Hoopsters reunite to remember playing days

Former Northwest basketball players and their wives (from left) Paul ‘63 and Ellen Davis ’64 Lizzo, Jerry ’62 and Barb Meznarich, and Don ’63 and Sandra Drake recently reunited in St. Petersburg, Fla.

“It was so nice to catch up on what each of us had been doing and talk about our memories at Northwest,” Drake said. “The rich tradition of Northwest basketball which we enjoyed was under the leadership of the great coach Marion Moss. Our day together had many good stories and memories of those great basketball years.”

All three men had successful careers in education and coaching.

Class notes

1955

JACK AND JEAN JENSEN (ATTD. ’54-’56) WIECHMANN ● celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 11 while traveling in Spain. They live in Omaha, NE.

1956

WELDON DOWDEN ● and his wife, Betty, celebrated their 50th anniversary on June 1. Weldon worked for Phillips Petroleum Co. for 36 years. They live in Bartlesville, OK.

JAMES AND DONNA BROWN SNAPP celebrated their 50th anniversary on May 31. James started his career in the shipping industry in the Long Beach, CA, and Los Angeles harbors and retired as president and CEO of an international metals producing company in Long Beach. Donna was an art teacher in the Long Beach area. They live in Palm Desert, CA.

1962

JIM MEADOWS ● is a retired United Airlines captain and is now in the earthmoving construction business. His wife, Miriam, has retired from the American Chianina Association in Platte City and is now an accountant for Barker John Deere. They live in Indianola, IA.

1964

HAROLD AND CAROLE LININGER (’63, SPECIALIST ’82) JOHNSON ● live in Savannah. Carole retired July 14 as associate director with Upward Bound Project Focus at Emporia State University after 17 years. They have two sons, Matthew and Christopher, a 1995 Northwest graduate. They have a granddaughter, Maryn, and a grandson on the way.

GENE PROBASCO is a contract technical writer after several years of teaching speed communication in Missouri, New Mexico and Arizona. His current writing assignment is with the IT Department of US Airways.

1965

GEORGE GARCIA ● will retire from the Boulder Valley (CO) School District on July 31, 2007, after seven years with the district. He previously was superintendent of the Tucson (AZ) United School District. He and his wife, Mary, a retired school superintendent, have five children and eight grandchildren.

VINCENT PAOLILLO is director of graduate education programs at William Woods University. He retired in 2003 as executive director of school management with the St. Joseph School District. For the past three years he has been an adjunct professor at William Woods.

1966

JIM MEADOWS ● and TYRA DALE WALKER (ATTD. ’64-’66) were former Roberta Hall roommates and Phi Mu sisters and recently continued their annual tradition by playing in the Rally for the Cure golf tournament in Bella Vista, AR, where they live.

JERRY (MASTER’S ’72) AND GLENDA CLARIDAY (ATTD. ’68-’70) NOBLE live in Chillicothe. Jerry taught for seven years and has been in sales since. Glenda is a CPA and a partner with Harden, Cummins, Moss and Miller LLC.

ROGER SCHLEGEL ● was captain of the 1966 Bearcat football team and president of the M Club and senior class. His son, Anthony Schlegel, was selected by the New York Jets in the third round and was the 71st pick overall in the 2006 NFL draft. Anthony was a two-year starter at Ohio State University.

1968

DWIGHT PIERSON (MASTER’S ’74, SPECIALIST ’88) was named the 2006-07 Iowa Superintendent of the Year. He has been superintendent of the Forest City (IA) Community School District since 1996 and will retire in June 2007.

1969

JAN SANDERS is director of information services at the Pasadena (CA) Public Library. She also is vice president/president-elect of the Public Library Association, a division of the American Library Association.

1970

BARB MCAVOY DRAKE retired from the Maryville R-II School District in May after 34 years. She taught English, reading improvement, college survival, speech, debate and served as the library media specialist.

1971

KAREN BARNETT SOVEREIGN (MASTER’S ’86) retired from the Maryville R-II School District in May. She taught English, speech, journalism and drama at the high school...
for 14 years. She began her teaching career in the Northeast Nodaway School District where she taught 17 years.

1972
KEITH SMITH (MASTER’S ’87) • retired from the Maryville R-II School District in May where he had taught classes such as American history, world geography, civics, frontiers, military geography, Civil War, regional geography and economics for the past 25 years.

1973
VIRGIL MOORE • is director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. He has worked with the department since 1979 in a variety of field research and management positions, most recently as fisheries chief.

SAM RATCLIFFE • is retired but still teaches high school computer science and economics and coaches junior college and high school cross country teams. He was an officer in the U.S. Army Special Forces and an officer in the U.S. Army, working with the department since 1973.

