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Alums Discover Western Gold! page 2 In the Footsteps of Lewis and Clark page 10



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.

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#### **President's Perspective**

Dear Alumni and Friends,

By its mission, Western is committed to excellence outcomes for students - - to high quality academic and social results. Western

focuses on students as individual learners and as members of society as it builds these results. In the process, we prepare students to be leaders in their work and in the communities where they live. Our alumni are eloquent testimony to the effectiveness of our mission.

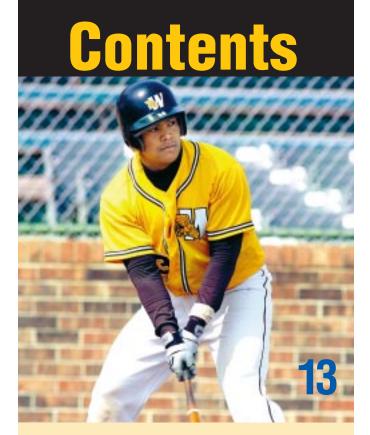
In the past, I have written about the academic quality of Western and the outstanding academic results that are achieved by its students across many programs. I have also written about the strong profile Western is developing for its excellence at the multi-state regional level and the national level. Western is emerging as a first-rate undergraduate institution that, because of its focus on students, develops excellent programs and produces excellent results for students.

Western intends, however, to do more than help its students to achieve academically. We prepare students for their role as citizens in the larger society. We do this in two ways. First, Western's faculty and staff are themselves active in their communities. Last year, for example, they gave more than 56,000 hours in service to their local communities. About 100 of our employees served on the boards of civic and service organizations in their communities. They are themselves leaders and active volunteers in their communities. They are excellent role models for our students.

Second, equally important, we encourage students to become involved in their communities. In fact, last year, students offered more than 28,800 hours of service to the community. They volunteered at food kitchens and at the Food Bank. They mentored students in the public schools. They assisted in building projects for Habitat for Humanity. They raised funds to help the homeless. They worked to improve the appearance of their communities. They became involved in support of local ballot initiatives. Often they were leaders in these efforts, organizing groups to become involved in improving the lives of individuals and in improving life generally in their communities.

At Western, we celebrate the achievement of our students. We cheer when they are recognized for the quality of their academic work at the regional and national level. We are proud also of their developing sense of citizenship. We applaud our students for understanding their obligation as citizens to a good greater than their own. We know that in encouraging them to become involved in their communities, we are preparing them to be excellent representatives of the Western tradition - - to be excellent alumni.

Yours sincerely, ames J. Scanlon



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On the cover: Colonel Stephen Cotter is one of the alums featured in Western's new ad campaign. See story on page 2.



# **Features**

#### 2 Alums discover Western gold!

Alumni shared their stories about their golden experiences at Western and became part of the college's new image campaign – "Discover Gold."

#### **10** In the footsteps of Lewis and Clark

A faculty member may be the only person alive to truly follow in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark.

#### **4** Alumna author survives and thrives

Lynn Tolson, '03, published her book about a childhood of abuse and addiction the same month she graduated from Western, and she is now working on two other books.



feature

"I think it's important for an alumnus to get involved because of the opportunities to have an impact, to make a difference and to share opinions."

> Kris Smith. Class of 1996

Western alums, from left to right, Nicholas Saccaro, class of 2001; Kris Smith. class of 1996; Dr. Michelle Cebulko. class of 1993: Colonel Stephen Cotter, class of 1978; Esther George, class of 1980: Marc Lewis. class of 1991



ur successful alums are truly 'Western gold,'" said Kristy Hill, director of Western public relations and marketing. "They point the way to future achievements that can be realized by succeeding generations of students who follow in their footsteps."

That was why Kristy wanted alumni to be represented in the new image campaign, "Discover Gold," and they played key roles in the new campaign from the beginning. One of the first projects was to create large, framed posters featuring alumni telling about their "golden" experiences at Western, and those now hang on the second floor of the Nelle Blum Student Union.

Alumni were also used in the advertising campaign, and in the college's new video.

"We wanted to feature alumni who believed Western had made a difference in their lives, in their careers and in the decisions they have made since graduating from Western," she said. Six of those alums featured at left tell their stories:

"I am a huge supporter of Missouri Western because I know firsthand the high quality of education it offers. I honestly appreciated the opportunity to assist in the promotion of what I know to be a tremendous educational institution. Never underestimate the value of a Western education," said Stephen Cotter, '78.

Stephen, the commander of the 139th Airlift Wing of the Missouri Air National Guard in St. Joseph, is a Foundation Board member.

The St. Joseph native took command of the Air National Guard unit in August 2003. He is the father of two children, and his son currently attends Western.

"I think it's important for an alumnus to get involved because of the opportunities to have an impact, to make a difference and to

share opinions," said Kris Smith, '96, vice president of commercial lending at US Bank of St. Joseph, who was featured on a poster, in print advertising, in the college video and in television commercials.

"It's always my pleasure to help Missouri Western whenever I am asked," said Kris, who is president of the Alumni Association Board.

She noted that she enjoys getting her husband and sons involved in college events, and was happy they could be in the commercial. "It's very exciting for me. I think it's a wonderful thing to pass on to the next generation."

Originally from Cameron, Mo., she earned an associate degree in mid-management, returned to Western and earned a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1996. She also earned her master's in business administration. Kris said she appreciated the encouragement and support of the Western faculty to help her meet her goals.

"I am a huge supporter of Missouri Western because I know firsthand the high quality of education it offers."

Stephen Cotter, Class of 1978

Esther George, '80, a native of Faucett, Mo., who was featured on a poster and in the video, believes her study abroad trip to the European Common Market Countries in 1978 at Western was a strong foundation for her career as a senior vice president for the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City.

"My 'golden experience' was the international study program. The faculty encouraged me to leverage my foreign language



studies and business curriculum with study abroad," she said. "It was an outstanding experience. Looking back, I have to

that I developed children, and reside in as a student have lasted through all these years."

> Marc Lewis, Class of 1991

acknowledge the faculty's "I take pride in acknowledge the faculty's forward-thinking approach to a *saying that I graduated from Western. The personal i* or ward-tninking approach to a rich learning experience that has benefited me in a business environment that has grown increasingly global." After graduating from Western, Esther earned a master's degree in business

relationships administration. She and her husband Keyin '80 have to husband, Kevin, '80, have two Weatherby.

> Dr. Michelle Cebulko, '93, a pediatrician in St. Joseph, said she has a lot of good memories of her days as a student at Western. "I am very grateful for my education at Missouri Western and reflect back upon that time in my life fondly. I try to do anything I can to help the college." She

and her husband, Craig, '93, reside in St. Joseph. Michelle is also a member of Western's Foundation Board, and was featured on a poster. Marc Lewis, '91, is the region sales

manager for Wire Rope Corporation of America of St. Joseph. The Columbia, Mo. native played professional football for six years after graduating from Western. Marc and his wife, Allison, reside in St. Joseph, and he has a daughter and two stepsons.

"I take pride in saying that I graduated from Missouri Western," Marc said. "The personal relationships that I developed as a student have lasted through all these years." He is a member of the Athletic Department's Hall of Fame committee.

Nicholas Saccaro, '01, is the director of the Second Harvest Food Bank in St. Joseph and was featured on a poster and in the video. He and his wife, Leslie, '01, are natives of Hamilton, Mo.

Nicholas, a former Western golfer, credits the unique experience as a student athlete and his internship as a student as important factors in landing his current position at Second Harvest. Today, he works closely with the Business Department in offering students internship and service opportunties.

"While I was at Western I think I took for granted the number of quality people who were there. There are so many thoughtful, sincere, intelligent people at Western who are truly committed to their profession and to the students. They are the gold there."

