

I remember when ...

I remember when Dick Palmer and I bought this 1928 Whippet in 1946. We painted the car a bright yellow with red trim and went out to register as Northwest Missouri State Teachers College freshmen.



Bill Elam's 1928 Whippet, aka "Li'l Hilda," caught the attention of Northwest's president, J.W. Jones.

One evening at dusk, one of my sisters was riding with me and dared me to drive down the "long walk" – the sidewalk that connects the president's house and the Administration Building. I turned out the lights and did just that and out onto Fourth Street. The next morning I was summoned to President Jones' office. He advised me that, while sitting on his front porch the previous evening, he observed a yellow and red vision go by and concluded by saying, "Bill, that is called the long walk – not the long drive. Please keep your car off of it in the future."

That was the mildest scolding I ever had, but believe me, I did not drive down the long walk again, which is not to say there were no other escapades involving our "Li'l Hilda."

Bill Elam '50

I remember Dr. Leon F. Miller was dean of instruction in the 1960s and a very fine gentleman. Educated in the classics at the University of Chicago, he believed that a student demonstrated his or her education by quoting authority,

especially on examinations.

In preparing for teaching a graduate course, he held a small undergraduate class in educational philosophy my senior year. We met in his office in the Administration Building. It was one course for which I had to do my homework because I was the only student in the class.

I also remember that Dr. Miller was an accomplished tennis player. In the early 1960s, he could stay with John Bregin, the legendary Bearcat Hall of Famer. Although his professional obligations did not permit much time on the courts, it was a rare treat to join him there.

Recalling Dr. Miller is a pleasure.

John Roy Kelley '63

When I attended Northwest, I remember the last day before I graduated. My roommate, Nicole, and I had lived in Roberta Hall together for a year and a half. Neither one of us could bear to tell the other one goodbye, so we just left messages on the bathroom mirror for each other. I made the most amazing relationships at Northwest.

Another fond memory that really sticks out in my mind is when I was co-chair of Homecoming. So many people lined the streets during the parade, and the atmosphere was amazing. It was like the air was popping with excitement and anticipation. That evening, as all of the groups gathered in Bearcat Arena, I was able to present my sorority, Phi Mu, with Homecoming supremacy.

Shannon Foster Harris '96

BEARCAT ROAR

Please submit remembrances along with your name, year of graduation, address and telephone number to Mitzi Lutz, editor, Northwest Alumni Magazine, Alumni House, Maryville, MO 64468-6001 or by e-mail to mitzi@nwmissouri.edu.

Do you remember these events?

1957

Northwest confers its first master's degrees. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

Ninety women join the Sophisticats, a group formed to help lead school spirit at Northwest football games. *The Northwest Missourian*

1967

A revamped constitution is presented to the students by the student government. *The Northwest Missourian*

The 54-year-old Dairy Barn is destroyed by a fire thought to be caused by faulty wiring. Livestock, equipment and records are lost. *Towers in the Northwest*

1977

Dr. B.D. Owens, a 1959 Northwest graduate, becomes Northwest's eighth president, succeeding Dr. Robert P. Foster, who had led the institution since 1964. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

1987

Boxer shorts are worn by women students throughout campus as an odd but popular new fad. *Tower yearbook*

An early snowstorm blankets Maryville on Homecoming morning, but it doesn't stop the annual parade or football game. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

1997

Northwest receives its first Missouri Quality Award. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

Students rejoice because a Burger King is added when the J.W. Jones Student Union undergoes reconstruction. *The Northwest Missourian*

Bearcats to perform before millions worldwide

The Bearcat Marching Band, along with the Northwest Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble, will fly “across the pond” to England for what is believed to be their first international appearance.

Assistant Professor and Director of Bands Carl Kling announced that he has accepted an invitation for all three groups – and possibly a Northwest alumni band – to perform during the 22nd annual London Parade and Gala Concert Series.

“It is very gratifying to realize we have peers who respect our work enough to submit our name to do something on an international scale.”

Carl Kling

Assistant Professor/
Director of Bands

watch the extravaganza as it is broadcast by 500 television stations and networks worldwide.

Kling said participation in the event is by

The parade takes place on Jan. 1, 2008. The chimes of Big Ben atop Westminster Palace will signal the start of the procession, which comprises 10,000 participants marching down such famous thoroughfares as Whitehall, Downing Street, Pall Mall, Berkeley Square and Piccadilly Circus.

More than a million spectators are expected to line the parade route and millions more will

invitation only, and that Northwest’s selection speaks to the consistent quality of the University’s instrumental music program.

Accompanying Kling and the Bearcat Marching Band will be Dr. William Richardson, who runs the University’s jazz program, and members of the Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble.

Altogether, it is expected about 120 Northwest students will make the trip, during which the Wind Symphony is to perform during a gala concert before an audience of 2,000 people and the Jazz Ensemble will play in a London pub. ■

For more information about the trip to London or Northwest’s music department, contact Kling at ckling@nwmissouri.edu or visit www.nwmissouri.edu/dept/music.



Three Northwest music groups, including the Bearcat Marching Band, will perform in London in 2008.

Student-led hospital charity drive breaks \$51,000 mark

A charity effort led by Northwest students to benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn., brought in \$51,000 in donations, which was \$30,000 more than the effort’s goal. St. Jude’s treats children suffering from catastrophic illnesses regardless of their families’ ability to pay.

Most of the money collected came from a letter-writing campaign. Fifty teams of six students wrote about 9,000 letters to families and friends requesting that they donate money directly to the hospital, which is funded almost entirely through private donations. ■

Kansas City ad agency funds Northwest scholarship

Nicholson Kovac, a Kansas City advertising firm that employs seven Northwest alumni, recently created a \$1,000 scholarship to benefit Northwest students preparing for careers as advertising professionals. The agency also donated \$1,000 to Northwest’s AdInk club, a student organization of advertising majors advised by Jacquie Lamer, instructor of mass communication.

Pete Kovac, NK president and chief executive officer, agreed to fund the scholarship and donation after AdInk members approached one of the firm’s account executives, Northwest alumnus

Brent Steffens ’03, about the need for corporate assistance.

“Over the last few years, NK and Northwest have developed a relationship,” Steffens said. “AdInk realized it had some financial needs, and its members saw an opportunity to get a corporation involved with their organization. NK realized that as long as those needs were there, this would be a win-win situation.”

The annual scholarship will continue for the next three to five years, at which time Nicholson Kovac will reevaluate its involvement. ■

Laber returns from Italian sabbatical

Phil Laber, a Northwest art professor, recently returned from a three-month sabbatical in and around Corciano, Italy, a town

between Rome and Florence.

While in Italy, Laber, accompanied by his wife, Wini, had access to a sunlit studio and dedicated

most of his days to "making art." When not at the easel, he visited the region's many art galleries, museums and cultural attractions where he spent hours observing, studying, sketching and taking photographs.

Laber said he is more determined than ever to encourage students to value experiences outside their native culture.

"I want students to understand how important it is for the purposes of making art to seek out diverse points of view and to translate those experiences into their work," he said. ■

Northwest eliminates trans fat from campus meals

Northwest has eliminated the use of fryer oil containing trans fat at all campus dining locations, including the J.W. Jones Student Union food court, the primary meal facility for campus residents.

The decision was made in response to research conducted by ARAMARK, Northwest's food service provider, showing that consumers are increasingly concerned about their intake of trans fats, which have been linked to increased risk for coronary heart disease and other cardiovascular ailments.

"ARAMARK is committed to identifying and providing a wide range of choices to help our clients and customers manage their consumption of trans fats and saturated fats," said Barry Beacom, campus dining director. "After an in-depth product review, it's clear that this new oil offers the best combination of value, performance, taste delivery and health profile."

According to a study conducted by ARAMARK last year, 27 percent of American

adults feel strongly about limiting their trans fat intake in meals purchased away from home, up from an average of 21 percent in 2005.

In order to address these concerns, the company has been working with dieticians and manufacturers to develop ways to identify and reduce both saturated fats and trans fats in its recipe ingredients and prepared foods. ■



Northwest is following the lead of others in the food industry after surveys by the University's food service provider indicated customers want to limit intake of trans fat in meals purchased away from home.

KXCV celebrates 35 years as region's NPR affiliate

Love for radio and for their recently retired general manager and mentor, Sharon Bonnett '65, reunited several Northwest alumni during last fall's KXCV 35th Birthday Bash.

More than 90 people attended the event emceed by Rollie Stadlman '70, the station's second general manager and a member of the Northwest Board of Regents.

Brian Whitaker '96 traveled from Des Moines, Iowa, to attend the event. Whitaker was a former student broadcaster at KXCV, the National Public Radio station that broadcasts from the Northwest campus.

"I wanted to see old friends whom I worked with at KXCV, and it was a night that I enjoyed out with my wife," Whitaker said. "I am very grateful for my time at KXCV because it trained



and prepared me with hands-on experience that many employers look for in the radio business."

Although Bonnett was unable to attend the event, the attendees shared several thoughtful and humorous stories

about her and the impact she made on their lives.

"I think everyone came away from the evening with a great sense that allowing student broadcasters on a 100,000-watt public radio station is not only rare in America today, but the inherent experience that it brings truly sets the program at Northwest apart from all other broadcast schools," said Kirk Wayman '96, KXCV news director. "Our shared memories from the different decades really brought to mind the rich tradition KXCV has had these past 35 years and will continue to guide us for the next 35." ■



Laber

May Fete: Northwest's lost rite of spring

Celebrations of all kinds are deeply woven into the fabric of life at Northwest. Commencement, Homecoming, Walkout Day and the Yuletide Feaste are just a few of the special gatherings that help ease the routine of studying and going to class.

During Northwest's early years, the annual May Fete was a popular event that signaled both the return of mild spring weather and the impending close of the academic year.

The first such festivals were organized by women enrolled in physical education classes and consisted of folk dances performed around a traditional maypole – the high vertical beam wreathed with flowers and colorful streamers that has been part of European folk tradition for centuries.

As time passed, the number of students involved in Northwest's "May Day" celebration grew steadily, and sometime in the early 1920s the term "May Fete" was coined.

By 1923, more than 120 students were involved in what had become an ornate pageant highlighted by the coronation of the Queen of May. Lethel Garten wore the first crown and held court amid a bevy of costumed dancers in flowing robes.

In 1935, more than 600 people participated in an event that featured elaborate scenery, ornate costumes, an orchestra, a chorus and comedic acting and dancing.

also was expanded to include schoolchildren enrolled at Horace Mann.

The heyday of the May Fete came in the late

Three years later, in 1926, there were four queens, which allowed each class to pay royal homage to its own representative. The celebration

1920s and early '30s when it was directed by physical education instructor Nell Martindale. Arriving at Northwest in 1928, Martindale had already acquired a reputation for organizing elaborate May Day celebrations at the University of North Dakota.

During her tenure at Northwest, Martindale worked to make each May Fete more elaborate than the last. In 1935, more than 600 people participated in an event that featured elaborate scenery, ornate costumes, an orchestra, a chorus and comedic acting and dancing.

It was the biggest Fete ever – and the last. Martindale left Northwest at the end of that year, and the event was consigned to history. It lives on only in old photographs, yellowed newspaper clippings and faded memories. ■



(Top) Students take part in May Fete by wearing elaborate costumes and flowing robes. The event also had a pageant that crowned a student the Queen of May.

(Bottom) Richard Barrett and Hermene Baur stand in the "Bucket of Love" float. The celebration of May Fete reached great popularity in 1928 before ultimately ending in 1935.



(Left) Darryl Johnson enjoys interacting with his students at Smithville High School. (Top) A drawer of Pez candy dispensers comes in handy when class participation needs to be increased. (Above) Johnson is joined by his wife, Renee Redd Johnson '92, '96, and children, Emily and Jake, at Kansas City's Arrowhead Stadium where Johnson was introduced at the 40-yard-line for being the teacher of the year.

