

# Missouri Western

*The Magazine for Alumni and Friends • Fall 2005*



***For the Love of the Game*** page 12  
***It's All About "U!"*** page 14





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

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**Western Magazine**

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## A Note from the Editor



Dear Friends,

To say working on this issue was exciting is an understatement! Western becoming a university is a historic and proud event in our history and the history of St. Joseph, and our staff wanted to make sure we gave justice to the honor. To that end, we devoted six pages in the center and the back cover to our history, our present and our celebration of university designation.

I had a great time poring over old yearbooks, newspapers, microfiche files, and Frances Flanagan's book of our history to learn about our 90 years, but I had even more fun visiting with alumni. I interviewed graduates from each decade of our institution back to the 1930s, and I think I could have devoted most of the magazine to their wonderful stories!

From all my interviews, I realized that the Junior College was a very special place. With all the classes meeting in just one building, students and faculty became a small, close knit community. However, even though classes and buildings were quite a bit more spread out, alumni from the four-year college have many heartwarming memories, also. Many have the added benefit of close friendships between roommates and suitemates.

Not surprisingly, I heard the same theme echoed over and over, no matter who I spoke with, no matter what year they graduated: they all experienced caring faculty and staff and a high quality educational experience. And of course, a lot commented on how many more trees are on campus today compared to Western's early days (600)!

On a side note, I have also been working on another project where we are featuring some of our outstanding alumni on brochures, web pages and in department photographs. Throughout the summer, I spoke with or corresponded through email with almost 200 alumni, and it was a wonderful experience! Again, more great stories.

But I gained a lot more than just hearing great stories. I came away from the project with a new appreciation of Western and what it offers to the community, the region and beyond. Western is turning out successful alumni that are making a difference in work places across the nation. I was impressed with their success stories, and it made me prouder still of Western.

In this year that we became a university, learning about the success of our alumni merely affirmed the fact that we have truly earned that designation.

Sincerely,

Diane Holtz  
Editor

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**On the cover:**  
Western officially became a university on Aug. 28, which required a change in the entrance sign.  
Photo by Eric Callow

## Features

### **12 For the Love of the Game**

Myron Unzicker has been Western's athletic trainer for 22 years. Find out what he loves about the job, and what alums that know him best have to say about him.

### **14 It's All About "U!"**

On Aug. 28, Western officially became a university! Read about its early days as St. Joseph Junior College, why it earned the university designation, and MWSU FAQs. A timeline also notes Western's historical highlights.







## Western rolls out the red carpet at *Experience Western! Discover the Treasure*

In April, Western opened its doors to the community with “Experience Western! Discover the Treasure,” a day of fun and informative activities, and the community responded in a big way. Over 1,500 visitors of all ages joined in the fun and took advantage of the free activities.

Glitter and glue, face paint and beads, musical instruments, a “mine shaft,” a MASH tent and hundreds of children and their parents were all part of the Treasure Island children’s area of Experience Western! At times throughout the day, it

was difficult for visitors to wend their way around clowns, balloons, children and activities.

Jeanne Modlin, ’85, and her husband, John, brought four of their children to the event because it looked like there would be a lot of fun activities for them to do. “They had a ball. There was something there for all of them,” she said.

The Modlins also visited the Fulkerson Center, where there were more than 60

displays and services from all academic departments and several community groups.

Jeanne said she liked having her children come out and learn about her alma mater. “It was interesting learning about the departments and what Missouri Western has to offer,” she said. “Everyone was very helpful and willing to talk about their departments. I hope they do it (Experience Western!) again. It was a good way for families to see the college.”

**Experience Western!**  
*Discover the* **TREASURE**



*Almost 100 vehicles participated in the Experience Western! car show.*



*Hundreds of children enjoyed Treasure Island children’s area at Experience Western!*

The day also included a car show with approximately 100 cars, superlative student entertainment, presentations and displays of student research.

“Campus support was outstanding, as almost every department had a role in Experience Western!,” said Kristy Hill, ’95, director of public relations and marketing and coordinator of the event. “The turnout from the community was just as we had hoped. We were pleased that so many people from the area joined in on the fun.” ■



## Living and learning in style - the new residence hall opens!

**T**hey're not "dormitories" anymore. That's the word from Residential Life Director Michael Speros, as he spoke about the new Living and Learning Center, Western's \$17 million, 400-bed residence hall that opened this fall, featuring semi-suite double and single rooms with Internet and cable access; and lounges, study areas and kitchenettes on each floor.

"There's more to living in a residential hall now than just coming here and sleeping," he said.

The center offers students the opportunity to live with others who share their academic interests, or in Learning Communities. In a Learning Community, up to 25 students take three classes together, and the faculty in those classes coordinate curriculum and

assignments. There are currently 13 Learning Communities offered at Western, three in the new hall.

Michael said the new hall is set up almost entirely as "lifestyle housing," consisting of a freshman floor, upperclass floor, leadership/service floor, where students will meet business people from the community; or wellness floor, where students commit to a healthy lifestyle. He noted that the five other residence halls offer lifestyle and interest housing, also.

"Everybody's different," Michael said. "That's the fun of it. You should be able to find a niche where you can be comfortable. That's what lifestyle floors are all about – for students to be happy and successful." ■

*Western's newest residence hall, the Living and Learning Center, opened this fall, and students settled in quickly. The 400-bed hall is located south of Vaselakos Hall.*



Fall 2005

## Western VP named president of Eureka College

**D**r. J. David Arnold, vice president for academic and student affairs since July 2002, became president of Eureka College, Eureka, Ill. in July.



*Dr. J. David Arnold*

"Dr. Arnold has worked tirelessly for the good of students and Missouri Western for the past three years. He is highly regarded in our profession," said Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president.

Eureka College, alma mater of President Ronald Reagan, is a private liberal arts college with an enrollment of more than 500 students. Dr. Arnold serves as the college's 26th president in its 150-year history.

"During his time here, he has helped Western to emerge as a university well focused on learning outcomes for students, professional development and recognition for faculty, and service to the regional and professional communities," said Dr. Scanlon. "We wish him every success as president of Eureka College."

Dr. Arnold joined Western as vice president in July 2002. ■





## JC Watts to speak at Convocation on Critical Issues



J. C. Watts

**B**usiness leader and former U.S. Congressman J.C. Watts will present an "In-Depth Political Analysis" on current issues facing the nation at Western's 12th annual Convocation on Critical Issues Oct. 6. The 9:30

a.m. presentation in the M.O. Looney complex is free and open to the community.

J.C. is the chairman of J.C. Watts Companies. He works with clients to implement

business development, communications and public affairs strategies. He is working with the Business Roundtable to develop a nationwide effort to increase business opportunities in America's inner cities and poor rural areas.

He joined President Bush on his historic trip to Africa, and also co-founded and co-chairs the Coalition for AIDS Relief in Africa. He is a frequent guest on national and international television news shows and radio shows, and has been quoted in numerous newspaper articles, both in the United States and around the world. He also writes a monthly column in the Sporting News. His book is titled, "What Color Is A Conservative?" ■

## Western's Annual Phonathon for Alumni and Friends has moved to the fall!

**October 9 - November 15  
Sundays - Thursdays  
6 - 9 p.m.  
Help support  
the 2005 Annual Fund -  
restricted and  
unrestricted donations  
welcome!  
*Please say Yes!***

## Western League for Excellence Update

**T**his spring, the Foundation kicked off the Western League for Excellence, a society to honor those who donate unrestricted funds of \$100 or more to the Foundation with the intent to support Western annually.