#### **Gold discovered on Western's campus**

"Discover Gold." St. Joseph and the surrounding region have been seeing and hearing that phrase lately, as that is the new theme, or brand, for communicating Western's guality to its audiences. "Discover Gold" can be seen on Western publications, advertising, television commercials, stationery and business cards to enhance Western's image.

"The brand focuses on conveying the quality experience that Western offers to all our various audiences," said Kristy Hill, director of public relations and marketing. "We want everyone in the region to recognize how Western enriches the lives of students, faculty, staff, alumni and the communities it serves. We want them to recognize the excellent, high quality education we offer students."

The college worked with branding consultants for almost a year to create the theme and develop an implementation strategy,



and ads featuring students and alumni telling how they discovered gold at Western began appearing last May.

If you know an alumnus who has a great story to share about their "golden" experiences at Western, contact Kristy at (816) 271-5649 or hillk@mwsc.edu

## **Medical school agreements** benefit students

estern is one of a handful of schools in the nation to enter into partnership agreements with two medical schools, offering an outstanding benefit to students.

An agreement with the Kirksville (Mo.) College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCOM) allows two sophomores per year a guaranteed seat upon graduation from Western.

In an agreement with the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences (KCUMB), formerly University of Health Sciences, up to two sophomores each year may be selected to matriculate there following their junior year. Students simultaneously complete their first year of medical school and earn a bachelor's degree fromWestern.

"These two programs recognize the fact that Western turns out quality educated students eligible for medical school," said Dr. Jason Baker,

assistant professor of biology and Western's coordinator of the agreements.

When the agreements were signed, Western was one of seven schools and the only public institution in Missouri to enter into the partnership with KCUMB, and only the second public institution nationwide. KCOM had agreements with 11 institutions. Christopher Buckles of St. Joseph and Doni Walker of Garden City, Kan. were selected for the KCUMB program, and Katie Barkman of Blue Springs, Mo. was

selected for admission at KCOM.

Christopher said after medical school he plans to return to St. Joseph and join the medical practice of his father Randy, '91, and his uncle Steven. In fact, it was his father,

- conference in Miami.
- At a national criminal justice conference, students Jael Haecker, Lisa Roberts and Shelly Fritz, along with **Jill Miller**, professor of criminal justice, earned firsts in their competitions.
- Dr. Victoria Wacek, assistant professor of teacher education, along with her collaborator, received the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the National Association for Developmental Education.

Fall 2004

#### campus nev



# **Campus KUDOS**

• Senior Melissa Taylor was the only undergraduate student to present at an international economic

• The yearbook earned an All-American rating, the highest possible, for the 15th time in 16 years.



Student Christopher Buckles talks with Dr. Jason Baker, who recently coordinated agreements with two medical schools.

a graduate of KCUMB and Western, who initiated the conversations between that medical school and Western regarding the agreement.

"Missouri Western's science program is one of the best for preparing students for KCUMB," he said. "It really prepares students well for what they face in medical school."



#### **New Western Institute developed to offer** greater service to region

The new Western Institute opened its doors this summer, encompassing all educational and research outreach activities of the college, including Continuing Education "The Institute is a

one-stop shop for anyone in the community who needs educational or research services. If we can't provide it, we will find a source that does."

Dr. J. David Arnold, vice

student affairs

president of academic and

and Special Programs. "The Institute is a one-stop shop for anyone in the community who needs educational or research services. If we can't provide it, we will find a source that does. We take great pride in making that expertise available to the community, "said Dr. J. David Arnold, vice president of academic and student affairs.

The Institute will develop a variety of centers according to the needs of the community and the region. Examples of types of centers could include life science, economic research, or arts development. The programs already in place in Continuing Education will continue, he said.

David said the creation of the Institute is part of the college's five-year strategic plan, which calls for greater service to the region.

#### Founding director hired for Institute



Dr. Christopher Shove Director, Western Institute

**D**r. Christopher Shove was named founding director of the Western Institute in July. He was formerly the director of the Center for Geographic Information Science and Applied Geographics at the University of Toledo, Ohio, and a consultant for Space Data Systems, Inc. of Houston, where he had served as president of the company.

Christopher had also served as an associate professor in the regional and city planning division at the University of Oklahoma for 10 years.

He began his duties with the Institute July 26.



Dr. Ed Gorsky

#### **Dean of Continuing Education to retire**

**R** s he prepares to retire in AJanuary, Dr. Ed Gorsky, dean of Continuing Education and Special Programs, says he likes to wander over to the Fred Eder Building and peek into what had been his first office 18 years ago. There was just enough space for his secretary and him, and they were the entire Continuing Education Department.

When he was hired, fewer than 1.000 students were enrolled in a smattering of noncredit courses. He had a \$37,000 budget, and was given \$10,000 seed money to develop the department.

Ed, who announced his retirement last January, said that today, there are over 40,000 enrollments each year in continuing education courses, there are 55 employees and a \$3.5 to \$5 million budget for the self-supporting department.

#### **Author Bob Woodward to speak**

ob Woodward, author of the New York Times bestseller. "Plan of Attack," and Washington journalist who helped expose the Watergate scandal, will speak at the 11th annual Convocation on Critical Issues. His topic is "Plan of Attack: President Bush and the War on Terrorism."

Bob will speak at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14 in the M.O. Looney fieldhouse. The event is free and open to the public.

He will also speak at a dinner Monday evening on campus. For more information, call 816-271-5646.

#### **Caribbean Ritz a hit!**

The 10th annual Western Ambassadors' "Caribbean Cruise Night at the Ritz" raised over \$16,500 for scholarships for nontraditional students. Almost 300 attended this year's Night at the Ritz, the best attendance ever.

Also, a new Enright Family Scholarship for nontraditional students was announced that evening. As trustee, US Bank created the new scholarship on behalf of the funding committee of the W. Fairleigh Enright Charitable Trust.

Since 1989, the Western Ambassadors have raised over \$153,000 for nontraditional student scholarships.

athryn Koob, guest speaker At an Eggs and Issues in June, said that as a hostage in Iran for 444 days, there were times when "the intent was just to make it through the day." But then, there were other times when she would say, "Just get me through the next 15 minutes, Lord." "I am so sorry I was there (in Iran) in those Kathryn Koob with Dr. Jim Roever

circumstances. I know I could have fallen in love with Iran," she said. "I can't imagine a country more welcoming than Iran." She was director of the



Stephanie van Reigersberg, who was chief interpreter of the White House and State Department, recently visited Western to share her experiences of diplomacy and working with seven presidents. She is pictured with faculty members Dr. John Tapia and Denise Bartles Tapia, who arranged her visit, and President James Scanlon.

#### campus news



#### Former Iran hostage speaks at Western

Iranian-American Society in 1979 when she was taken hostage by student revolutionaries who supported the Ayatollah Khomeini.



"One of the most important things we need to learn and to understand is that things don't operate the way we think they ought to in the rest of the world. It doesn't matter what the facts are. We're dealing with perceptions.

"My parents taught me that different was just that - not better, not worse, just different. We have to make our children understand that."



#### **Employees honored** at ceremony

**\_\_**ight employees were honored recently at Western's annual employee awards ceremony.

Dr. Ken Rosenauer, associate professor of journalism, received the Dr. James V. Mehl Outstanding Faculty Scholarship Award, given annually to a faculty member who has shown unusually significant and meritorious achievement in professional scholarship.

Three faculty members were recipients of the Jesse Lee Myers Excellence in Teaching Award: Dr. Cindy Heider, assistant professor of teacher education; Dr. Mitchell Haney, assistant professor of philosophy; and Dr. Sharon Vestal, assistant professor of mathematics. The Myers award is given annually to faculty members who demonstrate extraordinary teaching ability and make outstanding contributions in their fields.