JOE THOMPSON • married Vicki Farrar on June 12. Joe works for Computer Task Group as a consultant. They live in Duluth, MN.

1977
JOHN CONAGHAN • is founder of Old Republic Title Company of Kansas City. In 1987, he founded American Land Title.

JOE DRAKE (MASTER’S ’86) • retired from the Maryville R-II School District in May. He was with the district 32 years and taught physical education, health and drivers education. He coached wrestling, football and baseball and

1978
DAVE COLT (MASTER’S) • was awarded the National Athletic Trainers’ Association College/University Athletic Trainer of the Year. He has been the head athletic trainer at Northwest since 1981 and is pursuing his educational doctorate from the University of Missouri.

1980
TRUDY SCOTT DORREL • retired from the Northwest Technical School in May after 20 years. She has taught practical nursing and was the program coordinator.

1981
PHIL WRIGHT • received the Missouri Interscholastic Press Association’s Administrator of the Year Award in April. He is the assistant superintendent in the Liberty School District.

1984
PAUL COLTON • is the boys basketball coach at Frontenac (KS) High School. He was the head coach at Joplin High School from 2001 to 2005. Last year he was the freshman boys coach at Fayetteville (AR) High School while completing work on a master’s degree.

1985
DENNIS CROY • is the principal at Tri-County R-7 High School in Jamesport. He taught agriculture at Gallatin High School since 1993. He and his wife have two children, Erin, a sophomore at the University of Missouri, and Kyle, a high school sophomore.

A group of Northwest landscapers and groundskeepers found a creative way to express their deeply rooted affection for the University’s mascot.

For nearly five years, the men labored to create a topiary of Bobby Bearcat. That’s right, a topiary – a statue made out of shrubbery.

During football season, the larger-than-life figure greeted fans at the entrance of Bearcat Stadium. Its leafy paws thrust into the air like a referee signaling a touchdown. The topiary started out as “just kind of a dream” that morphed into a project the men could work on outdoors in rainy weather.
KEVIN AND CARRIE CRAWFORD (MASTER’S ’97) JAMES live in Ames, IA. Kevin is 2006 president of the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association. He has served on the association’s board of directors since 2000 and is employed by the city of Ames in the Parks and Recreation Department as golf course superintendent at Homewood Golf Course. Carrie is employed in the Ankeny (IA) School District.

MICHAEL AND KENNA MILLER (’84, ’87) JOHNSON and their three daughters live in Greeley, CO. Mike is vice president of alumni relations at the University of Northern Colorado. Kenna is director of the Stryker Institute for Leadership Development and the Women’s Resource Center, which serve non-traditional-aged college students.

KAREN WRAY retired from the Maryville R-II School District in May after 29 years. She taught seventh-grade language arts as well as exploratory classes.

1986

DAVID (MASTER’S ’88, SPECIALIST ’98) AND JILL HARRISON COX ♦ live in Gladstone with their children, Caroline, 11, and Richard, 9. David is a principal in the North Kansas City School District and finished his doctorate in May, Jill is a senior staff accountant with K and Company.

RICK AND SUSAN SVOBODA (ATTD. ’84-’86) MARTIN live in the Twin Cities with their four children. Rick is head of private asset management with US Bank. He earned an MBA from Creighton University and holds a Chartered Financial Analyst designation.

BETH BAIER MAYNES teaches at Heartland Christian School in Council Bluffs, IA. Her husband, Jim, is a plant operator with the City of Council Bluffs. They live in Tremynor, IA, with their children, Elissa, 15, and Justin, 13. Last year, Elissa went through chemotherapy and surgery for Ewing’s Sarcoma and is now cancer free.

SANDY WOLBERT SEIPEL (MASTER’S ’92) is the high school principal in the Northeast Nodaway School District. She and her husband, Chris, have three children, Brad, 17, Matthew, 15, and Jenny, 10.

1987

AL HASTINGS (MASTER’S) is the technology coordinator with Charles City (IA) Community Development. He retired from the Charles City Community School District in 2004 after serving as the district’s technology coordinator for 17 years.

KATHY ARMSTRONG PANTZAR was named teacher of the year at the Katy (TX) Independent School District.

1990

LINDA STEFFEN POORE (MASTER’S ’96) ♦ is a third-grade teacher at Saint Louis University.

1991

SHANNON MILLER BINGHAM and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of Tobin Richard on April 15, 2005. He joins Ethan, 3.

SHAUN PRICHARD announces the birth of Emmalynn. Shaun is the executive officer of Solano Local Agency Formation Commission in Fairfield, CA.

JUAN RANGEL is director of business development for Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City. He previously was an executive partner for HarmonyNCCJ. He and his wife, Yvonne, have one son, Juanito, 3.