To date, the League boasts of over 200 charter members, and over \$93,000 has been raised.

Pete and Staci Gray were the first members of the Founder's Circle, which denotes an annual donation of \$5,000 or more. Michael DePriest and his wife Barbara

Braznell were the first lifetime members, which means their unrestricted gift will be endowed.

"Membership in the League is a great way for people to say, 'I'm committed to Western and its students. I'm in it for the long haul,'" said Jerry Pickman, '85, director of development.

He said the unrestricted funds give students opportunities such as attending conferences, traveling abroad, and attending special programs.

Those who donate to the League through Dec. 31 will be considered charter members. ■



*Pete Gray, left, with Dan Nicoson, executive director of the Foundation. Pete and his wife Staci were the first members of the League for Excellence Founder's Circle.*



## Western Institute update

### *Venture Center vision*

**D**r. Christopher Shove has a dream. The executive director of the Western Institute wants to see a technology incubator built on Western's campus to create opportunities for Western students and faculty to transform research into commercial technological products.

The first step toward that dream was reached when the Institute received a \$20,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration in Washington, DC to study the feasibility of building the incubator, which Chris calls the Venture Center.

Chris said the grant will pay for Western students to conduct market analyses and determine if venture capital is available for funding. They will also study the best location on campus and building size.

If the study concludes that the incubator is feasible, the Institute will apply for a

federal grant to fund the construction of the Center and a grant to pay for its staffing.

"The Venture Center fits perfectly with the purpose of the Western Institute," said Chris. "The Institute is already helping students, faculty and area businesses develop new technology on products."

He noted that St. Joseph matches several criteria that determines if a location is right for a science and technology incubator, such as being within 50 miles of an international airport, having a good supply of technological workers, and having other research and development activities in the area.

The Venture Center is actually just the first step of Chris' long-range vision: he envisions the Center being part of a Science and Technology Village on campus, a cutting-edge concept which could include research centers, retail shops, apartments, a conference facility and restaurants. ■

## *Four new research centers*

**L**ate at night and on weekends, if you happen to pass by the Western Institute's Survey Research Lab or the Geographic Information Systems Lab on the second floor of Leah Spratt Hall, you'll see faculty and students entering data, setting up focus groups and conducting research. They are working for regional businesses and organizations that have secured contracts through one of the Institute's research centers.

Dr. Chris Shove, executive director of the Western Institute, said he expects the number of projects to increase because four new research centers were formed last spring.

They include Arts and Culture, directed by Dr. Mark Mikkelsen, associate professor of philosophy; Business and Economics, Dr. Shiva Nandan, associate professor of business; Health and Wellness, Dr. Evelyn Brooks, associate professor of nursing; and Life Sciences, Dr. Todd Eckdahl, professor of biology.

"It's wonderful applied learning for students. These are real projects with real responsibilities," said Chris. "It's an excellent foundation for graduate programs." ■



## Western employees honored

**N**ine faculty and staff members received awards for excellence in job performance last spring.

Presidential citations for staff were given to Elaine Bryant, student services coordinator; Rodema Gnuschke, interlibrary loan supervisor; Patty Kuechler, administrative assistant for the Western Institute, and Tomie Walker, art director for campus printing services.

The Dr. James V. Mehl Outstanding Faculty Scholarship Award was granted to Dr. Michael Cadden, associate professor of English.

Those faculty honored with the Jesse Lee Myers Excellence in Teaching Awards were Dr. Jason Baker, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Kelly Henry, assistant professor of psychology; Dr. Ann Thorne, associate professor of journalism, and Bonnie Gregory, assistant professor of nursing.

The Western Service Award, new this year, was given to Julia Schneider, library director, for her outstanding record of community service during the past year. ■

**University status means  
a new web domain!**  
**We are now on the web at:**  
**[www.missouriwestern.edu](http://www.missouriwestern.edu)**

## Campus KUDOS

- Joanne Katz, professor of legal studies, was awarded a three-year research grant. She, along with Dr. Gene Bonham, assistant professor of criminal justice, will study the effectiveness of a three-year statewide project promoting the use of restorative justice.
- December 2004 graduate Meri Thompson received the national "Outstanding Developmental Educational Student" award.
- Nick Limle, May 2005 graduate, was the only undergraduate student in the nation to present his research at an international conference in Florida.
- Business major Adam Kling won second place in the international 2005 Student Writing Contest sponsored by the Association for Business Communication.
- Thirteen Western English students presented their papers at the 2005 Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Joint Conference in San Diego, more undergraduates than any other institution.

## Alumnus creates scholarships

**Y**ou gotta go where the job takes you, and when Ralph Hiller, '77, was transferred from St. Joseph to California, the nontraditional student had to move, even though he only needed 12 more hours to earn his degree.

However, Western was willing to work with him, he said, and allowed him to transfer credits for classes he took in California to earn his degree from Western.

"They were very nice to me. I have a real special place in my heart for them," he said of the staff.

Even though he took just a couple evening classes each semester, he said he has a lot of great memories of his years at Western.

Recently, Ralph established the Hiller Family Foundation, and funded four scholarships for Western nontraditional students.

"I wanted to establish something for students who were like me, who wanted to get a degree to help themselves," Ralph said.

When Ralph visited Western this summer, he had the opportunity to meet with two recipients of his scholarships - a single mother, and a father who had been recently laid off from his job.

"Those are the types of people I want to help. They are struggling to get through and better themselves. It's really rewarding to help them." ■





## Accessories add to pomp of ceremonies

**T**hanks to the generosity of Dr. Joseph Friedman, '39, new ceremonial accessories - a mace, a presidential medallion and banners - were introduced at the formal university designation celebration Aug. 31, and will now be used at all formal university events such as academic convocations and commencements.

The mace, almost four feet tall, is topped by the university's newly designed seal, and Griffon and clock tower etchings are engraved on bronze plates. Five plates on the staff contain the former names of the institu-



*Dr. Joe Friedman, '39, showcases the ceremonial mace.*

tion: St. Joseph Junior College, Missouri Western Junior College, Missouri Western College, Missouri Western State College, and Missouri Western State University.

A presidential medallion contains the seal and the university's six values. Six processional banners were also purchased. ■

## Students see no tuition increase for second year

**G**ood news for students and parents! For the second year in a row, Western's Board of Regents voted not to increase tuition. The in-state tuition per credit hour remained \$146 for in-state students and \$267 for out-of-state students.

"Western is committed to putting our students first," said Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president. "When Western makes any decision, its first consideration is how it impacts students. The decision not to increase tuition is based on that same rationale."

Across the state, the average tuition increase was about four percent.

"Western is committed to ensuring quality education at the best value possible - affordable excellence," said Dr. Scanlon.

"That is really exciting; I am ecstatic," said Kyler Keith, a recreation/sports management major from St. Joseph. "With Western becoming a university, everyone expected tuition to increase."

Dr. Scanlon noted that this will be the third year in a row that students will pay the same core tuition rate. ■



*Dr. Virenda Varma (left), chair of the engineering technology department, poses by the department's new "teachable art" sculpture. The sculpture is designed to teach construction technology students about steel construction.*



## Former football player creates scholarship

**A**s a college student, Steve Koenig developed a love of the stock market and an interest in trading, and he has pursued that passion for 19 years.

Steve, the managing director of J.P. Morgan's Latin America Derivative Trading Business in New York City, wanted to give a Western student an opportunity to develop that same passion, so he recently established the Koenig Family Scholarship with two goals in mind: to aid student athletes who are finance or economics majors, and to honor his grandparents, Sidney and Claire Koenig.

