

## Legislation recognized Northwest's 'living museum of trees'

As a child, I would spend hours playing near a big old sycamore tree by the creek, so I guess I could say I have always been a “tree hugger.” Accordingly, in the early 1990s when President Hubbard asked me, as one of my first assignments as his executive assistant, to get Northwest designated as the state arboretum, I was pleased but a bit overwhelmed. There was much to do before the legislation could be introduced – inventory and assess the trees on campus, establish committees to determine the direction and scope of the arboretum, visit other arboretums to formulate ideas of what we wanted and identify legislators to introduce and carry the bill.

Luckily, one of the best comprehensive arboretum networks could be found in nearby Nebraska. Dr. Hubbard had come from a presidency there, so he knew the importance of having a living museum of trees.

It took several years before we were ready to introduce the legislation. However, Northwest was extremely fortunate to have the expertise provided by Lezlee Johnson, one of only a few foresters in this area of the country. She was first a member of the Arboretum Committee and would later become the director of the arboretum. In addition, we were fortunate to have many other dedicated people, such as then-grounds director Randy Willis and horticulturist Syd Weybrew, sharing their expert opinions.

I was so proud when the legislation for the

arboretum passed, even if, regretfully, we could get no funding. It was at that time in 1993 that Northwest and its scenic grounds officially became the Missouri Arboretum.

I think most Northwest alumni and friends would agree that we have one of the most beautiful campuses in the state with an incredible number of species of trees that are a great resource for students, area schoolchildren and anyone who visits the Northwest campus. I am proud about what was accomplished on behalf of our campus and arboretum.

With the devastation from the December ice storm, 79 trees were lost and hundreds more were damaged. Please consider supporting the arboretum to rebuild the collection. A gift of \$300 to Northwest will commemorate a tree for its lifetime. After my father died, I commemorated a tulip poplar tree – one of his favorites. When my husband, Rick, and I retired, we gave money for additional trees to be planted. Think of giving a tree for a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or just because it's good for the environment. This is a gift that really makes a visible difference.

Sincerely,

Annelle Weymuth

Former Executive Assistant to the President



Dr. Annelle Weymuth, former assistant to the president and self-proclaimed “tree hugger,” was instrumental in establishing Northwest's campus as the Missouri Arboretum. In their retirement, she and her husband, Dr. Rick Weymuth, professor emeritus of music, continued fulfilling their passion for nature during a trip to the National Botanical Gardens of Australia.

The mission of the *Northwest Alumni Magazine* is to foster connections between alumni, friends and Northwest Missouri State University. The offices of University Advancement and University Relations strive to inform readers of the accomplishments of Northwest's alumni, friends, faculty, students and administration and to positively position the University in the hearts of its many constituents to increase public and private support.

### Northwest Foundation Inc. '07-'08 Board of Directors

#### President

Jim Blackford '72, Maryville

#### Vice President

Mike Faust '74, Omaha, Neb.

#### Immediate Past President

Chuck Place '72, Albany

Mary Asbell '69, Lubbock, Texas

Jim Ballinger\* '67, Weatherby Lake

Holly Murphy-Barstow '81, Omaha, Neb.

Shoba Brown '71, Maryville

Mark Burnsides '79, Maryville

Tom Carneal, Maryville

Rick Carter, Maryville

Mark Doll '80,

Council Bluffs, Iowa

Jason Garst '93, Watson

William Gram '52, Rancho

Palos Verdes, Calif.

John Grispon '87, St. Louis

Ray Hirschke '66,

The Woodlands, Texas

Jim Joy '57, Rogers, Ark.

Joyce Kerber '60,

Lee's Summit

Jodie Mackintosh '77,

Omaha, Neb.

Jerry Moyer '76, '78,

Titusville, Fla.

Helen Mutz '50, Maryville

Kenny Petersen '66,

Omaha, Neb.

William C. Price '60,

Cincinnati, Ohio

Jim Redd '66, Leawood, Kan.

Dan Runde '81, Platte City

Tim Sullivan '75,

Urbandale, Iowa

Ron Taylor '79, Waukegan, Iowa

Kay Thomas '71,

Blue Springs

Dick Thomson, Maryville

Deb Tripp '92, '96,

Coppell, Texas

Jason White '91, Maryville

Richard "Dick" Wiles '71,

Jefferson City

Ron Woolsey '74, '78,

Grain Valley

#### Ex-Officio Directors

B.D. Owens '59

President Emeritus,

Clearwater, Fla.