JOHN SAYRE ♦ is a captain in the North Kansas City Fire Department where he has been employed for 11 years. He lives in Kansas City with his wife, Shelly, and their four children.

JENNIFER GALLOP SMITH and her husband, Donovan, announce the birth of Alexander Donovan on March 17. He joins Amanda, 10, and Jordan, 7. Jennifer is a teacher of gifted and talented students in the West Platte R-II School District. She also is pursuing a master’s degree. They live in Parkville.

RON (ATTD. ’85-’89) AND MARILYN LANGFORD SNYDER announce the birth of Savannah Madalyn on Feb. 3. She joins Jeremiah. Ron works in the distributor division at the Mi-T-M Corporation, and Marilyn is an administrative assistant at the National Missis-
Defending the rights of all Americans

Brett Shirk ‘90, ’92 proudly wears an American flag on the lapel of his suit. It’s not uncommon, however, for critics to question why he, of all people, wears the pin – especially considering the organization he leads has defended such controversial groups as the Ku Klux Klan, Nazis, communists and atheists.

“It’s my flag as much as anyone else’s,” Shirk said. “This flag represents the views of all Americans.”

As executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas and Western Missouri, Shirk is accustomed to answering questions about his patriotism.

“I get mail from conservatives and progressives,” said Shirk, who has held the top position at the ACLU for a year. “It doesn’t bother me, even when someone writes to say that ‘the Supreme Court of the Universe will take me down.’”

According to Shirk, the mission of the ACLU is to protect the United States’ Constitution and the Bill of Rights and to preserve the liberties of all American citizens, regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, religious belief or political viewpoint.

“We defended the KKK at the same time we worked to stop lynching in the South,” he said. “We’re defending the free speech rights of Fred Phelps at the same time we’re defending the free speech rights of gay and lesbian activists.”

Shirk has studied history in graduate school, earned a law degree and worked in local Missouri politics (for progressive Democrats and conservative Republicans, he points out). But another experience also impacted his career and personal beliefs – living and working in the People’s Republic of China.

“I really wanted to know what it was like to live in an autocratic police state,” Shirk said. “Living in China for two years made a huge difference on how I view what it means to be free. If you really want to know what freedom is and what freedom isn’t, try living under a totalitarian regime for awhile.”

This life-changing experience prepared Shirk to speak passionately about the constitutional freedoms of United States citizens, a task he performs daily as the chief spokesperson for the ACLU affiliate he represents.

“Regardless of the criticism and controversy, I remain a constant optimist,” Shirk said. “If you don’t believe things will get better, you can’t do this job. Imagine if Martin Luther King hadn’t believed we could be a better nation? Where would we be today?”

With a full-time staff of just two people, Shirk is the office’s chief fundraiser and membership chairman and works with a group of 20 attorneys who provide pro bono legal services.

“It’s not always about the client or even their message we’re defending,” he said. “It’s about protecting every citizen’s right to live on an equal basis in a free nation. I enjoy waking up each morning knowing that I’m defending something much bigger than myself or the ACLU or any of us. I’m defending the Bill of Rights, the very foundation of freedom in our country.”

Laurie Landsness married Justin Besco on April 29. They live in Osceola, IA. She works for Southwestern Community College in Creston, IA.

Connie Jean Knott Tate (Master’s ’97) works in the bulk commodities division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture with the Farm Service Agency in Kansas City. She retired in March 2004 as a captain with the Air National Guard after 22 years. She can be contacted at (816) 926-3852.

Lisa Gruenloh is director of communications for Infilaw, a law school consortium in Naples, FL.

Lori Johnson (Master’s) is coordinator of evangelism and volunteers at the First United Methodist Church in McPherson, KS. She also is a licensed Kindermusik educator.

Julian Brown is interim head football coach at Westover (NC) High School. He has been the defensive coordinator there the past two years and has been on the staff for four years.
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- Local chapter credit cards
- Local chapter events and reunions

Gina Gruhn  
and Randy Hurley were married Oct. 15, 2005. Gina is vice president of sales and account management with Medco in Franklin Lakes, NJ. Randy works in commercial and residential real estate in Madison, NJ. They live in Convent Station, NJ, and can be reached at gruhng@aol.com.

James and Leslie Hagan  
(’94, ’98) West •  

1994
Erin Albright  
and Paul Milek were married May 11 in Winter Park, FL. Erin is a marketing manager at Aramark at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, and Paul is a courier with FedEx. They live in Sanford, FL.

Becky Deyoung Colwell  
is a nursing recruiter with Avila University. Her husband, Paul, is the assistant principal/athletic director at Turner USD 202. They live in Lenexa, KS, with their two children, Bennett, 3, and Katelyn, 2.