Four staff members received Presidential Citations for their outstanding contributions to the college through their performance: Mary Beth Alpers, Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department; Linda Garlinger, director of Career Development; Wayne Krause, mechanic; and Jerry Partridge, head football coach. Congratulations!

## **Professor to Ukraine on Fulbright**

**D**r. Robert Bergland, associate professor of English, was selected as a Fulbright Scholar to teach at the Luts'k Liberal Arts University in Ukraine for the spring 2005 semester.

"It's a very selective process, so to be chosen is quite an honor," said Robert. "This is an incredible learning opportunity for me."

He said he first became interested in Ukraine when journalists from that country visited Western in 1999. "I was intrigued by the struggles of the press in an emerging



Dr. Robert Bergland

democracy, especially a place which had been under Communist rule."

Along with teaching, Robert, who is Western's student newspaper advisor, hopes to conduct research to compare the student press at the Ukranian university to U.S. colleges. He said that is what he will miss the most during his semester in Ukraine - working with the Western students on the newspaper.



Andre Burns and Chanel Hansen try out one of the attractions at a campus carnival sponsored by several student organizations last spring. The carnival, open to the community, benefited St. Jude's Children's Hospital.



The new residential hall commons building, shown here in June, opened this fall. It features a lounge, coffee shop, convenience store and 24-hour service desk. The commons area, along with a 400-bed residence hall currently under construction, are the cornerstones of a learning communities initiative at Western.

#### \$117,111 grant aids area high schools

**C**tudents in science classes at several northwest Missouri high Uschools and middle schools benefited from a \$117,111 grant received by Western from the Missouri Department of Higher Education. The grant funded a two-week workshop for 13 area science teachers, and included the purchase of laboratory equipment for each of the schools.

Teachers at the workshop developed labs and investigative programs to help students learn about the elements of scientific investigation. Dr. Martin Johnson, dean of the school of liberal arts and sciences, was the principal investigator of the grant.

### **Alumnus joins Western Board of Regents**

"Kit" Bond.

nirck Clark, '85, was named La member of the Board of Regents at its April meeting. He will replace Lynn Watkins, whose term expired in October, and will serve a six-year term. Dirck, chief business

development officer at Heartland Health in St. Joseph, earned his bachelor's degree in management from Western, and a master's in healthcare administration from the University of Missouri. Prior to joining Heartland, he served as special assistant to U.S. Sen. Christopher

#### campus news

#### **Students gain** "a-broad" education

o you know Poland's top export commodity? Or the country's major manufacturing products? Students who enroll in Western's Global Viewpoint course this spring will find out those answers firsthand.

Global Viewpoint is a semester-long study of a country's economy and culture that culminates with a trip to that country to tour businesses and manufacturing facilities. This spring, Assistant Professor of Business Matrese Benkofske will teach the Poland class.

"It's a unique class. It gives students an up-close view of international operations," said Carol Roever, associate professor of business and past coordinator of the program. "They better understand that we are part of the global business community."

The biannual course has included visits to England, Scotland, Sweden, Finland, Germany and New Zealand.

He also serves as a board member on the Missouri Chamber of Commerce.

Student Robert Hughs of St. Joseph was sworn in as student regent at the May meeting. He is majoring in economics and finance.

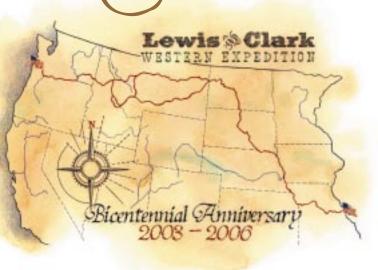
feature

#### TRAVELLER'S REST

Sept 9-10 1805 They had been down the Bitter Root Valley and halted here to secure a supply of venison before crossing the mountains to the west via the Lo Lo Pass. They named the spot revellers Rest, and it was at this camp that they first earned of the Indian road up Hell Gate leading to the country east of the main range of the Rockies. from the coast they again camped here from June July 3. When the party divided. Lewis took the the Buffa and after exploring the Marias River lark went via the Big flole. Beaver Valleys and the Yellowstone River. ezvous near the mouth of the of each other inexplored terrain, they were

# A In the footsteps of ewis and Clark

any have dreamed of the adventure and many have attempted it, but only one living man has achieved it. Western's instructor of English Mark Hamilton is the only person alive today to truly follow the footsteps of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. In 2000, almost 200 years after the Corps of Discovery, Mark traversed Lewis and Clark's entire



8,000-mile journey from Pittsburgh, Pa. to the Pacific and back. He did it by boat and pack mule using no motorized transportation, and he followed the explorers' timetable.

"The world gets very big when you give up your car and travel two to three miles per hour," Mark said. "Fifty miles seems like a long way." The westward journey was mostly upriver, and Mark paddled eight or nine hours on an average day.

His interest in the Expedition began with a literature class at San Diego State University in 1985. The professor spoke often of the multivolume journals of Lewis and Clark, and Mark began to study them.

The journals of Servis and Clark and Mark Mark Hamilton, instru-studying the journals

William Clark since 1985, and in 2000, became the only living person to travel the entire trail by boat and pack mule on the explorers' timetable. Below are excerpts from the journals of his unique journey along the Lewis and Clark trail (see "In the footsteps of Lewis and Clark") alongside excerpts from Clark's journals. More can be found on his website, www.lewisandclarkandmark.com.

Steve Plucker, a Walla Walla onion farmer and local historian welcomes us. He has two horses and private owners' permissions for our trek over the Celio Falls Indian Trail. It will save us 80 miles.

there was a good road Which passed from the Columbia opposit to this Village to the enterance of Kooskooske on the S. Side of Lewis's river,...it would Shorten the rout at least 80 miles....

#### Mark May 11, 2000

A blustery, chilly day. There is snow and slush up at higher elevations. Sandi and Gayle stop to talk. They invite us to stay the night out of the rain. It is windy; hail and overcast skies.

S.W. accompanied with rain untill from 7 oClock untill 9 P.M. when it began to Snow and Continued all night.

Encamped with two outboards and five fisherman, I'm offered some walleye and hash browns, good cheer around an open fire. 29.5 miles today.

#### ...those indians informed me they were Yanktons, .... I invited them down to the boats to Smoke. when we arived at the 1st of September 1801 Canoes they alleagerly Saluted the Mandan Chief, and we all Set and Smoked Several pipes. we came 52 miles to day only with a head wind.

"I wanted to experience it (the Expedition) for myself to enhance my ability to express it appropriately. I'm trying to sense the poetry in the journals," Mark said. "I think I am now more sensitive to what they're writing. I can fill in the gaps."

Lewis and Clark's lengthy journals of what they witnessed along the Missouri River did not include barges, factories, dams, railroad tracks, refineries and highways as Mark's journals did, but Mark said he still experienced the beauty and awe of the wilderness.

Mark Hamilton, instructor of English, has been studying the journals of Meriwether Lewis and

while here we were met by the principal Cheif of the Wal lah wal lah Nation and Several of his nation...the Indians informed us that

we precured Some pounded roots of which a Supe was made thick on which we Suped. the wind blew hard from the

"The elements were still out there just as Lewis and Clark had written so many years ago. I occasionally caught a glimpse of what they must have seen."

The longer he traveled, the more he felt a kindred spirit with wildlife and the natural world. "New doors were opened to me as I found myself in a relationship with the environment. When I did the route, I connected in very important and significant ways to the environment.

"For me, the entire journey was an opportunity in learning how to love the earth."

#### **Adventure awaits Outdoor Semester Students**

"I journeyed to communicate our heritage, celebrate multiculturalism and to honor the Native American," says Western's instructor of English Mark Hamilton about his trek along the Lewis and Clark trail (see "In the Footsteps of Lewis and Clark," p. 10).