Dean L. Hubbard

University President

Orrie Covert

Executive Director

#### Advancement Staff

Orrie Covert,

Vice President

covert@nwmissouri.edu

Neil Elliott,  
Development Officer/Athletics  
nele@nwmissouri.edu

Polly Parsons Howard '00,  
Development Officer/Booth  
College of Business and  
Professional Studies  
pollyh@nwmissouri.edu

Laurie Drummond Long '92,  
Development Officer/Donor  
Relations  
laurie@nwmissouri.edu

Mitzi Craft Lutz '91,  
Advancement  
Communications Specialist  
mitzi@nwmissouri.edu

Teresa Macias '97, '05,  
Development Officer/College  
of Arts and Sciences  
teresa@nwmissouri.edu

Peggy Purdy,  
Accounting Specialist  
ppurdy@nwmissouri.edu

Lynn Ruhl,  
Executive Assistant  
lruh@nwmissouri.edu

Lori McLemore Steiner '85,  
Finance Officer  
steiner@nwmissouri.edu

Anna Bradshaw Summa '01,  
Database Specialist  
summa@nwmissouri.edu

Steve Sutton '71,  
Director of Alumni Relations  
ssutton@nwmissouri.edu

Brenda Untiedt '00,  
Alumni Relations Specialist  
brenda@nwmissouri.edu

Andrea Kearns Wagner '00,  
Development Officer/College  
of Education and Human  
Services/Corporate and  
Foundation Relations  
andrea@nwmissouri.edu

\*deceased



Sporting green beanies as a sign of their freshman status, students obediently rolled up a pant leg and carried a freshman girl on Walkout Day in the late 1950s. Walkout Day signaled the end of having to wear the beanies, which were abolished in 1962.

### BEARCAT ROAR

"Bearcat Roar" gives you the opportunity to share your Northwest memories or stories with other alumni and friends.

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.

## I remember when ...

I remember Homecomings at Northwest. Homecoming was always special, even after graduating and residing in Maryville for many years. The whole experience was unlike any that could ever be experienced at larger schools.

The most memorable Homecoming was in 1981 when I

was in charge of building a float. The float theme was Snoopy and the Red Baron, with Bobby playing the role of Snoopy. I remember on the day of the parade the float had a major malfunction in the animation, and we all came together to put the pieces together and make the float work with what we had. The float won first place, and we were amazed, considering the happenstance.

Whenever I need an uplift, I think back to my days at Northwest. I tell the people I now work with some of my college experiences, and they are amazed that one can get so much in four years.

*Todd Schuler '82*

Although my college diploma doesn't read Northwest, I've always considered myself to be a true Bearcat. I grew up in Maryville, next door to the old Sigma Tau Gamma house, and my dad, David Howell '73, is a proud supporter of his alma mater.

One of my earliest Northwest memories occurred Dec. 1, 1984. This was my third birthday, and there was nothing I wanted more (except perhaps a Cabbage Patch Doll) than to have Bobby Bearcat attend my birthday party.

Needless to say, when Bobby showed up at the door I was thrilled. I went running to give Bobby a huge hug and to inspect the gifts he had brought. Soon I was lifted into the furry arms of my personal hero, although I was in for a big surprise. For the first time in my short life I was face to face with Bobby Bearcat, and able to take in his costume from a much closer vantage point. (Remember, at the age of 3, I thought Bobby was a real bearcat).

From where I sat in Bobby's arms, I was able to see through the mesh screen covering his mouth and recognize a human face looking back at me. I let out a sharp scream and began to cry.

Bobby quickly put me down, and I went running to my mom. She asked, "What's wrong? It's Bobby, you love Bobby." I quickly retorted, "But Mommy, Bobby ate somebody!" With this exclamation my parents, Bobby and all the party guests began to laugh hysterically.

Quickly, Bobby knelt down and removed the costume's head, revealing the college-age guy inside. He explained that Bobby was a costume mascot, kind of like dressing up for Halloween. Relief came over me as I realized that I would not be a man-eating bearcat's next victim, and I could go on to enjoy my birthday party in safety!