Tyler Edwards  
is dean of students and head varsity boys basketball coach at Kuemper Catholic High School in Carroll, IA. He also coaches middle school football. He and his wife, Edie, have three children, Dylan, 12, Drew, 7, and Dawson, 4.

Roger Hughlett  

Jamie McMurphy  
is an assistant principal at Rocky Heights Middle School in Douglas County, CO.

Andy and Jill Draper (’01) Seeley  
announce the birth of Morgan Elizabeth on May 2. Andy is the assistant sports information director at the University of Utah, and Jill is a staffing manager for Ajilon Office in Salt Lake City, UT.

Danny Westhoff  
and his wife, Nicole, announce the birth of Ella on July 30, 2005. She joins a sister, Taylor. Danny has been in the telecom industry for 11 years in Kansas City and is a network specialist for Inter-tel. Nicole is a Realtor with Reece and Nichols Realtors.

1995
Tom Cole (Master’s ’97)  
is a business development manager with S.M. Wilson & Co., a Kansas City area commercial contracting firm. He leads the firm’s business and economic development initiatives. He received the Ec.D. designation from the International Economic Development Council. Fewer than 60 people worldwide have earned this designation. He lives in Liberty.

Jeremy Gump  
announces the birth of a son, Preston, Jeremy is a senior manager at Ernst & Young and owns a horse farm in Michigan.

Anne Harter (Master’s ’97)  
teaches ninth-grade language arts in the Shenandoah (IA) Community School District. She lives in Red Oak, IA, with her three sons.

Chris Holt  
is the head football coach at Maryville R-II High School. He coached at Princeton High School the past two seasons.

Ryan O’Rourke  
and his wife, Lindy, announce the birth of Autumn Grace on June 30. She joins Ashley. They live in Independence.

Heather Hamlin Peterson  
is an elementary school counselor in Stockton, CA.

Rob Redman  
has his own legal practice in Kansas City.

Melissa Megerson Unruh  
is in the process of adopting a daughter. She works at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid in Kansas City.

1996
Darin and Billie Bowman Bergmann  
announce the birth of Calvin Arden Lee on Oct. 20, 2005. He joins Trevin, 4. Darin is employed with the Principal Financial Group, and Billie is an IT senior test lead with John Deere Credit. They live in Waukee, IA.

Theresa Cullen (Master’s ’98)  
graduated in July with
a Ph.D. in instructional systems technology and a minor in science education from Indiana University. She is now an assistant professor in the instructional psychology and technology program at the University of Oklahoma. She can be contacted at tacullen@gmail.com.

KIMBERLY ZOOK HO and her husband, Gordon, announce the birth of Stella Rose and Maxwell Joseph on June 30. Kimberly is owner/president of You’re Invited Wedding and Event Planning. Gordon is owner/president of Innovative Solutions Consulting Group. They live in Overland Park, KS.

MATT AND DANIELLE PILLOW JOHNSON (‘98) announce the birth of Brooklyn Sierra on May 31. She joins Hunter. They live in Maryville.

PAUL AND TERRI GILLISPIE (‘95) KEMNA announce the birth of Riley Jane on April 18. Paul is in management with Scholastic Inc., and Terri teaches biology in the Neosho R-5 School District. They live in Neosho.

KEVIN AND DARCY MICKELSON (‘95) MARET live in O’Fallon with their son, Alexander, 2. Kevin is assistant director of bands and director of percussion studies at McKendree College in Lebanon, IL. In addition to teaching, he assists with the Marching Bearcat Band, specifically the drum line, and is in charge of the McKendree Pep Band.

CODY AND MELISSA NEWMAN (MASTER’S ’09) have opened C & G Education Station in Maryville, a one-stop shop for educational supplies. They named the store after their two children, Cade, 2, and Gabriella, 3. Cody also works in the community relations office at St. Francis Hospital and Health Services in Maryville.

NICOLE HENSLER RICCI is a clinical and outpatient dietitian with the U.S. Federal Government. She lives in Ann Arbor, MI.

1997

HEATHER BADER DOYLE and her husband, Brett, have two children. Brandon Xavier is 2, and their daughter was born Jan. 16. They live in O’Fallon.

SCOTTE HANSEN is the director of youth and children’s ministry at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Omaha, NE. His wife, Annie, is a teacher at Christ Kids Childcare. They live in Lincoln, NE.

SCOTT PUMMELL is sports editor of the St. Joseph News-Press. He has been with the News-Press for 12 years and has been the assistant city editor the past five years.

RYAN WYLIE and Kelly Hallihan were married Aug. 13, 2005, in Des Moines, IA. Kelly is a seventh-grade teacher in the Johnston (IA) Community School District and is completing a master’s degree. Ryan is an environmental scientist at MWH in Des Moines, IA. They live in Urbandale, IA.