That is exactly what he hopes to pass on to the students who are enrolled in Western's fourth Outdoor Semester this fall. As part of the program, Mark will join students and fellow faculty members on a two-week journey which includes a three-day canoe trip on the upper Missouri River in Montana that follows Lewis and Clark's path.

*The give The give them a whale range of cxperiences aut there. aut there. it is the of the most exotic* places on the entire 8,000-mile route," said Mark. "The amazing scenery is almost unbelievable." Outdoor Semester is a program where students spend 12 weeks in the classroom and 12 to 14 days traveling. The multidisciplinary program includes integrated courses in writing, music, literature, geography and outdoor education Semester,

Dr. Elizabeth Sawin. Professor of English "It is one of the most exotic

geography and outdoor education. *Qn Quitcloar* A common thread throughout each course is Native American studies.

The Lewis and Clark *magical things always happen. component was added this year in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of their journey. Also new this year is a Perspectives in Music sources tought by Dr.* component was added this year in Music course, taught by Dr. Deborah Freeman, associate professor of music. In that course, participants study Native American

music including flute, drumming and fiddle playing.

Students earn 16 hours credit for the Outdoor Semester but Dr. Elizabeth Sawin, professor of English and program director, said they gain a lot more than college credit

"We give them a whole range of experiences out there," said Elizabeth. "Our students have experiences with the natural world that helps them become good citizens. They learn to care for our planet."

Elizabeth noted that when students leave behind their televisions, cell phones and CD players, they become more open to appreciate the natural world around them. "On Outdoor Semester, magical things always happen."

#### **Athletic Department Hall of** Fame Class of 2004 announced

The Athletic Department recently announced the Hall of Fame inductees for 2004. The Hall of Fame banquet will be Friday, Sept. 17 at the St. Joseph Ramada Inn, and the honorees will be inducted at halftime of the football game Sept. 18. For more information or to make reservations for the banquet, call 816-271-4481.

#### Jack Burgess, '73

Jack played football as a defensive back from 1970-72. He held all Western interception records until the mid-1990s.

#### Nick Finn, '75

Nick, a baseball pitcher from 1972-75, was named NAIA All-District and All-Area in 1974, and was a member of the 1975 NAIA World Series team. He won eight games in both 1974 and 1975, and holds a career record of 27-15.

#### Chris Sumrell, '80

Chris played volleyball, basketball and tennis from 1976-80. She participated in two national tournaments during the same season for volleyball and tennis. Chris was named all-CSIC in volleyball and basketball.

#### **Darrell Van Lengen**, '80

Darrell, a four-year letterwinner, played football from 1976-79. He was a two-time NAIA All-District offensive lineman, team captain one season, and was named All-Central States Intercollegiate Conference in 1979.

#### Hillyard Inc., Bob and J.R. Roth, **Jim Carolus and Scott Hillvard**

Hillyard Inc. has been a vital part of the Athletic Department, especially the men's and women's basketball teams, for over 25 years. Hillyard is a key corporate member of Griffon Athletics and the St. Joseph community.



Coach Tom Smith

#### Women's hoops names new coach

osh Keister was named the Unew head basketball coach after the resignation of Dave Slifer last spring. Josh has served as assistant coach at Western for seven years.

This past season, the women's basketball team advanced to the NCAA

**Division II National** Championships for the eighth straight season. Western's Danielle McKinley of Evanston, Ill. and Eldra Paixao of San Paulo, Brazil were named first-team, All-MIAA. Eldra was also the MIAA's Defensive Player of the Year.

#### **Athletes honored**

nongratulations to golfer Taira Roth of St. Joseph and football Uplayer Eric McDowell of Savannah, Mo.! They were named Female and Male Student-Athlete of the Year (*pictured below*).



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#### **Coach Tom Smith has noteworthy season**

Western men's head basketball coach Tom Smith reached a coaching milestone in 2003-04, becoming the ninth active head coach in the NCAA Division II to win 500 games. Tom, a 29-year coaching veteran with 16 years at Western, won the noteworthy game with a home win over Southwest Baptist.

He was also inducted into the Missouri Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mo. in July.

#### Spring sports rock

The baseball team had another outstanding season with a 33-18 record. Senior catcher Brian Desch. Olathe, Kan., made 1st-Team All-MIAA.

The Griffon softball team also had an outstanding season, posting a 31-19 overall record. Head coach Jen Bagley was named the Wilson/MIAA Coach of the Year.

The men's golf team advanced to the NCAA national tournament in 2004, led by sophomore Brice Garnett. Brice became the first individual men's golfer from Western to play in the NCAA Division II National Golf Championships. He won the NCAA Division II Central/Great Lakes Super Regional Tournament - another Griffon first - after taking medalist honors at the MIAA Championships a week earlier.

#### Thank you, **Gold Coat supporters!**

The Griffon Gold Coat Fund Drive eclipsed the \$400,000 goal for the 2004 Drive.

#### A message from the Foundation President



#### Dear Friends,

Every time I drive onto the Western campus, I feel an overwhelming sense of pride when I think how Western offers students so many excellent opportunities for success.

Now, more than ever before, I sense Western coming into its own and emerging as a leader in higher education. The college's focus on applied learning,

community service and academic excellence has it poised for greatness. And the best part is, you can help us get there!

As president of the Foundation, I call upon you, our loyal alumni and friends, to demonstrate your pride in Western. With your financial support, we can face the opportunities and challenges that await us with confidence and a tremendous amount of momentum.



Groundbreaking for the Fulkerson Center, set to open next spring, was held in March. Pictured are Ralph Schank, Alumni Association; Susan Colgan, Board of Regents; Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president; Dr. Ed Gorsky, then dean of Continuing Education; Stan Hall, Foundation: and Dr. James Roever, then vice president for Institutional Advancement.

#### **Creating golden** opportunities

*Vou have the chance to create* golden opportunities for students by contributing to Western. Jerry Pickman, director of development, recently spoke about giving to Western, and what it means to students and donors:

#### How are contributions used?

Donor gifts provide our students with opportunities that set Western apart from other colleges and universities. These gifts support scholarships, Study Abroad programs, internships, library materials and a variety of outstanding experiences for students. Why would a person want to give to Western? At Western, our students come first. Gifts make it possible for us to set the standard for excellence in student development and community leadership. Many times, a scholarship means the difference in whether a student can meet his or her educational goals. When can I make a gift to Western?

We rely on unrestricted or restricted gifts from alumni and friends each year. Gifts can be made anytime throughout the year. Many donors determine their gift at the end of the calendar year to coincide with tax benefits.



Lori England, '91, and her husband, Jesse

#### Alum sets up accounting scholarship

As an accountant, Lori England, '91, has traveled from New Mexico to Alaska. She is a successful business owner and has garnered a wealth of stories from her travels.

However, she remembers what a financial struggle college was for her, so Lori, president of HTA Solutions, Inc., of Omaha, Neb., established an annual scholarship recently for accounting students.

"I relied on grants, scholarships and jobs to get through school. I wanted to help others because we need students who work hard and stick by their ethics."

As a freshman at Western. To this day, Lori says she "I would encourage

Lori worked for Helen Taylor, a former instructor. "I learned so much more than accounting from Helen. She taught me how to treat clients and employees, run an office, and how to strive to be the best person that I can be. She made accounting fun." finds accounting fun, and her clients tell her she is not a "typical" accountant. accounting students to be open minded when it comes to making choices in their industry. Today, accountants do not just have to work in

accounting firms."

#### Welsh Trust benefits college

The Western Foundation received \$25,000 recently from the Clare Reeder Welsh Trust. Clare, an active community volunteer, died March 31, 2003 at the age of 92. From 1946 until her retirement in 1978, she worked for the city of St. Joseph's finance department. Her husband, Walter, who died in 1989, worked at City Hall for 52 years.