*Meagan Howell*

## Do you remember these events?

### 1958

Classes for the fall semester are \$5 per credit hour. With fees, textbooks and room and board included, a semester's total tuition is about \$243. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

### 1968

Northwest dress codes are relaxed, and women are allowed to wear slacks in the library. The curfew for women is extended, and open housing for junior and senior women is available. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

### 1978

Northwest's new all-weather track is named for 1930s track star Herschel Neil. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

Bobby Bearcat gets a fellow mascot, Roberta Bearkitten. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

### 1988

Dr. Shaila Aery, Missouri's commissioner of higher education, suggests closing Northwest. State Sen. Pat Danner says, "Read my lips: Northwest Missouri State University will not close." Aery eventually drops her plan. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*

### 1998

The Bearcat football team defeats Carson-Newman College 24-6 in the NCAA Division II National Championship game in Florence, Ala. *Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest*



## Northwest, Center of Innovation tenants sign MOU

Northwest has signed memorandums of understanding with two companies to occupy the Northwest Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The Center is designed to comprise a high-technology business incubator along with the University's Graduate Applied Research Center.

The first MOU was signed with Carbolytic Materials Co., LLC, a St. Louis company that manufactures a substance known as ApexCM™ from shredded tires. CMC will use the incubator as a headquarters for its R&D efforts, while the research center will support academic programs that emphasize related science and technology.

"CMC's decision to partner with Northwest represents a significant step forward in making the northwest Missouri region and the University a center for a broad range of technologies that will ultimately sustain the environment and improve our quality of life," said Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard.

CMC recovers materials from used rubber

products while making significant, positive environmental reductions in both solid waste and air emissions. Their process catalytically "cracks" the polymeric materials in rubber back to oil and gas and recovers the remaining solid materials in a manner that retains their reactivity and usefulness in rubber products. The consequence of this process is to return all materials – oil, gas and reinforcing carbon – to their original state, thus achieving the ultimate goal of recycling end-of-life rubber products.

Shortly after the MOU was signed with Carbolytic Materials Co., a second tenant for the facility was secured. For competitive reasons, the company has requested that its identity and specific business field be kept confidential at this time. This company is expected to begin operations in the Center by the end of this year, Hubbard said. The addition of this company will result in the creation of about 25 new jobs and additional management positions, Hubbard said. ■

### Hubbard named site administrator at Kansas City Center

Dr. Melody Hubbard, formerly an assistant professor of communication, theatre and languages at Northwest, is now assistant director of outreach, serving as the on-site administrator for the University's Kansas City Center in Liberty.



Housed in a four-story office building owned by the Liberty Public School District, the center offers graduate courses and degree programs in business and education.

Established in early 2006, the center is the University's first permanent off-campus academic facility. Northwest opened a similar center in downtown St. Joseph in fall 2007.

Hubbard, who assumed her duties on Jan. 2, supervises all building and office operations, including personnel, marketing, advisement and recruiting. She also serves as a liaison between Northwest and students, faculty, school districts, businesses and organizations throughout the Kansas City area.

For more information about the Northwest Kansas City Center, call (816) 736-6600, e-mail [nwkc@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:nwkc@nwmissouri.edu) or visit [www.nwmissouri.edu/kc/](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/kc/). ■

## One-room schoolhouse bell memorial honors Brown



Shoba Mansukhani Brown '71 (left) was among the dignitaries who rang the bell in recognition of her late husband's service to the University.

Friends of the late educator and lawmaker Everett Brown '37 gathered near the west entrance of Brown Education Hall to dedicate a memorial honoring the longtime state representative who committed his life to serving young people and the citizens of northwest Missouri.

The memorial is a timber-framed structure, resembling the shape of a one-room schoolhouse, containing the bell from the former Marietta School in Holt County where Brown taught as a young man during the 1930s.

Donated to Northwest by Brown's widow, Shoba Mansukhani Brown '71, the bell was rung three times during the ceremony, once for each decade of Brown's service to the University.

Before winning election in 1976 to the Missouri House of Representatives, Brown spent 30 years in leadership roles at Northwest. He wore virtually every administrative hat at the University, working variously as director of admissions, financial aid, news and information, career placement, alumni relations and extension. ■

## Foundation approves new Alumni Center

Plans for a new Alumni Center are moving forward. The new 18,500 square-foot, two-story facility, which Northwest Foundation officials say is a priority due to significant growth in the form of rising levels of donor support and alumni involvement, will include meeting rooms, offices and a large conference room that

can be divided into smaller rooms. The center will be located on the corner of College Avenue and North Munn Avenue, directly west of the current Alumni House, which will continue to be used for small gatherings.

This spring, members of the Northwest Foundation and Northwest Alumni Association boards of directors discussed plans and reviewed architectural renderings for the new center.

