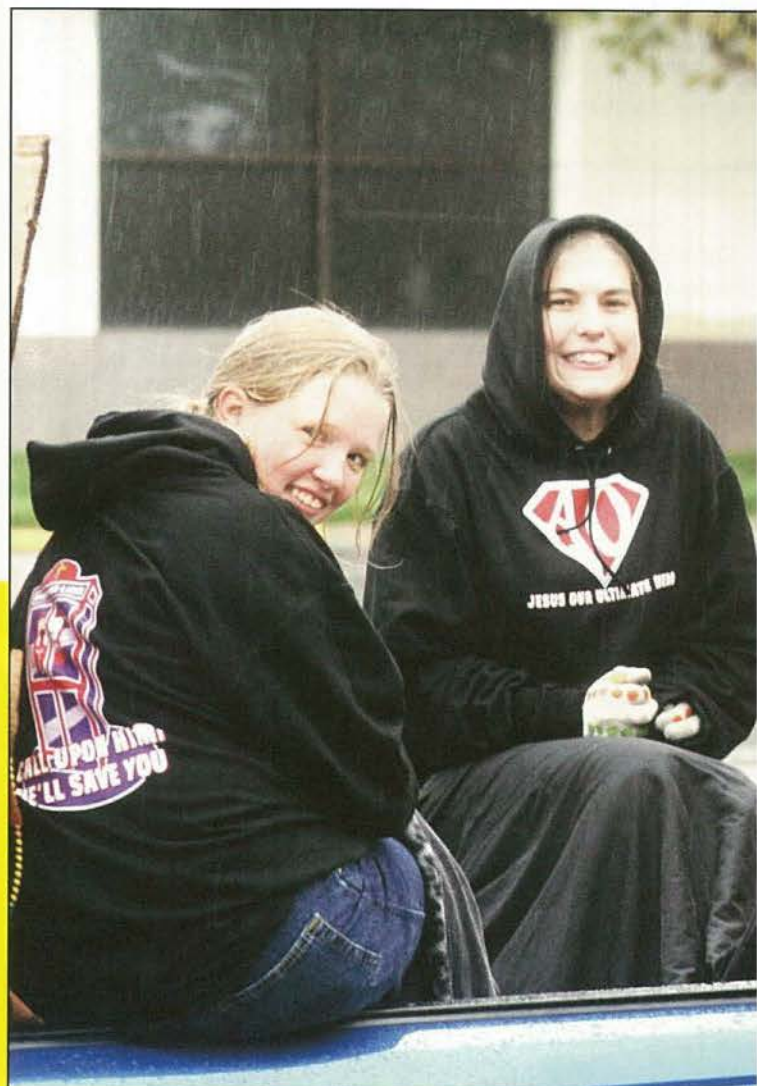
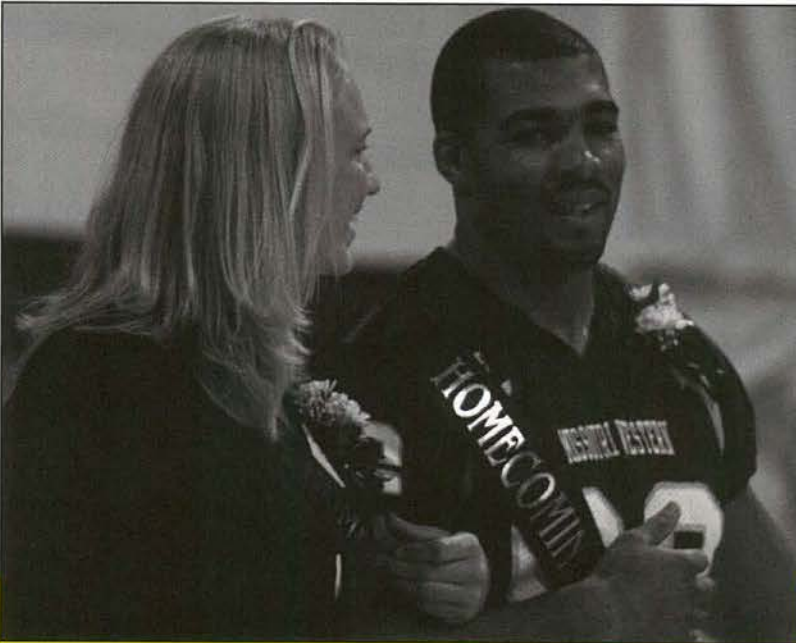
The bonfire pumps everyone up for the Homecoming game the next day. The bonfire has been a Homecoming tradition for many years. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Kyler Keith and Mallory Hall are escorted in the Homecoming parade. All king and queen candidates had to attend all Homecoming events and activities. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Students gathered around the bonfire during the Pep Rally. There were many different activities and contests during the bonfire. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Gijon Robinson and Jill Johnson enjoy the pep rally activities. Robinson and Johnson were both later announced as Homecoming King and Queen at halftime of the football game. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

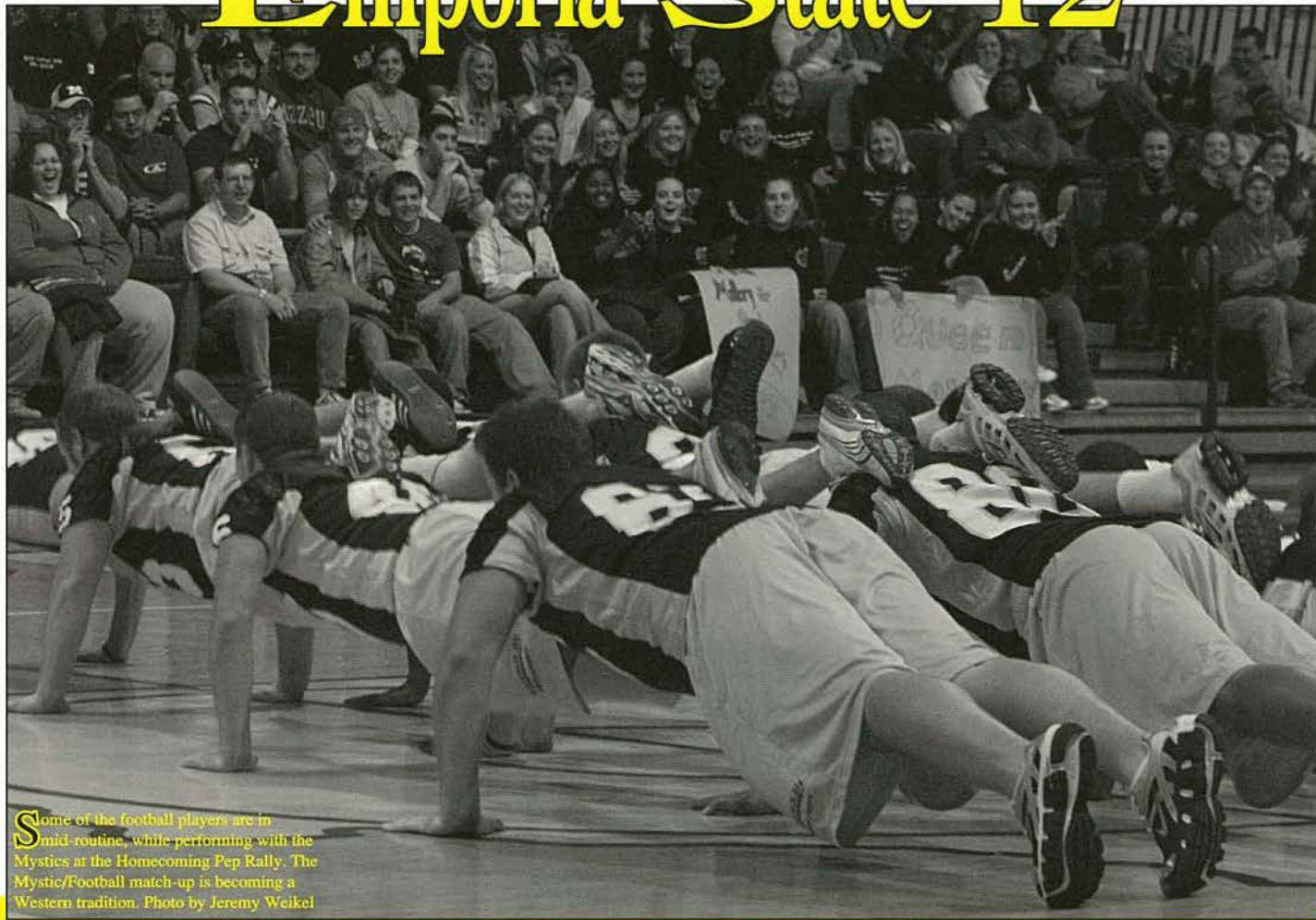


The girls from AGD work on their sign to place on Downs Drive during the week of Homecoming. Most of the Greek organizations spent many hours preparing for Homecoming. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Gretchen Kunkle and Jackie Furbee ride on the Alpha Omega float in the parade. Homecoming was doomed with bad weather this year. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Missouri Western 24

Emporia State 12



Some of the football players are in smid-routine, while performing with the Mystics at the Homecoming Pep Rally. The Mystic/Football match-up is becoming a Western tradition. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Homecoming Individual Winners

Homecoming Overall Winners:

Phi Delta Theta
Alpha Sigma Phi
Alpha Sigma Alpha

Best Like Hell:

Phi Delta Theta

Best Choreography:

Alpha Sigma Phi

Best Costume:

Phi Delta Theta

Best Rep. of Homecoming Theme:

Alpha Gamma Delta

Best Individual Performance:

Phi Delta Theta

Donation Creation:

Alpha Sigma Alpha

University Happy Hour "Mocktails"

Alpha Sigma Alpha

Office Decorating Contest:

Accounting Services

Spirit Sign Competition:

Phi Mu

Window Decorating (TIE):

Alpha Gamma Delta

Phi Mu

Residence Hall Decorating Contest:

Vaslakos

Most Spirited Organization:

Alpha Sigma Alpha

Float:

Alpha Sigma Phi

Best Car:

Phi Delta Theta

Best Truck:

Alpha Sigma Phi

Polar Bear Plunge

Many northwest groups collaborated to raise money for Special Olympics by plunging into freezing cold water

Story by Sarah Derr

The St. Joseph community and the Missouri Western campus joined together in the arctic weather on Feb. 11 to raise money for the Special Olympic Athletes. The community and campus welcomed its very own first annual Polar Bear Plunge.

Area citizens and students glued together in winter coats, trying to survive the weather. It was about 12 degrees Fahrenheit and the water temperatures were just above freezing. The St. Joseph Fire department used chainsaws the day before the plunge to cut through the ice. The crazy divers for the day probably had second thoughts, but they knew it was for a good cause and with that, they took that leap. Emergency medical assistants were available in case of an emergency. There was only one close call with an elderly gentleman, whose body did not respond well to the cold water. One plunger withstood the freezing water for nearly 10 seconds.

The Polar Bear Plunge was new to the Saint Joseph community. Anticipated plungers were required to raise a minimum of \$50 in order to take a dip into the Missouri Western pond. The turnout was strong for the first annual Polar Bear Plunge. There were nearly 66 plungers from the surrounding community, raising just over \$12,000.

The event was modeled after a traditional New Year's Day swim, started by the Coney Island Polar Bear Club. Several area members were encouraged to attend and participate in the event. The first annual event turned out to be a success. Many businesses and organizations from the St. Joseph area did participate. Along with the 66 plungers, several fathers made a plunge in honor of their children who took lessons at Darcee's School of Dance. To achieve good humor and standing with the community, seven area police officers including the chief of police and four firefighters dressed up as Mexican luchadores.

The Polar Bear Plunge was a fundraising event for Special Olympics. The event takes place at various locations each winter. While many brave individuals do plunge the ice, it was supported by law enforcement agencies.



These are just a few of the many teams that participated in the Polar Bear Plunge. This occurred in the dead of winter... Hypothermia anyone? Photo by Linda Shireman



“ There were nearly 66 plungers from the surrounding community, raising just over \$12,000. ”

Members of the St. Joseph Fire Department wait for a “fresh batch” as they also did “The Plunge.” They only had to help one man out of the water. Photo by Linda Shireman



Competitors of “The Plunge” rush out of the water after being in for about 10 seconds. This year, this was for a cause; they raised over \$2,000. Photo by Linda Shireman



SAINT JOSEPH

Renowned city of the Pony Express, St. Joseph was first settled as a trading post for the American Fur Co. by Joseph Robidoux, 1826. Later he acquired the site and laid out a town named for his patron saint, 1843.

St. Joseph became an outfitting point for settlers in northwest Missouri and travelers on the Oregon-California trail. It was also a supply base for army posts and western gold mining camps. Here was the terminus of the first railroad to cross Missouri, the Hannibal and St. Joseph, 1859. The railway postal car, developed by W. A. Davis of St. Joseph, was first used on this line, 1862.

April 3, 1860, the Pony Express was put in operation between here and Sacramento, Calif., by the freighting firm of Russell, Majors, and Waddell. Operated as a relay, it met the need for speedy mail service to the West and popularized the central overland route. About 1,982 miles were covered regularly in 10 days, and 190 relay stations, 420 horses, and 80 riders were used. The record run was 7 days, 17 hours. The Pony Express was discontinued in October 1861. The telegraph then reached the coast.

(See ... of Missouri Commission, 1953

Saint Joseph
Missouri

Numbers & Facts

First settled as a trading post on the Missouri River, St. Joseph has bloomed into a bustling suburban area for work, study and play



HollyWood Theaters



The Pony Express Museum



Famous Dave's Restaurant

Story by Amy Chastain & Tammy Havens
Photos by Linda Shireman

St. Joseph was certainly unlike any other city in the great Midwest. The city thrived of many riches and a historical past.


In 1843, a fur trader by the name of Joseph Robidoux founded the great city. Robidoux had been associated with the city prior to his initial finding. In the next few years, families arrived and settled, making a comfortable nest in the town they loved so much. While the city was still in the process of finding housing for each of the new residents, Robidoux helped many settlers by constructing a series of connected apartments in the North side of St. Joseph. These apartments were known as Robidoux Row and were still here in the present day. After restoration, Robidoux Row became a house museum.

Like its founder, Robidoux was not the only main attraction to St. Joseph. A very well known, respected bank robber known as Jesse James lived and died in St. Joseph. Outlaw James was shot and killed in his home on April 3, 1882. This home remained here to its present day including several artifacts that were found in his grave when he was exhumed. This home was made into the Jesse James Home Museum.

St. Joseph has a rich history of museums such as the Glore Psychiatric Museum, Missouri Theater, The Black Archives of St. Joseph and The National Military Heritage Museum. There were several other museums in St. Joseph that endure a rare and unique story like that of the Mount Mora Cemetery. The Mount Mora Cemetery was established in 1851 and is the city's oldest operating cemetery. There were three Missouri governors, many Civil War veterans and two Pony Express riders who have been recognized and buried there. There was also the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion that was built in 1879. It was a gothic

story continued on p. 26

- Settled in 1826
- Population 74,000
- 6th largest city in Missouri
- Civilian labor force 35,357
- Unemployment rate 4.8%
- 12,000 students in public schools
- MWSU 5,000 enrollment
- Hillyard Tech. 520 enrollment
- Heartland Health largest employer
- 1,500 acres of city parks
- 13 museums
- 26 mile parkway system
- YWCA and YMCA
- St. Joseph Symphony
- Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art
- Pony Express Museum
- Civic Arena



story continued from p. 25

mansion and illustrated the economic and cultural history of the nineteenth century of the city.

Aside from historical attractions of St. Joseph, there were also many annual events such as the Apple Blossom Festival, Coleman Hawkins Jazz Festival and Trails West. The Apple Blossom Festival, which played host on the first Saturday in May, joined in the spirit of St. Joseph's annual visitor of spring. Many highlights of the festival included concerts, activities and food. Coleman Hawkins was a St. Joseph native and every year in June, highlighted the celebration of the jazz great. Live jazz music was shared as well as excellent food. Trails West, occurred on the third weekend of August of every year, offered three days of fine art, folk art, reenactments and musical entertainment. This event was the largest in Northwest Missouri.

Visitors to the St. Joseph area had quite a bit of viewing pleasure to take part in. Among the city's museums and annual festivities, there was also the every day life that every St. Joseph native took advantage of. It was interesting to note that St. Joseph is the origin of the Pony Express, Stetson hats and Cherry Mash candy bars. The historical past of St. Joseph provided lively entertainment for any visitor or citizen. Among sporting events, St. Joseph played host to the U.S. Olympic Team Weightlifting Trials and the Amateur Softball Association's Men's Major Fast-Pitch National Championship. There were many venues that provided many sporting outlets such as Phil Welch Stadium, Fairview Golf Course, Bode Ice Arena and Noyes Field's 12 tournament-ready tennis courts. Other St. Joseph facilities included 15 softball fields, 10 soccer fields, sand volleyball, bowling, boating and Frisbee golf. With all of the sporting and historical parts of the city, it was sure to provide any person for a lively experience, but with the local University, many college students felt that there wasn't much to do.

"If we really want to spruce St. Joe up a

bit, then we need to go downtown," junior and St. Joseph native Rene Hillier said. "College towns have downtowns that are actually lively."

Hillier wasn't alone in her feelings. New shops were added in recent years to target a younger audience, that being college students, to the North end of the city by Wal-Mart. The North Village Shoppe's, as they were called, included a variety of Shoppe's such as Target, Borders, Kohl's and Old Navy. Food services were also added in such as 54th Street Grill and Bar, Chili's and Chipotle. While the new additions were received in great stride, many like Hillier felt that the Shoppe's should have been added in the South side of town.

"I think we have benefited from the Shoppe's," Hillier said. "They add jobs and revenue. I personally think that they should have put the Shoppe's more toward the center of St. Joseph or downtown."

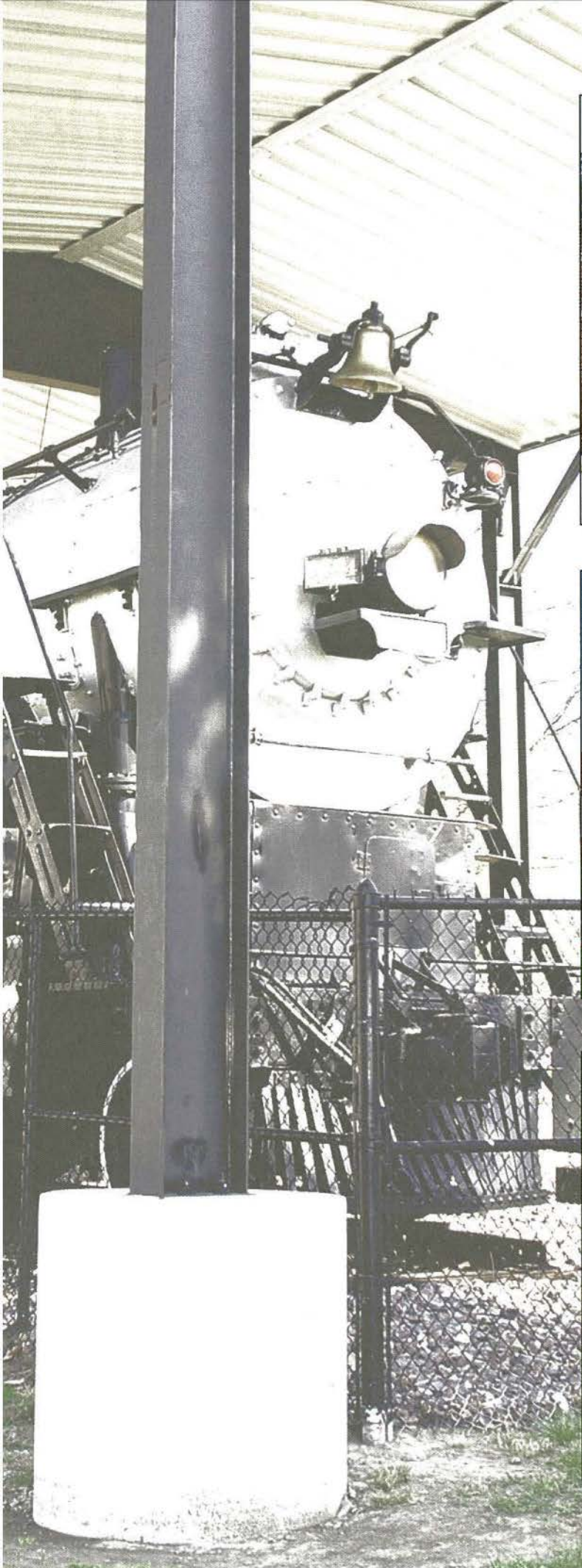
Though, other college students who weren't from the area, felt that St. Joseph offered a variety of entertainment.

"There are much more things to do here, then in Chillicothe such as an arcade, mini-golf, the mall, many more food options and a much longer main strip to cruise," freshman and Chillicothe, Mo., native Robert Huddleston said.

Huddleston was surprised by the fact that many college students didn't think there was much to do. It was possible, however, that St. Joseph didn't provide all of the aspects that each person was interested in. There was also the slight concern that many college students were typically poor.

"It has more shopping advantages, however, as for entertainment for those who have little money, it lacks," psychology major and California native Christopher John said.

On the contrary, though, St. Joseph provided a rich history for any tourist. If you were interested in history such as Jesse James, the Pony Express or if you just enjoyed museums, then St. Joseph was the town for you.



Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art



Pony Express Statue at City Hall



Krug Park

School and Family Collide

After being at college for a little less than a month students have the opportunity to share their college life with their family and friends

Story By Erik Ross

The sun was shining and the birds were chirping. It certainly was a perfect day for Family Day. Families from all over the United States made the trip to St. Joseph to see how their sons, daughters, brothers and sisters spent their days.

"Living so far away from my son, I don't see him very often," mother Ferrie Cunningham said. "Family Day is great because it not only gives me a chance to see him, but it is a whole day dedicated to showing the students' families all about student life."

The festivities began at 11 a.m. as families were able to check out information at booths set up promoting many of the Greek and non-Greek organizations that Missouri Western had to offer. These organizations provided activities such as face painting, a duck pond and wax hand sculptures for students and their siblings. Campus Activities Board also provided four large inflatable items such as a bouncy castle, a giant slide, an obstacle course and moon walk for the children.

"I enjoyed seeing what all of the Greek organizations had to offer," mother Charlene Chiles said. "It's really great that they plan fun activities for Family Day. It keeps the children entertained, while the parents find out information that might not be as exciting for younger children. Actually, the activities are fun for adults too."

Aramark provided a generous lunch for Family Day participants throughout the day. After dining, everyone piled into Spratt Stadium for the big game against the Truman State Bulldogs. The Griffons took home their third straight victory at Spratt Stadium, tonight beating the Bulldogs 38-13. The victory was the icing on top of the cake for a seemingly perfect Family Day.

"The game was great!" Cunningham said. "I've never been to a college football game before, so it was great to watch the Griffons. They are a really good team."

Students who had attended this event for the first time were excited about sharing future Family Day experiences with their loved ones.

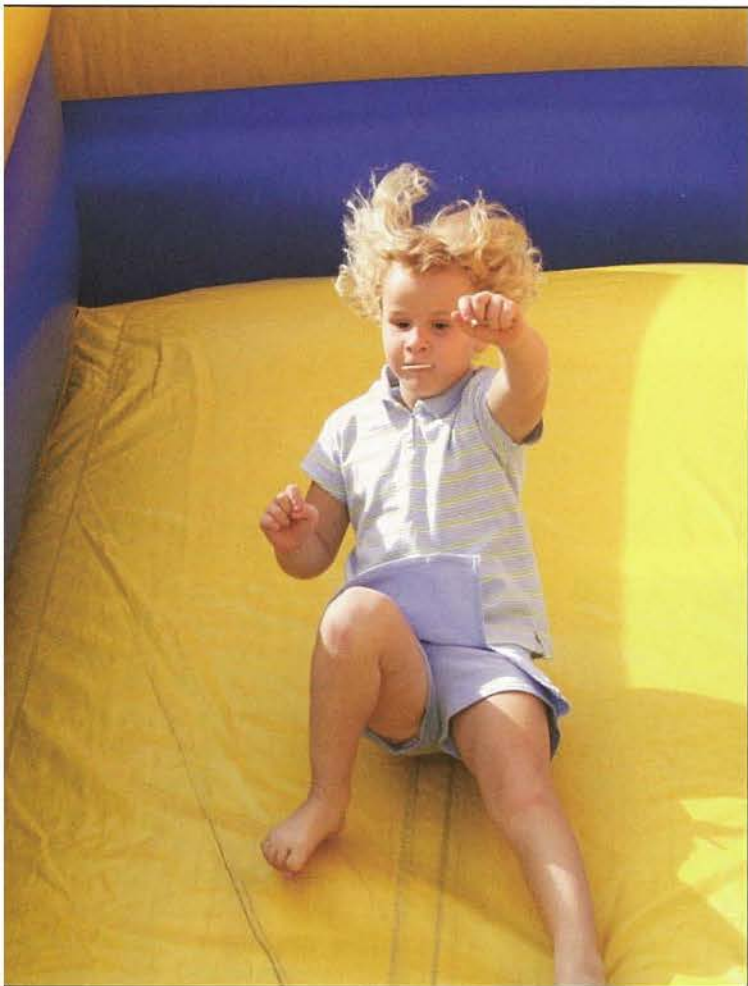
"Family Day was really cool," freshman Victor Timmons said. "If I ever had any doubts about continuing my tenure here at Missouri Western, I would think about Family Day and I'd have no more doubts. Okay, maybe it wasn't that cool, but I will be back again next year!"

The warm weather, the exciting activities, the great food and the victorious football game proved to make this year's Family Day a very successful one.



Who doesn't like to dress up in a fat suit and knock people around with your belly? Many people tried their luck in the sumo fighting area.

Photo by Jeremy Weikel



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If I ever had any doubts about continuing my tenure here at Missouri Western, I would think about Family Day and I'd have no more doubts.

-Victor Timmons

”

Family Day, the moves from col-students to their lies and friends. ttle girl enjoyed ne on the inflat-rides. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



remiah White, a or running back, ambles to make ty. The Griffons on to win 38-13. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Switchfoot Rocks Western

Student body votes for spring concert and introduces a Christian rock band to the community at the Civic Arena

Story by Sarah Derr

Every year, Campus Activities Board sponsors a spring concert to celebrate the end of the school year. After a vote from the student body, Switchfoot was selected as the 2007 band to lead the concert. Reeve Oliver co-lined the event along side Switchfoot.

"I was really excited when I found out that Switchfoot was performing for the spring concert," senior, marketing major Monica White said. "They are one of my favorite bands." Many Western students were fans of the band for a long period of time.

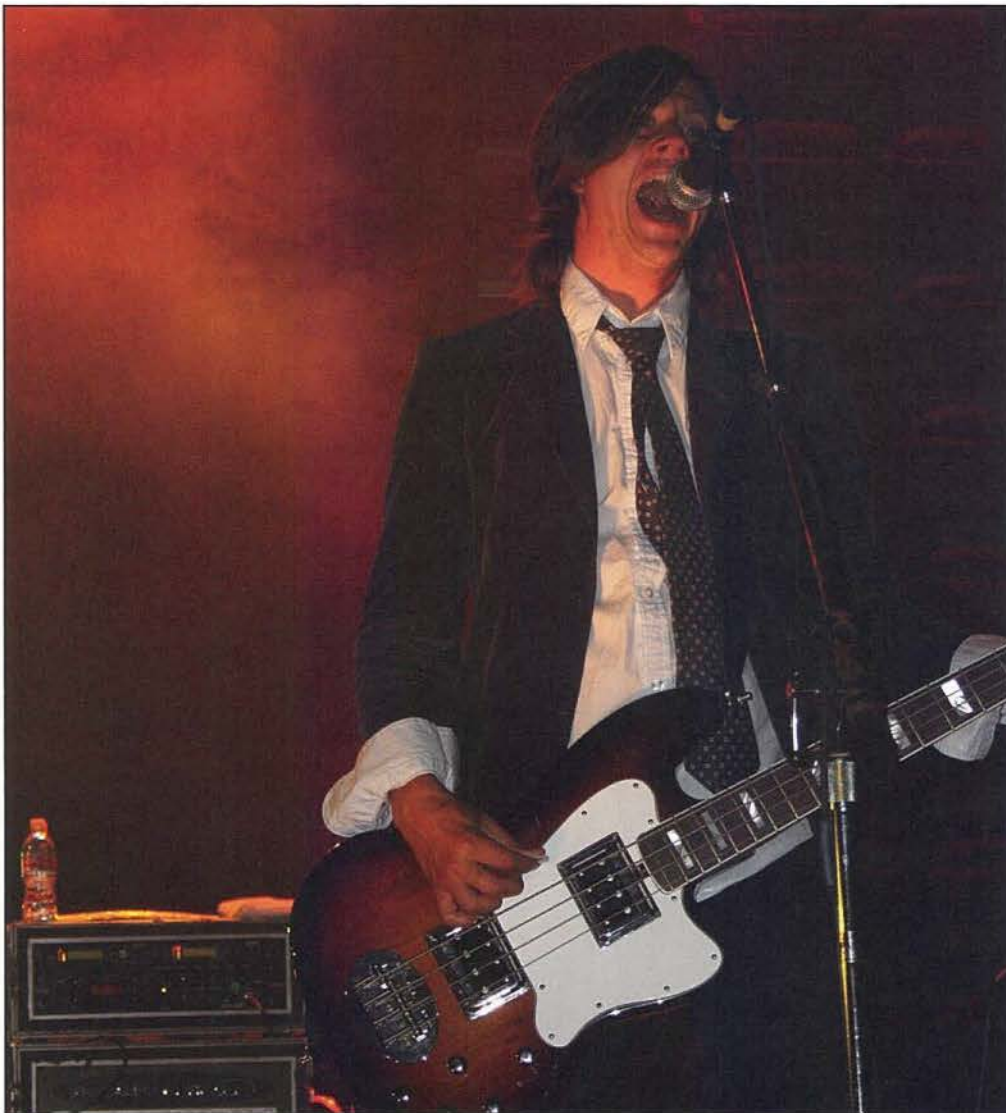
"I listen to their music all the time," junior, nursing major Carrie King said. "It is really cool that the university can get really famous bands to play in Saint Joseph. Usually, you have to go to Kansas City, if you want to see a famous band." The concert attracted a larger audience in 2007, than ever before.

"There were hundreds of people there," White said. "It was really hard to move around much, but overall it was a lot of fun and the music was great. Not all students were avid Switchfoot fans, but some who attended the concert discovered a new genre of music.

"I don't really listen to bands like Switchfoot that much," freshman, business major Dakota Walker said. "I was surprised, but I really enjoyed the concert. I might even start listening to their music more often. Annual, university-sponsored events such as this was a great way for Western students to relieve stress and meet new people.

"I think that attending concerts and other things that are sponsored by the university are a great way to meet new people," King said. "These kinds of events definitely improve the quality of my college experience and make me enjoy going to school here."

The event was held at the Civic Arena in Saint Joseph, Mo. Many students and area community members attended the event each year. Students were allowed one free ticket, while others were required to pay \$20 per ticket.



Tim Foreman, who plays Bass and does backing vocals performs for the concert. All who went to the concert had all positive comments about the band. Photo by Kalley Alexander



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I was really excited when I found out that Switchfoot was performing for the spring concert.

-Monica White

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erman, the lead r of Switchfoot, his way into the ce. Attendance p for the spring ncert. Photo by ailey Alexander



foot was started h three original mbers and later led into the curc members. The up performed at vic Arena April Photo by Kailey Alexander

RIVALRY

'Till the End

No one knows how it started but the rivalry between **MWSU** and **NWMSU** continues to be steady and strong

Story by Amy Chastain

Our colors are gold and black. Their colors are green and black. Our mascot is a Griffon, half lion, half eagle. Their mascot is a Bearcat. Both universities offer affordable tuition rates to students. They offer a wide range of courses and organizations to fit the interest of the study body, but yet, we are rivals. Why? Is one university better than the other? Is it appropriate to label one a "junior college" and the other a place, an institution of higher learning? The fact of the matter is, it is not right, but then again, maybe a friendly, old rivalry never hurt anyone.

"It is like the good, old high school rivalries," Northwest Missouri State University freshman Kalee Shonk said. "Everyone looks forward to playing Western and hopefully winning, just so we can have bragging rights until the next time we meet."

The rivalry between Western and Northwest has existed, as it seemed, since the dawn of time. "I think the rivalry is a great thing for both schools," Derek Nelson, a former Western football player, said. "All college athletic teams have big rivals and Northwest

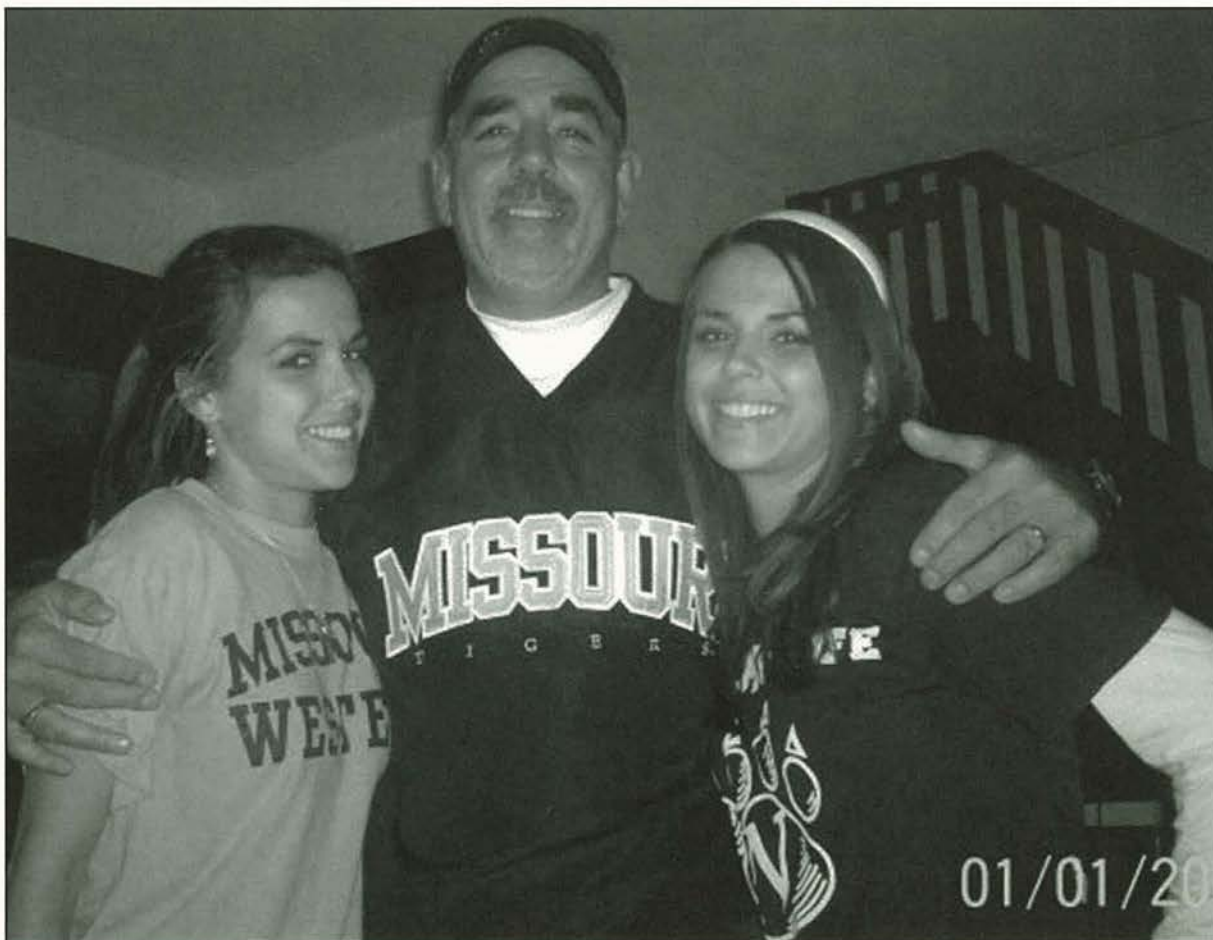


is that to us." Sometimes at the athletic events, this rivalry went a little too far.

"The crowds are actually very similar," Henry Copple, a Northwest junior, said. "Students from both schools are very supportive, but it can go too far. On a few occasions, I have seen fights and arguments between students from both schools at different sporting events."

While there was definitely the escalating rivalry, Derek Nelson took great pride in the fan base at Western. "The Northwest fans are pretty rowdy," Nelson said. "Anytime you play a school with a reputation like Northwest, the fans go crazy. Western fans have changed a great deal in the three years that I have been here. Students have become much more involved and alumni are starting to show more support. Someday I think we could have a great fan base like Northwest. I don't think the fans are too extreme. Players feed off of energy like that and other teams struggle to gain momentum in a crazy environment."

Ally Browning, a communications major at



Ally and Abby Browning pose with their Dad during a family get together for New Years Day. Ally goes to MWSU while her twin sister Abby, went to NWMSU. Photo Submitted

The battle with Northwest continues onto the football field. This year, Northwest won the annual competition 24-21. Photo by Kailey Alexander

ern, had a rivalry built up in her own family aside her life at Western. Her twin, Abby, was a junior northwest. "There is much competition, although, y not to make it that way," Ally said. "My step-'s mom, dad and brother all went to Northwest y dad's side of the family is pretty much for west. As far as competition between Abby and could care less. We both love our schools and are y that we both are satisfied."

It appeared that the rivalry was not as bad as it portrayed aside from the occasional outburst at tic events. Students from both universities took pride in their schools and were honored to be of the rich rivalry it entailed.

"I like being able to be a part of something that veloping versus something that is already known," on said. "Everyone knows about Northwest, so it big surprise to hear about them, but now, people arting to talk about Western, and it is becoming a nizeable name."



"I like being able to be a part of something that is developing versus something that is already known."

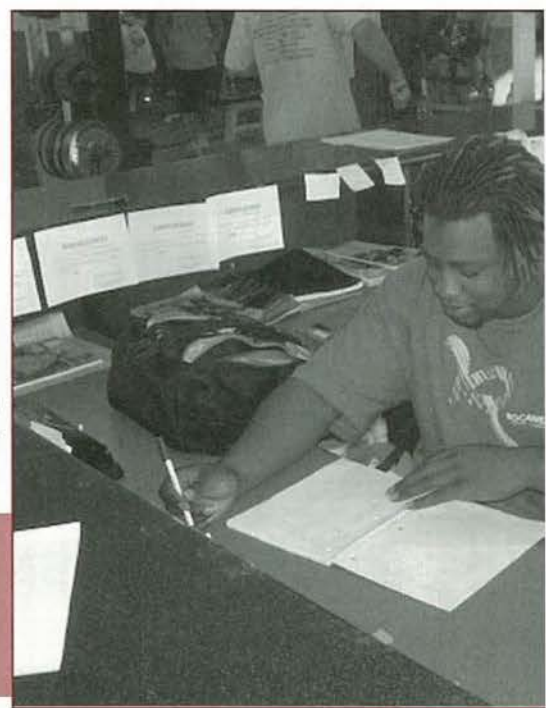
-Derek Nelson



Here, There, & Everywhere

The ongoing discussion of the pros and cons of on and off campus employment

Becky Dew works as a hostess at Ground Round, a local restaurant in St. Joseph. Students who preferred working off-campus found it easier to pay for other necessities.
Photo by Jamison Burns



Story by Sarah Derr

Off-campus employment vs. on-campus employment? This was the question that several college students contemplated. Either take a low-paying job on-campus or a higher-paid job off-campus where some employers weren't as flexible with students course schedule. Students went back and forth on this question on where to seek employment, while others worked jobs both on and off-campus.

Senior Becky Monnig dealt with the stresses of graduating, classes and maintaining three jobs. Monnig was Campus Activities Board president, an employee at the Center for Student Engagement and also at Rolling Hills Plaza, a job off-campus. She was aware of the advantages and disadvantages to being employed both on and off-campus.

"The advantage of working on-campus is that they know you have a meeting or class," she said. "When you work off-campus, they may get frustrated with your busy schedule."

Freshman and supervisor of Cold Stone Creamery, Jelena Hindery also felt that working on-campus would give her more of an opportunity to meet fellow students.

"I think it would give a better opportunity to meet people at MWSU, than Cold Stone Creamery does," Hindery said. "I also think that they would probably be more flexible with my schedule."

While working on-campus may have had more advantages as compared to off-campus jobs, one thing was for sure: the rate of pay was lower. Student employees made anywhere from \$5.15 to \$7.50 an hour. Tuition, car insurance, cell phone bills, gas and the cost of living could be quite overwhelming when income was low. Students who were employed on-campus and lived off-campus struggled to pay bills. A new policy that was implemented during the summer of 2006 made it harder for college students to make the rent or to pay bills on time and in full. To be employed through the university, students were required to work no more than 20 hours a week and also had to go through a longer hiring process.

"In the past, all of the paperwork was processed through our office (the Career Development and Student Employment office), now it is done in the Human Resources Department," Director of Student Employment Jeff Wilson said. "This was done primarily

Gary Williams works at the Fitness Center between classes. Many students preferred working on-campus jobs because of the flexibility.
Photo by Jamison Burns



Eagle Radio's, Melissa Gregory, finds working off campus to be beneficial in her future career. Off campus jobs also provided experience and guidance from their employer.
Photo by Jeremy Weikel

“

You have their order memorized because it never changes, and they know everything about you. You build relationships with them.

-Jelena Hindery

”

our office on finding the right jobs for interpersonal skills learned through employment.”

This was frustrating for many students who employed at a multiple of jobs on-campus and worked over 20 hours a week. Student employees were not paid for the 20 hours that they did work. If they worked that amount than they basically worked the 20 hours for free.

“Some leadership roles require you to work more than 20 hours a week,” Monnig said.

Whether working on or off-campus, the majority of students realized the importance of their role in the community.

“What I think is rewarding is when those customers come in who have been coming there since day one,” Hindery said. “You have their order memorized because it never changes, and they know everything about you. You build relationships with them.”

Campus wages were increased to a minimum of \$7.50 an hour after the legislature passed the minimum wage increase bill.

“

We had at least 200 kids come for the event. This turnout was a lot more than we expected, but we loved every minute of it.

*-Charles Howell
(RC Vice President)*

”



Parents and children wait their turn to participate in one of the activities for Trick-or-Treat Off the Street. This event was a big success for Residence Council. *Photo Submitted*

One child stops to enjoy a piece of candy before going back for more. Many grade school children from the St. Joseph area attended the event. *Photo submitted*



Trick-or-Treat Off the Street

Western's Residence Council provides a safe, yet enjoyable alternative for traditional trick-or-treating

Story by Amy Chastain

With Halloween just a day away, Western's very own Residence Council took part in the spooky holiday with a little tradition of their own. On Oct. 30, nearly 200 St. Joseph residents came to the campus with their children in spooky and fun attire. RC found that the turnout for Trick-or-Treat Off the Street was astounding as compared to previous years.

"The turnout for Trick-or-Treat Off the Street was wonderful," RC Vice President Charles Howell said. "We had at least 200 kids come for the event. This turnout was a lot more than we expected, but we loved every minute of it."



The kids not only had the privilege of trick-or-treating, but they also had the chance to decorate pumpkins and play pin the bone on the skeleton. Western students also stepped up to the plate and helped out with the event.

"There were about 28 rooms that participated in handing out candy," Howell said. "There were other students who chose to participate by dressing up and handing out candy without signing up. It was extremely fun to see who all helped and how they decided to participate for the kids."

Western faculty also attended the event with their children. Student Engagement employee Kathy Kelly took her son to the event.

"Patrick turned 10 this year," Kelly said. "He thought he was too old to trick-or-treat, which is disappointing to me. Halloween is one of my favorite days. He had basketball practice that night, but when he got home, I told him about Trick-or-Treat Off the Street and he was excited. He loves coming to the MWSU campus."

Kristy Hill, who was also employed at the Public Relations and Marketing department, attended the event with her daughter. Hill decided to attend because it was a fun and safe place for her daughter to celebrate Halloween.

"My daughter loved Trick-or-Treat Off the Street," Hill said. "She enjoyed coming to where I work. She had a great time trick-or-treating from room to room."

Leading up to the event, RC had quite a full plate to deal with before the big night kicked off.

"We had to ok everything with the city school district before we could pass any flyers out to the kids," Howell said. "We had to estimate the amount of candy to buy for the college students who signed up to help. We had the decorations and deciding of games that would entertain kids waiting to go trick-or-treating."

The preparations were worth it though, because many who had previously attended decided that they would come in the future.

"Patrick will be in sixth grade next year, so he will be able to attend once more," Kelly said. "I have a granddaughter who will be old enough next year who will enjoy it too. We may have to turn this into a Kelly family tradition."

Light Up Western

Story by Katrina Darr

First annual lighting ceremony at the Glenn E. Marion Clock Tower persists despite the rain

The first annual lighting of the Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower started out a little misty. Despite the cold winds and rain, students and faculty still came out to kick off the holiday season. Once the ceremony started, it was evident that holiday spirit was in the air. The Director of Student Engagement Services, Sweeney helped organize "Light up, Western."

"Light up, Western" was created to usher in the holiday season," Sweeney said. "We wanted to highlight holiday celebrations and create an event which we could bring the campus community together as well as the St. Joseph community."

At the start of the ceremony Director of Extra Curricular Affairs Beth Wheeler shared a short story with the crowd about the symbolism of light. After her story, the women of Sigma Alpha Iota along with the members of Phi Mu Alpha sang carols underneath the clock tower. Students and faculty gathered around the tower in anticipation of the lighting.

Once the lights were on, the campus was finally ready for the holidays. The clock tower was lit along with tree lights all around campus. Sigma Alpha Iota member Autumn Greear was one of the carolers that night.

"It was a beautiful event," Greear said. "More people should have come."

After the light ceremony and caroling was over, students and faculty were nestled inside of the Blum Union to continue the celebration. There was hot cocoa and treats were available for the taking in the Blum Union. The Center for Multicultural Education also had displays that provided students with detailed information on the different holidays that were celebrated during that time of the year.

"It wasn't just a Christmas event," Greear said. "The lights were there to represent all holidays that happen around this time."

Students, faculty and organizations also had the opportunity to decorate trees in the Blum Union. This event was a great way for everyone affiliated with Missouri Western to be involved. Member of Phi Mu Alpha, Keith Langabee, enjoyed being a part of the holiday event.