EXCELLENCE in EDUCATION

Written by Mitzi Lutz and Stu Osterthun • Design by Melinda Kelsey • Photographs by Darren Whitley

For years, high school English teachers have used copious approaches to creatively introduce Shakespeare, Thoreau and Hemingway to their less-than-enthused students. Darryl Johnson '92, '98 is no different. However, incorporate a Darth Vader-shaped candy dispenser and the response Johnson receives from his pupils is overwhelming.

It's creative teaching like this that sets some teachers apart from their counterparts. And it's only fitting that Johnson and fellow Northwest graduate Christy Compton '03 (master's) recently joined a unique group by receiving prestigious education awards.

Johnson, a communication arts teacher at Smithville High School, is Missouri's Teacher of the Year for 2006-07. He has been named Smithville's Teacher of the Year eight consecutive years.

Compton, an instructional coach at Topping Elementary School in the North Kansas City School District, is the recipient of the United States Department of Education's 2006 American STAR of Teaching award.

DARRYL JOHNSON

As a result of Darryl Johnson's state award, he became Missouri's candidate for the 2007 National Teacher of the Year award, and in April traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet the President in the Oval Office. During his travels and speaking engagements throughout the country, Johnson keeps a journal.

"I get to meet remarkable people who are working hard for education and for kids," Johnson said. "To me, this award is not about being teacher of the year – it's about everyone working hard and sharing great stories about accomplishing so much for kids."

Johnson, who received the Northwest Alumni

Association's Young Alumni Award in 2003, said several factors pointed him in the direction of teaching.

"Like most teachers, my decision to teach wasn't based on a single experience, person, or any other external influence," he said. "A few know when they're young that they want to teach. Some stumble into the profession, and still others have this epiphany later in life. Teachers choose to teach

because they see the value and potential in young people. I am no different.

"Honestly, I entered the profession with much trepidation. Despite the



Northwest receives top teacher education award

Northwest was one of two public institutions of higher learning that received the 2006 Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education.

Presented annually by the American Association for State Colleges and Universities, the award recognizes leadership and innovation in teacher education and is considered one of the most prestigious national honors in that field. The other recipient is the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.

Northwest received the award in large part for its value-added Teacher Preparation Program, which supports degree candidates in effectively teaching pupils in preschool through 12th grade.

"Preparing outstanding educators has always been central to Northwest's mission," said Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard. "We have never lost sight of the importance of giving teachers the tools they need to encourage excellence in the classroom."

Dr. Max Ruhl, dean of the College of Education and Human Services, called the award a tribute to the efforts of all Northwest faculty and staff who work to make the University's teacher education programs successful.

"The McAuliffe Award is an amazing honor," Ruhl said. "It recognizes innovation and emphasizes a commitment to assessment, especially with regard to demonstrating that our graduates go on to have a positive impact on the students they teach." ■

fact that I had a rich student-teaching experience in Maryville, I really didn't know what I could offer as an educator."

That question has been answered. A teaching career that began 15 years ago and included stops at Plattsburg and Northeast Nodaway may never have been launched had Johnson chosen to follow his older brothers.

"I hadn't decided to attend college until the spring semester of my senior year in high school," he said. "My two older brothers had joined the military, and for a while I thought I would follow their lead. Needless to say, once I made the decision to further my education, I scrambled to take the ACT and then chose a college, Northwest."

Johnson was honored by the State

Board of Education during a recent banquet in Jefferson City. He said several former Northwest professors pushed him toward graduate school, but it was Virgil Albertini who influenced him the most.

"As a professor, he was articulate, intelligent, funny and very demanding,"

Johnson said. "Even now as a mentor and friend, I find him generous and genuine."

Johnson said being named the state's teacher of the year is "an incredible honor."

"I have always considered it a privilege to be an ambassador of the greatest profession in the world," he said. "I am grateful for the opportunity to represent Missouri as I travel within the state and across the country this year. This award took 14 years to achieve, and I cannot accept it without acknowledging all those who've supported and guided me."

Throughout his career, Johnson said he has seen a gradual change in students.

"I see a shorter attention span in students," he said. "However, students are the same in the fact that they want someone to pay attention to them, to

learn their names immediately and to be fair with them."

Eric Honeycutt, a Smithville High School sophomore, said Johnson has changed his academic outlook.

"On the first day of class I told Mr. Johnson that I didn't like communication arts, but I actually love his class," Honeycutt said. "He makes me want to do my best, and he makes sure his students understand everything. If we don't, he'll find a new way to teach it to us. He's a very fair person."

As for the Darth Vader Pez dispenser "trick," Johnson said it's a tactic he learned from a Northwest professor, and using humor as a tool in his classroom adds liveliness and color to the discussion.

"I have a drawer full of Pez dispensers, and sporadically I'll ask a question and pull out the Darth Vader-shaped dispenser or some other funny one and suddenly four hands go up. It's just a little piece of sugar I'm offering," Johnson said.

"Can anyone fix this split infinitive or this run-on sentence, anybody? No?" I pull out Yosemite Sam and there are always a couple of people who take a stab at it – even the ones who don't normally participate. It quadruples class participation. It's something so simple, and by the time they're really juiced, they're in their next class!"

"I have always considered it a privilege to be an ambassador of the greatest profession in the world."



CHRISTY COMPTON

Christy Compton knew at age 3 that she wanted to become a teacher.

Working with and tutoring students since she was 14, Compton now works with teachers to implement research-based strategies and best practices in the classroom. She works with teachers to improve math, reading and writing instruction. She helps teachers improve classroom management and put interventions in place for students with behavior problems. She also pores over data.

"In this day and age, we use academic and behavioral data to determine instruction and programs in our schools," Compton said.

She has been in the North Kansas City School District since 2001, serving as a first- and second-grade teacher at Crestview and Ravenwood elementary schools.

She praised Dr. Margaret Drew, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, for helping her become the educator she is today.

"Dr. Drew is a true teacher of teachers," Compton said. "She inspired me to become a better teacher and truly understand the role of a reading specialist. I feel equipped with the tools that I need to help teachers become better teachers of reading."

She said she's honored to be recognized by the

U.S. Department of Education.

"There are so many deserving teachers out there," Compton said. "I believe that anyone who devotes their life to kids and teaching is a star teacher."

Compton also has caught the attention of her superiors by being accepted into the district's leadership institute. Only 10 district employees were accepted into the prominent program that serves as a training ground for future principals.

Dana Miller, the principal at Topping Elementary, said Compton has a good vision of what is needed to "move kids forward."

"Christy is very driven and is able to focus on where a problem is, state the problem and then articulate the plan of action," Miller said. "This direct approach is refreshing and appreciated. She is charismatic and has the people skills needed to really go far in this field – whether it be at the district, state or national level."

Just recently, Compton accepted the assistant principal position at Lewis Elementary in the Excelsior Springs School District and will start in August. ■



Christy Compton's outstanding interaction with students, teachers and administrators contributed to her being named a STAR teacher.

Pierson named top Iowa superintendent

Dr. Dwight Pierson, superintendent of the Forest City (Iowa) Community School District, has been named the 2007 Iowa Superintendent of the Year. He received three degrees from Northwest: a bachelor's in business administration in 1968, a master's in guidance and counseling in 1974 and a specialist in education in 1988.

Pierson said he didn't think of becoming anything but an educator since he grew up with parents closely tied to education.

"My mother was a school-teacher, and my father was on the board of education," Pierson

said. "Besides farming, much, if not all of our conversations focused on what happened during our school day. I never really gave much thought to being anything but an educator."

Pierson said one of the most satisfying aspects of his job is the chance to work with professionals to create an environment where students feel welcomed and want to learn.

"This is a never-ending task," he said. "As superintendent, I am challenged to ensure that teachers have the resources to be successful in their classrooms. Observing students grow and seeing first-hand the art of how a master teacher can influence learning in the classroom is most gratifying."

With 362 superintendents and more than 2,200 administrators in Iowa, Pierson said being named superintendent of the year is a very humbling experience.

"There are many others in my position who are more deserving of this honor," he said. "Having said that, it is very important

to take advantage of opportunities to speak to various audiences, advocate for kids and speak of the need for all of us to support our public schools." ■



PHOTO BY ARIAN SCHUESSLER

Pierson

The 1905 Society seeks members

A new society, The 1905 Society, is being formed to continue the momentum initiated by the Centennial Society.

“Like any growing institution, history has shown us that Northwest’s needs are infinite,” said Orrie Covert, vice president for university advancement. “Given the phenomenal rate of technological and societal changes, identifying tomorrow’s crucial needs is challenging. By providing flexible, unrestricted support, The 1905 Society can help to better position Northwest in meeting these needs as they arise.”

With any unrestricted gift of \$1,000 or greater, you can become a member of The 1905 Society. Membership will come with recognition of your dedicated efforts to assist in Northwest’s continual growth and prosperity as well as exclusive invitations to campus events.

As The 1905 Society matures, memberships will run concurrent with the Northwest Foundation’s fiscal year (July 1–June 30) on an annual basis. As memberships evolve, charter members will be engaged in activities during the upcoming academic year. ■

For more information on The 1905 Society, contact Laurie Long in the Office of University Advancement at (660) 562-1248 or laurie@nwmissouri.edu.

Alumni enjoy telling stories of good ol’ days

Nearly every evening at the Gateway Call Center in the Alumni House basement, an exceptional group of dedicated students makes connections with Northwest alumni and friends. These students, known as ‘Cat Callers, keep alumni and other University supporters informed about campus events and student activities. The callers also seek donations to benefit the University and its students through the Northwest Annual Fund.

“As a ‘Cat Caller, these students have a unique opportunity that other students on campus don’t experience,” said Mark Stewart ’03, ’06, a development officer who oversees the Northwest Annual Fund. “There are typically some wild and exuberant stories from alumni that normally begin with ‘When I was at Northwest,’ and go expressively from there.”

The ‘Cat Callers agree that hearing stories from alumni who graduated 20, 30, 40 even 50 years ago is what they enjoy most.

Business-minded Bearcats network in Kansas City

The benefits of professional networking are substantial – especially when it involves fellow Bearcats. That’s what several Northwest alumni and friends discovered by attending a new networking initiative in the Kansas City area.

The idea for Northwest Networks – Kansas City, as the group is called, was initiated by Northwest Foundation board member Dan Runde ’81. Runde, the vice president of commercial lending at Citizens Bank and Trust in Kansas City, was involved in a similar business networking group and was certain the concept could be used for a group of business-minded Northwest alumni.

“At each meeting, graduates have an opportunity to meet other Northwest alumni, build ties to each other and reconnect with the University,” said Polly Howard ’00, a development officer for Northwest’s Melvin D. and Valorie G. Booth College of Business and Professional Studies.



Seabrin Stanley and other Northwest ‘Cat Callers spend evenings in the Alumni House’s Gateway Call Center visiting with Bearcat alumni about anything from Greek organizations and favorite professors to Homecoming and donating money to the University.

“The working atmosphere and the people I work with are great,” said Nikkie Hamilton, a sophomore accounting and corporate finance major. “But most of all, I like talking to new people who share their personal stories from when they attended Northwest. I’m amazed, and so are they, at how the University has changed through the years.”

Chances are, the next time you receive a phone call from Northwest, you may be talking with one of these devoted ‘Cat Callers. Don’t hesitate to share your Northwest stories with them and consider making a gift to the Northwest Annual Fund. ■

Runde said he hopes to bring Northwest alumni and friends together without a predetermined agenda other than relating to one another from a business standpoint and promoting the successes of Northwest graduates and the University.

“It’s a concept based on networking business people with a common connection, knowing that Northwest would be a strong tie,” Runde said. “If we can build a group based on the common bond that we’re all Bearcats and at the same time further the advancement of the University beyond its current culture, then that’s what I hope attendees will take away from this group.” ■

If you’re interested in being a part of Northwest Networks – Kansas City, which is open to all Northwest alumni, contact Dan Runde at drunde@cbcfamily.com or Polly Howard at (660) 562-1248 or pollyh@nwmissouri.edu.

Daughter's passion for elephants prompts gift to Northwest

A display in Northwest's new Darwin Museum of Life Sciences came to fruition, thanks in part to a lead gift by a Northwest alumna who has a passion for science.