In his opening remarks during the joint board meeting, Jim Blackford '72, president of the Northwest Foundation, reflected on the many defining moments in the Foundation's history.

Blackford cited the formation of the Foundation in 1971, the acquisition of the current Alumni House in 1980 and the completion of the first major capital campaign in 2006.

"I believe the decision that we make, as we consider this investment in our future, will likewise carry with it the title of a defining moment in the history of the Northwest Foundation and for the stakeholders for which we exist to support," Blackford said.

Last fall, the Foundation Board approved \$4.9 million for the total Alumni Center project. Funding is being sought through a \$14.75 million bond issue that encompasses multiple projects including the remodeling of Valk Hall, an addition to the Performing Arts Center and new lights and synthetic turf at Bearcat Stadium.

"Unless specified by the donor, funds donated to the Northwest Foundation will not be used to fund this project," said Orrie Covert, executive director of the Northwest Foundation, "and the financing of the Alumni Center will not override University projects or take away from scholarships for Northwest students."

Groundbreaking for the facility could be this summer with the grand opening in late 2009. ■



Northwest alum Greg Seifert '92 of Creal, Clark and Seifert in St. Joseph is the architect for the new Alumni Center, which is currently in the final design phase.



## Bobby Bearcat is alive and well

After some initial confusion last fall regarding the status of the Bobby Bearcat mascot, Northwest's athletics department is proud to report that Bobby is alive and well. The following is a summation of facts to help clarify the University's planned use of the Bobby Bearcat mascot and image:

- Northwest has been in the process of phasing out the caricature, or cartoon, version of Bobby Bearcat for several years.
- Instead of using the cartoon image of Bobby Bearcat on promotional publications, the University will use photographs of Bobby Bearcat.
- The "live" Bobby Bearcat mascot will continue to make appearances at Northwest athletic events and is not being phased out.

Dr. Bob Boerigter, director of athletics, said the Bobby caricature is being used less and less, but it is not illegal to use it, and his department has continued to approve its use on campus when appropriate.

"We recognize that some groups have a strong preference for it and as a result we do not forbid them from using it," Boerigter said. "Our local vendors carry little merchandise with the cartoon Bobby on it because it has not sold well. Garments with the paw logo have been very popular and most all of our requests for use of our logos have been for the paw. Both the paw and the caricature are registered trademarks, which allow us the protection we need to make sure they are used appropriately." ■



## Hydroponic lettuce project leaves the dirt behind

So who says farmers need dirt? Certainly not a group of agriculture students at Northwest who participated in an experiment involving hydroponically grown lettuce.

Hydroponics is a method of growing plants using mineral nutrient solutions instead of soil. When the required nutrients are introduced into a plant's water supply artificially, soil is no longer required for the plants to thrive.

Rego Jones, instructor of horticulture, said the primary purpose for cultivating a half-dozen varieties of lettuce and endive in a greenhouse on the Northwest campus is to study the effects of an organic plant compost, which was introduced into a portion of the study plot.

The "plot," however, is actually a series of long plastic pipes with holes drilled in them. Individual plants, sprouted from seeds last fall, have been inserted in the holes, their roots covered with small plastic cones.

A nutrient solution, in the form of clear liquid, was pumped repeatedly through the pipes, which incline slightly and allow the solution to flow back out into holding tanks. Artificial lamps provided extra light at the end of short fall days,



Northwest agriculture students have been growing hydroponic lettuce and endive in a University greenhouse in order to determine the impact of organic compost. Hydroponics is a method of growing plants in a nutrient solution so that no soil is required.

and greenhouse heaters and refracted sunlight kept the temperature at around 40 degrees.

As a result, full, leafy plants exploded from the pipes in an array of shades and textures.

"This certainly has commercial applications," Jones said of growing plants in a soilless environment. "There are all the issues surrounding E. coli and so forth, but here you have roots that are not exposed to any kind of contaminant. There are no pests, no rain and no dust." ■

### Best wishes

The following members of the Northwest faculty soon will be retiring. Now is your chance to contact them and wish them well.