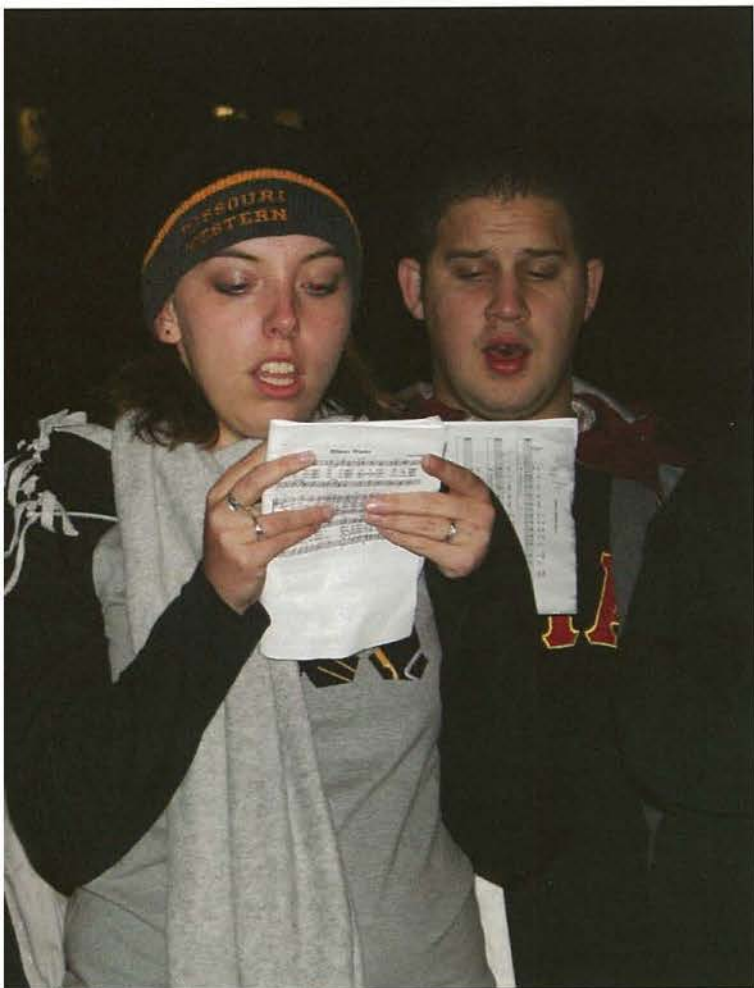
"Light Up, Western,' was a fun event for us to be a part of as our chapter continues to get ourselves noticed on campus," Langabee said. "We hope to continue being a part of this in the years to come."

Sweeney, along with several others who attended the event, felt that this was a wonderful way to celebrate the Holiday season.

"We were very excited for this event to come together," Sweeney said. "We would like this event to become a Western tradition."



A member of Alpha Gamma Delta hangs an ornament on the holiday tree in Blum Union. Students, faculty and organizations had the opportunity of hanging ornaments on the tree. Photo by Stacie Batchelar



“
*The lights were
 there to represent
 all the holidays
 around this time.*
-Autumn Greear
 ”

Alpha Iota and Phi Mu Alpha sing in anticipation of the lighting ceremony. Students braved the element weather to show their support.

Photo by Stacie Batchelar

Clock tower shines through the mist along with the trees lit by students. This was the first ceremonial lighting of the clock tower. Photo by Stacie Batchelar



Brushwood Sets *Fire*

Magician Brian Brushwood takes the stage to astound and amaze Western's community

Story By Tammy Havens

Brian Brushwood is a fire-eater and a magician a taste for the bizarre as well as a comedian.

On Feb. 10, Brushwood took the stage and brought his magic show with a demonstration on fire eating enlightened the audience in an informative speech or stunt. He also performed various tricks such as smash a cinder block on his head with an 8-pound mallet, and human blockhead, which involved hammering a large into one of his nostrils.

Brushwood also performed was the 'Indian Sk Through the Tongue' trick. He selected an audience member to inspect his tongue and the skewer to make neither was fake. After he stabbed the skewer through tongue, he "realized" that he was not supposed to act stab the skewer. He was supposed to switch skewer that it looked like he had. The audience, shocked at the same time amazed, thought that he had cut off his tongue. He handed the skewer with his severed tongue his assistant as a souvenir to show that she had done a job.

Brushwood's bewildered assistant was the daughter of senior and technical communications major St Shores. Shores said that her daughter did not realize that wasn't his real tongue even after she had taken her seat.

The audience was very responsive to Brushwood's show even though the majority of the students had never heard of him. Sophomore Justin Simpson said that although he had never heard of Brushwood, he attended the show because a buddy of his wanted to go to a magic show.

Each audience member appreciated something from Brushwood's performance. Shores took great pride in the originality.

"It was so original," Shores said. "I liked all of it, even the morbid parts."

For Campus Activities Board member Ash Baldwin, it was one of the more disturbing parts of the show that really got a reaction from the audience. "I enjoyed the part where he cut off his tongue," Baldwin said.

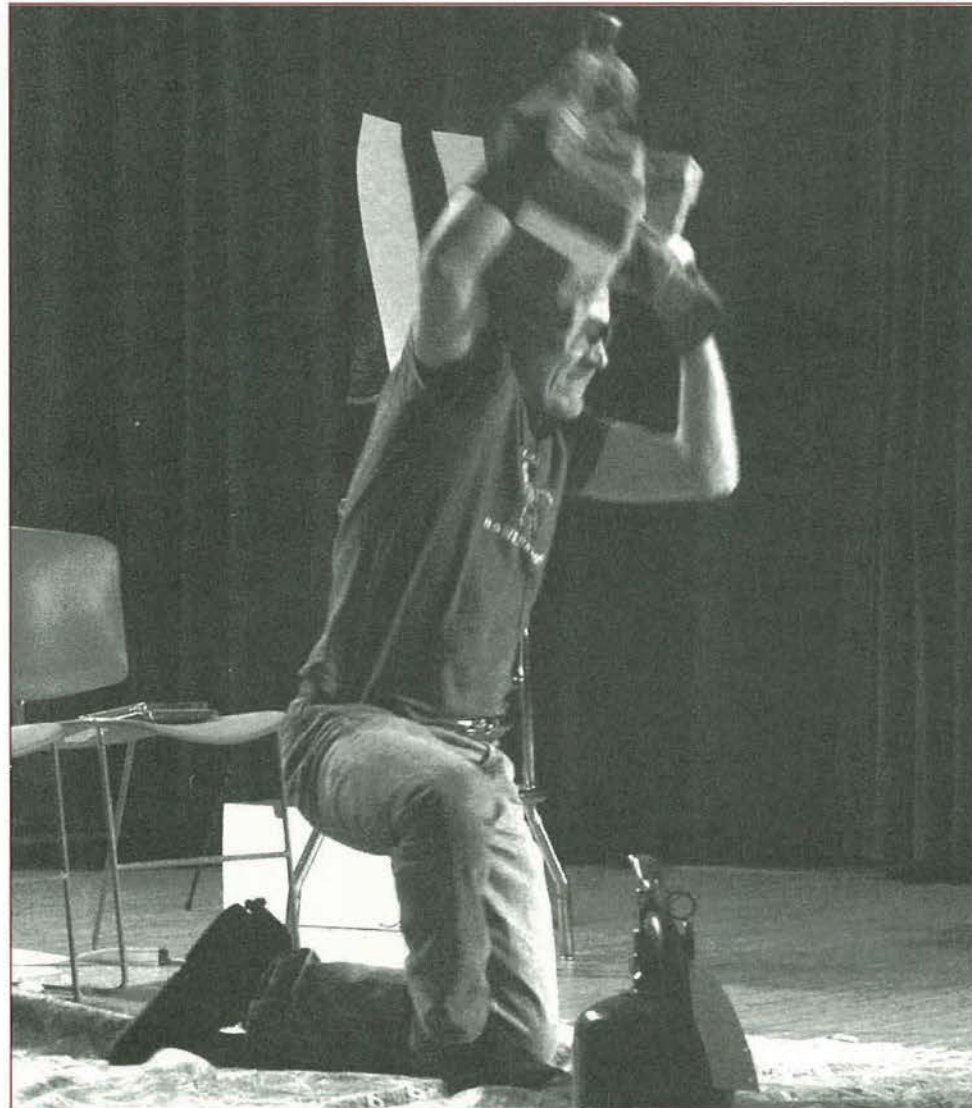
Aside from not being well known, Brushwood faced a challenge of drawing a crowd due in part of the scheduling time for the successful Women's basketball team. According to Baldwin, the event was not intentionally scheduled on the same night as the game.

"We had set our 'Late Night events' on the Saturday that our advisor was available," Baldwin said.

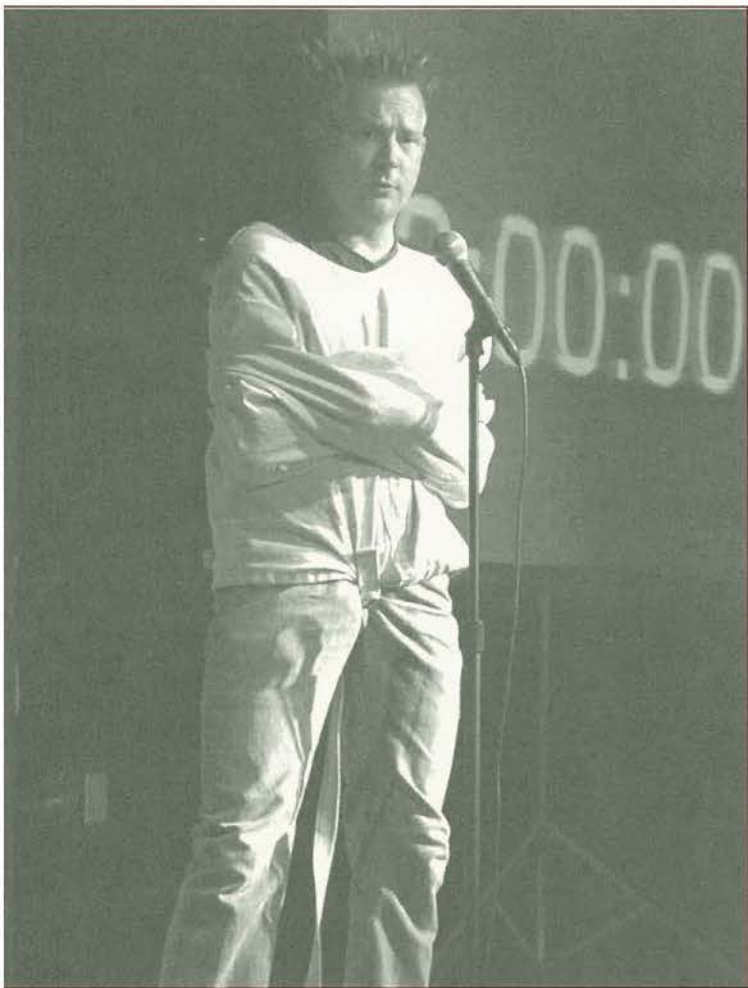
Despite the fact that the show was up against a basketball game, both Brushwood and CAB members were satisfied with the turnout.

Brushwood felt that CAB members did a wonderful job of getting the word out about the event. He also felt the audience's enthusiasm all throughout the show.

"I thought the audience had a good time, and was very involved in the show," Baldwin said.



Brian Brushwood breaks a cinder block over his head. Brushwood amazed students with his magic tricks and wild stunts. Photo by Linda Shireman



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It was so original. I liked all of it, even the morbid parts.

-Stacey Shores

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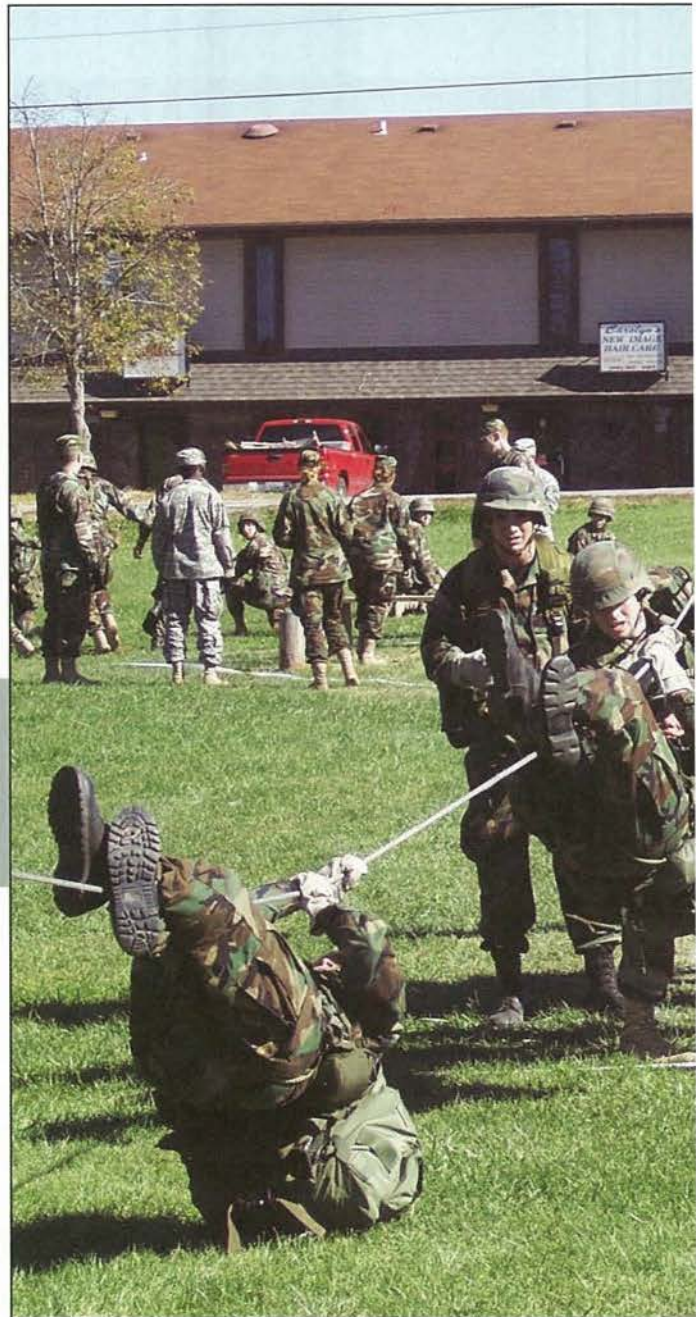
Brushwood prepares out of a straight t in two minutes less. Brushwood formed this stunt tribute to Harryoudini. Photo by Linda Shireman



Brushwood begins show with a short y lesson on fire ting. He demon- various ways to fire and captured audience's atten- Photo by Linda Shireman

Reserve Officers' Training Corps

Students balance school with training for their future in Western's ROTC program



Story By Katrina Darr

Right, left, right, left, salute, stand. Colors of military green jumped out as Western students watched the very many ROTC, or Reserve Officer Training Corps, march across the campus.

The ROTC program offered students a chance to enhance leadership skills, maintain physical appearance and a memorable, and fulfilling career in the military.

"The Reserve Officer Training Corps is a program by which a college student learns leadership at the highest level," Recruiting Officer Major Brian Stackhouse said. "Students seeking opportunity to be one of tomorrow's leaders and develop the skills necessary to lead in any situation will benefit greatly from ROTC."

Western sophomore Brent Ault believed that leadership was also a great asset taught in the ROTC program.

"It gives you great leadership skills and people skills," Ault said.

Senior and nursing major Kristie Tabacchi participated in the ROTC program. Tabacchi was a recipient of scholarship money.

"The ROTC has paid for all of my school, and they give me a stipend and book money," she said. "It is very nice, I don't have to work. I get to concentrate on school."

Many students who were interested, but didn't think that they could maintain the physical activity ROTC required, were put off by it. This was a common misconception about the program, even though it was quite strenuous.

"You don't have to be in great shape to come and try, but by the end, you will be able to do push-ups, sit-ups and run two miles," Tabacchi said.

Repelling, map reading, obstacle courses, color guard, inter-campus sporting events and flag football were just a few activities that cadets could participate in to maintain their physical appearance.

Cadets in the ROTC program were also



Learning to adapt to their surroundings was an important survival tactic for the ROTC. Most of the program was completed in the early hours of the day. Photo submitted

Western ROTC students complete the ropes and agility training. The training was very physically demanding of the cadets. Photo submitted

enged to be more than just average college
nts. They developed qualities that improved
college and professional life. The ROTC pushed
ersonal development, time management and
emic challenges. Upon graduation of the program,
s were given endless opportunities. Those who
leted the program received commissions as
ers in the United States Army.

“The ROTC gives you a career, when you are
f college,” Ault said.

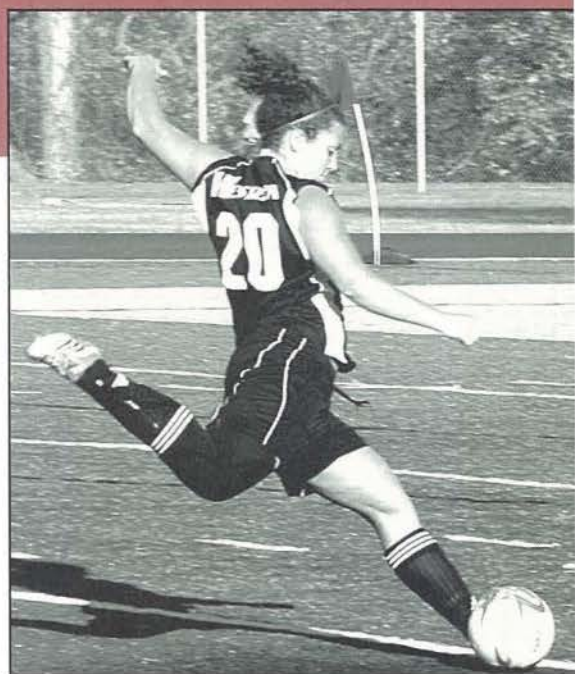
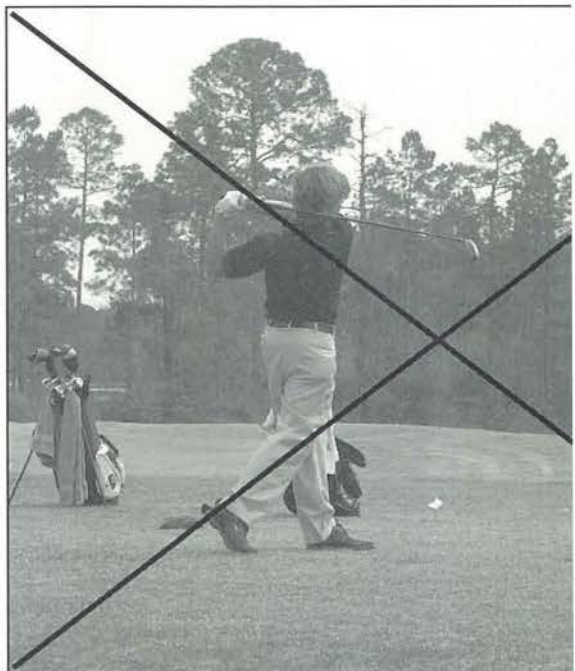
The ROTC had lasting effects on students,
her they had an Army career or civilian career.

“In college and after graduation, cadets find
he training and experience they receive are
s whether pursuing an Army or civilian career,”
house said. “The sense of pride, discipline and
nitment involved with ROTC stays with a person
fe.”

“ The ROTC
gives you a career,
when you are out
of college. ”
- Brent Ault

Could We Have Been **F**orgotten?

Lower division and less mentioned sports felt neglected and left out when it came to "Max's Money"



Story by Amy Chastain

Come on, Max, throw a little money our way.... this may have been the perceived thought of two Western athletic teams that the Max Experience might have forgotten to mention. With all of the plans laid out for Western athletics, there was one sport that couldn't help but wonder, what about us? This was the Men and Women's Golf team.

In the fall of 2006, Western students were able to view the new changes that Max had to offer. A new synthetic turf was installed for the Men's football and Women's soccer team as well as the track resurfacing for area joggers and students who enjoyed a nice, brisk walk.

"The first piece of the Max Experience was putting ProGrass turf down in the stadium," Women's Soccer Coach Jeff Hansen said. "That has allowed us, along with the football team, to practice and play on it as much as we want. During pre-season, we had four or five nights of rain that did not affect anybody's practice schedule because we had the turf."

The Men's Golf team, on the other hand, had not seen any changes that Max had brought even with the

"Student Benefit Package."

"The Max Experience is for everyone, but it indirectly affects us," Men's Golf Coach Jim Perry said. "It would be nice if the Max Experience would purchase golf equipment or rain gear for the team."

Just slightly over a year after Max was passed some athletic teams reaped the benefits such as the football and soccer team.

One thing that all teams benefited from was "Student Benefit Package." This package included 10 benefits: free admission for immediate family members to sporting events, free concessions at home contests, a fitness center summer fee waiver, a new student cheering group, pep band and cheer squad improvements, promotional events and items, a shuttle bus around campus for home basketball games, one football and one basketball road trip, babysitting services for young children at home basketball games and priority parking for off-campus students.

Even with these benefits, though, the Western golf team still did not see much of the benefit package since there was no golf course on campus. The Men's

Some of the Western sports teams that were left looking into the sunset for money included the Men's and Women's golf teams. They were still waiting for the benefits from Max. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Both the soccer and the football teams immediately benefited from the Max Experience with the new turf stadium. Practice and games were held, rain or shine. Photos by Jeremy Weikel

however, had to purchase new bags for the team : fall. The money spent on the bags came directly the golf budget; the bags were \$100 a piece.

On the contrary, Perry did support Max, as did the Western coach.

"The Max Experience will help all programs budget or no budget," Women's Volleyball coach Kyp Harasymowycz said.

Hansen also felt that it would be nice if all the athletic teams were given the same amount of money. "Thank every coach here at MWSU and around the country feel that they should receive a little money, but it doesn't grow on trees," Hansen said. "When you find out how much you have, then you have to find the correct way to spend it. Also, fundraising is a must when dealing with collegiate athletics. Every program here, and I'm sure most in the country, do some fundraising to help increase their budget and do some of the things that the budget would normally allow."

“*The Max Experience will help all programs here, budget or no budget.*

*-Kyp Harasymowycz
(Women's Volleyball Coach)*

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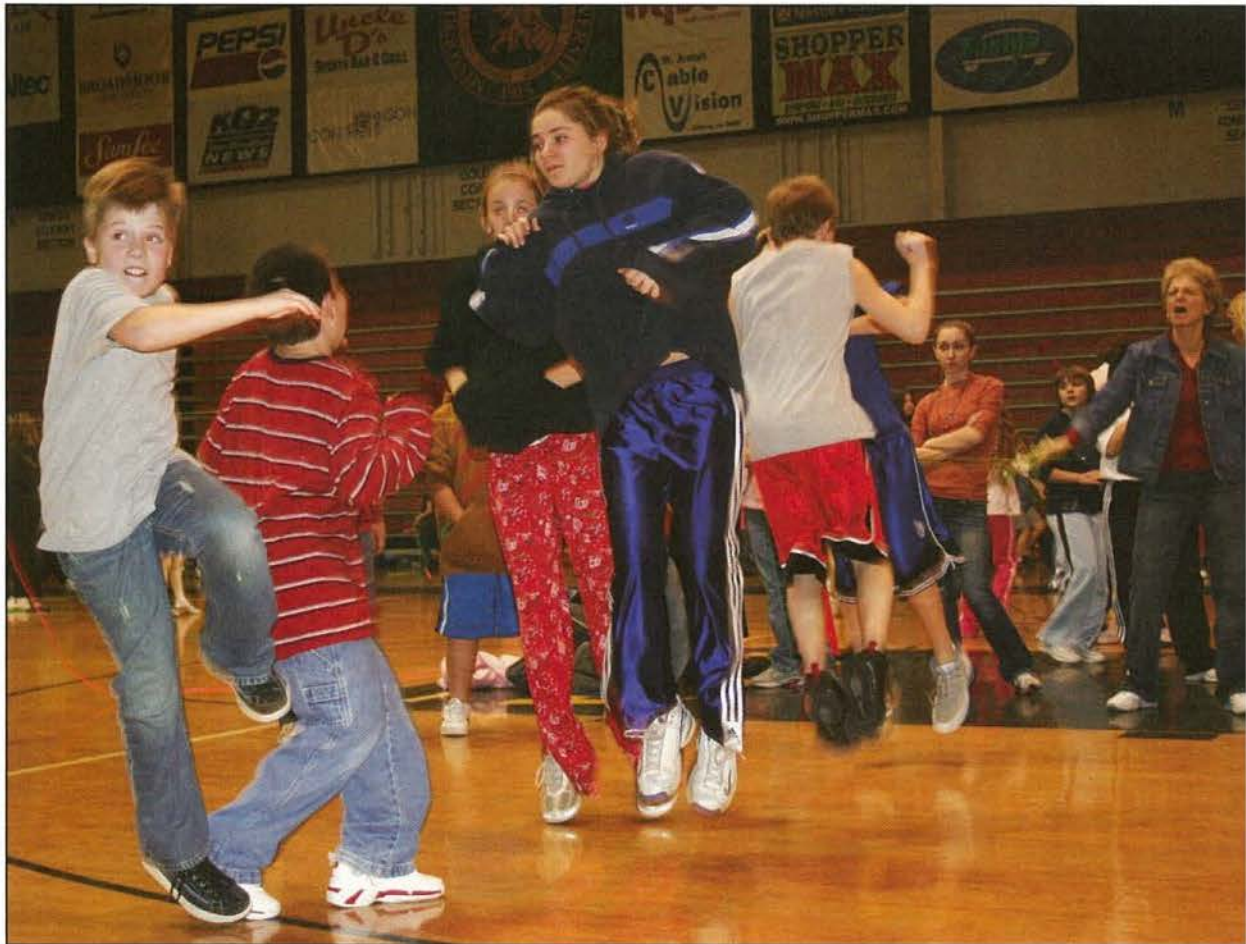
It was a success because of the school district supporting and encouraging all schools to participate.

-Nannette Wolford

”

One elementary school girl jumps rope to help support the effort of the American Heart Association. She was one of the 450 students who attended the event. *Photo by Kailey Alexander*

Elementary students do their best to jump over the same rope as a group. The students who attended the event enjoyed themselves while learning the importance of helping others. *Photo by Kailey Alexander*



Jump Rope For Heart

450 Elementary school children jumped rope on Valentine's Day to raise money and awareness for the American Heart Association

Story by Amy Chastain

On Valentine's Day, Missouri Western partook in the holiday spirit by joining hands with the St. Joseph community. Western hosted the 21st annual "Jump Rope for Heart," from 4 to 6 p.m. in the M.O. Looney Complex arena. According to Associate Professor of Physical Education Nannette Wolford, 450 schoolchildren attended the event and jumped their little hearts out to raise money for the American Heart Association.

"We had 450 jumpers and at this point, \$23,800 and some dollars were turned in on the night of the jump," Wolford said.

Western has hosted this event for nearly 20 years with 13 area schools participating. "The community highly supports the event and they bring their children and stay and participate with their children as well as watch them jump," Wolford said.

St. Joseph native Diane Clary brought her grandson to the event. "This is his first year," Clary said. "He wanted to go because he thought it would be fun."

The event was not just a social gathering, but it also helped many gain insight on the nation's No. 1 cause of death, heart disease.

"The sole purpose is to allow children to do their part for helping with research and education on the No. 1 killer—heart disease," Wolford said. "It is to teach the children we can

make a difference and we must all do our part to help with wellness."

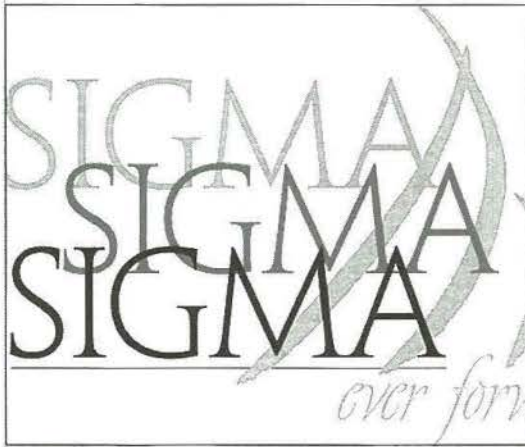
Western students also took part in helping out. Student Daniel Atkinson was the disc jockey for the event. "I'm just having a good time with the kids," Atkinson said.

This event has been very successful at Western. In 2006, the event raised \$28,000. "It was a success because of the school district supporting and encouraging all schools to participate," Wolford said. "The teachers from area schools motivated children and collected their pledges. The parents also helped out by taking their pledges and getting them to the event."

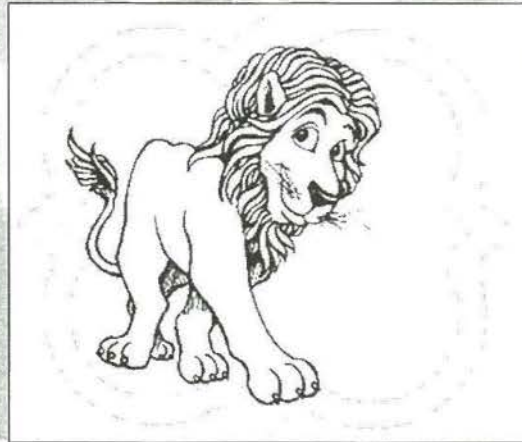
"Jump Rope for Heart" first came about in the late 1970s when Jean Barkow of Milwaukee Riverside High School held the first "rope-a-thon." Barkow later attended the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Conference in Chicago, Ill. At this conference, she discussed the potential of the project as a national fundraising event. The event made its national debut in 1978 and has been a success ever since. According to the "Jump Rope for Heart" website, in the 2005-2006 school year, over \$53.9 million was raised. This event has raised a total of \$644 million in its 28-year history.

Greek 101

"We may stand out, but we will never stand alone," MWSU's Greek community makes their presence felt on campus



Sigma Sigma Sigma



Phi Mu



Delta Sigma Theta



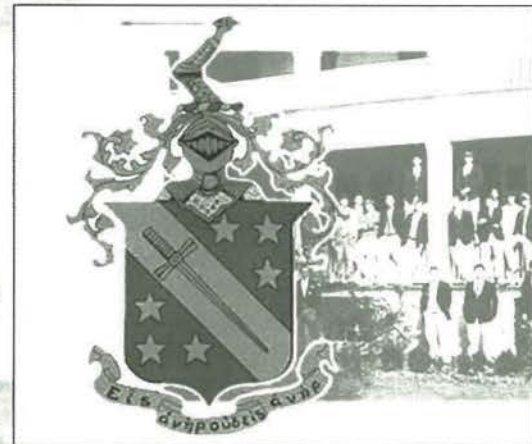
Alpha Sigma Alpha



Phi Sigma Kappa



Tau Kappa Epsilon



Phi Delta Theta



Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia



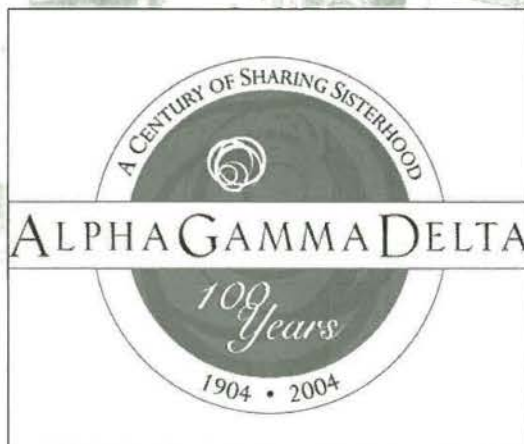
Alpha Sigma Phi



Alpha Phi Alpha



Phi Beta Sigma



Alpha Gamma Delta

"Langabee pretty much swept the individual competitions," Phi Delta Theta member Luke Mazur said. Mazur was nominated by Alpha Sigma Alpha.

The annual event was no different; each nominated contestant tried his best to raise money for the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation. "I carried around a jar to get donations for Juvenile Diabetes," Mazur said.

Mr. MWSU was a fun event for all Greeks to take part in and raise money for charities in the St. Joseph community. Many students did not mind volunteering their time to better the lives of many area residents. "My favorite part of the competition was just going out and having a good time on stage," Mazur said.

MISS BLACK AND GOLD

Story by Torrence Jones

It was an exciting year for nursing student Brittney Kelley. Not only was she graduating and about to enter the exciting world of nursing, but she was also crowned the ninth annual Miss Black and Gold.

"I am very happy I won," Kelley said. "I wasn't sure if I was going to win. All of the other ladies were great."

The pageant was hosted by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated. The ladies competed in four different categories including swimwear, formal wear, business wear and talent.

"This is an annual event that we put on," Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated member Tyson Malone said. "The ladies have to participate in community service projects. They are also offered academic scholarships based on the percentage of advertisements and tickets sold by the ladies."

The Miss Black and Gold Pageant was an exciting event which provided a timely experience for the lucky winner and all participants.

ALS WALK

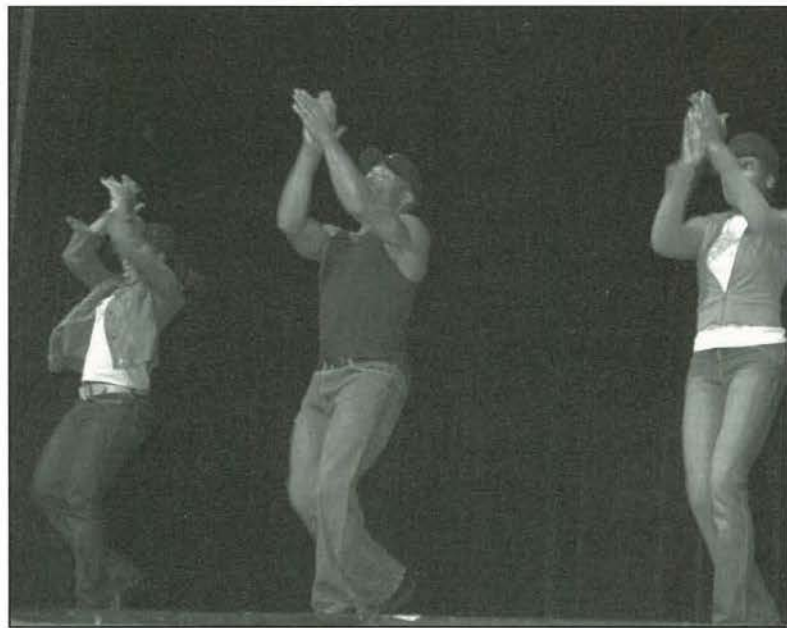
Story by Tammy Havens

Every year the Phi Delta Theta Chapter hosted the ALS walk to help fight the disease, which was also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Gehrig, a former New York Yankee, was also a member of Phi Delta Theta.

The walk was scheduled for April 21 at 9 a.m. The starting point was located at the Ashland United Methodist Church and ended at Central High School, approximately two miles away.

Taylor Litton, a senior who majored in marketing and sports management, was a member of the fraternity. Litton was also one of the 40 active fraternity members who took part in the walk. According to Litton, over 100 people participated in the walk the previous year and they were expecting at least that many again. Litton also said that each person who walked raised \$50 and they had donation sheets from others and raised at least \$2,000.

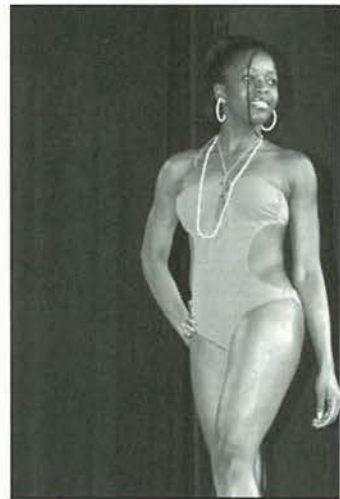
The ALS walk was held every year even though it usually took place at the same time as the March of



Above: The dancers of Step Afrika! are performing dances from different countries. The event was education for all in attendance. Photo by Jamison Burns



Above: Contestants in the Miss Black and Gold pageant must attend an informational meeting and then attend practice sessions for the pageant. They must also compete in a swimsuit and talent competition. Photo by Alli McLaughlin



Above: The Miss Black and Gold pageant is event held every year by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Brittney Kelly was the winner this year. Photo by Alli McLaughlin



Below: All the ladies in the Miss Black and Gold pageant start the show off with a group dance number. Alpha Phi Alpha hosted a dance after the event. Photo by Alli McLaughlin



Herrington, a member of Alpha Sigma Phi competes in the Greek God contest. Candidates raise money all week and perform at the photo by Linda Shireman



Rachel Donnell, a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma competes in the Greek Goddess contest. Tri Sigma placed well in all the week's events. Photo by Linda Shireman



Above: Phi Mu sorority performs their skit at the talent show. Their par idée included making fun of Britney Spears almost dropping her baby while walking. Photo by Linda Shireman



Left: Alpha Sigma Phi's perform their skit with music and pretend to be a band; Tenacious Alpha Sig. The Alpha Sigs won both the talent show and lip sync competitions. Photo by Linda Shireman

Below: Members of Alpha Sigma Alpha perform the dance from Michael Jackson's Thriller music video. ASA always worked very hard on their routines for Greek Week. Photo by Linda Shireman



Dimes. The fraternity did their best to get the word out to draw a large crowd.

According to chemistry major Kelly Malloy, to get the word out the fraternity made flyers and placed them at local businesses and used Western e-mail.

GREEK WEEK

Story by Dana Heldenbrand

Greek Week 2007 started out with frustration. The first event of the week was cancelled due to some communication issues. However, as the slogan for Greek Week said, the Greek community stood together and regrouped.

The week continued with a barbeque, an alcohol awareness speaker, the Greek Olympics, a talent show and a lip sync competition. The overall Greek Week winners were: Alpha Sigma Phi, Alpha Sigma Alpha and Alpha Gamma Delta. Numerous other awards were given at the end of the week, but the two big awards went to Tau Kappa Epsilon and Alpha Sigma Alpha with 'Fraternity and Sorority of the Year,' respectively.

"I am very proud of my sorority," Tiffany Zimmerman, Alpha Sigma Alpha president, said. "We have all worked very hard to get back to the award-winning chapter that we have always been. Friday night's awards banquet was a very special night for all of us."

Greek man of the year was awarded to Cody Root and Greek woman of the year went to Alie Koile.

GREEK AWARDS

Story by Amy Chastain

Sorority of the Year: *Alpha Sigma Alpha*
 Fraternity of the Year: *Tau Kappa Epsilon*
 Outstanding Recruitment: *Alpha Gamma Delta*
 Outstanding Community Service: *Alpha Gamma Delta*
 Greek Collaboration Award: *Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Phi Mu, Sigma Sigma Sigma*
 Outstanding Educational Program: *Alpha Sigma Alpha*
 Outstanding Scholarship Program: *Tau Kappa Epsilon*
 Over-All Greek Week: *Alpha Sigma Phi, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Alpha Gamma Delta*
 Lip Sync: *Alpha Sigma Phi*
 Talent Show: *Alpha Sigma Phi*
 Greek Man of the Year: *Cody Root*
 Woman of the Year: *Alie Koile*
 Greek Scholar of the Year: *Nicole Shiflett*
 Campus Involvement Award: *Lisa Crawford*
 Greek Involvement Award: *Katy Schwartz*
 Volunteer of the Year: *Michelle Delaney*
 Living the Ritual Award: *Tiffany Zimmerman*
 Outstanding New Member Sorority: *Jelena Hindrey*
 Outstanding New Member Fraternity: *Larry Motley*
 Chapter Advisor of the Year: *Bob Bergland, TKE*
 Alumni Advisor: *Bobbi Elliot, ASA*
 Greek God: *Luke Herrington*
 Greek Goddess: *Kristin Parker*

The Back Roll

*An oxymoron in itself,
“Roller Backpacks”
have managed to sweep
Western's campus in a frenzy*

Story by Erik Ross

You saw them everyday. Whether they were taking up space on the sidewalks or in the aisles in classrooms, roller backpacks were on the rise. All across campus, it was easy to notice all types of students dragging their backpack on wheels. It was a craze that was sweeping across the Missouri Western campus.

“It seems like I see more and more of them everyday,” freshman Jon Bond said. “I see them in classrooms, walking to and from class, in the cafeteria; I see them everywhere. It’s crazy.”

The trend that started primarily with non-traditional students soon started to catch on with the traditional ones as well. It seemed that there was more to the roller backpack story than met the untrained eye.

“I only use my roller backpack when I have a lot to carry,” freshman Brandin Ericson said. “It is a lot



more convenient and comfortable, than filling up my other backpack and having to lug it around on my back all day.”

Other students didn’t like the idea of roller backpacks at all. No matter how useful they may have been, some students thought that they were more trouble than they were actually worth.

“Roller backpacks are a pain!” freshman Tyler Lingerfelt said. “They get in the way, even if I was using one, I’d feel bad for making other students trip over me.”

As much as some hated the idea of roller backpacks, they were in full-force and users were proudly speaking out.

“Sometimes it’s embarrassing to use my roller backpack,” Ericson said. “I know a lot of people don’t like them or think they get in the way or whatever,



The debate is in full swing on whether students will switch to roller backpacks. These two girls were still able to remain friends even though one rolls and one carries. Photo by Alli McLaughlin

Many Western students choose to use roller backpacks. They helped to reduce back strain from heavy text books. Photo by Alli McLaughlin

sometimes you just have to suck it up. Roller backpacks are good for what they are, deal with it." Whether you loved or hated roller backpacks, you were certainly here to stay. With the news that roller backpacks were actually useful, the number of roller backpacks being used on campus grew rapidly daily. Students, young and old, could be seen literally everywhere on campus pulling a large apparatus on wheels.

"Watch your toes, Missouri Western," Lingerfelt said. "Roller backpacks are here to stay!"

“They get in the way, even if I was using one, I’d feel bad for making other students trip over me.
-Tyler Lingerfelt”

Not Enough Hours

Story by Dana Heldenbrand

With more new television shows premiering, students find themselves deciding which to watch and which to tape for later



Being able to watch your favorite television show on reruns became a lot easier. Students bought entire TV series on DVD box collections. Photo by Ella Howser

Lucas and Peyton are finally a couple and H and Nathan are having a baby. George and Callie are married and Burke and Christina got engaged. Miles is accused of murder and Gaby and Carlos got a divorce. Grissom took a sabbatical and Catherine was left to run the lab.

These were not Missouri Western students. These were, however, people that some Western students faithfully watched every week. These were the characters on some of Western students' favorite television shows.

According to nielsenmedia.com, during the week of Jan. 29, 2007, the top weekly shows were American Idol, House, Criminal Minds, Grey's Anatomy and CSI. These ratings were not that accurate on Western campus. According to criminal justice major Rebecca Hamby, the best two shows on television were One Tree Hill and Gilmore Girls.

For Bryce Calvin, a communications major, Colbert Report and Futurama were the best.

"Witty sarcasm is a staple in my life," Calvin said. Yet another freshman said her favorite shows were Grey's Anatomy and One Tree Hill.

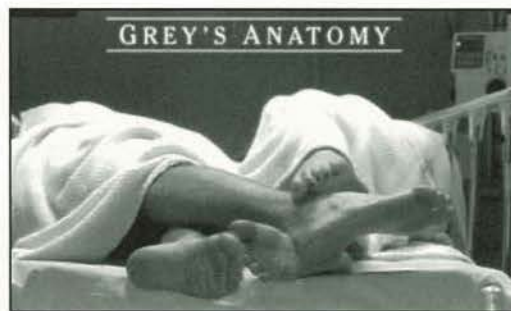
"Grey's Anatomy is awesome," nursing major Cassie Sorenson said. "It is fun to watch them work and all the problems they solve, and it doesn't help that the guys are hot!"

While some watch their favorite television shows alone, others got together to catch the story on the shows. It was not uncommon to hear about groups of students who got together every week to watch their favorite show. One group took the idea and ran with it. The members of Alpha Sigma Alpha decided to host an informal recruitment event that revolved around a popular television show, Grey's Anatomy.

"I picked Grey's Anatomy for our recruitment event because we were assigned a Thursday date by Panhellenic and there's nothing better to do on Thursday, then watch Grey's Anatomy and dish about it with your friends," Alie Koile, vice president of public relations and recruitment for ASA, said. "I know that in order to get girls to participate in this event, watching this awesome show is the best way to get them to come!"

There were approximately 30 ladies in attendance at the Grey's Anatomy event. Koile, a legal studies major, believed the event was successful. "We had a large attendance and it made for great conversation with our potential new members," she said. "Our chapter would definitely have another event involving Grey's Anatomy. In the past, we've had events for Desperate Housewives and the OC. We're a TV loving generation!"

Whether students watched their favorite shows alone or at an event similar to the ASA recruitment event, Western's classrooms and residence hall rooms often buzzed with the "morning after" discussion on a wide variety of television shows.



“
 We are a T.V.
 loving generation!
 -Alie Koile
 ”

or shows such as
 's Anatomy and
 ate Housewives
 ate large groups to
 Many sororities
 these shows for
 mal recruitment
 . Photo by Greg
 Carbin



“

We usually try to put on two blood drives a year, one for the Community Blood Center and the other one for the American Red Cross.

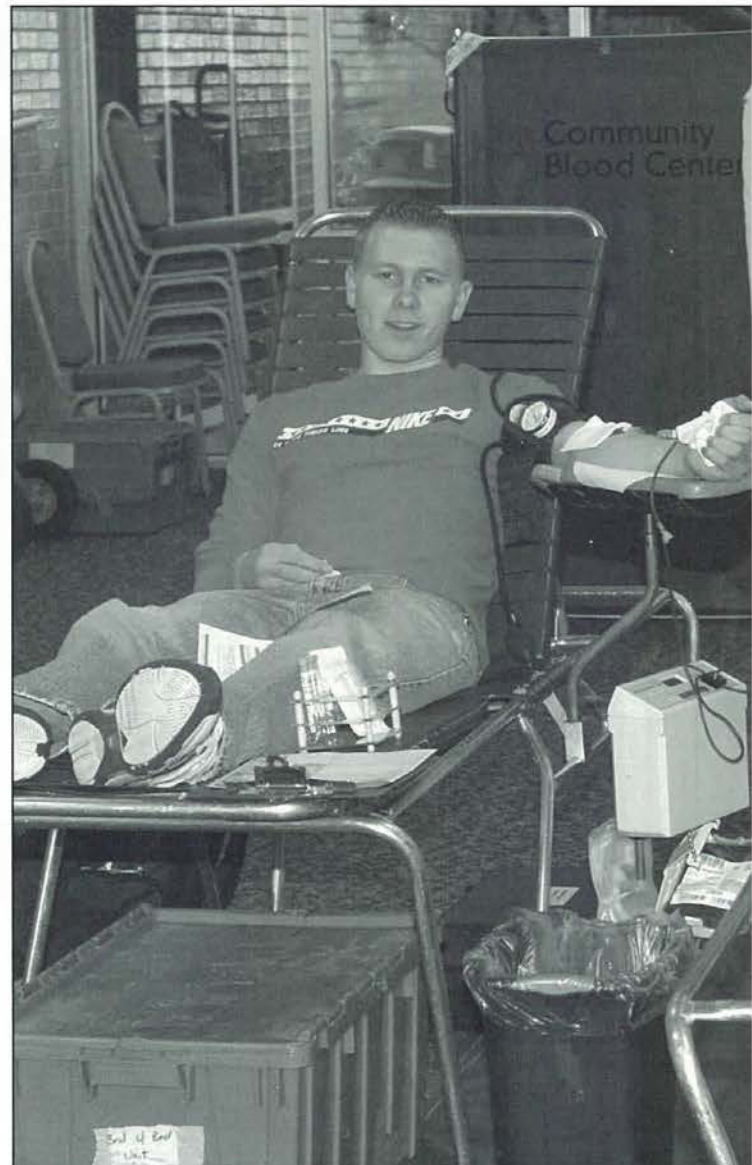
-Stephanie Corder

”



A student nurse injects a needle to retrieve blood. This was a process completed on all those who donated. Photo by Linda Shireman

Two MWSU students brave the needle and donate blood for the blood drive. Both waited very patiently while their bags filled. Photo by Linda Shireman



Saving Lives Through Donation

Student Nurses Association teams with the American Red Cross to hold annual blood drive to raise awareness for blood donation

Story by Torrence Jones

Due to the extreme cold weather and the prevailing snow, the St. Joseph Community Blood Center was left struggling to get blood donors through the door. During the year of 2007, Mother Nature revealed her true colors once again. As a result, the Missouri Western Student Nurses Association teamed up with the American Red Cross and held a blood drive in the sitting area of Nelle Blum Student Union.