"I have a lot of very fond memories of college. I had a great education and I have a great respect for Missouri Western," said Steve.

Steve, a native of New Jersey, came to Western to play football in 1982. The marketing major was a student athlete for four years at Western, and later earned a bachelor's degree in New York.

Steve said he has come back for several football games over the years, and he always hooks up with former teammate Jerry Partridge, '86, now Griffon head football coach. ■



*Community service was part of the Griffon Edge new student orientation program for the second year. Approximately 800 students volunteered for Habitat for Humanity throughout the community on the last day of the orientation.*

## Plan wisely and invest in Western

**C**haritable estate planning, also known as planned giving, may allow you to take advantage of the benefits offered to you while providing a future gift to the Missouri Western State University Foundation.

For example, Charitable Remainder Trusts are often thought to be an excellent estate planning option, especially if you are among the many people trapped in the ownership of low yield appreciated stocks or other property that has grown in value. The capital gains tax that you will experience if you sell the appreciated assets makes it difficult to sell the asset and invest in something providing a better annual yield.

These trusts may give you the opportunity to increase your annual spendable income by increasing your annual yield, reducing your income tax obligation, reducing any federal estate tax liability, and avoiding the capital gains tax associated with the sale of the property. These potential benefits have caused the use of Charitable Remainder Trust to grow in popularity.

For more information contact Dan Nicoson, vice president for Institutional Advancement and executive director of the Foundation. You can email him at [nicoson@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:nicoson@missouriwestern.edu) or call 816-271-5647. ■

**Purchase a Griffon tie from the Western VIPs!  
\$25 plus \$3 shipping and handling**

**Send your order with a check to: MWSU VIPs, Eder Hall, 101,  
4525 Downs Dr., St. Joseph, MO 64507  
816-271-4266**





## Dean of student development honored

**D**r. Paul Shang, dean of student development, was named a diamond honoree by the American College Personnel Association. The award honors members for their outstanding and sustained contributions to higher education and to student affairs specifically.

Before joining Western earlier this year, Dr. Shang was the director of student and enrollment services at Penn State Worthington Scranton of Dunmore, Penn. He has held director positions in student affairs divisions at Colorado State University and the University of Iowa. ■

## Octogenarian walks the walk

**A**t the May commencement ceremony, Geraldine “Jerry” Benitz received a bachelor of science degree in history. About five weeks earlier, she observed her 80th birthday.

“I have enjoyed it tremendously,” Jerry said of the journey to her degree. “It was easy for me. I want to express my thanks and gratitude to everyone on the campus.”

She said it was fun being around the traditional students. “It keeps me younger.”



Jerry Benitz, '05

And in the four years she commuted from Stewartville, Mo. for class, she only missed one day.

How does it feel to get the degree finally? “Great. It was a goal of mine. It was a tribute to my parents. I did it, folks.” ■

## New theatre/video degree

**T**he communication studies and theatre department established a new bachelor of science degree in Theatre/Video, an integrated program that blends the two disciplines. The program began this fall, along with the opening of a computer lab with nonlinear editing and sound production software, and a media production lab.

“It will allow us to better prepare students who desire employment in the media arts production areas of theatre performance, technical entertainment production and filmmaking,” said Deny Staggs, assistant professor of theatre.

He said the new degree program offers three “tracks” - performance, directing, and technical, and students will choose two for their emphasis.

“We’ll be working with the latest technology to prepare students for the latest technological challenges,” Deny said. ■



A lunch for Western alumni was hosted by the Alumni Services Office in June at the Cafe Trastevere in Orlando. Western has nearly 50 alums in the Orlando area. Photo by Jim Canty, '75.

**Drive with pride!**

**A \$25 donation**

**allows you to purchase a special Western license plate. All you need is a verification letter from us. Call 816-271-5646 for details.**





## Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2005

**F**our athletes and the 1975 football team were inducted into Western's Athletic Hall of Fame 2005 class Sept. 18:

**Mark Bradley, '92**, played three seasons for the men's basketball team from 1989-1992, leading the Griffons to three straight trips to the national tournament. Mark averaged 12 points and seven rebounds per game and currently ranks sixth in career field goal percentage at Western. He was team captain for three years.

**Tim Boender, '84**, was a three-year letterwinner on the defensive line for the football team from 1981-1983. He was a NAIA second team All-America selection following the 1983 season, and earned CSIC and NAIA District 16 accolades during his time as Western.

**Scott Graham, '78**, was a four-year letterwinner for the football team from 1974-1977. He was team captain his sophomore year, and was a top figure of the Griffon offensive line that posted two bowl victories during his career.

**Blake Schreck, '78**, was a four-year letterwinner for the baseball team from 1974-1978. He earned NAIA All-America, All-Area and All-District honors following his senior season. He was a member of the NAIA World Series All-Tournament Team and ended his career as a member of the NAIA National Traveling Team. His 634 career at-bats and 15 triples both rank second on the career lists at Western.

The 1975 football season was the first winning season in Western history, going 8-3-1, a school record for victories until 2004. That team made Western's first postseason appearance and finished the season ranked 14th in the nation. At one time during the season, it was ranked as high as seventh. ■

### Each One, Teach One: Students reach out to teach

**E**ach One Teach One, a mentoring program where Western students mentor middle school students, kicked off last spring and will expand this fall. The program is the brainchild of Lavell



*Western mentor Leon Douglas helps a Bode Middle School student study for an upcoming test.*

Rucker, '03, social worker for the St. Joseph School District, and Tay Triggs, minority achievement coordinator at Western.

Tay said an advantage of having college students as mentors is that the younger students now have a role model in their lives who is going to college.

"There's a passion at Missouri Western to help out and mentor," said Tay. "There are plenty of students who want to have a child to guide." ■

### Fulkerson Center opens!

**S**en. Christopher "Kit" Bond was the featured speaker at a banquet in March to celebrate the opening of the Fulkerson Center, a 500-seat banquet and conference facility on campus named for Marie Fulkerson and her late husband, Lyman.

"The Center is a true partnership between the community and the college, and it will benefit both," said Sen. Bond. "The community that invests in higher education reaps the benefits for its people and its economy."

The center was funded entirely from private donations. ■





## Spring Sports Shorts

**T**he 2005 spring sports were ones to remember! The **softball** team set the Western record for wins in a season, going 48-20 and advancing to the NCAA Division II national tournament. The Griffons went 1-2 at the national tournament, held in Emporia, Kan.

The **golf** team finished the season in third place in the MIAA standings, but sent its number one golfer to the NCAA Division II national championships. Western junior Brice Garnett won medalist honors at the regional tournament and placed fourth at the nationals. It was the highest finish ever for a Western athlete in any event since Western joined the NCAA in 1989.

The **baseball** team went 33-22 overall and set a school record for MIAA wins with a 21-10 mark in league play. Western finished third in the league standings, its highest ever finish since joining the MIAA in 1989. Western had five players earn All-MIAA accolades.

The Griffon **tennis** team went 12-14, the most wins during one year for the program in four seasons. The Griffons picked up wins over NCAA Division II members Nebraska-Omaha and South Dakota. ■



**Join us for Griffon Luncheons every Monday at noon at La Dolce Vita at 36th Street Restaurant, upper floor. Come chat with student athletes and head coaches about upcoming games and events while enjoying a great buffet style meal.**

## 2005 Hillyard Men's Basketball Tournament

Looney Complex  
November 18 and 19  
Games start at 5:30 p.m.  
each evening.

Come see Western, Rockhurst, NWMSU, and Baker in action!

