



News Release

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SEVENTH ANNUAL READING OF CHALLENGED AND BANNED BOOKS

AT WESTERN

St. Joseph, Mo.—Sept. 5, 2003—The seventh annual reading of challenged and banned books will be held Sept. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building, Enright Room (room 214), on the campus of Missouri Western State College. The reading is held in conjunction with the American Library Association's Banned Book Week.

Western students and faculty, as well as members of the St. Joseph community, will read excerpts from books that have either been banned or challenged in United States schools in recent years. The reading list includes "Catcher in the Rye," by J.D. Salinger; "Catch-22," by Joseph Heller; "Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret," by Judy Blume; and "Sylvester and the Magic Pebble," by William Steig.

"We simply share the books and make people aware of where it's been challenged," said Dr. Michael Cadden, associate professor of English. Refreshments will be served following the readings, with an opportunity for an informal discussion of the texts and cases. The event is free and open to the community.

The event is sponsored by the department of English, foreign languages and journalism, the department of education, the Western library and the Prairie Lands Writing Project.

For more information, contact Dr. Michael Cadden, 816-271-4576, Dr. Michael Smith, 816-271-4514, or Julia Schneider, 816-271-4369.

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.