#### Richard Alsup

Cross Country / Track Coach  
(660) 562-1327  
ralsup@nwmissouri.edu  
Retirement: May 30

#### Debbie Clark

Head Teacher /  
Horace Mann  
Family and Consumer  
Sciences  
(660) 562-1237  
drclark@nwmissouri.edu  
Retirement: May 5

#### Dr. Richard Frucht

Professor and Chairman  
of History/Humanities/  
Philosophy/Political  
Science  
(660) 562-1214  
rfrucht@nwmissouri.edu  
Retirement: Aug. 1

#### Dr. Suzanne Frucht

Associate Professor of  
Biology  
(660) 562-1256  
sfrucht@nwmissouri.edu  
Retirement: Aug. 4

#### Dr. Michael Graham

Professor of Educational  
Leadership  
(660) 562-1541  
mgramham@nwmissouri.edu  
Retirement: Aug. 1

#### Dr. Patricia Lucido

Professor of Chemistry /  
Physics  
(660) 562-1605  
plucido@nwmissouri.edu  
Retirement: Aug. 1

#### Dr. Frances Shipley

Graduate Dean and  
Chairwoman of Family  
and Consumer Sciences  
(660) 562-1145 / 1168  
shipley@nwmissouri.edu  
Retirement: June 30

## Northwest musicians 'cross the pond' to London



Members of the Northwest marching band, wind symphony and jazz ensemble showcased their talents to a worldwide audience during the 2008 London New Year's Day Parade and Gala Concert Festival in London. More than a million spectators lined the parade route through the city streets of London as millions more watched the event that was broadcast on more than 500 television stations throughout the world.

While the Northwest students and their entourage were overseas, they had the opportunity do some sight-seeing as well, visiting well-known landmarks such as St. Paul's Cathedral, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, London Eye, Tower Bridge and Buckingham Palace. ■





(Top) The ice storm was too much for this Siberian elm, which was removed by a professional tree service Northwest hired to assist with the cleanup. (Left) Because of the danger of falling limbs and trees, Northwest personnel blocked many of the walkways through campus immediately following the storm. (Above) As pictured on the magazine's cover, this green ash was cut down after standing for 59 years just south of the Administration Building.








# Recovering from nature's wrath



Written by Mitzi Lutz • Photographs by Darren Whitley  
Design by Melinda Kelsey



December 10, 2007. It was this day that Northwest was dealt a devastating blow as a tremendous ice storm struck the entire region. Coated with more than an inch of ice, the smallest saplings to the largest century-old trees bowed to the ground. Branches, unable to withstand the weight, snapped, taking with them power lines and anything else in their path. Thousands were without heat or electricity, and schools were closed – even Northwest, and it was finals week! However, our Northwest family is rallying together to make the best of this challenging situation, determined that our beautiful campus will one day be better than ever.

By mid January, classes at Northwest were back in full swing following the winter break, and life on campus has returned to normal, with one noticeable exception. A walk through campus tells the entire story. Before the storm, there were 1,300 trees on campus, from saplings to towering oaks and evergreens. Ice damage forced the removal of 79 trees. Another 430 trees had to be pruned, some so severely that they will probably not survive. More than 40 percent of the trees on Northwest's campus, which is designated the Missouri Arboretum, have been damaged.

Trees have always been an important part of both the Northwest landscape and its institutional culture, and Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard echoed the thoughts of many when he addressed University employees shortly after the storm.

"The trees are an integral part of Northwest," he said. "The campus is grieving, but we must look to the future. This campus and this arboretum will be better than it ever was."

During the days and months following the disaster, Northwest looked to two of its own to not only provide guidance for dealing with the storm's immediate effects, but also to create a plan for the future. Leading the way were Lezlee Johnson '86 (master's), a forester by trade who is the University's associate director of environmental services, and Adam Stone '01, a former groundskeeper and ornamentalist, who now serves as Northwest's horticulturist and arborist. Immediately after the storm, their full-time staff, student employees and a tree service company secured the campus.

"It was important to clear the major pedestrian routes. We knew that students would eventually need to move throughout campus, so we put caution tape





around a lot of the hazardous trees and blocked off about every main artery to campus,” Stone said. “We had to make safe pathways through this forest of limbs that were dangling overhead.”

Johnson, who also serves as the Missouri Arboretum director, and Stone agreed they had never seen a storm like the one that paralyzed much of the Midwest. Fortunately, they were trained for such an event.

“I had just been to a hazardous tree seminar a few months before our storm hit where a gentleman who had been through Hurricane Andrew was talking about how to retrain and save trees,” Stone said. “I sure didn’t think I’d be using

this information so soon, but having this knowledge was invaluable.”