Linda Borgedalen Baer '83 was one of several Northwest alumni and friends who contributed funds to purchase the most complete mastodon skull known to be on display in Missouri. In addition to the skull, fossils, a mollusk collection and a history of microscopy are featured in the museum.

"The projects I am most interested in have to do with long lasting impacts on beautification and education," said Baer, who supported this project because her daughter, Mikayla, has been fond of elephants (a close relative of the mastodon) since she was a few months old.

Dr. David Easterla, distinguished university professor of biology, was certain this was a project that would be close to Baer's heart.

"Linda was one of the best students I have ever had," Easterla said. "Her dedication and success prompted me to ask her for help. With her help and the help of other alumni and friends as well as the Northwest Foundation, we were able to keep the mastodon skull right here in Nodaway County, which is the county where it was found five years ago. It would have been unfortunate to see the skull leave this area."

Baer earned a degree in pre-professional zoology at Northwest. While a student, she was involved in many organizations, including Cardinal Key, Student Ambassadors, Pre-Med Club, Missouri Collegiate Student Government Association, United States Student Association and Student Senate, serving as president her junior and senior years.

"Being student body president was the absolute best experience I was involved in at school. It enabled me to get my first job right out of school," Baer said. "It gave me exposure to public speaking as well as planning and running an organization."

Currently, Baer is president of ABcomm Inc., a medical education company she runs with her business partner in Champaign, Ill., and Scottsdale, Ariz. This year, the company will conduct more than 6,500 continuing medical education programs for physicians.

"I've been fortunate in my business and personal opportunities," she said. "Our business has been very successful and grown dramatically over the past decade. Continuing education is a rewarding area, and science continues to be important in my business world."

In addition to Baer, others who contributed funds used to purchase and display the skull include John H. and Florence Haggard, Dave J. Easterla '85, Bank Midwest, Drs. Robert '57 and Betty Johnson '60 Bush, Dr. David A. and Debbie Cowden '82 Easterla and Dr. George and Juanita English. ■

PHOTO BY GARY WARD, WWW.GMANSTUDIOS.COM



The lead gift by Linda Borgedalen Baer '83, pictured with her daughter, Mikayla, has enabled Northwest to retain the most complete mastodon skull known to be on display in Missouri. The artifact (left), discovered recently in Nodaway County, is now located in Northwest's Garrett-Strong Science Building.



Westman leads off with gift for a new baseball stadium



Just like his two sons who currently play baseball at Northwest, Dr. Ben Westman '78 was a standout player for the Bearcats nearly 30 years ago. Westman and his wife, Kay, have made a significant gift to the University to benefit a new baseball stadium.

Like many parents of high school student-athletes, Dr. Ben '78 and Kay Westman of Smithville were involved in the college selection process with their sons Ryley and Britt. Understandably, Ben, a former Bearcat baseball player, was elated when the boys chose to follow in his footsteps by attending and playing baseball at Northwest.

"I don't know what college would have been like without baseball," Ben said. "I really

believe in the importance of Northwest's baseball program and what it meant to me to be able to play there as well as what it means to my kids now."

After being "reintroduced" to Bearcat baseball through their sons, the Westmans have chosen to support the baseball program in another fashion – by making a financial gift to support the future home of the Bearcats.

"I understand that my contribution has no effect on my kids ever being able to use the

new field," he said. "This support was made for future Bearcats to enjoy what my sons and I were able to enjoy. I want to see the baseball program prosper."

The current baseball facility has been in place since 1957. Because of the University's physical growth through the years, the baseball stadium is in a less-than-desirable location that does not allow for future expansion. Furthermore, minimal updates have been made to the facility while the funds that would be used for such have been set aside for the new facility. Nevertheless, the current condition of the stadium remains detrimental when it comes to recruitment.

"To stay afloat, be successful and truly prosper, we must have a new facility," Ben said. "Northwest is pushing the envelope at the bottom of the league in terms of baseball facilities, and that really needs to be addressed."

A \$4 million state-of-the-art facility on an entirely different plot of land is being proposed. The land has been purchased, and additional substantial gifts like the Westmans are a necessity for the project to be given the green light.

"This project not only frees up that current land to be used for more appropriate needs, but it also provides the baseball program with the needed facilities to help recruit and maintain the best student-athletes and then ultimately prosper," said Mark Stewart, athletics development officer.

Ben, like many Bearcat baseball players, was greatly influenced by his coach, Jim Wasem. And he hopes his former teammates will follow his lead.

"One of my best memories was playing for Jim Wasem," Ben said. "He was not only a great coach, but he was an incredible teacher of life. I'm making an appeal to guys of the Wasem era to target their efforts to get enough funds together so that we can get the field named 'Wasem Field.'" ■

For more information about the new baseball facility, including how you can help, please contact Mark Stewart in the Office of University Advancement at stew@nwmissouri.edu or (660) 562-1248.

2007 Annual Fund Business Alliance

"Hy-Vee works to support all aspects of the University, the same institution that brings a lot to Maryville. By giving to Northwest through the Business Alliance, Hy-Vee is able to offer unrestricted support, which

aids the University in areas of the most need. Oftentimes that's the most crucial support because it helps in areas that are not always as visible to the public. We are proud to offer that flexible support."



Greg Chapman

Director, Maryville Hy-Vee
Member, Annual Fund Business Alliance

For more information or to become a member of the Annual Fund Business Alliance, contact Mark Stewart at stew@nwmissouri.edu or (660) 562-1248.

Retired faculty pursue diverse interests

SANDRA MULL

Since her retirement from Northwest in 2001, Sandra Mull has continued to expand her own education. Whether it's her interest in foreign languages or her devotion to the ministry, Mull's hobbies are diverse.

Mull retired after teaching 32 years in the physical education department. During this time, she also started and coached Northwest's first gymnastics team as well as a community gymnastics club.

Mull, whose love of languages started in high school where she learned Greek and Latin, currently is taking Spanish at Northwest.

"I'm not fluent in Spanish, but I hope to get better," Mull said. "I've traveled to Mexico many times, including one time with my mother and sister. It was a highlight in my mother's life to have all three of us together. I also have helped coordinate mission trips to central Mexico, traveled to Europe and lived in Toronto, Ontario, for two years."

Mull is co-president of the Maryville branch

of the American Association of University Women, an organization that supports education and equality for women.

In addition, she devotes her time to several northwest Missouri Christian churches. Mull, who visits a different church each Sunday, serves as a pastor-at-large. In this capacity, she preaches, meets with search teams at churches that are looking for a new pastor, conducts workshops and shares news of what is happening in the churches throughout the area.

"When I graduated from college, there were few openings for women in the ministry. To this day, there still are some churches that are reluctant to call women as pastors," she said. "The Disciples of Christ started ordaining women in the 1800s, so fortunately I was able to answer the call to ministry in the Disciples." ■



Sandra Mull visits a different church each Sunday as a pastor-at-large for Disciples of Christ churches throughout northwest Missouri.

THOMAS CARNEAL

Thomas Carneal came to Northwest in 1968 thinking he would be in Maryville for a year; 35 years later, he retired from Northwest with many fond memories.

Since his retirement in 2002, Carneal, who was professor of history and humanities, is the treasurer of the Nodaway County Historical Society Museum in Maryville. He also spends much of his time at the museum making it appeal to those who wish to learn more about the county's history.

"I created this monster (the museum), and I want to make sure it continues," Carneal said.

In addition, Carneal is an avid dog showman and judge. He has shown poodles for many years as "an excuse to get away from the week." Since 1995, he has been a judge for the American Kennel Club, a responsibility that has taken him to three countries and 40 states.

Carneal hopes to continue traveling much like he did prior to his retirement. He said his involvement in Northwest's Study Abroad program

and establishment of the University's sister institution, Nigata University in Japan, provided many opportunities to travel in past years.

He is entering his fifth year as a member of the Northwest Foundation Board of Directors. The board is charged with managing the resources given by donors that ultimately benefit the University.

After thinking Northwest would be a quick stop along his journey, Carneal said he is grateful for his time in Maryville and at the University.

"I've had a great life. I got to teach and meet great students – some who are lifelong friends," he said. "I want to think that I made a difference in young people's lives." ■



Tom Carneal (left) travels the world as a dog showman and judge for the American Kennel Club.



MISSION:

The Northwest Missouri State University Alumni Association fosters lifelong relationships through initiatives and opportunities that advance the University and its alumni, future alumni and friends. The Alumni Relations staff and Northwest Alumni Association leaders are committed to a set of core values that support our mission, dictate our decisions and focus our behavior.

**Northwest Alumni Association
2006-2007 Board of Directors**

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Tourin' Bearcats Scrapbook

The Tourin' Bearcats travel program is in full swing. Last fall, 27 Northwest alumni and friends cruised the northeastern shores of North America with ports in Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Maine and Massachusetts. In January, 34 Bearcats hit the slopes of Keystone and Breckenridge.

Upcoming trips include an excursion to

Scotland Aug. 1-9, a tour of wineries in Napa Valley, Calif., Oct. 20-23, and a Colorado ski trip Jan. 2-6, 2008.

For more information about any of these trips sponsored by the Northwest Alumni Association, visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/travel/index.htm or contact the Office of University Advancement at (660) 562-1248 or alumni@nwmissouri.edu. ■



Teresa Miller, Jo Karen Brown, Susan Otto and Macon Sloan enjoy visiting on Holland America's luxurious cruise ship.



(Clockwise from top right) Larry Wickersham '98, Michelle Wickersham, Doug Ronk '97, Jill Templin Ronk '98 and Tim Brechbiel '98 take a break from skiing for an ideal photo opportunity.



Julia Funkhouser and Sylvia McConkey Thompson '59 await seating for the ship's formal dinner.



Christine Rusco '06, Paula Northup Miller '95, Karla Rusco and Larry Rusco '76 enjoy the social at Parrot Eyes sponsored by the Northwest Alumni Association.



Courtney Goforth '58, Chuck Heinrichs '58, Carla White and Paul White '58 had some good laughs flipping through the 1958 Tower yearbook and reminiscing about their days at Northwest.



Bundled in their snow gear, Bonnie White Sutton '71, '96, Lori Temple Ragsdale '91, Mitzi Craft Lutz '91, Carla Cambier Netten '91, Beverly Blackford and Jim Blackford '72 gathered at the bottom of a run before taking another lift to the top.

Visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/photoalbum/index.htm for more pictures from the Fall Foliage Cruise, the Colorado Ski Trip and other Tourin' Bearcats adventures.



1956 Golden Years reunion

Members of the Class of 1956 as well as their spouses gathered on campus for the 2006 Homecoming celebration. While on campus, they enjoyed a campus/community bus tour, luncheon, flag-raising ceremony at the International Flag Plaza, Homecoming brunch, parade, barbecue and football game. Pictured are (front row, from left): Carolyn Mix Pumphrey, Mathelle Carlson, Donna Carlson Koester, Marjorie Golithly Fogler, Mary Chilcote, Sandra Woody, Beverly Porter Garrett, Joyce Brown Smith, Marge Wallace Voggesser, Harold Voggesser, Helen Phares Stewart, Stan Stewart, (back row) Bob Pumphrey, Robert Fogler, James Gaffney, Gary Chilcote, Jerry Ideker Gaffney, John Woody, Gordon Garrett and Harold Brown. ■

Summer Bash Alumni Reunion returns to Maryville

Greek organizations honored; sign up for 'Bearcat Idol'

After a one-year stint in St. Joseph, Northwest's annual Summer Bash Alumni Reunion is returning to the backyard of the Alumni House. The event is Saturday, July 28, and includes a social, campus tours, dinner, music, cash bar, dancing and a reunion gift.

In addition, the evening will feature a talent

contest for singers, much like the popular TV show "American Idol." Persons interested in participating in the "Bearcat Idol" competition should contact the Office of University Advancement at (660) 562-1248 or alumni@nwmissouri.edu.

