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Editor Diane Holtz

Design Editor Kendy Jones

Director of Public Relations and Marketing Kristy Hill

> **Director of Alumni Services** Julie Lawrence

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The Missouri Western Magazine is a publication of the Institutional Advancement Office for alumni and friends of Missouri Western State College and the St. Joseph Junior College.

Western Magazine 4525 Downs Drive, MC 106 St. Joseph, MO 64507 (816) 271-5651 • email: holtz@mwsc.edu

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President's Perspective

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As you may be aware, the nation's economic problems have had a dramatic impact on higher education. In Missouri, state funding for public colleges and universities has been cut

by an average of about 15 percent a year for the past two years. Further reductions in state support are on the horizon as we begin the new academic year. Despite reduced state support, at Western we continue to build the "Western Advantage" for students and others on campus and in the world beyond the campus. And we do so with optimism.

The heart of the "Western Advantage" is our commitment to quality. Our students succeed because of it. Our faculty and staff work so effectively because of it. Our reputation in the region and beyond the region increasingly reflects it. In fact, Western's commitment to quality can be measured by our results.

Allow me to share with you some of the recent results of Western's commitment to quality among students and faculty and staff.

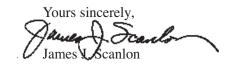
Students

- Three students in Criminal Justice received top honors for their work at the national conference of the American Criminal Justice Association.
- A student in Biology was among the top two applicants admitted to the Veterinary School of Medicine at the University of Missouri.
- Western's Chapter of Psi Chi, a national honor society in Psychology, received the "Model Chapter Award" from the national
- organization. • Eight students in Art had their work competitively accepted for
- exhibition in the Five State Regional Photography Competition and Exhibition.

Faculty and Staff

- Two faculty members in Psychology received the "Best Paper Award" from the National Society for the Teaching of Psychology.
- A faculty member in English chaired the 54th annual national convention of the Conference on College Composition and Communication in New York.
- A faculty member in Communication Studies was recognized by the National Communication Association for one of the best papers presented at its annual national meeting.
- Western's "Student Success Portfolio" was named the "Most Outstanding Parent Publication" by the National Orientation Directors Association.

Many other examples could be added here. They tell the continuing story of the "Western Advantage." They verify our optimism about the future: A future for Western built on our commitment to the quality of what we do for students and our region.



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Three recent alums share their experiences after graduation, crediting their success to the research opportunities at Western.

feature

1/ /hen Dr. Matt Gilmour, Music Department chair, began as an adjunct instructor at the Junior College in 1968, the department had five majors, four full-time faculty

members and three adjunct

instructors. Today there are

approximately 120 music

up to 20 adjuncts.

"When I first

came there was a majors, 12 full-time faculty and

very dedicated, Bill Mack, director emeritus of bands, served Western from 1977 to 1987 and witnessed a *student-centered* lot of the department's phenom-onal growth "When Depuis

still like that."

enal growth. "When Dennis faculty, and it's Rogers was hired (in 1978) went from zero percussion Rogers was hired (in 1978), we majors to 15 overnight," he said. Bill noted that there were less than 30 students enrolled in Dr. David Bennett the marching band when he started. In his interview, college

Bill Mack, director emeritus

President Marvin Looney expressed to Bill a desire to increase the band members to 75 within five years. "As it turned out, we opened our first marching show on my birthday in

September of 1977 with 98 members. Dr. Looney was overwhelmed, and the numbers went up from there." By the time Bill retired, the band had 140 members. Today, at 150 members, Band Director Jeffrey Hinton continues to build the program.

"It was a pure joy to be involved. I had wonderful assistants. Dick Yeager and Mike Matthews were a great help, and we had wonderful support from the administration," said Bill. "I'm proud of the students who went through our program. They are out teaching now and doing a wonderful job."

Tom Wieligman, '83, decided to tour Western after Bill visited Tom's high school in Kansas City. "I felt this was where I was supposed to be. It just seemed right." Tom, currently an administrator for the School of Music at Indiana University in Bloomington, said he couldn't name just one faculty member who made a difference in his education at Western. "They are all fine educators; not one stands out. I owe them a lot."

He noted that you don't have to look very far to see the tremendous impact of Western not

only on the community, but far afield. "From the time I was in school and since, there have been a significant number of music educators who are graduates from the Missouri Western Music Department. That is a testament to the school."

Increased recruiting efforts have aided in the growth of the department. Last year, faculty members visited more than 100 high schools in the state where the band, jazz ensemble, concert chorale, choir, steel drum band and symphonic winds performed. Faculty also conducted clinics and acted as contest judges at area high schools, and several visits included faculty working with high school groups to prepare them for district and state contests. Additionally, the steel drum band performed in several elementary and middle schools.

"I love performing for the younger students and seeing their faces," said Amy Ives, a member of the marching band. "They're amazed at how good we are."

The department has also expanded its touring schedule in the past decade, according to Matt. The ensembles have always toured in western and central Missouri, but they have expanded their performances to eastern and southern Missouri, southwest Iowa and Kansas. "We're talking about expanding it nationally and even internationally," he said.

Dr. David Bennett said since he was hired 22 years ago, the department has seen a lot of technological changes. "We've been on the forefront of technology in music and do our best to stay up-to-date with technological advances." Dr. Brent Hugh oversees the Computer Music Lab.

But some things have stayed the same, David noted. "When I first came there was a very dedicated, student-centered faculty, and it's still like that."

"We're always looking for new and better, and we are continually growing and changing," said faculty member Sharon Gray, '62. "But there is one thing that hasn't changed – we've always had very fine students."

Music Department in concert with the community

J was an ordinary performance for the musicians in Western's steel drum band and the jazz ensemble, but it was anything but ordinary for the audience.

At the recent Night at the Ritz, the talented students transformed the ballroom into a pulsating Caribbean nightclub. As Asa Barnes, '03, crooned to the music, several in the crowd jumped to their feet to clap and sway to the intoxicating beat of the steel drums, joining in at the chorus - "Hot! Hot! Hot!"

"We get a little crazy when we perform. We ask for a lot of crowd participation," said Asa. "We really go nuts when we're on stage. We love it." 50 J

Throughout its 74-year history, the Music Department has been committed to sharing its talents and developing partnerships with the community that have resulted in decades of "making beautiful music together."

The mandate for community involvement in the college's music program dates back to the very beginnings when the superintendent of the St. Joseph School District hired Raymond Elliott

to teach music at the Junior College in 1929. "Develop a music program at the college," the superintendent told Raymond over dinner when he hired him to teach at Central High School in the mornings and at the Junior College in the afternoons. "And I want the community involved."

In Raymond's book, "Out of the Night the Angels Sang," he related that when he began his duties, the only music-related equipment at the Junior College



Raymond Elliot

feature

was a "broken-down upright piano."

Junior College alumna Tootie (Mooney) Schuske said she has never forgotten "Pop" Elliott. "His way with students was exceptional. He really wanted to teach and wanted to be your friend, too," she said. Her favorite memory was the a cappella choir's trip to the New York World's Fair in 1940.

In 1933, when Raymond was directing his annual musical, he decided to invite church choir members from the community to join the chorus in "Seven Last Words." With that partnership, he wrote, the St. Joseph Community Chorus was born, and the partnership thrives today.