TODD AND JENNIFER ROSEBOROUGH (‘96) ZYMBALL announce the birth of Sydney Nicole on Feb. 2. She joins Courtney Michele, 3. They live in Shawnee, KS.

1998

COLLEEN COOKE (MASTER’S ’05) is the director of communication at Bishop Miege High School in Fairway, KS.

JANA CRAIN is an account supervisor at Bernstein-Rein Advertising Inc. in Kansas City.

KEVIN GERMAN and Erin Russell were married March 31 in Scottsdale, AZ. They live and work in Chicago, IL.

KIMBERLY LINVILLE (MASTER’S ’00) and Jeffery Archer were married June 17 in Excelsior Springs. Kimberly is a fourth-grade teacher at Prairie Point Elementary in the Park Hill School District, and Jeff owns the Kansas City branch of Critter Control, a wildlife damage control business. They live in Kansas City.

TYE PARSONS is the executive director of the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments in Maryville.

He previously was the assistant director of the Missouri-Kansas Regional Planning Commission in St. Joseph.

AMY SHUTT REIMAN and her husband, Brad, announce the birth of Gabriel Luke on Jan. 3. He joins Noah Bradley, 4. Amy is a licensed marketing assistant/administrative assistant with Clay County Farm Bureau. Brad teaches sixth grade at Spencer (IA) Community Schools. They live in Spencer, IA.

PEGGY SKROH and David Kretz were married Feb. 28 in Las Vegas, NV. Peggy is in sales with American TV and Appliance, and David is manager of American TV and Appliance. They live in Madrid, IA.

MICHAEL SMITH (MASTER’S) is the women’s basketball assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. He previously was head coach at Moberly Area Community College where he recorded a 102-34 overall record. He and his wife, Melanie, live in Little Rock, AR, with their son, Cooper.

ROD (ATTD.) AND AMY MOUSTRAY (MASTER’S ’05) WOLF announce the birth of Delaney Rae on May 2. She joins Alexandra, 3. Amy is a math teacher in the North Andrew School District in Rosendale, and Rod is a computer technician for Herzog Contracting in St. Joseph. They live in Barnard.

Send us your e-mail address today! alumni@nwmissouri.edu
Straight from a Student:

10 things you should do your freshman year
... at least according to Curtis Dedman

1. Wear something crazy to a Bearcat football game, or to all of them. One must look crazy to act crazy for the Bearcats.
2. Feast on the buffet at Pagliai’s. It’s a great place for pizza, and their pasta and side dishes are my favorite.
3. Keep everyone awake during finals week by blasting the Backstreet Boys from your room. Playing the Backstreet Boys at anytime is funny, but during finals week it really lightens the stressful mood.
4. Build a loft to save space, and then try not to fall out of it. This happened to me, and I nearly broke my hand and spent the rest of the year sleeping on my futon.
5. Get your groove on at Shindigg. It’s a rip-roaring good time! It’s a country dance where they play everything from the Electric Slide to the theme from “Space Jam.”
6. Order Domino’s pizza to be delivered across the street from the restaurant.
7. Eat the “Pounder” at K & T Bar and Grill in Parnell. A whole pound of beef on a bun is always a challenge.
8. Get to know all of your floor mates. Networking is the best thing you can do now, and you may need their help in the future. If not, you have some lifelong friends.
9. Go to a Campus Crusade for Christ meeting. You may not be a Christian, but Crusade meetings aren’t just for Christians, they are for anyone who wants to attend. You can sing, watch people make fools of themselves and listen to a different speaker every week.
10. Go to the Toolbox. Come hang out, watch movies or play games.

Curtis Dedman is a sophomore at Northwest. He is currently undecided on his major, but said he is leaning toward broadcasting. Dedman is involved in Campus Crusade for Christ, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and intramural sports. He also is a resident assistant and a DJ at X106.

He spent last summer participating in the Juneau Men’s Summer Project. He worked for Alaska Travel Adventures booking kayaking and rafting tours. He also worked as a shore representative and participated in community outreach.

With his chest painted and a megaphone in hand, sophomore Curtis Dedman and his friends transform into ultimate Bearcat football fans on game day.

1999

BARRY AND STACY SANCHELLI (’00) AUDSLEY announce the birth of Anthony Michael on Aug. 18, 2005. Barry is a software engineer at Sprint Nextel in Overland Park, KS, and Stacy teaches middle school English at Wheatridge Middle School in Gardner, KS.

KIM BUCHAN works for MasterCard in Reykjavik, Iceland, and will be pursuing a graduate degree in London next year.