"There will be plenty of great food, music and fun for all Bearcats," said Steve Sutton '71, director of alumni relations, "and this year's festivities also will pay tribute to alumni and friends who were involved in Northwest's Greek organizations."

Summer Bash will be hosted by members of the Northwest Alumni Association's Maryville Chapter, and the cost is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. On-campus lodging (bedding included) will be available in Roberta Hall for \$15 a person.

Registration forms and details about online registration will be mailed soon. ■

To view pictures of last year's Summer Bash, visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/photoalbum/index.htm.



Julia Ward Ware '63, J.C. Ware '65, Ruth Atwater and John Atwater '65 reunited during last year's Summer Bash in St. Joseph.

NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Kansas City Chapter

Chartered Jan. 25, 2001
President Jennifer Smith '86
Vice President Lee Corley '76
Secretary Damian Bridges '84

Arizona Chapter

Chartered March 23, 2001
President Allyn Calhoun '82

Band Alumni Chapter

Chartered Sept. 8, 2001
President Bill Williams '76
President Elect Ron Martz '78
Secretary Bob Rice '00

Maryville Chapter

Chartered Sept. 22, 2001
President Roger Bundridge
Vice President Paul Wilmes '75
Secretary Stacy Bundridge '93

St. Joseph Chapter

Chartered May 20, 2002
President Marvin Fine '64
Vice President Doug Schmitz '92
Secretary Kay Medsker '70

Central Iowa Chapter

Chartered Aug. 1, 2002
President Nick Wallace '00
Vice President Sarah Beggs '04
Secretary Travis Gaule '98

Nebraska/Western Iowa Chapter

Chartered June 5, 2003
President David Morgan '85
Vice President Joe Glab '01
Secretary Eric Dunlop '88

Colorado Chapter

Chartered Jan. 12, 2004
President - Vacant

Southern California Chapter

Chartered Feb. 29, 2004
Co-Chair Linda Balducci '71
Co-Chair Don Schenkel '56

Japan Chapter

Chartered Sept. 24, 2005
President Yuki Osawa '97
Vice President Mamiko Noda '03
Secretary Aya Takahashi '00

Southern Iowa Chapter

Chartered April 1, 2006
President Joan Lynch Jackson '65
Vice President Kevin Klommhaus '92
Secretary Karleen Stephens '77

Dallas Chapter

Chartered June 23, 2006
President Deb Tripp '92
Vice President Les Clark '00
Secretary Jennifer Fenner '03

Mid Missouri Chapter

Chartered April 12, 2007
President Clint Prange '04, '05
Vice President Ashlee Irwin '04
Secretary Lisa Nichols '05

Summer Bash Reunion

- Saturday, July 28
- Alumni House Backyard
- \$20 in advance
- \$25 at the door
- On-campus lodging available (bedding included)

1. Central Iowa Alumni Chapter President Nick Wallace '00 and Past President John Myers '90 visit at the raffle table during the Des Moines Buccaneers hockey game.

2. Troy Gibson '05, Adam Moore, Tyson Stanard, Trina Lutes '06 and Tammy VanHouten '06 attended the semi-final football game watch party in Omaha.

3. Dakota Hendrickson, Bruce Barstow '78, '82, Tony Hendrickson '80, '81, Deb Hendrickson and Holly Murphy Barstow '81 enjoy visiting at the Nebraska/Western Iowa Chapter watch party at the Ice House.

4. Mercedes Ramirez Johnson '97, Stan Swan '70, Lori Luff, Jennifer Fenner '03, Bob Farris '79 and Deb Tripp '92 volunteered at Cooks Children's Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas.

5. Members of the Kansas City Chapter's Arrowhead Committee include (from

(continued on p. 21)

Alumni chapter news

CHICAGO

Northwest alumni in the Chicago area gathered at Cheeseburgers in Paradise for a watch party to cheer on the Bearcat football team. Plans are in the works for a Chicago Alumni and Friends Chapter charter date. For more information, contact the Office of University Advancement at alumni@nwmissouri.edu or (660) 562-1248. ■

CENTRAL IOWA

Several members of the Central Iowa Alumni and Friends Chapter gathered at Rock Bottom Brewery in West Des Moines, Iowa, for dinner and an Oktoberfest beer tasting event. In December, chapter members met at Champps to cheer on the Bearcats during the national championship football game. Recently, 49 alumni and friends attended a Des Moines Buccaneers hockey game and raffled off several Northwest items to raise money for the chapter scholarship. The annual golf outing is tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 25, and the chapter will be attending an Iowa Cubs game on July 20. For more information or to become involved in the chapter, contact Sarah Beggs '04 at (913) 526-4150 or central_iowa_bearcats@yahoo.com. ■

NEBRASKA/WESTERN IOWA

The Nebraska/Western Iowa Alumni and Friends Chapter enjoyed presentations from local business leaders as well as by several Northwest faculty and staff. The chapter, which welcomes all Northwest graduates, spouses, family and friends, continues to hold monthly social gatherings on Thirsty Thursday (first Thursday every month) in Omaha, Neb. Please contact the area officers at dlmnw1985@yahoo.com for location information. Chapter leaders are seeking ideas for future events and are considering hosting events outside of the Omaha metropolitan area. Officer elections will take place this spring. ■

DALLAS

The Dallas Alumni and Friends Chapter hosted a luncheon at the University of Texas-Dallas, and Mercedes Ramirez Johnson '97 gave a motivational speech. Johnson was one of four survivors on the American Airlines plane crash in Colombia, South America, and she spoke about how her "Northwest family" supported her throughout her recovery. In November, the chapter conducted a community service event at Cooks Children's Hospital in Fort Worth. ■



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KANSAS CITY

The Kansas City Alumni Chapter hosted a Chiefs watch party in September and raised a significant amount of money for its scholarship fund, thanks in large part to a donation by Joe Bonino, owner of The Quaff and long-time Bearcat supporter. The “First Friday” happy hours and the Fall Classic at Arrowhead festivities were successful, and special thanks go to the Nebraska/Western Iowa Chapter for its help at Arrowhead. Chapter members attended several watch parties for the semi-final and national championship football games and participated in North Kansas City’s Snake Saturday parade. ■

ST. JOSEPH

The St. Joseph Alumni and Friends Chapter teamed up with Northwest’s Office of Admissions and staffed a booth at “Rock Off!”, an event featuring several live local and regional bands and exhibitors geared toward high school students. The chapter also welcomed Matt Baker, Northwest’s director of residential life, to its January social. Baker discussed the University’s current housing demands and plans. ■

ARIZONA

Nearly 40 members of the Arizona Alumni Chapter attended the Arizona Cardinals vs. Kansas City Chiefs football game, and about 25 people attended the pregame party at Fox and the

Hound Smokehouse and Sports Bar. In March, alumni and friends attended a Kansas City Royals spring training game. For more information about the Arizona Chapter, contact Allyn Calhoun ’82 at adcalhoun@cox.net or (602) 938-2302. ■

SOUTHERN IOWA

The Southern Iowa Alumni and Friends Chapter participated in the Northwest Homecoming Parade. In April, the chapter celebrated its first anniversary with a social and by volunteering for the Special Olympics. Bev Schenkel, dean of enrollment management, discussed student enrollment at the social. The chapter has a good start on its scholarship fund and welcomes fellow Bearcats to join in the fun with other Northwest alumni and friends in southern Iowa. ■

MARYVILLE

The Maryville Alumni and Friends Chapter sponsor a 5 p.m. monthly social the second Thursday of each month at Carson’s Sports Grille. The chapter organized its annual Super Bowl Party in February, and the money raised at the event benefits the chapter scholarship. In July, the chapter will host Summer Bash in Maryville. For more information about the Maryville Chapter, contact Roger Bundridge at roger@nwmcell.com or the Office of University Advancement at alumni@nwmissouri.edu or (660) 562-1248. ■

(continued from p. 20)

left) Brian Stewart, Larry Maiorano ’69, Ron Ives ’62, Beth Ferry ’98, Pat Faubion Maiorano ’71, Loree Sheldon Gentry ’94 and Lee Corley ’76, ’77.

6. Several Northwest alumni and friends gathered at The Quaff following the Bearcats’ victory at Arrowhead.

7. The St. Joseph Chapter recently honored dedicated “friends” of the chapter: Frances Fine (wife of Marvin Fine ’64), Cindy Pickerel (wife of Mark Pickerel ’76), Jim Roach (husband of Patty Bolin Roach ’71) and Tammie Schmitz (wife of Doug Schmitz ’92).

8. Doug Schmitz ’92, Bill Brooks ’91, Patty Bolin Roach ’71 and Jhamel Hart greet potential students and promote Northwest at the “Rock Off!” in St. Joseph.

9. Members of the Arizona Chapter gather for a group picture prior to the Cardinals and Chiefs football game.

10. Derrick Berry ’05, Hans Raymond, Cathie VanVactor Raymond ’74 and Emmy Furrow ’06 visit at the Arizona social prior to the game.

11. Several members of the Southern Iowa Chapter toured the Northwest campus, including Mindy Burkemper, tour guide, Kaitlyn Klommhaus, Michelle Hynden Klommhaus ’94, Kasydi Klommhaus, Kevin Klommhaus, Kade Klommhaus, Tiffany Gale ’05, Carolyn Brown Nelson ’73 and Karen Mills Shawler ’65.

12. Northwest alumni and friends in the St. Louis area gathered to watch the NCAA national championship football game.

Women athletes take hard hits for the love of the **game**

For many girls, aspirations of playing football – tackle football – typically end during their elementary school years. But for Nance Wernes '83, Mindy White '99, Anna Findley (attd. '83-'86) and current Northwest student Tessa Stewart, that dream is still a reality.

Playing for the Kansas City Storm, a women's tackle football team in the Independent Women's Football League, the four women are making the most of their opportunities in football.

"It's great to be a part of something that is bigger than you are," said Findley, a credit and collections manager with the Kansas City Water Department and an offensive guard for the Storm.

For Wernes, a senior program manager for Sprint Nextel, there is an extra-special meaning to the team: Not only is she an offensive tackle and tight end, she also is the team's owner. Having completed a rigorous application process in 2004, she was granted a license for the Kansas City Storm to join the league during the 2005 season.

"When we took the field for the first time and I saw everyone wearing the new Kansas City Storm uniforms, I was very proud," Wernes said. "A lot of hard work went into making that moment a possibility."

During the 2006 season, more than 300 fans attended each game at the Storm's home stadium at Blue Springs High School. With an overall record of 3-5, the Storm finished the regular season in third place in the Midwest division, and are well-armed for the 2007 season, which runs May 5 through June 30.

The women who play for the Storm admit they love the sport, but because there is no monetary compensation involved, they "haven't quit their day jobs."

White, an attorney with Shook, Hardy and Bacon by day and linebacker by night, said it isn't

about the money.

"I love being able to take out life's frustrations in a positive and legal, yet violent, manner," White said. "There's nothing like running as fast as you can and tackling someone after a long day at the office."

Stewart, an interactive digital media major who plays wide receiver and defensive back, echoes those sentiments. Growing up, she was involved in many activities, including Pop Warner football.

"I love being a part of a competitive team, and I am really excited that women have the opportunity to play the sport that I love," Stewart said.

The IWFL, a non-profit organization, was founded in 2000 solely for the purpose of women's tackle football. Today, the league boasts 31 teams in the United States and Canada.

While all four Bearcats have personal reasons for playing, they all agree that following their dreams is the overriding factor.

"Anything is possible," Findley said. "Sometimes you may have to wait a few years, even decades, but never give up on your dreams." ■

For more information about the Kansas City Storm, visit www.kcstormfootball.com.



PHOTO BY KC STORM

At 5-foot, 3-inches and 120 pounds, Tessa Stewart (No. 7) holds her own as a wide receiver and cornerback for the KC Storm. Last season, she ran a kickoff return for a touchdown. Stewart, a Northwest student who participated on her high school cross country and track teams, has played for the Storm for two years.

"I love being able to take out life's frustrations in a positive and legal, yet violent, manner. There's nothing like running as fast as you can and tackling someone after a long day at the office."