**eSCORES**  
**Sign up now!**  
**Receive Griffon scores and news by email or cell phone. It's FREE! Go to GoGriffons.com for more information.**

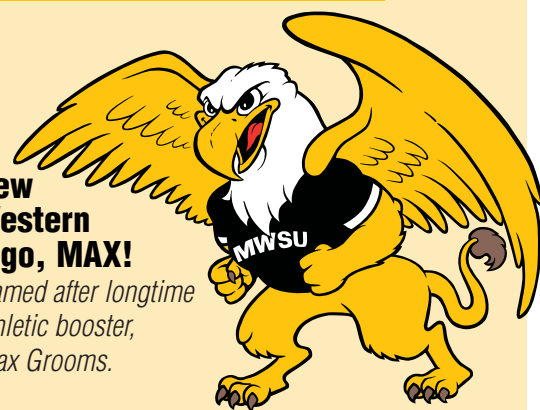
**Thank you, Gold Coat supporters,** for over \$500,000 in pledges! Over 80 new members joined the Gold Coat Club, bringing the total membership to almost 500. ■

## GoGriffons.com

is the place for webcast sporting events in 2005-06. Griffon football and men's and women's basketball will be simulcast via 680 AM - KFEQ while Western baseball and softball will once again be webcast on [GoGriffons.com/webcast](http://GoGriffons.com/webcast).

## New Western logo, MAX!

*Named after longtime athletic booster, Max Grooms.*



*Brice Garnett won medalist honors at the regional tournament and placed fourth at the NCAA national tournament.*



*Amy Beverly was named second-team All-America by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association for the second year in a row.*

# For the love of the

## Long-time athletic trainer held in high regard

Former Griffon football player Matt Gragg, '97, said he'll never forget the time his teammate had separated his shoulder during a game and was writhing in pain on the ground. Myron Unzicker calmly walked over to the injured player, set him upright, put his feet on the player's side, then pulled, turned and reset his arm.

It was just another day on the job for Myron, Western's athletic trainer who has been wrapping, rubbing and rehabilitating athletes since he came to Western in 1983.

"Myron was the calmest person I've ever seen around injuries," Matt said. "I've seen him calm down grown men with broken fingers pointing in directions you didn't think possible. He has this calming effect that makes the players feel confident that their injury will heal."

Senior Andre Burns, a Griffon cornerback, can relate to that. He says fellow players jibe Myron about his "walk." "When someone gets injured, Myron has this 'walk.' It's just a nice casual walk; he doesn't run over. But he'll get you taken care of."

Kate (Pierson) Esely, '00, a fellow athletic trainer who worked under Myron as a student, agreed. "Myron and I

work very well together because he's laid back and I'm a go-getter. He doesn't get excited about much of anything."

It's hard to go to a sports event at Western and not see Myron. He or a member of his staff try to attend every athletic event and the majority of practices.

"When people think of athletic trainers, they usually think of two things - taping ankles and carrying water," said Myron. But today's trainers also work on rehabilitation after surgery, conditioning, and the athletes' nutrition, lifestyles, and medical history.

"The players always wanted to get taped by Myron, because of his skill, and there was always a line," said Matt, recalling his football days at Western. "Usually the upperclassmen were up front, but if you got in to him early enough, he'd square you away."

Andre said in that regard, things haven't changed since Matt played. Andre, who recovered from two pulled hamstrings last season, is usually one of the first in line for Myron's taping skills before football practices.

"I trust Myron's judgement; he gives me good guidance."

Myron said the best part of his job is getting to know the students and working closely with them. "You have to be a people person. We see kids at their highs and at their lows and you have to learn how to read them," he said.

"How kids react after a big win is different than how they react when you tell them they can't play anymore. You get tears at both ends."

And the the worst part of his job? Seeing athletes not fulfill their aspirations because of injuries.

"But I like my job. Every day is different. You never know what's going to happen at a practice or a game."

Which is probably exactly what that linebacker was thinking the day Myron gave Matt that unforgettable memory. ■

*Longtime athletic trainer Myron Unzicker prepares Griffon football player Derek Nelson for football practice.*





# Game

## Alumni love their slam-dunk careers

Several alums have turned their love of sports into successful careers.

**Cory Burnett**, '98, said he always knew he wanted to have a career with a professional sports team, and when he found out he needed an internship as a recreation administration major, he sent a resume to "every team, every sport - pro, semi-pro, minor or major."

His diligence paid off. He was hired as an unpaid summer intern for the Indiana Pacers in 1998, and has worked full time in the Pacers' front office since 1999. His main responsibility is working with the team's scouts.

"I really attribute getting the job to Missouri Western. They encouraged internships so you'd get a feel for what you wanted to do."

And the best part about his job? "I go to almost every game and get to meet a lot of ballplayers and celebrities."



*Cory Burnett, '98*

Meeting a lot of professional athletes and coaches is what makes her job interesting and fun, also, said **Gini Fite**, '99 and '01. Gini, a physical therapy assistant and athletic trainer in Overland Park, Kan., said the company she works for provides athletic trainers for sporting events and national tournaments throughout the country.

"I've even met my favorite basketball player of all time two times - Danny Manning (former University of Kansas standout and NBA player)."



*Gini Fite, '99 and '01*

Gini credits her four years of experience as a student athletic trainer at Western with helping her land her current job. Her long hours in the training room paid off with an athletic trainer certificate, which was required for her position.

"I love sports, but was never good enough to make the team. So this was a way to be involved in sports."

**David Lang**, '85 and '96, earned his first degree at Western in business administration, but had always wanted a sports-related career.

For several years after college he held positions as a sports information director, but when he was laid off in 1994, he decided to return to his alma mater to pursue a recreation management degree.

Since April of this year, David has been the director of admissions at "the most historic racetrack in the world" - Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby.

"I like the big crowds. I love it when we're running," he said. "We had a great time at the Kentucky Derby."

Ironically, in this position he said he uses his accounting skills more than he ever has, but "it doesn't feel like accounting." ■

*Did you know?*

**Twelve alumni are on the coaching and administrative staff of Western's athletic department!**

*David Lang, '85 and '96, (right) poses in front of Churchill Downs*





St. Joseph Junior College opens, the eighth junior college in the nation. There are 35 students and eight faculty members.	St. Joseph Junior College celebrates its first commencement ceremony.	Men's basketball begins. The team has one victory in their first season.	Football begins. The first season was not only winless, but scoreless. Football was played for only three seasons at the Junior College.	The Junior College moves to its own building, the former Everett School.	Junior College moves into the former Robidoux School.
1915	1917	1920	1922	1925	1933
	The Griffon is adopted as the symbol of the college.	The first Griffon Yearbook is published.	The first issue of the college newspaper, The Spectator, is published.	Basketball team wins state championship. College graduates the largest in its history – 80.	
	1918	1921	1924	1927	

## MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

### *“U” turn won’t change*

# *tradition*

**T**he year is 1915. Pluto is photographed for the first time, but is not recognized as a planet. Les Paul, the inventor of the electric guitar, is born. NACA, predecessor to NASA, is founded, and an automobile speed record is set at 102.6 mph.

Meanwhile, in St. Joseph, Mo., 35 students enrolled at the new St. Joseph Junior College, housed in Central High School with courses taught by the high school teachers. It would be 10 years before the college had a building to call its own, and eight years after that before the college moved to the “concrete campus” at 10th and Edmond.

The year is 1969. Pluto has been officially named a planet for almost 40 years. The Beatles, who loved the electric guitar, gave their last public performance together. Astronauts in Apollo 11 walk on the moon, and the automobile speed record is 622.287 mph.