“The point of this blood drive is to help the St. Joseph community out by getting more blood in to the blood bank,” non-traditional student Erin Voss said. “We have seen over the last couple of months and the past year that Mother Nature can show her bad side real fast. Without the extra blood, it makes it hard to save lives, if or when a natural disaster happens.”

Missouri Western played host to several blood drives throughout the school year. The main goal was to team up with the Community Blood Center and get students, faculty and the community to donate their blood.

“We usually try to put on two blood drives a year, one for the Community Blood Center and the other one for the American Red Cross,” SNC Advisor Stephanie Corder said. “Our goal at the last blood drive was 50 units of blood and we ended up getting 57 units. We were very excited about that, so with this blood drive, we wanted to push ourselves to meet our goal of 60 units of blood. We shouldn’t have a problem reaching our goal because the nursing students do a nice job of getting students through the door and into chairs.”

Corder felt that this was a great opportunity for nursing students and for Western students. “This is a great opportunity for nursing students to practice what they have been learning in the classroom,” she said. “You don’t have to wait for a blood drive to donate blood. You can go to your local blood bank to give blood.”

The only requirements for donating blood was that those who wanted to donate must be at least 17-years-old or 16 with written parental permission; weigh at least 110 pounds; be symptom free of cold, flu and allergies and be in good health.

“We hope to see more people come out to give blood,” Corder said.

Western students were also lining the doors of Blum Union to donate blood. “This is my first time donating blood,” sophomore Matt Unzicker said. “I’m donating blood because it is a nice thing to do, and you get free food afterwards.”

Attack of the VAGINA

Annual Vagina Monologue performance draws a bigger crowd and more community support for first-time director Julie Summa

Story by Dana Heldenbrand

The cast of 13 women sat in front of four mannequins arranged in various poses illuminated by pink flood lights. Hair, The Vagina Workshop, Unzipped the Burqua, My Angry Vagina and Reclaiming Control were only a few of the pieces read at Missouri Western on Feb. 24, 2007.

This was not just any production. This was the first Vagina Monologues. The day began with a lecture on HPV discussing human papillomavirus (HPV) provided by the new nurse at Missouri Western, Della Taylor McIntosh, and sponsored by Western's Panhellenic Association.

"Panhellenic believed, because of the HPV vaccines recent popularity, that it was important to share information about the disease and prevention with the women of Western," Katy Schwartz, president of the Panhellenic Association, said. "Panhellenic sponsored the Vagina Monologues because it is a community service program for the community and gives to women less fortunate than us."

After the lecture, there was a banquet and a student art show held by Western's art department. Julie Summa, producer of the Vagina Monologues, said that she tried to pull in as many aspects of campus life as possible.

"For some reason, I thought it was a quirky enough show that an art show fit in," Summa said. This was the fourth year that The Vagina Monologues was produced at Western, but it was also the first time it was a one-night only show instead of a three-day production. A main reason behind the one-night event was because there were three professors who could not invest as much time into the production.

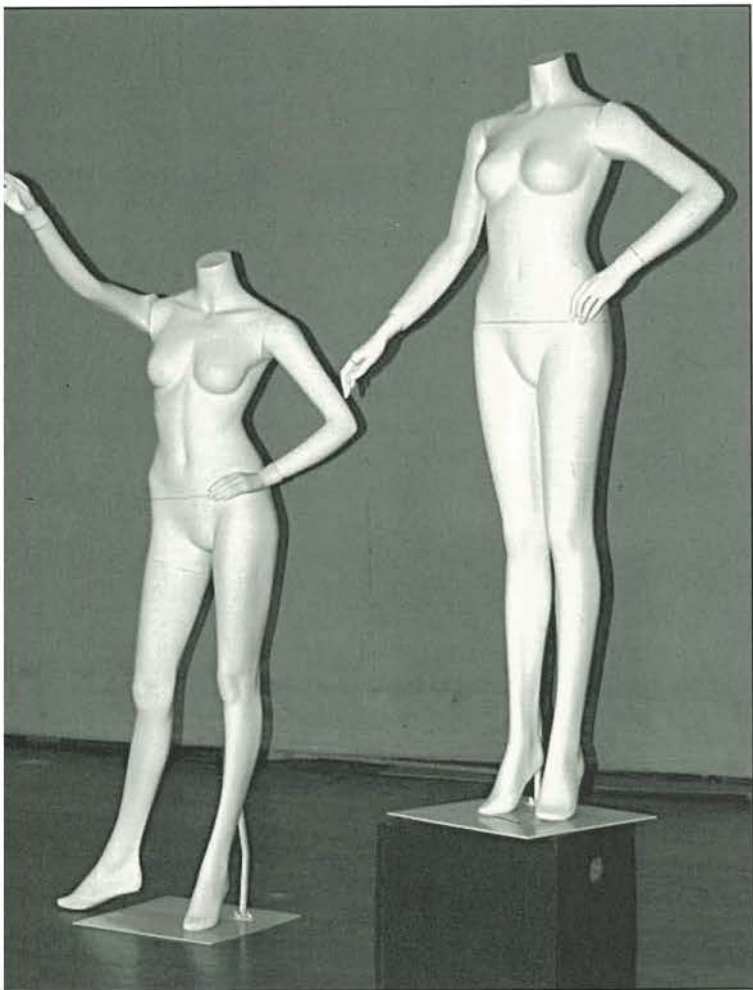
"The novelty of having the professors in it was worth the compromise," Summa said. The three professors included in the production were: Stacia Bensyl, Cynthia Jeney and Karen Fulton.

"As an English teacher, I am interested in words and don't believe that 'any' word in and of itself is forbidden," Fulton said. "I'm never completely satisfied with any performance I give or any class I teach for that matter. I always see things I could have done better or not done at all, but I was happy with my performance as well and very satisfied with the overall production."

Summa was also satisfied with the production. It collected between \$500 to \$600 for the Family Planning and Counseling Clinic of St. Joseph. There were between 97 and 120 people in attendance. "It was a hard project to try to coordinate, but all in all it was extremely worth it," Summa said. "I was very pleased to have the professors. They were the best of the whole thing."



Stacia Bensyl reads a piece from "The Vagina Monologues." Bensyl was one of three faculty members who performed in the production. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



“

It was a hard project to try to coordinate, but all in all it was extremely worth it.

-Julie Summa

”

unclothed mannequins stand in the background. These are part of the stage design. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

The cast poses for a photo following the production. This year production was a day event. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



“

I got to see my friends that work on the other side of campus that I don't get to see on a daily basis.
-George Hammer

”



One of the events at the Beach Party was a hula-hooping contest. Michelle Delaney showed off her hula talents for everyone. *Photo by Linda Shireman*

Ellen Kisker shows her excitement for the Spring Break Beach Party. Many faculty and staff members made appearances at the party either for a Tiki Taxi ride or hula hooping. *Photo by Linda Shireman*



Spring Break Beach Party

*When Spring break rolls around and the students are away
Western's staff lets their hair down and lets loose*

Story by Tammy Havens

Spring Break was a much-needed vacation for students and faculty. While many students were left sleeping in past their buzzing alarm clocks, there had to be someone remain behind and keep the campus running. That responsibility was left up to the staff at Western.

What about their spring break though? On March 13, the staff held the second annual Spring Break beach party on the first floor of Eder Hall. This was the Western's staff way of living it up.

Student Services Coordinator Elaine Bryant, Non-Traditional Student Services Director and American Disabilities Association Coordinator Ellen Kisker as well as a committee of staff members from all around campus helped organize the event. Bryant handled the reservations. About 125 staff members sent in RSVPs, but surprisingly, nearly 150 showed up.

The activities offered included a hoola-hoop contest, tiki taxi rides and guessing how many gold fish crackers were in a fish bowl. Prizes were awarded to winners and door prizes including a Western blanket, donated by the Barnes and Noble Bookstore.

For many invitees, the beach party was a way for staff to interact and let off some steam. Bryant also felt it was a way to get to know people that she did not know face to face. It also served as a means for rekindling old relationships.

"I got to see friends that work on the other side of campus that I don't get to see on a daily basis," Academic Advisor George Hammer said.

Those who attended enjoyed the event, either from participating in the activities or from the having the chance to mingle. For Kisker, it was visiting with everyone. She took pictures as a way to break the ice and start conversation with people she did not know. Hammer, on the other hand, enjoyed the food and also the fellowship of talking to people.

The second annual beach party was made available to the public as opposed to the previous year. During the previous year, invitations were rather selective.

The first year the event occurred, the organizers mentioned that it was not as light hearted as the 2007 event. In fact, the whole reason for planning the party was to help lift spirits among the staff in Eder Hall.

According to both Kisker and Bryant, there were members among the staff who had experienced loss and that the event was a way to help cheer them up.

Kisker felt that the event started out of sadness and was a way to show compassion and that life could be good in the midst of problems.

The staff decided to throw the second annual beach party school year because the campus expressed interest in attending. Bryant was pleased to see that the event was well received, and planned on holding the party again in the future.



The Almighty \$Dollar\$

Students on a budget learn the art of bargain shopping in order to make every last penny go the distance



Story by Raya Blake

Doesn't everyone like to save a little money here and there? There are many stores that offer low prices and affordable items. St. Joseph, Mo., has many different stores that just might help you keep from burning a bigger hole in your pocket. Some of these stores include: Dollar Tree, Big Lots, Save-A-Lot, Dollar General, Goodwill and the list goes on from there. Many Western students took advantage of those low prices to provide for their everyday living supplies.

Education major Penny Arnold shopped at Save-A-Lot when it came time to buy groceries. "The prices at Save-A-Lot are really reasonable and I find myself saving quite a bit of money in a month's worth of grocery shopping compared to going to a grocery store like Price Chopper," she said.

Arnold was not the only person who voiced their opinion about bargain shopping. Junior Ellie Conant shopped at Dollar Tree quite frequently. "Brand name

things that you can get at Wal-Mart are half the price for the same exact thing at Dollar Tree," Conant said.

Dollar Tree had every item marked for a dollar. Most dollar stores located in St. Joseph such as Dollar General had low priced items, but they ranged over a dollar in price. "The nice thing about Dollar Tree is that I know exactly how much I am going to be spending based on how many items I buy," Conant said.

Not only did bargain shopping save students money, but it sometimes created a fashion statement.

"I remember the guys in high school would go to Goodwill for t-shirts," junior Amanda Jackson said. "They would come to school wearing some t-ball or little league shirt that barely fit them, but it was cool thing to wear."

There were some students such as sophomore Tim Shafer who opted to shop at Big Lots for their affordable prices. "My favorite bargain store is Big

S&NOBLE
cards
RANCE



Alli McLaughlin
bargain hunts at JC
Penney. She waited
until the picture
frames went on sale
to stay on a student's
budget. Photo by
Jeremy Weikel

Mikaela King rummages through
the clearance at Barnes and No-
bel. Shopping at the bookstore is
great for values here on campus.
Photo by Alli McLaughlin

,” Shafer said. “They are the name brand items
in department stores for nearly half the price.”

Big Lots housed items ranging from furniture to
ling, outdoor furniture, lawn equipment, toiletries
food. “It is easy to go to Big Lots, looking for
ething in particular and leaving with something
weren’t planning on buying,” Shafer said.

Not only did college students have to take
consideration the prices of tuition, housing,
sportation and gas, but also the items they needed
everyday living. Bargain shopping really saved
ents lots and lots of money in the long run, but it
ed to be a fun adventure in the process.

“ They are name
brand items sold in
department stores for
nearly half the price
-Tim Shafer ”

Extreme Home Makeover

Story by Dana Heldenbrand

MWSU participates in the hit ABC television show hosted by Ty Pennington and offers scholarships to the show's recipients

All of America has heard the famous quote: "Bus driver...move that bus!" This is said at the end of every episode of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. Some Western students had the opportunity to hear this quote and take part in the show during the week of Spring Break.

Announcements and e-mails flooded Western campus the week prior to Spring Break, asking for student volunteers. A number of students showed up every day of that week and took a bus to Kansas City, Mo., where the home site was located.

"I volunteered because I wanted to be able to help others," sophomore Lisa Crawford said. "I figured this was a once in a lifetime chance to do something as amazing as building a house for a family." Nursing major Heidi Young also volunteered for the event.

"I volunteered because I love the show and it seemed like it would be a lot of fun," Young said. "I also volunteered because there is nothing better than helping someone who needs it." Western students who volunteered helped out at the work site by moving tools in and out of the house.

"I helped out at the house site by carrying different items from house to a truck," French major Rachel Burton said. "We carried dehumidifiers, trash cans and fans. They had finished the drywall stuff and needed help clearing out all those things from the house." Burton recalled one moment of the whole event that seemed all the worthwhile to her.

"One of the things I remember the most is when we were asked to sing different soccer anthems," Burton said. "One of the kid's rooms was going to have a soccer theme and they needed the chants for the room. It still puts a smile on my face just knowing my small contribution of singing a soccer anthem will help with that child for years to come."

Another way that Western helped with the show was financially. The Western Foundation donated tuition, room and board scholarships to all nine children in the Jacobo family.

"Western is a great university that makes opportunities for students who normally wouldn't be able to go to college," Crawford said. "I think it was important that Western volunteered to donate the scholarships because of the opportunities it has available."

Cast members from the show even came to Western to accept the scholarships on behalf of the Jacobo children. Another opportunity that Western students volunteered for took place at the Kansas City St. Patrick's Day parade. Western students and other volunteers marched in the parade with buckets collecting donations for the family.

"I was able to meet Michael Moloney and Patricia Hemmis when they came to Western on Tuesday, but I really got to hang out with Michael at the St. Patrick's Day parade," Crawford said. "It was a lot of fun collecting donations for the family at the parade, and Michael was very, very kind."



Missouri Western students participate in the Extreme Home Makeover. The makeover took place during the week of spring break. Photo submitted



“ I helped out at the house site by carrying different items from house to a truck. ”
 -Rachel Burton

Western students gather to march in the St. Nicholas Day parade. The students carried buckets to collect donations for the Phbs family. Photo submitted

Students show those the Phbs family home to help. The Western Foundation donated money for the home and room and board scholarships to help children in the Phbs family. Photo submitted



Does Western have...

Fairweather Fans in their stands?

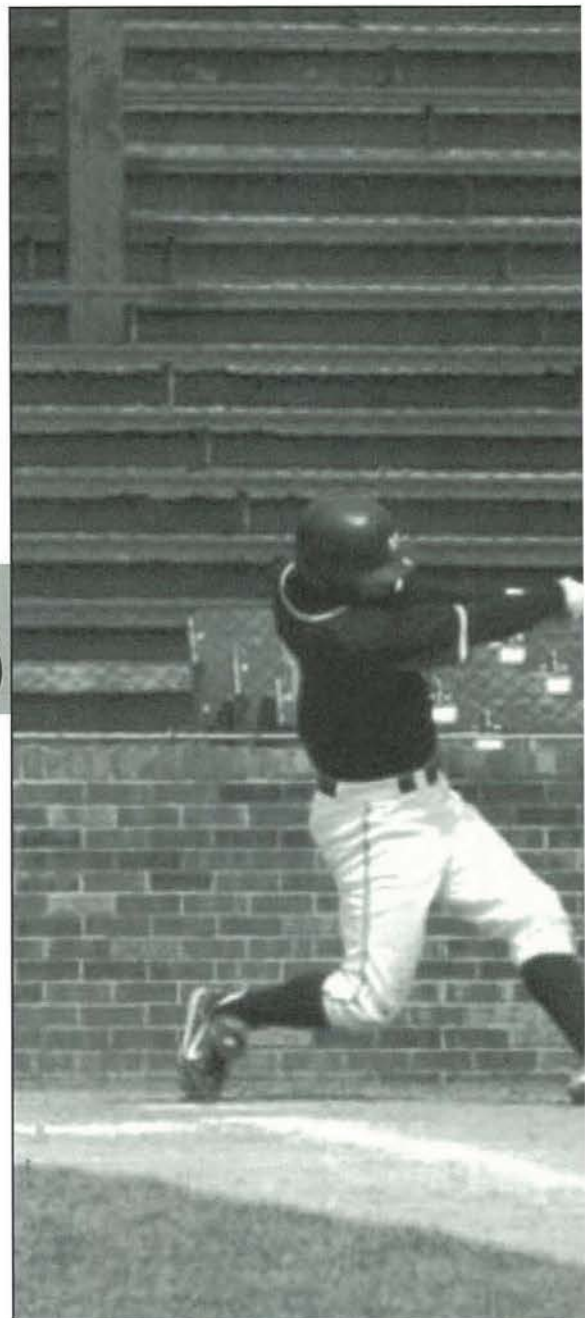
Could our success be just another passing phase, or are the fans true, passionate Western fans

Story by Sarah Derr

You may have seen them at any and every athletic event at Missouri Western. They may have had half of their face painted black and the other yellow-gold. They were also probably sporting Western gear from the neck down to their feet. These were fan-crazy people; these were extreme fans and they loved their dear, ole Missouri Western.

Some Western students spent many countless hours studying, working and going to school, but this wasn't any fun, was it? Many students found an outlet for stress in being involved in organizations and attending athletic events. Western was lucky to have two of the most Western-crazed fans, a university could ask for.

"My favorite part of attending games at Western is gathering with my friends," sophomore and Phi Delta Theta member, Jacob Bonwell said. "To get pumped up for the game I will usually have a few drinks, have a little something to eat and sing a few songs with my brothers."



Bonwell was not alone at the games, sporting his almighty and proud Western gear, Alpha Sigma Phi member Matt Canaday also attended several of athletic events at Western. You could normally find him out in front of a crowd of 200 to 300 fans.

"For football games, there were about four to five people who I would meet there down on the field in the Greek section," Canaday, a marketing major, said. "They are very passionate and critical of the opposition. At the basketball games, I sat in the front row on the field right opposite of the girls' bench. There were probably four to five football players who I would always sit next to and we would go crazy...heckle the refs, cheer on Western, you know the usual fan stuff." Canaday and his fraternity brothers attended many of the same athletic events with him.

Extreme fans like Canaday and Bonwell developed superstitions as the season wore on, helping Western win the game. "At all sporting events, I must have black socks on," Canaday said.



Western fans show their disinterest in the Northwest women's basketball players. Attendance at the Women's basketball games set record highs this season. Photo by Kady Mabury

The baseball and softball teams were plagued with low attendance. At this game, the stands were almost empty. Photo submitted

...stitution...yes, crazy...quite possibly. I also have and gold shorts that I wear most of the time, per permitting. During the basketball season, I my face and dress in all school colors to give the I some feeling.”

Canaday and Bonwell took it upon themselves entertain and pump up the Western audience. ver, as poor college students, many found ve ways around paying to get into home games. fact that I can get in for free through the Max ience is one of my favorite things about sports stern,” Canaday said. “With being a college it, I cannot afford to go to every game. Plus, it is meal with food and a drink. Also, going crazy eering and screaming my head off is actually very ng, I definitely feel like I am in my element.”

“ Also, going crazy by cheering and screaming my head off is actually very relaxing, I definitely feel like I am in my element.

-Matt Canaday

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“Lewis and Clark”

a b-rated film

Western student writes, directs and produces
a feature length film for viewing
at the Horseshoe Lake Drive

Story by Sarah Derr

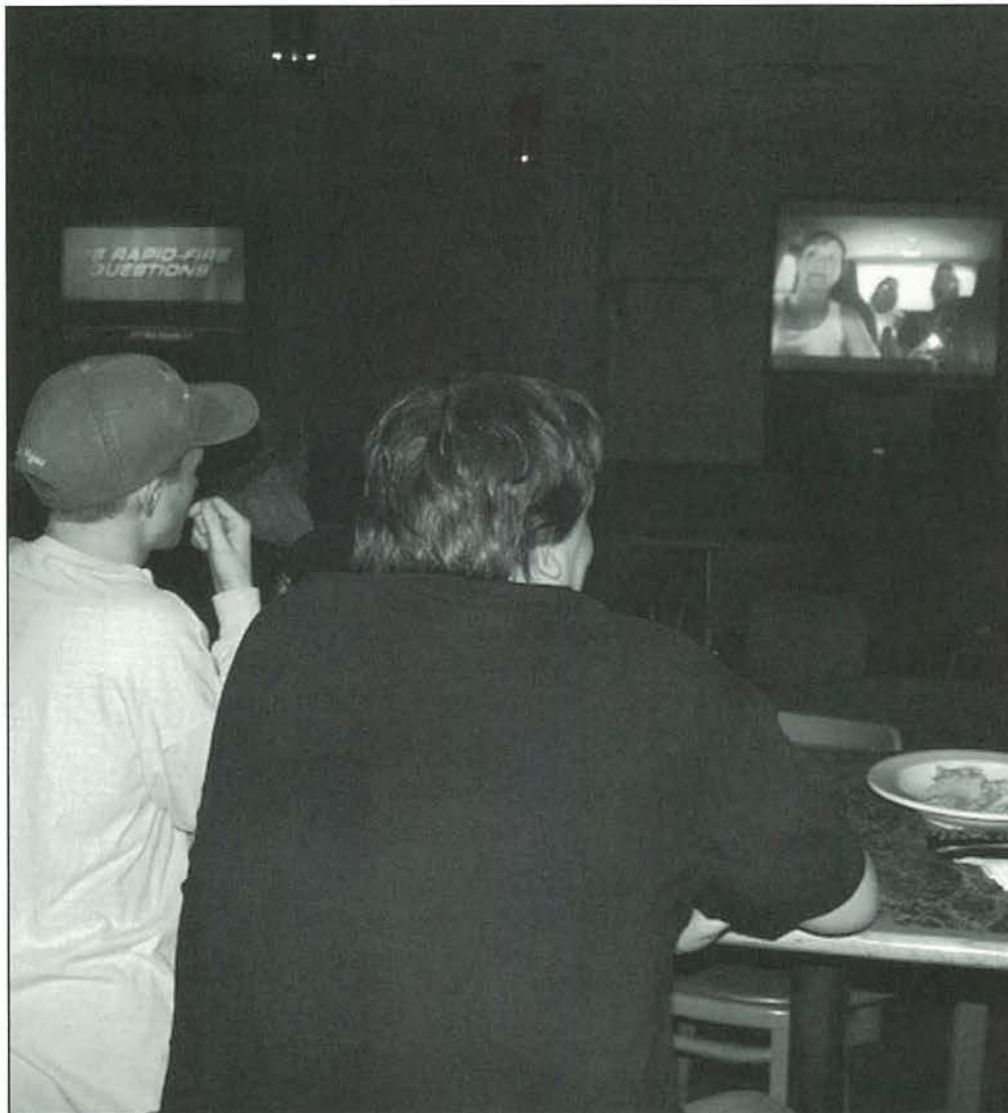
College was not only an experience of academic advancement, but a chance for young adults to experiment with things of their own interest. For Western student D Byron, this meant directing and producing his own b-rated film entitled “Lewis and Clark.” On April 17, the movie premiered at Horseshoe Lake Drive. Following, guests were invited to attend a premier party at Legend’s Sports Bar and Grill. The bar helped Byron with the advertising for the event and ran a Bloody Beer Special in honor of it. The b-rated horror film starred several of Byron’s friends including Nick Ford, Andrew Plummer, Kevin Plummer, Jennifer George, Ben Monroe, Tiffany Palmer, Lauren Hull, Kraig Keesaman, Anthony Bossler, Ryan Gerster, Matt Wright, Thomas Prochaska and Brian Slater.

“Everyone who worked on this film poured everything into something that they were told by many people couldn’t be done in this town; make a feature length film,” senior Joshua Berry said. “We fought all summer, for different reasons, to get it done and we succeeded. We just want people not to take it too seriously, and see what was put into the movie instead of how good or bad it actually is. It’s taken almost a year to get this thing out finally.” Many St. Joseph community members attended the movie release and enjoyed the film. Most people said they really enjoyed the movie, but there were a few who did not know what to expect.

“Any time you can see something you made with an audience, I think it is a success,” Byron said. “The most fun I had was watching a couple who were not very happy with the film and had just shown up by chance. There were just enough people there that they felt uncomfortable about leaving, but it was totally noticeable they didn’t want to stay. They made it halfway through.” Many cast members were impressed by the story line and the quality of the film. There were also several memories of a new experience.

“My personal opinion is that the movie was definitely an experience as a whole with a lot of people and memories involved,” Bossler said. “There were a lot of racy death scenes, sweltering, heat, chigger, West Nile, but in the end it’s still a ‘b’ horror movie. If you go with no expectations, you will have a great time.”

After the film, about 30 to 40 guests attended the DVD release party. Byron advertised the party with fliers on campus and an event listing on Facebook. Many cast members and Western students attended the event. “It was fun to see some of the cast and crew,” Ford said. “We laughed and joked about the movie that was cool for me.”



After the viewing of the film, guests were invited to the DVD release party. Many students and community members went to see the movie. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



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with the D. By-
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film was shown
drive-in theater.
Photo by Jeremy
Weikel

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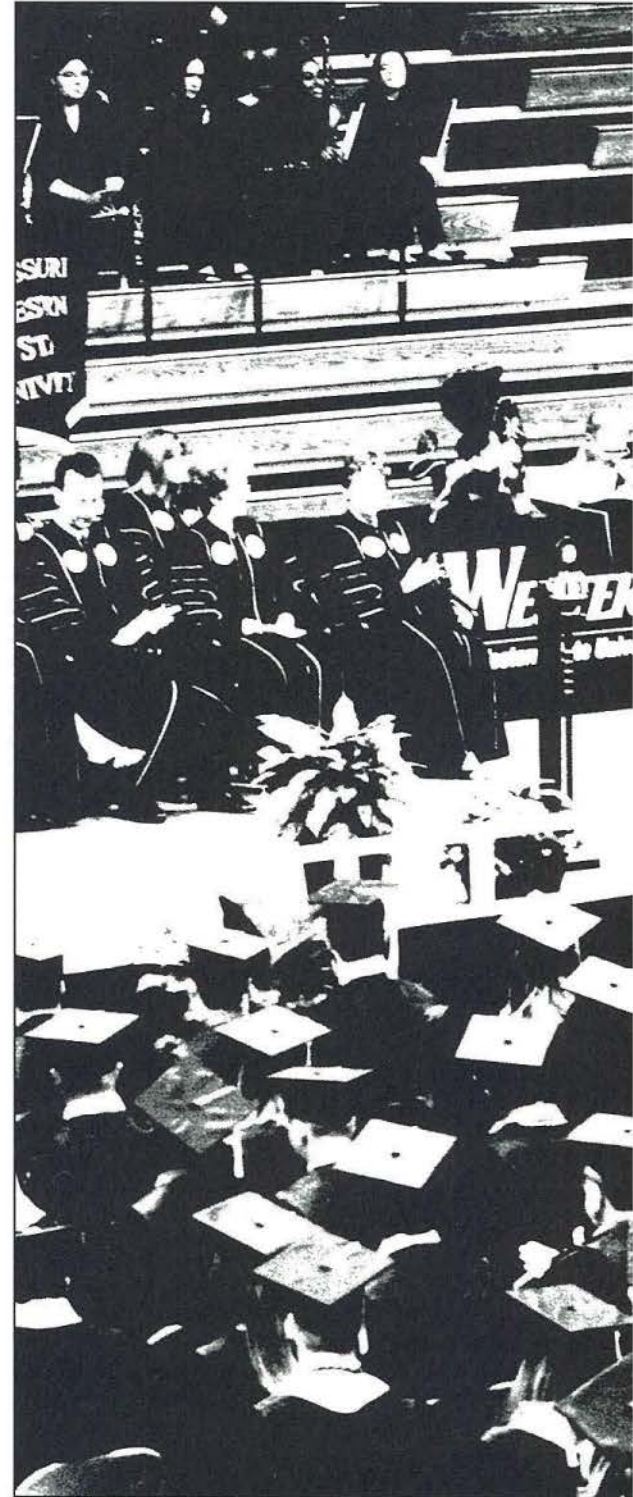
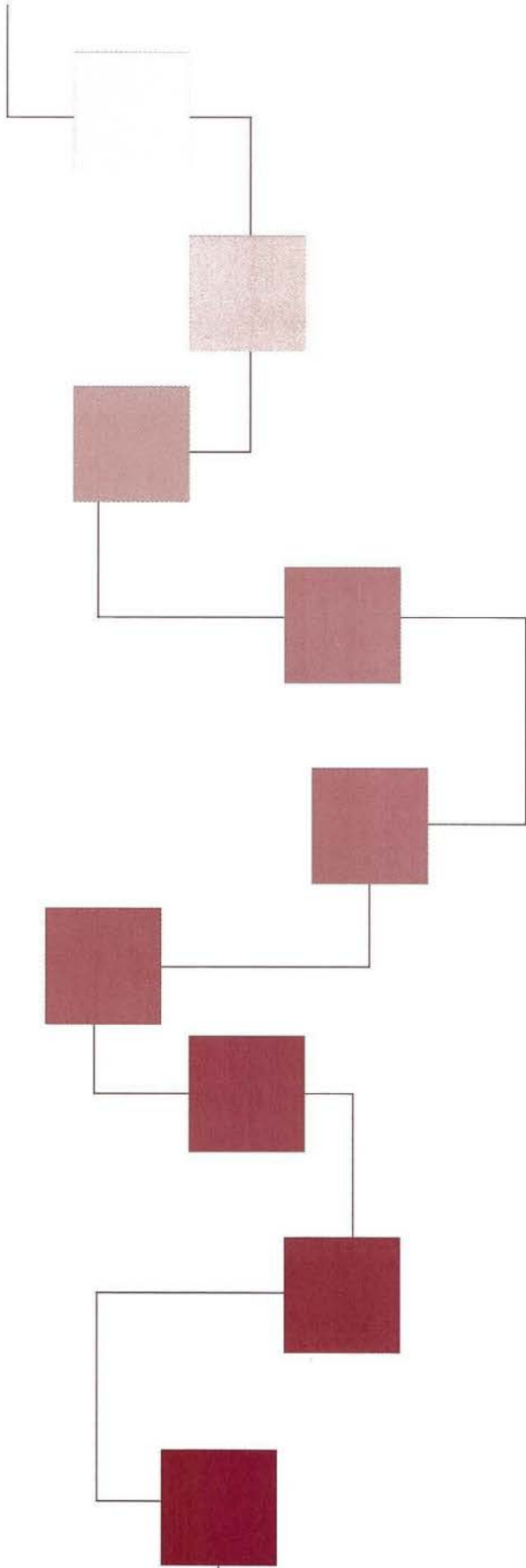
*We fought all
summer, for
different reasons,
to get it done and we
succeeded.*

-Joshua Berry

”

is also got in on
premier showing,
fering their own
wing to people
. Byron viewed
lm as a success.
Photo by Jeremy
Weikel







Scholarship

With the new attendance policy in effect, less classrooms are looking empty. Any 100 level class required you to attend class for fear of failing.
Photo by Sam Stanley



Attendance Changes Cause Uproar

Changes to the attendance policy that forced students to attend class otherwise they would receive a failing grade causes mixed feelings throughout the campus community

by Erik Ross

Picture this: You are sleeping soundly in your warm bed when your alarm goes off. It is 15 minutes until your first class, and you don't feel well, so you debate about staying right where you are. Unfortunately, you have already skipped this particular class a few times before, so if you stay in bed, you will no longer receive credit for it and you may lose your financial aid.

In the fall of 2006, Western decided to crack down on attendance for all 100-level classes. This policy stated that if a student exceeded the maximum number of absences allowed by their professor before midterm, they would be reported to the registrar's office and the student would be withdrawn from that class. However, it also depended on how many times a student was absent per week. Several students were frustrated by the new policy.

"I think the new attendance policy is ridiculous," freshman Jessica Wilkinson said. "We're going for a higher education and they treat us like we still are in high school."

Other students wholeheartedly agreed.

"Going or not going to class should be one's prerogative," freshman Jeff Peak said. "Yes, financial aid and student loans are helping me pay for school now, but in the end, it's still me that will be paying those loans back. I'm not saying that I don't want to go to class, but it should be up to me whether or not I go to."

Another issue that was brought up was the midterm stipulation.

"If this policy is so necessary to enforce, when does it end at midterm?" Wilkinson asked. "If we want to miss class, they will just put off their

absences until midterm. You can't stop people from skipping class by only enforcing the policy for half of a semester."

This controversial subject sparked a lot of attention from both students and professors. However, some professors felt that the new policy had a positive message.

"I support the new attendance policy," Associate Professor of Sociology Joachim Kibirige said. "If students aren't attending class, they won't get the full effect. If students aren't getting all of the information, they will not do well in the course. This policy will help the students more than they think."

Whether students and teachers loved or hated the policy, it caught on. The policy was only enforced in 100-level classes in the beginning, but there were plans to create an attendance policy for all higher-level classes in the near future.

Upper level classes are still having an attendance problem. This has caused administration to question adding the upper level classes to the attendance policy changes. Photo by Sam Stanley



Fortune 500

With a twice sold out dinner, Steve Forbes makes his mark on Westerns' history books for the 13th annual Convocation

Story by Julie Summa

Who knew economics could draw such a crowd?

President and CEO of Forbes Inc. and Forbes Magazine Editor-in-Chief Steve Forbes made history as did previous speakers at the thirteenth annual Convocation on Critical Issues. Forbes main focal point of his speech concentrated on the role of government in the global economy.

This particular convocation event made history unlike others because it was at the Oct. 2 banquet where it sold out twice. There were several people who wanted to be on hand to meet and speak with Forbes. As the waiting list grew to 70 people, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Dan Nicoson and his staff decided to scrap the standard round banquet tables in favor of rectangular tables – and being able to sell approximately 100 more tickets. Finally, 504 attendees packed into the Fulkerson Center to see Forbes and mingle with the local St. Joseph community.

“It’s exciting and this year, I’ve finally gotten to do the whole thing – attend the dinner and the convocation,” VIP Rachel Donnell said. “Getting to meet him and speak to him is not something you get to experience everyday as a student or as an adult.”

Area businessmen, faculty and staff, students and guests paid nearly \$30 per ticket for the convocation dinner to see Forbes up close. Though the banquet was held in the Fulkerson

Center’s ballroom, there were three large viewing screens mounted on the walls to assure a good view to audience members.

Professor of Nursing Evelyn Brooks said that she was glad she decided to attend the dinner as well as the convocation this year.

“It’s an especially exciting speaker,” she said. “I wanted to have the whole convocation experience with both the dinner and the lecture.”

Forbes was the latest to take center stage for the convocation, a program begun in 1993 as part of an overall commitment to offer enriching experiences to students while bringing together the university and community.

“It’s interesting,” Professor of Nursing Deb Uplinger said. “It’s my first year at this event, so it’s all slightly overwhelming.”

On Oct. 3, Forbes addressed the campus and St. Joseph community. In his speech Forbes included topics such as flat tax, medical savings accounts, a new Social Security system for working Americans, parental choice of schools for their children, term limits and a strong national defense. Perhaps Forbes was most known to mass audiences for his twice failed attempts to win the Republican nomination for U.S. president in 1996 and 2000.

“Obviously, that didn’t work out so I’m here with you tonight,” he grinned.



CEO of Forbes Inc. and Forbes Magazine Editor-in-Chief, Steve Forbes, presents his convocation speech. Forbes was one of the more popular speakers to come to Western.
Photo by Marty Ayers

House of Yes

*Incest, attempted murder and an odd
obsession with the Kennedy family
proves that every family has its problems*

Story by Tammy Havens

Every family has their own secrets. For the family in the play "House of Yes," their secrets included incest, attempted murder and a very unnatural obsession with the very well known and powerful historical family, the Kennedy family.

In the play, Marty Pascal played by senior Brandon Hylton, brings his fiancée, Lesly played by junior Amber Redmond, home for Thanksgiving. Right after meeting Marty's family, Lesly, as well as the audience begin to see what his family is really like. As the play continues through, it becomes apparent and to Lesly's horror, that Jackie played by Christiana Hansen, is in love with her brother Marty. To the audience's surprise, their parents are even aware of Jackie's fascination with her brother.

This play setting was different than most. The seating for the play put the audience right inside it, so they were able to see it from the actors' point of view.

"The theatre is set up in a completely different configuration compared to the proscenium stage," Director and Instructor of theatre and video Jeremy Warner said. "The action really happens in and around the members of the audience."

With the stage setup, Warner thought that most audience members thoroughly enjoyed the show.

The audience not only found different parts of the play intriguing, but also different aspects it offered. Redmond had taken part in musicals, but this production was the first she

had ever starred in. She enjoyed the workshop feel of the play the most.

"With musicals, you just learn the music and then put it together and wow, it's a show," Redmond said. "With this, there's a development. Everyone from the director to the stage manager all have a say in how they believe the character and the play should go."

Hylton, on the other hand, enjoyed the setting of the play. He had been informed beforehand that the original seating of the play was not going to be a traditional setting, which got him excited. Aside from the play's seating, the "House of Yes" also used New Jersey accents which were contributed by Hylton. Initially the characters did not have accents, but after using one in rehearsal, all of the actors' in the play were soon using them.

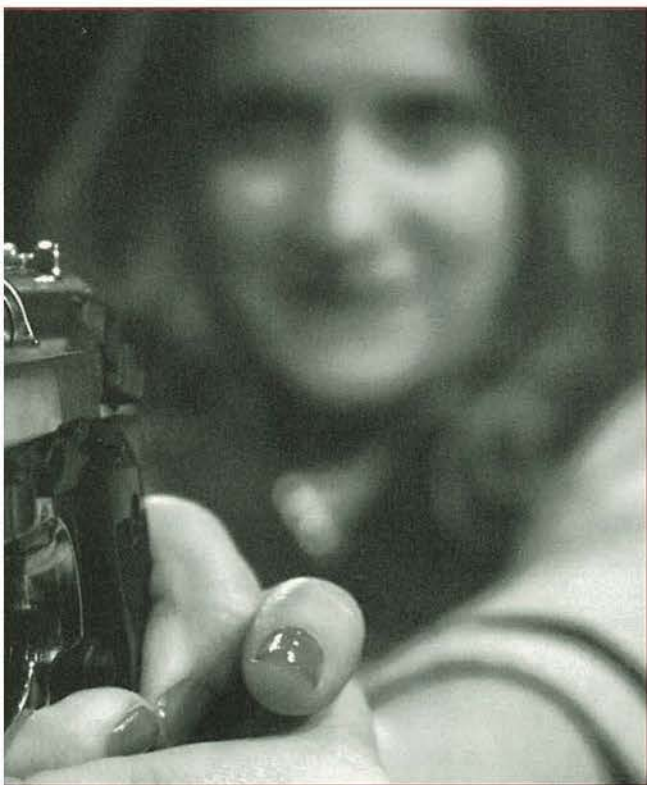
"I am a method actor," Hylton said. "I was listening to Kennedy's speeches and started using the accent in rehearsal and the director liked it and wanted everyone to have an accent."

"The House of Yes" was originally written by Wendy Macleod and opened on Nov. 2 in the Black Box Theatre in Potter Hall. The play ran in Nov. 2, 3, 4 and the ninth through the eleventh. Matinee performances were shown on Nov. 5 and twelfth at 2 p.m. General admission was \$8 and \$4 for Western students, faculty and staff.



Jackie O, played by Christiana Hansen, pretends to shoot her brother Marty, played by Brandon Hylton. Jackie O had shot him before, crazed by her obsession with the Kennedy family. Photo by Jeremy Warner

Marty, played by Brandon Hylton, and Jackie O, played by Christiana Hansen, talk about the past. The two were involved in an incestuous relationship. Photo by Jeremy Warner



Anthony, played by Grant Metcalf, confesses his love for Lesly, played by Amber Redmond. After seeing Marty with his sister, Lesly allowed herself to be seduced by Anthony. Photo by Jeremy Warner



Marty, played by Brandon Hylton, and Anthony played by Grant Metcalf, drank wine and played connect four. Marty and his fiancé came home for Thanksgiving dinner. Photo by Jeremy Warner



Crimes of the Heart

Three sisters with quite different personalities and lives reunite when the youngest shoots and kills her husband

Story by Roga Blake

Beth Henley's Pulitzer Prize winning play, "Crimes of the Heart" was shown at the spring production from April 10-15. The play focused on three sisters with very different personalities who were reunited when the youngest of them, Babe, shot her husband. The oldest sister, Lenny, took care of her grandfather and the middle sister, Meg, tried to make it to Hollywood as a singer and actress. Even though each sister had very different personalities, they had a great time together, but in turn, their reunion caused some tension. The funny Broadway play was a hit! Not only was it performed as a play, but also a movie in 1986, starring Diane Keaton, Jessica Lange and Sissy Spacek.

"With the help of Babe's sisters Meg and Lenny, they get her a lawyer who she becomes fond of," junior Bryana Harrah. "But really out of the situation, the sisters learn to love each other, encourage and support each other."

The actors put their greatest talents and skills into the play. All of their practice and hard work was expressed by their expertise in the play. Each person did a fantastic job.

"We have all put a ton of time and effort into this play, but it has

all been worth it," Mindy Southard, who starred as Babe, said. "The show turned out great, and I really enjoyed the opportunity to be a part of it."

Harrah learned about the play through a fellow friend. "It was freaking hilarious," Harrah said. "I attended because a friend invited me and it is something to do on a Saturday night."

The audience also got some good laughs out of the production. "It was hilarious and completely random," junior Kyler Keith said.

Not only did the actors play a large part in the production, but also the men and women who worked on the set.

"My favorite part of the play was the set and how almost inside the scene we were," Keith said. "It is set up differently in other theaters. Instead of sitting far away, the actors really were right in front of us."

The play was directed by student Christiana Hansen. The actors included students Katie Burgess, Nick Ford, Daisy Buntin, Anthony Bossler, Southard and Tara Duckworth. The play was sponsored by Alpha Psi Omega, the national honorary theatre society.



Katie Burgess pauses for a moment, anticipating her lines. "Crimes of the Heart" was well received at Western. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Tara Duckworth and Mindy Southard look on as the performance of the play continues. The actresses enjoyed working with one another on the play. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Law Enforcement Training

Along with the normal degrees that Missouri Western offers, the Police Academy is also offered for those students who wish to get involved in law enforcement

Story By Tammy Havens

After seeing many men and women in police uniform, many Western students didn't know what to expect. Oh, but wait a minute, maybe these people in police uniform were students as well; yeah, that's it.

Western's campus served many purposes for the city of St. Joseph, but one of these included providing classrooms and work areas for the city police academy.

According to instructor and also a captain in the sheriff's department Bill Puett, the academy had been taken away from Western, but had been brought back in 1995.

"Missouri Western decided to take the academy back for the regional law enforcement," Puett said.

This move was beneficial because the state of Missouri had changed the requirements and also the hours needed for training. Since bringing the academy back to Western, a few people including Puett, Kip Wilson and Terry White rewrote the curriculum.

When the academy first started again, the required hours were 470, but quickly moved up to 944 hours. According to Puett, the academy gradually grew over the last 10 years due to other training needs and the proper certifications needed for the required areas.

The academy offered opportunity to all walks of life at Western. Students Derek Morris and Steven Kelly wanted to be

police officers ever since they could remember. Each also had plans for what they wanted to do after graduating from the academy.

"I want to work for the Hannibal police department, but I'm also looking at working for the Marion County Sheriff's department," Kelly said.

Morris, on the other hand, wanted to work as a police officer in more rural areas.

"I'm from a small town, and I think a small police department would fit me," Morris said.

The police academy also had many challenges including maintaining physical shape and preparing for exams. According to Puett, the most challenging part of the training for students was to be able to take all various types of training and combine them to make them into a law enforcement officer.

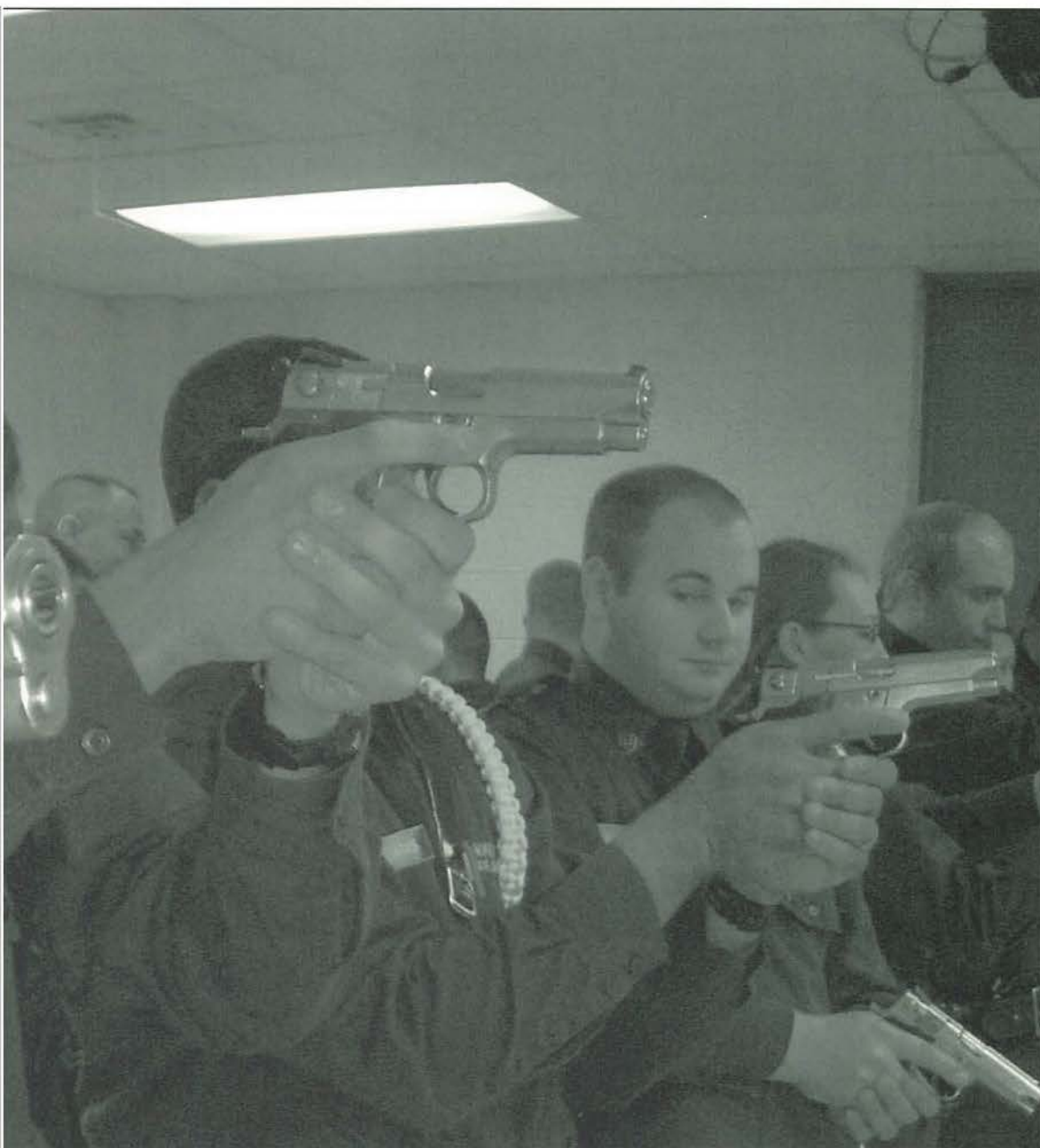
After entering into the police academy, getting into proper physical shape and taking the required courses such as Mediation for Problem Solvers and Racial Profiling: Issues and Dilemmas, students were ready to graduate and enter the wonderful world as officers. A career as a law enforcement officer was expected to be a rewarding and also overwhelming experience. Luckily, just luckily, the students in the Western police academy were well trained and ready for anything.