"It's a great partnership," said faculty member Frank Thomas, who has directed the Community

Chorus since 1980. According to Frank, Western students earn credit for participating in the chorus with the community members, and he noted



Roberta Riemer, long-time chair of the Music Department, poses with one of her violins.

many of those students continue to participate after the class is complete. Faculty members Dr. Richard Bell and Sharon Gray, '62, serve the chorus as assistant director and administrator, respectively, and the chorus holds it practices on campus.

Stemming from the early partnerships established by Raymond, the department has also continued its great relationships with area churches. Several students perform as soloists in church services each

week, and for about five years the college has been involved in the monthly Noontime Concert

Series at the First Presbyterian

Church in St. Joseph. "Everyone

who performs has some connec-

Bennett. He noted that the series

always draws a large crowd, a

different audience than campus

performances. Jerry Anderson,

coordinates the noontime series.

Roberta Riemer, who was

director of keyboard studies,

hired in 1954 and served for

over 30 years, played a large

role in another college-commu-

nity partnership – the St. Joseph

Symphony. Her love of strings

led her to establish an orchestra

at the college, and she then

tion to the college – either stu-

dents, faculty or alums," said

faculty member Dr. David

"We have



stepping stones in place to produce

professional

musicians.

Dr. Deborah Freedman

helped do the same for the community.

Today, the symphony is directed by Western faculty member Dr. Deborah Freedman, the third faculty member to serve as director. David serves as accompanist and several other faculty perform with the symphony. Over the years students have auditioned and earned performing roles.

Another of Roberta's legacies, a string program for youth in the community, continues today in adjunct violin instructor Terry Brock, '85 and '94. Terry teaches 32 Suzuki violin students through the Division of Continuing Education.

Whether performing in the symphony or at the Night at the Ritz, Deborah believes it is the students who benefit most from this tradition of community partnership. "We really promote and push our better students to that level, and the faculty works closely together to make sure that happens," Deborah explained. "We have organized stepping stones in place to produce professional musicians."

New hall to support "Learning Communities"



Fhis is not your parents' dormitory; this is a residence hall for the 21st century - a livinglearning center that will have access to state-ofthe-art technology."

That is how Dr. David Arnold, vice president of Academic and Student Affairs, described the "Living Learning Communities," the plan for Western's new \$17.1 million residence hall.

The project, the first phase of a long-range residential master plan, will include a new 400-bed residence hall, a residential student commons area and electrical, mechanical and ventilation system improvements to existing halls. The new residence hall will be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2005, offering four-person suites

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community of 40-50 residents with accompanying group meeting and kitchen space. Students within the communities will also have the option of taking classes together which David believes will enhance first-year students' academic success.

Revenue bonds will be

issued to finance the housing project, and residence hall fees will be used to repay the 30year bonds.



Jazzy Night at the Ritz a huge success! The event raised \$18,000 to fund nontraditional student scholarships.

campus news



and single rooms. The rooms will have individual control of heating and cooling as well as phone, cable and network connections.

The new building will be a cornerstone for the learning communities program. Each wing of the hall will serve as a

> A big thank you to all who helped make the Western Ambassadors'

Busy by day? No problem!

Do you know of someone who can't fit college classes into a busy daytime schedule? Western's new program, launched this fall, is for them.

Students can now earn a degree by attending classes in the evening, on weekends, online and by television distance education.

"A person with a four-year degree earns nearly a million dollars more over his or her lifetime than a person with a high school degree," explained Dr. Ed Gorsky, dean of Continuing Education.

"With the night and weekend college we are trying to make that degree more accessible to adults who have too many daytime demands."

Students may earn a variety of bachelor of science degrees including business, criminal justice or computer information systems.

Associate degrees in programs such as business, legal assistant, criminal justice, paramedic and health information technology are offered.

Certificate programs in areas such as health information technology, professional skills and horticulture are also available.



Harley head revs up employees

arl Eberle gave his employees at Harley-Davidson in Kansas **C**ity an afternoon off and sent them all to the movies. He converses with his employees every day, even if it's only for a few minutes. And when he's traveling, he spends his time on airplanes writing personal notes and signing cards for his employees.

Karl Eberle, the vice president and general manager of Harley-Davidson Motor Co. in Kansas City, spoke to employees and community business leaders at Western's fifth annual Business Convocation.

These are a few examples of Karl's unique management style that he shared at the fifth annual Business Convocation last spring. Karl, vice president and general manager, spoke to approximately 140 community business leaders on "Engaging Employees in the High Performance Workplace." He said his ideas are based on 30 years experience as a manager.

> Karl stressed to the audience the importance of celebrations. "Yes, it costs money for celebrations, but it's a lot less than what you spend on employees who are disenchanted."

His policies, he believes, have led to the success of the company: The 330,000 square-foot Kansas City plant has seen a 13 percent annual growth rate, and revenue has grown 17 percent per year for the past five years. The number of employees at the Kansas City plant has increased from 225 employees in 1998 to over 800 in 2002.

Each year, the Business Convocation invites an individual like Karl to speak on campus who represents a distinctive voice in business, commerce and leadership. Several area businesses are invited to bring their employees to the complimentary lunch and presentation.

The 2003 Business Convocation was sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thedinger, Mr. and Mrs. William Hurley, Heartland Health, St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, Sara Lee Foods, St. Joe Harley-Davidson, UMB Bank, N.A., the Foundation and Continuing Education.

Employees honored for outstanding work

nongratulations to the eight Uemployees who were honored at Western's annual employee awards ceremony:

Dr. Kevin Anderson, assistant professor of Mathematics, received the Dr. James V. Mehl **Outstanding Faculty** Scholarship Award.

Dr. Alicia de Gregorio, associate professor of Spanish; Dr. Don Vestal, assistant professor of Mathematics; and **Dr. Brent** Walker, assistant professor of Physical Education, received the Jesse Lee Myers Excellence in Teaching Award.

Four staff members received Presidential Citations: Kurt Claassen. accountant for the Continuing Education and Special Programs office; **Dorothy Dilley**, custodian; Rhonda Puffer, accounts receivable collections coordinator; and Pat Stillman, administrative assistant for Athletics.

The awards are sponsored by the Foundation each year to honor outstanding faculty and staff.

The college also recognized 140 employees during the ceremony for their years of service.

Campus KUDOS

- Timothy Holian, associate professor of German, received a national "Award for Excellence in Literature" for his recent book.
- Danielle Carter, director of Unity Services, won the Missouri College Personnel Richard Caple Philanthropic Award for her office's community service work.
- Dr. Michael Ducey, assistant professor of Chemistry, had three scientific research articles published in American Chemical Society peer-reviewed journals.
- Dr. Monica Nandan, associate professor of Social Work, has been elected as the "Social Worker of the Year" by the National Association of Social Workers, Missouri Chapter.
- Mathematics student Ludwig Nelson received the highest score in the history of Western on the 2002 Putnam Exam, a national competitive mathematics exam, placing him in the top 32 percent of those tested.
- Students Annette Hunthrop and Morgan Perry placed first in discussions at the annual Resident Assistant Conference. They were awarded the "Top Scholarship Program" award for the entire conference.
- Student Rachel Siron, yearbook editor, was named "Leader of the Student Press in North America" by the Associated Collegiate Press.
- The following students received first-place awards at the annual student publication competition at the Missouri College Media Association Convention: Deliese Brewster, Ben Garrett (two) and Josh Hall.
- Eight students from the Music Department were awarded Special Recognition for Outstanding Musicianship at the Wichita, Kan. Jazz Festival: Tyler Ives, Jason Kikoler, Kip Vieth, Matt Reschly, Joseph Logsdon, Luiz Moreira, Adam Tervort, and Aaron Williams.
- The Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity earned first place in state competition in both the oratorical contest and step show.
- The 2002 Griffon yearbook received an All-American rating from the Associated Collegiate Press, the highest rating possible.
- The **Prairie Lands Writing Project**, co-sponsored by the college and the St. Joseph School District, was awarded \$46,500 in grants to support their programs for the 2003-2004 academic year.

campus news



Support university status!

f you live in Missouri, your voice can aid the efforts of Western in obtaining university status.

