



# News Release

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## WESTERN ANNOUNCES STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —Dec. 12, 2006— Missouri Western State University announces recent achievements of its students:

- The Western softball team finished third place in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association academic scholarship program. The cumulative team grade-point average was 3.49 during the academic calendar year 2005-06. The third place standing in this program was the highest ever for a Griffon softball team. Western qualified for its second straight NCAA national tournament while compiling the 3.49 team GPA and finished the season in second place in the MIAA standings. The second place finish in the MIAA was the highest ever by a Griffon softball team.
- Student-athletes have completed the following community service: the softball team stuffed baby bags for the United Way, the men's and women's basketball teams participated in the Teen Read Week at the St. Joseph Public Library, and the baseball team held their free clinic for youth.
- Senior Leon Douglas, defensive lineman from Kansas City, Mo., has been named to the "ESPN the Magazine" First-Team Academic All-District and First-Team Academic All-America in the College Division as selected by the College Sports Information Director's of America. Douglas is on the Western Athletic Director's Honor Roll and the MIAA Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll and a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee where he is co-president of the organization.

- Delta Phi Upsilon chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association -Lambda Alpha Epsilon attended their regional conference in Jefferson City, Mo. The 10 students and their advisor, Jill Miller, competed with 200 other students and professionals from Region 3 in various written, crime scenes, firearm competitions, and physical agility. Frances Huff, sophomore criminal justice major of St. Joseph, Mo., placed third in lower division on the juvenile justice test and third on the LAE Knowledge test in the lower division.

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*Missouri Western State University is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The university 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.*