#### stewardship news

#### **Thank you!**

Your contributions make a difference! Below are just a few examples of programs funded this past year by your support of the college Foundation: **Student publication -**"Canvas," a new student literary journal, provides a forum for the writings and photography of students, alumni and faculty. The journal is produced by Western students. **Chemathon and Science** Fair - Hundreds of high school students visited campus last year through Foundation-funded events such as the Chemathon and a science and engineering fair. **Student Excellence Fund -**Thanks to this fund, students received financial assistance to attend conferences and present their research across the country. Travel and Study Abroad -Several students received monetary assistance to help with Travel and Study Abroad expenses. Almost 170 students took advantage of travel opportunities offered by the college last year. Lecture Series - Several departments hosted speakers this past year, including a professor of philosophy and environmental studies from Vermont, and a historic preservation consultant.

### **Changing of the guard for Institutional Advancement** Dan Nicoson named new vice president

**D**an Nicoson became the new vice president for institutional advancement July 1, bringing 31 years of advancement experience

to Western. As vice president, Dan oversees the offices of development, alumni services, publications and public relations and marketing. He serves as a member of the president's cabinet and as

executive director of the Western Foundation.

"Dan brings to Western clear expertise and extensive experience in the area of development," said President James Scanlon. "He knows how to lead a team of professionals in the best interest of the institution he serves."

"I am excited to be here," Dan said. "The mission of Western is right in line with my personality and beliefs."

In his new role, he has visited with several Western alumni.

"The alumni I have met expressed great pride in Western. I hope we can develop that same feeling on a widespread basis."

He noted that Western has a strong commitment to individual student success, and that helps build alumni loyalty. "Where there is that

> commitment, there is usually a strong tradition of alumni

> > helping those students who follow them." He has also

been meeting with community leaders and friends of Western. "I hope constituents will be comfortable talking with

me about the work and needs of Western, and how the college can match their

Dan Nicoson

personal interests." Dan was the president of Vincennes University Foundation in Vincennes, Ind. since 1990. Prior to that he was assistant to the president for advancement at Marian College in Indianapolis. Dan also served as the director of development at the University of

Indianapolis and has taught at the Indiana University Center

on Philanthropy since 1982.

He received his baccalaureate degree in secondary education from University of Indianapolis and his master's degree in secondary education from Indiana State University. "I have been impressed

with the enthusiasm and professionalism of the entire advancement team and look forward to furthering the work of the college."

#### **Jim Roever retires** as vice president

**im Roever**, vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the Western Foundation, retired June 30 after a 19-year career with Western. He was hired as vice president for academic affairs and assumed the institutional advancement role in 2002.

"I am pleased to have been granted the opportunity to participate in an institution that is so dedicated to students," said Jim. "It's been a privilege to work with students who are learning, developing and maturing, and to participate in the growth of the faculty and staff."



Dr. Jim Roever

Jim said he feels fortunate to have had two careers at Western, and he enjoyed closing out his service to the college in institutional advancement.

"It was a real pleasure to end a 19-year career at Western with such a great team. We put together a team of spirited and dedicated individuals who assumed the responsibility of putting forward to the public the strengths of Western."

He said one of his proudest accomplishments in academic affairs was to have served on the design team that produced the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building. He noted that when it opened in 1998, it was the only building on campus with the advanced teaching technology. Now, all campus buildings have been upgraded.

Jim, a native of Wisconsin, said he and his wife, Carol, associate professor of business at Western, plan to stay in St. Joseph.



allows you to purchase a special Western license plate. All you need is a verification letter from us. Call 816-271-5651 for details.

Fall 2004

**Telefund '04 called** a success

elefund 2004 was a success, according to Julie Fiedler, director of alumni services. Almost \$64,000 was raised over the five weeks of calling. "We really appreciate the support of our alumni," said Julie. "The success of the Telefund is due to their unfailing generosity." As in years past, Cingular Wireless donated cell phones and free long distance for the student callers.

Would you like to receive a monthly E-Newsletter for alumni? If so, please click on the newsletter link at www.mwsc.edu/alumni, fill o ut the short form, and we will add you to our list!



Bob and Jennifer, '03, Hughs attend the alumni networking social that was held last spring at the Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art. Over 75 alumni and business leaders gathered for the event. Bob is currently a student at Western.

Fall 2004



Morgan Cobb is teased by "Joe" at the second annual Alum Night at the Saints in June. Her mom is Teresa Cobb. '93. Area alums were also invited to the city's Parties on the Parkway event in June.





Julie Fiedler Director of Alumni Services

t Western, Homecoming has been a tradition since 1970 - that is 34 years of floats, football, and festivities! Alumni are always welcome to "come home" to Western, but Homecoming weekend is a great time to see the campus alive with energy and enjoy the festivities with the students. This year, we are

encouraging all of our alumni

to visit to see how the college



has grown and changed. Even with all the changes, we have maintained the quality education that was created when it was a Junior College.

Western continues to grow and change today. Several construction projects are underway on campus - the Fulkerson Center, which

will have a

facility for

500; a new

400-bed

residence

hall, and a

commons

banquet

"Homecoming is a great time to see the campus alive with energy."

building for students to gather.

Alumni Services is growing and changing, too. Our office and other Institutional Advancement staff are planning to take Western on the road this year to reconnect alumni to the college through events and programs. A survey was mailed this summer to several geographical areas that have a concentration of alumni.

The survey response was very positive and has helped us plan events outside of the

> St. Joseph community. It also gave us the opportunity to find out how alumni wanted to be reconnected or involved with Western, whether

it was mentoring students, assisting with admissions efforts or serving on a campus committee.

With this information, we are developing new programs and initiatives.

In an effort to reach out to more alumni, we have created an online survey. If you would like to give us your input, please go to www.mwsc.edu/alumni and click on Online Interest Survey. We appreciate your feedback!

#### A new name!

Congratulations to Julie (Lawrence) Fiedler, director of Alumni Services! Julie and Travis Fiedler were married May 1 in St. Joseph. Her new e-mail address is fiedler@mwsc.edu. The phone number is the same - 816-271-5650.



Warren Chelline, professor emeritus of English, and Ralph Schank, Alumni Association Board, rest on a new bench on campus dedicated to the memory of Bob Berger. Bob was the financial aid director for 31 years and a member of the Alumni Association Board for 20 years.

# **Happy 35!**

Thirty-five years ago this fall, students began attending classes on the new campus of what was then called Missouri Western College. When the first four-year class graduated in May 1970, the Alumni Association celebrated the accomplishments of the 46 graduates with the first annual Commencement Breakfast. The Alumni Association was established in early 1970 with

John P. Beihl, '57, serving as the first president.

In a 1970 newsletter, John wrote, "Our prime goal is to assist Missouri Western in becoming one of the finest four-year colleges in the nation."

Thanks to those who laid a great foundation!

#### **Alumni Directories** are on their way!

f you ordered an Alumni Directory, they will be arriving in your mailbox in October!

If you would still like to order a directory, it's not too late! You may do so by calling Harris Publishing Co. at 800-877-6554. However, please note that quantities are limited.

Fall 2004

Do you have a great story or

Alumni and friends gathered at Harpos Restaurant and Bar in Kansas City to kick off the MIAA men's and women's basketball tournament in March.

Fall 2004

memories to share about your favorite Western or **Junior College professor?** I am looking for your stories for upcoming issues! E-mail me at holtz@mwsc.edu, or write Diane Holtz, Missouri Western, MC106, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507

### Welcome, new **Alumni Board** members!

The Alumni Association welcomed eight new board members at their annual meeting in April, and they began their terms July 1:

Dr. Jeanne Daffron, '75, is the assistant vice president of Academic and Student Affairs at Western.

David Lau, '89, is the development and special events coordinator for the Athletic Department.