RANCE AND BRYLIE BURCH (’00) CARLSON live in Liberty. Rance received an MBA from Avila University and is an investment representative with Edward Jones Investments in Liberty. Brylie has a master’s degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha and is the manager of human resources with Service Management Group in Kansas City. They are expecting their first child in March.

STEVEN FARIBORZ and his wife, Tracey, announce the birth of twin boys, Andres and Brendan, on June 21. Steven is a video editor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City’s Multimedia Technology Services and freelances for the Kansas City Chiefs and Royals Jumbotron crews.

JENNIFER REYNOLDS HARE and her husband, Tim, announce the birth of Andrew on March 21. He joins Kate, 2. Jennifer is a stay-at-home mom, and Tim is a tile installer. They live in Omaha, NE.

MISTY CAMPBELL MAUZEY (MASTER’S ’01) and her husband, Rich, announce the birth of Mattingly on Feb. 1. Rich is in sales with Pepsi Americas. They live in St. Joseph.

JERRY NEVINS announces the birth of a son, Sawyer. Jerry works for State Farm Insurance.
LARA SCHULENBERG SMITH completed the Summer Programme in English Literature through the University of Oxford. She attended Oxford on scholarship through the English Speaking Union-Kansas City branch. Lara teaches English in the Belton School District.

WADE AND LINDA MCCAMPBELL ('00 Sterling) live in Fayette with their son, Caleb. Linda completed a Ph.D. in sport psychology/sports studies from the University of Kansas in 2005. She is an assistant professor of psychology at Central Methodist University. Wade is an area manager with Countrywide Specialty Lending Group.

2000

SARAH GOWDY FRINK announces the birth of Hannah Renae on April 6. Sarah is a store manager for Safeway in Medford, OR.

KEVIN KING is the 6 p.m. news producer at KSDK News Channel 5 in St. Louis. He previously was at KWCH 12 in Wichita, KS, producing the 10 p.m. news.

THOMAS KIRKLAND AND KELLY PIERSON ('02, '03) were married July 23, 2005, in Maryville. They live in Columbia.

SUZETTE REED (MASTER'S '05) is a high school math teacher and assistant coach for cross country and girls’ track in the Clarinda (IA) Community School District. She and her husband, Robert, have two children, Kennedy, 3, and Kaleb, 3.

BOB RICE announces the birth of a son, Alex. Bob is with the public defenders office in Chillicothe.

JULIE TREDMAN is an account executive at FLSConnect specializing in voter/constituent communication. Julie has been with the Republican National Committee in Washington since 2000.

2001

TOBIE RANDALL BOHANNON is the preschool teacher in the Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District and provides the Parents as Teachers services.

BECKY KONDRA BRIGGS is an internship coordinator for probation and parole in Kansas City.

JAMIE BRITZ DROEGE and her husband, Ryan, announce the adoption of a son, Samuel. He was born in Guatemala City, Guatemala, on July 27, 2005, and was welcomed home May 23, 2006. In addition, they announce the birth of Andrew on May 1. Jamie is a kindergarten teacher in the Harrisonville School District. They live in Harrisonville.

SCOTT MAGDZIAK graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Law School in May 2005 and is a commercial real estate lawyer with Posinelli Shelton Welte Suelthaus PC in Kansas City.

KATHERINE PHILLIPS NOVAK is a legal counsel in the Labor Relations Division of Union Pacific. She and her husband, Grant, live in Omaha, NE.

JARED WATSON completed a master’s degree in pastoral counseling at Boston University in May and is completing another master’s degree in criminal justice from BU.

ERIN GILMORE WILLIAMS received a master’s degree in human service agency management from Lin- denwood University. She is the executive director for the Wentzville Chamber of Commerce.

CHRISTINE EAGAN WOLF is a clinical laboratory scientist at Tampa (FL) General Hospital in the Molecular Diagnostics Lab.

2002

ZACK BOMAN teaches high school in North Kansas City.

JENNY GIFFIN DAVEY and her husband, Jeff, announce the birth of Lederger Robert on April 3. He joins Landon, 2. Jeff is the internet sales manager at Cecil Myers Mitsubishi, and Jenny is the campaign manager for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. They live in St. Joseph.

KERRY FINNEGAN and Justin Wise were married Aug. 18. Kerry is a project associate for the Central Iowa Tobacco-free Partnership, and Justin is an intern pastor and attends seminary. They live in West Des Moines, IA.

TROY FORBES (MASTER’S) and his wife, Tethnie, are assistant coaches for the Lake Superior State University men’s and women’s basketball programs. They previously were the assistant coaches at Elmhurst College in Illinois for four years.

JACOB GREEN is a naval designer. He works on the design of stealth ships at General Dynamics in Maine.