"By traditional measures, the college already has the profile of an excellent American university," said college President James Scanlon. "The expanded mission would help build a better economic future in the region and the state."

Consider contacting your Missouri legislators today. Their addresses can be found online at www.moga.state.mo.us/.



Tera Martynowski was one of several Business Department interns who volunteered at the local YWCA's annual plant sale.



The "Teacher Who Couldn't Read" visits campus

Illiteracy is a form of child abuse and neglect, according to John Corcoran. John visited campus and spoke to over 400 people about his experiences of not being able to read, write or spell until he was 48.

Incredibly, he graduated from college and taught high school for 17 years and was a

"I think volunteers sometimes underestimate the power they have to change the world. Don't discount the effect you have on Education the world. I want to thank you for not giving up on people like me." Foundation-

successful real estate developer before he became literate. John, from Oceanside, Calif., spoke to a class of majors, and was the featured speaker at two

sponsored

events, an Eggs and Issues breakfast and the Literacy Luncheon, when he visited Western. He also spoke to educators from the St. Joseph School District.

"I still can't believe I broke the code and could read," John told his audiences. "I read a newspaper, and I thought I had died and gone to heaven."

John noted that two to three decades ago, if students graduated with limited reading skills, they could still support their families by working in a factory or on a farm. But now,

"the farms and factories are dried up for fifth-grade readers. We are not going to improve until we face up and articulate the fact that we have failed to teach our adults to read, write and spell," he said.

Susan Locke, an Education major, heard John speak in her Assessing and Individualizing Reading class.

"His presentation was very touching. He was understandably emotional at times, especially when he talked about how devastating it was as a child to be full of hope, only to be placed in the dummy row."

John had special praise for volunteers at the annual Literacy Luncheon, a thank you lunch for those who help children and adults learn to read. "I think volunteers some-



John Corcoran reads an original poem from his book, "The Teacher Who Couldn't Read." at the Literacy Luncheon. His book relates his experiences as an illiterate child and adult.

times underestimate the power they have to change the world. Don't discount the effect you have on the world. I want to thank you for not giving up on people like me."

Susan called his words an inspiration. "I have always rooted for the underdog. It only reinforced what I want to do with my education."

Internships pay off

everal students who **O**graduated this spring are having little trouble adjusting to their full-time jobs, because they landed positions with companies where they completed internships.

Christine Jones and Tiffany Hollon were two of those students. Christine was hired by Heartland Health in St. Joseph and Tiffany began working at Legal Aid of Western Missouri in St. Joseph. They both said they benefited a lot from the hands-on experience of the internship, and they believed it enhanced their learning experience at Western.

Increasing the number of students engaged in applied learning is one of the goals of the college's five-year strategic plan. Last year, 1,500 students were involved.

New Board of Regent member named

anet Leachman of Platte UCity, Mo. was sworn in for a six-year term as a member of the Board of Regents in March. She replaced Dr. Krikor Partamian, whose term expired.

"Missouri Western is a very good college," said Janet, who taught art in the Platte County R-3 School District in Platte City for 30 years. She noted that several student interns from the college have served at the school. "The student teachers have always been well prepared. I have had very positive experiences with the students and the programs at Western."

Leachman earned a bachelor of science degree in Education and a master's degree in Education from Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg.



Janet Leachman Board of Regents Member

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Linder named director of Athletics

ark Linder, interim director of Athletics "I am truly honored to Mark joined the Western

since January, was named Western's new director of Athletics in May after a national search. Mark succeeded former Athletic Director Pete Chapman, who died in January. have been selected to serve as Western's director of Athletics. Western is a special place with unlimited potential. Not only do I believe I have an obligation to the college, I believe I have a responsibility to serve the community of St. Joseph and surrounding areas in a positive manner," Mark said. staff in 1999 as assistant

director of Athletics and

A personal impact survey found that 200 employees volunteered in their communities last year, logging 4,662 hours of service each month. The Independent Sector website notes that the value of volunteer labor in 2002 was \$16.54, which equates to \$77,109 of service to the community each month by Western employees.

campus new



NCAA compliance officer. He worked with staff to increase student athletes' graduation rates, and he directed the 2003 Elite Eight Tournament, which resulted in about \$1 million in economic impact for the community. He



Mark Linder

also heads the campaign to try to bring the Kansas City Chiefs' summer training camp to Western.

Mark earned a bachelor's degree in Chemistry and a master's in Athletic Administration from Wayne State College in Wayne, Neb.

Studies demonstrate community impact

ost residents of St. Joseph appreciate living in a "college town" and realize that Western has a positive impact on the community and the surrounding region. Two recent studies quantified some of that impact.

One study reported that Western has a \$139 million economic impact in the region. The college is St. Joseph's ninth largest employer with 550 full-time faculty and staff.

Additionally, the number of full-time jobs generated through expenditures of the college is estimated to exceed 3,200.

Athletes delivered exciting action for fans

The basketball, golf, tennis, softball and baseball teams offered lots of action and excitement for their fans this past winter and spring.

Fans also enjoyed a new sport at Western this past spring: women's golf.

Both men's and women's basketball teams played in the championship game of the inaugural Sonic/MIAA Championships, held at the Kansas City Municipal



Auditorium. The men won the event, and

Damon Bailey was named the tournament's most valuable player. Damon, Larry Taylor and Lou Chapman were named All-MIAA. They advanced to their 10th national tournament, and ended the season 23-8.

The women's basketball team also finished the season at 23-8 and advanced to its eighth NCAA Division II national tournament. It was the Griffon's sixth national tournament appearance in seven years.

Nicole Lindsey and Steph Jones were named All-MIAA and All-South Central Region.

The **baseball** team went 29-22 last season and advanced to the MIAA postseason tournament for the first time since 1997. The Griffon's 29 wins stand as the most victories since Western joined the MIAA in

1989. John Dano was named All-MIAA.

The **softball** team also advanced to the MIAA postseason tournament.

Two new coaches were named to the women's **tennis** team this year, Josh Keister and Matt Micheel.

The women's **golf** team went through its inaugural season and had good individual performances in many tournaments. They won the 2003 Western Invitational, and Taira Roth placed first at the Invitational.

The men's **golf** team's standing in the league allowed them to be selected to the 2003 NCAA Central/Great Lakes Super Regional held in Bolivar, Mo., their fourth trip to the NCAA Division II national tournament. Bryce Garnett was named All-MIAA.

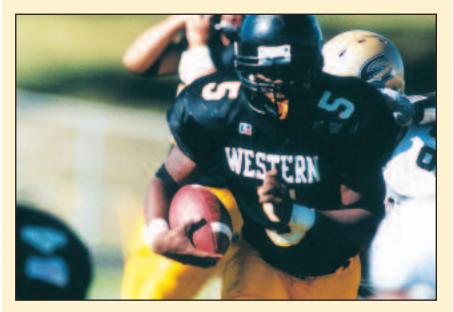
Success in the classroom

Check out the Griffon student-athlete successes:

- The latest figures show a 55% student-athlete graduation rate. The national average for Division II public institutions is 50%.
- Over 70 student-athletes had better than a 3.0 gradepoint average for the spring semester 2003.
- 20 student-athletes were named to the MIAA Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll for their respective sports.
- Three student-athletes earned Academic All-MIAA honors.
- Baseball player John Dano was named to the Verizon first-team Academic All-Region team.