After cadets finish the police academy training at Missouri Western they must pass the POST test. After passing the test, graduates are able to apply to law enforcement agencies all around Missouri. *Photo by Kailey Alexander*



Gun training is involved in the police academy. All cadets must complete and pass the required tests for gun operation. *Photo by Kailey Alexander*



During the performance, many different members of the Golden Griffon Marching Band had solos. This saxophone player never missed a beat on his solo. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



The percussion section of the band watches and waits for their command to enter the song. The band performed at every home football game during halftime. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



These three trumpet players had to sell their act to the crowd to ensure enjoyment. There was no doubt that everyone enjoyed the performance. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Saint Louis or...

BUST!

Western's Band earns a trip to Saint Louis to perform their football halftime show routine which guarantees the season ended on a good note

by Amy Chastain

Many campus organizations worked hard to give Griffon support throughout the year, but there was one noisemaker that performed solely for Men's football team. This was the Western band.

"The band does not perform," Clarinet player Andy Feger said. "The sole purpose of the band is to perform on the football team."

Throughout the entire year, the band worked hard to achieve one goal, which appeared to be impossible because they had the opportunity to perform at the Greater St. Louis Marching Band Festival. This was a great opportunity for all members of the band.

"St. Louis was a huge accomplishment because our band from the Midwest is selected every year to perform," Trumpet player Andrew Murphy said. "We were selected from a group of schools, which have music departments much larger than ours. This is something that we possess as much, if not more, talent and ability than many of the larger departments. It also allowed us to perform for thousands of audience members."

Trombone player Brent Stevens had been playing in the band for nearly 10 years. Going to St. Louis was also a highlight for his experience in band. "We were invited to perform as an exhibition band after other school bands perform," Stevens said. "Usually, schools the size of MU and Missouri State are invited to perform."

Feger also enjoyed the trip to St. Louis. "The St. Louis trip was great," Feger said. "I had never marched before, so it was a new experience for me. There were so many people there. I will never forget it. That was one of the first times that I finally realized that I was in college and had the freedom to do what I pleased within reason."

Aside from the St. Louis trip, the band required much more time, just as any other organization on campus did. "I don't work, but band is still a major commitment," Feger said. "I am in Symphonic Winds, marching band and a private lesson each of which should get at least two hours of study time a week. It is hard to make time to practice and do other homework and papers."

While band required a lot of time and dedication, there were also many memorable moments that band members cherished. "One of my fellow clarinet players got completely soaked at the carwash fundraiser for mousing off to upperclassmen," Feger said.

With memorable moments, it was no surprise that many band members chose to become lucky Griffons. "I chose to play at Western because of the outstanding faculty, the small student-to-professor ratio and the improving image of Western's music department," Murphy said.

The drum line is always a crowd pleaser. This performance in Saint Louis proved to be no different as the drum line rolled to success. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Preparing to Save Lives

Nursing program requires dedication, persistence and belief in one's self to graduate through the program

Story by Katrina Doss & Amy Chastain

"I decided to go into nursing because I enjoy helping people and feeling like I'm doing something good in the world," Nursing major Sarah Terry said. "Making the decision to go into the nursing field was one of the best decisions I have made in my life."

Many students were drawn to Missouri Western for its widely known nursing program. Not only was Western the only university in the region that offered a bachelor of science in nursing, or BSN, but also the program offered students' classroom time as well as clinical experience.

"Missouri Western has a great program with wonderful instructors," Terry said.

Like any other majors, nursing required extensive studying of its students. Nursing major Megan Peacock understood how easy it was for students to become overwhelmed with classes and other responsibilities.

"Once accepted, work hard, but take one day at a time and don't get overwhelmed which is very easy to do," Peacock said. "Take time for yourself or you will lose your mind."

One of the great opportunities of the Nursing department was the clinical experience required of students.

"Clinicals are the hands-on part of nursing," Terry said. "We are able to go out to various locations and get the opportunity to act as a

student nurse under the supervision of our instructors and preceptors at the facility. We are able to perform technical skills and interpersonal skills."

There were some nursing majors that felt the clinical experience was very demanding such as that of student Jessica Moore.

"Twelve-hour days are spent in the clinical setting each week and many hours are spent outside of class, preparing for clinicals," Moore said.

As pressuring as the department was, it was still an inviting experience for all of those who partook in the journey to become a nurse.

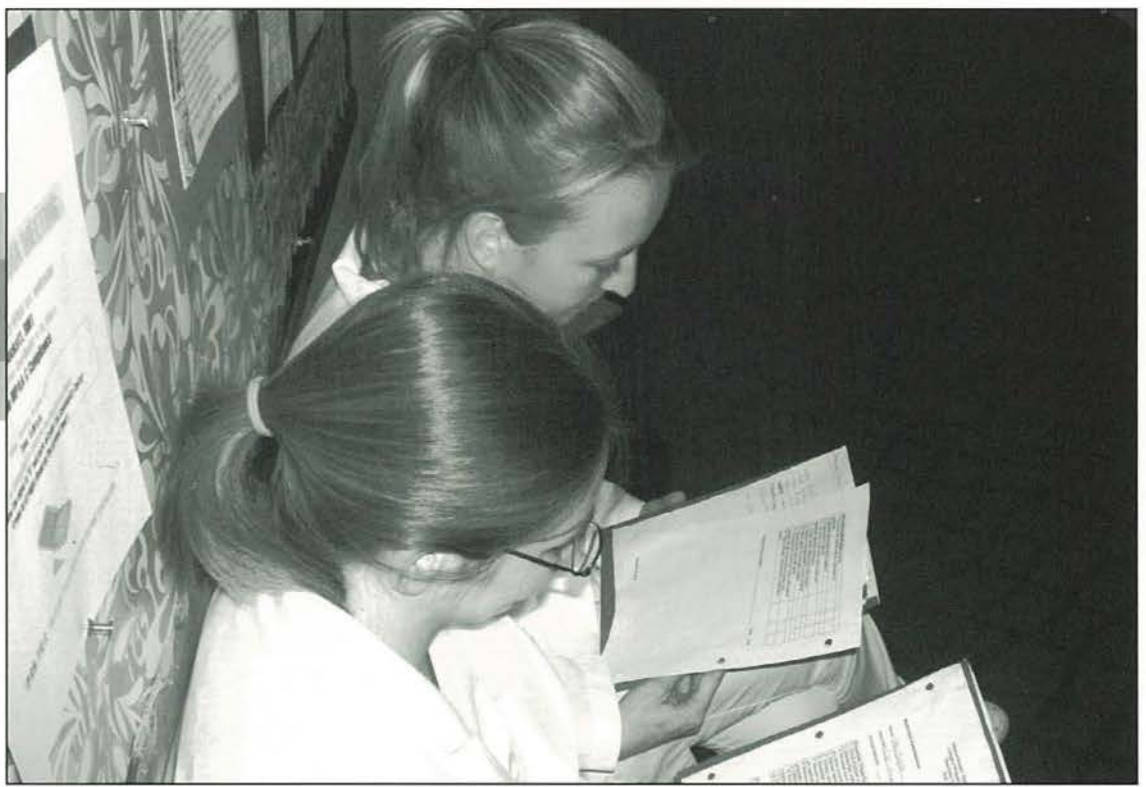
"Clinicals allow us to try and figure out what field of nursing we enjoy and would like to work at in the future," Terry said.

It was a unanimous decision agreed upon by all nursing majors that the outcome was graciously worth it. Nursing students in their prime had to be dedicated, be willing to work hard and be patient. One thing that all nursing majors had in common was that each person wanted to make a difference in the lives of others.

"Going into nursing is my proudest accomplishment," Terry said. "I have learned many things about myself while being in the program. It's a tough major and to be able to get accepted, and to be graduating in May is an amazing accomplishment of mine!"



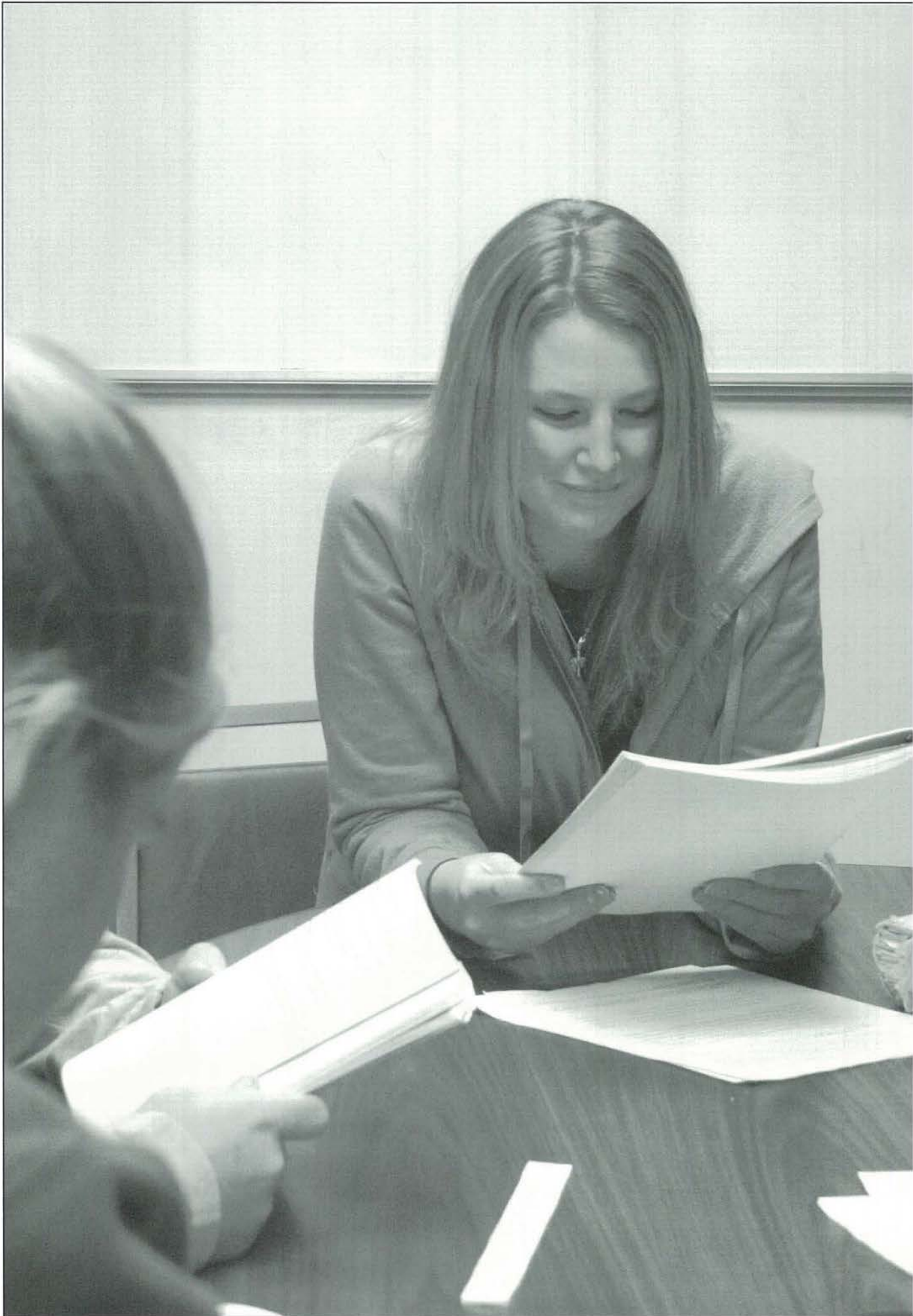
Nursing students are required to put in a certain number of hours of studying every week to ensure success in the program. They must also complete their clinicals. *Photo by Adrian Akasaki*



The nursing program is the only class on campus that starts at seven in the morning. Most of the time, nursing students are there early to study for class later that day. *Photo by Adrian Akasaki*



Traci Haug participates as a student assistant for Western's English Department. SA's were required to make lesson plans and give assignments to their students. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*



Students Take Over As Student Assistants

English majors stepped into the teaching role at Western to help incoming freshmen begin their college writing experience

By Sarah Deas

Many students found English to be one of the most challenging courses. General education requirements required students to take a minimum of eight credit hours of English. If a student didn't do well on the English portion of the ACT or were unable to pass out through an optional writing exam, he or she was placed in English 100. English 100 was a developmental English course. Like any other course, English 100 was taught in a normal class setting as well as a weekly workshop. In the workshops, students received extra help on papers and also learned lessons on thesis statements, topic sentences and sentence detail. Writer's Workshop was led by a Student Assistant. SA's ranged from college students either interested in or majoring in English or education. Director of Developmental Writing Dawn Terrick led the English 100 program.

"We're hoping that because they're in a smaller environment where it's a little more intimate, the student is not getting graded, and they are working with a student rather than a teacher, it's an environment that is a little more conducive to learning," Terrick said.

Student Assistants learned how to work with different kinds of people.

"By being a Student Assistant, I learn how different people think and what they find to be "good" writing and "bad" writing," SA Traci Haug said.

One of the goals of English 100 was to get students to start writing at the college level. Terrick believed that students had more of an opportunity for academic growth in smaller class settings.

"It's an environment that hopefully impels the students to ask more questions and kind of experiment

with things that they wouldn't do in the classroom," Terrick said.

Haug found that she had to adapt to other's learning styles.

"It is really hard to keep all of their attention because they all learn at a different speed," Haug said. "Another pressure that I feel is that it is up to me to adapt to each student. I have four different classes and each of these groups has a different way of learning. This means that for each group, I have to adapt or even change the lesson that I will be presenting them."

Despite the disadvantages, the pros definitely outweighed the cons. Haug believed that her role was important because she felt that she helped students learn how to do college-level writing.

Dawn Terrick sets up and runs the student assistant program. Terrick is the Director of Developmental Writing here at Missouri Western. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Lidia Ramirez

"I Love America!"

Performer Lidia Ramirez visits Western and provides viewers with a dramatic twist on a controversial subject in current news

Story By Sarah Deet

Illegal immigration. These two words were often the cause of bitter debate, but all too often, legal immigrants found themselves trapped in the crossfire of it. Playwright and actress Lidia Ramirez visited Missouri Western to portray her view of immigrants seeking a better life in America. Her one-woman show, entitled "I Love America," captivated the audience's. Many audience members attended the event in order to support her cause, while others wished to broaden their viewpoint.

"After watching the show, I hope people better understand another culture," senior Amber Brown said. "Sometimes, people live in a box and have a hard time seeing how people live in another culture."

Many audience members felt that they could relate first-hand to the experiences that was presented to them. Freshman Sydney Phillips dated a legal immigrant from Mexico City, Mexico, and was amazed by the enormous amount of discrimination.

"There are some people who will look away or not talk to you," Phillips said. "They are so opposed to illegal immigration that they turn away from anyone who is not English speaking."

Phillips attended the performance because she was interested to see how other Hispanic Americans dealt with racism in

America. Other attendees had faced similar obstacles for many years and were able to offer advice to people who had recently discovered such discrimination.

"When they here us speak Spanish, they turn around and want to know if we're talking about them," freshman Pamela Covarrubias said. "It happens everyday, so you learn to live with it."

Covarrubias traveled to St. Joseph from Mexico. After her journey, she felt pressure to adapt to the American culture.

"In Mexico, we are all very warm," Covarrubias said. "We hug and are always very self-expressive. When you come to America, people don't like you to get too close. At a certain time, you have to mix the cultures and adapt to the American culture."

The one-woman play recreated a colorful tale of seven individuals who risked their lives to make the hard trip to the United States. In Ramirez's performance, she exemplified what people were willing to leave behind in exchange for a better life.

"I Love America" was sponsored by the Center for Multicultural Education. It was held at 7 p.m. on Oct. 5 in the Kemper Recital Hall in Leah Spratt Hall. The event was free and open to the public.



Lidia Ramirez imitates a single mother attempting to support her family by working as a dancer in a nightclub. Many of the audience members were captivated by her enthusiastic portrayals.
Photo by Adrian Akasaki



A second persona adopted by Ramirez offers listeners yet another unique perspective on life in Mexico. By taking on a male viewpoint, Ramirez startled audience members with a deep voice and rough actions.
Photo by Adrian Akasaki

Financial Aid Misunderstandings

*The business and financial aid offices
sometimes cause confusion to students
who want to receive financial aid*

Story by Katrina Dass

Many students had the same question in mind for the Financial Aid office: When will my financial aid be processed? At the start of the semester, several students filled the offices of the Financial Aid coordinators, while others made phone calls to check on the process of their loans or scholarships. Most students blamed the Financial Aid office for late processing, but who was really at fault?

Sophomore Eric Hills had trouble with his loans because they weren't being processed in the amount of time the Financial Aid office had actually told him. "I filled out the paperwork for a loan, and they told me it would only take three days to know if they could process it," Hills said. "It's been two weeks, and they still don't know what's going on."

Hills visited with coordinators in the Financial Aid office two to three times per week. He made it a point to sit down with them and try to figure out what was happening and why it was taking so long. Default Prevention Coordinator Deana Elder regularly saw students who were frustrated because they didn't understand what was going on with their loans or scholarships.

"Basically, I listen first because the best way to get to the top of the problem is to listen to the person and let them vent," Elder said.

Freshman Elizabeth Green had trouble with her billing. Her bills that she had received didn't list all of her scholarships and loans.

"I would call and they would tell me how much I had each semester, but

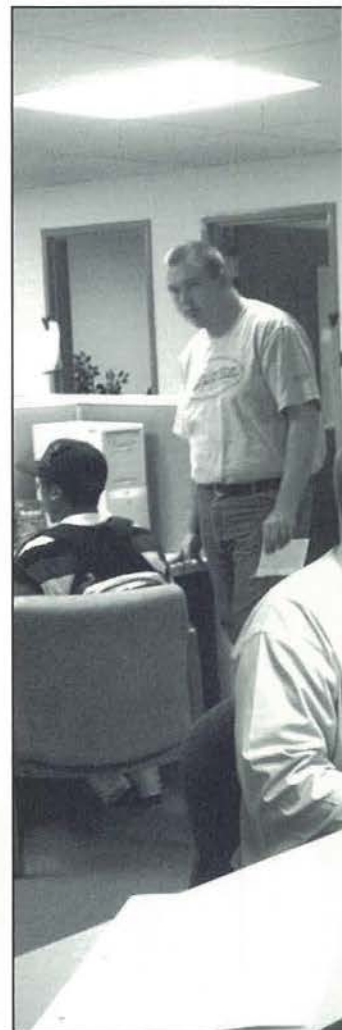
when they would send me a new bill, the money wouldn't show up on there, so I would have to keep calling," Green said.

Green also had a problem dealing with the students who were employed at the Financial Aid office. The coordinators, often times, were busy meeting with someone so students were left to talk to those students who were employed there. Students were often confused with some of the information that the student employees gave them. In response to this Elder recommended students make an appointment with a coordinator if they had a specific question that they wanted answered or to consult the Financial Aid website.

Even though many Western students had problems with their financial aid, there were still a few who were grateful for the department such as that of accounting major Shane Feist.

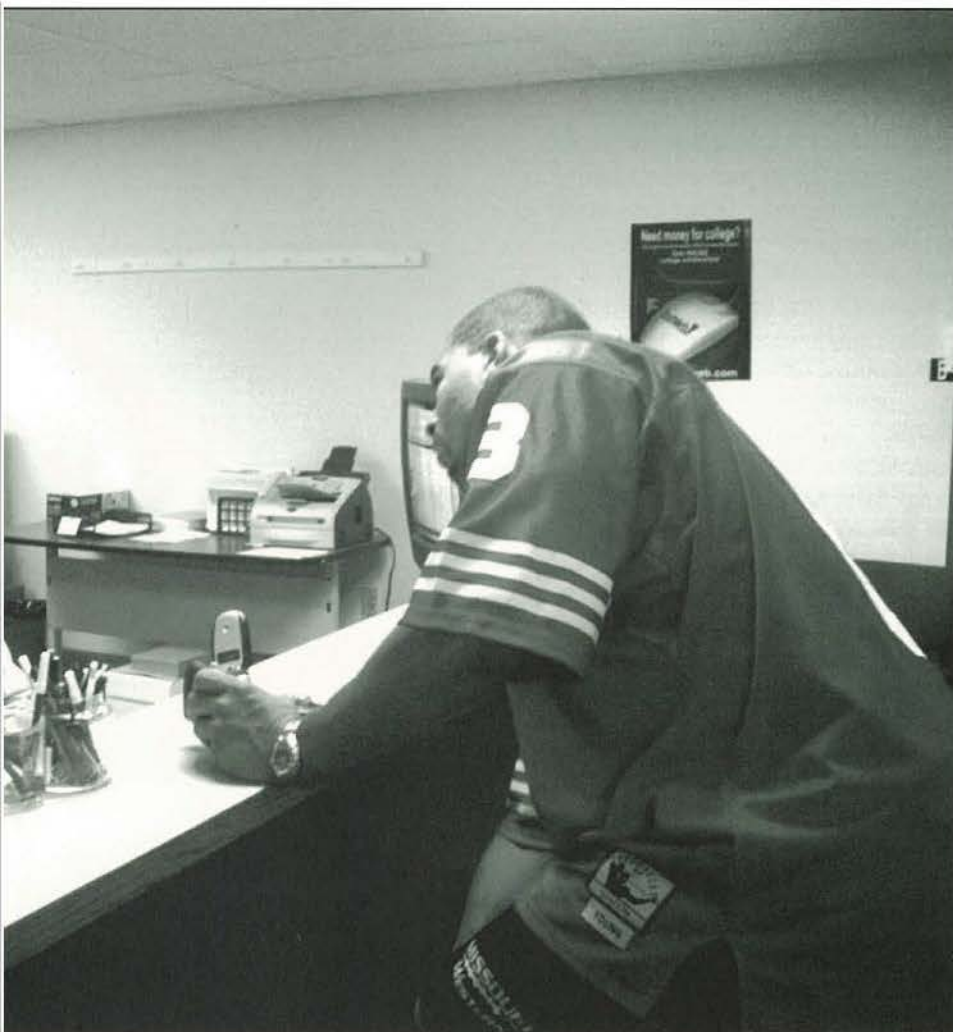
"I understood why many students have problems with their financial aid," Feist said. "I'm grateful for what all the Financial Aid office has done for me. Without the help of them, my parents wouldn't be able to pay for me to go to college."

Regarding the popular, but false notion that many students were frustrated with the Financial Aid office, the employees really did do all that they could to ensure a bright education for Western's finest.





The Financial Aid office offers help to students filling out their FASFA online. Filling out the FASFA is a must for students who want to receive financial aid. *Photo by Jamison Burns*



Students often visit the Financial Aid office to check on their loan or scholarship status. Getting problems resolved can sometimes be difficult and time consuming. *Photo by Jamison Burns*

New Media

New World

With the new videogames and new audio systems, its easy to become distracted from the stress and pressures of school

Story by Sarah Derr

With an upcoming Christmas holiday, large corporations such as Sony, Nintendo and Microsoft each released new media devices that had parents fighting for the latest and greatest in technology. Among these included Sony's PlayStation 3, Nintendo's Wii and Microsoft's Zune. The release of so many new media devices had St. Joseph businesses such as Best Buy and GameStop overflowing with customers. With limited quantities, many consumers went to extremes to get their hands on the new gaming devices.

"On average, our store gets about 15 to 20 phone calls a day asking if we have any Wiis and a couple hardcore fans check by at the same time every day," GameStop assistant manager Shane Webber said. "We've also gotten some strange stories from kids and parents saying they have a terminally ill kid, who only wants the PS3, or kids, who say their parents will beat them if they can't get one."

The PS3 offered consumers more control over their purchases with a large hard drive, Wifi capabilities and media card slots.

"Both versions have Blu-ray technology, which is kind of like hi-def, except it has much better acoustics," Best Buy media specialist Monica White said. "When you buy the PS3, you are essentially getting a \$700 to \$800 Blu-ray DVD player plus a game system for \$600 or less."

While the PS3 offered consumers a gateway into the graphic and acoustic technology world, Nintendo's Wii blended recreational gaming with video games.

"The Wii is much more

interactive," White said. "You actually have two pieces to the 'nun-chuck' controller. One looks like a thin TV remote and the other kind of looks like the top of a joystick. If you are playing a golf game, you actually swing the controller."

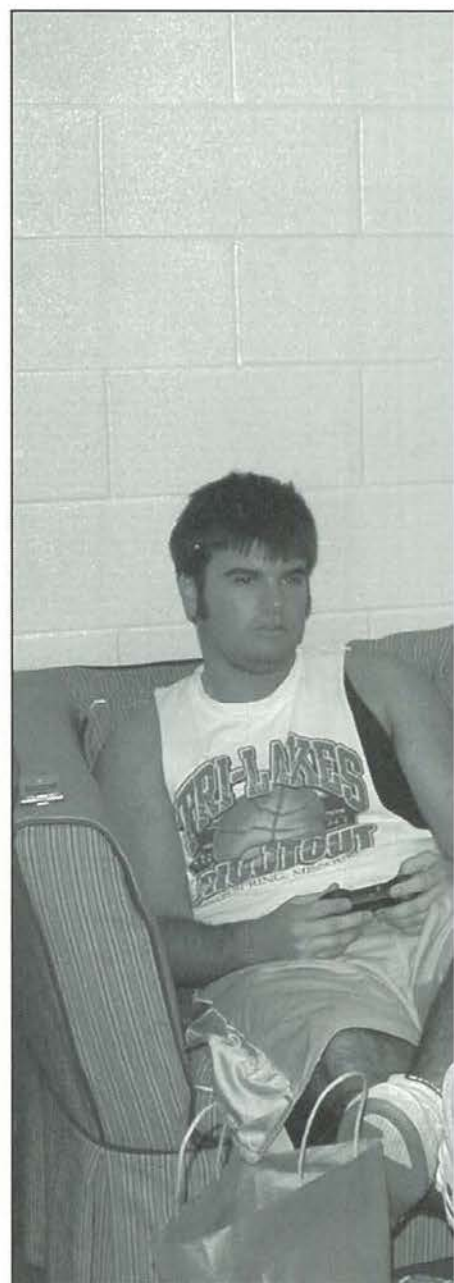
By connecting the Wii to the Internet, users had the ability to download old Nintendo games that were available only on older consoles. The Wii was significantly lower in price as compared to the PS3.

"Releasing both of these systems close to Christmas isn't really doing anything for the sales of the PS3," Webber said. "Sony fans would get the system no matter what they had to do to get it. What really has happened is that the lack of available models means there will be lots of disappointed kids this Christmas."

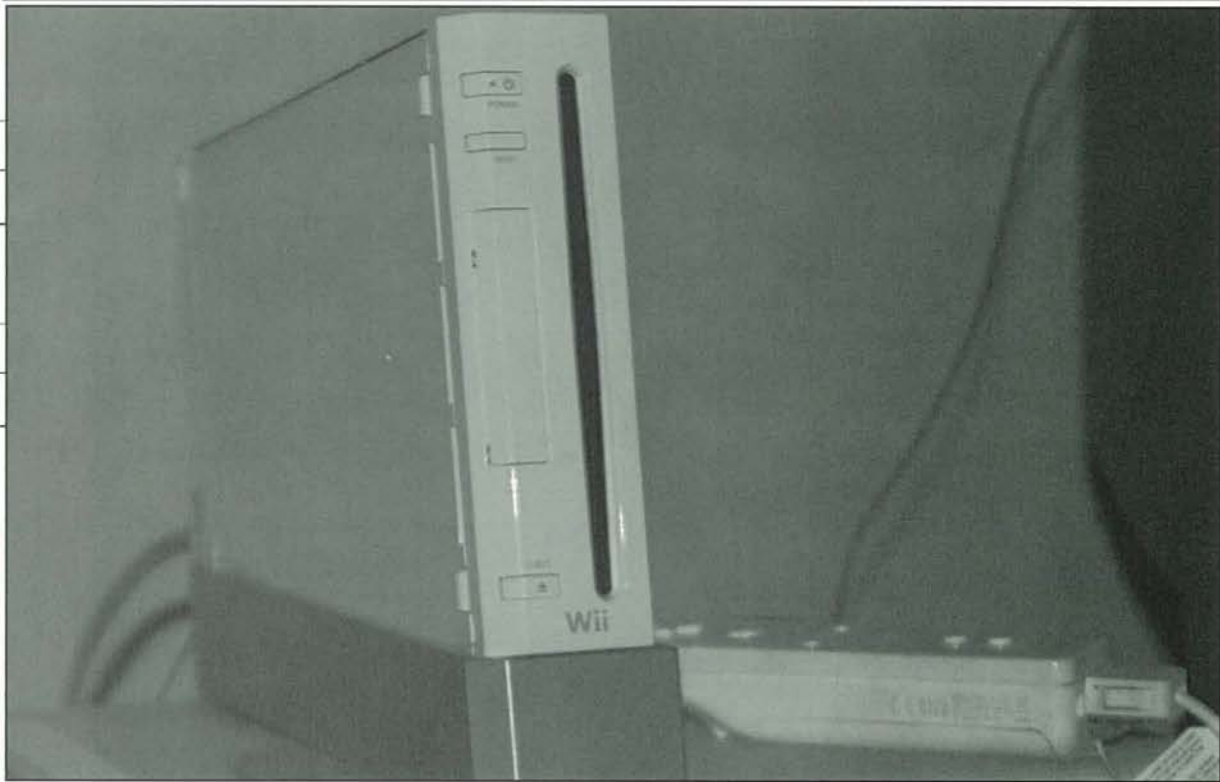
While Sony and Nintendo battled it out in the gaming console war, Microsoft had to put their hand in the MP3 revolution. Apple changed the appearance of many of their iPods and Microsoft released their first MP3 player called the Zune.

"It incorporates the X-Box 360's hard drive by allowing users to transfer music from one device to the other," Best Buy employee Derek Prater said. "Microsoft is coming out with a new program that works sort of like iTunes that is actually going to run on your 360, so you can use your 360 as a downloading source for all of your music."

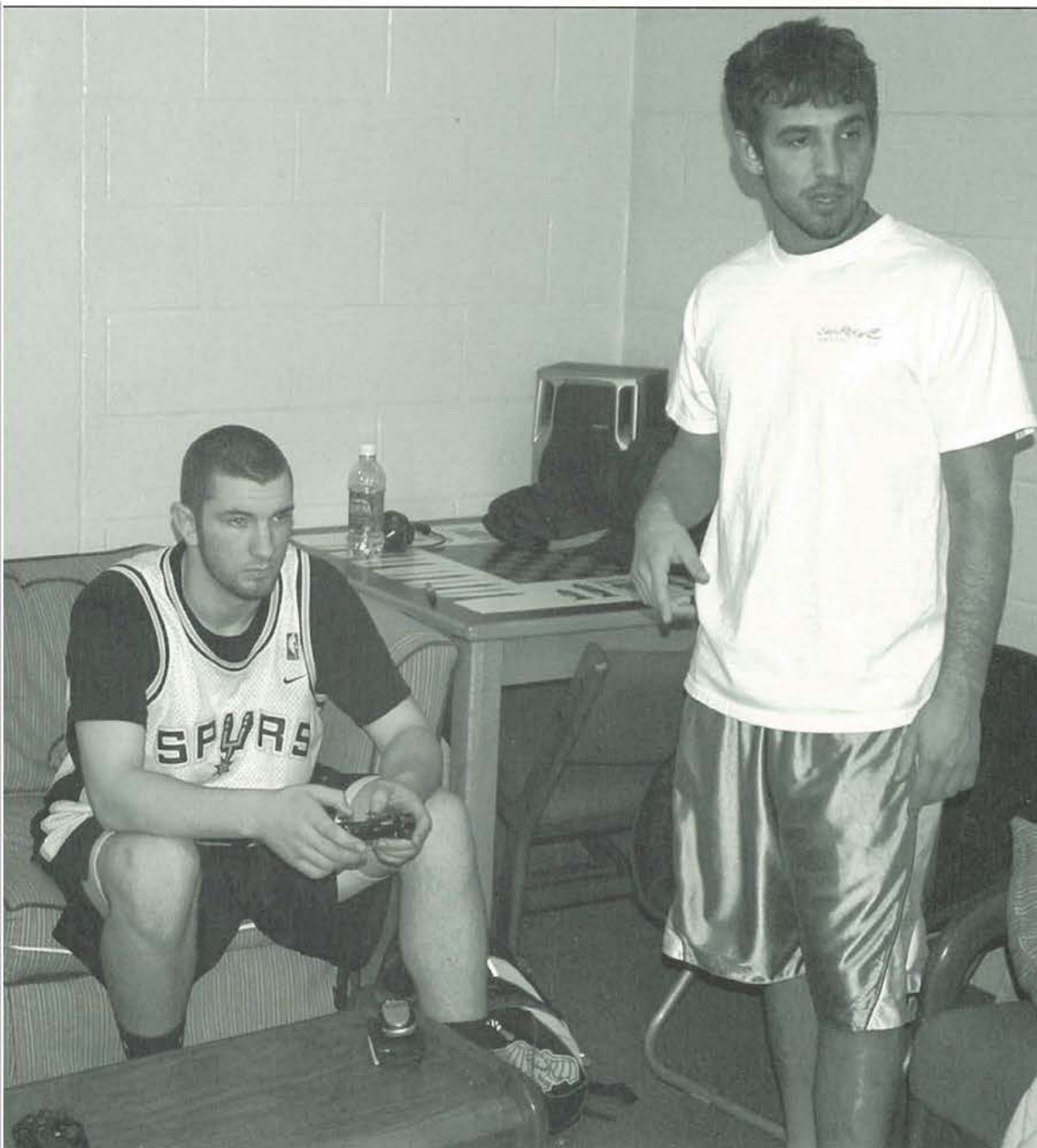
The release of so many hi-tech media devices and accessories only led consumers to wonder what these leading digital corporations had in store for their purchasing entertainment in the future.



The Nintendo Wii hit the stores around Christmas time during 2006. The game station was a big seller for the holiday season. *Photo by Greg Carbin*



College students were able to put off studying to try and master the Nintendo Wii and PlayStation 3. There were tournaments held in the dorms throughout the semester. *Photo by Greg Carbin*



Bailey/Herrington - Changes Abound

At the weekly SGA meeting, Katy Schwartz, Paul Shang, Levi White and Brad Dixon discuss the Ping Pong tournament. It was a very successful meeting. Photo by Linda Shireman



With two incumbent officers staying a little longer than planned, transformations begin to show themselves in the revolution of the Western Student Government Association

by Katrina Datt

The Student Government Association received a makeover during the course of the summer and fall of 2006 after President Natalie Bailey and Vice President Luke Herrington were elected into office. Following the election, the SGA constitution received major revisions. The new constitution was finally voted on after five months, nine drafts and many late, late nights. With the new constitution, new changes were implemented and more students were getting involved. The new constitution had a more positive outlook and it was easier to understand.

The two branches mainly affected by the new constitution changes were the executive and judicial branches. The executive branch, consisted of the Student Senate, grew from 20 senators to 40. SGA members felt that this was a way to achieve a variety of opinions and ideas for solving many campus problems.

"The senate can now have twice as many members to serve as student senators in the SGA," Herrington said. "Instead of having a cap of 20 members, we have a cap of 40."

The judicial branch was the branch that was most affected by the newly renovated constitution. The judicial branch was modified because the SGA wanted to give students a neutral court. A small committee of independent senators handled judicial affairs prior to the new constitution.

"This allows the SGA to regulate internal judicial affairs and will actually be able to be influenced by student organizations to a certain extent," Herrington said.

With the various changes of the new constitution, many students questioned if it was really cooperating at full scale after nearly 10 members issued their resignations in the fall. Twenty senators were elected after the end of the 2006 spring semester, and a few weeks into the fall, 18 members were hired. After the fall semester, however, only 10 senator positions were available. The SGA recognized these resignations as signs of time constraints, class, work and other obligations. SGA members didn't let a bad situation affect the organization. They knew that in time, other students

would be gracious enough to devote their time to the organization such as Student Senator and Academic Quality Coordinator Gretchen Kunkle. Kunkle was just your average college student. She wasn't interested in politics at first, but once she joined, her interest grew.

"Once I joined SGA and saw how a form of government works, I got more into politics," she said. "It helps me both in college and in understanding government and politics better."

Aside from the new amending process and the senator resignations, the real purpose of the SGA were the students at Western.

"The duties of the SGA are to represent the student association in all matters, to organize and supervise student activities, and to coordinate the student organizations through a system of student government," Chief of Staff Katy Schwartz said.

Herrington and others involved in SGA were there to meet the students' needs.

"SGA is for everyone, not just a small group of people," Herrington said. "Students involved learn a lot more about what's going on around campus especially with the administration."

President Natalie Bailey and Vice President Luke Herrington preside over the meeting. This was the only time that both president and vice president will be in office longer than one year.
Photo by Linda Shireman



Galaxy Views

With new shows scheduled for the spring semester, attendance is still low for the on-campus planetarium in the Agenstein Hall

Story by Amy Chastain & Derrick Collins

During the spring semester, the Bushman Planetarium held its spring series. The spring series included shows, entitled "Light Years from Andromeda," "Lewis and Clark," "More Than Meets the Eye" and "Hubble Vision." The shows provided an educational experience for all who attended. The new showing "Light Years from Andromeda" taught the theory of light speed and the light year. The showing explained how astronomers use speeds to measure a few proverbial celestial objects such as the sun, the planets and the moon. It also provided explanation about the properties of light that help determine a star's age and temperature.

For the few who attended, they felt that the showings were quite entertaining. "I thought most of the showings were pretty amazing," economics major Daniel Morrow said.

Morrow also felt, though, that the series could have been updated, but he learned more from one showing, Hubble Vision. "I do think that at some point in time, the planetarium should update the films," he said. "Sometime in the near future it will need an update, but for the most part, I was very impressed. I would have to say that Hubble Vision was my favorite. It gave a picture of the lengths that NASA and other scientists are willing to go to discover new areas of astronomy. It was amazing just to see some of the shots taken by Hubble."

Student Anthony Bossler compared watching the series on a regular T.V. show rather than in the planetarium. "I feel that the series was much better shown in the planetarium other than a T.V. screen," Bossler said. "I also felt the films were a bit outdated, but it was interesting in a way."

As the series provided entertainment for the audience, it wasn't short in informing them as well. "I learned that the universe is a lot larger than I could ever imagine," Morrow said.

Bossler also learned more from the educational standpoint of the series. "I learned several facts and stories about mankind and his fascination with cosmos," he said.

With the educational and entertaining standpoint of the series, it was no surprise that many students were fascinated with the planetarium showing. "The planetarium is a theater that makes you learn while you feel like you are drunk, spinning in your seat when clearly you are not" Bossler said. "What is more fun than that?"

The spring series was held in the Bushman Planetarium in Evan R. Agenstein Hall, Room 105. The films began at 7 p.m. and lasted 50 minutes. Tickets were \$3 each for the general public and reservations were available for school groups and organizations.





To produce the night sky inside, it takes a lot of machinery. However, the shows did prove to be very entertaining. *Photo by Linda Shireman*



Participants of the shows are seated in a circular room where the sky is seen on the ceiling. Attendance was low for the spring shows. *Photo by Linda Shireman*

Western Reports U-News

Western students produce their own television shows accessible to students on campus as well as the community

Story by Dennick Collins

Students could finally get plenty of profitable campus information while sitting in front of their televisions starting this year, thanks to the advent of two television shows produced by Missouri Western. Going by the names of “U-News” and “Western Reports,” the informational shows were a success.

“U-News” aired every other week and gave a general overview of both current and upcoming happenings on campus, while “Western Reports” was shown once a month and provided a more in-depth look at campus initiatives.

The shows attempted to educate and inform viewers of what was happening on campus, and were always presented in a positive light. “U-News” focused more on current events around campus that viewers could become involved in immediately, while “Western Reports” primarily enlightened viewers about campus initiatives.

“[We] hope to educate [viewers] as to what’s happening on campus, to inform them regarding campus initiatives and changes,” Manager of Education Television Services Danielle Hunt said. She pointed out that the audience of the two shows consisted of people both on and off campus.

Although awareness of the shows was not universal throughout campus, those who did tune in were appreciative of the information offered. “It’s great to have a television

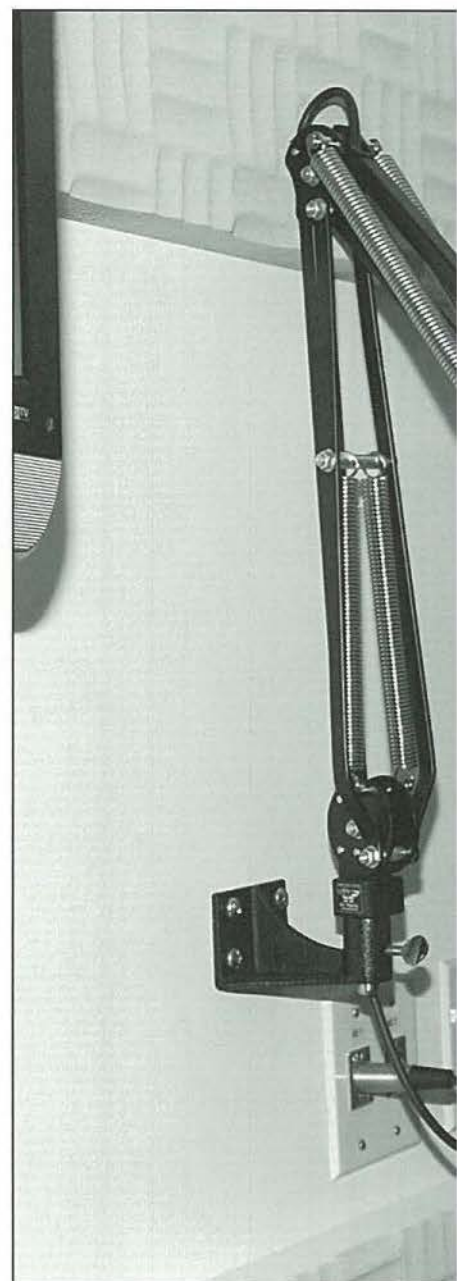
program that can benefit both students and non-students,” Missouri Western alumni Tara Stull said. Students who viewed the show had a definite edge over those who did not in regard to keeping up with the myriad of events on campus.

Sophomore Megan Glenn, who hosted “Western Reports,” reiterated the benefits of the shows for students. “General knowledge of the campus is important for success in college, but it’s also good to know [the] faces of people who are making decisions about your education,” she said.

The shows were split into multiple segments, often with several guests. As the host, Glenn’s job was to interview the guests. “It’s pretty cool to talk to people and to find out about campus,” she said. Guests included both students and faculty members, who followed the outline of the shows by discussing different happenings related to campus events and initiatives.

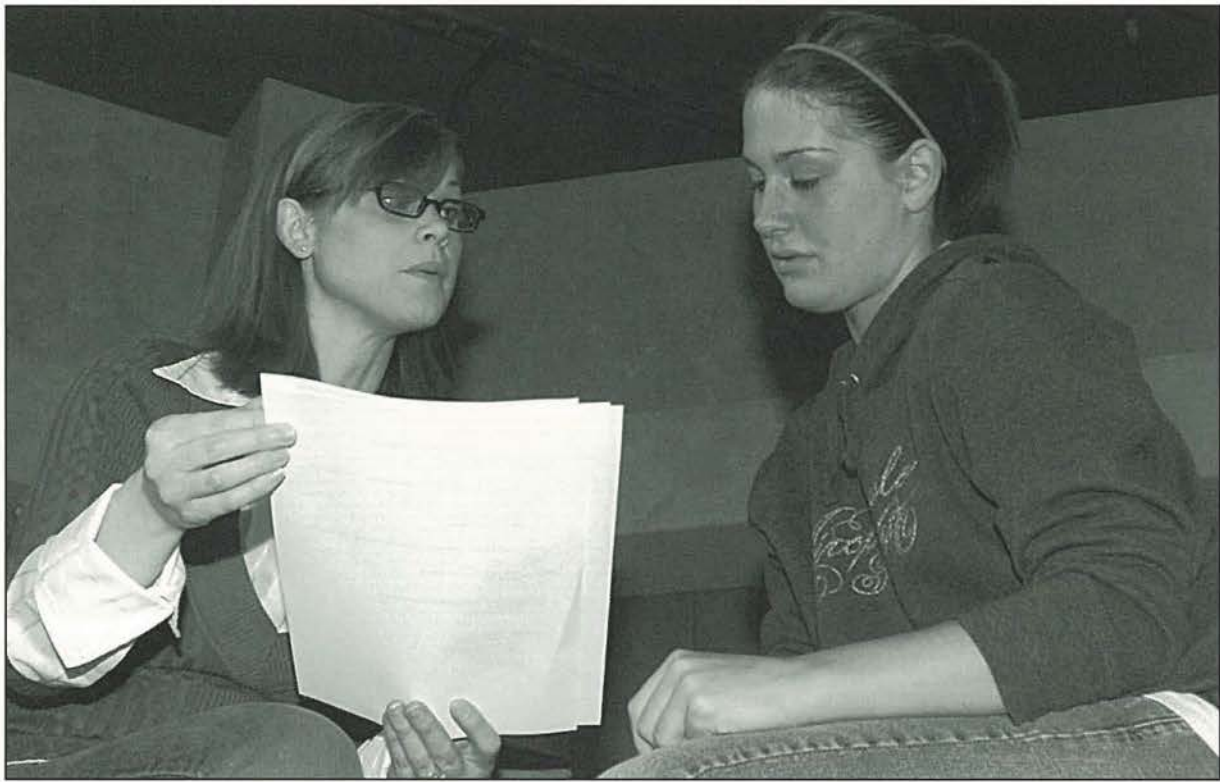
“Western Reports” first aired in September, and “U-News” began a month later. The two shows were aired in half hour segments. They were both viewed on the St. Joseph Cablevision Channel 39. “Western Reports” aired on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday and “U-News” on Saturday.

“U-News” and “Western Reports” were a great addition to the services offered not only to students, but also to the community.



Megan Glenn, a student intern and host, and Tara Stoll, video communications producer, go over an interview before shooting a segment of "Western Reports."

Interviewing many different guests who appeared on the show was a primary focus of the segments. *Photo by Linda Shireman*



Agustin Avalos records for Western's television shows. Avalos worked as the video communications specialist and did voice overs. *Photo by Linda Shireman*



The sculpture of the Griffon is carved in bronze. The sculpture added a new and more modern look to the campus. Photo by Kailey Alexander



Western Sculpture

Western Art professor achieves award and gives back to the University with a gift of his own creation for the entire student body, faculty and community

by Sarah Deen

After being formally recognized as a Distinguished Teacher by the University in 2004, Professor of Art Jim Estes received a one-time award of \$1,000 to use toward professional development in any way he wished. Having taught at Western for nearly 35 years, Estes decided it was time to give back to the institution that had given him so much.

"As I look to wind down my career at Western in the next few years, I thought it would be nice to give something back to the University, which I am proud to be a part of," Estes said. "Western is a very good university and I have been treated very well here. I might say the sculpture was a mutual thing. The University always wants its faculty to continue their research, and I was ready to try something different."

Estes decided to work on a large scale sculpture on the grounds of Western. He wanted to reflect his thoughts about the enigmatic nature of the students, but redefining ideas did not come without hard work and dedication.

"I decided to do something different than the traditional scale ceramic sculptures, I had been doing for some time," Estes said. "I had never done any outdoor sculptures and realized it would demand different approaches and techniques. It was the process of learning how to use these techniques and tools necessary to pull off this work that made it interesting to me."