Johnson said recent natural disasters have given

arborists and plant biologists new insights into pruning and other techniques used to save damaged trees. The key, she said, is to prune broken limbs in front of an undamaged branch. This helps the tree send its energy into strong limbs and away from weak sprouts and increases the tree’s chance for survival.

Being prepared for the devastation still didn’t make it any easier to accept.

“The hardest part was seeing my 12 years of work at Northwest destroyed in a 24-hour period,” Stone said. “We prune trees, we plan our landscape around them, we do everything we can for years to make them look right, and now they’re just gone.”

Virtually every tree on campus suffered at least some storm damage, Johnson said. Species faring the worst included silver maples, green ashes, hackberries, river birches and pin oaks.

“In my opinion, the toughest tree to lose was the Kentucky coffee tree near the Administration Building,” Johnson said. “It’s a really neat tree, and it’s rarely subject to storm damage. But this storm was just too much for it.”

An Arboretum Committee has been charged with

*“The hardest part was seeing my 12 years of work at Northwest destroyed in a 24-hour period.”*

**Adam Stone '01**  
horticulturist, arborist

## *A history lesson*

In 1905, one of the first duties of the Board of Regents was to acquire a site for the new Fifth District Normal School – now Northwest. The Board purchased the Thomas Gaunt property, a 21-acre nursery that also featured an outbuilding, which eventually housed a few classes, and a handsome Georgian house that, with repair, would be the residence for every Northwest president. The Administra-

tion Building was positioned in a direct line with the Gaunt House, and the route, often referred to as “the long walk,” was lined with hundreds of trees. Many of the trees date to groundskeeper J.R. Brink, who planted 300 trees a year starting in 1915. Today, Northwest is the home of the Missouri Arboretum, a state designation given by the Legislature to the campus tree stand, which comprises 125 varieties.





planning and implementing the reforestation effort.

"The face of campus has really changed, and it's going to look different for quite awhile," Johnson said. "We're a lot more open now, and there are more grassy areas, but there will also be more room to plant lots of trees. We'll continue to plant trees every year, and our campus will continue to be a living laboratory for our students and visitors."

With a \$50,000 deductible and many other expenses that will not be covered by insurance, state or federal assistance, financial support is being sought from the University community. Northwest alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends have already shown their generosity by purchasing more than 275 trees. Many of these trees were planted during a campus ceremony on April 18. The event also honored employees who worked to keep the campus open and safe during and after the storm. The remainder of the commemorated trees will be planted during the next few years.

"We can only mourn what we lost for so long, and it's time to pick up and move on," Johnson said. "Folks



(From left) Nearly 80 trees throughout campus, including this hackberry tree, were so severely damaged they had to be removed.

Professionals from Elkhorn, Neb., assisted Northwest's environmental services department in pruning 430 trees.

Twigs, bark and other small debris from the ice storm covered campus well into the spring. However, 33 student volunteers rolled up their sleeves and pitched in during a series of three March work days to rake the central part of campus.

A tree planting on Arbor Day gives Lezlee Johnson the opportunity to visit with Horace Mann Lab School students about the importance of trees and proper planting techniques.

(Below) Although the appearance of campus has changed since this photograph was taken last summer, the University's tree stand will soon be restored to its once-splendid beauty.

are doing that – they're coming out and helping with the clean-up efforts, they're supporting the Arboretum, they're getting involved. For someone like me who is passionate about trees and nature, it's absolutely wonderful to see the Northwest community rally around something that is such an important part of our campus." ■



## Create a legacy. Commemorate a tree.

With a gift of \$300, you can commemorate a tree on the Northwest campus. Your gift will cover the cost of the tree, its planting and maintenance for the tree's lifetime. In addition, your name or the name of a friend or loved one will be included on a plaque next to the tree. To commemorate a tree, visit [www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/tree.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/tree.htm) or call (660) 562-1248.





### St. Louis couple establishes art scholarship

A St. Louis couple has established a scholarship at Northwest for students majoring in art. Dorothy Myers Rice '46 and her husband, Donald, donated \$49,000 toward an endowed scholarship.

"Our main goal is to help someone go to Northwest who otherwise would find it impossible without a little help," Dorothy said. "I'm happy to be fortunate enough to do this for future students."

Dorothy, who received her degree in art with a minor in music, is originally from the Bethany area. As a Northwest student, she received a one-year art scholarship in addition to a music scholarship.

The Rices were married in 1959 and both taught at Rolla High School before transferring to Normandy High School in the St. Louis area, where Dorothy retired from teaching art.