Charlie Burri, '55, is the commissioner of the Heart of America Athletic Conference.

Taylor Crouse, '01, is the vice president and general manager of the Breit & Hawkins Funeral Home in Savannah. Mo.

David Gall, '94, is an accounting coordinator for the St. Joseph News-Press.

Rita Houston, '84, is product manager at Wire Rope Corporation of America in St. Joseph.

Nancy Pilgram, '99, is a loan processor for Novastar Home Mortgage in St. Joseph.

Art Warner, '75, is with IDE Capitol Realty in St. Joseph.

Thank you to the outgoing board members whose terms expired in June - Denise Bartles Tapia, '74, and Lon Farrow, '73.

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# alumni news & events

# Join us for Homecoming "gold Rush '04!"

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

# Friday, October 8 Campus Tours & Open Houses 4-6 p.m.

Wondering what has changed on campus? Take a campus tour with a Western V.I.P. or attend the open houses across campus.

#### **Alumni Awards Banquet** Reception - 5:30 p.m.; Banquet - 6:30 p.m.

Join us in honoring the Alumni Association Scholarship recipients and the 2004 Distinguished Alumni and Faculty Awardees. The 2004 Distinguished Alumni are Dan Kampen, '81, Sean Nash, '91, Thomas Schneider, '64, and Nannette Wolford, '73. The 2004 Distinguished Faculty member is **Dr. Steven** Greiert, professor of history. Cost is \$18 per person.

#### Spirit Rally and Bonfire Get pepped up with

students at the Spirit Rally and the Homecoming Bonfire!

# Saturday, October 9 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.

#### Tailgate Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Join your friends for a great lunch at the Alumni Pavilion.

#### Go Griffons! 2 p.m.

Cheer on the football team as they take on the Truman State University Bulldogs. 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.

#### **Post-game Party** 30 minutes after the game.

#### **Alumni Banquet Reservation Form**

Please complete this form and return it with your payment by September 29 to: Missouri Western State College, Alumni Services Office, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507

Enclosed is \$ (\$18 each) for reservations to the Awards Banquet. □ I cannot attend the Banquet. Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$18 each) to pay for scholarship recipients.

Please bill my 🛛 Visa	□ Mastercard □ Discover	Card #		
Exp. Date	Signature			
Make checks payable to Missouri Western State College.				
Name	Address			
City, State, Zip				

Please list names of banquet guests on a separate paper and include with your reservation. You may register online at www.mwsc.edu/alumni

# Alumnotes

#### Mary Ann (McCarthy)

Fenner, '40, wrote that she has been "active in one way or another in the college since groundbreaking day." Her husband, George, '35, now deceased, was president of the Alumni Association twice, and Mary Ann currently serves on the board. The retired real estate broker said she has even attended classes as a nontraditional student. She resides in St. Joseph.

#### Earl Riddle, '40, and Etta Kathryn "Kitty"

(McGauhey), '40, Riddle reside in Portland, Ore. They both earned bachelor's degrees in 1942, and Earl earned a master's in divinity and a doctor of ministry. Kitty recently retired from 60 years of private piano teaching, and Earl served as a minister or executive in the United Methodist Church in Oregon and Idaho for 54 years. "Those were happy days at the JC," Earl said.

Helen Cassanos, '41, and her husband, Peter, of Clearwater, Fla., have 10 grandchildren under eight years of age. Their oldest son, Peter, was recently inducted into Hanover College's Athletes' Hall of Fame.

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children.

Chuck Haskins, '71, of Woodbury, Minn., retired after 30 years with 3M.

Doug L. Hedrick, '76, is superintendent for two school districts, Appleton City R-II and Adrian R-III. He and his family reside in Adrian, Mo.

Pam Kent, '79, was named principal at Mark Twain Elementary School in St. Joseph. She was principal in the Craig, Mo. School District for 19 years.

#### **JC** alum honored

Edward "Norman" Peterson. '48. was selected as the 2004 Distinguished Teacher at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, the highest award the university can bestow on a faculty member. Selection is through polling of graduating seniors and recent graduates. Norman has taught at the college since 1954 and has not missed a day of teaching. He is recognized as a preeminent scholar on Nazi Germany and the Russian occupation of East Germany and Poland following WWII.

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Judith (Matthews) Geer, '55, and her husband, Bill, have lived in Galesburg, Ill. since 1963. Judith is a retired preschool teacher and Bill retired from the Biology Department at Knox College in Galesburg. They have three grown

Lee Bush, '84, accepted an appointment as assistant professor of communication at Elon University in North Carolina. He was previously senior vice president of Ketchum PR in Chicago.

Jackie Dix, '86, of Stewartsville, Mo., is the art director of St. Joseph's newest magazine, Josephine.

Melissa (Steele) Moran, '86, joined Reece & Nichols Real Estate in Kansas City, Mo. and was named Rookie of the Quarter for three quarters.

Susan (Kneib) Schank, '86, received the FOX 4 Crystal Apple for Excellence in Teaching and was named Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. She is the library media specialist for the Park Hill School District and resides in Parkville, Mo.

Brent Skinner, '86, was hired as principal of Central School in Chillicothe, Mo.

Tammie (Trouba) Noonan, '91, and husband, Kevin, announce the birth of twin sons, Joshua Thomas and Ryan Joseph, born Dec. 19, 2003. They also have a daughter Catherine. The family resides in Lincoln, Neb.

Corey Sloan, '91, was named police chief of Cameron, Mo.

S. Craig Hufford, '93, is a licensed professional counselor with the Missouri Dept. of Corrections, and has joined the faculty of the St. Louis campus of the University of Phoenix. He resides in St. Louis.

Steve Swymeler, Jr., '94, joined First Horizon Home Loans in St. Joseph as a relationship manager.

Marnie Trimble, '95, and Kevin Johnson were married Dec. 13, 2003. She is a nursing supervisor with the Andrew Co. Health Dept. The couple resides in Savannah. Mo.

Susan (Hayden) Mead, '96, became licensed to practice therapeutic massage and is associated with JC's Health and Energy in St. Joseph.

#### **Alumnus surgeon** returns to Vietnam

"After 40 years, the character of the people was the same, but most everything else had changed," said Dr. William Gondring, '56, after volunteering as a surgeon in Vietnam almost 40 years after he had served there as a U.S. Naval surgeon in 1965-66

In 2003, Dr. Gondring, who has his practice in St. Joseph, returned to Vietnam with the Prosthetics Outreach Foundation and the American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society to perform operations on disabled children and amputees.

"This is a great program," he said. "I intend to go over again when the opportunity arises. It has changed my life beyond measure."

Christina S. Smith, '96, joined the law firm of Cady and Campbell, LLC, of Platte City, Mo.

Nicholas Muller, '97, earned a master's degree in nurse anesthesia and received the distinguished graduate award for the class of 2004.

Taira Hepburn, '98, was promoted to senior associate in the assurance area at Clifton Gunderson in St. Joseph.

Michael Ireland, '98, was promoted to small-business banking specialist at Commerce Bank in Columbia, Mo.

Kellie Bogie, '99, and Benjamin Austene, announce the birth of a son. Alan John. born Dec. 22, 2003. Kellie is working on her master's degree in high school counseling. She is currently a high school Spanish teacher in Ashland, Mo.

Kimberlev Evans, '99, and Matthew Rodriguez were married in January 2004. The couple resides in Brookfield, Mo., where she teaches elementary special education.

Dotty Dobbs, '00, earned a master's degree in social welfare from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, and also passed her state licensure exam. She is employed as an LMSW mental health therapist

at St. Francis Academy, Inc. of Atchison, Kan. She and her husband, Steve, reside in Atchison.

Melissa Vlasis, '00, graduated from Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Mo., with an associate of science in nursing. She accepted an RN position at North Kansas City Hospital in the ICU.