LESLEY HOSTETTER and Nathan Martin were married June 10, 2005, in Kansas City. Lesley teaches in the North Kansas City School District, and Nathan is employed at the Cheesecake Factory. They live in North Kansas City.

BRIANNE KAGER HUNTER and her husband, Jared, announce the birth of Wyatt James on March 4. Brianna teaches social studies in the Northeast Nodaway School District, and Jared is the sign shop manager at Northwest. They live in Maryville.

MELISSA BARRY MULLOCK is moving back to Maryville with her husband and daughter, Morgan, who was born in February.

MARIO (ATT'D '00-'02) AND PRECIOUS TILLMAN PORRAS were married in October 2003. Precious is the program associate of the Multicultural Resource Center at the University of Kansas.

TRU-KECHIA SMITH is a transitional case manager for the Kansas City Health Department working with incarcerated prisoners with HIV.

COURTNEY JACOBSEN WATSON earned a master’s degree in criminal justice from Northeastern University in May.
Have any bright ideas?
Send us your story ideas for the Northwest Alumni Magazine.
mitzi@nwmissouri.edu

BRETT WELLHAUSEN AND MELISSA GIZA (’03)
were married July 30, 2005, in Creston, IA. Brett works for Wellhausen Farms and Feedlots and is involved in farming and cattle feeding. Melissa is an auditor with the Iowa State Auditor’s office. They live near Clarinda, IA.

SARA HENKE WHITE
and her husband, Brandon, announce the birth of Isabella Gracelee on June 28. She joins Chandra, Travis, Garrett, Alexandria and Julianna.

CASEY WICKSTROM
is in the master’s program in rhetorical communication at Ball State University. He also announces the arrival of a son in February.

2003
MICHAEL BISSEN AND LAURA GEORGE
were married June 3. Michael is employed with the Cerner Corporation in Kansas City, and Laura is employed at State Street Bank and Trust, Kansas City.

ERIC HOPP
is a licensed sales representative with Rick Hopp Agency at American Family Insurance in St. Joseph.

JENNIFER SPRECKELMEYER MEYER •
and her husband, Tim, announce the birth of Ean Miles on April 16. Jennifer is a stay-at-home mom, and Tim farms. They live in Maryville.

NICOLAS VASQUEZ
(MASTER’S ’04)
and Lindsey Scheib were married July 8 in Oregon, MO. Nic is a vocal music teacher in the Maryville R-II School District. Lindsey is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in vocal music education at Northwest. They live in Maryville.

SCOTT WINKLER AND NICOLE BAXLEY (’04)
were married Oct. 8, 2005, in Salisbury. Scott farms and is a Pioneer Seed dealer. Nicole is the advertising manager at the Salisbury Press-Spectator. They live in Salisbury.

KELLY ZONA
is a retail credit analyst at Mercedes-Benz Financial in Irvine, CA.

2004
KRISTI ALLEN
has begun her MPA program at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. She works in the Nodaway County Prosecuting Attorney’s office in Maryville.

JENNIFER BAUMLI
and Travis Roderick were married July 16, 2005, in Maryville. Jennifer is a children’s service worker with the state of Missouri, and Travis is employed with Leaverton Auto. They live in Maryville.

CHRISTY FORNEY
is grants administrator for the Maryville Department of Public Safety.

2005
SEAN BERGER
is an interactive designer/programmer at Bernstein-Rein Advertising Inc. in Kansas City.

CHRISTY POWELL ENDRESS
is the human resources generalist at Menorah Medical Center in Overland Park, KS. She and her husband, Ryan, live in Lenexa, KS.

ADAM GILLESPIE
has completed his first year at St. Louis University Law School and is beginning work on a master’s degree in health administration. He is a law ambassador at SLU and gives tours to prospective law students.

JAMIE LONGENECKER HUCKEBA
is an administrative assistant at Canyon Hills Community Church in the Seattle area.

RORY JACKSON
and Heather Wiederholt were married Oct. 22, 2005, in Maryville. Rory is a counselor in the North Andrew School District and is pursuing a master’s degree. Heather is enrolled in the medical assistant program at Vatterott College in St. Joseph.

JORDAN ORSCHELN
is a youth specialist with the state of Missouri working with delinquent sex offenders. He will travel to China next year to teach English.
BRANDON RIDDER is a programmer analyst with Rural Sourcing Inc. in Rock Port.  

GRANT VENABLE and Rachel Taylor were married July 9 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Grant works at the University of Missouri.

2006  

LINDSAY BLOHN is deputy communications director for the Pete Ricketts for Senate campaign in Nebraska.  

LYDIA DOMBROWSKI is a residential rehabilitation specialist with Community Alliance in Omaha, NE.  