Meanwhile, in St. Joseph, 2,536 students enrolled on a 390-acre campus consisting of three buildings and no trees at the four-year Missouri Western College. The college is a “commuter campus,” as there are no residence halls for students; and most people outside of northwest Missouri have never heard of Missouri Western.

The education department is the first in the nation to offer a new teacher candidate experience program. Every classroom is equipped with a chalkboard, and those students with typewriters can earn extra money typing papers for their classmates.

In 2005, scientists are questioning if Pluto really is a planet. The Beatles never got back together, even for one concert. Astronauts are living in space stations, and space shuttles can be used for more than one mission. Automobile land speed records are constantly being broken, but are well over 880 mph.

Meanwhile, in St. Joseph, more than 5,000 students enrolled on the 700-plus acre campus of Missouri Western State University in the fall. There are 18 buildings, 600 trees and about 1,400 students living on campus, 400 of them in the newly opened Living and Learning Center.

Every classroom has state-of-the-art technology, and computer labs can be found all over campus. There is Internet access in every residential room. The university is recognized nationally for several of its programs, including the program for teacher candidates. A brand new banquet and conference facility graces the campus.

Ask any alumnus and they’ll surely tell you: A lot may have changed in the 90 years between “Junior College” and “University,” but the tradition of high quality academics and caring faculty and staff who put students first has never wavered at St. Joseph’s higher education institution.

“Missouri Western has exemplified such an incredible standard for





Poet Carl Sandburg visits to lecture and read his poems. Ruddy Vallee, artist of radio and screen, judges the annual beauty contest.

Joseph Richey, '40, is the school's first casualty in World War II.

A Griffon News student editorial broaches the idea of the Junior College expanding to a four-year college.

Enrollment is up 30% from the prior year; now stands at 398.

Missouri Legislature nixes plan for the Junior College to be a two-year branch of Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

1941

1947

1954

1958

Enrollment figures reveal that women outnumber men 169 to 69.

Griffon News reporters are thrilled to interview Gene Autry, who was on a tour through the Midwest.

Clifford Hughes is the first black graduate.

Governor John Dalton vetoes a bill that would establish the Junior College as a branch of University of Missouri.

1933

1944

1949

1955

1963

## Timeline 1915 - 2005

higher learning, the university status is well deserved," said Rachael Needham, '02. "The professors take the time to meet with students and help them."

High quality academics and high achieving students are some of the characteristics that qualified Western for university status, Gov. Matt Blunt told the audience at the ceremonial university bill signing in March. Those characteristics, long recognized by alumni, are now becoming known not only statewide, but nationally.

Two years ago, for example, the university was one of only 12 institutions across the country chosen to develop a model for improving students' first year of college. It was chosen because of the quality of its current first-year programs for students, such as the Griffon Edge orientation program and College 101 and learning communities, a new trend in colleges and universities where groups of students take classes together, study together and sometimes live on the same floor in the residence halls.

"The biggest things to happen to St. Joseph were when they started the college and when it became a four-year college," said Herb Iffert, '35. "And university status is wonderful. It's just great."

"I'm really proud that it's a university," said Tegwin Pulley, '63. "It's a big step up from the concrete campus."

*No one knows for certain what the future holds. We can guess that the remaining two Beatles will never perform together again. Pluto may become a nonplanet again, and space may become the next tourist destination. And who knows how fast automobiles will go?*

*But for Missouri Western State University, one thing is certain: it will continue the tradition of outstanding academics, high achieving students and caring faculty. ■*



Gov. Matt Blunt signs Senate Bill 98, designating Western a university.

## Alumni Remember

*"If the Junior College had not been here, I might not have even gone to college."*

Joe Mazur, '58

*"Good heavens. It was wide open country, the wind was blowing and the trees were the size of your thumb."*

Ron Auxier, '73

*"From the time I was a student to today, things are moving in the right direction. It (the university) is one of the areas in the community that is continually striving to get better."*

Bryan Seiter, '98



Milburn W. Blanton is named president. The Missouri Western Junior College District is approved by voters, and the college's name is changed to Missouri Western Junior College. Legislators approve a bill to enable the establishment of a four-year college, and 130 acres is purchased. A golden anniversary banquet is held at Hotel Robidoux.

1965

Bond issue passes to build three new buildings, and 390 acres east of I-29 purchased for new campus.

1966

M.O. Looney is named president. The college is renamed Missouri Western College.

1967

Western becomes the first institution in the country to initiate a model for a three-phase in-school experience teacher program.

1968

The college becomes a four-year institution and moves to its present-day site. The campus consists of three buildings: Evan R. Agenstein Science and Math, the Warren E. Hearnese Learning Resource Center and the Frank Poppelwell Administration Buildings. For the first time since 1917, there is no graduation ceremony. Missouri Western State College Foundation established. Missouri Western State College Alumni Association established. Liz Dotson of DeKalb becomes the first student to register on the new campus. Construction begins on the M.O. Looney Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building.

1969

## MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

### Presidents 1965-Present

*Milburn W. Blanton* 1965-1967

Dr. Blanton became president just as the district had assumed responsibility for the St. Joseph Junior College and plans were underway to establish a four-year institution.

Under his tenure, the bond issue passed for the construction of three buildings on the new campus, and he was involved in their planning.



*M. O. Looney* 1967-1983

During his tenure as president, Dr. Looney oversaw the construction of 12 buildings, including three residence halls, and the football stadium, and the emergence of a four-year high quality academic institution.

He withstood many conflicts and differences of opinion about the direction of the new college throughout his tenure, but at the end of his presidency, he had helped to lay a strong foundation for an outstanding four-year college.

*Janet Gorman Murphy* 1983-2000

During Dr. Murphy's presidency, six new buildings were constructed, including two residence halls, and the clock tower. Every classroom became technologically "smart," and the Missouri Conservation Dept. joined the campus. Two buildings also received additions and one was remodeled.

Dr. Murphy also garnered the A+ program for Western, and initiated Access Plus, a student services program.



*James J. Scanlon* 2001-Present

Under Dr. Scanlon's presidency, a new residence hall, residential commons building, and a banquet and conference facility was built. The cafeteria and several student spaces were remodeled.

Dr. Scanlon instituted a five-year strategic plan in 2002, with strong emphases on applied learning, community service and academic quality. Several new programs have also been initiated, such as the American Democracy Project, Foundations of Excellence™ in the first year, and Learning Communities.

And, of course, Western became a university!



College athletics joins NAIA. The Truman E. Wilson Professional Studies Building is completed. Construction begins on Nelle Blum Student Union.

Fred Eder Student Services/Classroom Building opens.

Spratt Memorial Stadium hosts its first commencement ceremony.

President's home is destroyed by fire.

1970

Thompson E. Potter Fine Arts Building is completed. The college adds 334 acres, bringing the total campus size to 724 acres. Beshears, Logan and Juda Residence Halls are built. Ralph Nader, Julian Bond and Pat Paulsen all speak at Western.

1971

1976

A Graduate Center is established at Western. The college becomes a member of the state of Missouri system, and the name is officially changed to Missouri Western State College.

1977

1979

M. O. Looney fieldhouse completed.

1980

1981

## Timeline 1915 - 2005

# Our Heritage: St. Joseph Junior College

*A*midst World War I newspaper headlines, there appeared a small article in the Aug. 27, 1915 edition of the St. Joseph News-Press: "JC for St. Joseph in Sight."