Estes began by building a small maquette of the sculpture and progressed with larger models until he was ready to put his hard work and ideas into a final product. Colleagues and students who watched him build the sculpture were impressed by his skill.

"I watched him build his sculpture," Associate Professor and chair of the Art department Allison Smith said. "It was a great experience for me, but even more so for the students to see a master at work. He is extremely, extremely talented."

Students who had next to no artistic interest in the new addition to the campus, exciting and

inspirational. "It is nice that we can appreciate the work of our teachers," English major Stephanie Hartley said. "This campus doesn't have a whole lot to look at. We have a bunch of older buildings and a clock tower that doesn't show the correct time. The mere presence of someone trying to enhance curiosity in students is exciting."

All in all, the sculpture that Estes created was a remarkable piece of artwork that stopped any person dead in their tracks while walking along the Western campus.

"People often ask anytime they see a contemporary piece of art, what is it?" Estes said. "What is it supposed to be? It is what it is. It's never been produced before by anybody. Just approach it with an open mind and see how you respond to it. What does it make you think of? Is it a positive thing, a negative thing? If there is some inquiry, some curiosity, that's ok, that's what this whole institution should be about—learning and dealing with new things that we don't understand."

A group of students stop to admire the new sculpture. The sculpture was completed at the end of the spring semester. Photo by Linda Shireman



Sipp Honored for Talent

Small town professor chosen to show Big City Talents with glass printmaking, a technique he created himself

Story by Raya Blake

Glass printmaking, who would have thought it, was possible? Geo Sipp can prove that it is possible. Sipp, an associate professor of art, was invited to the annual Southern Graphics Council Conference to present a lecture based on a unique printmaking idea he created.

Allison Sauls, a fellow colleague of Sipp's, thought his printmaking was incredible. "One of the reasons we hired him is because he is accomplished," Sauls said. He has diligently been creating these prints through a very intriguing process. He spent a lot of time, experimenting by trial and error, and came up with an idea everyone should have known about.

"Sipp's idea with printmaking is extremely innovative," senior Katie Sherman said. "He is very talented and skilled at glass printmaking."

Sipp felt honored to be invited to the annual conference.

"This is an extreme honor for me," Sipp said. "The Southern Graphics Council is the largest and most prestigious Print and Drawing organization in North America."

The conference was where the best printmakers gathered. Participants came from all over the world to listen to panel discussions held by printmakers. Portfolios and presentations were available to participants to explain new printmaking media techniques. They

also offered trends and practices in contemporary printmaking.

"This honor is as big as you can get in his profession, and he was chosen," Sauls said.

Sipp explained why he thought he was chosen for the conference.

"I was asked to demonstrate new technologies and processes, particularly as they pertain to my ongoing graphic novel project *Wolves in the City*," Sipp said. "My lectures and demonstration workshops will feature creating a page for the graphic novel, using images drawn on glass, transferred to photosynthesized plates and then printed." His intent was to replicate the process of mass-produced imagery while creating limited edition prints.

"It is a process that is so unique," Sauls said. "He's extremely creative, and I think it is very important that he shows other people how to do it." Not only was he going to show his talents and skills, but also inform others of his unparalleled ideas.

Other conference locations were held in New York, N.Y., Boston, Mass., Seattle, Wash. and San Francisco, Calif. The conference was held in Kansas City, Mo.

Sipp was a small town man, chosen to show big city talents. The Western community was proud to support such a great example of



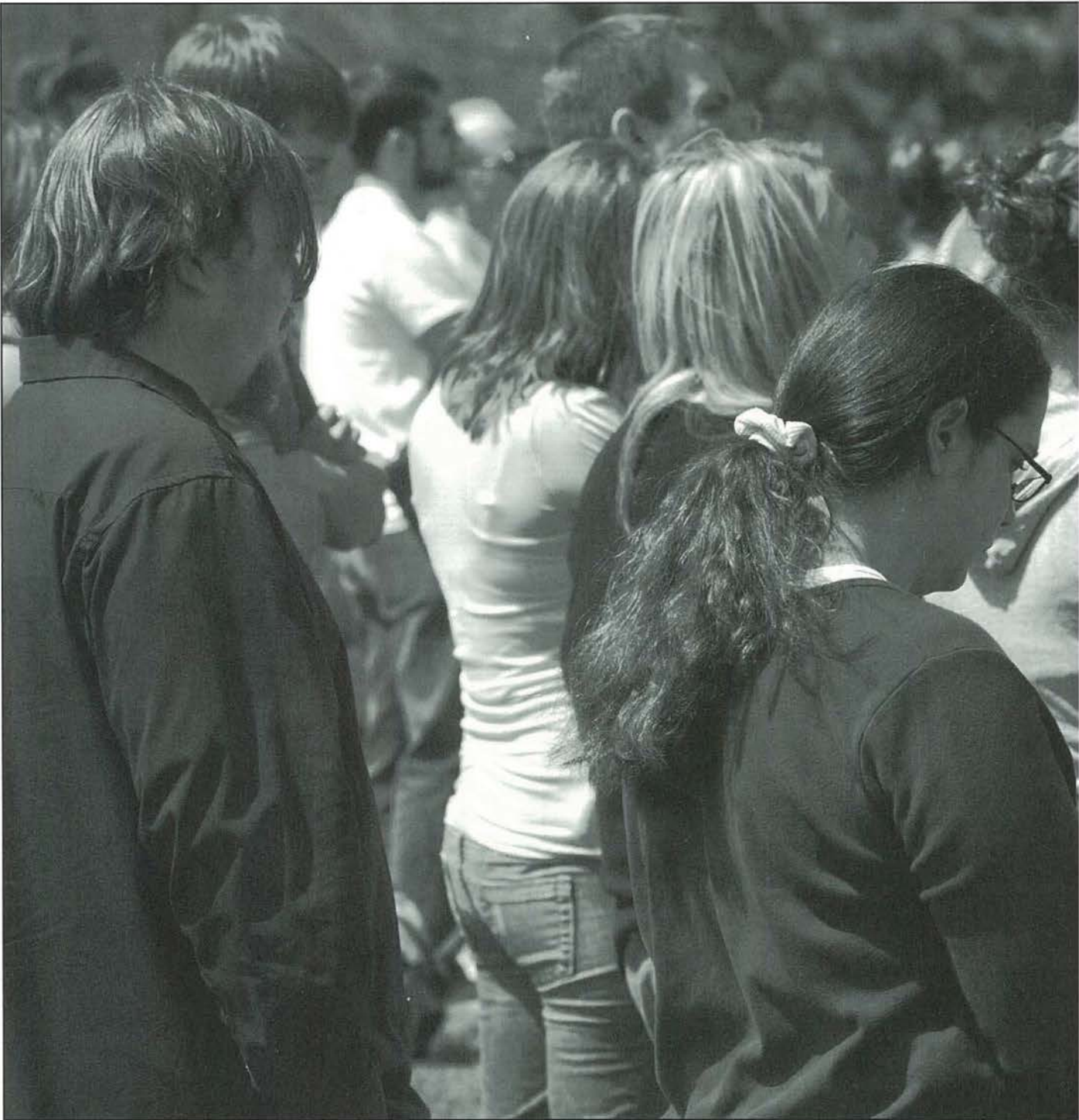
Professor Sipp offers one on one advice to a student as he reviews her painting. He was one of the well respected instructors in the art department. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Art majors make paintings of themselves for an assignment. Professor Sipp discusses painting techniques used in producing this painting. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Western students gather to remember the victims of Virginia Tech. A ceremony was held in memory of the shooting. Photo by Linda Shireman



We Remember..

*Ross Abdallah Alameddine
Christopher James Bishop
Brian Roy Bluhm
Ryan Christopher Clark
Austin Michelle Cloyd
Jocelyne Couture-Nowak
Kevin P. Granata
Matthew Gregory Gwaltney
Caitlin Millar Hammaren
Jeremy Michael Herbstritt
Rachael Elizabeth Hill*

*Emily Jane Hilscher
Jarrett Lee Lane
Matthew Joseph La Porte
Henry J. Lee
Livi Librescu
G.V. Loganathan
Partahi Mamora Halomoan
Lumbantoruan
Lauren Ashley McCain
Daniel Patrick O'Neil
Juan Ramon Ortiz-Ortiz*

*Minal Hiralal Panchal
Daniel Alejandro Perez
Erin Nicole Peterson
Michael Steven Pohle, Jr.
Julia Kathleen Pryde
Mary Karen Read
Reema Joseph Samaha
Waleed Mohamed Shaalan
Leslie Geraldine Sherman
Maxine Shelly Turner
Nicole White*

Today, We Are All Hokies

The world stands in silence as the deadliest
school shooting imaginable
happens in rural Blacksburg, Va., at
Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007

by Amy Chastain

It was a normal Monday morning. Students were getting ready for early classes. Others hit the snooze button of their alarm and slid back under the covers of their beds. No one was prepared for what happened next. Virginia Tech student Cho Seung-Hui shot and killed 32 of his classmates and professors on April 16. The Virginia Tech massacre took place just eight days before the anniversary of the Columbine shooting.

"My reaction was sadness, as it would be anywhere, but it was also surreal because I was hearing the words "Virginia Tech" uttered by lips from all over the world. Those words never come: national reporters, local news, MWSU officials, my students," Michael Cadden, a professor of English, said. "It was like folks were in a room with me and talking about my family and me without their knowing I was related." Cadden received two bachelor degrees and his master's degree from Virginia Tech. He was also an instructor there for 15 years.

"I know a lot of people at Virginia Tech, especially in the English department," Cadden said. "A friend in engineering teaches in Norris Hall, the site of the shootings, and so I was very upset until I got an e-mail from her. I have heard from people I haven't heard from in years, and so there has been a wonderful reconnection with people as a result of this terrible event."

While the shooting happened just a few states away, Western students took part in mourning the victims of Virginia Tech. "I was shocked at first," Kali Pettijohn, a communications major, said. "I felt really sad for the students because they didn't know if there was just one shooter or if there were more."

Pettijohn feared that a similar incident might happen at Western. "After the scare of a threat, I go to school every day with fear," Pettijohn said. "I hope that no one would do that here, but I guess you never know. I would say that Virginia Tech students would have said the same. It is sad that in today's world, we have to live in fear of our own lives daily."

Western student Jami Bryant was in her car, driving home from class when she heard the news of the shooting. "In situations like these, it is easy for all of us to criticize the actions that were taken," Bryant said. "However, in all actuality, no one can say for certain how we would react if we were in a similar situation. I believe that the administration at Virginia Tech did all they could possibly have done."

Despite the miles of distance between the two universities, all educational facilities across the country wept for the victims of Virginia Tech. Western held ceremonies for the victims. The victims of Virginia Tech rested in each and every Griffon's heart on the Western campus. "I thought the ceremony was very touching," Cadden said. "It made the world a little smaller in a good way. College and university campuses are small worlds unto themselves, and there's a relation among them despite distance. I was impressed with the number of students in attendance, and I have to say that it made me a little more proud of being a Griffon."

Dean of Student Development Paul Shang speaks to the large crowd that gathered for the memorial. For one day, the entire nation were Hokies. Photo by Linda Shireman



To ease the stress of studying for finals, some students dance to the Electric Slide. At the midnight breakfast, music played for entertainment along with breakfast being served. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*



Late Night Snack

Residence Council sponsors annual midnight breakfast to ease final anxiety and provide one last social event for Western students before graduation

by Roga Blake

Loss of sleep, stress and pressure typically fit setting of finals week for the student and perhaps, faculty at Missouri Western. Many students dreaded the week of finals. Not only did students try to finish last-minute projects before finals, but they also had to study for each class final. Students who were scheduled in up to 18 hours of classes could have up to two finals. This in turn, may have meant that they had more than one final in a day. With this much weight of stress on a student, was it possible to have a strong performance on their final grades?

"It is a very stressful week, yet once it is over, it is very relieving," senior Kelly Williams said. Many students, who become overwhelmed with school, clam up when it came time to take exams. "I memorize all the material I need to know, and then when I get the question in front of me, I go blank," junior Penny Arnold said.

It was common for a student to study the night before and know all of the information they needed to know, and then walk into the classroom and forget about half of it. Stress on the body caused the student to forget up and forget what they had learned.

It was not only the students who felt this way. Professors taking may not have been the best way for students to show their skills and knowledge. Some professors took a different route to allow students to show their knowledge. Kit Blake, an instructor for the education department, did not give exams to her students. Instead, they completed a practicum, which allowed Blake to watch them show what they know about her. Blake was not the only professor at Missouri Western who took this route. Many art professors reviewed the student's knowledge by looking at their finished projects. No final exams were given, only a final project.

"Within the business department, finals are not as stressful because teachers allow you to accept the grade you have, or take the final to try to improve it," sophomore Tim Shafer said. "This causes students to excel during the year and relieve the pressure of having to take the comprehensive final." As one could see, each department offered a variety of ways for offering finals.

All in all, whether you were taking a written test, working on a project or completing a practicum, you may have found yourself staying up late, stressing out and beginning to feel the pressure. Most of the time, all the hard work paid off. After all was said and done, everyone was relieved for the week to be over.

Brandon Arnold and Shereesa Thompson eat a late night breakfast. The goal of the event was to lighten the mood before finals. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Graduation

Do not go where the path may lead;
go instead where there is no path and leave a trail
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Senior Mitch Buhman prepares for the commencement ceremonies. Buhman graduated with a bachelor of science in graphic design. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



*Story by Tammy Havens
& Amy Chastain*

Finally, it is time to graduate! Time for a real job and real money!

Oh, did I mention the money? Graduating from college was truly an exciting time in a college student's life, but it was also traumatic. There was the fear of the real world and those looming student loans.

Guest speaker for the fall graduation, Michael Mills, deputy director of the Missouri Department of Economic Development, informed graduates that they had a responsibility to the investment made by their family and community for their education. Mills had some excellent advice for graduates. "Know where you want to be, but don't get caught up in it," Mills said as one of his pieces of advice for graduates. "You will let opportunities pass by your ear if so."

Most Missouri Western graduates were excited to get out into the real world, but were scared at the same time. "It is not that I am not nervous about graduating, it is a lot at once," Brad Meyer, a business management major, said. "Going from the hectic life of a college student to 'life,' is a big deal."

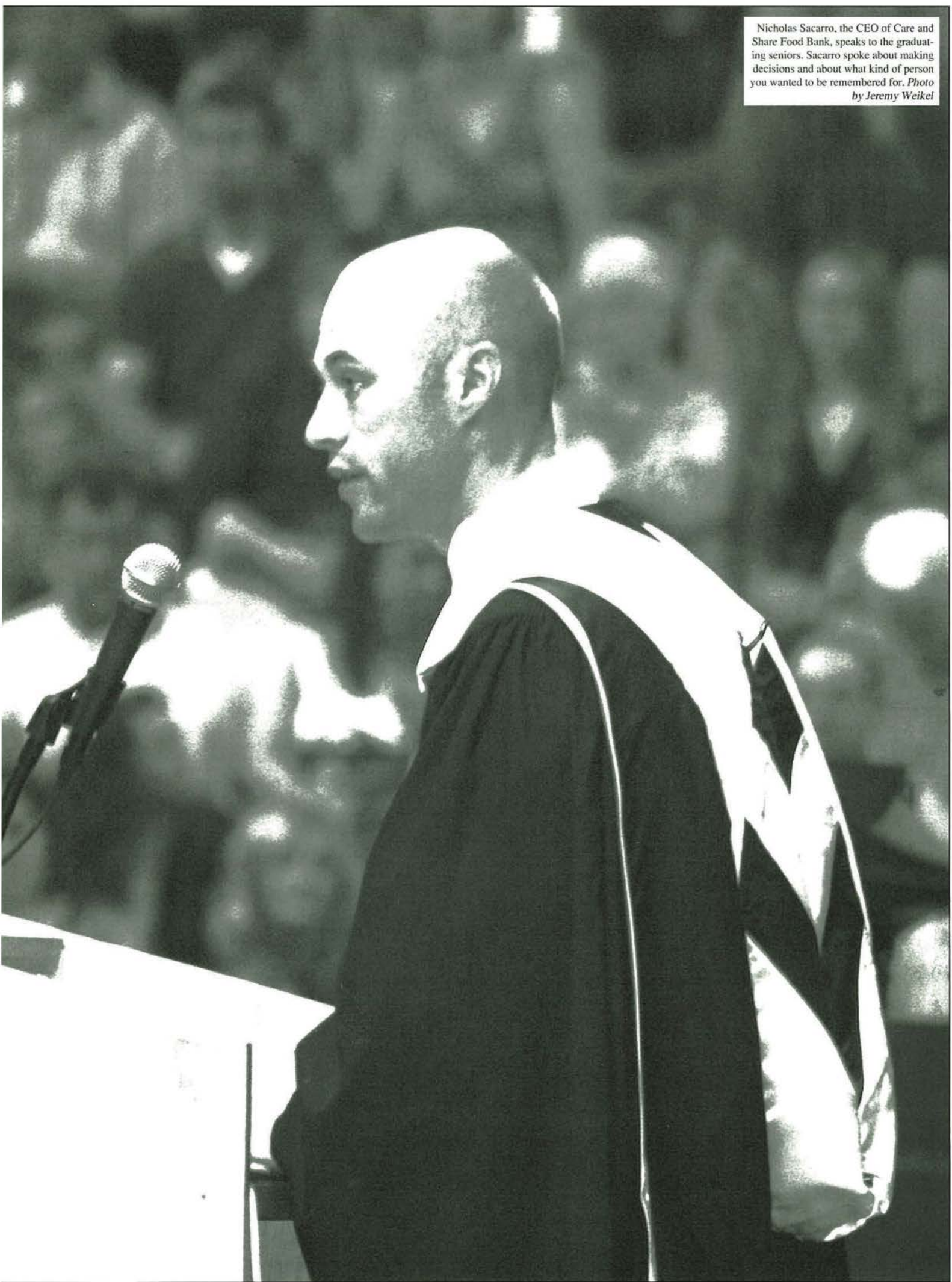
Another scary, but common perception of fellow college graduates was the unyielding pressures of finding a real job. "I am a little nervous about changing jobs, eventually," Jeremy Honeycutt, a computer science major, said.

Going out into the real world was stressful. At the fall graduation ceremony, Missouri Western President James Scanlon mentioned that it was simply natural to be nervous at the end of something and also, to start something new.

The speaker of the spring graduation ceremony was fellow graduate of Missouri Western, Nicholas Sacarr

cont. on p.

Nicholas Sacarro, the CEO of Care and Share Food Bank, speaks to the graduating seniors. Sacarro spoke about making decisions and about what kind of person you wanted to be remembered for. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*







Contestants at the Ms. Black and Gold pageant dance to the opening number together. The pageant was hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Photo by Alli McLaughlin





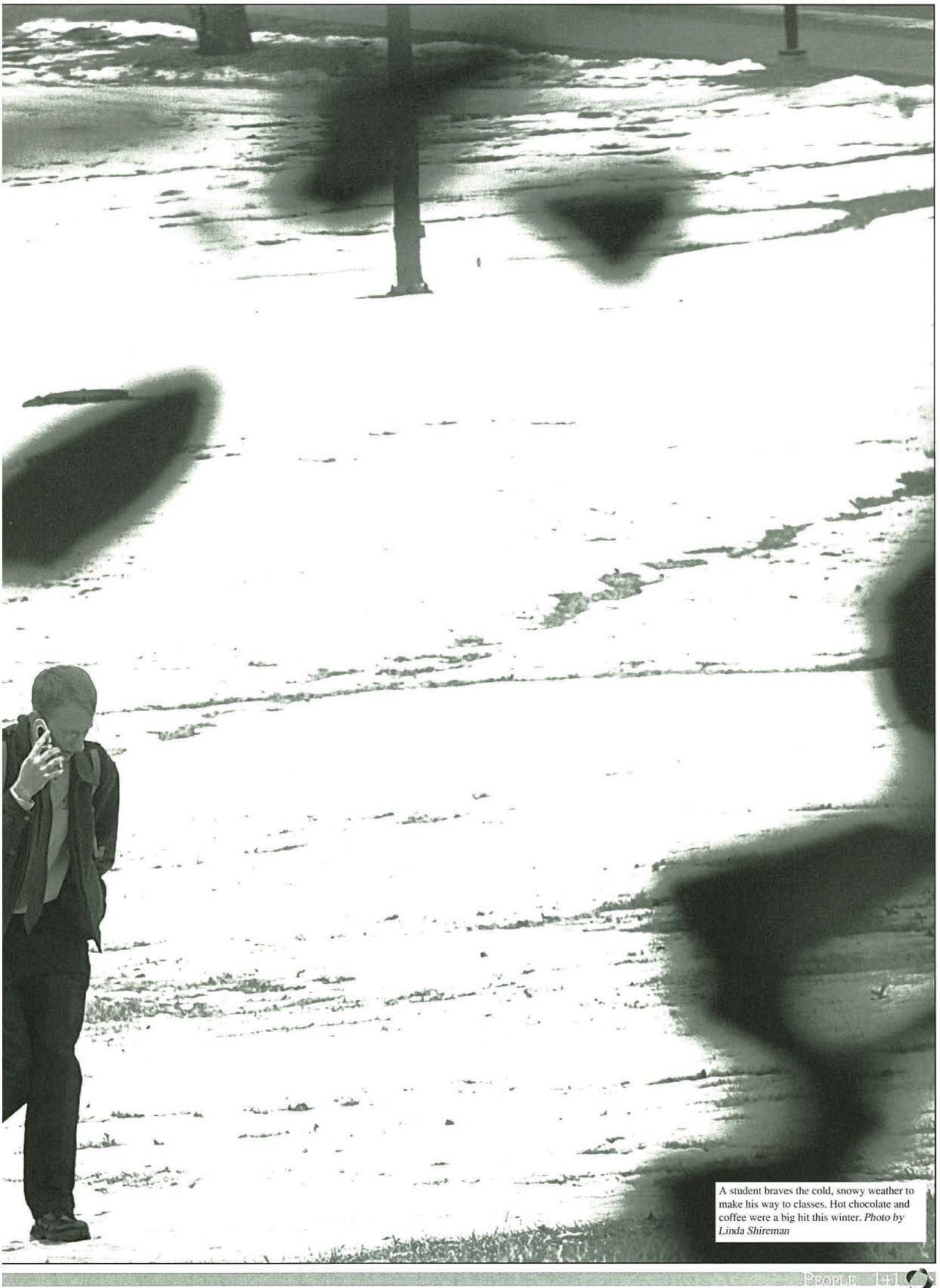
The game football was delivered by skydivers for the Family Day game. An American flag and a MWSU flag were flown into the stadium by divers. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*



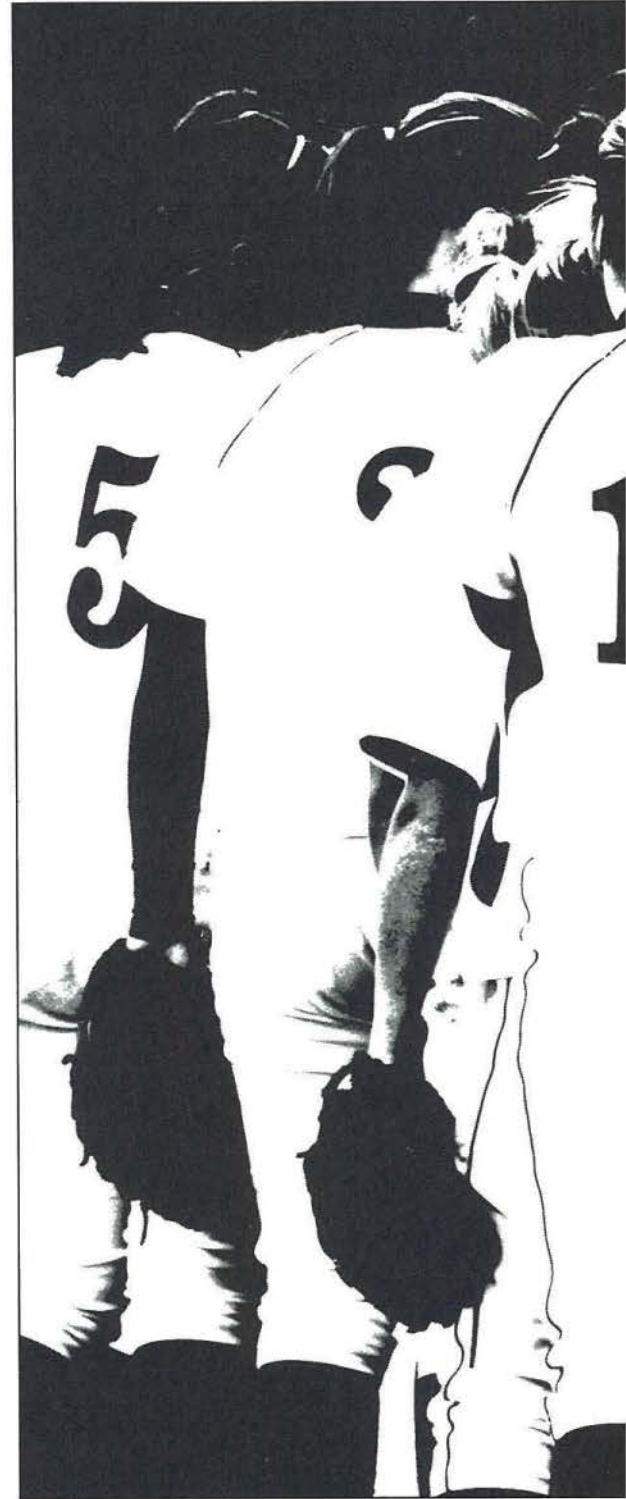
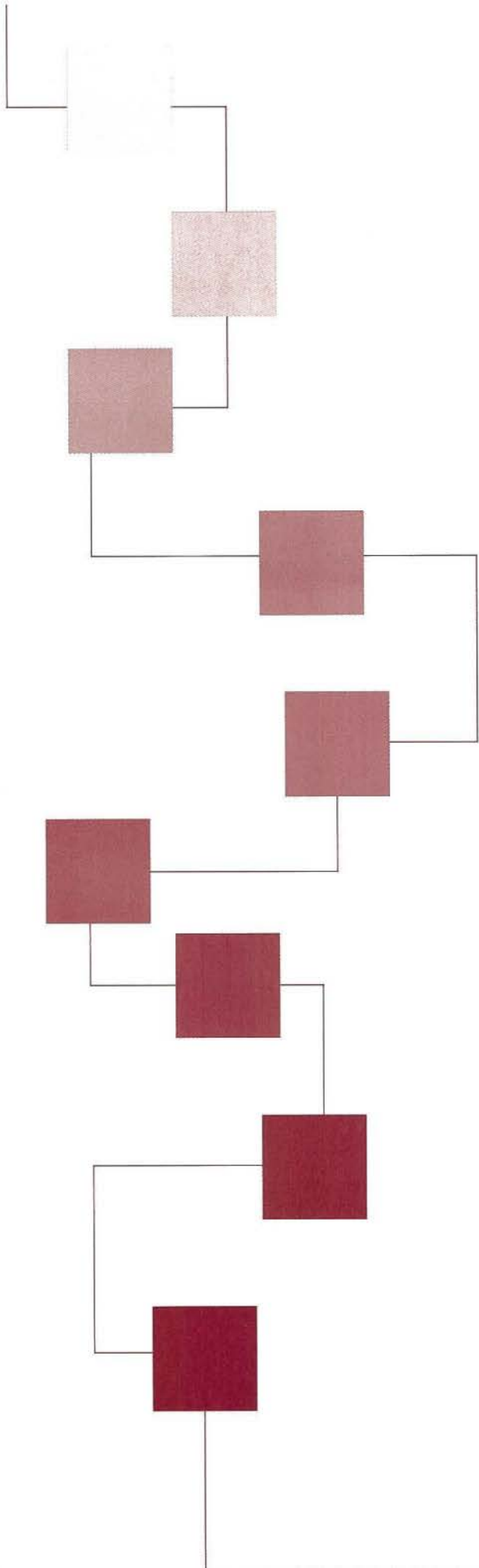


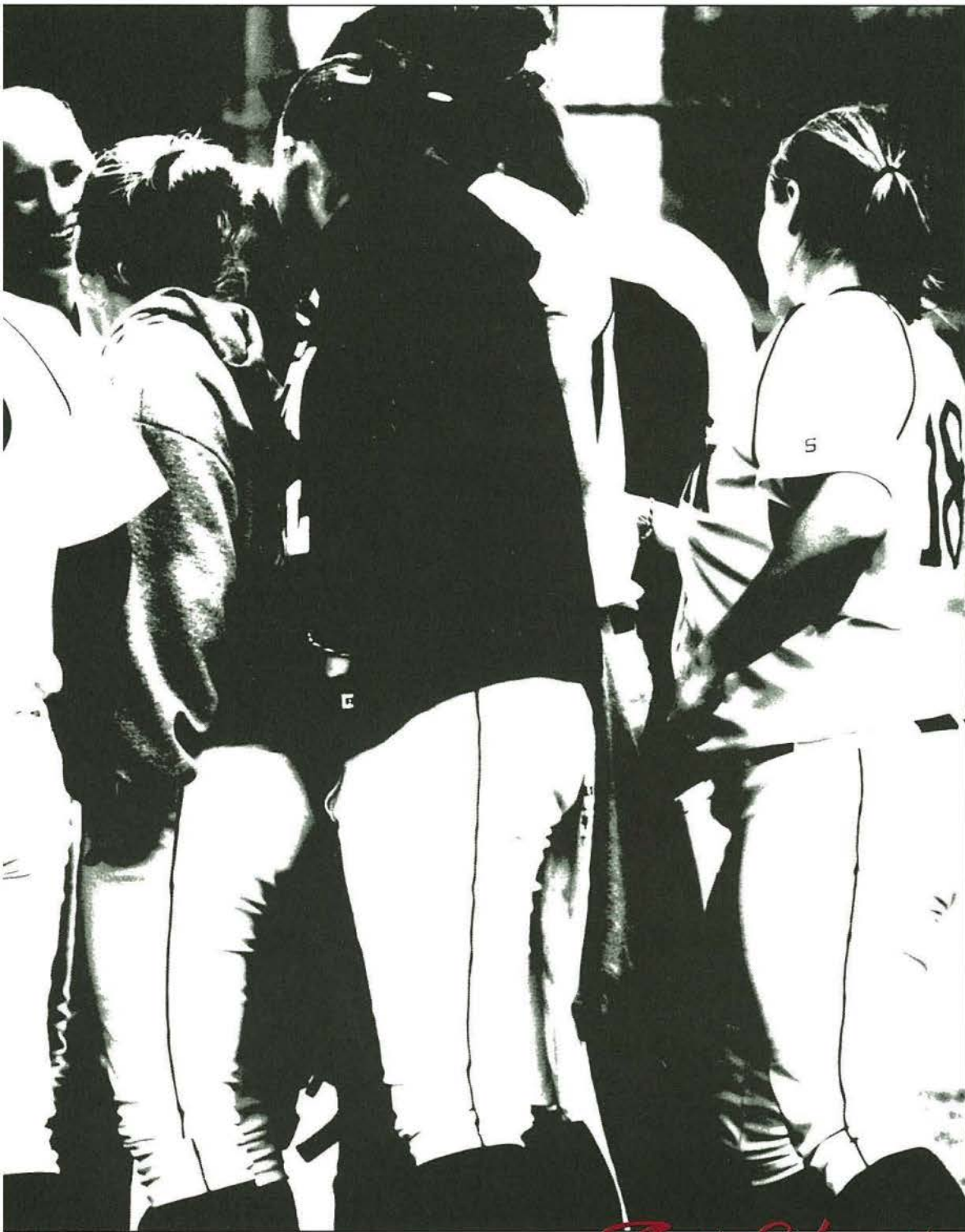
Every year at the Homecoming Pep Rally and Bonfire the band and the Mystics perform together. This years' theme was "Griffons to the Rescue." Photo by Jeremy Weikel





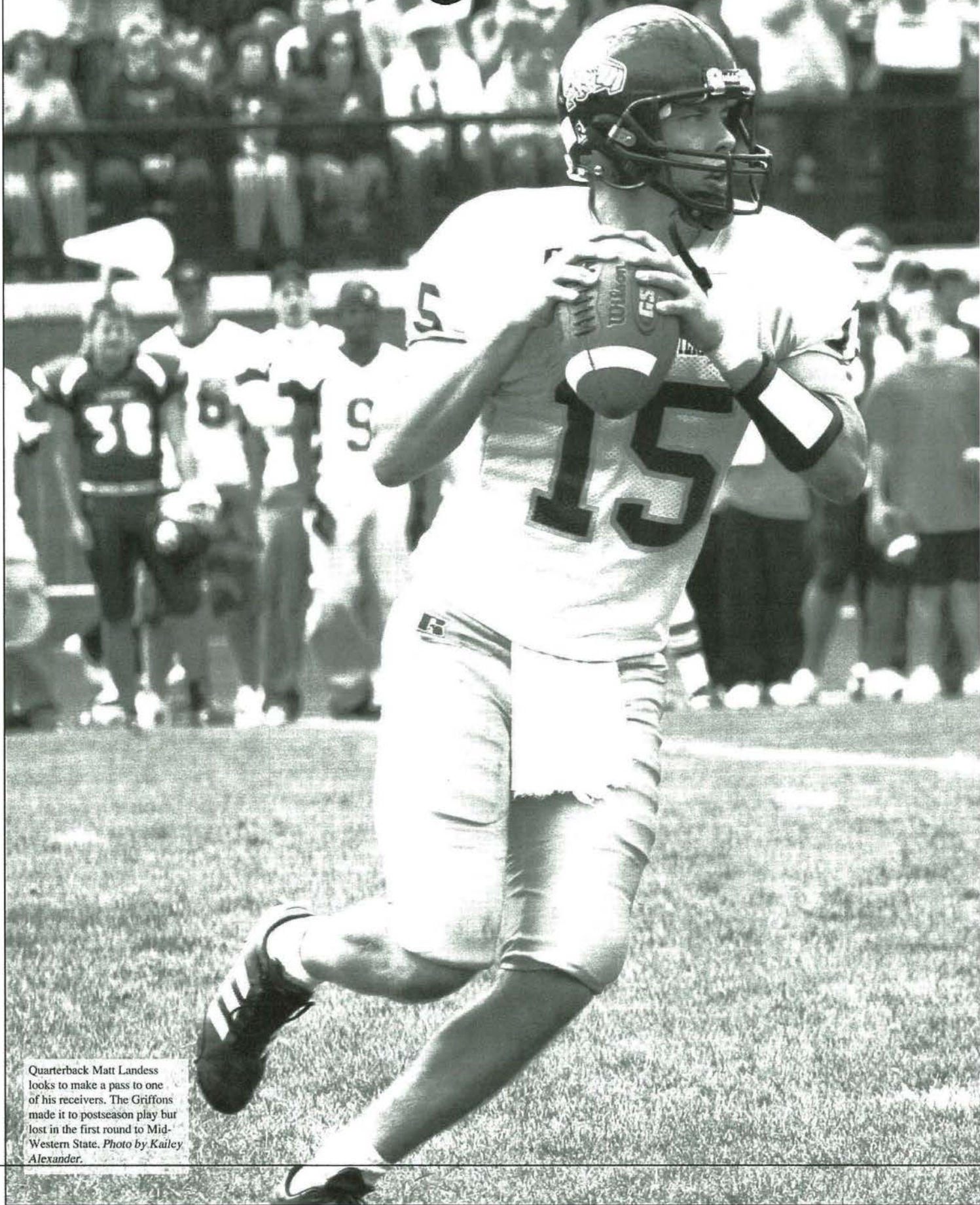
A student braves the cold, snowy weather to make his way to classes. Hot chocolate and coffee were a big hit this winter. *Photo by Linda Shireman*





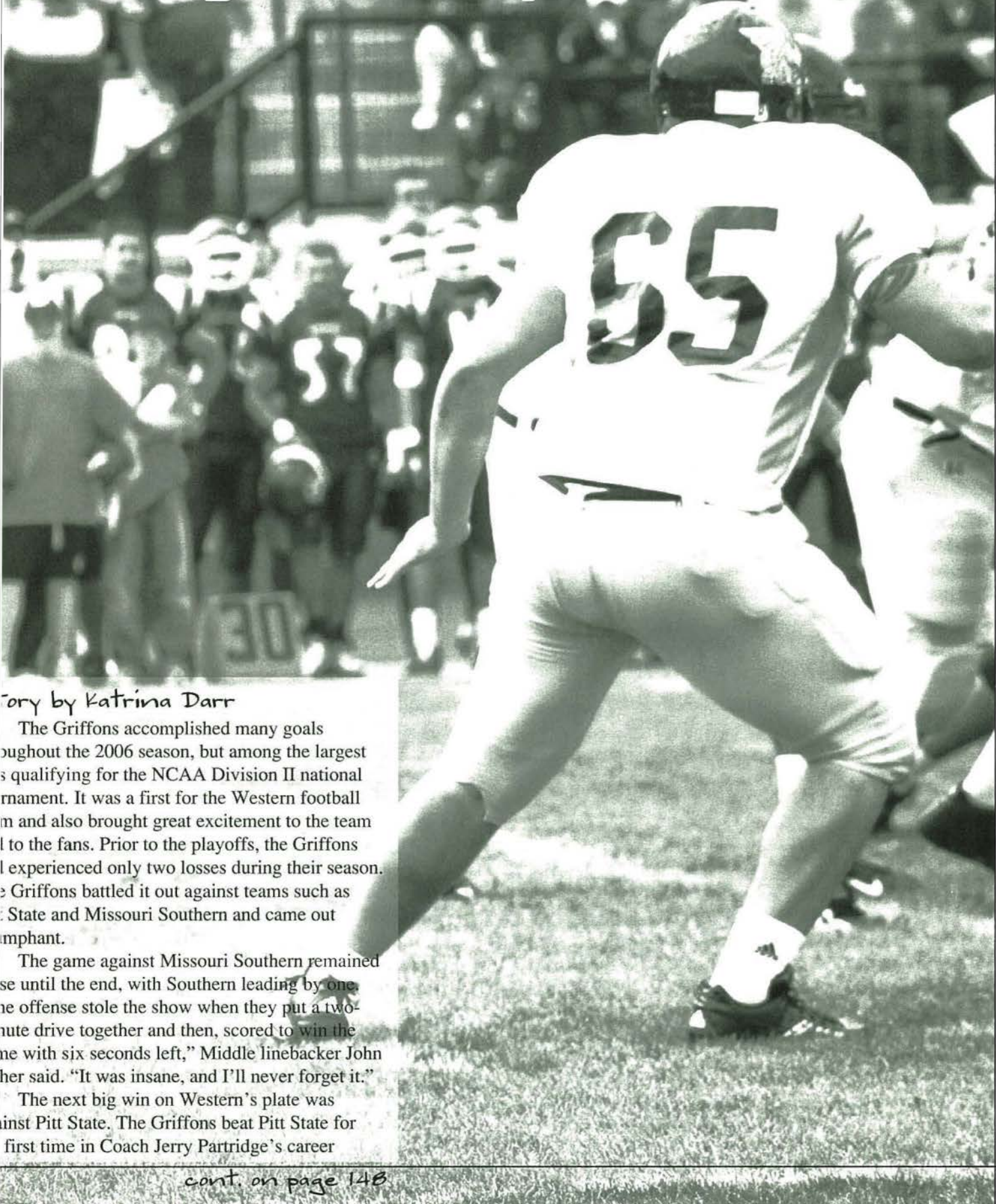
Athletics

Promising Season Ends



Quarterback Matt Landess looks to make a pass to one of his receivers. The Griffons made it to postseason play but lost in the first round to Mid-Western State. Photo by Kailey Alexander.

Unexpectedly



Story by Katrina Darr

The Griffons accomplished many goals throughout the 2006 season, but among the largest was qualifying for the NCAA Division II national tournament. It was a first for the Western football team and also brought great excitement to the team and to the fans. Prior to the playoffs, the Griffons had experienced only two losses during their season. The Griffons battled it out against teams such as Pitt State and Missouri Southern and came out victorious and triumphant.

The game against Missouri Southern remained close until the end, with Southern leading by one. The offense stole the show when they put a two-minute drive together and then, scored to win the game with six seconds left," Middle linebacker John Partridge said. "It was insane, and I'll never forget it."

The next big win on Western's plate was against Pitt State. The Griffons beat Pitt State for the first time in Coach Jerry Partridge's career

cont. on page 148

The football team huddles together on the field before the start of the Family Day game. Western finished the season with an overall winning record. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



story cont.

at Western. "Pitt State has always been a great competitor and to beat them like we did is just an awesome feeling," Tight end Gijon Robinson said. "It was a great game on all sides."

Northwest Missouri State and Western battled it out in front of 8,900 fans the following week. Through the entire first quarter, the game was scoreless, but the Bearcats jumped on the bandwagon first with a 6-yard completion to lead the game 7-0. The Bearcats scored again with the 3:06 left in the first quarter, leading 14-0. The Griffons had the final scoring of the game and also needed to advance 79-yards in less than two minutes, but couldn't get past midfield. In the end, the Griffons were defeated 24-21.

After a devastating loss at Washburn, the Griffons picked up their pride and headed to Wichita Falls, Texas, for the NCAA game against Midwestern State University. This was the first time MSU and Western faced off on the field of football. At the beginning of the fourth quarter, Western was leading with a score of 26-12. However in the final three minutes of the game, MSU came back with two touchdowns to win 28-26. The Griffons were defeated in front of 6,000 fans at the Memorial Stadium at MSU. This loss was even more significant to Western because this denied them the opportunity to advance to face off against Northwest. It was a bitter way to end such a great season, but the Griffons ended the season with an overall record of 9-3.

Throughout the Griffons season, the team stood out this year for more than just their record.

Leadership was among one of the components that led Western to a winning season.

"The senior class is an exceptional group of young men," Partridge said. "There are guys that have been here from the start of their college life until now and then, we've doubled it with some new transfers who are equally good players. The overall leadership was really good."

Robinson, like many other senior players, felt that the freshmen really stepped up to the plate. "The senior leadership was great and the freshmen came in and took their roles and understood the hard work it takes to get to the senior's position," Robinson said. "You can't ask for anything better than this."

With the Griffon's successful, yet devastating season, fans should not have felt disappointed. After all, Western made university history landing themselves in their first appearance ever in the NCAA Division II national tournament. The men and Coach Partridge were very successful in all elements of the game and with such a great season, they could only expect to improve in years to come.

Another factor in the winning season was Partridge himself. "Coach Partridge is a very competitive coach," Fisher said. "He is always correcting you and pushing you, so that you don't settle for anything and that's what makes him a good coach."

Although the season wasn't an exact replica of what the Griffons had in mind, it was still a season to remember. "Hopefully, the students can develop a sense of school pride through the football team," Partridge said.

Quarterback Chris Pulver prepares for the next play during the game. Pulver ended the season with 31 tackles for the Griffons. Photo by Alexander

Scoreboard



Central Oklahoma - W32-29

St. Cloud State - W27-14

Pittsburg State - W48-35

NW Missouri State - 21-24L

Truman - W38-13

Central Missouri - W30-20

Missouri Southern - W24-17

Emporia State - W24-12

Southwest Baptist - W24-21

Fort Hays State - W24-10

Washburn - 3-16L

Midwestern State - 26-28L

*Overall Record:
9 Wins, 3 Losses*

*"Hopefully, the students can develop a sense of school pride through the football team."
-Coach Jerry Partridge*



Western's cheerleaders must always be positive about athletics. The morale of the team depended on the cheerleaders. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Yell leaders are usually the male cheerleaders. Senior Josh Spray has been a member of the Cheer squad during his time at Western. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Story by Torrence Jones

There are two seconds on the clock and Western is up for the count. The opposing team has the ball and all of a sudden, you hear a group of students standing right beside the sidelines yelling "Defense, Western, Defense." They jump up and down with large rectangular white signs in hand, shouting as loud as they possibly can. Their main goal in mind is to get Western fans involved in the chant, to inspire their team to hold off the opposing team and maintain a victory. This was a common scenario for the Missouri Western Cheerleading squad.

"One of the reasons why I joined the cheerleading squad was to be on the sidelines," Kevin Poehler, a Western student and cheerleader, said. "I wanted to be on the sidelines in those close games, cheering on Missouri Western. I was always one of the crazy fans in the stands, screaming as loud as I could. I would try to get everyone around me to join in."

This season was like no other. It was successful with the exception of a few disturbances. The squad was faced with something they had never before encountered. There were a few members who chose to

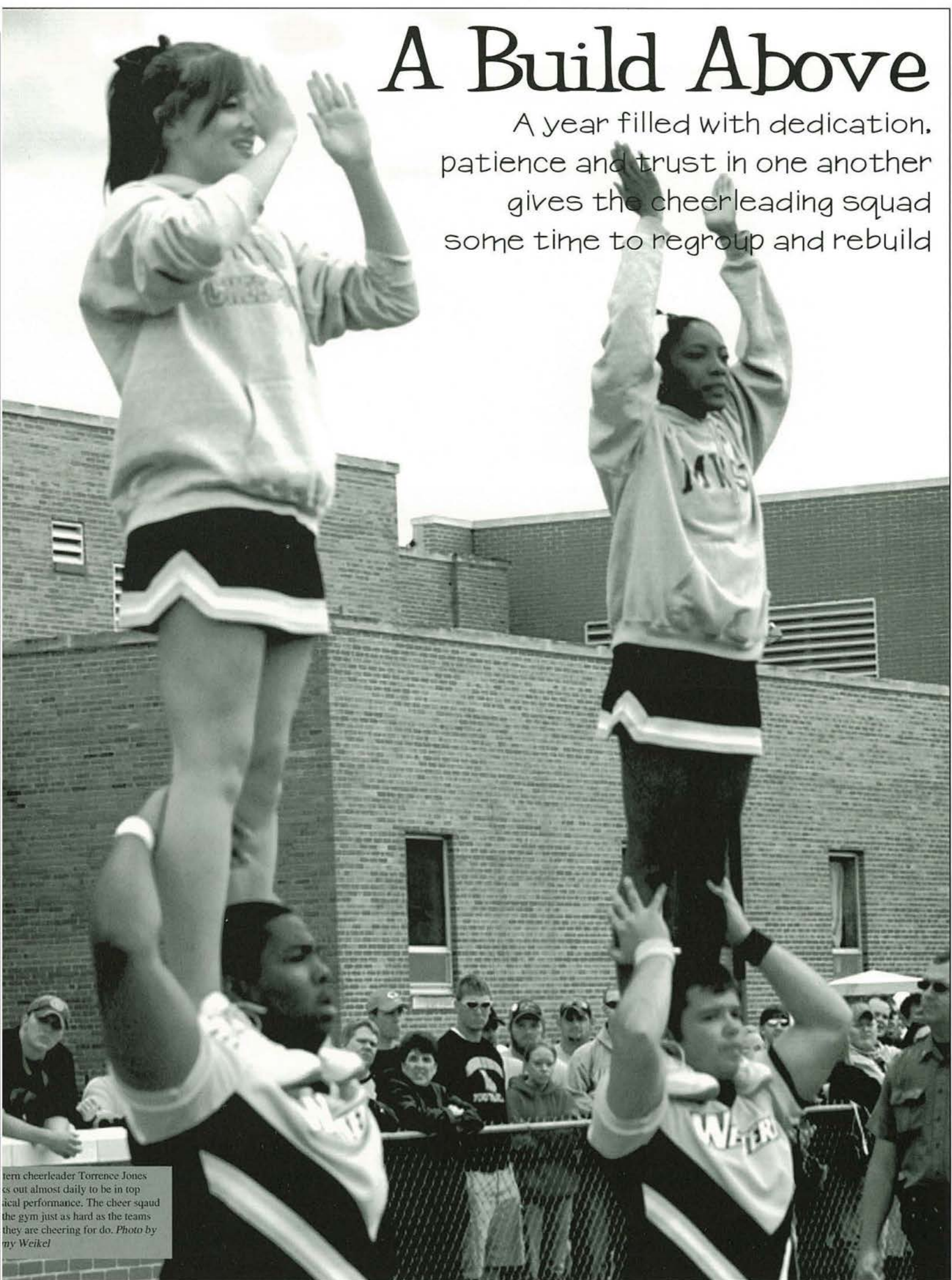
leave the squad during the summer months for personal reasons. The squad met during those months, discussed the matter and decided, ultimately, to hold another tryout the first week of the fall semester. A decent-sized crowd showed up for the tryouts and participants were then chosen and inducted into the cheerleading family. The squad was satisfied with the overall tryouts and their new members.