Congratulations, Griffons!

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The Griffon football season is underway! The first home game is Sept. 20 against Southwest Baptist. Pictured is runningback Derrick Pitts.



Professor designs weapon systems for the Army

Then Assistant Professor Kent Pickett talks to his students about virtual reality, 3-D graphics or simulations in their computer graphics class at Western, they know he is bringing over 30 years of work experience to the classroom. Kent, a 1965 Junior College graduate, has been using computer simulation and graphics to design weapons systems for the United States Army since 1968.

Two weeks after the September 11 attacks, Kent, who was the director of simulation and research in Fort Leavenworth, Kan., was loaned out from the Army to work for the Defense Advance Research Projects Agency in Washington, DC, the agency that invented the Internet. He is currently the head of the Simulation Support Office for Future Combat Systems.

"I've worked on all major weapons in existence now," Kent said, which includes the Abrams and Bradley tanks and the Apache helicopter. "I created the first simulation for the night vision devices in the 1970s."

Every Sunday evening, he flies out of Kansas City to Washington, DC, and returns in time for his Thursday evening class at Western. "Teaching has always been my calling," he said.

Kent Pickett, left, assistant professor of Computer Science, speaks with two students in his simulation and modeling class.

"I love to teach. I told them I would only take the job if I could continue to teach."

Kent teaches two courses for weapons in the Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics Department each semester, and he readily admits he is not an easy teacher. "I don't take late papers and I don't offer makeup exams. They may as well learn about life early on," he said. "If I go before Congress with a late paper, I won't get funded."

"I've worked on all major existence now," Kent said, which includes the Abrams and Bradley tanks and the Apache helicopter.

He estimates that he has hired 15 to 20 Western graduates to work for him over the years, and most have completed their master's degrees.

Kent, a native of Stewartsville, Mo., graduated from the University of Missouri - Rolla in 1967 and earned a master's in applied math from there in 1968. He was drafted in 1969 and served in the Army for two years, working for the Joint Chiefs of Staffs in Washington, DC. "I loved it. I was 24 years old and I really thought I had hit the big time."

Kent noted that the projects he is working on now will not come to fruition for 15 to 20 years. "We actually play war games 10-15 years hence as if we had the system."

Before any purchases are made or prototypes for new weapons are built, his office demonstrates the systems to Congress using virtual simulation, or virtual reality. The graphics are fully interactive, even better than a video game. He said the user can venture anywhere they want on the virtual battlefield to demonstrate a weapon system.

Kent hopes his cross-country commute will soon end, and he can return to his job at Fort Leavenworth. But no matter what, he plans to continue to teach Western students about graphics, simulation and virtual reality.

Healthy Buddy Program

Students relish mentoring role

t was just an ordinary day for participants in the Healthy Buddy program: Dakota Thompson taught Maria Grothaus how to play chess. Alley Adams gave Sarah Holland a tour of her school and intro-

After working with the Healthy Buddies the first semester, teachers at Lindbergh reported that the younger students had higher selfesteen, better behavior and better grooming.

duced her to all her friends, and Markos Lawhon had a blast coloring pictures with Lucinda Sayre-Gibson. Dakota, Alley, and Markos are students at Webster Elementary School in St. Joseph, and Maria, Sarah and Lucinda, all Western students, are their Healthy Buddies.

In the Healthy Buddy program, Western students work one-on-one with St. Joseph elementary school students for 20 – 30 minutes each week, discussing healthy choices

and behaviors, playing games and offering heavy doses of individual attention.

The program has grown significantly in its short existence. Dr. Evelyn Brooks, associate professor of Nursing and coordinator of Healthy Buddies, started the program with Nursing stu-



Western student Kim Bax was a Healthy Buddy to Dane Dixon. Kim, an Education major, visited Dane each week last semester.

dents in the spring 2002 semester. Her students paired with 33 Lindbergh Elementary students to help them develop healthy eating and exercise habits. By last spring, the numbers had grown to 150 college students from seven different academic departments visiting 180 elementary students at six schools.

"The program was so successful that school nurses were asking for even more Western students to be Healthy Buddies," said Evelyn. "The program is a wonderful learning experience for the Western students. They often say they have as much fun as the kids do."

Debbie Punzo, school nurse at Webster, said the consistent, positive attention for the elementary students is one of the greatest benefits of the program. After working with the Healthy Buddies the first semester, teachers at Lindbergh reported that the younger students had higher self-esteem, better behavior and better grooming. They were motivated to finish their work so they could meet with their Healthy Buddies.

"Our mentors are good role models. They seem to genuinely care about the kids," Debbie said. "The program has expanded beyond health issues to become a self-esteem builder, too."

The program concludes each semester when the elementary students visit campus for lunch and a tour. Last spring, some Western students planned mid-semester parties in addition to the lunch. Eighteen Psychology students hosted an after-school party at Webster Elementary that included healthy treats, a craft project and face painting.

Sarah, a senior Psychology major, said she was enjoying her experience as a Healthy Buddy to Alley, a second-grader. "The biggest thing I've gained is the relationship. It's been amazing for me just to get to know her."

Alley Adams, a student at Webster Elementary, paints a design on her Healthy Buddy Sarah Holland.



"She's pretty, that's what I like about her," said Alley when asked about Sarah. She added that she loved introducing her Healthy Buddy to all her friends at school.

Lucinda, a senior Psychology major, said she was afraid to participate in the program at first, but it turned out to be a good experience. "I like to come see Markos; it makes me feel good."

"It is a heartwarming experience to see how much the Western students are learning from the children as well as to hear how much the children are learning from the Western students," said Evelyn.

Healthy Buddies is

"The program is a wonderful learning experience for the Western students. They often say they have as much fun as the kids do."

Dr. Evelyn Brooks, associate professor of Nursing and coordinator of Healthy Buddies

funded by a grant from the Heartland Regional Community Foundation Outcomes for Kids.

Thank you!

Your contributions make a difference! Below are just a few examples of programs funded this past year by your support of the Foundation Annual Fund:

- Convocation on Critical Issues - Joseph Nye, dean of Harvard University's School of Government spoke in 2002; David Gergen will speak in 2003 (see page 15).
- Lingering Melodies Music students performed for terminally ill patients.
- Guest Artists artist and mathematician Dick Termes displayed "Termespheres," and presented a Polyhedron Workshop. Three other artists' exhibits and workshops were also funded.
- Lecture Series in one series, speakers addressed diversity and racial issues, and in another, ethics and public policy.
- Summer Research
 Programs students worked with faculty on research projects. Another program funded research for high school students to work with Western faculty and students.
- Library Materials several reference resources were purchased, and older reels of microfilm were replaced.
- Faculty and Staff Development - provided opportunities to attend special conferences and training programs.

Foundation Annual Fund begins with your support

The 2003-2004 Foundation Annual Fund is officially underway, and your support is needed! Last year's Annual Fund raised approximately \$122,000, and the goal for this year is \$125,000.

"The Annual Fund is a critical source of revenue that enables us to support many special programs that are not funded through the regular college budget," said Dr. James Roever, executive director of the Foundation.

"This has become increasingly important in light of the significant decline in state funds allocated to support the college."