Mindy White '99
Attorney/Linebacker



PHOTO BY NADINE REDD

With 28 tackles and 31 assists combined with 129 receiving yards last season, Mindy White (No. 12) was named the KC Storm's MVP and Defensive Player of the Year.

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

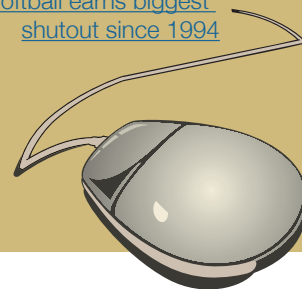
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HEADLINES:

[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.

For a complete season recap, visit 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. ■

Class notes

1942

VIDA BERNAU SISCO

has moved and lives in Holt, MI, just south of Lansing. She is a member of the American Association of University Women and the local Retired School Personnel Group. She retired in 1988 after being involved in education for 48 years at every grade level, kindergarten through graduate school.

1957

ELDON PATTERSON

and his wife, Pat, live in Beverly Hills, FL, and have five grandchildren. Pat is treasurer on the Board of Trustees at the Unity Church of Citrus County, and Eldon is working toward certification as a licensed Unity teacher.

1960

KAREN CRAWFORD HENDRICKSON ♦

was one of 34 members of the Grace United Methodist Church of Alamogordo, NM, who sang the choruses of the Christmas portion plus the "Hallelujah Chorus" "Worthy is the Lamb" and the "Amens" of Handel's *Messiah* on Nov. 26 at Carnegie Hall in New York City.



1964

JIM COEN

retired from Washburn University in Topeka, KS, after 15 years in the Information Technology department. During his tenure at Washburn, he served in several capacities including database administration, manager of database integration and system-level UNIX program development. He previously taught high school and junior high mathematics, was a small business owner and served in the ministry for more than 20 years. He and his wife, Jan, live in Topeka, KS, and have nine grandchildren.



1965

VINCENT PAOLILLO

is director of graduate education programs at William Woods University. He worked for the St. Joseph School District from 1965 to 2003 and was executive director of school management when he retired in 2003. He has been an adjunct professor at William Woods for the past three years.

1968

DAN BORING

retired as chief from the Culpeper, TX, Police Department on Dec. 31. He has spent 35 years in law enforcement. He and his wife, Donna, have one daughter, Christy.

TOM OWEN ♦

teaches painting at Pikes Peak Community College and the Cottonwood Artists School in Colorado Springs, CO. He also conducts workshops across the United States, and his work is found in many museum and corporate collections.

TURNER TYSON

retired as assistant superintendent of finance from the Jefferson City School District after 19 years in the district. He also has taught finance at Lincoln and William Woods universities. His wife, **LINDA BOWNES TYSON '71**, teaches at West Elementary School.

1969

PAUL STEHMAN

was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame in November. He has coached wrestling for 30 years at Line Mountain, Seaford, Delaware and Shamokin high schools with a combined career record of 300-183-4.

1970

TERRY L. BARNES (MASTER'S '72)

retired as president of Mineral Area Community College in Farmington and relocated to Columbia. After two months of retirement, he became the assistant provost for community college partnerships at the Universi-

ty of Missouri-Columbia. He and his wife, Ginny, have five grown children and two grandchildren. He was Northwest's acting director of admissions from 1970 to 1973 and assistant vice president for academic affairs from 1987 to 1992.



Munsey honored at Horace Mann reunion

Glen Munsey '31 of Liberty was honored at the College High/Horace Mann annual reunion with a tribute to his 75th anniversary of graduation from College High School.

Munsey and his wife, Lois, were married 65 years before she died in 1999. They have four children, all of whom attended Horace Mann: Louise and Jean, both of Liberty, Roy of Rock Port and Ann, who is deceased.

Munsey said he has fond memories of his schooldays and is amazed at the dramatic changes on campus since he was a student.

"It was quite a school," he said. "It was located in the college (Administration) building. The campus was very sparse, with the gymnasium, power house, dormitory and dairy."

More than 170 people, 111 of whom are graduates, attended the dinner during Northwest's Homecoming weekend.

For more information about this year's Oct. 27 reunion, contact Beverly Porter Garrett '56 at (660) 582-4807. ■



PHOTOS BY GREG LATZA

Ronn King '62 knows that keeping a journal can be a tedious task, but when he looks over his entries from the past half-century, he is able to recall many fond memories.

(Right) King's journal entry for Friday, Sept. 6, 1957, reads: "BEANIE BOY"

Today was registration day, and what a conglomeration! A throng of almost 600 freshmen jammed the library through the day today. I was there from 8 to 11:45, a total of 3 hours and 45 minutes. So many waiting lines to wade through, and so many bills and fees to pay! Orientation tests resumed this p.m. Tonight we stayed home (mostly). All freshmen were given green beanies this a.m. to wear henceforth for initiation.'

Journals bring memories to life

While many people recall what they were doing on historic days such as when man first walked on the moon or when terrorists attacked our country, Ronn King '62 knows exactly what happened nearly every day of his life.

King, who lives in Sioux Falls, S.D., began keeping a daily journal when he was a young boy.

His new hobby, now that he's retired from the radio industry, is taking his daily journals and creating a bound book for each of his sons.

"I hope to leave a lasting legacy to my children – one that they can someday hand down to their children," King said.

Even King's busy college years at Northwest didn't prevent his journaling.

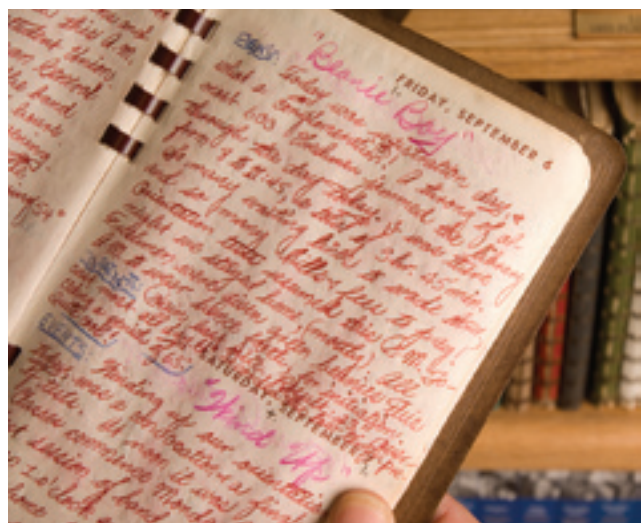
"Some of my entries from my time at Northwest include freshman registration day, memories of wearing green beanies, working on the Alpha Phi Omega float for Homecoming and my involvement in getting KDLX established at Northwest," he said.

King said his journal entries from the 1970s contained the most interesting stories and best remembrances because that was the decade his children were born.

Once he completes the book for his sons, King is considering publishing a novel based on his journal entries.

"I wouldn't use all of my entries," he said. "And I'd have to embellish on the ones I use."

In the meantime, King will continue to work on his book and journal from time-to-time. But he will always be able to recall any day from the last 50 years – including Sept. 6, 1957, the day at Northwest he and "all the freshman were issued green beanies to wear henceforth for initiation." ■



KATHY HATFIELD was inducted into the Pirates Hall of Fame at Platte County High School on Oct. 21. She retired from the district in 2002 as a teacher and coach.

1971
LINDA STRAIN (MASTER'S '77) and Michael McFarlane were married April 29, 2006. They cruised the Greek Islands and parts of Turkey, Malta, Croatia and Sicily for 10 days. She is a Realtor at First Realty GMAC, has nine grandchildren and still

plays the flute. She and Michael live in West Des Moines, IA.

1973
SUSAN GOLDING BROWN retired from the U.S. Air Force after 27 years of service. She lives in Canyon Lake, TX.

1975
FRANK PADILLA is the director of member relations at the North American Limousin Foundation. He has more than 30 years of professional experience in the cattle industry, most recently as general

manager of operations for Schroeder Cattle Co. in Nebraska.

1976
CARY HILTGEN

is second vice president of DRI-The Voice of the Defense Bar, the nation's largest organization of civil defense attorneys. He is director and shareholder of the business and insurance defense firm of Hiltgen & Brewer, P.C.



1977
CHERINE HECKMAN (MASTER'S '83) ♦

is vice president of enrollment management and student development at Lambuth University in Jackson, TN. She previously was vice president of enrollment management at Mayville State University in North Dakota.

1979
DONELLA HOLIDAY WALKER (MASTER'S '06)

participated in the National Council on Economic Education's Training for Writers

program in Bucharest, Romania, and Washington, D.C., Sept. 13-23. She was one of 24 participants from 12 countries. She teaches in the South Nodaway School District in Barnard.

1981

**PHIL WRIGHT
(SPECIALIST '93) ♦**

will assume the duties as superintendent of schools in the Liberty School District on July 1. He is currently the district's assistant superintendent for business operations. His

wife, Ellen, is an educator and serves as the director of elementary gifted education in the Fort Osage School District. They live in Liberty with their two children, Emma, 15, and Anna, 14.

1983

MEL GOIN (MASTER'S) is chief financial officer at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City, IA. He served in a similar position at Mount Carmel Regional Medical Center in Pittsburg, KS, for 16 years.

1984

HUMPHREY MINX is the aeromedical safety officer for the Commander, U.S. Marine Forces Command. He previously served three years in Jacksonville, FL, where he was director of the Aviation Survival Training Center. He is stationed in Norfolk, VA.

1985

BRADY ABEL is an ordained minister at the Immanuel United Church of Christ in Sedalia. He graduated

from Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis with a master of divinity degree.

1986

DANA KEMPKER ♦ and Jack Poepsel were married July 29. Dana is the national sales manager at Apogee Art Services, and Jack is an electrical engineer at Liquid Container. They live in Racine, WI.

Passion for theatre leads Genochio to KC Rep

Whether the Kansas City Repertory Theatre is performing a classical or contemporary production, Jerry Genochio '91 is involved in nearly every aspect – from budget planning to the final curtain call.

“The greatest reward of my position is getting to opening night and seeing everything completed and feeling a great sense of pride in the production staff that I am so fortunate to supervise,” said Genochio, associate director for production. “I never grow tired of seeing the incredible things this staff can bring to life.”

KC Rep produces eight plays a year that are seen by more than 100,000 people each season, and Genochio oversees all budgets, planning and supervision of the production staff.

Genochio has worked at KC Rep since 2005. Previously, he was production manager at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and then relocated to the Midwest.

“In my brief history at the Rep, my favorite play has been August Wilson’s ‘Jitney.’ It’s a remarkable story about personal beginnings and endings,” Genochio said. “The acting was superb, and the play was so full of magic moments. It was truly a moving and personal experience for me.”

Genochio’s career is anything but typical. Sometimes he has a 9 to 5 day, while other times he’s at the theatre until late in the evening, and

he often has to balance several projects simultaneously.

“The beauty of theatre is every play opens and closes, then it’s on to the next five projects that have been under way for weeks,” he said.

The theatre life is not something new to Genochio, who has been involved with the art since college.

“I was fortunate to be part of the house crew for the Rep’s touring productions that came to Northwest’s Performing Arts Center,” Genochio said. “Those experiences have stayed with me throughout my career.”

Genochio’s love for theatre has allowed him to work throughout the country, but he said he’s content where he is – at least for now.

“I’m always aware that the next great job is out there, but one thing theatre has taught me is that one life is all we get,” he said. “It’s time for me to stay put and explore my life a little.” ■

For more information about the Kansas City Repertory Theatre, visit www.missourirep.org.



Visited by more than 100,000 theatre patrons each season, Jerry Genochio '91 knows what it takes to fill the seats at the legendary KC Rep.

DAVID SANDY

has been a professional magician for the last 30 years and now produces five award-winning shows in Branson and operates a new theatre, Music City Centre, in Branson. His shows have won "Branson's Best Show of the Year" for the last three years. He invites all Northwest alumni and friends to contact him when visiting Branson.

