



News Release

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WESTERN ALUMNUS RINGS NASDAQ STOCK MARKET OPENING BELL

St. Joseph, Mo. —March 23, 2005— Dr. Douglas D. Burkett, 1987 Missouri Western State College graduate and chairman and chief executive officer of Zila, Inc., rang the NASDAQ Stock Market opening bell on March 21. Andrew A. Stevens, chief financial officer of Zila, and NASDAQ executives Mike Buchanan and Jeff Singer, joined Dr. Burkett.

Zila, Inc., headquartered in Phoenix, Ariz., is an innovator in preventative healthcare technologies and products, focusing on enhanced body defense and the detection of pre-disease states. Zila's three business units include Zila Biotechnology, Zila Pharmaceuticals and Zila Nutraceuticals. For more information about Zila visit www.zila.com.

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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.