For more information about the Donald and Dorothy Myers Rice Scholarship or other opportunities to support Northwest, contact the Northwest Foundation at [advance@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:advance@nwmissouri.edu) or (660) 562-1248. ■

## Science museum honors Warren and Rita Shuck

A Florida couple who spent their childhood in northwest Missouri were honored for their generous support of Northwest during a dedication ceremony for the Warren S. and Rita Peck Shuck Museum of Life Sciences.

The museum is located on the third floor of Northwest's Garrett-Strong Science Building. Opened in 2006, the museum was established by Northwest's Department of Biological Sciences.

The Shucks, who live in Destin, Fla., said they are honored by the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy on the Northwest campus.

Warren Shuck was raised in St. Joseph, and Rita Shuck grew up on the Peck family farm near DeKalb. The couple was drawn to assist Northwest when they learned they share the University's commitment to multicultural understanding.

They also believe that establishing the Warren S. and Rita Peck Shuck Scholarship is an ideal way to ensure that family, friends and future students feel at home on the Northwest campus – a positive experience shared by Rita Shuck's parents, Oliver and Virginia Peck, who attended Northwest.



Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard (center) is joined by members of the Shuck family and University officials during the museum dedication.

Likewise, it was the Shucks' recognition of the importance of higher education, and of the study of science in particular, that led to the museum being named in their honor.

"It is Mr. and Mrs. Shuck's wish that everyone who visits the museum will find inspiration from the past to benefit our society and future discoveries," said Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard. ■

## Scholarship memorializes longtime professor

A new scholarship at Northwest was recently established in memory of George Barratt '54, professor emeritus of mathematics.

Barratt, who retired in 1988 after teaching at Northwest for 25 years, was a recipient of the University's Distinguished Educator Award. He died in January 2007. The Barratt's three children are Northwest graduates: Robert Barratt '69, Calvin Barratt '76 and Joyce Barratt Turner '80.

"His entire family attended Northwest," said his wife, Marjory. "They were all mathematicians and would even gather for holidays and do math all day. Math was his field, and he wanted a scholarship to help other kids get a good math education."

The George W. Barratt Math Scholarship



is endowed at \$10,000 and will be awarded to a student who has declared a major in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics with first preference to a math education major.

"Attracting motivated students in conjunction with a high retention rate is a priority at Northwest," said Dr. Russ Euler, professor of math and statistics. "The George

W. Barratt Math Scholarship, along with other available scholarships, will enable the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to retain talented students. The scholarships provide a financial basis for students to establish career goals. I am delighted that Mr. Barratt's dedication to Northwest will be perpetuated through his scholarships." ■



## Grant assists students in pursuing ‘American dream’

Through hard work and determination, anyone can achieve the American dream – at least that’s the foundation on which many Americans stand.

While there are potential roadblocks along the way, Northwest is determined to remove at least one of those barriers, and, as a result, students who choose to further their education in order to grasp the American Dream can do so without a crippling financial burden.

Freshmen Monica Taylor and Alex Wray are recipients of the University’s pioneering needs-based financial aid initiative, the American Dream Grant. According to Del Morley, director of financial assistance, more than 840 students have benefitted from the American Dream Grant since the program’s inception in 2004. The number of awards given each year is determined by University funding and donor support.

Students who come from families with incomes of \$30,000 or less and who meet Northwest’s admissions criteria are eligible. The grant pays virtually all college expenses during a student’s first two years at Northwest, including tuition, room, board, books and the use of a laptop computer. The student contribution is \$1,000 per semester, which can be earned by working a few hours each week on campus.

Monica, a studio art major from Mount Ayr, Iowa, is one of six children. Her parents knew that financing an education for their three youngest children would be a struggle.

“When we received the letter that said Monica was going to get the American Dream Grant, I couldn’t believe it,” said her mother, Mary Ellen



Because of the American Dream Grant, Sherry Wray and her son, Alex, are both students at Northwest.

Devereux Taylor. “I even told Monica to read it to me! Monica asked what this meant, and I told her, ‘it means you can now go to Northwest!’”

Like her mother, Monica was in disbelief.

“I started crying,” Monica said. “I might not have been able to go to college if it wasn’t for this.”

Sherry Wray and her son, Alex, are two more people whose financial burdens have been lifted because of the American Dream Grant.

Sherry, a divorced mother who has been battling cancer since 2003, has been working two jobs to put herself through school at Northwest. When it came time for Alex to go to college, she was willing to drop out to allow her son to pursue his dreams. Because of the American Dream Grant, both mother and son are proud Bearcats.