Contribute now to help us get off to a good start! To donate to the Foundation Annual Fund, you may use the attached envelope, or donate online at:

https://www-sec.mwsc.edu/foundation/donation For more information, call (816) 271-5647.

Fulkerson Center to be built

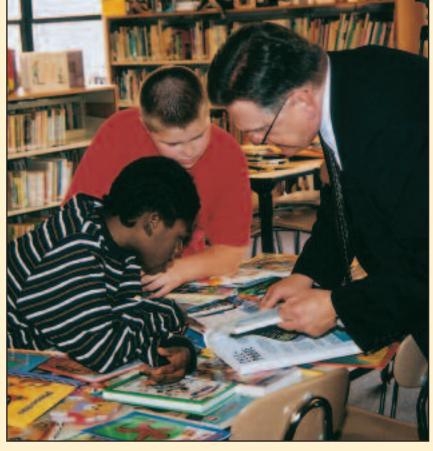
Center is slated to begin this fall, after a revised building plan was approved by the Foundation Board of Directors and the college Board of Regents.

While the revised plan will meet all the original goals of the project, the location has changed. Rather than being built on the east side of campus, it will now adjoin the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building.

The center will include a large conference room that will seat up to 500 or can be divided into three rooms. The east wing of the Spratt Building will include breakout rooms, a training and assessment center and Institutional Advancement offices. The "Our Promise" campaign raised \$1.2 million for the building in private donations in 2000. An additional \$1million from state capital funds for the project was never released.

"Initially, we were hopeful that the state economy would recover, allowing the funds to be released," said Dr. James Roever, executive director of the Foundation. "However, we have adopted an innovative solution that will allow us to fulfill the goals of the center with the contributions we have received."

The center will be named in honor of Marie Fulkerson and her late husband, Lyman, and it is scheduled to open in the fall of 2004.



Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president, shares a book with John Swanson and Qunvel King at Edison Elementary School in St. Joseph. Several hundred books were donated to the school district by Western employees.

Foundation to allocate \$520,000 in scholarships

While the Foundation funds a variety of projects, one fact remains each year – the Foundation is committed to supporting student scholarships. Throughout this academic year, the Foundation expects to distribute \$520,000 in scholarships.

"In spite of market declines, the Foundation has established that maintaining scholarship support is its first priority," said Dr. James Roever, Foundation executive director.

Herb and Peggy Iffert agree. Several years ago, Peggy established a scholarship for Nursing students, and Herb set one up in the Business Department.

"I had a very rewarding career and I wanted to help someone else," said Peggy, a retired nurse. She set aside funds each year she worked, and established the scholarship when she retired. "I hope other nurses will feel that way about it, too, and support Nursing students."

Fall 2003

2003 Convocation on Critical Issues

David Gergen will speak on "Eyewitness to Power: Leadership in America" at the 2003 Convocation on Critical Issues at 9:30 a.m. on October 22. The public is invited.

He has served as an advisor to Presidents Nixon, Ford, Reagan and Clinton.

David is currently editorat-large of U. S. News and World Report and a regular television commentator. He is a professor in the John F. Kennedy School of Government and director of the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University.

Herb, a Junior College alum, retired from St. Joseph Light and Power (now Aquila), and established the scholarship to give back to his alma mater.

"When I went to college, there were very few scholarships, so I thought I could help someone who might have to work a lot to get through like I did."

To establish a named scholarship, donors must give \$10,000 within two years. Individuals also may give to the Western Advantage Scholarship Fund or to any of the wide variety of established scholarships.

For more information, contact the Foundation office at 816-271-5647.

"When I went to college, there were very few scholarships, so I thought I could help someone who might have to work a lot to get through like I did."

> - Herb Iffert Junior College alum

15

Leah and Bub Spratt touched lives in the campus and community

very once in a while, a Eperson comes along who stands out in the crowd and makes a difference. He or she doesn't just make a difference in one person's life, but many lives, making the world a little brighter.

Western has been fortunate to know many such people throughout its history, but two people will always be remembered for their outstanding contributions to the college and the community: Elliott "Bub" Spratt and his sister, Leah.

The Multipurpose Classroom Building, completed in 1998, bears Leah's name, and the college's football stadium is named in memory of Bub.

Dick Rochambeau met the Spratts at the age of 13 while

attending Bub's Sunday school class at First Baptist Church in St. Joseph. He remained friends with them until they died - Bub in 1976 and Leah in 1997.

Each year, Dick noted, new students attend classes in the Leah Spratt Building and enjoy football games at Spratt Memorial Stadium, but they don't know the wonderful people behind the names.

Several students benefited from the Spratts' generosity, he said, as they often anonymously paid tuition for many of them to attend college.

"They were fantastic people," Dick said. "And they were really interested in the college."

Leah attended St. Joseph Junior College in 1921 and graduated from the University



Athletic Director Mark Linder and Dick Rochambeau pose with a photo of Elliott "Bub" Spratt that hangs in the Stadium Club at Western.

of Missouri. She taught for one year before joining the family business, Spratt Realty and Investment Co. She received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Western in 1993.

Bub served as comptroller of the city of St. Joseph in the 1920s, when the city purchased land for the park and boulevard system, the public golf course, the airport and the civic center. Bub then worked at Hillyard, Inc., and his last position was executive vice president of Hillyard Sales East.

Both brother and sister were active in the community, serving on several boards and belonging to many organizations.

Their father, William E. Spratt, served two terms as mayor of St. Joseph at the turn of the century, and their mother, Effie L. Spratt, was a founding member of the local branch of the YWCA. In addition, their grandfather was mayor of Kansas City.

The Spratts were not only well known in St. Joseph, but Bub was known as "Jack Spratt" throughout the United States, and he considered Harry Truman, Lyndon Johnson and J.C. Penney his friends.

"I loved and admired both of them," said Dick of the Spratts.



Friday, October 10

Campus Tours and Open Houses 4 - 6 p.m.

Wondering what has changed on campus? Take a campus tour from a Western V.I.P. or attend the open houses across campus to find out how departments and campus services have changed! Alumni Honors Banquet Reception - 5:30 p.m.; Banquet - 6:30 p.m. Join the Alumni Association in honoring the 2003 Distinguished Alumni and Faculty Awardees and the Alumni Association Scholarship recipients. This annual banquet is a great opportunity to meet alumni and faculty who are making a difference and recognize the scholarship recipients who are future alumni. Special tables will be reserved for the classes of 1973 and 1983 at this event. Cost: \$18 per person. Spirit Rally and Bonfire 8:30 p.m.

Come get pepped up with students at the Spirit Rally and the Homecoming Bonfire!

Saturday. October 11

Homecoming Parade 9:30 a.m.

Join Western and the community for a parade to see decorative floats, area marching bands and a horde of black and gold! The parade begins at City Hall and goes through downtown. 1973 and 1983 Class Reunion Lunches 11 a.m. Join your former classmates and their families for a class reunion luncheon to find out what they are doing now. Group photos will be taken at this time and can be purchased. Lunch Cost: \$10 per person. Go Griffons! 1 p.m.

Join fellow Western fans to cheer on the football team as they take on Central Missouri State University. Don't forget to wear your black and gold! Cost: \$6 per adult, \$2 per child - age 7 to high school; children under 7 are free. Tickets available at the gate.

Sunday, October 12

Alumni Brunch 11 a.m.

