

## Bearcat Reflections

### Becky Brown Pessin

**SPORTS PLAYED AT NORTHWEST:** Volleyball

**GRADUATED:** 1994

**MAJOR:** Accounting

**SPORTS MEMORIES:** The intensity and level of play I experienced at Northwest is something I will never forget, but my best memories are the times I spent with my teammates. We spent a great deal of time together on the road, in the gym and in the training room. My teammates became, in so many ways, my family during those years.

**SINCE GRADUATION:** After graduation, I was an

accountant in St. Louis and then moved to Huntington Beach, Calif., where I was project manager for a payroll service company. I married David Pessin in 1997 and moved back to



Becky Brown Pessin '94 is listed throughout the Northwest volleyball record books for her stellar play as a Bearcat (top, right). Today (left), she lives in St. Louis with her family and enjoys competing in triathlons.

St. Louis the following year. David and I have two children, Andrew, 4, and Emily, 1, who are very active and keep us extremely busy. I am currently the vice president of finance at TRG Group in St. Louis.

**CURRENT INVOLVEMENT IN ATHLETICS:** I continue to play volleyball in a local women's league each week, but I no longer play in tournaments. David and I now spend our weekends watching our son play soccer during the winter and baseball during the summer. Last summer I completed three triathlons and anticipate many more in the years to come. ■

For the latest information on your favorite Bearcat sports team, visit

[www.northwestbearcats.com](http://www.northwestbearcats.com)

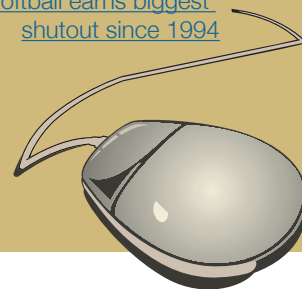
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#### HEADLINES:

[Northwest leads Division II in football, men's basketball playoff appearances in past 10 seasons](#)

[Tennis teams advance to NCAA postseason](#)

[Softball earns biggest shutout since 1994](#)



## Inductees into the 2006 M-Club Athletics Hall of Fame



Four individuals were inducted into Northwest's 2006 M-Club Athletics Hall of Fame and include three-time NCAA tennis qualifier Julie Callahan Collins '93, '99; first team All-MIAA basketball player Joe Hurst '87; All-MIAA punter, defensive back and shortstop Marty Albertson '78, '92; and All-American tennis player Yasmine Osborn '99.



Assistant Coach George Adeyami '85, '89 (left) and Head Coach Mark Rosewell guided the 1987 men's tennis team to become the first MIAA school to sweep the men's conference title. Members of the team included Robert Veasey '89, '93 and Jorge Castilla '90.



Kelly Leintz Franzen '88 represented the 1987 women's tennis team that was inducted into the M-Club Hall of Fame. She is joined by Assistant Coach George Adeyami (left) and Head Coach Mark Rosewell.

## Bearcats fall short in national championship game

Top-ranked Grand Valley State won its fourth national title in the last five years after escaping with a 17-14 victory over No. 2 Northwest.

“This was a great college football game,” said head football coach Mel Tjeerdsma. “Unfortunately for us, we

made some mistakes. I am proud of our effort. The guys did everything that I asked them to do. Grand Valley did a great job defensively and forced some of our turnovers.”

Northwest ended its season at 14-1, wrapping up its second-ever 14-win season. ■



For more pictures from the Bearcats' national championship game, visit [www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/photoalbum/index.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/photoalbum/index.htm).

For a complete season recap, visit [www.nwmissouri.edu/sports/football/pressreleases.shtml](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/sports/football/pressreleases.shtml).

(Far left) Thousands of enthusiastic Bearcat fans made the 12-hour trek to the Division II championship game in Florence, Ala., to cheer on the men in green.

(Left) Thomas Smith, a senior linebacker who finished the season with 88 tackles, wraps up Grand Valley's quarterback.

(Above) The postgame celebration included a graduation ceremony for four players and five graduate assistant coaches. Following the brief ceremony, the graduates tossed their mortarboard caps to the crowd.



Matt Withers

### Northwest men make it to round of 32 in NCAA postseason play

The Northwest men's basketball team logged a 24-7 overall record and won a share of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association regular season crown. The 20+ wins was the seventh time in the last eight seasons for the occurrence, and the Bearcats played in the postseason NCAA South Central Region Tournament for the seventh time since 2000.

At the MIAA Tournament, No. 1 seed Northwest set a tournament record with 36 free throws in taking down No. 8 seed Missouri Southern in first-round action before falling in the semifinals to Pittsburg State, 76-70.

Fortunately, the Bearcats had another shot at the Gorillas and won their sixth straight opening-

round regional playoff game by defeating Pittsburg State, 74-53. However, the season ended after a 72-61 setback at the hands of Final Four participant No. 6 Central Missouri.

Head Coach Steve Tappmeyer, who stands with the fourth-most wins (372) of any league coach, garnered MIAA Coach of the Year accolades, his fourth overall.

The Northwest women's basketball team ended its season in the NCAA Division II Tournament with an 87-72 loss to No. 2 seed West Texas A&M. This was just the fourth time in school history the women have advanced to the NCAA postseason tournament. The Bearcats finished with an 18-12 record. ■