The Missouri Western Cheerleading squad was known all throughout campus and statewide for their group stunting abilities. With such talents, it took much dedication and also time. Cheerleading was not just about dedication, but it was also about patience and trust in your fellow teammates.

"It doesn't matter if we are learning a new stunt or chant in the Baker Family Fitness Center," Chave May, a Western student and cheerleader, said. "We have to be dedicated and patient, and we have to put trust in one another. We have to trust one another or else someone may get hurt. The three things we worked on this season were dedication, patience and trust in one another."

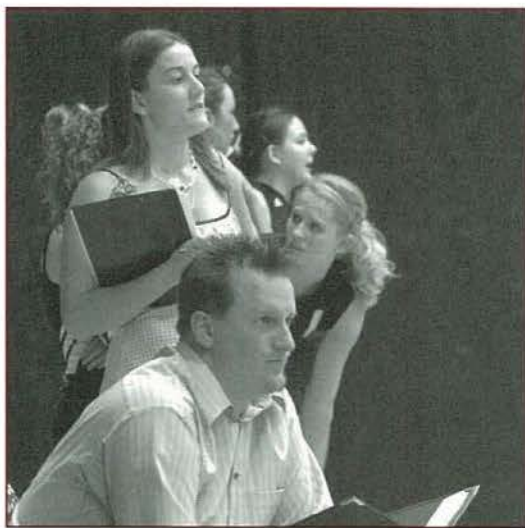
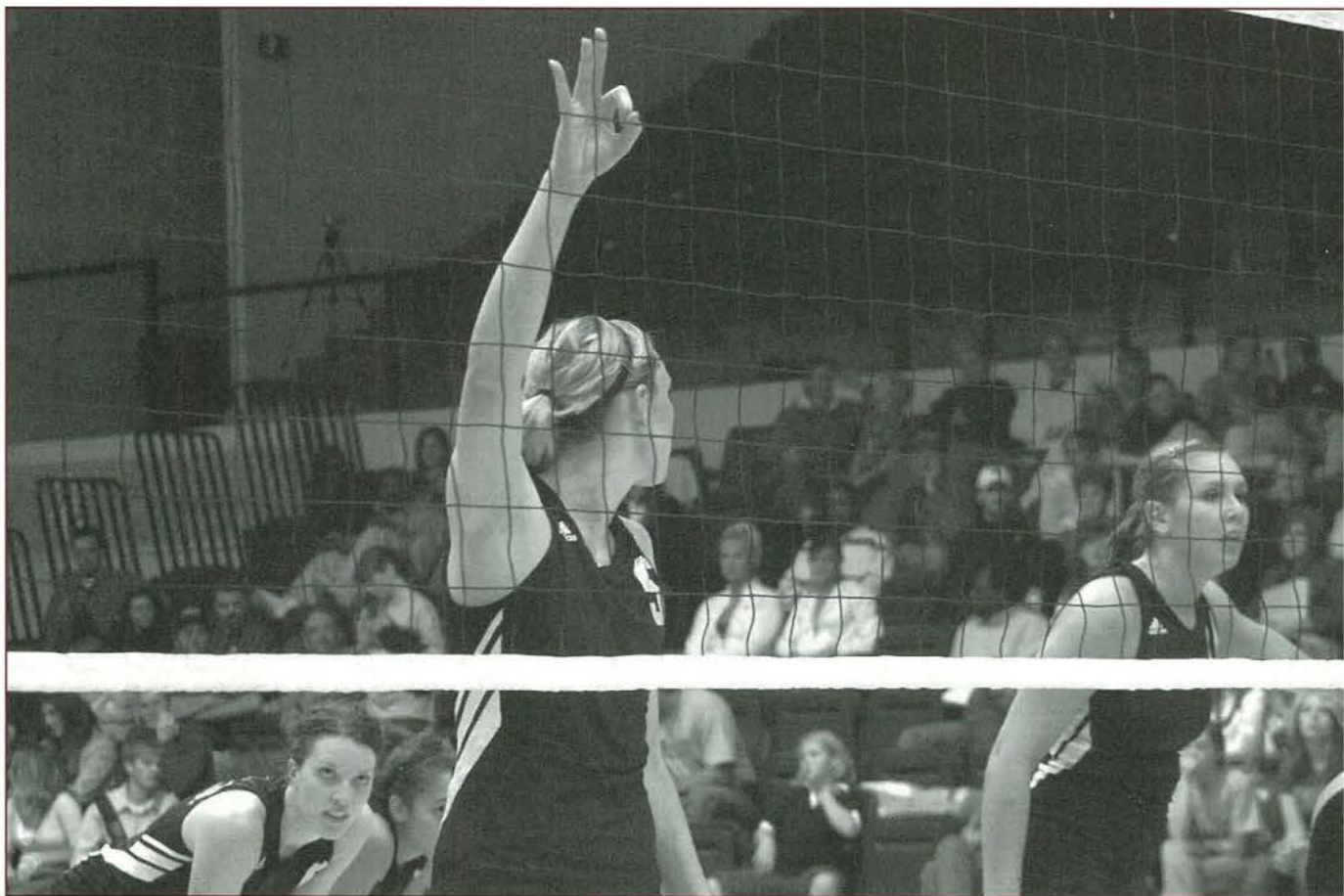
A Build Above

A year filled with dedication, patience and trust in one another gives the cheerleading squad some time to regroup and rebuild

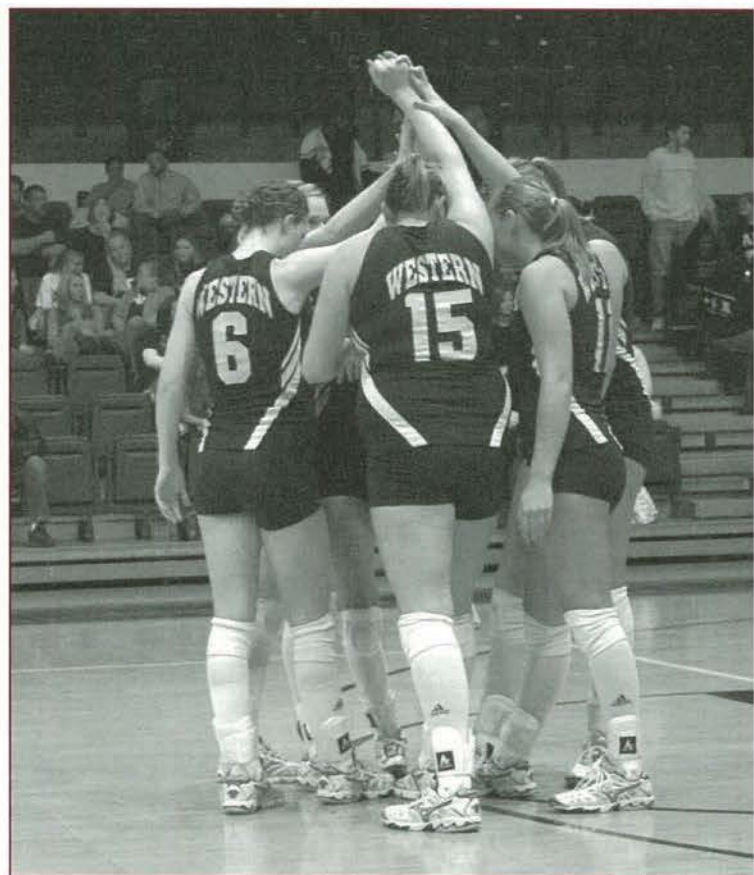


Senior cheerleader Torrence Jones works out almost daily to be in top physical performance. The cheer squad practices in the gym just as hard as the teams they are cheering for do. Photo by Amy Weikel

Western's volleyball team awaits the serve from the opposing team. The ladies showed their communication and teamwork skills during every match. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Coach Harasymowycz watches the game from the sidelines, while his team dominates the floor. The Griffons faced one of the toughest conferences in the nation this year. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Western prepares to start the match after encouraging words. After starting the season with a new coach, the team surprised everyone with a good year. Photo by Jeremy Weikel

A New Leader With a Tough Conference

Faced with one of the most difficult schedules in the nation, Western's Volleyball team goes to work while adapting to a new head coach

Story by Tammy Havens

Missouri Western's volleyball team started the season off with a new head coach, Kyprian Harasymowycz, and at the same time, faced one of the toughest conferences in the nation.

According to Harasymowycz, the team wasn't picked by a lot of people to do well in their conference, but was later chosen to finish seven out of ten.

Facing a tough conference was a challenge, but so was getting acquainted with a new coach. Middle hitter Ashley Blickenstaff and setter Jill Briant said that Harasymowycz, the assistant coach during the 2005 season, and their previous head coach Cindy Brauck, were completely different in their coaching styles.

Briant said that different coaches have a philosophy that are day and night and they each have their strong and weak points. For Blickenstaff, it was an adjustment figuring out what he wanted them to do and how to work together as a team.

Almost each and every athletic team had at least one key player, but this specific team had three players who went above and beyond the call of duty. These three included outside hitter Melissa Malone, Blickenstaff and outside and middle hitter Alyssa Berg. Harasymowycz felt that each of the girls offered something to help the team. Malone led the team in kills.

"She's really the hub in what we do in this game," Harasymowycz said.

Blickenstaff led the team in blocks. According to Harasymowycz, she was like the team mom. Blickenstaff made sure that everyone was on time and ready to go. Berg, on the other hand, was more of a physical leader than a vocal leader.

"She leads the team in hitting percentages," Harasymowycz said. "She really does a lot of things for this team that we haven't seen from that position in the past."

During the season, the ladies played against some of the toughest teams and also rival Northwest Missouri State.

"We played Truman State, who are ranked number one," Briant said. "They are in our conference, so we saw them twice."

Truman State won both matches, 3-0.

One major accomplishment of the season that the ladies were extremely proud of was their victory over Northwest. Western and Northwest went up against each other in two matches, but Western triumphed over them in both, 3-1 and 3-2.

"We should beat Northwest," Blickenstaff said. "We know what we have to do to beat them. We know what they are going to run, and I think that we are more athletic than they are overall."

The ladies remained focused all throughout the season. According to Blickenstaff, they constantly cracked jokes because if they got too serious they would stop talking and fall apart.

coreboard

Pittsburg State 3, Missouri Western 1; Washburn 3, Missouri Western 0; Missouri Western 3, NW Missouri State 2; Nebraska-Kearney 3, Missouri Western 0; Missouri Western 3, SBU 1; Central Missouri 3, Missouri Western 1; Missouri Western 3, Dixie State College 2; Missouri Western 3, Dixie State College 0; Missouri Western 3, Upper Iowa 0; Truman 3, Missouri Western 0; Missouri Western 3, Missouri Western 0; Pittsburg State 3, Missouri Western 1; Washburn 3, Missouri Western 2; Missouri Western 3, Fort Hays State 0; Missouri Western 3, ESU 2; Truman 3, Missouri Western 0; Missouri Western 3, NW Missouri State 1; SBU 3, Missouri Western 2; Central Missouri 3, Missouri Western 0; West Florida 3, Missouri Western 0; Arkansas-Monticello 3, Missouri Western 1; Missouri Western 3, Southern Arkansas 0; Missouri Western 3, Albany State 0; SW Minnesota State 3, Missouri Western 0; Missouri Western 3, CCU 0; Missouri Western 3, Utah 1; Missouri Western 3, Montevallo 1; Missouri Western 3, Ouachita Baptist 1; Missouri Western 3, Southern Arkansas 0; Missouri Western 3, Christian Brothers 0

Sophomore Kelly Olmstead is ready to score a goal. With just a few years of soccer at Missouri Western, the ladies had quite a crowd. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*



Emily Howat throws the ball in for Western. The ladies had a fun season despite their record. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*



Senior midfielder Angie Haworth dribbles the ball down the sideline. This was just a routine warm-up before the games. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*

A Season Full of Defeat Finds a Silver Lining

Story by Amy Chastain

The season did not look to be promising for the Women's Soccer team after a loss in their first match to Winona State, 0-1, but the ladies did not give up. All throughout the season and in all of their 18 games, the ladies put forth the effort and determination in the game they loved.

"We have a lot of girls who are really gifted at soccer," freshman player Megan Sinclair said. "Also, the girls are really fun and have awesome personalities. We are hardworking and determined not to quit, no matter what. This year, we just didn't have enough numbers and we had several injuries that really affected the team."

Despite the soccer team's disappointing season, they still followed through no matter what. In the second match against Viterbo University, the ladies tied, 0-0. While Viterbo got started off with 23 shots, the Griffons goal keeper Shaylynn Milbourn didn't allow any goals throughout the entire game to pass through her reach.

On Sept. 3, the ladies hit a milestone at the Spratt Memorial Stadium and in front of 200 fans. The ladies finally and yet, regrettably earned their first and only win of the season against the Bears of Concordia University, 3-2. The Griffons came out alive with three goals in the opening half against the Bears. During the second half, the Bears came out fighting with two goals, but were unable to defeat the Griffons. The Griffons triumphed that September day. It was Coach Jeff Hansen's first win ever under the Griffons supervision and also the first win for the soccer team at Spratt Memorial Stadium.

The triumph was short lived for the Griffons when a downward spiral of losses came following the rest of the season for the ladies except for two ties with teams such as Upper Iowa University and Emporia

State. One major blow of the season was the loss to Northwest Missouri State. They were defeated by the Bearcats, 3-2. Following, the Griffons continued the spiraling downfall at the MIAA Tournament, where they were defeated yet again by the Northwest Bearcats.

The Griffons overall season record ended with 1-15-3. The season came to an abrupt end when the Griffons lost to the Jennies of Central Missouri State, 3-0. Central scored two goals during the opening half of the match, leaving the Griffons completely outshot for the rest of the game.

Throughout the season, the ladies learned to work together as a unit. "We would talk about the things that we did wrong and would work on them at practice, so we could be successful," Sinclair said. "Also, Coach Hansen would pull the positives out of the loss and talk about the things that we did well, so we wouldn't get too discouraged."

Freshman Kristi Phillips felt that the team did all they could do with what they had. "I think that the team did all that they could this year, considering they had no subs and half of the players were injured," Phillips said.

Aside from the disappointing season, the team could always look to their coach and fans for support. "Soccer is a growing sport," Coach Hansen said. "Sports like football and basketball are played at just about every high school in the country. Soccer is coming around, but there are still some schools, even some in this area, that do not have a soccer team at their high school. If people have not been around it, then it takes some getting used to. Once a person comes to the soccer games here at Missouri Western, it will be hard for them not to come back and enjoy another one."

coreboard

Central Missouri 3, Missouri Western 0; Truman 3, Missouri Western 0; Missouri Southern 5, Missouri Western 0; SBU 3, Missouri Western 1; Washburn 4, Missouri Western 0; Emporia State 1, Missouri Western 1; Northwest Missouri 3, Missouri Western 2; Northwest Missouri 1, Missouri Western 0; Truman 3, Missouri Western 0; Central Missouri 5, Missouri Western 0; Washburn 4, Missouri Western 0; Emporia State 3, Missouri Western 1; Missouri Southern 1, Missouri Western 0; SBU 2, Missouri Western 1; Upper Iowa 0, Missouri Western 0; Wayne State College 3, Missouri Western 0; Missouri Western 3, Concordia 2; Missouri Western 0, Viterbo Univ., Wis. 0; Winona State 1, Missouri Western 0



2006-2007 season was full of amazing accomplishments and unfortunately some unexpected defeats

Glory Road for the Lady Griffis



There is an old saying in sports: “Go big or go home.” This saying reflected exactly what the Missouri Western Women’s Basketball team fought for and succeeded in all attempts throughout their season. The Lady Griffons had a 21-straight game winning record, the best start in school history, beat Washburn University, won the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association regular season championship, received the No. 1 seed and hosted the South Regional Tournament. On top of that, five hardworking players made the All-MIAA team.

cont. on p. 158

Senior, forward Tera Petersen battles for the rebound after the shot. Petersen finished the season with a 4.9 rebound per game average.
Photo by Kady Mabury



Story by Torrence Jones and Amy Chastain
Front Photo by Brett King

At the start of the season, the ladies were led by 6-foot-3 All American senior from Saldus, Latvia, and center Inga Buzoka. Throughout the season, Buzoka averaged 16.2 points, 8.6 rebounds and 2.3 block shots per game.

"I'm very proud of Inga," forward Jill Johnson said. "She really came around this season and remained consistent throughout every game."

It was no secret that the ladies had a remarkable season. "We had great success because we are a big family of 12 sisters with great personalities," guard Yanique Javois said. "We didn't have too many disagreements because we had the same goal in mind that we set at the beginning of the season and we worked very hard to accomplish it."

One highlight of the season came from Ashleigh Curry, a transfer from Grayson Junior College, who had to sit out the previous season and the first half of season due to transfer regulations. Curry came off the bench only playing in her third game as a Griffon and scored 40 points in 24 minutes of play. She tied the university record for most points scored in a game against Brigham Young University-Hawaii. "My teammates kept on passing me the ball and I kept shooting and luckily, they fell into the basket," Curry said.

Despite the ladies great success, there were some low points that followed. The first came at the hands

of Emporia State University, giving the Lady Griffons their first loss of the season and snapping their 21-game winning streak. The ladies were defeated, 63-83. "We needed that loss because we became a little unfocused and got a little cocky," Johnson said. "It made us reanalyze our one goal and what we needed to do as a team to reach that goal."

The second low came at the end of the season by Missouri Southern, giving the Lady Griffons their second loss of the season, 69-75. In the game against Washburn University, the Lady Griffons scored 21 points in the first half. The Griffons fought back, but it wasn't enough as a player from the opposing team, Jessica Mainz, hit a free throw with four seconds left to push Washburn up by Western, 70-71.

"To come up one point short of winning the MIAA Post Season Tournament was a hard loss for the girls," Head Coach Josh Keister said. "That game took a lot out of everyone, but it just shows the drive of this team. Most teams would just give up if they were down by 20, but these girls never gave up and they came back. I am very proud of them."

The last blow of the season came when the Lady Griffons faced off against Texas A&M Commerce. Forward for Texas A&M Katedria Mosley connected on a lay up with no time left on the clock, giving their team the lead over the Griffons. Texas A&M triumphed over the Griffons, 73-72. This devastating

conclusion on p. 1

izoka, a center from Saldus, Latvia, starts
 ie and wins possession for the Griffons.
 led the team in rebounds this year with
 the season. Photo by Kady Mabury



Scoreboard

MWSU 79, Lincoln Univeristy 60
 MWSU 72, Quincy University 69
 MWSU 56, Northeastern State 40
 MWSU 90, St. Ambrose 63
 MWSU 75, Montana-Billings 56
 MWSU 71, St. Mary's 63
 MWSU 76, Washburn 68
 MWSU 80, Park 49
 MWSU 91, Hawaii Pacific 49
 MWSU 81, BYU-Hawaii 53
 MWSU 68, Abilene Christian 54
 MWSU 81, Missouri Southern 66
 MWSU 72, NWMSU 69
 MWSU 81, Truman 73
 MWSU 68, Central Missouri 54
 MWSU 74, Fort Hays State 62
 MWSU 80, Pittsburg State 67
 MWSU 63, Emporia State 53
 MWSU 89, SW Baptist 75
 MWSU 49, Washburn 47
 MWSU 83, SW Baptist 73
 Emporia State 83, MWSU 63
 MWSU 70, Morningside 62
 MWSU 77, Pittsburg State 69
 MWSU 83, Fort Hays State 66
 MWSU 84, Truman 74
 MWSU 99, Central Missouri 97
 MWSU 77, NWMSU 58
 Missouri Southern 75, MWSU 69
 MWSU 86, Pittsburg State 66
 MWSU 68, NWMSU 58
 Washburn 71, MWSU 70
 MWSU 80, Montana-Billings 59
 Texas A&M 73, MWSU 72

Overall Record

30-4

MIAA Record

16-2

"Most teams would just
 give up if they were down
 by 20, but these girls
 never gave up and they
 came back. I am very proud
 of them."

-Coach Josh Keister



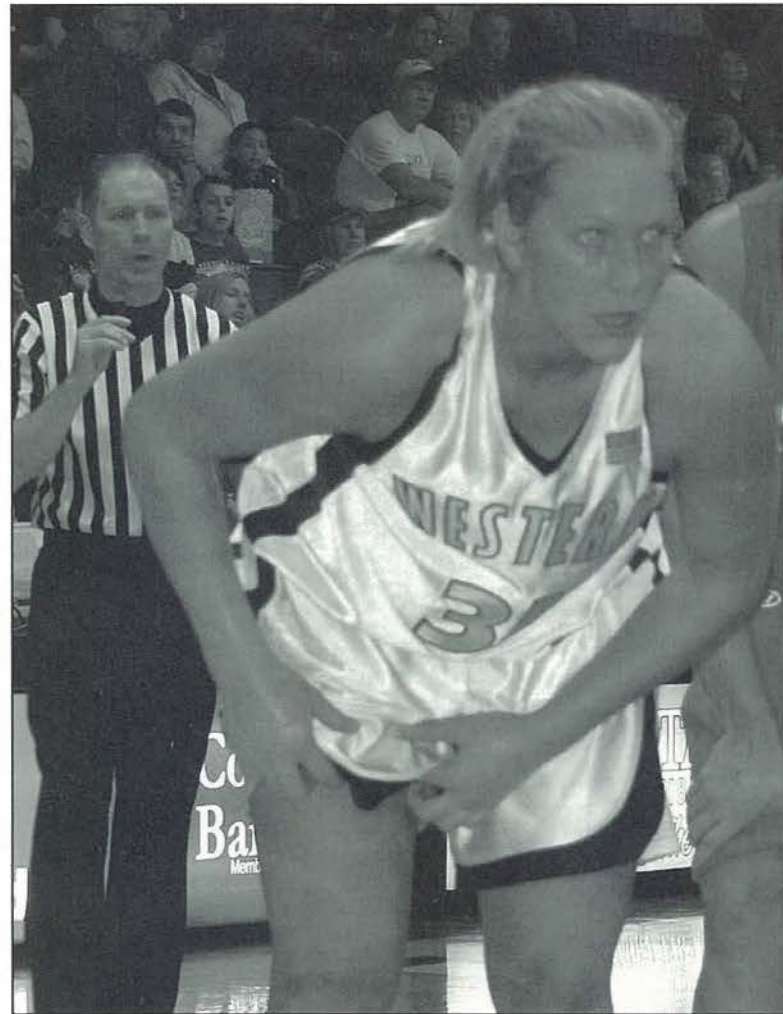
Keister Moves to Texas

Story by Amy Chastain

As the women's season came to a near perfect end, no one imagined what was about to unfold. At the end of April, Coach Josh Keister broke the news to the team. The news came at the drop of the hat. The ladies were shocked and dismayed at the news of their head coach leaving for Texas Christian.

Keister was offered and accepted the job as assistant coach at Texas Christian in Fort Worth, Texas. He would be coaching along side former head coach of the Griffons Jeff Mittie. Keister became the head coach of the women's team in 2002, compiling a record in three seasons of 69-23.

The move to Texas Christian, as Keister explained, was not much of a financial move, but moreover, a career move. He felt that to coach at a Division I program, which was considered to be a Top-30 program in the country, was an amazing opportunity.



Team motivational leader, Jill Johnson, prepares for the rebound from a free throw shot. On offense, Johnson made 103 out of the 131 free throws she attempted. Photo by Kady Mabury

cont. from p. 158

loss ended their season and their run for the National Championship. The Lady Griffons overall record for the season was 30-4.

"I am sad that our season ended the way it did, but we had a 30-4 record," Johnson said. "At the end of the season, we ranked sixth in the nation and who can be mad at that. I am excited about the next season. It is going to be very different because we are losing some great senior leadership, but we have three returning starters and have some great recruits coming in. We should still be a great team next year, and I can't wait to make that run for the National Championship again."

The ladies were disappointed, but not yet defeated. As they geared up for the upcoming season, they could only be proud of their accomplishments as were their fans. The ladies had a strong fan base at Missouri Western. Aside from setting a university record, who could not have been more proud of them? After all, the ladies beat Washburn University, the No. 1 team in the country and who were once ranked 24 in the country.





Above: Amanda Thomas attempts a steal from her opponent. The Griffons averaged 7.5 steals per game this season. Photo by Kady Mabury

Below: Yanique Javois, works on getting the ball around her defender. Overall, the Griffons outscored their opponents by 12 points on average. Photo by Kady Mabury



Sophomore, guard Amanda Thomas drives for the basket. The lady Griffons finished their season with a 30-4 overall record. Photo by Kady Mabury



The Mystics perform at every home football and basketball game. This year's squad had a lot of practice hours. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Junior Jordan Martinosky awaits the cue to march into the stadium for their performance. The Mystics made new routines every year. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Story by Katrina Darr

"Our purpose is to promote school spirit through dancing and provide entertainment for the fans," Mystics member Crystal Scott said.

You may have seen them at football games or maybe a halftime during a basketball game. The Mystics were busy achieving Griffon students' school spirit. They danced with the band during the football season and when basketball was in session, the ladies danced to chosen music.

"A routine performed during football season is completely different than a routine performed during basketball season," Scott said. "The choreography must fit with the band during football season and during basketball season, the choreography is set to the song, we are performing to."

Outside of performing at the football and basketball games, the Mystics also had the opportunity to take part in the Greater St. Louis Band Festival with the Western Flag and Color Guard.

"This festival is a competition between high school bands and we performed right before the ceremony," Mystics member Tracy Bowman said. "It was a very interesting and fun trip because we got to perform on the St. Louis Rams field, in the dome."

The squad's practice time depended largely upon what season it was. There was more time spent practicing during football season rather than basketball season. More practices were also needed when there were upcoming activities featuring the dance team such as the pep rally during the week of Homecoming.

"During football season, we spent anywhere from 10 to 14 hours a week practicing and about six hours a week during basketball season," Scott said.

The Mystics didn't just perform together, but they also set aside time to bond outside of the dance team. The squad held fundraisers such as carwashes and selling candles. The ladies had a very hectic schedule and finding time to spend together outside of that was difficult.

"Every December, we draw names and exchange gifts with the team at a Christmas dinner," Bowman said.

The main goal, though, was the same for each lady on the team: to dance to the best of her ability with the team. As a whole, the squad worked very well together.

"Everyone has their own style and personalities, but we mix them together to form an excellent squad," Bowman said.

Even though there was little drama concerning the ladies, they always knew what the sole purpose was, which was to function as a unit.

"There will always be ups and downs especially because we are all girls, but other than that we are a good team," Mystics member Erica Garrison said.

However, each year the Mystics struggled to maintain the appropriate number of ladies on the squad. "I think if the school and students were more aware of us, we would have a larger number of girls try out each year, which in turn would make our squad better and stronger," Bowman said.

Despite some concerns with the number of the squad and drama, the team pulled together to make an effective season.

"We are a fun, friendly group of girls and love to dance and represent our school," Garrison said.

Spirit Through Dance

With a small squad and a little known name for themselves, the Mystics still remain upbeat and positive about what they do



During the Homecoming parade the Mystics march along with the band. Mystic, Kailey Alexander enjoyed homecoming even though it was cold and rainy. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Senior Brian Videau breaks through the Gorilla's defense. Overall, the team had a record of 12-15 for the season. Photo by Alli McLaughlin

Missouri Western Men's basketball team faces off against the Pittsburg State Gorillas. Western won with a score of 71-69 in their first game and 73-64 in their second game. Photo by Alli McLaughlin



Story by Derrick Collins & Amy Chastain

The Men's Basketball team kicked off the season with a rocking win against the University of Missouri-Rolla at the M.O. Looney Complex, 98-49. The future looked bright for the Griffons with the triumph over Rolla, but it somehow seemed to unravel only from there.

"Honestly, I had very high expectations for this team and for myself," guard Keion Kindred said. "The expectations I set were not for myself, but they were for the team."

Kindred was unfortunately injured early on in the season. He tore his Anterior Cruciate Ligament, also known as ACL. "I got injured in the beginning of the season which just happened to be a season-ending injury," he said. "My teammates never really recovered after my injury."

This appeared to be accurate as the Men's overall record for the season was 12-15. As the season wore on and the upcoming game against Northwest Missouri State, Western fans hoped for a victory. The chance was very slim though as the men were driven into 22 turnovers at the Bearcat Arena. The Griffons were ahead in the first half, leading the Bearcats, 49-44. Unfortunately, the Bearcats were one step ahead as they tackled the Griffons from behind. The Men ultimately failed, 78-72.

Northwest and Western met again on Feb. 21 and as fans hoped for a swift victory, their pleas fell on deaf ears. The teams were neck in neck all throughout

the game as they found themselves tied, 50-50 with 5:00 minutes left on the clock. The Bearcats toppled over the Griffons in the end, 69-61. This loss dropped the Griffons to 12-14 and 5-12 in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. Following, the Men battled it out against Missouri Southern. The Griffons were unfortunate in all attempts though, making it the first year for the team to miss the MIAA's postseason tournament. Missouri Southern defeated the Griffons, 82-70.

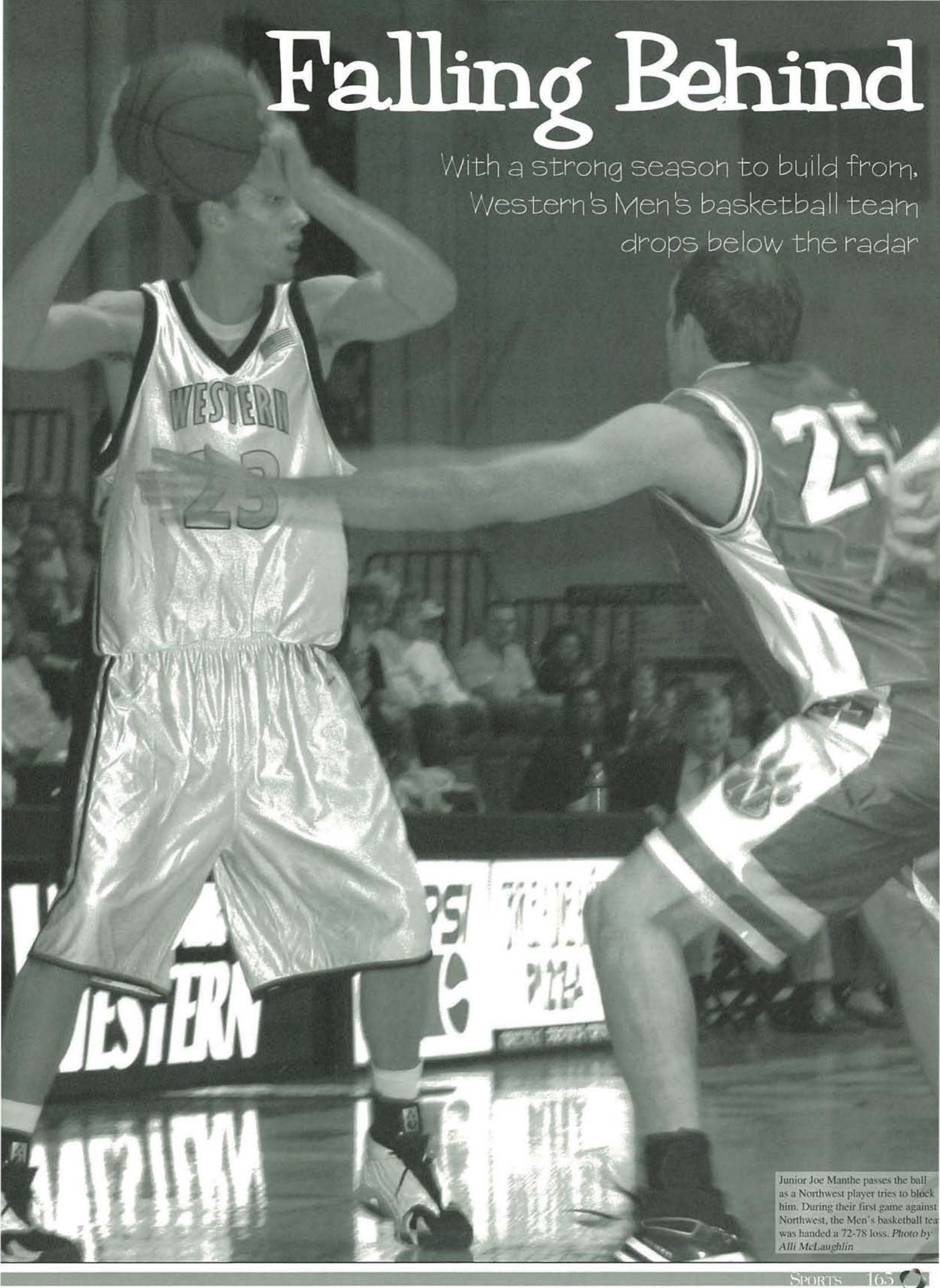
"I think we started out very well," forward Luke Anderson said. "We played good together, but we just fell apart about half way through the season and never really got our feet back under us."

The Men felt that even though the season was disappointing, they functioned well as a team. "The team as a whole functions very well," Kindred said. "We had our mishaps, but that comes with having new players learning a new system with a new city, atmosphere and coaches."

Even though the team did not make the MIAA, they turned their efforts to the next year to make it more the memorable for the team and the fans. "I feel the season was overall a disappointment," guard Jamaar Brown said. "We didn't make the journey and that was our main goal from day one, but next year we have something to prove. Everyone better watch out because the Griffons of Missouri Western will be back."

Falling Behind

With a strong season to build from, Western's Men's basketball team drops below the radar

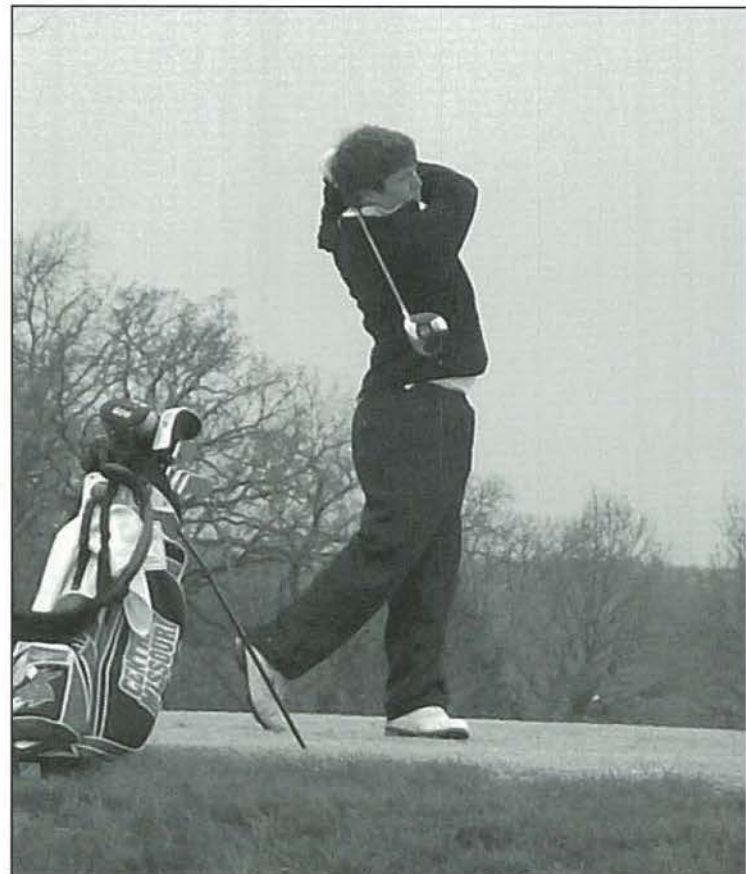


Junior Joe Manthe passes the ball as a Northwest player tries to block him. During their first game against Northwest, the Men's basketball team was handed a 72-78 loss. Photo by Alli McLaughlin

Aaron Lisenbee practices before he goes up to putt. Practice did not always mean perfection, but it was a requirement for the team. *Photo by Amy Chastain*



Dallas Mesa watches as his competitor goes up for the putt. The golf team played against several teams in Missouri and out of state. *Photo by Amy Chastain*



Craig Lytle looks on as he swings. Most golf players took just a minute to see where their ball landed. *Photo by Amy Chastain*

Putting For the Green

Men's Golf team struggles this season
to reclaim their name after losing
key players to graduation

Story by Amy Chastain

It was a season of sorts for the Missouri Western Men's Golf team. Overall, the men struggled, pushed through and strived for success. The weather didn't always cooperate when the men were at play, but they still stuck through in all sorts of weather.

"I don't want to make any excuses, but I think that I could have played a lot better if it would have been 70 degrees and sunny out," Aaron Lisenbee, a golf player, said. "It typically depends on the course. At the Kansas City Intercollegiate Swope Memorial Tournament, I didn't swing very well and the rain and cold did not help out."

As it was important for the men to play as a unit, it was in equal measure to play well individually. After all, golf was very much an individual sport. "Individually, I feel that I have played very well this fall and spring," Lisenbee said. "I could have played a little better in a couple of tournaments, but for the most part, very well. As a team, I don't think we have played to our capability. Not all five of us can play well at the same time. Hopefully at conference and regionals, we can all play well and maybe pull something out."

The men began the fall season by placing fourth at the Missouri Collegiate Tournament in Lake Ozark, Mo., and followed in the next tournament by placing fifth in Bolivar, Mo. The rest of the fall season was followed by a series of ups and downs. The men traveled next to Muskogee, Okla., for the Northeastern State Invitational. They placed fourth there and next up on plate, was the Drury Invitational in Springfield, Mo. Their grip slipped slightly when they placed seventh,

but came back for the final tournament in the fall by placing second at the Pittsburg State Invitational in Pittsburg, Kan. The men then took a break for the off season. Unfortunately due to the winter months, the men were pushed away indoors, waiting for the snow to clear. They took the time to regroup and plan for success in the upcoming spring season.

In the spring, the men were faced with rival university, Washburn Invitational, in Topeka, Kan. The men were fearful, but placed an overwhelming fifth place. The following season mirrored the fall. It was a season of ups and downs, but they triumphed. The men ended their season placing fifth in the NCAA Central Regional Golf Championship. Newcomer Shane Feist felt that he did well as a first-year, but looked forward for the upcoming season ahead.

"As a team, I was expecting to be in the top three schools in the conference," Feist said. "I didn't think we would dominate because we are so young. As an individual, I expected to be able to make an immediate impact for the team. I expected to average in the mid-70s."

Feist, a North Dakota native, wanted to play for a competitive team, but as a freshman, still be able to play. "Being from North Dakota, the cold, wind and rain doesn't bother me too much because 90 percent of the time, I have to play with at least one of those elements. When a course is not kept up, it gets to my head. Golf is a hard enough sport when conditions are perfect. I tend to play my worst at courses that are not in very good condition."

Scoreboard

Missouri Collegiate @ Lake Ozark, Mo. 4th

Southwest Baptist Invitational @ Bolivar, Mo. 5th

Northeastern State Oklahoma Invitational @ Muskogee, Okla. T-4th

Drury Invitational @ Springfield, Mo. 1st

Pittsburg State Invitational @ Pittsburg, Kan. 2nd

Battle at the Creek @ Hollister, Mo. 10th



A member of the Women's golf team takes a practice swing. The Women's golf team was led by head coach Cathy Habermehl. Photo by Josh Marriott



Maria Burge putts while a team member watches. The team was small but did their best and took second place at the Truman invitational. Photo by Josh Marriott

Story by Dana Heldenbrand & Amy Chastain

A sport that many students did not know much about was Women's Golf. With a small team, it was sometimes easy for students to forget about these Griffon athletes. However, the ladies battled throughout the year to bring recognition to themselves and to Western.

There were five meets throughout the school year. During the fall semester, the ladies traveled twice to Minnesota and once to Lee's Summit, Mo. In mid-September, the Women's Golf team opened their season at the Concordia, St. Paul tournament in Concordia, Minn. The team finished 12th overall. Lisa Cross, the lone senior on the Western squad, led the team and placed 39th in the two-day tournament.

The next meet the ladies traveled to was the Southwest Minnesota State Mustang Invitational Tournament in Marshall, Minn., in late September. Cross led the Griffons again finishing 21st place overall. Freshman Abbey Weddle followed Cross closely and finished in 32nd place. As a team, the Griffons finished 11th.

"Golf is an individual sport," Weddle said. "You don't depend on anyone else and you can't blame bad play on anyone else. It's all on you to play at a certain level."

The ladies last meet of the fall semester was in Lee's Summit, Mo., at the Kenneth Smith Classic in October. The Griffons finished 13th as a team and entered the off season.

"The team worked out a little over the winter, but it is usually impossible to get out on the course during the winter, so we weren't able to actually play," Weddle said.

After more than five months off, the team was back in the swing of things and had a home course advantage. The Griffons hosted the Missouri Western Invitational in late March. Weddle had the lowest round during the two-day tournament. The team finished an impressive fifth place.

"I try to concentrate on staying positive throughout the entire tournament," Weddle said. "Negative thoughts will never get you to play better. If I am not playing at the level I want to, I try to concentrate on what in my swing is going wrong and try to fix the problem."

In their last meet of the year, they headed to the Truman State University Invitational in Kirksville, Mo., on the last day of March. The team saved their best performances for their last meet and finished second as a team. Cross and Weddle finished third and fourth, respectively.

"I actually placed fourth in the Truman Invitational," Weddle said. "I tied at third with Lisa and she beat me in a scorecard playoff. It was exciting to place since it is my freshman year. I wasn't expecting to do that."

Small And Strong

With a team of only four girls, the women's golf team makes a name for themselves and finishes the season strong.

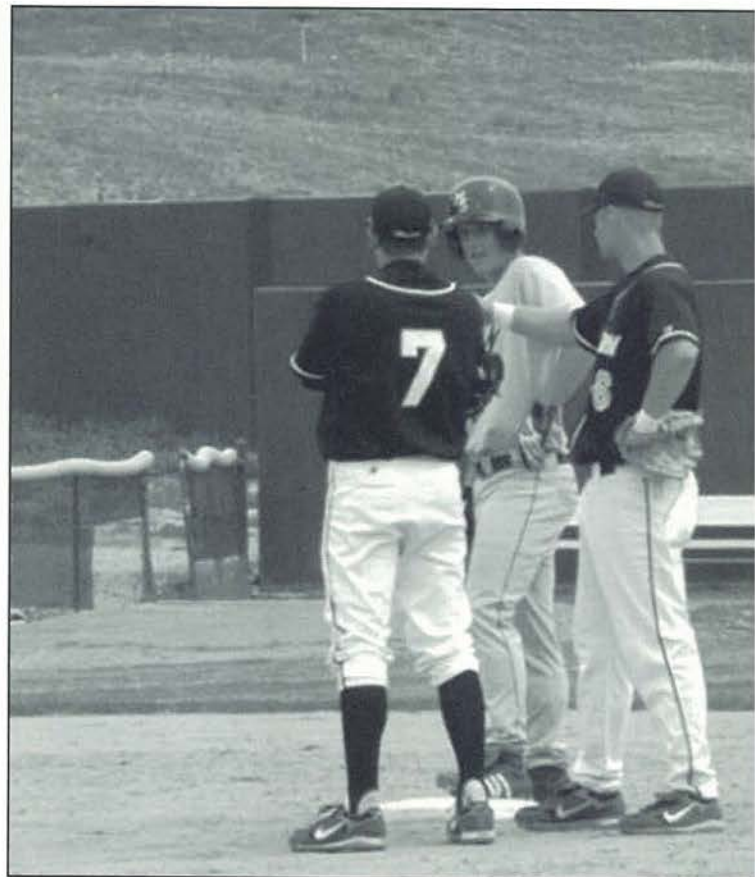


Maria Burge practices her form during her swing. The Women's golf team played their season with a small team of four girls.
Photo by Josh Marriott

Overall, the Men's baseball team had a 28-23 record. In the MIAA, they finished with a 21-14 record.
Photo submitted



The Griffons finish the season with a .300 team batting average. Their opponents finished with a .304 team batting average. *Photo submitted*



Willie Forrest and Sam Walker talk with the opposing team during a time out. Both Walker and Forrest played infield for the Griffons. *Photo submitted*

Battling Mother Nature

With the first 3 games postponed due to inclement weather, the Men's baseball team fights back to end with a winning record

Story by Torrence Jones & Amy Chastain

Take me out of the ball game or of the field in the case of the Missouri Western Men's Baseball team. The men spent much of the off season indoors practicing due to bad weather. It did not look like a promising start when their first three games were postponed.

"The weather has thrown us off of track at times," Adrian Mercado, a catcher for the men's team, said. "It made us lose focus in what we were trying to accomplish because we were thinking how freaking cold it was."

According to Billy Jones, a baseball player, Mother Nature did not always get the team down. "Our team is much different than a lot of teams that I have been on," Jones said. "This team forgets about what has happened in the past and really focuses on the present and future, which is hard for a lot of teams to do. There have been some things that have happened this season which I wish did not happen, but that is baseball. You have to show up, ready to play every game and ready to improve as much as you can."

Despite the weather, the season was a slight success for the men's team. "When we went up against Pitt State in the second game of the double header, we went into extra innings and with a runner on first and second," Mercado said. "I hit a single to give Western the lead in the tenth inning. We ended up scoring one

or two more runs and won the game."

Mercado recalled a similar game against rival Northwest Missouri State. "In the game against Northwest, we came back in the seventh inning with a game-winning hit by Ben Toedebusch," Mercado said.

The men's team had a great season despite some obstacles and each player contributed to its success. "We are from all over the United States," Justin Parrish, a pitcher for the men's team, said. "We all bring something to the team in our own way which helps us win."

In hopes for a stronger season ahead, the team strived for success and planned for the future. "My plans for next season include coming back to Missouri Western," Jones said. "I want to improve on what I need too and in the fall, to make a big impact in the spring. Maybe, I can continue playing baseball after college."

The men's season ended abruptly after rain cancelled the season finale against Fort Hays State. The game was not made up due to conference regulations. This, unfortunately, left the men out of the opportunity to play for a spot in the MIAA's postseason championship. The men completed the regular season with an overall record of 28-23 and 21-14 in conference standings.