Aaron Edwards, '02, is the instrumental music director at Atchison High School, Atchison, Kan.

Lindsav Fiscus, '03, is a Kansas City Chiefs cheerleader. She resides in St. Joseph.

Jessie Holeman, '03, and Brent Homerding, '04, were married Jan. 3, 2004.

Nancy Horton, '03, was named librarian at the Ben Ferrel Museum in Platte City, Mo.

Kim Kelley, '03, was promoted to senior accountant in the small business accounting and advisory area at Clifton Gunderson of St. Joseph.

Tammy Wedlock, '03, passed her examination to become a registered health information technician.

#### In Memory ...

We honor those alums who have recently passed away. If you want us to include someone in this listing, please call (816) 271-5651, e-mail holtz@mwsc.edu or mail to Alumni Services Office, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507.

Dena G. Bachman, '81, St. Joseph, May 7, 2004. Billie J. Barclay, St. Joseph, Dec. 15, 2003. Billie was a former member of the Foundation Board. Kenneth W. Castle, '34, St. Joseph, Dec. 19, 2003. Glen L. Crawford, '48, St. Joseph, Jan. 12, 2004. **Lucile Ellington Evans** Donovan, '30, Gower, Mo., June 27, 2003. Margaret A. Earhart, '49, Stockton, Mo., Jan. 30, 2004. **Donald E. Farris, Junior** College, Plattsburg, Mo., Jan. 26, 2004. Barbara Potter Fox, St. Joseph, Jan. 5, 2004. Barbara

was the widow of Thompson E. Potter, for whom Western's Fine Arts Building is named. John Gabbert, '75, Grain Valley, Mo., Dec. 14, 2003. Col. Edward L. Grace, '71, St. Joseph, April 27, 2004. Frederick C. Hunt, Junior College, St. Joseph, Dec. 17, 2003. Jack R. Kessberger, '42, St. Joseph, Jan. 6, 2004. Gregory F. Knapp, '87, Savannah, Mo., Jan. 31, 2004. Charles E. Listrom, Parkville, Mo., March 21, 2004. Virginia E. Maxey, '27, St. Joseph, Feb. 22, 2004. Dr. Birt McClure, '42, St. Joseph, Dec. 21, 2003. Robert D. McCoppin, '58, North Ogden, Utah, March 16, 2004. Mary Catherine McDonald, Junior College, St. Joseph, Dec. 14.2003. John P. Nerney, Junior College, St. Joseph, Dec. 13, 2003. Paul M. Quinn, Junior College, St. Joseph, Feb. 23, 2004. Joseph L. Roe, Junior College, St. Joseph, April 13, 2004. Helen Roth, '77, St. Joseph, Jan. 18, 2004.

### 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

Fall 2004

Karen (Hoffman) Rounds, St. Joseph, Dec. 9, 2003. **Roy E. Schaefer, Junior** College, San Antonio, Dec. 1, 2003. Alan Schilling, '68, Rea, Mo., Feb. 5, 2004. Kermit "Wavne" Smith, '80, St. Joseph, Nov. 16, 2003. John A. Swanson, Sr., Junior College, St. Joseph, Dec. 19, 2003. John K. Ward, '83, of Topeka, Kan., Feb. 24, 2004. Dana L. (Sewell) Williams, '85, Beatrice, Neb., Feb. 18, 2004. Jeffrev E. Yeaklev, '78, St. Joseph, Feb. 12, 2004.

#### Dr. Judith Martin dies

Dr. Judith Martin, Kansas City, died May 22. She was hired at Western as a professor of English in 1991. She later developed and directed Western's Center for Excellence in Teaching.



Beyond the Tears

A True Survivor's Story

Lynn C. Tolson

Lynn's book is available for sale at www.1stbooks.com.

feature **Security** a er or "I thought about what it meant to be a survivor. I had overcome adversity and endured dysfunction. I lived through ordeals, faced demons and death, and reconstructed myself. I was a survivor."

> Those are the words of Lynn Tolson, '03, in her book, "Beyond the Tears: A True Survivor's Story," that was published the same month she



graduated with a degree in social work.

In the book, Lynn, who enrolled at Western at age 47, tells the story of a childhood of sexual and emotional abuse and a mentally ill parent. It begins with her suicide attempt at age 25, and goes on to relate how her commitment to counseling made her realize the value of living.

"I wasn't writing for myself. I was writing for all women who

Lynn Tolson, Class of 2003

oppression. I hope my book promotes understanding of the issues that cause individual suffering and plague our society," said Lynn. "Sexual assault, addiction and suicide are social problems that carry stigmas. Those stigmas cast a code of silence that do not solve problems."

have suffered

Lynn is a survivor in another way, too. With her book in its final stages, she was about to begin her semester-long social work practicum at the local YWCA when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"It was ironic," she said. "The book I was writing began with a suicide attempt, and by the time it was published I was fighting very hard for my life."

Lynn is grateful for the support she received from Dr. Martha Ellison, assistant professor of social work, and the YWCA to help her complete her practicum while enduring chemotherapy treatments.

"They made every effort possible to be flexible, to support me and to see me through. I am so pro-Missouri Western, and so grateful for my nontraditional education. My Missouri Western experience was very enriching."

Today, Lynn is working on a memoir of her breast cancer experiences, co-writing a book with Martha, who is a breast cancer survivor, also. They both had very different experiences with their cancers and treatments, Lynn said, and the book will compare and contrast those experiences.

A third book is also in the works, one that deals with creating lasting relationships and learning to trust again. Lynn's working title is

"Beyond the Fears."

Since graduating, she also has made several presentations to a variety of groups. Today, when readers of her book relate that they had similar childhood experiences, Lynn says she is able to direct them to the right community resources for help, thanks to her degree.

"By bringing my dark secrets to light, it is my hope that others who have had similar experiences will know they are not alone. Readers may explore their own emotions to open lines of communication, eliminate shame and experience healing."

Fall 2004



January 1 and June 30, 2004.

Gerald Abbott Janet Abbott Lori Ackerman Larry Ackley Jeffery Adams Marc Adams Ernest Adwell Karen Akers Kathleen Alber Lila Albertson Erika Albin Jennie Albright James Allaman Freda Allen Marwood Allen Kristine Alley Norman Allev Ravdena Allison Brian Almanza David Alvarez **Beatrice Anderson** Carol Anderson Morgan Anderson Larry Andrews Leonard Archer **Ronald Armstrong** Gregory Arnold Kirk Arnold Mirium Arnold Nancy Arnold Lesa Arthaud Timothy Ashworth **Gregory Atchity** Gail Atkins Lori Atkins Shelley Atkins David Atkinson Kellie Austene Paul Baack Charles Babcock James Babich Scott Bachman Paul Bagnarol Andrew Baker Dan Baker Karen Baker Marilyn Baker James Ball Shirley Ball Joel Bally Carol Baltezor Michael Baltezor William Bangerter Amber Banks

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Jamie Banks Sara Barati Keenan Barker Jamie Barnard Karen Barnes Christy Barron Elna Barron Kelly Barrows Barbara Barton Franklin Barton Bozica Bartulica Alice Batson-Stepanek Ray Baur Angela Beam Lorrie Beck Susan Becker Paula Beerv Bonnie Behrman Barbara Bein Brian Bell Fred Bell Gary Bell Shelly Bell Karol Bembrick Roy Benner Patricia Bennett Frieda Bensing Sandra Berger Tod Berger John Bermond Jack Bidding Monty Biggerstaff **Richard Bigham** Kimberly Billesbach Jim Birnbaum George Bishop Bart Bjustrom Janice Blair Brian Blake Kit Blake Deborah Blakely Leslie Blakley Susan Blakley Christy Blaney Linda Blank Linda Blankenship Rebecca Bledsoe Virgie Bledsoe Llovd Boatright Gail Bodde Stephen Bodenhausen Mary Boehner Mickey Bohart Gene Bollman