1987

JEFF HISER

is the K-12 principal and special education director in the Stanton, IA, School District. For the past 21 years, he also has worked part-time for the Shenandoah, IA, Police Department.

TOM AND MAGGIE GRIFFITH ('92) LESNAK

have a 2-year-old son and are adopting a daughter from China. Tom is president of the

Independence Council for Economic Development. He previously was senior vice president of economic development at the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce. Maggie previously worked at Workforce Development in St. Joseph.

DIANA SHACKELFORD

and Bruce Peterson were married Feb. 4, 2006,



in Lee's Summit. Diana is a personnel/operations assistant store manager at Kohl's Department Store. Bruce is a cabinet maker at Display Services. They live in Topeka, KS.

1988

STEVE TAYLOR (MASTER'S) ♦

is principal and athletics director at Elwood USD 486 in Kansas. He previously was an assistant

principal and a coach. His wife, Susie, is a plant purchaser at Cryovac in St. Joseph. Their daughter is a sophomore at Northwest. They live in Savannah.

1989

CHRIS (MASTER'S '95) AND LAURA SMITH ('90) FINE

live in Lathrop with their four children, Megan, 14, Maressa, 9, Nathan, 4, and Brendan, 2. Chris and Laura are employed in the Lathrop School District. Chris is the middle school principal, and Laura teaches fourth grade.

1990

JULIE DELONG KURTH

is the communications manager at the Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University. She previously was



a senior corporate communications analyst at Caremark, a pharmaceutical services company.

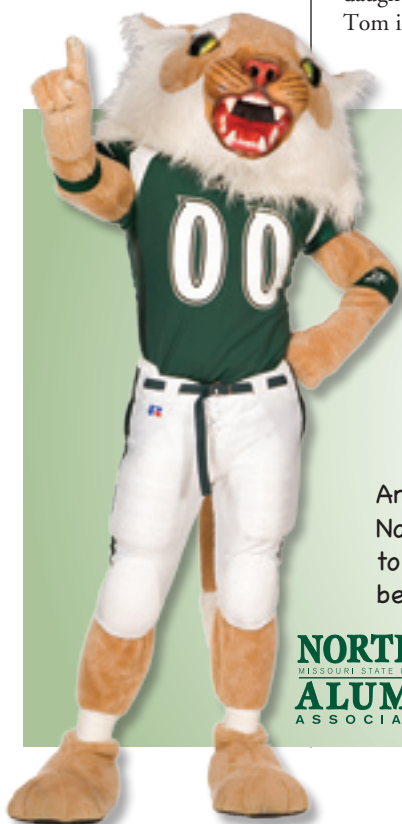
1991

SHAUN PRITCHARD

and his wife, Suzi, announce the birth of Em-malynn Marie on March 28, 2006. She joins Nathan, 2. Shaun is the executive officer of Solano Local Agency Formation Commission, and they live in El Dorado County, CA. Shaun's e-mail is spritchard@hotmail.com.

LEON SEQUEIRA

is deputy assistant secretary of labor. He has been nominated by the president of the United States to serve in his administration. He previously served as legal counsel in the office of U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell. Prior to that, he served as counsel of the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.



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Any donation of \$40 or more per person entitles you to membership in the Northwest Alumni Association. As a valued member, you will receive an auto decal to show your Bearcat pride and a membership card that entitles you to many great benefits.



Contact Northwest's Office of University Advancement to become a member:
 (660) 562-1248
 alumni@nwmissouri.edu
 www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni

Allen finds himself in the driver's seat

When the small Iowa town of Newton was dealt a devastating blow to its economy, Mayor Chaz Allen '95 moved into high gear, and now the town is on the fast track to a successful revitalization.

During Allen's first term as mayor, Newton, a town of 16,000 in central Iowa, experienced the loss of its largest employer, Maytag. The plant and headquarters had been in Newton since 1893, and its closing left hundreds of employees out of work.

"We were disappointed that Maytag left Newton. The negotiations and emotions surrounding the plant closure were definitely the toughest experiences I've had as mayor," said Allen, also a government relations specialist for Iowa Telecom.

But Allen and other city leaders regrouped, refusing to allow the town to deteriorate. Today, the city's economy is more diversified and includes industries such as manufacturing, education, entrepreneurship and entertainment.

Not only did Newton experience a much-needed economic boost, the opening of the Iowa Speedway in Newton was the icing on the cake. And when the speedway opened in September, Allen and the citizens of Newton were all smiles.

"The speedway has been phenomenal so far," Allen said. "In the first two weekends, we had 65,000 people in attendance each weekend. That's four times our population. The speedway and local sales tax will put \$1.2 million back in Newton's pockets."

JULIE HEIL WALKER (MASTER'S)

is vice president at Commerce Trust Co. in St. Joseph. She joined the bank in 1982.

1992

LEIGH BETH ALSUP COUTS (MASTER'S '94)

and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of Dawson Christopher on Oct. 24. He joins Jessie and Matthew. They live in Maryville.

CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

is a captain in the U.S. Air Force and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for distinguished service and meritorious conduct while deployed as a security forces officer in Iraq. Johnson is stationed in Tucson, AZ, with his wife, Nicky, and daughter, Aleksia.

CURTIS LANDHERR

and his wife, Gretchen, announce the birth of

Allen, now in his second term as mayor, said private investors and the city provided a \$3.3 million grant for the Iowa Speedway project. In addition, Iowa passed its first-ever sales tax rebate, which will be split between the speedway and the state.

Rusty Wallace, the former NASCAR champion, helped design Iowa Speedway and calls it his "pet project" following retirement from competitive auto racing. He said the 7/8-mile asphalt oval track is "the finest track of its kind in the world." The 30,000-seat speedway is now expanding to 40,000 seats in time for an Indy Racing League IndyCar and IndyPro Series in June.

While Allen's leadership for the city of Newton will impact the community – and state – for years to come, he said he focuses on the present and realizes change is inevitable.

"I've learned patience from being mayor," he said. "It's natural to want to get things done, and get them done right sooner rather than later. However, I've learned to take a step back. Politics, a lot like many things in life, is all about timing." ■



Chaz Allen '95, the mayor of Newton, Iowa, steered his community down a profitable track.

Rebecca Denise on May 28. She joins Ben, 7, and Maggie, 5. Curtis is assistant general counsel at Garmin in Olathe, KS.

KEN (MASTER'S '93) AND JEN SCHUG ('94) MILLER

live in Kansas City. Ken owns a quality consulting firm and has authored books on quality.

SHAWN WAKE ♦

and Sandi Brumett were married July 4 in Skagway, AK. Shawn is the stage and set manager for Vista Productions in Harrisonville, and Sandi is a nurse in the Kansas City area. They live in Lee's Summit. Contact them at shawn@shawnwake.com.





Pfeiffers saluted as Northwest's family of the year

The Pfeiffer family of Green City was introduced as the Northwest Family of the Year during halftime ceremonies at the annual Family Day football game last fall.

The family was nominated by Northwest senior Kim Pfeiffer, who serves as a student ambassador. Two of Kim's three siblings also attend Northwest: Kristin, a graduate student and athletic trainer; and Nick, a sophomore and member of the Bearcat baseball team.

Their father, David Pfeiffer '81, pitched for the

Bearcats from 1976 to 1979.

The Family of the Year program is sponsored by ARAMARK, the University's food service and maintenance vendor, which awarded the family a \$500 scholarship and other prizes.

Pictured are (from left) ARAMARK's Barry Beacom, director of campus dining; David Pfeiffer; his wife, Chris Pfeiffer; Kristin Pfeiffer; Angie Pfeiffer James and Josh James; Kim Pfeiffer; Nick Pfeiffer; and Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard. ■

Keep in touch

As life changes, your classmates and friends want to know. Tell us what has been going on in your life by using the enclosed envelope, by e-mail at alumni@nwmissouri.edu or online at www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/magazine/classnotes.htm.

You also may submit a photograph. Please include a self-addressed envelope for the photo to be returned, or e-mail it, in high resolution, to alumni@nwmissouri.edu. (Photographs with children or pets will not be accepted.) ■

JENNIFER MEES WARE and her husband, Brett, announce the birth of Brody Winfield on Oct. 19. He joins Jacquelyn and Brenden. They live in Maryville.

1993 JOE BOOTH (MASTER'S '00)

is a teacher and coach at Raymore-Peculiar High School Freshman Center. He coaches with fellow Bearcats **TOM KRUSE, SEAN MARTIN, MATT COPLAND, RON BARNES** and **CHRIS REICHERT**. He considers himself lucky to work with some great players who have won the Missouri Class 5 Championships the last three years.

SHEVON AND SHAWNA HELDENBRAND ('94) KOGER ♦ announce the birth of Trent Nathan on July 10. He joins Trevor, 9. Shevon is a production superintendent at Hormel Foods, and Shawna is a business teacher in

Arlington, NE. They live in Arlington, NE.

RODNEY MARTINEZ and his wife, Julie, announce the birth of Becca Eileen on Oct. 12. She joins Taylor, 5. Rodney is in his second year as elementary principal in the Norwalk (IA) Community School District. Julie teaches elementary art in the West Des Moines School District.

DEREK PETTY AND RACHEL COURTNEY ('02)

were married July 29. Derek is a teacher in the Union Star School District, and Rachel is a certified athletic trainer at St. Francis Hospital and Health Services. She also is employed with Zag Bag Designs. They live in King City.

KERRY STITES and Mark Hermann were married Oct. 29, 2005, and live in Oswego, IL. Kerry is a special educa-

tion teacher at Glen Oaks Therapeutic Day School. Mark is a sales technician with Fry's Electronics.

1994 JIM AND KELLI DONNELLY ('95) CARNEY

live in Clarinda, IA, with their daughter, Keeley, 4. Jim is the store director at the Clarinda Hy-Vee. He previously managed the Storm Lake, IA, store for three years.

RHONDA CROCKER COFFELT and her husband, Chad, announce the birth of Garrett on Aug. 18. He joins Gabriel and Jordyn. Rhonda is a mapping technician at Kansas City Power and Light. Chad is a building inspector for the city of Kearney. They live in Kearney.

JULIA HARDY MOORE has five children, Rebecca, 12, Truman, 10, Victoria, 9, Lauren, 5, and Lincoln, 3. She is

writing a book about her husband, **DONALD MOORE ('89, '90)**, who died Aug. 14. The Moores live in Denver, MO.

MATTHEW NORLEN is the pastor at Grace Covenant Church in Iron River, MI.

JEFF ROE is CEO of Axiom Strategies, a political consulting firm.

KILEY (MASTER'S '95) AND MELINDA ROESCH ('93 '95) ROELFS

live in Pittsburg, KS, with their sons, Drew and Grant. Melinda is director of admissions at Pittsburg State University. She began her career at PSU as an admissions counselor in 1997 and has served as assistant director of admission for community college relations, associate director and interim co-director of the department.

1995**LISA BOXLEY COLSON**

is a community development specialist with the University of Wyoming Extension Service. She previously was employed with a regional planning commission in northern Missouri. Lisa and her daughter, Emma Jane, 5, live in Wamsutter, WY.

BRIAN MARRIOTT

and Christina Eggleston were married in April 2006.

LYNN MCCLURE

is vice president and commercial loan officer at First State Bank & Trust in Basehor, KS.

1996**MATTHEW AND WHITNEY ROACH BROSI**

announce the birth of Eli Matthew on Feb. 16, 2006.

JEREMY AND MARCHELLE CHRIST ('96) BUTRICK

have one daughter, Jordan. Jeremy is the director of the Harrison County Geographic Information System. He worked eight years as a GIS analyst with the wastewater utility in Little Rock, AR. His wife, Marchelle, is a portrait photographer.

SUSAN LORIMOR

is an associate editor for *Consumer's Digest* in Chicago.

VIRGINIA MCCARTHY

and Andrew Akes were married Oct. 21. They live in St. Louis.

RENEE STAINS

and Steven Yocum were married July 1. Renee is a geographic information system analyst with the city of Lawrence, and Steven is a project foreman with Osbourn-Keating Electric. They live in Lawrence, KS.