Scoreboard

V 4, Saint Martin's 0; Lewis-Clark State 11, MW 0; Western Oregon 14, MW 9; MW 6, Saint Martin's 5; Wayne State 14, MW 3; Wayne State MW 1; MW 5, Augustana 4; MW 6, Augustana 1; Drury University 2, MW 1; MW 9, Drury University 5; MW 23, Arkansas Tech 14; Arkansas Tech 6, MW 5; MW 10, Arkansas Tech 2; Bemidji State 4, MW 3; MW 6, Emporia State 2; Emporia State 11, MW 8; Emporia State 9, MW 4; MW Emporia State 6; MW 19, Truman 6; MW 9, Truman 7; Truman 9, MW 3; MW 12, Truman 5; Central Missouri 11, MW 8; Central Missouri 15, V 2; MW 7, Central Missouri 5; Central Missouri 17, MW 6; Northwest Missouri 5, MW 4; Northwest Missouri 6, MW 0; Pittsburg State 7, MW MW 7, Pittsburg State 5; Pittsburg State 5, MW 1; MW 3, Pittsburg State 0; MW 7, Washburn 3; Washburn 8, MW 7; MW 8, Washburn 4; MW 6, Washburn 4; Nebraska-Omaha 5, MW 2; Nebraska Omaha 10, MW 9; MW 4, Missouri Southern 3; MW 6, Missouri Southern 2; MW 17, Missouri Southern 0; MW 13, Missouri Southern 10; MW 2, Southwest Baptist 1; MW 10, Southwest Baptist 7; MW 5, Southwest Baptist 1; MW 7, Southwest Baptist 6; MW 4, Northwest Missouri 3; Northwest Missouri 7, MW 6; Fort Hays 3, MW 1; Fort Hays 5, MW 1; MW 3, Fort Hays 2



Catchers must be very agile to continue moving throughout the entire game. Carrie Christensen and Megan Foor did a great job for the lady Griffons this year. *Photo by Greg Carbin*

A Griffon softball player dives for the ball. Softball required players to be quick on their feet. *Photo by Greg Carbin*



Story by Raya Blake

The Griffon Women's Softball team had a season full of unexpected events. The rain seemed to creep up on the team at the time of several scheduled games. "We struggled at the beginning of the season, especially getting into the rhythm of playing with all of our cancellations due to weather," Lindsey Predovich, a pitcher for the team, said.

With Mother Nature taking her toll, the team never knew when they would play. "The season went pretty well," sophomore Lauren Sternberg said. "We have had a lot of rainouts and unexpected cancellations that have made it hard on us to fully prepare for the games because we never know when we are going to play." Despite the weather and frequent cancellations, the team stuck together and gave it their all.

"We have had very close games and have had tough calls," Sternberg said. "I have never had any doubt on our wins, we could be down by three runs and I still believed that we would come back no matter what."

The ladies found that by their competitiveness they really came together and showed their skills. "We are playing much more intensely and confidently which makes me excited for postseason," Predovich said. "Sometimes a team will give up after struggling

for awhile, but I really feel like we have turned it on at the right time."

Predovich was not the only player who felt this way. Sternberg thought it was nice to have such a competitive vibe with the team on an endless cycle. "It is great to watch the game and see how competitive we are both on offense and defense," TyAnn Williamson, a softball player for the lady Griffons, said.

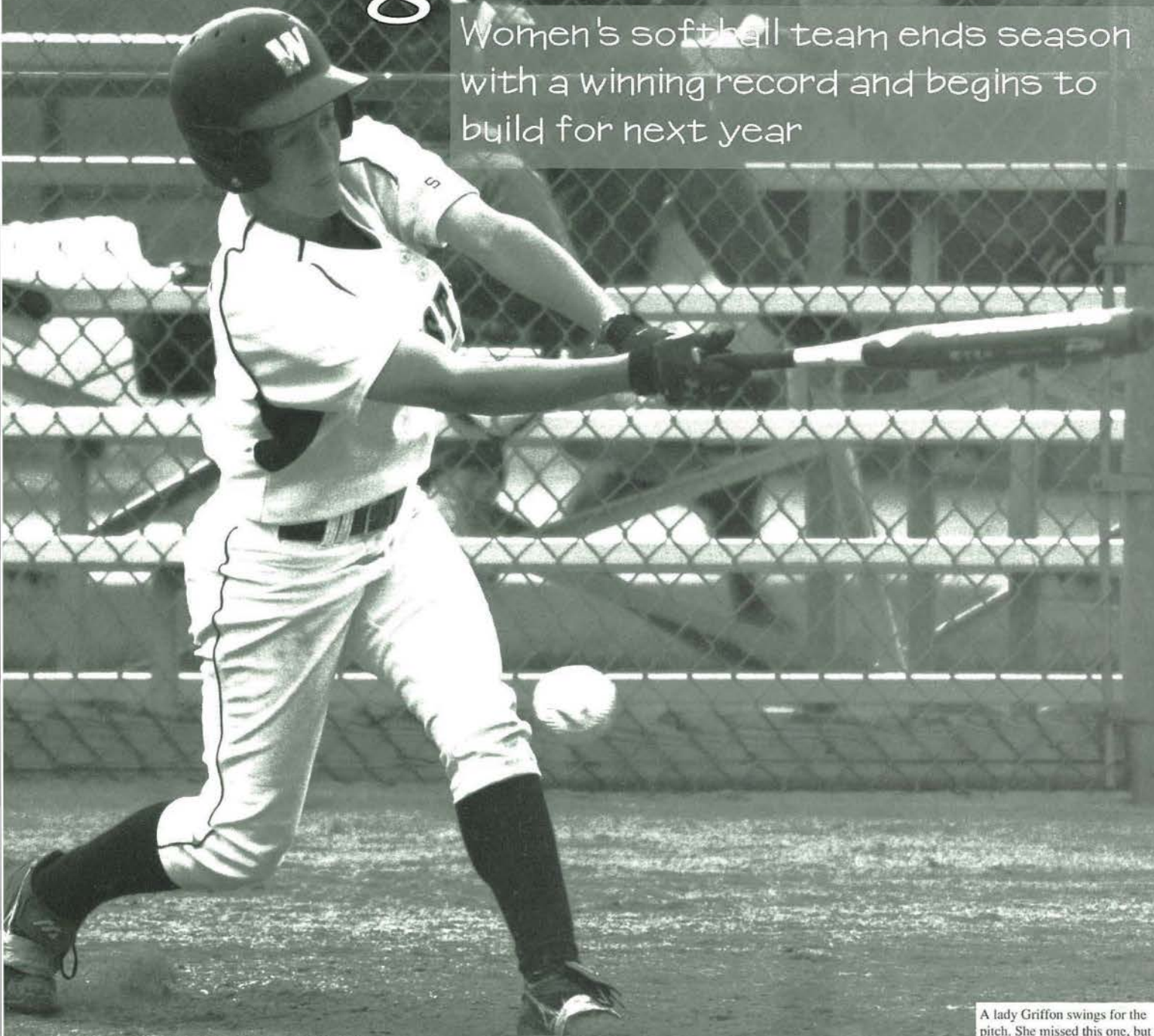
In order to be competitive, the ladies had to practice to make every play count. They focused on certain areas to practice their skills and focused primarily on hitting different kinds of pitching. This allowed the ladies to be prepared for whatever type of pitcher they were faced with. Another main skill practiced was teamwork.

"We work on being a team, fighting as a team and picking each other up when we are down," Sternberg said. "The team works together and is not afraid of giving constructive criticism."

Through the blood, sweat, tears and even the rain, the ladies made their season the best it could be. "We didn't give up," Predovich said. "I believe we stepped up to the plate and accepted the challenge to do better and finish the season strong."

Running the Bases

Women's softball team ends season with a winning record and begins to build for next year



A lady Griffon swings for the pitch. She missed this one, but connected on the next pitch resulting in a double for the team.
Photo by Greg Carbin

Scoreboard

Little University 8, MW 4; Tarleton State 8, MW 0; MW 2, San Francisco State 0; MW 8, Notre Dame de Namur 5; MW 9, Eastern New Mexico; V 3, Mont. St.-Billings 0; Arkansas-Monticello 11, MW 3; Ouachita Baptist 3, MW 2; MW 2, Augustana 0; MW 2, Augustana 1; MW 3, Wayne te 2; Wayne State 3, MW 0; MW 13, Minnesota-Crookston 0; MW 3, Oklahoma City 2; Winona State 5, MW 1; MW 12, Bemidji State 4; meron University 10, MW 4; Conc.-St. Paul 8, MW 5; Upper Iowa 3, MW 1; MSU-Mankato 1, MW 0; MW 5, St. Cloud 3; MW 9, Conc.-St. il 0; MW 2, Northwest Missouri 1; Northwest Missouri 2, MW 1; Central Missouri 8, MW 3; Central Missouri 3, MW 0; MW 5, Pittsburg State MW 3, Pittsburg State 0; MW 3, SW Minnesota State 1; MW 8, Upper Iowa 0; MW 2, Concordia University 0; MSU Morhead 4, MW 1; Winona te 6, MW 4; MW 7, Truman 3; MW 5, Truman 3; Nebraska-Omaha 6, MW 0; MW 7, Nebraska-Omaha 5; MW 2, Missouri Southern 0; MW 4, ssouri Southern 0; SW Baptist 4, MW 1; MW 2, SW Baptist 0; Fort Hays State 8, MW 5; Fort Hays State 9, MW 8; Minnesota Duluth 7, MW 3; V 7, St. Cloud State 3; MW 10, South Dakota 5; MW 5, Augustana 3; MW 6, North Dakota 5; Washburn 1, MW 0; MW 1, Washburn 0; Empo- State 7, MW 1; WMW 4, Emporia State 1; MW 5, Fort Hays State 1; MW 2, Central Missouri 1; Emporia State 6, MW 1; MW 1, Washburn 0; uporia State 4, MW 0

Victoria Dvorak shows off her skills during the homecoming pep rally. The color guard participated in every home and away football game during 2006. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Color Guard member Allison McGomery practices for the upcoming football game. The Guard put time and hard work into their performance. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Story by Sarah Derr

All across campus, spirit could be found bellowing from the shouts of Missouri Western cheerleaders or in the funky moves of the Mystics dance team, but it was in the Golden Griffon Color Guard where relationships were formed and talent was tested. Eleven ladies dedicated their time and hard work to the team and at the end of the season, the success of it shown through.

Each year, the Griffon Color Guard participated with the Marching Band at all of the home football games and parades and also at the Midnight Madness Basketball Showcase. The year 2006 marked a highlight for the ladies. Toward the end of October, the ladies had the privilege of taking part in the Greater St. Louis Marching Band Festival.

"This year, we got to perform for 6,000 people at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis, which is the NFL Rams stadium, as the exhibition for the Greater St. Louis Marching Band Festival," senior and elementary education major Erica Taylor said. "It was a blast, and a great opportunity to get to do it."

It wasn't all fun and games for the Color Guard, hard work also went into their performances.

"We come in and warm up with 50 drop spins to the right and 50 to the left, then we proceed to do the same with the other basic moves, we do in our show, namely—around the worlds, double around the worlds, one arms, butterflies and tosses, as usual," Taylor said.

Members of the Color Guard also earned a semester stipend.

"Everyone is awarded a stipend," freshman Lindsey Donnell said. "Freshmen are awarded \$500, sophomores get \$600, while juniors and seniors get \$700."

Aside from the nice bonus, the ladies also reaped the rewards of their hard labor when the Western football team did well.

"We get to travel with the football team, if they go to the playoffs or a bowl game," Taylor said.

The Color Guard was also a way to meet new, lifelong friends.

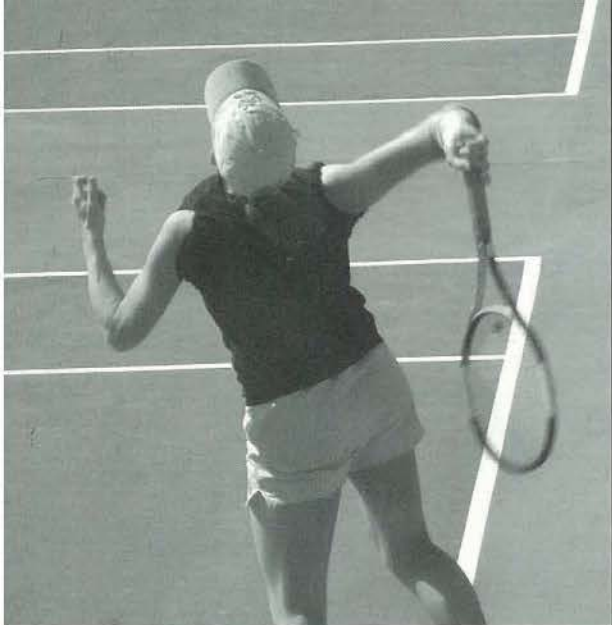
"Most people come to school, not knowing anyone, unless they have friends from home that are also attending the school," Taylor said. "I was the only one from my school to come in 2003, when I was a freshman. I had already met the girls on the guard during the three days of camp in July and in the full week that the entire Marching Band rehearses prior to school starting in August. By the time school started, I had already built up friendships and even found some friends in other sections of the band."

Aside from earning a couple hundred bucks, the real opportunity the ladies relished in was making eleven new friends and new memories.

Color Guard Spins a New Wheel

Golden Griffon Color Guard members sweat out the hours of tedious practice to relish in the sweet rewards of friendship

Color Guard performs at the Homecoming pep rally. This is where the team showcase their new routines for the year. Photo by Jeremy Weikel



Sophomore, Tammy Liebersbach prepares to hit the ball. Liebersbach competed in the singles and doubles. *Photo submitted*

A tennis player serves the ball to the opponent. The Women's tennis team was small this year, but learned a lot. *Photo submitted*



Story by Tammy Havens

Overcoming challenges and developing new friendships was what the Women's Tennis team found themselves working through on during the spring season.

One of the biggest challenges the ladies were faced with was adapting to a new coach. Ron Selkirk replaced the previous Coach Matt Micheel.

"For those of us who were here last year, we had a lot of adjustments to make," Tammy Liebersbach, a tennis player, said. "Ron Selkirk managed the team very differently than what we were used to, and we had to learn how to balance these differences."

According to senior Mary Pankiewicz, Coach Micheel left to pursue employment opportunities in Florida. Adjusting to a new coach was not the only challenge the ladies underwent. There were several new additions to the team. Amber Adams, a business management major, was one of these new additions. Adams did not get to play as much as she would have liked, but found that her biggest challenge was meeting her team members.

"We had the largest team we have had in the last four years, and, since six of us play, it was hard to make all 11 players feel like a team," Liebersbach said. Even though it was hard to make everyone feel like a team, Pankiewicz felt that they did a good job.

"I feel the team did a really good job welcoming the incoming freshmen and helping them improve their games," Pankiewicz said.

The season itself was also a challenge for the

team. "We played tough team after tough team since six of the eight teams in our conference are the top teams in the whole region," Liebersbach said. "We had a lot of depth on our team and we were all good players, but we did not have one standout player."

Despite the difficulty of the season, the ladies were able to win one of the toughest conference matches. In order to win this match, the ladies won two doubles matches and five singles matches. Team members Pankiewicz, Kristy Pechous, Laura Rutten, Audra Scopen and Michelle Ritter were among those who won the singles matches. Pechous and Rutten won the doubles match along with Scopen and Ritter. Pankiewicz was especially happy about the win.

"It was great to have our first conference win, since I started playing tennis for Western," Pankiewicz said.

The season came to an end, though, for Liebersbach and Pankiewicz. Liebersbach would not be returning, because she would be completing her student teaching in the fall. Pankiewicz would be graduating in May. "I will miss my teammates and playing doubles with Tammy," Pankiewicz said of teammate Liebersbach.

As the ladies faced several challenges throughout the season, they came together in the end and poured their hearts into the game they loved. It was the end of the road for some, but to the ladies, it ended successfully. The ladies ended their season with a loss to Truman State and their overall record, 3-8.

Becoming a Team

With the highest numbers in 4 seasons, the Women's tennis team struggles to become a team and adapt to changes

ersbach competes in doubles
her partner Mary Pankiewicz
shown). The girls worked very
together on the court. Photo
itted



Scoreboard

East Central L, 1-5

Arkansas Tech W, 6-1

Rockhurst L, 1-8

Northwest Missouri L, 1-6

Emporia State L, 1-8

Washburn L, 0-9

SW Baptist L, 3-6

Benedictine W, 7-2

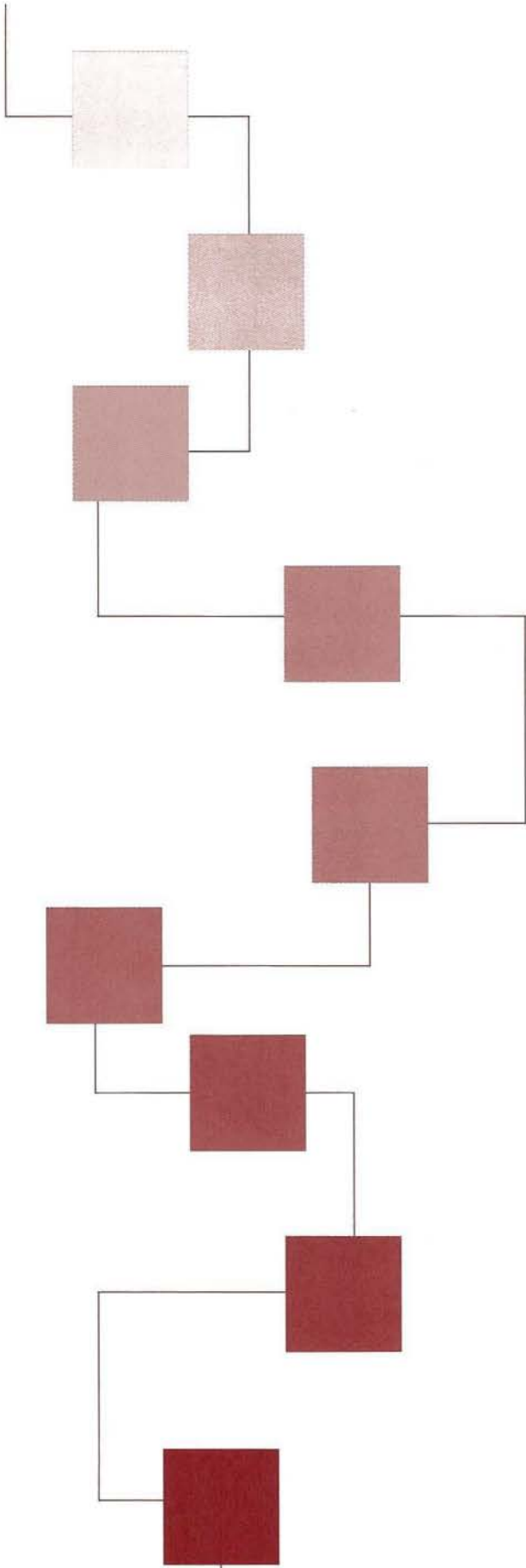
Missouri Southern L, 4-5

Fort Hays State W, 5-4

Truman L, 2-7

Overall

3-8

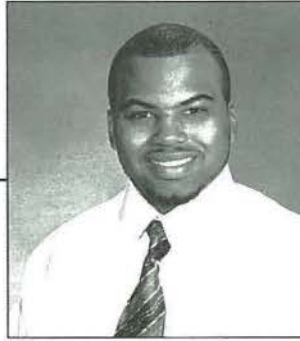




Western Community

Graduating Seniors

Crystal Ashburn
Ryan Atkinson
Stacie Batchelar
Melissa Bitterman



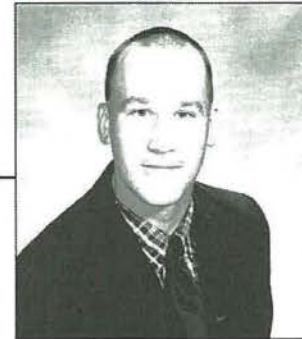
Miranda Black
Kelly Boessen
Jamie Bogacz
Ashley Boley



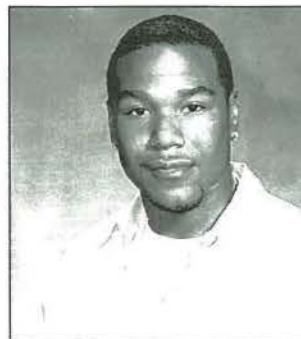
Lindsay Bosch
Amber Brown
Josh Callaway
Cody Campbell



Danielle Campbell
Rikki Cason
Walter Chaney
Amy Chastain

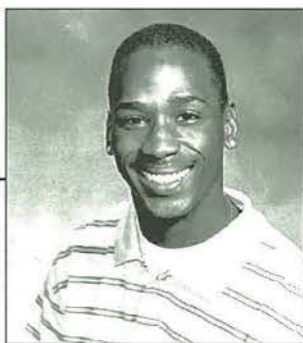


Kenneth Cheadle
Leigh Anne Clark
Tamisha Coates
Katie Cochran





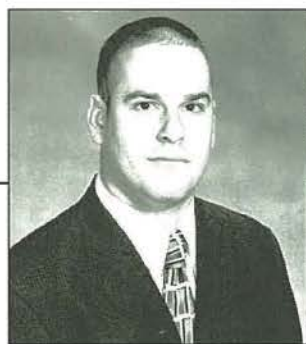
Daniel Cordray
Douglas Cox
Kathy Crawford
Megan Davis



Tabitha Davis
Tanisha M Davis
Cedric Day
Michelle Delaney



Michelle Demint
Brandi Dice
Kari Dickinson
Stacy Downing



Debra Durham
Michael Brett Dye
Lauren Epps
Kyle Evans



Alicia Falter
Ashley Falter
Jenny Farrow
Angela Fisher

Harrold Calloway III

"Sometimes I fail, sometimes I succeed, but you learn from both"

Story by Katrina Darr, Photo by Jeremy Weikel

One of the changes that Western students were not aware of when it became a university was the change from student regent to student governor. Along with the loss of the student regent position came a new student governor by the name of Harold Callaway. Callaway had big shoes to fill though, prior to being accepted for the position.

"Bob Hughes pushed the school through becoming a university, and I'm trying to continue the success of the university," Callaway said.

Despite the big shoes that needed to be filled, Callaway also had other duties that the position required of him. He was expected to play a role with the Student Government Association's committees, help build policies and also attend monthly board meetings.

The process of becoming student governor was not an easy one, Callaway had to progress into the application process with the SGA and the Board of Governors. He also had to be interviewed with Western and the previous governor who then chose three applicants, who were sent to Jefferson City, Mo. Not long after the trip to Jefferson City, Mo., Callaway was notified by Cari Dozier informing him that he was being put through senate confirmation.

After attaining the position, there was one goal that was especially important to Callaway was to

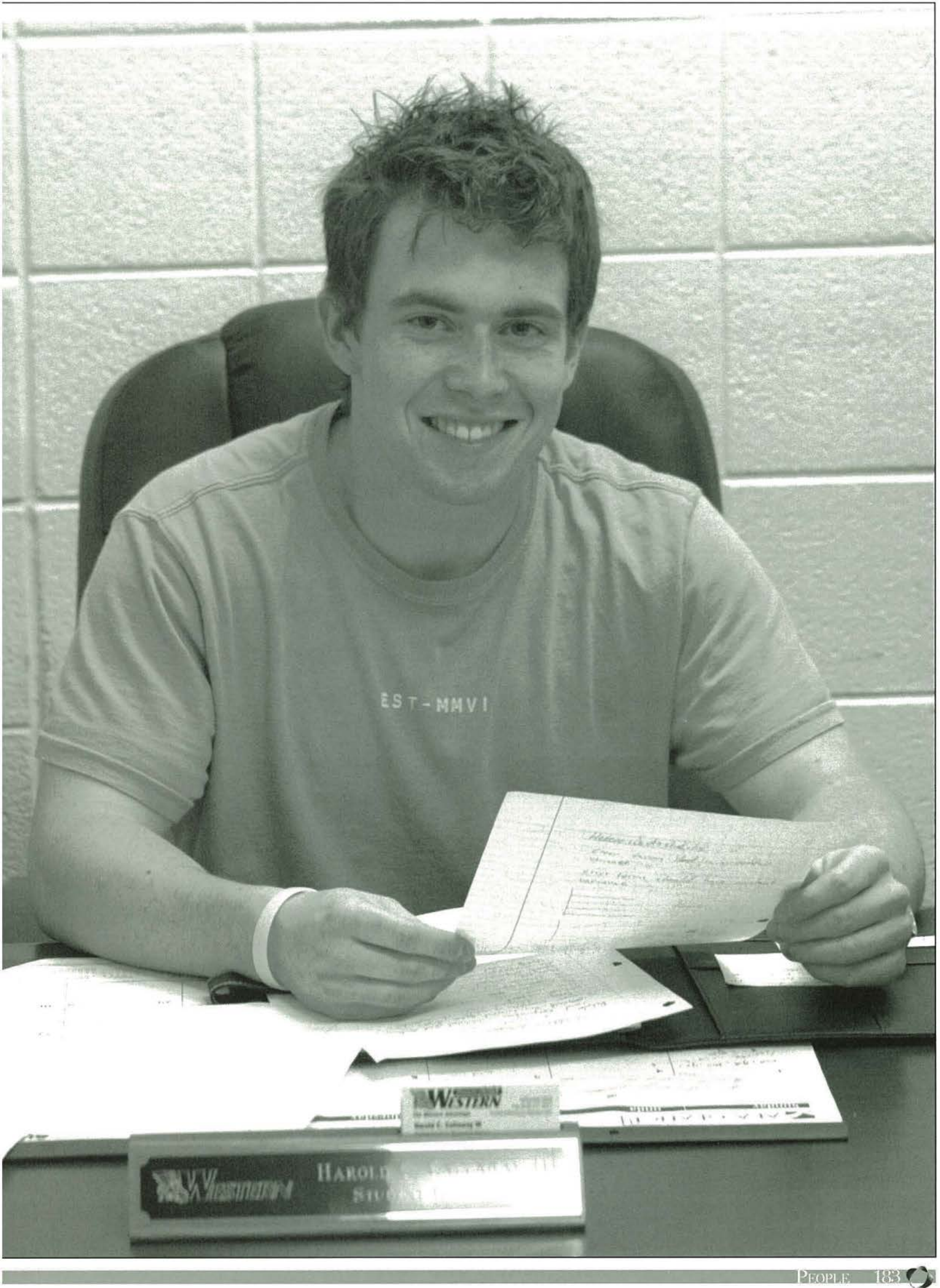
accomplish while he was in office. "I'd really like to play a role in helping our graduate programs receive funding," he said. "Hopefully, it will come about to before my term is up."

Although Callaway was frequently busy with his position as student governor, he also worked at Menard's 20 hours a week and at the Baker Family Fitness Center regularly. He also enjoyed fly-fishing and nearly any activity that included the outdoors. During his high school career, he took part in track and football.

"Harold was always a very outgoing guy," Track and football teammate Eric Mabury said. "I don't remember seeing him when he wasn't smiling and in a good mood."

Callaway's plans though, went beyond the position as student governor. He planned on graduating with his MBA in finance or economics and possibly, a doctorate in finance. A long-term career goal of Callaway's was to be in upper level management in an executive position in financing.

"I've never been the best test taker or the best at anything," he said. "I just try to work harder than everyone else. Sometimes I fail, sometimes I succeed, but you learn from both."



EST-MMVI

WISTON
By Order of the Board
Harold E. Stubbs III

WISTON
HAROLD STUBBS III
SVP



Tammy Johnston

"I always wanted my family to see me graduate and walk across the stage with my cap and gown to receive my diploma"

Story by Katrina Darr, Photo by Jeremy Weikel

For some people, going back to college meant eventually going through a second graduation. However, sophomore and business major Tammy Johnston never went through her high school graduation. Johnston went back to school after having her son, Justin Simpson, and completed her GED. "I always wanted my family to see me graduate and walk across the stage with my cap and gown to receive my diploma, and that has been my incentive since day one," Johnston said.

When Johnston decided to go back to school, she faced several challenges. "So many things have changed since I've been out of high school," Johnston said. "When I went to take the ACT test, I didn't remember hardly anything"

Johnston also commented on how difficult it was to manage her time. She worked 40 hours a week as an office manager and had nine hours of night classes. Finding the time for homework and to do work around the house wasn't always easy. As a result, she bought a planner to help manage her time. "If it is not in my planner, it doesn't happen!" Johnston said.

Going back to school was also a way for Johnston to better the career that she was in. She was able to learn how to use new technology that made her job a lot easier and graduating with an associate's degree would open more doors for her. After she planned on completing her associate's, she

contemplated on whether or not to go back for her bachelor's degree. Although Johnston said she wished she had gone back sooner, she was happy that her son was out of high school and more independent when she chose to go back.

Having her son at school with her wasn't as difficult to deal with. "We are doing two separate majors, so we are in two separate parts of the campus," Johnston said. "Our class schedule and work schedule are not the same, so we really don't see each other a whole lot during the week."

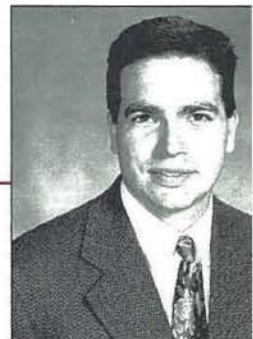
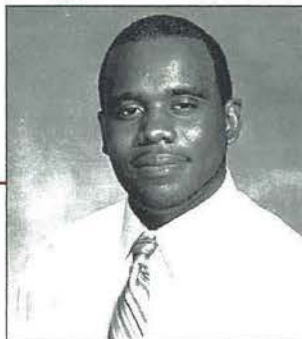
When Johnston needed help, she would go to her son. "I go to him a lot," Johnston said. "He's younger and more up-to-date on subjects and new technology."

Johnston also hoped that by going back to school, her son and others would see how determined she was. She wanted her son to realize how important an education was. "When I had my son, I told him 'you need to go to school,' when I hadn't even finished myself," she said. "I wanted him to know that I really did believe that it was very important and by going back to school, I believe I have shown him that."

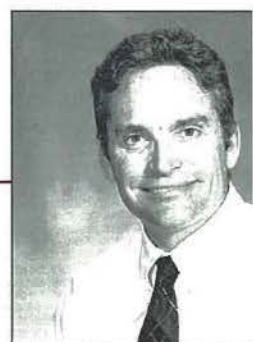
Her son was proud of his mom for going back. "She has worked very hard to get where she is today," he said. "She always gave me what I needed and now she is going back and giving back to herself for all the things she gave up before."

Graduating Seniors

Lindsay Fisher
Kevin Akeem Fontleroy
Tia Frahm
Keith Friesen



Christa Gilpin
Jennifer Gladbach
Heather Goforth
Bruce Goll



Taylor Goodson
Stephanie Haenni
Synthia Haggard
Morgan Hansen



Kelly Hanway
Jill Henderson
Virginia Herrera
Lindsay Holland

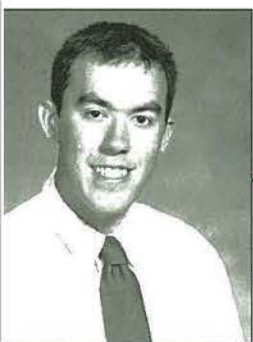




Brandi Horsman
Ella Howser
Alyssa Jackson
Sybil Jennings



Sarah Jones
Vanessa Keiser
Laura Keith
Nicole A King



Keith Langabee
Kimberly Ledford Thomsen
Ashlee Liebhart
Miya Lindroos



Nikole Loubey
Summer Love
Elizabeth Lowrance
Alison Marek

Dr. Ann Thorne

"I may stay another 20 years. I love what I do, and I wouldn't want to do anything else"

Story by Amy Chastain & Tammy Havens, Photo by Linda Shireman

Ann Thorne was often seen as a guiding light; a gift wrapped up in encouragement and ambition. She was not only a professor at Western, but she was also an adviser to the Griffon Yearbook. Throughout her long tenure at Western, she encouraged others in different aspects of their lives and revamped a yearbook, has won several national and statewide awards.

Since Thorne first took on the task of the Griffon, there have been several modifications. "Of course each book reflects the current year, so as fashions and styles change, each book looks very different," she said. "After 20 years of books, the differences are really pronounced."

One thing that Thorne really enjoyed about her role as adviser and professor was her students. "In many ways, my students have not changed that much over the years," she said. "They do yearbook because they love it; they are willing to work hard to produce a quality book; and they enjoy a camaraderie with others on staff that they wouldn't have if they were not on yearbook."

Students were moved by Thorne's grace and dedication as a professor and adviser. Kathy Crawford, a journalism major, had taken several classes with Thorne. "Ann is my favorite teacher," Crawford said. "I have said this before; I don't think that is a secret to anyone."

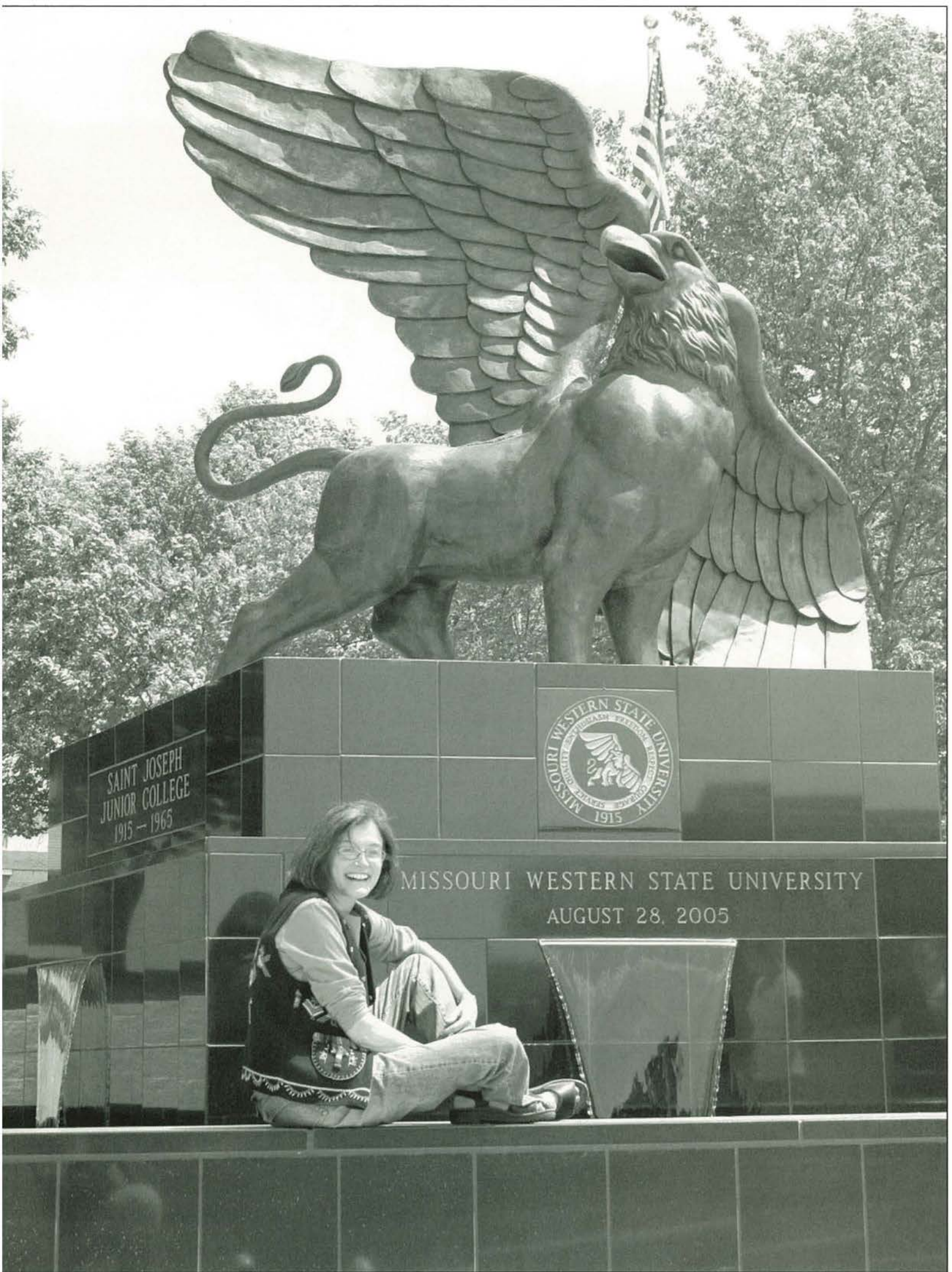
Thorne's most prized accomplishments were the awards that the Griffon had won. "Yearbook has won lots of awards over the years—both state and national and in all areas: overall, photography, design, writing

and lots of individual awards," she said. "Really, we have done it all. And I am proud of that. But in all honesty, what I think is the best achievement is the ability of yearbook editors to put aside differences and work together to put out a terrific book, whether it wins or doesn't win. One of my worst years on yearbook, when the staff and editors fought all year and nothing ever seemed to get done, we still won a Pacemaker, the top yearbook award."

Thorne was definitely a busy person, but her desire of becoming a great professor and adviser was not overlooked. In the spring of 2007, she was awarded the Missouri Governor's Award for Teaching Excellence. "I was really, really surprised," Thorne said. "It never occurred to me that I would win this award. Only one person from each of the state's universities wins. It is an incredible honor."

Aside from such an honor, fellow colleague and friend, Kenneth Rosenauer, described Thorne as encouraging. The two met when Thorne accepted her position at Western. In 1988, she decided to go back to school to fulfill her doctorate and encouraged Rosenauer to do the same.

Thorne wanted to make a strong, solid foundation after she left Western. "Well, I don't plan to leave any time soon," she said. "I may stay another 20 years. I love what I do, and I wouldn't want to do anything else. I hope 20 years from now when someone picks up a book from 2007, they say, 'Wow. This really is what 2007 was like.' Then, I will know we were successful at reflecting each individual year as it really was."



SAINT JOSEPH
JUNIOR COLLEGE
1915 - 1965



MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
AUGUST 28, 2005

Graduating Seniors

Jasmine Martinez
Jennifer Mefford
Gwenlyn Midgyett
Amy Miller



Latasha Mitchell
Becky Monnig
Alisha Montgomery
Ashley Morris



Bethany Morrison
Janet Moser
Joy Motsinger
Tracy Muff

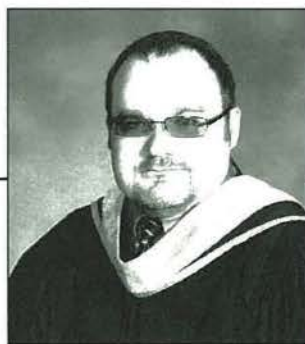
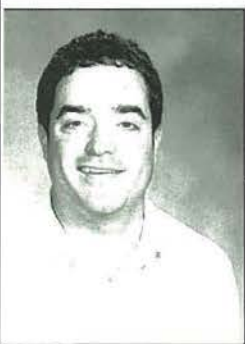


Anita Rayleen Munger Long
Andrew Murphy
Cherish Nigh
Kimberly Nolan





Amanda O Dell
 Amy Pankau
 Matthew Parrish
 Whitney Prim



Joseph Pugh
 Jill Rardon
 Jeremy Ray
 Anastasia Reid



Amanda Roe
 Keyonia Sanders
 Lavon Schaffner
 Alicia Schmidgall



Jannelle Schneider
 Cassandra Schuster
 John Seever
 Kristy Shaw

Dr. Paul Shang

"When he is extremely busy and someone needs to speak with him, whether it is students or faculty, he will stop what he is doing and give 100 percent of his attention"

Story by Sarah Darr, Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Having worked with Western students for over two years, the Dean of Student Development Paul Shang made a large impact on Griffon spirit. Shang has been involved with residential life, the Center for Multicultural Education, Recreation Services, Health Services, Traditional Affairs, Student Orientation, Destination Western and Griffon Education. He was also the advisor for the fraternity, Alpha Sigma Pi. In his involvement with Western students, he made a personal impact in the lives of many students.

"Dr. Shang is devoted to the students, involved in campus life, dependable with commitments and eager to help," Student Government Association senator Jasmine Pasley said. "He goes that extra mile even when he does not have to. I don't know how he finds the time, but he is always available when you need him. He is down to earth and easy to talk to."

Shang was known to go out of his way to make a connection with every student. He attended many campus events in order to reach out to students on a more personal level.

"During my visit to the National Orientation Director's Association annual meeting in Salt Lake City last fall, Dr. Shang made a quick trip for a few days there to visit me and the rest of the Missouri Western delegation," First-Year Programs intern Brad Dixon said. "He let us pick a restaurant of our choice that was his treat that night. I remember this moment

the most out of many because it was time spent with Dr. Shang off campus and completely out of state. We had the unique opportunity to interact with Dr. Shang on a different, off the cuff situation."

In addition to making a connection with Western students, Shang also encouraged staff cohesiveness.

"Dr. Shang is a strong individual," Administrative Coordinator and Student Development Kathy Kelly said. "He will always do what he can to help anyone. When he is extremely busy and someone needs to speak with him, whether it is students or faculty, he will stop what he is doing and give 100 percent of his attention. His door is always open."

Shang inspired many changes at Western and continued to encourage student development across the country by writing books and articles aimed toward academic leaders.

"I have started to do some writing promoting traditional student affairs," Shang said. "I have also written three or four chapters for Monograph, which is a well-read series for student affairs professions."

Aside from campus involvement, Shang had been married for 19 years to his wife, Laura. He also had two step-children and two grandchildren. In his spare time, he and his wife enjoyed traveling, theatre, musical and artistic events.





Brittney Kelley

"I think it's my duty as a Christian to spread the word of the Lord to people and I like to do it through music"

Story by Torrance Jones, Photo by Jeremy Weikel

"I enjoy helping people," nursing student Brittney Kelley said. "I've been doing it since I was a little girl, and it is some thing I am very passionate about. I don't know if it's my calling from God, but I enjoy what I do for people." These were the words from Western's very own social butterfly and 2007 winner of the Miss Black and Gold pageant, Brittney Kelley.

Kelley's passion for helping people was seen in many different outlets across the Western community. She was a student ambassador for Western's VIP and a Griffon Edge Leader. In each outlet that she was involved with on campus, she left her mark on the organization and adding to her future plans.

One campus activity that allowed Kelley to open up more with other people of different backgrounds was VIP. As an acting VIP, it was Kelley's duty to share the Western wisdom for future hopefuls.

"I really like being a VIP," she said. "It allowed me to interact with different people and cultures that I may not come in contact with in my everyday life. It also allows me to be myself."

With that love to interact with different people, she also helped heal and inform people about very serious things. These topics ranged from rape, binge drinking, relationship abuse, drug abuse, date rape and many other serious topics through a group called "Sharing Our Stories," also known as SOS. This was

a group of Western students who traveled to nearby colleges and high schools. They give training seminars on various topics that affected young adults daily.

"Being involved with 'Sharing Our Stories' has been a great eye opening experience for me because I love acting and helping people. By doing this, I am able to do both at the same time," she said. "Sometimes after we are done with a skit about a serious topic such as suicide or date rape, there is not a dry eye in the room. We are not trying to make people cry, but we try to make the skits as real and as honest as possible to get our message across. I like knowing that my acting has helped or even changed people lives."

Changing lives in different kinds of ways was something that she was use to. "I am no Beyoncé or Mary J., but I do enjoy singing and I especially enjoy singing gospel music. This was why I joined the gospel choir here at Missouri Western, because music can help you through some hard times in your life. As a Christian, I am proud of the relationship I have with the Lord. He has brought me through some things in my life and I know he'll always be there for me. I think it's my duty as a Christian to spread the word of the Lord to people and I like to do it through music."

Brittney's love for life and willingness to lend a helping hand reached out and touched many people in the Western community.

Graduating Seniors

Sheryl Sherman
Stacey Shores
Carole Sloan
Stefanie Smiley



Kari Snyder
James Sperber
Richard Stuck
La Sherrie Suttles-Tyes



Jessica Teaford
Christina Thompson
Shereesa Thompson
Jacci Tonn

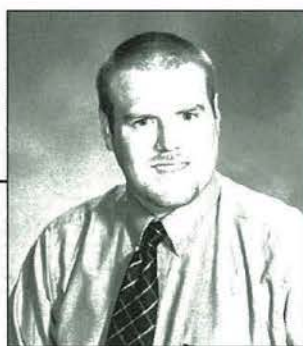


Heather Townsend
Brenda Travis
Morgan Truesdell
Tyrie Upton

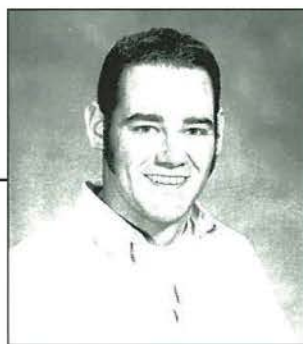




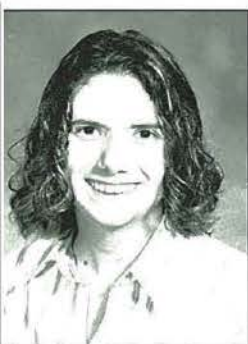
Cody Vaughn
Kalee Vertin
Chon Walters
Derek Ward



Jeremy Weikel
Amanda Wesley
Ian White
Levi White



Tina Whittlesey
Marian Whorton
Anthony Widhalm
Kerry Wilson



Xandria Wiltshire
Reis Wright
Sharon Young
Danna Zhang

Jill Johnson

"I think it is what you make of everything and if you have a positive attitude, things are going to go right for you and things will be on the upside"

Story by Tammy Havens, Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Jill Johnson was more than just a basketball player. She was the 2007 Homecoming Queen and well known throughout the Western campus for her love of meeting new people.

Johnson, a junior, came from the small town of Rockwell City, Iowa. She majored in organizational communications with a minor in Spanish and she was also No. 31 on the Women's Basketball team.

During her time as a student at Western, Johnson met and made many friends. Two of those individuals were junior Travis Kinkade and Arlee Riggs, a Spanish and biology major.

Kinkade first met Johnson during the fall semester of 2004 in the Nelle Blum Union cafeteria. "I was sitting by myself when she came over and asked if she could sit down," Kinkade said. "We have been friends since that day."

Riggs, on the other hand, had known Johnson for about a year after meeting her in Spanish class. Kinkade and Riggs had a similar first impression of Johnson. Kinkade said that his first impression of Johnson was wow...she talks a lot! Nice girl!

"I thought she seemed like a lot of fun, because she is always so positive," Riggs said.

Johnson described herself as a social butterfly and a study nerd. "I study all the time, because right now, I have a 3.8 grade point average," Johnson said.

In life, Johnson found that the most important thing was attitude.

"I think it is what you make of everything and if you have a positive attitude, things are going to go right for you and things will be on the upside," Johnson said. "You make life what you want to make of it."

Luckily for Johnson, her optimism and positive attitude helped her through a very tough time at Western. During the spring of 2007, Johnson was involved in a car accident that resulted in a broken arm. This was a trying time for Johnson because she was forced to sit out of the rest of the basketball season. The Lady Griffons were undefeated and there was a game two days prior to the accident. Johnson said that the accident taught her to be more patient. "One thing it has taught me is, 'Jill, slow down,' because I like to go 24/7," Johnson said.

Johnson took her injury in stride and became the team's loudest cheerleader.

"I think she is handling it well, now that the shock has worn off," Kinkade said. "Being the competitor that she is, I know it is hard for her to have missed some of the biggest games in her college career during an amazing season."

In the mean time, Johnson cheered for her favorite team and returned to her studies following the accident. With such a positive attitude, Johnson was certain to have an awesome future and also another year as a Lady Griffon basketball player.





Brad Dixon

"The hardest, yet easiest, part of being a homosexual student at Western is that I have the opportunity to educate not only myself, but others too, just by setting an example and being my true self"

Story by Dana Heldenbrand, Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Brad Dixon came to Western to get an education. While he received an education, one of his biggest contributions to the Western community was his way of educating others primarily in the culture and lifestyle of people belonging to the Pride Alliance. This organization was a support and educational group supporting the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning and allied community, also known as GLBTQA.