The St. Joseph School District's board had determined that, if at least 20 students showed an interest, classes identical to the University of Missouri courses for the first year of college would be offered at Central High School. Within two weeks, more than 30 students had indicated their intention to attend, and the St. Joseph Junior College was born. The first day of classes was Sept. 20 with 35 students.

### IN A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

Although the college began as a mere extension of the high school, Junior College students very shortly established their own identity. Within two years, the students had their own yearbook and newspaper, and a Griffon mascot that has endured to this day.

When it was 10 years old, the Junior College moved out of the high school and into its own building - the old Everett School at 14th and Olive. Eight years later, the college relocated to 10th and Edmond, where it remained until 1969.

### HARD TIMES

College tuition was never easy to come by, but when the depression arrived in 1929 and lasted for several years, it became even more difficult. Herb Iffert, '35, from Wathena, Kan., paid his tuition by working almost 40 hours a week at Miller's Drug Store in Wathena. He said his parents encouraged him to attend college, but they didn't have the means to help him pay for it. "If I was going to get anyplace, I knew I had to get an education. But I wouldn't have been able to go to school if it hadn't been close by."

### "HALCYON DAYS IN SPITE OF A TERRIBLE WAR"

The country had barely recovered from the Great Depression before World War II intruded, definitely changing the makeup of the college. George Hopkins, '46, graduated from high school when he was 16 and started at the Junior College in 1944 since he was too young to be drafted. That year, the Griffon News reported an enrollment of 169 women and 69 men, but George said "they were taking boys right and left" as the year went on. "I was the only boy in the school play. I thought I was in hog heaven."

George said he remembers having a lot of fun at the Junior College - the dances, the basketball games, cutting class to play ping pong and his election as student body president. "They were halcyon days in spite of the terrible war," he said.



Central High School, Home of St. Joseph Junior College in 1915



Janet Gorman  
Murphy becomes  
president.

College purchases the first  
MAT satellite dish in the state.  
New wing opens on Thompson  
Fine Arts Center.

College joins the  
MIAA athletic  
conference.

Leaverton Hall is built.  
Students hold "Support  
the Troops" night for  
those in the Gulf War.

First Convocation on  
Critical Issues is held  
featuring Arthur J.  
Schlesinger, Jr.

1983

1986

1989

1991

1993

Western's softball  
team wins national  
championship.

Western's Parents Association  
created. First student regent is  
named - R.J. Claassen.

Honors program  
started.

Chataqua Lecture Series  
begins at Western. Hearnes  
Learning Resource Center  
gains addition.

Missouri Department  
of Conservation opens  
building on campus.

1982

1985

1988

1990

1992

## MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

### HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN

"By 1946, the war and the Great Depression were all behind us," said Bill Foddy, '48. "The whole country was feeling good."

Bonnie Hartigan started at the Junior College in 1948 and was thrilled to be attending with all her high school idols who had returned from the war. "It was intriguing to go to the Junior College in those years. All the guys who had been in the service were back in college."

Her favorite things to do as a student were attend basketball games and dances in the old church building across the street from the Junior College.

The end of the Korean War again brought an influx of veterans to the Junior College, according to Joe Mazur, '58 and Tom Kalin, '55. Tom said there

were several veterans in his physics class who kept the professor busy just trying to maintain order. One rigged up a bell in the back room that he could ring from his desk, which kept the

professor continually confounded and running to the back room. "But I really did learn a lot in that class," Tom said. "The professors looked at me and said, 'that guy is going to need some extra help,' and I received an excellent education."

Tegwin Pulley, '63, said the biggest benefits of the Junior College when she was a student were the

JC students study in the 60s

small class sizes and good teachers who knew their subjects.

She said that whenever she went to the grotto student center between classes (slipping and sliding and barely making it in the winter on the icy streets), you could sit with anyone, because everyone was friendly to each other. "It was a pleasant, welcoming environment," she added.

### A TIME OF TURMOIL

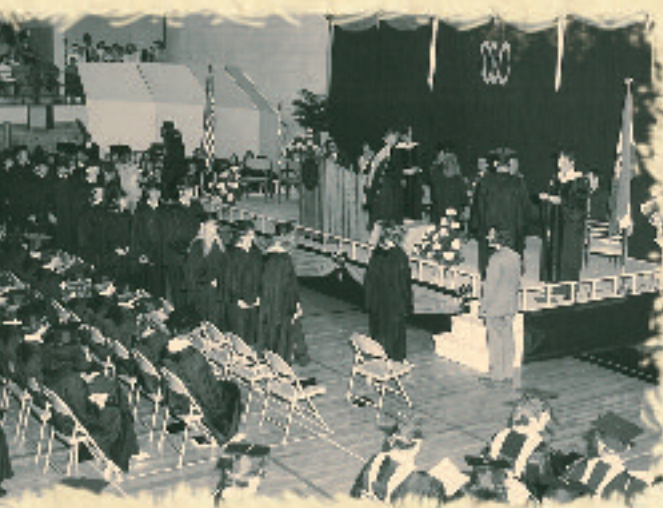
And then came the turbulent late sixties, which Dr. Margaret King, '73, called "an interesting time to be a college student." She joined a group of fellow students from Frank Popplewell's political science class who were political activists.

In 1968, the group attended the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Margaret said while they were there, they were gathered in a park with several other college-aged students, and they were gassed by the police.

She said that incident had a huge effect on the Junior College students who were there. "We sort of dropped out of politics. I became serious and changed my major from political science to biology. It was really strange times."

### A TIME OF VISION

Although the Junior College students were not immune to the turbulent sixties, exciting things were happening locally that changed the course of the Junior College.



Graduation Ceremony held in the gym in the 70's





Baker Family Fitness Center opens.	Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building opens. A commencement ceremony is added in December.	Janet Gorman Murphy Classroom Building is built. Western becomes an A+ school. Every classroom on campus is now a technologically "smart" classroom.	A second commencement ceremony is added in the spring.	Fulkerson Center, a banquet and conference facility, opens. New 400-bed residence hall opens. Western becomes Missouri Western State University.
1996	1998	2000	2003	2005
Junior College Room in the Nelle Blum Student Union is dedicated. Vaselakos Hall is built.	Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower graces campus.	Western receives a Pacesetter Award from the National Academic Advising Association.	James J. Scanlon becomes president. Nelle Blum Student Union addition is completed. Cafeteria undergoes \$600,000 renovation.	Commons Building opens by residence hall complex.
1994	1997	1999	2001	2004

## Timeline 1915-2005



Years of talking about a four-year college came to fruition in 1965 when state legislators approved a bill to expand the Junior College to a four-year college, and 130 acres on Frederick Blvd. were purchased for that purpose.

That same year, voters approved the Missouri Western Junior College District, and the name was changed to Missouri Western Junior College.

However, several visionaries thought the purchased land wasn't big enough for the college they had in mind, and they began pushing for purchase of 390 acres east of I-29. After much local contention, that land was purchased in 1966, the same year voters passed a bond issue to build three buildings on the new campus.

"We were aghast when they decided to move it out there," Bonnie Hartigan said of the larger acreage purchase. "But today, I'm glad someone had the vision to move it. It is now a beautiful site."

From sharing rooms with high school students, to an old elementary school, to a "concrete campus," to several hundred acres; from a junior college to a four-year college, to a university; from 35 students to 5,000-plus; the Junior College laid the foundation for the jewel of St. Joseph - Missouri Western State University. ■

The former JC, at 10th & Edmond Streets.

## MWSU - Now what? FAQs

Western's university designation has raised a lot of questions among alumni and friends of Western, and we hope this helps answer some of those questions!