Join your fellow alumni for a special brunch to find out about the latest developments at your alma mater from leaders on Western's campus! Cost: \$10 per person

Please complete this form and return it with your payment by October 1 to:

Missouri Western State College, Alumni Office, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507

 Yes, I plan to attend Homecoming! Alumni Association Awards Banquet Class of '73 or '83 Reunion Lunch Alumni Brunch 	Please register n <i>Number</i> 	<i>Cost</i> × \$18.00 × \$10.00 × \$10.00	Total Cost
Please bill my 🗖 Visa 🗖 Mastercard Exp. Date Signature			

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Check out our website at www.mwsc.edu/alumni/events.html

alumni news

& events

Please make checks payable to *Missouri Western State College Reunions*.



Julie Lawrence

Julie Lawrence was hired as the new director of Alumni Services in May. **Below, she shares her** plans and goals for her new position.

What do you think of Western?

The Missouri Western community has been very welcoming to me - like an extended family! The faculty and staff have been great about sharing their thoughts about our alumni program and offering their assistance if needed. They are very dedicated to providing a quality education to our students.

St. Joseph is a great community! Growing up in southern Iowa, I never realized all of the culture and history that existed only a few hours away.

Meet Western's director of Alumni Services

What do you hope to accomplish in your first vear at Western?

Over the course of the next year, I hope to expand the services available for alumni, as well as our alumni events and activities. Class reunions are being planned for Homecoming weekend for the classes of 1973 and 1983, and we would like to make reunions an annual event.

Another goal is to oversee an updated alumni directory. I would also like to work with other areas on campus to find out how best we can utilize our alumni - from recruiting new students to providing mentoring opportunities for alumni and current students.

We are also going to be organizing an e-mail newsletter to keep alumni informed about campus activities.

What skills do you feel you bring to the position?

One of my greatest skills is the ability to not only see things as they are, but as they could be. I can see the potential of the Alumni Services area and have a vision of how we can reach that potential. With a

Want to host or organize an alumni event in your area? Contact Julie at 816-271-5650 or lawrence@mwsc.edu. degree in Communication, I have a strong background in program management and event planning and enjoy working with people.

What appeals to you about Alumni Services?

Alumni have a vested interest in their alma mater it is where they expanded their minds and broadened their horizons. When graduating students receive their diploma, they cross the bridge from students to alumni, and it is my job to assist them in cultivating a good relationship with Western.

What is your experience as an alumna of your alma mater?

I received my bachelor's degree from Central College in Pella, Iowa, Central has a strong alumni program with events across the nation that allow the college to remain in contact with most of its alumni. When I was a student at Central, I worked in the Alumni Relations office as a student ambassador, attending alumni events, participating in the telethon, and managing alumni databases. I still have very strong ties to Central as well as Central's alumni office.

New Board of Directors members

ight new members have joined the Alumni Association Board of Directors to serve three-year terms:

Peggy Evans, '94, is the executive director of Kendallwood Hospice in St. Joseph.

Jason Horn, '95, of St. Joseph, is a senior portfolio manager at US Bancorp Asset Management.

David Jordan, '74, teaches at Central High School in St. Joseph.

Linda Kerner, '73, of St. Joseph, worked at Quaker Oats for 28 years and served as a consultant for Lifeline Foods. She plans to start her own business.

Tony Luke, '85, is the retail advertising manager at the St. Joseph News-Press.

Jill Miller, '73, is the chair of the Criminal Justice/Legal Studies Department at Western.

Bertha Parker, '72. operates Parker and Associates LLC in St. Joseph.

Greg VerMulm, '89, is a director at MarketSphere Consulting in Kansas City. Welcome to the board!

fficers for the 2003-2004 year are **Ralph Schank**, '82, president; Kris Smith, '88 and '96, vice president; Edna Pumphrey, Junior College, secretary; and Larry Andrews, '73, treasurer.



Kendy Jones, '94, and her daughter, Elaina, enjoy "Western Alum Night at the Ball Park" that was held in July.

Alum directs new college office

new office of grants and Asponsored programs has been developed at Western, and Chris Van Ness, a 1994 graduate, has been hired to direct the office.

In his new position, Chris investigates and disseminates grant opportunities, critiques proposals, coordinates the funding process and schedules grant-writing workshops for employees. He has also developed a website that offers resources for faculty and staff. He received a master's degree from the University of Missouri - Kansas City, and most recently served as senior research associate at the KU Medical Center.



Take me out to the ball game!

Iumni in the St. Joseph Rarea were treated to two complimentary tickets for the St. Joseph Saints game at "Western Alum Night at the Ball Park" July 19. Alumni and their families, numbering over 250, came to watch the Saints take on the Clarinda A's.

"We wanted to host a summer activity for our St. Joseph alums," said Julie Lawrence, director of Alumni Services. "And a Saints game seemed like a fun place to get together and enjoy each other's company."

The **Business Deptartment** is looking for alums to serve on an Alumni Advisory **Board** that would meet each spring to discuss their experiences as a Business major, and how we can help current students and alums. If you are interested, contact Denise Bartles at bartles@mwsc.edu.



Alums Osman Sahin. '00. and Daniel Newman. '00. discuss career opportunities with students Chris Allen and Michelle Lowrey on a campus visit. Osman and Daniel, along with Heather Haynie, '01, who also visited, are employed by Daimler-Chrysler Services in Kansas Citv.

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alumni news & events

Recent biology alums research their many options

G Because of the opportunities I found at Missouri Western, I ended up right where I wanted to be. I am convinced that my experiences at Western prepared me well for success after graduation." Those are the words of Lizzie Nelson, who earned a bachelor of science degree in Biology in 2001 and is working on her master's degree at the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Two other recent graduates, Michelle Chandler,'01, and Casey Wimberly,'02, said their education and experiences at Western also gave them an advantage in their pursuits after graduation. Extensive opportunities for student research, presenting that research across the country, and a high level of involvement from faculty, the three noted, are factors that set their alma mater apart from other institutions.

Last spring, Lizzie, a St. Joseph native, conducted research at a commercial shellfish production hatchery near Seattle. She noticed that graduate students she met from other institutions did not have as much lab experience throughout their undergraduate education as she had.

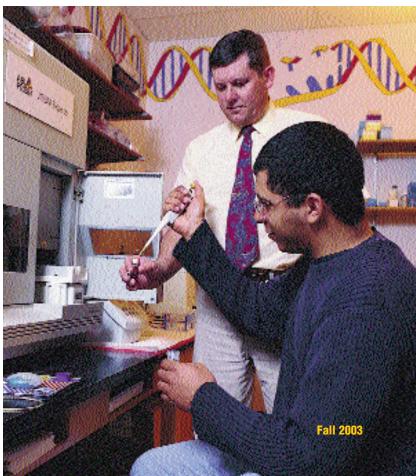
She also values the research writing experiences as an undergraduate. "I ended up with my name on two articles in national peer-reviewed journals, two published species descriptions, and two DNA sequences published in a national peerreviewed online database. Those activities left me with experiences and personal contacts that will last a lifetime."

Michelle, who graduated with a bachelor

Dr. Todd Eckdahl, professor of Biology, works with Daniel Harr in the DNA Sequencer Lab. of science in Biology with a Cellular/Molecular Biology emphasis, is a scientific specialist with Quintiles, a contract research organization of Kansas City. Her duties there perfectly fit her degree, the Kearney, Mo. native said. She conducts research on drug products for Quintiles clients.

Michelle noted that she had several opportunities for undergraduate research and many chances to present her results at conferences and symposiums. "I really got into that – going to meetings, presenting papers and doing research."