Bobbie Delaney, first-year programs director, met Dixon when he was a freshman at Western. "I met Brad in February 2004, his second semester at Western and my second month at Western," Delaney said. "I was recruiting members for the Residence Hall Judicial Board and received a full resume, in addition to the application essay questions from Brad. I knew as soon as I saw it that Brad was going to become a great leader on campus."

Dixon definitely measured up to Delaney's expectations. While at Western, he was involved in numerous organizations: Residence Council, Campus Activities Board, Residential Life, Student Senate, Applied Learning, First-Year Programs and Pride Alliance.

"Brad's personality never changes. Even when he is uncomfortable, he is still Brad," said Tricia Dickson, who met Dixon through Residence Council.

Not only did Dixon serve as president and vice president of Pride Alliance, he was recognized as a key reason the organization was successful at

Western. "I did not so much as join Pride Alliance as a new member, but rather assisted in the planning and implementation process as a founding father of the organization with the help of fellow students," Dixon said. "I, along with my peers, felt the desperate need to have a common meeting place for those interested in the GLBTQA community."

Delaney also felt that Dixon was an asset in the GLBTQA community. "Brad has really been a great leader for the GLBTQA community on campus and has helped the campus become aware of it and the issues that are faced on a daily basis by these students," Delaney said. "He has done this without alienating anyone or participating in marches or protests. Brad has been a GLBTQA activist simply by being who he is and by getting as involved in campus as he could."

By being true to himself, Dixon served as an example on the Western campus. "The hardest, yet easiest, part of being a homosexual student at Western is that I have the opportunity to educate not only myself, but others too, just by setting an example and being my true self," Dixon said. "I have gained the utmost respect from my peers and faculty and staff simply by inadvertently portraying a positive image of the gay community by breaking down the stereotypes. I lead by example everyday, and people admire that and want to learn more about me and the world that I live in every day. If I don't, then who will?"

Underclassmen

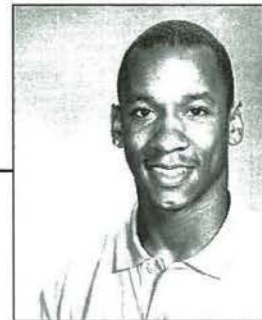
Brandi Aldridge
Julie Allen
Joseph Belcher
Ashley Beydler



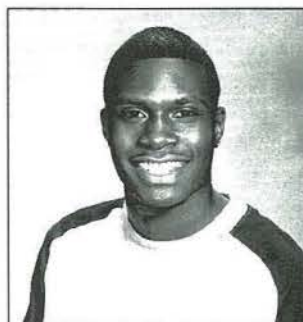
Phil Bluett
Becky Bogdanowicz
Mary Bohall
Gentry Brown

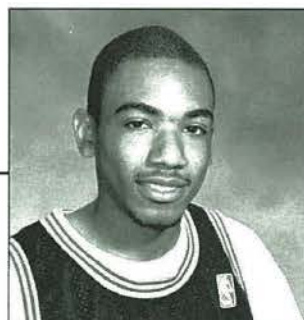


Tiffany Shari Bryant
Jennifer Cammann
Ira Chandler
Jamal Cole

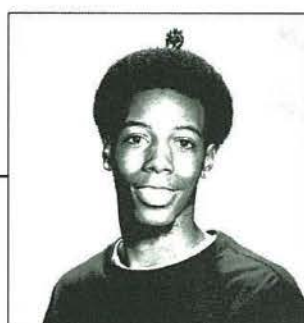


Chris Daniels
Katrina Darr
Katelyn Daugherty
Sarah Derr





Marvez Dickerso-Hamilton
 Raphaelle Drew
 Tara Dugger
 Warrenson Dukes



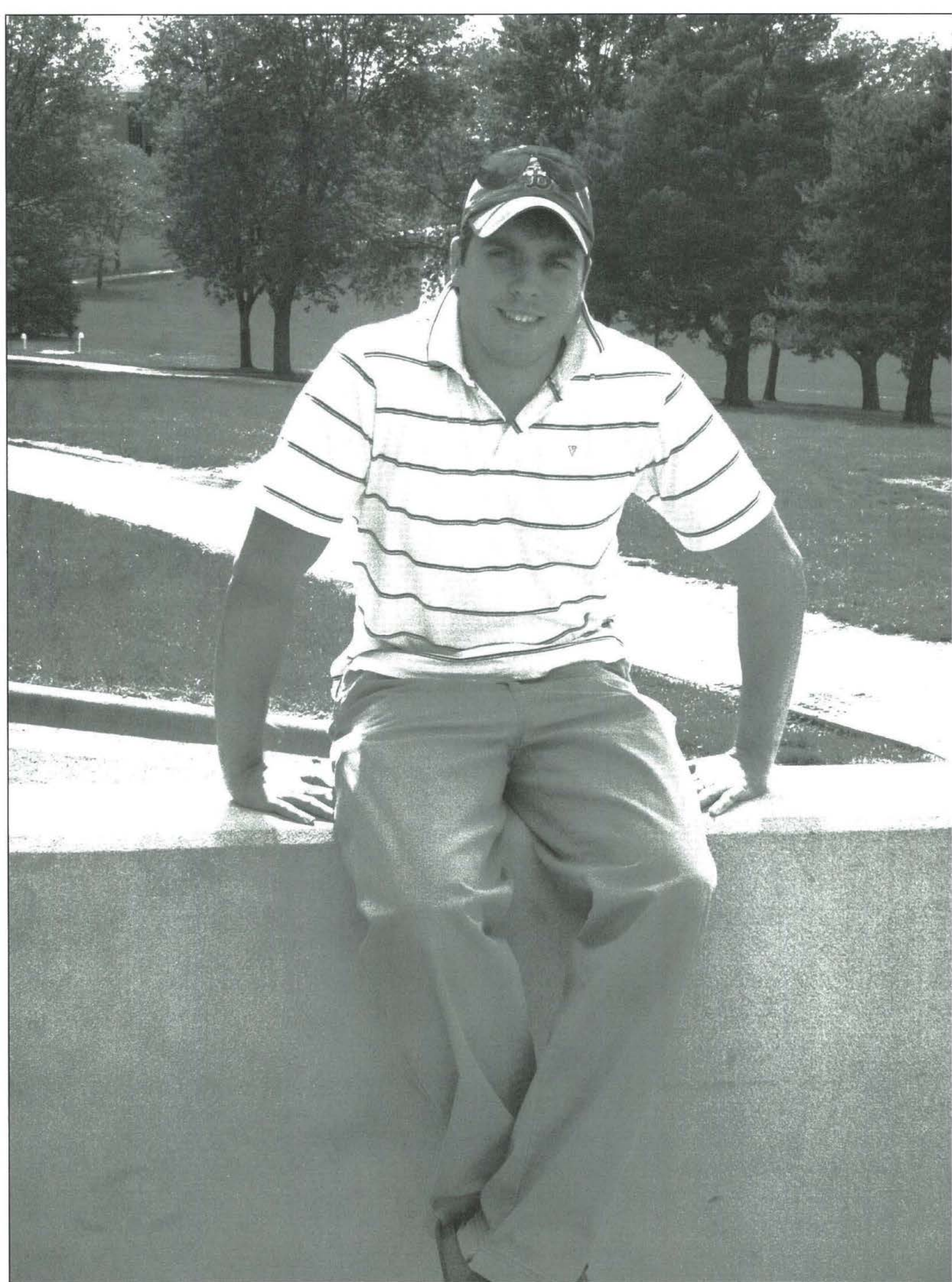
Brandi Ellison
 Jamie Exline
 Sasha Finney
 Joseph Franklin



Alyson Frazier
 Ariel Gage
 Tammy Gnuschke
 Marissa Graves



Amanda Griffith
 Sharron Harris
 Amber Hodson
 Rhonda Hooker



John Goolsby

"I want to spend my life making the music that people will think of when they are remembering moments in their own lives"

Story by Raya Blake, Photo by Jeremy Weikel

Singer, songwriter, guitarist and talent show winner were just a few words that described senior John Goolsby. Goolsby was involved in music since he was around the age of six, when he performed a musical solo in grade school. As he reached high school, he started to pursue his music career. He was in a band called Friday's Dream and continued his music throughout college. Senior Justin Amos played the drums in Friday's Dream with Goolsby.

"I consider John not only a great musician, but one of my closest friends," Amos said.

Goolsby performed in many different places such as: Columbia, Mo., Kansas City, Mo., Joplin, Mo., Branson, Mo., St. Louis, Mo., Wichita, Kans. Lawrence, Kans., Atlanta and Virginia. He entered Campus Activities Board talent show during the week of Homecoming and won two years in a row. He also performed on Saturday nights at Manchester's Pub and Restaurant in St. Joseph. "He plays a little bit of everything from John Mayer to Johnny Cash," alumni and owner of Manchester's Pub and Restaurant Jason Chen said. "He'll play Jack Johnson, Ben Folds Five and then some of his own songs as well." Goolsby also sang and played the guitar on Sunday mornings at Wellspring Community Church.

By May of 2007, the talented artist finished his demo in Nashville, Tenn. He also recorded a six-song

EP, entitled "Love As I Know It." "I will hopefully be on the bill at this year's D-Fest in Tulsa, Okla.," Goolsby said. He had big dreams about a bright future.

"His outgoing personality also helps him become a great entertainer on stage and I think he has a very promising future," Amos said.

Goolsby said that he imagines every musician has the "dream" of making it big and selling millions of records, and in that aspect he saw himself having the same dream.

"My immediate goals include moving to Nashville after graduation," Goolsby said. "I am currently working with an indie record label in Boston to book some shows on the East Coast this fall."

His five year plan included touring the world and producing a full-length album. "I would like to make enough money to live comfortably, knowing that I am doing something I love," Goolsby said.

Music had been the only thing that captured his attention for an extended period of time. He said when he thought about specific times in his life, he always had a song that came to mind. "I want to spend my life making the music that people will think of when they are remembering moments in their own lives."

Underclassmen

Corey Jamison
India Jordan
Randel C Logan



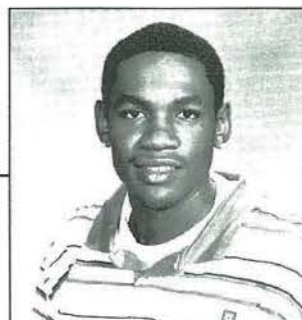
Danielle Longworth
Rebecca Michael
Courtney Mosby-gee
Beth Murphy

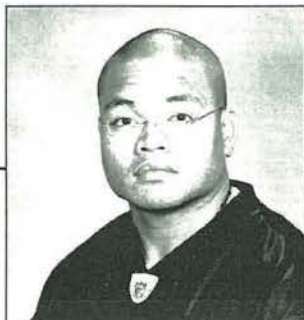


Isaac Myers
Lesley Nelson
Tierra Paige

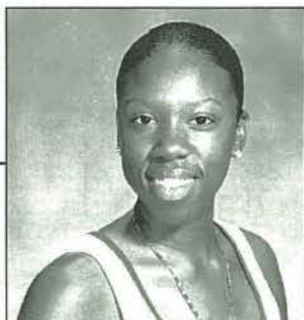


Geanene Pickens
Marcus Pruitt
Taharah Reed
Jerreah Robinson





Kahleigh Roper
Jason Ruiz
Danelle Ruppert
Michelle Scherder



Alyssa Smith
Rakia Smith
Sonja Streeter



Danielle Taylor
Joshua Temple



Chelsey Todd
Michael Trawinski
Lakresha Wilson

MWSU Student Organizations

ALCHEMIST CLUB

Front Row (left to right): Will Newhart, Darcie Elder, LeeAnn Schuster, Ryan Swafford
2nd Row (left to right): Debbi Wright, Casper Talkington, Beth Meyer, Lindsay Goforth



ALPHA GAMMA DELTA

Front Row (left to right): Beth Murphy, Lisa Crawford, Alicia Schmidgall, Elizabeth Green, Trisha Steele
2nd Row (left to right): Lola Weinman, Amber Adams, Amanda Jara, Hillary Monroe, Dani Longworth, Ashley Skidmore
3rd Row (left to right): Chrissy Westal, Erica Neier, Jessica Galczynski, Julia Stubblefield, Tricia Dickson, Gretchen Smith, Allyson Swearingin
4th Row (left to right): Jessica McKinzie, Sara Bovard, Jennifer Behnke, Lexie Humphrey

ALPHA KAPPA PSI

Front Row (left to right): Erica Ricker, Tiffany Tomas, Deborah Coates, Kwanshae Lowman, Mary Fimple
2nd Row (left to right): Kristy Shaw, Ashley Boley, Levi White, Erin Ward, Scharde DuPriest, Amanda Scheier, Vanessa Morris, Jake Brooke, Anastasia Reid
3rd Row (left to right): Rebecca Kuehn, Monica White, Jennifer Cammann, Natalie Jegeris, Amanda Roe, Susan Nanneman, Brent Matthews, Matt Jackson, Dave McClellan
4th Row (left to right): Tyler Humbard, Whitney Smith, Mallory Hall, Cassandra Schuster, Heather Goforth, Ashley Wheeler, Jennifer Maghess, Seth Voelkel



ALPHA MU GAMMA

Front Row (left to right): Alyssa Smith, Bryana Harrah



ALPHA OMEGA

Front Row (left to right): Scharda'e DuPriest, Michaela King, Gretchen Kunkle

2nd Row (left to right): Jackie Furbee, Margaret Slayton, Hanna Taylor, Heather McGlothlin

ALPHA PSI OMEGA

Front Row (left to right): Stacie Batchelar, Anthony Bossler, Jennifer Jeffries, Melissa Gregory, Deb Weems, Amber Redmond

2nd Row (left to right): Jeremy Weikel, Nick Ford, Aaron Westlake, Fred Weems, Andrew Alee, Bryan Edward, W.R. Findley



ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA

Front Row (left to right): Katy Schwartz, Kristen Robinson, Mariah Mueller, Natalie Poffenbaugh, Kristin Parker, Jessica Payne

2nd Row (left to right): Katherine Hangartner, Talor Cunningham, Mallory Hall, Tara Finley, Sarah Czarev, Whitney Smith, Katy Penland, Nicole Couch

3rd Row (left to right): Rachael Burton, Natalie Bailey, Becca Wilcox, Jayme Morrison, Nichole Ketchem, Bathany Gilliland, Tiffany Zimmerman, Dana Heldenbrand, Katrina Trammell, Daidre Moskov, Jodi Main

4th Row (left to right): Megan Glenn, Amanda Geno, Brittany Enyard, Jennifer Kohler, Amanda Lyle, Nicole Shiflett, Alie Koile, Heidi Young



ALPHA SIGMA PHI

Front Row (left to right): Trevor Kincaid, Abram Huffman, Matt Canaday, Seth Logston, Nick Bates

2nd Row (left to right): Luke Herrington, Adam Vader, Sean Pruitt

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Front Row (left to right): Lindsay Bosch, Kodi BeVelle, Hannah Hevalow, Victoria Williams

2nd Row (left to right): Wendi Salgo, Monic White, Drew Bouge, Alyssa Smith



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Front Row (left to right): Wiley Davis

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3rd Row (left to right): Paul Damery, Clayton Silber, Jared Spangler

4th Row (left to right): Calvin Haynes, Jason Hopper, Jessie O'Dell, Samuel Stanley, Rob Martin, Riley McFarland, Mark Crable, Paula Ward

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2nd Row (left to right): Jessica Schmidt, Stacy Saythany, Myisha Robinson, Lois Arnold
3rd Row (left to right): Olin Kinsey, Jon Cundiff, Jasmine Allen



CHAMBER CHOIR

Front Row (left to right): Brenda Foster (Accompanist), Mindy Southard, Kelsey Logston, Jenessa Stout, Savannah Davenport, Ashley Schnoor, Sara Waters, Autumn Greear, Kim Evans, Dr. David Benz (Director)
2nd Row (left to right): Ben Croskell, Calvin Haynes, Seth Parker, Jason Ruffcorn, Samy Northcutt, Michael Evans, Christopher Alexander, Daniel Moss, Brain Prashak

COMBAT CLASS

Front Row (left to right): Don Lillie, Samantha Hunzeker, Grant Metcalf, Andrew Alle, Shereesa Thompson, Ben Monroe, Nick Ford, Bryan Edward



CONCERT CHOIR

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2nd Row (left to right): Mindy Southard, Jenessa Stout, Jordan Martinosky, Olivia Scott, Sarah Cool, Sarah Waters, Ashley Schnoor, Amber Redmond, Kim Evans

3rd Row (left to right): Seth Logston, Ben Croskell, Jean-Francois Donaldson, Ian Derrickson, Brian Burlingame, Daniel Moss, Chris Alexander

4th Row (left to right): Calvin Haynes, Jesse Conn, Jason Ruffcorn, Seth Parker, David Jolly, Samy Northcutt, Brian Prashak



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2nd Row (left to right): Mallory Paines, Diana Mixson

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2nd Row (left to right): Lauren Epps, Amber Hawkins, Stacey Bounds, Sarah Taylor, Allison Kreig, Taylor Insko, Ryan Heldenbrand

3rd Row (left to right): Margaret Slayton, Josh White, Bob Bergland, Chaz Hoskins, Karyn Daugherty

4th Row (left to right): Dan Donan



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3rd Row (left to right): Raya Blake, Dana Heldenbrand, Dustee Baker, Kady Mabury, Alli McLaughlin, Kailey Alexander

4th Row (left to right): Torrence Jones, Greg Carbin, Josh Marriott, Matt Fowler, Linda Shireman



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2nd Row (left to right): Jared Brittain, Charles Howell, Amber Hodson

3rd Row (left to right): Brandon Boswell, Chris Cobb

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Front Row (left to right): Tara Hotzel, Lindsay Moyer, Katy Schwartz, Jessica Galczynski

2nd Row (left to right): Dani Longworth, Lisa Crawford, Alicia Cummins, Katherine Hangartner, Jennifer Behnke, Tiffany Zimmerman



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Front Row (left to right): Tracy Bowman, Brad Moffat,

Amanda Scheier, Kevin Poehler

2nd Row (left to right): Sarah Watkins, Matt Halling,
Bridget Smith, Jenny Farrow



PHI MU

Front Row (left to right): Rikki Cason, Lindsay Moyer,
Jenny Hardin, Jacinda Seese

2nd Row (left to right): Ashley Funk, Jackie Pottier, Jes-
sica Bruns, Joesey Jackson, Alicia Cummins

3rd Row (left to right): Amanda Williams

PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA

Front Row (left to right): Brett Dreas, David Higdon, Brent
Stevens, Michael Hickman

2nd Row (left to right): Keith Langabee, Andrew Guerrero,
Andrew Murphy, Chris Alexander, Michael Cobb



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 2nd Row (left to right): Korthis Goodrich, Toni Fessler, Jacey Warner, Kelsey Wear, Allison Dungan, Stephanie Caldwell
 3rd Row (left to right): Courtney Laws, Jennifer Hahn, Amanda Babcock, Renata de Almeida
 4th Row (left to right): Amanda Clary, Brenda Bauman, Rhonda Waddell, Lisa Hedrick



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SIGMA SIGMA SIGMA

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 4th Row (left to right): Mindy Speer, Tara Sabbert, Cassie Hagan, Jennifer Hansen, Savannah Blackmon

STUDENT COURT

Front Row (left to right): Cole Shinn, Beth Murphy, Ashley Baldwin



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Front Row (left to right): Katy Schwartz, Natalie Bailey, Luke Herrington

2nd Row (left to right): Stephanie Gromowski, Jodi Main, Traci Haug, Hannah Coy, Beth Murphy, Janell Banks

3rd Row (left to right): Paul Shang



STUDENT SENATE

Front Row (left to right): Katy Schwartz, Natalie Bailey, Luke Herrington, Janell Banks

2nd Row (left to right): Beth Murphy, Traci Haug, Hannah Coy, Jodi Main

3rd Row (left to right): Harold McClellan, Levi White, Jaclyn Hurkman, Jasmine Pasley, Olin Kinsey, Trisha Steele, Jenni Koebel

4th Row (left to right): Stephanie Gromowski, Amber Hodson, Jackie Pottier, Kassandra Norris, Scott Lassen

5th Row (left to right): Nathan Noland, David Williams, Moses D Fields Jr., Mark Withrow, Trevor Kincaid, Ed Harris, Tricia Dickson

TAU KAPPA EPSILON

Front Row (left to right): Phillip Calderon, Jamie Hanson, Vern Wheeler, David Williams, Blake Parker

2nd Row (left to right): Denny Leeper, Adam Clark, Peter Nelson, Nathan Nolan

3rd Row (left to right): Korey Stone, Jeremy Ackerman, Casey Steele, Lance Ramsey



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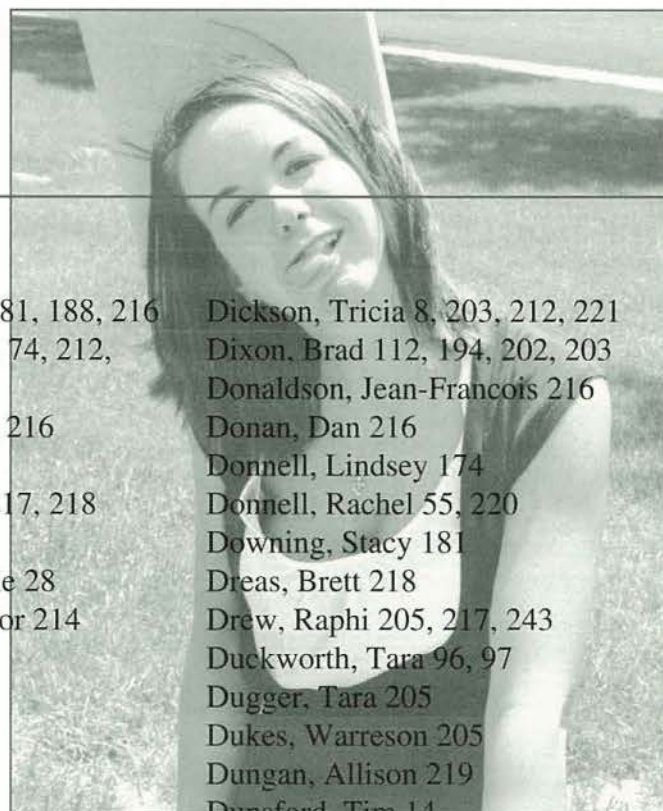


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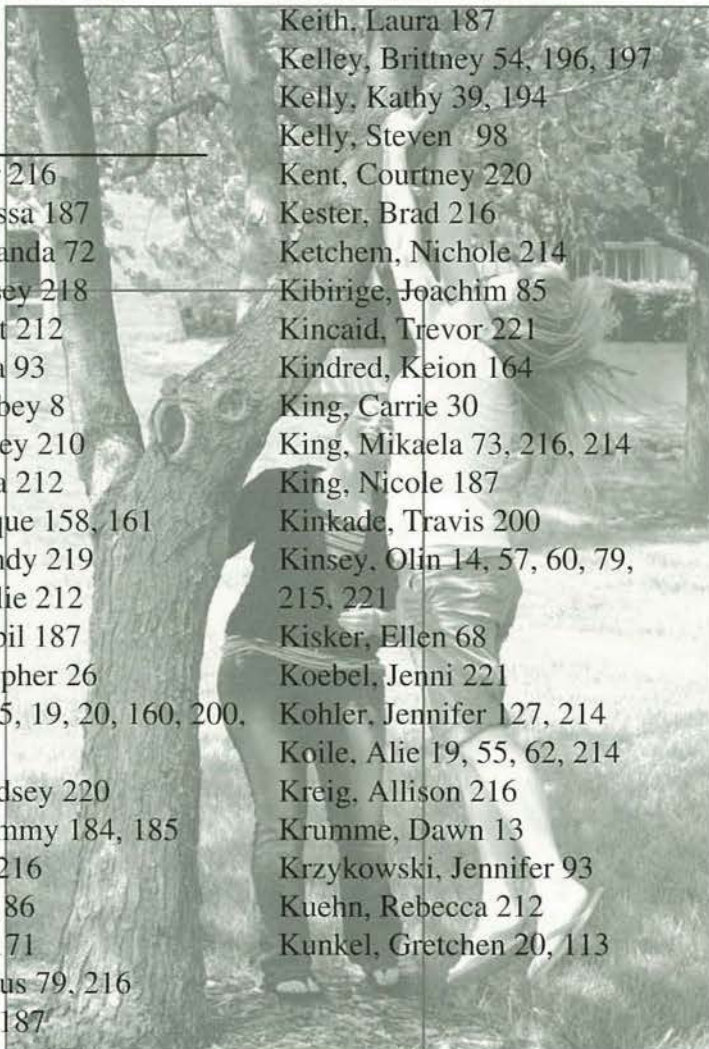
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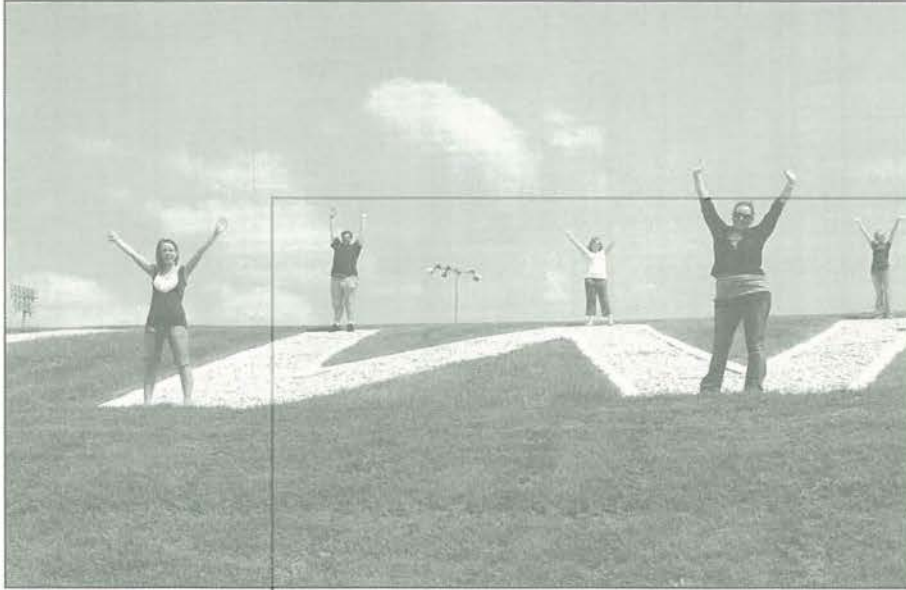
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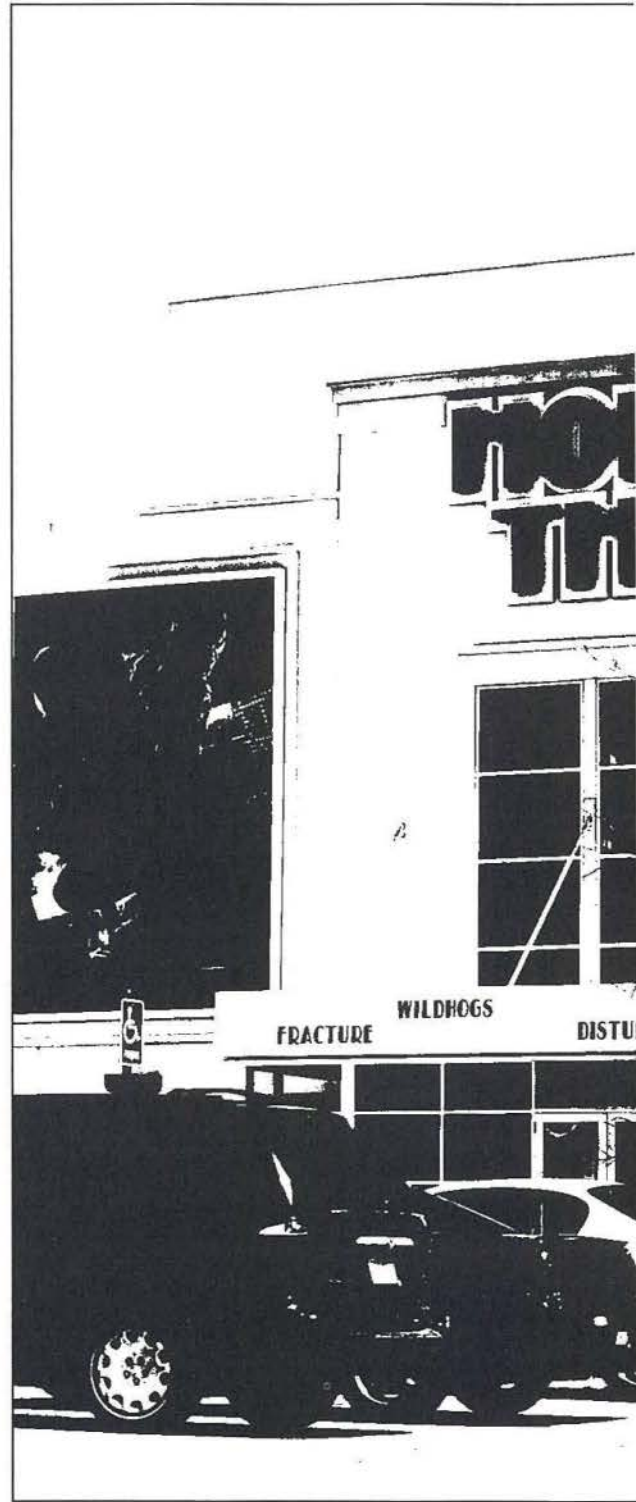
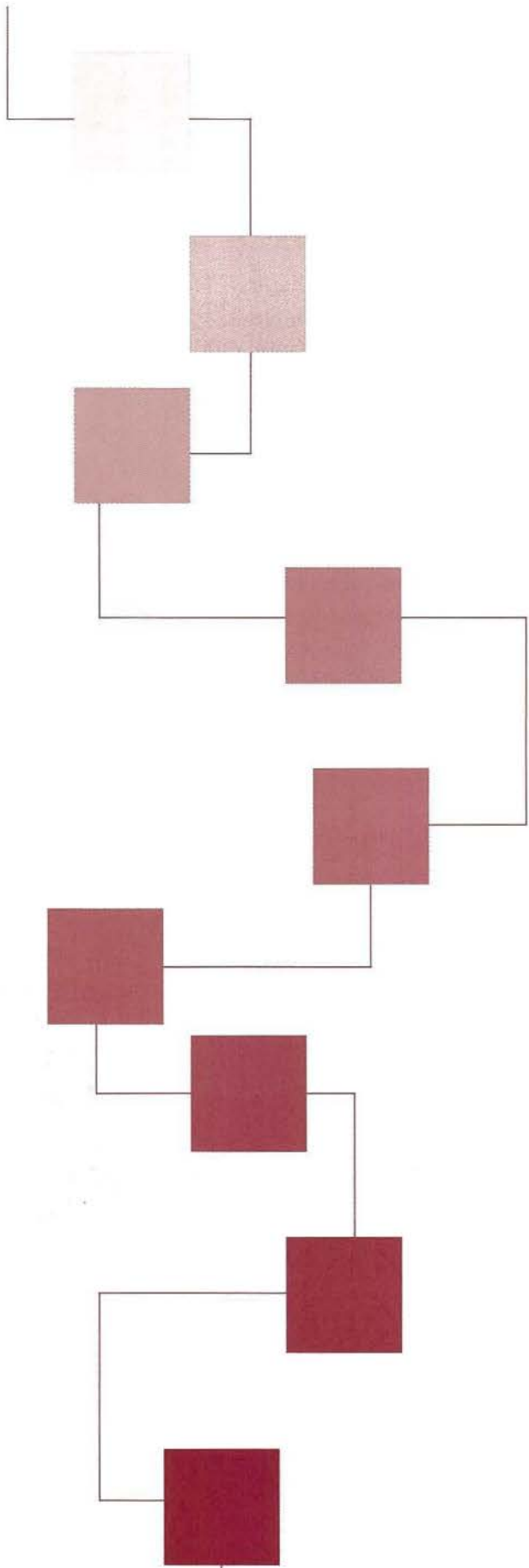
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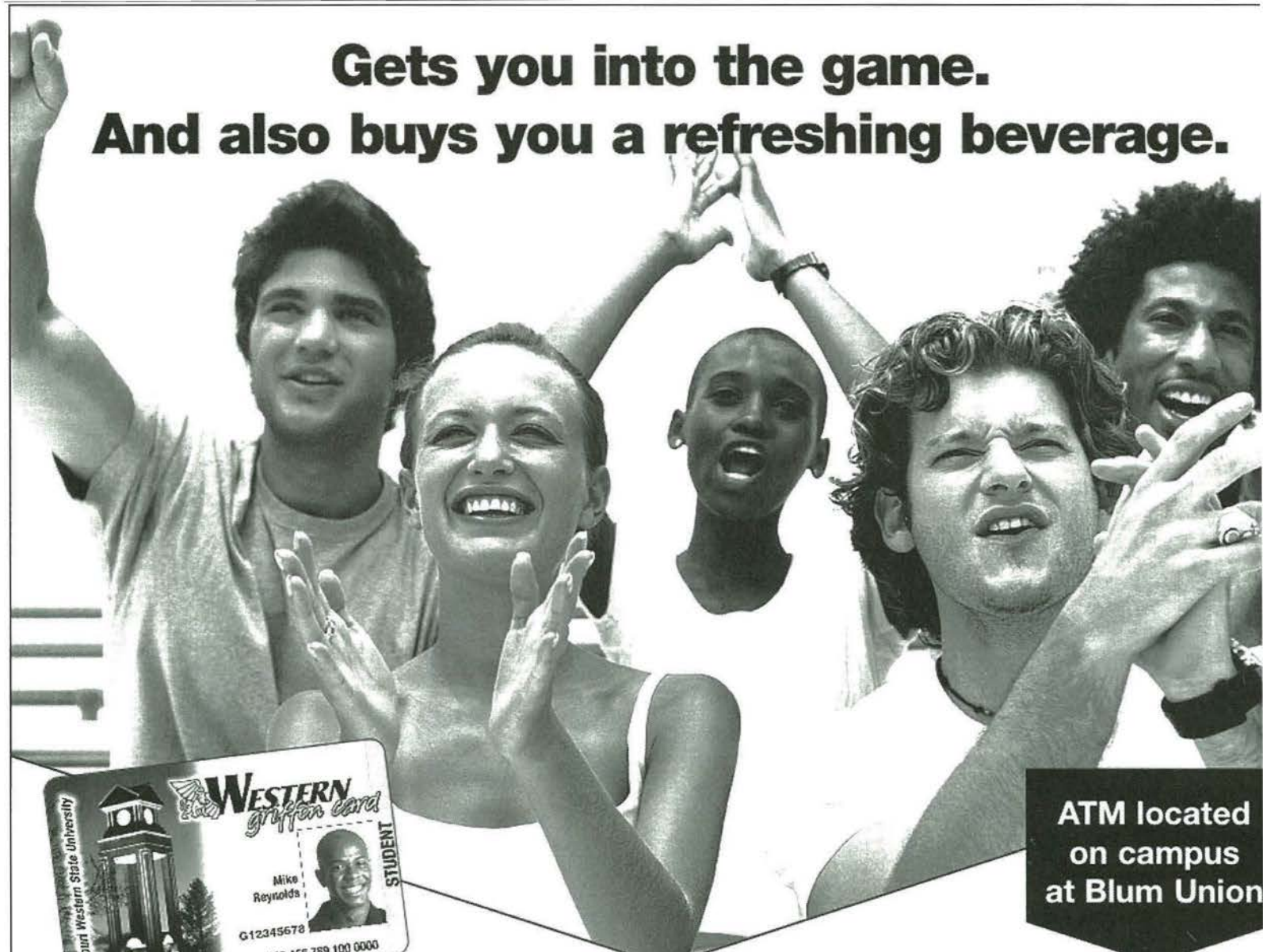
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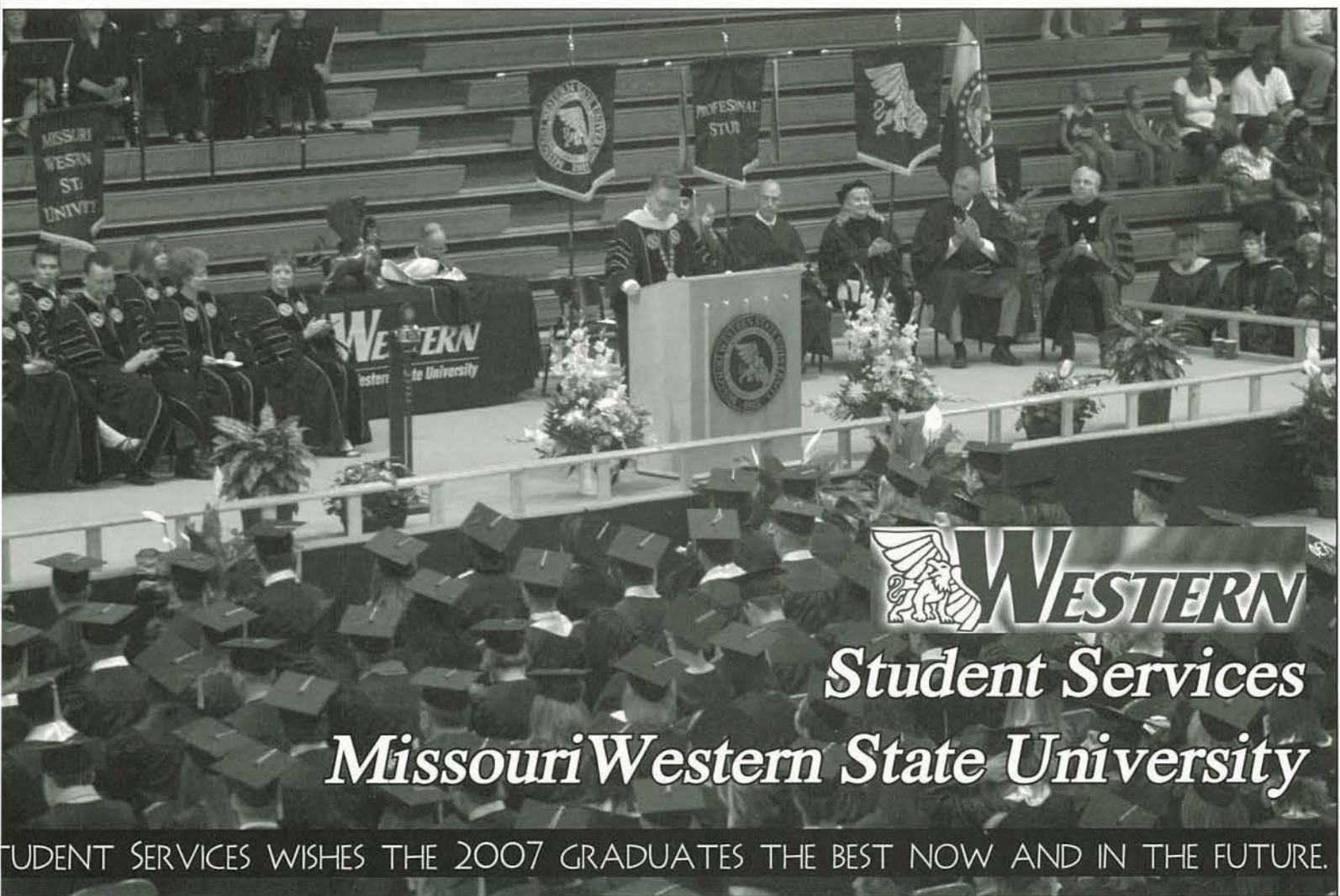
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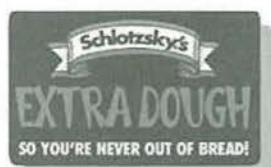


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2006-2007 EDITORS



ELLA HOWSER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & DESIGN EDITOR

WOW! I finished the year early...just like I said I would. This has been an exciting year. I would like to thank everyone that worked on the Griffon staff for this year's book. You all did an amazing job and I'm very proud of this book. This year has been a great one. And I have a lot of people to thank for that. Brett, without your love and understanding this book would never have been completed and I want to thank you for that. It meant a lot to me that you would embrace my ideas and encourage me everyday! You were a life saver! To the Western community - I hope you all enjoy this book and that it reminds you of your 2006-2007 school year! Thanks!

ANN THORNE
ADVISOR

Ann - I told you that I would finish the book early and I kept my promise. I hope you like the book as much as I love it! Hopefully, it will win all the awards that you think it deserves. You were so much fun to work with and very easy to get along with. Thank you for embracing my ideas and letting me run wild with them. You are a very encouraging and supportive person and that meant a lot to our successful year. However, we did have the TIFF and TIF problem...but if that's the worst thing from this year, I would have to say that we had a very good year. Again, thank you for everything!



AMY CHASTAIN
COPY EDITOR & ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Amy - You have no idea how much it meant to me that you always had your stories done on time this year. That was always one area of the book that I never had to worry about. It was very nice to have a worry-free zone! Thanks for that. I wish you nothing but success and luck next year because you'll need a lot of both to have a successful year. The content of this book would not be the same without your stories and your wisdom. Without you, I would have misspelled everything in the book! I'm still not getting a dictionary though. Good luck next year!

JEREMY WEIKEL
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Jeremy - I want to thank Stacie for all the time that she had to be away from you for you to take pictures of everything that I needed. I'm glad that both of you were around to take all the photos that I had to have. And I'm super glad that you two are coming to take all the photos of mine and Brett's wedding. It means a lot to the both of us. Jeremy, you've been here longer than I have, so I have no place giving you advice. I just want to thank you for doing a great job this year with all of our photography! Good luck with everything!





RAPHI DREW
ASSISTANT DESIGN EDITOR

Raphi - Good luck next year with design. I know you'll do great. You have the designs up there, you just need to get them to the computer! You will be a great design editor, just speak up for yourself and your designs. I have complete confidence in you and your designs! Just go for it! You are such a wonderful person to be around. Keep your spirits high and always be positive. Good luck next year!

LINDA SHIREMAN
ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Linda - Thank you so much for driving anywhere in St. Joe for me. Our visitors guide is the best and I have you to thank for it! Your photos are beautiful and this book would not be the same without them. You are a very talented photographer and I'm very glad that you were on my staff. Your willingness to always be there to take photos meant so much to me, otherwise we would not have the coverage that we do in this book. Thank you so much for everything. You and Kailey will be super next year! I can't wait to see the photos for next year! Good luck!



TAMMY HAVENS
ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

Tammy - Thank you for being goofy and not caring what anybody thought about it. I love your unique personality and the person that you are. Never, and I mean never change to what the norm is. Be yourself, it's more fun! Good luck being an Aunt, I'll know you'll be great. Thank you for always having your stories done and long enough! You'll be missed next year but I know you'll be happy. Congrats on the engagement!



KAILEY ALEXANDER
ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Kailey - Without you my book would have been a failure. I would have totally ruined the cover and every page in it had it not been for your spelling eye. Even though I seemed very irritated, I was also very glad that you found my spelling error. You also did an awesome job with photography. You and Linda will be great next year. Thanks for always being in a good mood too. You always made yearbook a little more happy!



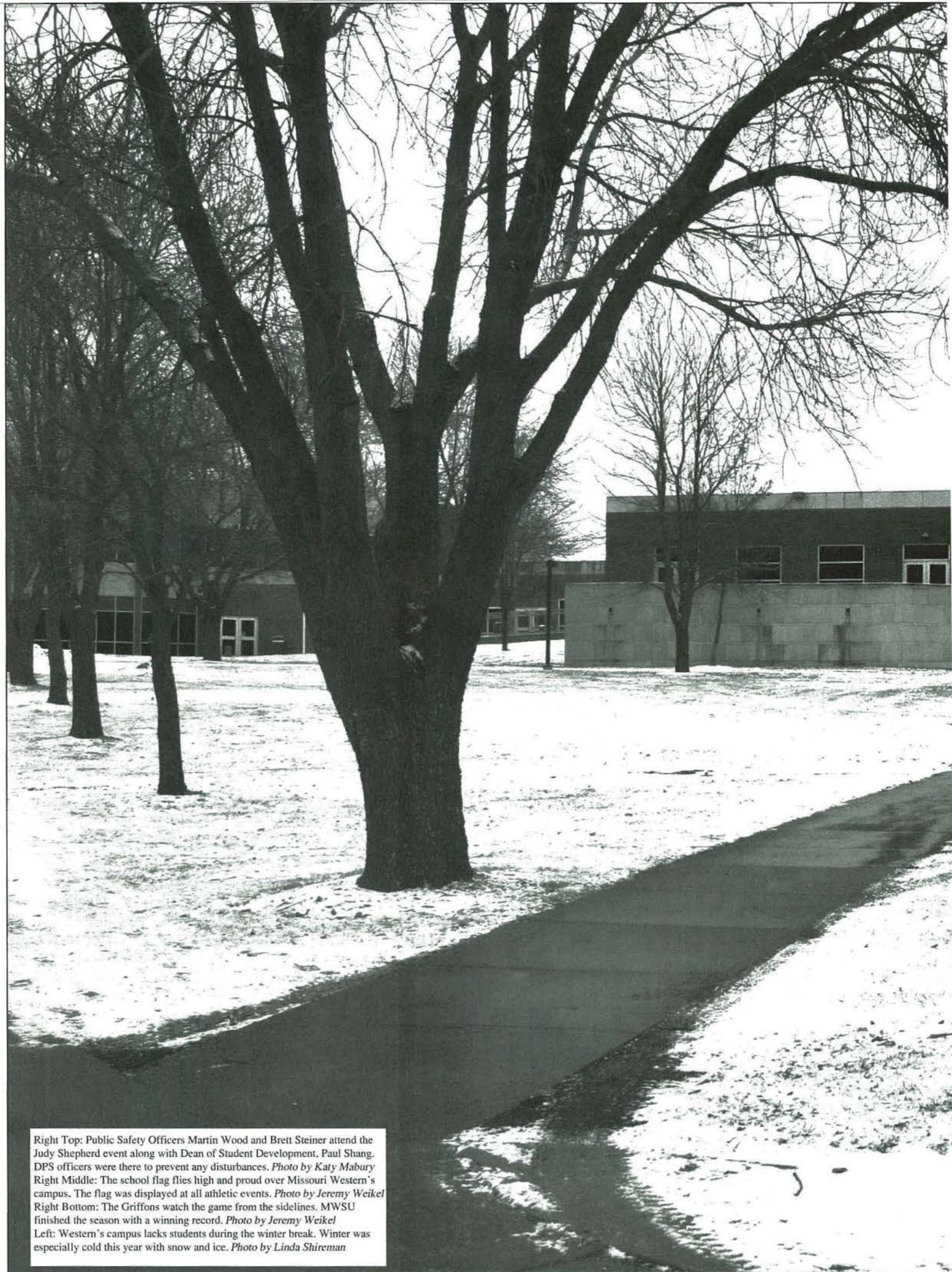


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Right Top: Public Safety Officers Martin Wood and Brett Steiner attend the Judy Shepherd event along with Dean of Student Development, Paul Shang. DPS officers were there to prevent any disturbances. *Photo by Katy Mabury*
Right Middle: The school flag flies high and proud over Missouri Western's campus. The flag was displayed at all athletic events. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*
Right Bottom: The Griffons watch the game from the sidelines. MWSU finished the season with a winning record. *Photo by Jeremy Weikel*
Left: Western's campus lacks students during the winter break. Winter was especially cold this year with snow and ice. *Photo by Linda Shireman*