Charles Bond Jenny Bonham Don Borngesser Vernon Boswell Kim Bowmaster Jennifer Boydston Donna Boyer Rex Boyer Shelly Boyle Jobeth Bradbury David Bradshaw Janet Bradshaw Mabel Brahler Michael Bray Mary Breit David Brentano Michael Brickey Randall Brickey Diane Bringus Sondra Brinton Harry Broadhead Kathy Brock Terence Brock Kylee Brockmann James Brooke Debbie Brooner Barbara Brown Cathleen Brown Cathy Brown Harold Brown Jennifer Brown Marsha Brown Byron Browne Eric Brumback Cecilia Brunner John Bruno Fred Bruns Susan Brush Nelda Bryan Kernan Bryant Marshall Bucher Jennifer Buck Carol Buckles Gail Buckles Barbara Buckley Randy Buckman Marion Buczek Stephen Buhman Chervl Bundy Tricia Burch Brenda Burgess **Ronald Burgess** Roger Burnham Dorothy Burns

# The following is a list of those who donated to the Western Alumni Association between

Nina Burns Jeffrey Burress Karen Burris Christopher Burwell Betty Bush Lee Bush Joanne Bussinger Lori Butcher Kathleen Butler Stacy Bye Phyllis Byers Christy Callaway Marvin Campbell Catherine Carlton **Richard Carroll** Barbara Carson Debra Carver Matthew Carver Helen Cassanos Janice Cassell Ronald Cassell Joseph Castellan Joseph Castillo **Richard Cates** Craig Cebulko Michelle Cebulko Meredith Cecil Anita Chancey Angela Chmidling Kenneth Christgen Rita Christgen Ellen Church Eugene Clark Jennifer Clark **Richard Clark** Sarah Clark Gerald Clarke Maxine Clinkenbeard Cheryl Cluck Mary Cobb **Richard Cobb** Teresa Cobb Wesley Coffer Harold Colboch William Cole Jr Ashley Collings Mary Colvin Timothy Conard Frank Connett Rita Connett C Conover Sheri Conrad Kellie Conrady Thomas Consodine

Patrick Conway David Cook Joseph Coons Arley Cordonier Lori Cordonnier Wilma Corkins Cindy Cornelius Robert Cornett Vicky Coss Donald Cotter Betty Coulter Donald Coulter Betty Courter Larry Courtney Agnes Covault Scott Covault Deborah Cox Stormy Cox John Craft Paul Crawford M Lorraine Crews Jeffrey Crockett David Crook Stacy Crook Melody Crowder David Crowl Teresa Crowl Yvonne Crowley David Crownover Peter Culver Kevin Cummings James Cunningham Donna Curran Janis Curran Elaine Curtis Joseph Cusack Christine Daffron Jeannetta Danford Clyde Daniels Romme Darrah Gwendolyn Davis Corla Dawson Karen Day Shirley Day Steven Deaton Michael Debenito Avanell Dedman Margaret Degenhardt Judy Denney Barbara Denny Doris DeVault Larry Dial Roberta Dias Donald Dick

Western Magazine

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# **Calendar of Events**

14	Convocation on Critical Issues. Speaker
	Bob Woodward - "Plan of Attack: President Bush
	and the War on Terrorism," 9:30 a.m.
	M.O. Looney Fieldhouse.
30-	"Blithe Spirit," by Noel Coward. 8 p.m.
3	Sept. 30, Oct. 1 & 2; 2 p.m. Oct. 3,
	Potter Fine Arts Theater.
3	Alumni Awards Banquet, Nelle Blum
	Student Union, 5:30 p.m. reception; 6:30 p.m. dinner.
)	Homecoming: Parade-9:30 a.m.
	Tailgate Lunch-11:30 a.m.
	Game - 2 p.m. vs. Truman State University.
4	Concert Chorale Fall Concert. 3 p.m., Potter
	Fine Arts Theater.
8-21	"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," by Tennessee Williams. 8 p.m.
	Nov. 18 – 20; 2 p.m. Nov. 21, Potter Fine
	Arts Black Box Theater.
20	Young Artists Piano Competition, Potter Fine Arts Theater.
21	Jazz Ensemble Concert. 7:30 p.m.,
_	Potter Fine Arts Theater.
4	Concert Chorale performs with St. Joseph
_	Symphony, Missouri Theatre.
5	Symphonic Winds and Concert Band Concerts,
•	3:30 p.m., Potter Fine Arts Theater.
6	Orchestra Concert. 7:30 p.m., Potter Fine Arts Theater.
18	Commencement.
17	Campus closed – Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.
18	Spring 2005 classes begin.
21	Campus closed – Presidents Day holiday.
h <b>3-6</b>	"Romeo and Juliet," by William Shakespeare. 8 p.m.
	March 3 – 5; 2 p.m.
h 10	March 6, Potter Fine Arts Theater.
10	Concert Band and Chamber Ensemble Concerts.
h 13-20	7:30 p.m., Potter Fine Arts Theater.
13-20	Spring Break – no classes.

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

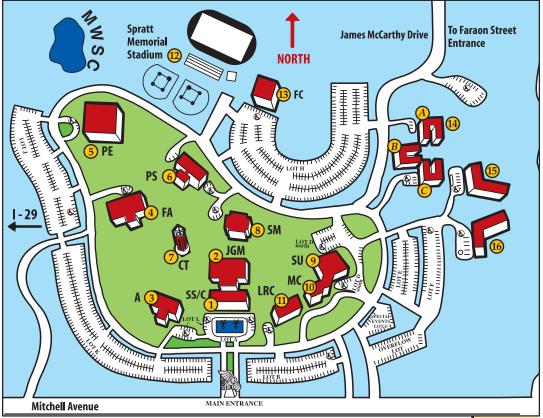
# Happy 35th anniversary, Western campus!

Thirty-five years ago, the first classes were held on the new 334-acre campus of Missouri Western State College. In Frances Flanagan's history of the college, she described Western's new location as "three not-quite-complete buildings surrounded by grassless and treeless grounds broken now and again by parallel two-by-fours slipping into the mud." In the first year, 2,536 students enrolled in the new four-year college.

Today, both the enrollment and acreage have doubled, and there are now 11 buildings, five residence halls, several ponds and a nature trail on campus. A commons building for the residence halls opened this fall,



a new 400-bed residence hall and the Fulkerson Center, adjacent to the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building are currently under construction. To commemorate the campus' 35th anniversary, the campus illustration below shows the dates each building was constructed.



- Fred Eder Student Services/ Classroom Bldg (SS/C) - 1975
  Janet Gorman Murphy Academic
- Sanet Gorman Mulphy Academic Center (JGM) - 2000
  Frank Popplewell Classroom &
- *Administration Bldg (A) 1969 4. Thompson E. Potter Fine*
- Arts Bldg (FA) 1969
- M.O. Looney Health, Physical Education & Recreation Bldg (PE) - 1969
  Truman E. Wilson Professional
- Truman E. Wilson Professional Studies Bldg (PS) - 1969
  Glenn E. Marion Memorial
- Clock Tower 1997
- 8. Evan R. Agenstein Science & Math Bldg (SM) 1969

- 9. Nelle Blum Student Union (SU) 1970
- 10. Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Bldg (MC) - 1997
- 11. Warren E. Hearnes Learning Resources Center (LRC) - 1969
- 12. Spratt Memorial Stadium Complex -1978
- 13. Baker Family Fitness Center (FC) - 1996
- 14. Suite-Style Housing Complex A. Beshears Hall - 1971
  - B. Logan Hall 1971
  - C. Juda Hall 1971
- 15. Leaverton Hall 1991
- 16. Vaselakos Hall 1994