She said she appreciated the chance to network with students and professors across the country, and was excited that she met a Nobel Prize recipient at a conference. All her presentation experiences helped her become confident speaking before an audience, Michelle said.



The college also offered more individual attention than larger institutions could, Michelle believed. "I think I got a better quality education and more attention than I would have at a larger school. We were kind of a family."



Casey Wimberly, '02, is a lab technician at the Midwest Research Institute in Kansas City.

Lizzie agreed. "Missouri Western classes are smaller. That helped me learn more. The small class sizes made it more interesting and fun."

Casey Wimberly, from Smithville, Mo., graduated with a degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in December, 2002. He served as a substitute science teacher at a local high school while working as a technician for the DNA Sequencer Lab at Western. Casey believed he had the "best of both worlds," gaining experience in both teaching and research as he tried to determine his career path. Casey is currently a lab technician at Midwest Research Institute with the Bacteria and DNA Analysis group in Kansas City.

He especially appreciated the research opportunities as an undergraduate at Western. "I've talked to quite a few people in the science field, and I've heard story after story of how you don't get to touch lab equipment until maybe you're a junior or senior – unless it's to wash it," he added with a laugh.

Casey credits the faculty at Western for their willingness to allow students to do research, especially Dr. Todd Eckdahl, professor of Biology.

"Other students (at other institutions) don't get nearly the amount of research as we did. Here you come up with your own ideas. Todd turns you loose in the lab and tells you to have fun. When you make mistakes you learn from them. That's why he is turning out very good students from this lab."

Todd noted that the trend of colleges today is to offer more opportunities for undergraduate

research, and he believes Western is doing an excellent job. "Our focus is on teaching students the process of doing research. We are focused on process, not product," he said. Often, however, the research does produce good data, and when that happens, it gets published in professional or undergraduate publications.

All three alums said their degrees could take them in several directions – more education, teaching or a variety of research options.

"I have a lot of doors open to me now because of my experience at Missouri Western," Michelle said. "It rounded me out."

"I believe that any student would find at Western the means to get an undergraduate education that would allow them, too, to end up just where they want to be as well," Lizzie said.

\$100,000 grant funds DNA research

The National Institute of Health's National Cancer Institute announced in July that Western received the Academic Research Enhancement Award of more than \$100,000. The grant will fund three years of summer research to better understand how certain drugs turn genes on or off in cancer cells.

"This is a cutting edge research question. Training undergraduate students to do the research – to learn how to attack the problem -- is the primary goal,"said Dr. Todd Eckdahl, professor of Biology and principal investigator for the project.

The award will support three faculty, five college students and four high school students' work on the project which began this past summer, encompassing both the Biology and Chemistry Departments. Faculty members along with Todd are Dr. Jason Baker, assistant professor of Biology, and Dr. Benjamin Caldwell, associate professor of Chemistry.

Students who have chosen the interdisciplinary majors Biochemistry or Molecular Biology will be targeted to assist in the research. Western students selected to assist in the research project this past summer were Sara Freel, Jennifer Lamp, Brianna Peterson, Bart Phillips and Christy Saverino.

According to the review committee, Todd's commitment to undergraduate research was an important determinant in receiving the grant, as well as the college's quality lab equipment. Todd noted that Western undergraduates have the opportunity to use equipment that is normally available only at the graduate level.

"This will be a valuable experience for students preparing for careers as bench scientists or for advanced education," he said.

Alumnotes

Eleanor W. Jackson, '36, recently wrote that she is living in St. Joseph. She married Levell L. Jackson in 1942 and had five children. She worked for Wheelan Studios and played violin in the St. Joseph Symphony for 35 years.

John Westpheling, '40, of Burlington, N.C., reports that he still plays the trumpet and cornet and walks three miles each morning. He also frequently travels in the Elderhostel program.

Donald E. Michel, PhD, LPC, '40, is a Professor Emeritus in Music Therapy at Texas Women's University. He continued to work part-time there until 1997.

He said he is always thinking of his old friends from the St. Joseph Junior College. Donald is currently developing a new retreat condominium at Cape San Blas in Florida with his family.

Tegwin (Dyer) Pulley, '63, was appointed to the board of regents at Texas Woman's University. She is a vice president for Texas Instruments in Dallas.

Jill Miller, '73, chair of Western's Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Department, received professional division first place in juvenile justice, and served as chair for the National Bylaw Committee at

the American Criminal Justice Association-Lambda Alpha Epsilon national convention in Orlando, Fla.

Denise Bartles Tapia, '74, of Faucett, Mo., associate professor at Western, coauthored with her husband, Professor John Tapia, a chapter in Dakota History by the Center for Western Studies.

David J. Kneib, '76, is a financial associate with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in the greater Milwaukee area. He recently completed his licensure requirements.

James B. Crippin, '77, of Pueblo, Colo., is the director of the Western Forensic Law Enforcement Training Center in Pueblo. He is also a teacher in the Forensic Science degree program at USC in Pueblo.

Lewis C. Helm, '77, is the district manager for the Des Moines, Iowa office of the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board.

Jeff Newton, '77, was recently promoted to director, global marketing communications, for Eli Lilly in Indiana. Eli Lilly is a global pharmaceutical company.

Delman Breit, '79, of Savannah, Mo., was promoted to senior mail processor for the St. Joseph post office. He also received a citation for **Outstanding Achievement** from the Postmaster General.

Hal J. Middleton, '79, completed his 24th year as a public school teacher. He is presently employed as an 8th-grade Social Studies teacher with the Richmond, Mo. R-XVI School District

Judy (Glasgow) Antonioni,

'80, is a mentor development specialist at Muskogee Regional Medical Center in Muskogee, Okla. She is the president of the Green County Chapter of AACN, and a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Debbie Alexander, '83, of Cosby, Mo., was a tailback this past season for the semi-pro national women's football association. Debbie played for the Kansas City Krunch.

Patrick Dare, '83 and '91, of St. Joseph, Mo., is an independent contractor for travel. His business, Gadabouts, offers travel packages from tour operators and cruise lines.

Andy, '86, and Terry, '86, Williams, live in Brandon, Mississippi. Andy was hired as football defensive coordinator at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Ark.

Krista (Nold) Doyle, '88, and husband, Tim, of St. Joseph announce the birth of their daughter, Ruby Adelaine, born Oct. 14, 2002. She joins two brothers, Zach, 13, and Will, 8. Martha (Wille) Gregory, '88,

and husband, Michael, of Houstonia, Mo., have two daughters, Hanna Lynn, 5, and Emily Ann, 2.

Kris (Cochenour) Smith, '88 and '96, was named vice president in commercial lending with US Bank, St. Joseph. Kris serves as vice president of the Alumni Board. She and her husband, Mike, and sons, Tanner and Toby, live in St. Joseph.

Jeffrey A. Kalcic, '89, of Kansas City, is a web developer for the Clay County Circuit Court.

Kendra (Cooperider) Peter, '91, of St. Joseph, announces the birth of a son, Alex Stefan, born Sept. 30, 2002. He joins a sister, Mattie Lynne, 2.

Rich, '92, and Cristi (Erickson), '92, Campbell, of Cameron, Mo., announce the birth of their son, Tyler Stephen, born March 12, 2003. Tyler joins two sisters, Kaylin, 4, and Kylie, 2.

Jennifer (Kern) Boydston, '93, and her husband, Tim, of Polo, Mo., announce the birth of their daughter, Brooke Alexis, born January 1, 2003.