ROBERT AND HEATHER LAWLESS (MASTER'S '00) WATERFIELD ♦

announce the birth of Hadyen Patrick on Sept. 19. They live in North Kansas City.

1997**SARAH ELLIOTT**

is a senior GIS analyst at Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure, a division of the Shaw Group in Bothell, WA. She received a master's degree in GIS for development and environment from Clark University in Worcester, MA.

MIKE AND WENDY ('96) JOHNSTON GEIGER

announce the birth of Tod Michael on July 26. He joins Tyler, 8, and Tessa, 5. Mike is a loan officer for Patriot Bank and an insurance agent. Wendy teaches first grade at Deep River-Millersburg Elementary. They live in Deep River, IA.

MARC AND KIM LAW ('98) VASQUEZ

live in Kansas City. Marc is on



the public relations team at Geoff Howe Marketing Communications in Kansas City.

1998**KRIS AND JENNIFER JEWELL ('97) BARNCORD**

announce the birth of Avery Elizabeth on Oct. 17.

ERIN HOPKINS (MASTER'S '99)

is a traffic coordinator for JT Sports. She recently bought a new home and welcomed her first child, Lillian Paige, on Dec. 8. Contact Erin at hopkins_erin@hotmail.com.

Bearcat alumni production crew

Several Northwest alumni witnessed the Bearcats' 33-3 semifinal win from a unique perspective – as members of the ESPN-U production crew covering the home football game. Pictured are Eddie Dean '90, Ben Ditsch '05, Curtis Lorenz '89, Brad Pace '83, Steve Griswold '90 and Christopher Klinzman '86

A view from the Phi Sig house

Not only was the game nationally televised by the sports network, which provided the lights, but it was the first time a night game had been played at home since 1977. Members of Phi Sigma Kappa continued their tradition of "making noise" after each Bearcat score. With the win, the Bearcats advanced to the NCAA Division II national championship game.

Norris's companies ranked among Arizona's best



PHOTO BY NICK DOAN

Tom Norris '75, who majored in philosophy and humanities at Northwest, said he is a success today because of the skills he learned from his professor, Dr. Robert Nagle.

Being named “No. 1” in a field is quite an accomplishment, and for Tom Norris '75, it's becoming a natural occurrence.

Norris's company, Tom Norris Design Group, has been given the top spot among Phoenix architect and design companies in 2005 and 2006 as part

of the “Ranking Arizona” list in *Arizona Business* magazine. Norris also has a house construction company, Tom Norris Custom Homes, which has been listed either second or third for the last eight years in the magazine's ranking.

His design group produces designs that provide clients an expression and view of their home's potential. Norris said the approach gives him the opportunity to experiment with different materials and to focus on diversity and style. In addition, his design team is committed to providing clients with design that minimizes the impact on the world by integrating “green” building techniques and materials seamlessly into the process.

His profession in architecture and design

may seem unusual considering his educational background at Northwest as a philosophy and humanities major. Norris gives credit to his inspirational professor, Dr. Robert Nagle, who taught him to be creative and use his mind to overcome difficult decisions.

“I enjoyed the process of questioning or unconventional thinking and coming up with solutions to problems,” Norris said. “It wasn't an analytical approach, but instead it was creative development of my own thoughts.”

A creative mind and refined problem solving skills certainly have given Norris an edge in his profession, especially when his projects may seem unconceivable due to unique Arizona terrain. However, he continues to design and build award-winning structures whether they're on flat ground or hillsides, soft or hard soil.

Norris said he does most of his design work from 3 to 6 a.m. He then visits several job sites, and in the afternoon he typically meets with clients. Although he has long work hours, Norris enjoys spending time with his wife of 14 years and his 11-year-old son. He also is active in his large synagogue, where he is the vice president and soon-to-be president. In addition, Norris has his pilot's license and a twin engine plane that he uses for business and pleasure. ■

For more information about Norris's award-winning companies, visit www.tomnorrishomes.com and www.norrisdesigngroup.com.

1999

RACHAEL JENKS BRANSON is the account director at Bozell in Overland Park, KS.

KELLY HUDLEMEYER and James Fotopoulos were married Nov. 11 at Mildale Farms. She is a major gifts fundraiser at The Salvation Army, and James is a financial specialist at Community America. They live in Kansas City.

SCOTT JONES

is a writer/producer of on-air promotions for Disney Channel in Burbank, CA. He also has held other writer/producer jobs for the WB Network in Burbank and KSMO-TV in Kansas City.

AMBER MITCHELL

and Joseph Hart were married Oct. 7 in Youngsville, NC. She is pursuing a master's degree in Biblical counseling

at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest and is in administration at the Marshall Institute Inc. Joseph is a design engineer at Tekelec in Morrisville, NC.

BARRY PIATT

and Leslie Ashton were married April 8, 2006, in Stewartsville. Barry is a table games dealer at Terrible's St. Jo Frontier Casino, and Leslie is a

clerical float at Family Medicine Associates. They live in St. Joseph.

VICKI WOHLFORD SCOTT and her husband, Matt, announce the birth of Graeson Edward on Sept. 18. He joins Matson, 2. Vicki is a daycare provider, and Matt is in sales at Unisource Document Products. They live in Shawnee, KS.

WADE AND LINDA MCCAMPBELL ('00) STERLING

live in Fayette with their son, Cale. 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 at Countrywide Specialty Lending Group.

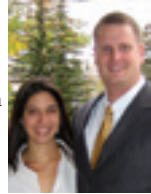
JASON "JAY" WILLIS

and Tabitha Stanley were married June 18 in Hammond, LA. Jay is a representative for North American Opportunities, and Tabitha has a computer-based home

business. They live in Kansas City.

JASON WINCHESTER

and Fernanda Holton were engaged on Oct. 10.



Jason is in his third year of a Ph.D. program at Louisiana State University studying physiology and biomechanics. He also is a graduate assistant in the Exercise Biochemistry Lab and a strength and conditioning coach with the LSU football team. Fernanda is in her second year of a master's degree

at LSU. She works in the healthy aging center and is a graduate assistant for LSU's Department of Kinesiology.

ALAN (MASTER'S '02) AND ANGELA WOOD ('00, '02) MCCRARY

announce the birth of Drayson Dean on Sept. 26. He joins Dylan, 3. Angie is a stay-at-home mom and the Parents as Teachers educator for the Pattonsburg School District. Alan is a junior high and high school math teacher in Pattonsburg and also coaches basketball and track.

FATHER ANTHONY VINSON

is a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, IN. He joined the monastery in 2001 and was ordained a priest in 2005. At Saint Meinrad, he is director of vocational development at the School of Theology, where he oversees the Youth Liturgical Leadership Program. He also assists with the monastic vocational program, and is the Archabbey's beekeeper and chaplain for the Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand, IN.



Where's Emily, Adam or Jessica?

Can you help Northwest locate these recent graduates?
If so, please send any contact information to alumni@nwmissouri.edu
or call (660) 562-1248.

2004 graduates

Emily Bahr
Jeffrey Blackford
Joshua Brown
Jane Chalmers
Rose Driber
Andrew Early
Michael French
Chad Hilton
Patrick Jordan
Amy Lockard
Sha' Ron Morris
Joi Mosley

Jared Rosenbaum
Amy Schmitz
Jenny Simmons
Catherine Skeen
Susan Smail
Alison Smith
Matthew Smith
John Southard
Autumn Sparks
Anna Wagner
Elizabeth Waldmann
Carlos Zuniga

2005 graduates

Marlisa Carrillo
Bilal Clarence
Candice Corf
Carissa Dawson
Anne Gordon
Laura Haney
Brian Kuhs
Joel Merritt
Eric Mills
Tyler Patterson
Andrew Peters

Nicholas Roumas
Jessica Scott
Weston Sharp
Meagan Smith
Miles Spainhower
Adam Stluka
Benjamin Watts
Kelly Wingbermuehle
Chelsie Donaldson
Zech
Dan Zech



2000

DALLAS AND AMY LUNNON ('01) ACKERMAN

announce the birth of Dayton Lee on Sept. 26. Dallas is a media/video specialist in the Liberty Public School District in Kansas City, and Amy teaches third grade in Liberty.

LINDSAY HECK CLAYTON officiated the 2006 Missouri State High School

Volleyball Tournament. She was selected the 2006 Outstanding Volleyball Official of the Year for the Kansas City area. She is the purchasing coordinator at Choice Solutions LLC in Overland Park, KS. Lindsay and her husband, Darrin, and daughter, Makya, live in Lee's Summit.

JUSTIN HUNTEMAN

is a remote sensing scientist at the Tennessee Valley Authority in Chattanooga, TN. He received a master's degree in geosciences from Murray State University in 2003. He and Janice Andruk were married



April 29, 2006, in Signal Mountain, TN.

ANGEL MCADAMS PRESCOTT is coordinator of Greek life at Northwest.

2001

MARK (MASTER'S '04) AND KARA MCAFFEE ANDERSON

announce the birth of Delanie Grace on Oct. 23. They live in St. Joseph.

Former 'Stroller' writes one more column

I strolled through the Spanish Den on a Thursday afternoon in 1997, which at the time looked more like Max's Diner on the early '90s TV series "Saved by the Bell." *The Northwest Missourian* was hot off the presses and gone in 20 minutes. Heads were buried in the back page to see who the Stroller was going to attack this week. Nothing was off limits, not even the kids at Horace Mann. This was blogging before blogging was blogging.



Although the Abraham Lincoln statue has been a traditional landmark at Northwest for many years, a "new" tradition started when Brian Starkey '97 wrote the anonymous Stroller column in *The Northwest Missourian*.

There were many times at five minutes after midnight on Sunday night that Jamie Hatz Robinette, the editor of the *Missourian*, would call and tell me that she couldn't print what I had given her. I guess the First Amendment just wasn't strong enough.

I was adamant about not calling myself "Your man," but sure enough, Jamie always pushed her imperial powers and sprinkled it in.

I was a non-traditional choice for the Stroller and just regurgitated four years of thoughts on paper. For the first few weeks I targeted sorority rush, fraternities, independents and even the city of Maryville.

After my second month on the job, the tagline "The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918" was appended with "and does not reflect the views of *The Northwest Missourian*." I guess that took all liability off the paper in case I crossed the libel line. That was the mark I left on the University, and I am slightly proud when I go back to read the Stroller that the disclaimer is still there.

For a couple of years, I made it a habit to read *The Northwest Missourian* online. I, on more than one occasion, could tell that someone reached back into the Stroller archives and pulled some ideas. I was flattered of course, but more upset that I never thought about doing it myself.

I am proud of Northwest. I do realize that I was just on the cusp of the University's tipping point. Football has turned around, steam pipes are no longer an issue, post World War II housing has been renovated and, most importantly, students today have the ability to use their Aladine cards at Pizza Hut and Domino's.

I am extremely proud to be a Northwest alumnus. We have Bearcats fighting wars, saving lives, playing professional sports and changing the world in their own subtle ways. I am content that the one mark I left at Northwest is a legal disclaimer that will forever be a tradition ... since 1997. ■

Brian Starkey '97 is employed at Service Management Group, a marketing research firm. He and his wife, Mollie Boehner Starkey '01, a third-grade teacher, live in Liberty.

Consider adopting a Bearcat

Since its inception in 2004, the Adopt-a-Bearcat Scholarship Program has raised enough money to provide financial assistance to more than 550 Northwest students. This has been made possible by hundreds of generous supporters directing their gifts to Northwest through this program.

The support of these individual donors is doubled by the matching aspect of the Adopt-a-Bearcat Scholarship Program, all of which equates to more than \$250,000 in scholarship support. It's simple: a minimum \$250 gift provides \$500 in scholarship support to a deserving Northwest student.

TRAVIS BRAY (ATTD.) AND HEATHER PENCE

were married July 15 in Parkville. Heather is an analyst with the city of Kansas City. Travis is a plumber at Superclean Plumbing. They live in Kansas City.