### • Can I get a new diploma that says "university" now?

Yes. Alumni may contact the Alumni Services Office to request a duplicate "university" diploma, but they will not be produced until after the December commencement. Cost is \$20. Please pick up an application in the alumni services office or download it online at [www.missouriwestern.edu](http://www.missouriwestern.edu).

### • Will tuition increase now that Western is a university?

No. At their May meeting, the Board of Regents voted not to increase the tuition for the 2005-2006 academic year. This is the third year in a row that tuition has remained the same.

### • What about graduate programs?

According to Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president, within the next two to five years, Western plans to develop master's degrees programs, graduate certificate programs and research programs tied directly to the needs of business and industry in the region. The graduate programs will most likely be in the fields of health sciences, life sciences and engineering technology.

### • How will Western pay for the expense of switching to a university?

The Western Foundation has generously agreed to meet the modest expenses of the change, such as signage around campus and the establishment of a new Internet domain. Offices plan to use the "college" stationery before purchasing new.

### • Will university status change enrollment?

"We are interested in controlled growth and enrollment," said Dr. Scanlon. "We hope to grow our enrollment, but we do not have a target enrollment set."

### • Will state funding change?

University status will have no direct effect on state funding.





Julie Fiedler  
Director of Alumni Services

**T**he value of an education at Missouri Western is priceless - of course, as an alum, you already know that. I have talked with a lot of alumni who continue to boast about the education that they received at Western and how much they have grown to appreciate it long after they leave campus. Whether they got their start at Saint Joseph Junior College or Missouri

# Director's Voice

Western State College, alumni have gone on to accomplish great things - from being presidents of major banks and financial institutions, to owning their own business, to raising little "Griffons." No matter where the alumni reside today, one message remains the same - they are proud of where they came from and proud of Missouri Western for what it has become: **Missouri Western State University!**

The campus is abuzz with the news about Western gaining university designation.

One group of alumni who are particularly excited about the university designation is the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

The Alumni Board has continued its work under the

Alumni Services office to engage alumni and create more opportunities for involvement in the life of Western. The alumni committees this year have been reorganized to develop engagement and involvement activities (see box).

All alumni are invited and encouraged to become involved with the Association by serving on a committee, hosting an alumni event, mentoring a student or simply attending an alumni event. The opportunities are endless! ■



Eleanor Jackson, Peggy Iffert and Evelyn Kelmel visit at the Annual Junior College brunch, held in April. Over 50 alumni and friends of the Junior College attended.

## Alumni Committees

*The Alumni Association has established new committees, and all alumni are invited to join!*

## Student Outreach

Student scholarships, mentoring students, and more.

## Events and Involvement

Help plan special events, Homecoming, service projects, social activities, etc.

## Membership and Merchandising

Promote and create membership and benefits program, explore merchandise opportunities.

*For more information about these committees, contact Julie Fiedler at [fiedler@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:fiedler@missouriwestern.edu) or call 816-271-5650.*



## From the Alumni Association President

Dear MWSU alumni, families, and friends,

Homecoming. The ultimate purpose of this annual event is to give folks an opportunity to "come home" to reminisce on past experiences and to live in the present of their alma mater. It's a time for everyone involved with Missouri Western, young and old, to have a good time and reflect on the past and the present. This year is particularly exciting as we are celebrating the great accomplishment of making Missouri Western a University!

Homecoming should be a spectacular event with a strong emphasis on alumni. This is a time for alumni to embrace current students and their families and begin a new bond with each of them. Without alumni, we may never have an accurate account of the past triumphs and tribulations of this fine institution. These memories are held with the graduates. As alumni, we should be like an extended family to current students and their families.

I hope that the alumni will be doing a much better job with these tasks. You will see for the first time this year a mentoring program that will bond

alumni with the current student body. This is a very exciting time for MWSU and it is our task as alumni to form these relationships now and assist our current students in making a life for themselves after graduation.

During this special time of year, I ask each of you to get involved with the Alumni Association. We can't have a great impact without your support and involvement! If you are not currently involved and would like to be, please contact the Alumni Services Office or me.



*Kristine Smith*

*Kristine L. Smith*

Kristine L. Smith, '88 • President, Alumni Board

## New board members

**W**elcome to the six new Alumni Association Board members:

**Dustin Holcumbrink**, '05, works for the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau.  
**Diane Hook**, '90, is an attorney with the St. Joseph law firm of Morton, Reed, Counts and Briggs.

**Randy Klein**, '82, is vice president of Leibowitz Menswear in St. Joseph.

**Nicholas Saccaro**, '01, is executive director of Second Harvest Food Bank in St. Joseph.

**Robert Sigrist**, '95, is assistant principal of Central High School in St. Joseph.

**Angie Springs**, '02, is a volunteer coordinator for the



*Greg VerMulm, '89, and Roxanna Lawing, '99, enjoy the Alumni Association's annual meeting and social was held in April at Uncle D's Sports Bar and Grill.*

American Red Cross in St. Joseph.

A special thank you to the members whose terms expired

in June: Mary Bish, '87, Laurel Goforth, '71, Kim Sigrist, '94, Patsy Smith, '95, and Chad Welch, '86. ■

## Alum makes “American Idol” cut

**P**rofessor of music Dr. Dennis Rogers described Asa Barnes, '03, as “electric in front of an audience.”

Apparently, judges for the television show American Idol agreed, because when Asa performed in Cleveland in August 2004, he made the cut to perform for the show in Hollywood.

Dennis said he wasn't surprised when he found out Asa, a native of Kansas City, Mo., had made the cut. “He has an ability to bring people into the music. He totally grabs an audience by the heart.”

In Cleveland, Asa waited in line with about 20,000 hopefuls for over 15 hours before performing Stevie Wonder's song “Overjoyed.” Only about 800 were selected for a second audition there, this time in front of American Idol's celebrity judges. From that number, the select few, Asa among them, advanced to Hollywood.

“Simon's not as bad as you think he is. He's bad, but not as bad as you think,” Asa quipped about celebrity judge Simon Cowell.

Asa, a band director at Smith-Hale Middle School in Kansas City, credits his performance experiences as a student at Western with preparing him for the American Idol auditions. ■



*Julie Fiedler, alumni services director, presents Brenda Judd, '75, with a door prize at the annual Alum Night at the St. Joseph Saints game.*

## WHO DO YOU KNOW?

Help someone discover gold! Do you have a friend, a coworker, a neighbor or a son or daughter who is considering college? Tell them about Western! Have them fill out the information below and return it to Admissions, Missouri Western State University, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507. Everyone who makes a referral will be entered into a drawing Dec. 31 for a Missouri Western State University sweatshirt! Share your golden experience with someone today!