Scott Coykendall, '93, is an assistant professor of Professional Writing at Plymouth State College in Plymouth, N.H. He and his wife, Tabitha, have two daughters, Brianna and Maya.

Sharon Graeff, '93, of Osborn, was recently voted 2003 Midwest Regional Female Vocalist of the Year (traditional) by the Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music in America. She also won the 2002 Bluegrass Album of the Year for her CD. "Mom's Old Picture Book."

K. Scott Richardson, '93, earned a master of science in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia College in Columbia, Mo.

Anthony, '93, and Doreneé (Innis), '94, Robinson, of Cincinnati, announce the birth of their daughter, Lailah Reneé, born Feb. 24, 2003.

Aaron, '93, and Dena (Jones), '95, Skinner of Cozad, Neb., have three children: Joslynn, 5 1/2, Ethan, $2 \frac{1}{2}$, and Noah, 1. Aaron is employed at Security 1st National Bank.

Ernie Stufflebean, '93.

associate dean of Student Affairs at Western, was named the 2002 Missouri College Personnel Association Outstanding Professional.

Vinny Careswell, '94, and his wife, Holli, of Lee's Summit, Mo., announce the birth of their son, Camden Taylor, born July 24, 2002. Vinny teaches Social Studies at Excelsior Springs High School and is the defensive coordinator for the football team. Holli is a general dentist in Lee's Summit.

Cindy (Thorp) Grier, '95, and husband, Patrick, of Heidelberg, Germany, announce the birth of their daughter, Lydia Lee, born Aug. 4, 2002. She joins a sister, Sophie, 3.

Michael J. Mastio, '95, is a senior manager of Supply Chain Merger Integration for Quaker Food and Beverages in Chicago.

Melissa (Norris) Ingram, '96, of Columbia, Mo., was appointed court specialist for the Missouri Supreme Court.

Matt, '96, and Andrea (Bigler) '98, Williamson, of St. Joseph, announce the birth of a son, Zachary Matthew, born Jan. 12, 2003.

Andy, '97, and Kari (Shier), '96, Leak, of Parkville, Mo., announce the birth of their son, Andrew Dean, born Oct. 2,2002.

Tricia Burch, '98, of Camden Point, Mo. earned the Certified Management Accountant designation. She completed a nationwide comprehensive examination and met a twoyear management accounting experience requirement.

David George, '99, was named 2003-2004 Teacher of the Year for the St. Joseph School District. David is a history teacher at Lafayette High School. He is the founder of the LHS Guitar Club and is the varsity boys track and field head coach.

Rachel Ann (Raney) Moore, '98, and her husband, Timothy, of Platte City, Mo., announce the birth of their son, Lucas William, born Dec. 28, 2002. He joins a sister, Brianna Kaylee, 3. Rachel is a homemaker and operates a commercial filter cleaning business.

Wendy (Fisher) '99, and Justin, '00, Johnson, of Lawson, Mo., announce the birth their son, Quinton Pierce, born Nov. 22, 2002. Wendy is a teacher in the Lawson School District and Justin graduated from the Missouri Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy in May.

Elizabeth (Schenk) Potteiger,

'99, completed her master's in School Counseling at Lindenwood University and is a school counselor. She and her husband, Tommy, live in St. Peters, Mo.

Chad Grant, '00, graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

Susan (Walter) Smith, '01, of Independence, Mo., earned a master's of Social Work with an aging specialty from University of Missouri - Kansas City in the spring of 2003.

Dixie Lea Sullenger, '01,

of Charleston, Ill., earned a master of science in College Student Affairs from Eastern Illinois University in May 2003.

Kimberly Buretta, '02, is working in radio broadcasting in St. Charles, Mo.

Mark Elting, '02, of

St. Joseph, is an instructor for the Music Department for Western.

Jacob Woolsey, '02, of Clarinda, Iowa, is a project superintendent for Coleman Industrial Construction.

Adam Ziesel, '03, signed a professional football contract with the Cincinnati Bengals of the National Football League and participated in the Bengals' 2003 training camp.

Tell us what's new!

Name	Maiden	
Spouse	Graduation Year (s)	
Address	City, State	Zip
Phone	e-mail	
What's New		

Return to: Western Alumni Office, MC 106, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507, or email holtz@mwsc.edu

Alum remembers JC and St. Joseph in the '40s

Franklin Wyatt, '44, of Charleston, W. Va., still fondly remembers his years at the Junior College

"We spoke of it as 'the only school with an all-concrete campus!' I remember Mr. Glenn Marion and Miss Nellie Blum. I took calculus with only one other student in the class."

Franklin remembers St. Joseph in the 1940s, also, "Downtown was a vibrant retail and business area, and the Hotel Robidoux was a thing of beauty."

He is retired and volunteers as often as possible.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive this magazine, contact us at mwalumni@mwsc.edu or 816-271-5651.

Western

Fall 2003

Alum Profile

Who: Tom Wieligman, class of 1983 **Degree:** Bachelor of Science in Music Education/Instrumental Music

Western memory: "Playing in the Golden Griffon Marching Band for the first time. The crowd absolutely loved the band and gave us a standing ovation before a note was even played!"



When Tom Wieligman applied for graduate school at Indiana University, Bloomington, he had to take several music competency tests and he passed every one.

"I came from a little school in the midwest that no one had heard of. I walked into one of the world's most prestigious music schools and found I could compete with anyone," Tom said. "It's not

because I'm gifted. It's because I was very, very well trained at Missouri Western."

Class of 1983

After earning his master's degree, Tom, a Kansas City native, moved to Italy and performed as a solo bass trombonist in the National Radio and Television

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Orchestra for eight years. He returned to the United States and began working on his doctorate at Indiana University, and has served as the coordinator of instrumental ensembles at Indiana University School of Music for over seven years. This fall, he began serving as the office, representing the university throughout Europe.

Tom said he calls the Music Department at Western about every other month to keep in touch, and he maintains several friendships that

began in his college days at St. Joseph. "I wouldn't be where I am without Missouri Western. I'm very fond of the school."

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Western Magazine

alumni news & events

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Sept. 8 – 25 Ceramics and Photography exhibit, Kathy Broski and Julie Johnson, Thompson Fine Arts Gallery **Oct. 2 – 5** "Grease," Thompson Fine Arts Theatre Oct. 6 – 31 "Director's Choice" print show, Thompson Fine Arts Gallery **Oct. 10 – 12** Homecoming Reunion Weekend

Oct. 19 Fall Choral Concert, Thompson Fine Arts Theatre **Oct. 22** Convocation on Critical Issues, David Gergen Nov. 3 – 14, 17 – Dec. 4 Senior Art Exhibits, Thompson Fine Arts Gallery and Foyer **Nov. 7** Piano Festival, Thompson Fine Arts Theatre **Nov. 16** Symphonic Winds Concert, Thompson Fine Arts

Nov. 20 – 23 "Lion in Winter," Thompson Black Box Theatre (Rm 106)

Nov. 23 Orchestra Concert, Thompson Fine Arts Theatre Nov. 23 Jazz Ensemble Concert, Thompson Fine Arts Theatre Dec. 7 Christmas Choral Concert

Dec. 20 Commencement

For more information, call 816-271-5651 or visit our website at www.mwsc.edu/news.html

Theatre

The Western **Advantage** in every state!

This map shows the number of alumni in each state across the nation. Not only do we have alumni in every state, we have four living in U.S. territories and 35 in other countries! Now that is the Western Advantage!