CHRISTOPHER DAVISON AND DEANN HUBER ('03)

were married April 22, 2006, in Maryville. Christopher is a HVAC technician at First Choice Heating and Cooling in Maryville. DeAnn is a front desk clerk at St. Francis Family Health Care in Maryville.



VICTORIA FABER

and Matt Blume were married Sept. 9. Victoria is the patient services manager at The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and



Matt is a video editor and producer for DXD Productions. They live in Kansas City.

JOY McCALLISTER

teaches fifth grade at Truman Elementary in the Nevada School District.

KELLY RATH

and Daniel Towne were married June 24 in Griswold, IA. Kelly is a bilingual family life educator at Loess Hills Area Education Agency, and Dan teaches job skills to mentally handicapped individuals at CASS Inc. They live in Griswold, IA.

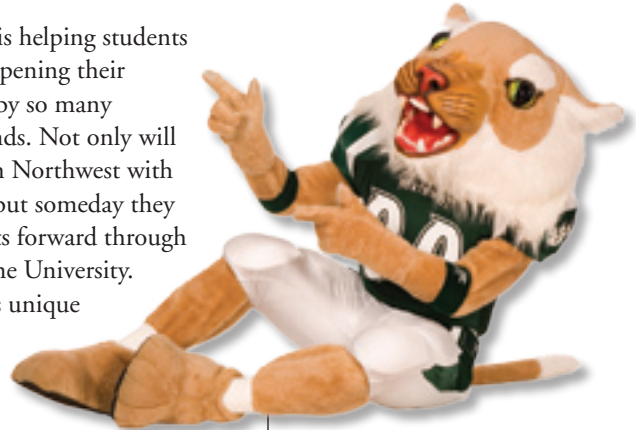


MICAH THIESZEN

is an oncology nurse at Goshen General Hospital in Goshen, IN. He and his wife, Angie, announce the birth of Lily Mae on May 31, and they have purchased their first home in Goshen, IN.

Moreover, this program is helping students succeed at Northwest and opening their eyes to the support offered by so many Northwest alumni and friends. Not only will the recipients graduate from Northwest with reduced financial burdens, but someday they may choose to pay their gifts forward through their own financial gift to the University.

To learn more about this unique scholarship opportunity, contact the Office of University Advancement at advance@nwmissouri.edu or (660) 562-1248. ■



2002

MATTHEW KENNEDY

and Robin Raymer were married July 22 in Concord, NC. Matthew served in the U.S. Army and is employed at Concord Builders as an operator. Robin is a teacher assistant at Kannapolis City Schools. They live in Concord, NC.

ANDY MINOR (MASTER'S '05) AND SARAH CARVER ('03, '04)

were married Sept. 16 in Lee's Summit. Andy is a graduate admissions counselor at Park University, and Sarah is a senior accountant at BKD in Kansas City. They live in Lee's Summit.



LON AND MICHELLE WIESNER ('03) NUSS

live in Overland Park, KS. Lon is the tree production manager at Suburban Lawn & Garden, and Michelle is a sales representative at StoreFinancial.

AMBER OSWALD

and Maurice Sanchez were married Nov. 4 in Kansas City. Amber is the office manager at Cubic Defense Applications, and Maurice is a senior systems analyst at Computer Science Corporation. Both companies are military contractors. They live in Navarre, FL.

AMY WILSON RYAN

is director of the Small Business Development Center in St. Joseph. She previously was the client relationship manager at ADP Retirement Services/Deutsche Bank in Overland Park, KS.

2003

KATIE LEACH GODSEY

and her husband, Allen, announce the birth of Graham on Oct. 11. He joins Gage, 2.

KADI WILLMING HOLMBERG

and her husband, Joe, announce the birth of Landon Joseph on Aug. 28. They live in Lincoln, NE.

Did you know?

- Northwest's 370-acre campus includes more than 70 buildings. The University also owns a 450-acre farm north of campus.
- Nearly 1,000 students hold jobs on campus or in the community. Those with campus jobs may participate in a career ladder program.
- The 2006-07 undergraduate cost for in-state students is \$11,899, which includes fall and spring tuition, room, board and all fees.

The perfect date

... according to 10 Northwest Students



An ideal date for Robert Hawes, a junior broadcasting major from Lee's Summit, is when he receives a cooking lesson from his fiancée, Kari Rule, a junior journalism major from Parkville.

1 A great date is going to Carson's Sports Bar and Grille in Maryville and watching the game on the many televisions because boys like sports, and I like the food.

Tara Brooks, sophomore

2 I like to make dinner for the little lady.

Alex Drury, junior

3 A good date is going to a concert put on by the Student Activities Council.

Ali Clausen, sophomore

4 It depends on the time of year, but if it's winter and there's snow on the ground, sledding at night under the light of a full moon is always a good date idea.

Matt Weeder, senior

5 Dinner and a movie at the Hangar is a perfect date. It's like two dates in one.

Kara Siefker, freshman

6 Cosmic bowling at Bearcat Lanes is always fun, but then again, I don't have a girlfriend so I wouldn't really know.

Brian Schmitt, senior

7 Going to the Northwest Student Rec Center to play a sport one-on-one makes for a good date.

Kayla Scott, junior

8 A great date is Tuesday's Chinese buffet at The Mandarin. It's become a tradition for my girlfriend and me, and she's also teaching me how to cook.

Robert Hawes, junior

9 I like to take a date to Mozingo Lake just east of Maryville. You can put the tailgate on a truck down and lie down and watch the stars.

Jonathan Maloney, sophomore

10 I think it's a good idea to opt for a charitable date. You can walk the dogs at the Humane Society together because you'll get good exercise and great conversation or help Habitat for Humanity build a house.

Jessica Hartley, senior

COREY JOHNSON

lives in Tamana-shi, Tai-me-i-machi Kuma-moto-ken, Japan, where he is an English language instructor in five schools with the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program.

BETHANY MULLEN KNOX is an early childhood special education teacher in Bedford, IA. Her husband, Michael, is an environmental specialist for the IDALS. They have a 1-year-old son, Tucker John.



DUSTIN "GUS" LEE

and Amber Bowen were married June 10 in Morrill, NE. Dustin is a Spanish teacher and track coach in Pine Bluffs, WY. Amber works for ABC Direct Mortgage Company. They live in Pine Bluffs, WY.

JENNIFER LOUK and John Perry were married July 1 in St. Joseph. Jennifer is an account manager at VML Inc. in Kansas City, and John is a residential appraiser



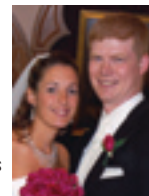
at the Johnson County Appraiser's Office. They live in Kansas City.

ADAM AND ALLISON SEARS ('02) OTTE

announce the birth of Kaitlyn Brooke on June 1. Alison is a kindergarten teacher in the North Kansas City School District, and Adam is a loan officer for Commerce Bank. They live in Kansas City.

BRANDON SCHLAKE

and Erin Polaski were married Aug. 5. Brandon manages the grain purchases and sales



for the Midwest Region with Cargill in Topeka, KS. Erin teaches fifth grade in Atchison, KS. They live in Meriden, KS.

ALEX TUTTLE

is the varsity football assistant coach in the California (MO) School District. He also is the district coordinator for the Department of Natural Resources and raises cattle. He and his wife, Keri, live in California, MO.

2004**WILLIAM HOOD**

and Vanessa Albers were married June 24 in Smithville. William is a talent manager at ProStaff, and Vanessa is a dental assistant in Kearney. They live in Smithville.

ABBY SIMONS

is a reporter for the *Des Moines Register*.

THERESA WEBB

and Daniel Korte were married July 29 in Augusta. Teresa is a graphic designer at Paper Chase, and Daniel is a sheet metal worker at Frueh Services. They live in Marthasville.

2005**JONATHAN HOUSE**

and Kelsey Willis were

married June 3. Jonathan is a chemist at IVX Animal Health, and Kelsey is a front desk coordinator at Dr. Rosenak's Optical Options. They live in Savannah.

2006**JACOB CHRISTENSEN AND JAMIE ROBERTS**

were married Nov. 18 in Elkhorn, NE. Jake works at TD Ameritrade

and recently received his broker's license. Jamie is employed at the Lincoln Regional Center and received certification in therapeutic recreation. They live in Gretna, NE.

BETH KLOEWER

is an annuity representative for Lincoln Benefit Life/Allstate in Lincoln, NE.

In Memoriam

KATHRYN SIDDENS BEEKMAN '33

93, died Nov. 7 in Rockford, IL. She retired from Belleville West and East high schools where she taught for 25 years.

RUTH DUNCAN BERRY '88 (MASTER'S)

77, died Oct. 27 in Atchison, KS. She taught in a one-room schoolhouse, then at Rushville Elementary School and later taught children with learning disabilities.

JERALD DALLAN '59

70, died Oct. 25 in Iowa City, IA. He was assistant to the dean for external relations and university registrar emeritus at the University of Iowa.

PAUL FRANKLIN FARR '73

54, died Aug. 20 in Denison, TX. He was a corporate attorney in Salt Lake City, UT, for 20 years.

CARL MERLIN GRAHAM '40 (HORACE MANN)

83, died Oct. 19 in Maryville. He was an auctioneer, real estate broker and former co-owner of the Maryville Auction Co.

BLANCHE WOOD HAWKINS '65 (MASTER'S)

94, died Dec. 11 in Waco, TX. She retired from teaching in the St.

Joseph School District in 1977.

CLINT JOHNSON

21, died Oct. 24 in Kansas City, KS. Originally from Lexington, he was a junior at Northwest majoring in agriculture business.

ELDON "LEE" KARIKER '70

58, died Sept. 11 in Lee's Summit. His coaching career spanned 36 years and included positions at North Kansas City High School, Moberly Area Community College and head assistant coach at William Jewell College.

CHRISTOPHER KING '93

37, died Oct. 12 in Omaha, NE.

WILLIAM H. KURTZ '60

died Oct. 31. He was a professor emeritus from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos where he had taught in the Department of Educational Administration and Psychological Services.

EXA EASLEY LEWIS '93

42, died Nov. 24 in Amazonia. She worked for the Missouri Department of Transportation.

EVA BROWN LLOYD '41

94, died Aug. 26 in Maryville. She taught in Daviess and DeKalb

counties, Mound City, St. Joseph and at Northwest.

JAMES MONSON '76 (MASTER'S)

60, died Nov. 12 in St. Joseph. He owned and helped develop many small businesses throughout his career and retired from Horizon State Bank in Cameron in April 2006.

DONALD MOORE '89, '90

40, died Aug. 14. He had graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in December 2005 despite battling Hodgkin's lymphoma. The family has maintained a Web site about Moore, his life and ministry at www.donmoore.info.

MARY NEEDELS '41

87, died Nov. 28. She retired from teaching in the Hickman Mills School District in Kansas City in 1981.

DOROTHY NOELLSCH NORTON '59

75, died Dec. 10 in Independence. She taught home economics for 17 years at Fort Osage High School, retiring in 1988.

LUKE PALUMBO '36

94, died Aug. 31 in Springdale, AR. He

retired as a teacher and coach from the Panama Canal Zone Schools after 33 years.

BASIL SMITH '45

80, died Nov. 20 in El Paso, TX. He was president of Basil Smith Engineering Co. in El Paso, TX.

FRANK H. "CHIP" STRONG JR. '73

55, died Oct. 24 in Maryville. He was president, director and shareholder of Strong & Strong, P.C. He served on the Northwest Board of Regents from 1991 to 2002 and was a member of the Northwest Foundation Board of Directors.

LARRY STUART '71

55, died Dec. 6 in Rochester, MN. He was a plant manager at Brachs Confections. He worked at Eveready Battery Corp. in Maryville before moving to Winona, MN, in 1988.

JOHN SYMANSKI '55

86, died Dec. 16 in Maryville. He had owned and operated Maryville Florist for 35 years.

SUE MCGRAW WHITE '42

85, died Nov. 7 in Maryville. She was a homemaker.

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 University Advancement, 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. ■

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Northwest Missouri State University
Office of University Advancement
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Maryville, MO 64468-6001

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