SCOTT HARVEY is the vocal music teacher at the high school and middle school in the Hannibal Public School District.  

CASSIE VORTHAMM and Brian Reed were married May 20 in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. Cassie plans to attend nursing school, and Brian is employed with Nodaway Township in Burlington Junction.

In Memoriam  

ANNIE LOGAN AVERILL ’46  
79, died Sept. 2, 2005, in Winston-Salem, NC. She was a teacher prior to her marriage and was a Navy wife and mother.  

ROGER BRITTON ’78  
49, died July 2 in Ogden, IA. He retired in 1999 from teaching due to ALS.  

WILLIAM BROWN ’58  
74, died July 25 in St. Joseph. She taught 44 years before her retirement.  

JOHN CARPENTER ’77  
51, died May 25 in St. Joseph. He was vice president of technical affairs with Phoenix Scientific from 1991 to 2005.  

JOHN COX ’38  
90, died May 25 in Iowa City, IA. He retired in 1985 after 27 years in the admissions office at the University of Iowa.  

LARRY DOWNING ’67  
62, died July 11 in Raymore. He spent 37 years at Consolidated District No. 4 in Grandview as an English teacher, administrator and hearings administrator.  

FREIDA ABPLANALP ELWICK ’49  
92, died June 2 in Belton. She was a teacher in the Worth County R-III School District for more than 40 years.  

MARY ANN SCHOOLER FARRENS ’47  
77, died May 13 in St. Joseph. She taught 44 years at the North Kansas City School District for 33 years, retiring in 1994.  

GLADYS GRUBB GAMEL ’63  
85, died Aug. 21 in Hopkins. She taught for 40 years, the last 25 in the North Nodaway School District.  

ANN EICKHOLT HEFLIN ’84  
53, died April 20 in Maryville. She was an LPN at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville for 16 years.  

BETTY HUTSON HUBBARD ’52 (HORACE MANN)  
71, died April 27. She was employed with the former Sisters Hospital in St. Joseph until 1973 when she left to help run the family farm.  

CATON LAKE ’39  
95, died June 20 in St. Joseph. He had lived in Lake Jackson, TX, most of his life. He was a math consultant in the Brazosport Independent School District in Freeport, TX, and Brazosport College divisional chairman in Lake Jackson, TX. He retired in 1975.  

JESSE MASTERS ’57  
75, died Dec. 11, 2005. He retired as an executive with Hartford Insurance Co.  

WAYNE MCGUERRY ’49  
83, died April 21 in Orange, CA. He became a Navy pilot in 1945 and retired as commander from the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1980. He was a communications specialist at North American Aviation, which later became Rockwell International. He worked on Apollo and space shuttle projects, retiring in 1990 after 30 years.  

EVELYN MEEK MCWILLIAMS ’57  
92, died Feb. 2 in Englewood, CO.  

VERNELLE BAUER O’MALLEY ’45  
82, died March 28 in Jefferson City. She was a homemaker.  

ALETHA ROGERS PITTS ’58 (HORACE MANN ’55)  
68, died April 30 in Maryville. She taught in Rosendale and was a substitute teacher in the Maryville School District for many years.  

MILDRED HOOKER RENSCH ’66  
86, died June 16 in Kansas City. She was a homemaker and a retired teacher from the Chillicothe R-II School District.  

CAROL CUMMINGS SKOGLUND ’57  
87, died May 18 in Maryville. She retired from the St. Joseph School District, having taught for 34 years.  

JAMES SMELTZER 69, died July 9 in Maryville. He retired from Northwest in 2003 as a professor of physics and was the former adviser of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity.  

ROBERTA UTTERBACK ’39  
91, died May 1 in Greenville, MI. She taught in public schools in Missouri, Denver, CO, and Saginaw and Ann Arbor, MI. She retired in 1979 from Ohio State University where she was an associate professor of education for 35 years.  

MORRIS WALTON ’50  
85, died May 27 in St. Joseph. He taught in Amity, Fillmore and Faucett and retired in 1980 as librarian at Savannah High School.  

WILLIAM YAUCH ’52  
83, died April 5 in Batesville, AR. He was retired from a managerial career at Batesville White Line and Jayco Construction.

Let us know  

If you learn of the death of a Northwest graduate, please submit in writing or via news clipping the name of the deceased (and maiden name, if appropriate), year(s) of graduation from Northwest, date of death, age, city of death, city of residence and a brief listing of accomplishments. In addition, submit your relationship to the deceased and your daytime telephone number to the Office of Alumni Relations, 800 University Dr., Maryville, MO 64468-6001, fax to (660) 562-1990 or e-mail alumni@nwmissouri.edu. No pictures please. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.