### PROSPECTIVE STUDENT INFORMATION

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year \_\_\_\_\_

ACT Score \_\_\_\_\_ Semester to start college \_\_\_\_\_

Person making referral (You will be entered into a drawing for a free MWSU sweatshirt! )

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you!**

**[www.missouriwestern.edu/admissions](http://www.missouriwestern.edu/admissions)**





# Discover *gold* WESTERN *Calendar of Events*

**Check out [www.missouriwestern.edu/alumni/events.html](http://www.missouriwestern.edu/alumni/events.html) for information on upcoming alumni events!**

Sept. 6 -29	Photography exhibit by Richard Tichich. Potter Hall gallery.
Oct. 3 - 28	Drawings/Prints exhibit by Mark Hoseford in Potter Hall gallery.
Oct. 5	Convocation Dinner, 7 p.m., Fulkerson Center, \$30.
Oct. 6	Convocation on Critical Issues, J.C. Watts, "In-Depth Political Analysis," 9:30 a.m. Looney Complex. Free.
Oct. 6	Noontime Concert: Jazz Ensemble, First Presbyterian Church, 7th and Jules.
Oct. 6 - 9	"Rocky Horror Show," 8 p.m. Oct. 6, 7 & 8; 2 p.m. Oct. 9. Potter Hall theater.
Oct. 11	Tournament of Champions high school band competition, 2 p.m., Spratt Memorial Stadium.
Oct. 13 - 15	Second annual Griffon International Film Festival. Call 816-271-4443.
Oct. 21	Alumni Association Awards Banquet, 5:30 p.m. reception, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Fulkerson Center., \$20.
Oct. 22	Homecoming parade, 9 a.m., downtown St. Joseph. Tailgate, noon; game, 2 p.m.
Nov. 1 - 11	Mixed media senior art show, Potter Hall foyer and gallery. Opening reception, 7 p.m. Nov. 1.
Nov. 14 - Dec. 2	Mixed media senior art show, Potter Hall foyer and gallery. Opening reception, 7 p.m. Nov. 14.
Nov. 17 & 18	Student Directors' Film and Theatre Showcase, Potter Hall Black Box Theater.
Nov. 20	Concert Chorale/Chamber Singers Concert, 3 p.m. Potter Hall theater. Symphonic Winds/Jazz Ensemble Concert, 7:30 p.m., Potter Hall theater.
Dec. 1	Noontime Concert Series: Sounds of the Season, Jerry Anderson, First Presbyterian Church, 7th and Jules.
Dec. 4	Concert Band Concert, 3:30 p.m., Potter Hall theater.
Dec. 5	Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m., Potter Hall theater.
Dec. 17	Fall Commencement.
Jan. 17 - Feb. 3	Printmaking /Painting exhibit by Syd Cross.
Jan. 21	Alumni event in St. Louis - Watch your mail for details!
Feb. 6 - 24	Ceramic/Sculpture exhibit by Dave Harris in Potter Hall gallery.
March 1	Deadline to apply for Alumni Association Scholarship, Financial Aid Office.
March 1 - 31	Mixed media faculty exhibit, Potter Hall gallery.
March 2	Alumni Social, "Hoops and Harpo's," Harpo's Restaurant Bar, Kansas City, Mo.
March 2-5	MIAA Postseason Basketball Tournament, Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City, Mo. March 2-5 "Lend Me a Tenor," 8 p.m. March 2, 3 & 4; 2 p.m. March 5; Potter Hall theater.

## Football Schedule

Sept. 24 at Truman, 12 p.m.	Oct. 22 vs. Southwest Baptist, 2 p.m.
Oct. 1 vs. CMSU, 2 p.m.	Oct. 29 at St. Cloud State, 1 p.m.
Oct. 8 vs. Missouri Southern, 2 p.m.	Nov. 5 vs. Washburn, 2 p.m.
Oct. 15 at Emporia State, 1 p.m.	

**Check out [www.gogriffons.com](http://www.gogriffons.com) for the men's and women's basketball schedules.**



## Alum Profile

**Who:** *Ed Hershewe, class of 1972*

**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

**Western memory:** “The teachers were very approachable. They were so good and understanding.”



*Ed Hershewe,  
Class of 1973*

**E**d Hershewe said the timing of Western becoming a four-year college could not have been better. He said he was ready for college and could not afford to move away for the next two years.

“It was a godsend that we got the four-year college,” he said. “It was a quality education at a good price. It was a wonderful opportunity and I felt fortunate.”

Ed, an attorney who was elected last year to the Board of Governors for the Missouri Bar Association, said the quality of his undergraduate education became more clear to him when he was admitted into law school in Tennessee and was able to compete with students who had gone to Ivy League universities.

Ed graduated from law school in 1976 and began practicing law in Joplin, Mo. As the years passed, his business was taking him all over the globe, and he realized he was spending too much time away from his wife Alison and his five children.

In order to spend more time at home, he and his wife renovated an older building in downtown Joplin, converting it into a state-of-the-art conference center. The center provides videotaping capabilities from cities all over the world, which eliminated the need for most of Ed’s travel. Several organizations and businesses utilize the center, also.

The 15,000 sq. ft. center was “built and designed to be the nicest conference center people are ever going to see. It caters to comfort and efficiency,” he said.

His law career, the conference center, his role on the board - while he is proud of those accomplishments, he said the real measure of his success are the relationships he has with his wife and children.

“That is more important to me. That makes me proud.” ■





## Join us for **Homecoming 2005 - "University Studios"**

Check out our website at [www.missouriwestern.edu/alumni/events.html](http://www.missouriwestern.edu/alumni/events.html)

### **Saturday, October 15**

Alumni are invited to join faculty and students for the **Big Event community service day**. Check out the website or call 816-271-5646 for more information.

### **Thursday, October 20**

**Alumni Float Decorating!**

### **Friday, October 21**

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

Join us in honoring the Alumni Association Scholarship recipients and the 2005 Distinguished Alumni and Faculty Awardees. The 2005 Distinguished Alumni are Stephen Cotter, '78, Robert Couldry, '71, Esther George, '80, Tegwin Pulley, '63, Melody Smith, '87.

Distinguished Faculty Awardee is Sharon Gray, associate professor of music. *Cost is \$20 per person.*

### **Saturday, October 22**

**Homecoming Parade - 9:30 a.m.** Don't miss the students' floats, marching bands, and lots of fun!

The parade begins at City Hall and goes through downtown.

**Tailgate Lunch - Noon.** Join your friends for a great lunch at the Chris Faros Alumni Pavilion on campus.

Go Griffons! 2 p.m. Spratt Memorial Stadium. Cheer on the football team as they take on the Southwest Baptist Bearcats. It's "Back in Black" day - be sure to wear black! *Cost: \$6 per adult, \$2 per child - age 7 to high school;*

*children under 7 are free. Tickets available at the gate.* The Distinguished Service awardees will be honored at halftime.

**Post-game Party - 30 minutes after the game, Uncle D's Sports Bar and Grill, 621 S. 36th St.**

## **Awards Banquet Reservation Form**

**Please complete this form and return it with your payment by October 14 to:**

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

☐ Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$20 each) for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations to the Awards Banquet.

☐ I cannot attend the Banquet. Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$20 each) to pay for scholarship recipients.

Please bill my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Missouri Western State University.

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 the web address above.**





*The St. Joseph community enjoyed the carnival.*



*Legislators who helped pass the MWSU name change bill, Dr. Rob Schaaf, '79, Martin Rucker, Ed Wildberger, and Charlie Shields.*



*Face painting at the carnival.*



*Drs. Looney, Murphy, McCarthy and Scanlon unveil the new university seal at the academic convocation on August 31.*

*Photo courtesy of St. Joseph News-Press*



**“O**h happy day!” declared Dr. James Scanlon, Western’s president, as he kicked off “It’s All About U!,” the university designation celebration Aug. 28. Hundreds of community members joined Western students and employees as the new entrance sign and a new “U” on the hillside facing Interstate 29 were unveiled.

Free activities in the stadium that included musical entertainment, parachutists and an inflatable carnival were cut short by high winds and threatening weather. The fireworks and carnival were rescheduled for Sept. 1, the date of Western’s first football game as a university.

The formal ceremony to recognize Western’s new university designation was held Aug. 31. Former presidents Dr. M.O. Looney and Dr. Janet Gorman Murphy McCarthy spoke at the event, and received the first honorary degrees from the university. ■