“This grant took the hardship off of me trying to figure out how to finance Alex’s college education,” Sherry said. “This way, we are both able to stay on track with our education. The entire idea of the American Dream Grant is the start of something good ... that someone has faith in these students who come from lower-income families. When alumni give to the American Dream grant it’s like they’re saying to the student, ‘we want you to carry on this tradition.’”

Alex wasn’t aware of the grant until he received notification that he was eligible.

“I didn’t find the American Dream Grant. It found me – thankfully,” Alex said. “When I graduate I’m going to remember that someone provided the money for me to go to college. I want to do the same for others. Although I can’t pay the exact people back, I will at least give back so Northwest can help others like me.” ■



### Retired teacher to contribute \$10,000 annually

Janet Dinkel ’58 understands what it’s like for college students trying to work their way through school. As an undergraduate from Greenfield, Iowa, she, too, worked many jobs on and off campus before receiving her degree in elementary education. Therefore, when Dinkel learned about Northwest’s unique American Dream Grant, she knew it was something she wanted to support.

“I feel that everyone who really wants to attend college should have the opportunity,” she said. “In this day and age, it is much harder for young people starting out, as costs are so much higher, and any type of help they can obtain is of great value.”

Dinkel made her first gift of \$10,000 to Northwest and the American Dream Grant last fall. She believes so strongly in this initiative that she intends to contribute at least \$10,000 annually to the fund.

After graduating from Northwest, Dinkel moved to Keokuk, Iowa, to teach kindergarten. This opportunity turned into a 41-year teaching career in the Keokuk School District, where she retired in 1999. ■



Monica Taylor would like to pursue a career in photography. She also has an interest in dance and teaches gymnastics to children in Northwest’s Kip Kittens Movement Program.

### New resource for charitable gift planning

Northwest has created a new, easy-to-navigate Web site to help alumni and friends dream a little – about Northwest's future and theirs. The planned giving Web site provides visitors many giving options from which to choose – strategies that enhance a donor's personal well being, as well as Northwest.

The interactive Build Your Gift planner answers a few basic questions and guides donors through the process of narrowing down their choices. If donors already have gift options in mind, they can compare gifts to see how their choices match up or request specific information on a planning option. There's a gift calculator, sample bequest language, a quiz to test your planned giving knowledge, articles for planned giving advisers, donor testimonials and much more.

For more information about planned giving and leaving a lasting legacy at Northwest, visit the new Web site at [www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/giving/plannedgifts.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/giving/plannedgifts.htm). ■

## Olive DeLuce paintings donated to Northwest

Northwest's Department of Art has accepted a gift of four paintings, valued at \$9,400, created by longtime Professor of Art Olive DeLuce in the late 1930s.

Mounted in gilt frames, the oil-on-board waterscapes were purchased by Ruth Kramer Myers '33. Myers' son, Dr. George Myers of Hilton Head, S.C., inherited the paintings and donated them to the University through the Northwest Foundation.

Olive DeLuce, who died in 1970, joined the Northwest faculty in 1915 and was instrumental in developing the fledgling fine arts department, serving as its chairwoman until her retirement in 1955. Active in both campus and community affairs, DeLuce played a key role in establishing the University's permanent art collection.

DeLuce helped the graduating class of 1939 obtain a print titled "Cradling Wheat" from famed Kansas City painter Thomas Hart Benton. A similar acquisition, a large mosaic by Jan



Dr. George Myers (right) of Hilton Head, S.C., inherited this painting and three similar artworks from his mother, a 1933 Northwest alumna, and donated them to the University. He is joined by Teresa Macias '97, '05, a development officer for the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Kim Spradling, chairman of the art department; and University Archivist Cathy Miller Palmer '80, '01.

Roderick Carroll given by the class of 1965, adorns the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building's main staircase.

DeLuce's dream of establishing a space where the University's growing collection could be displayed was realized soon after her death, when the DeLuce Gallery was established near the front entrance of the building named in her honor. ■

## Houston gift funds theatre sound system upgrade

Performances in Northwest's Mary Linn Auditorium have never sounded so good. At least not for a long time. The sound system in the Performing Arts Center's auditorium has been in dire need of repair and upgrades, and a \$10,000 gift from Maryville resident Ron Houston has made these improvements possible.

A portion of Houston's gift was used to hire an audio engineer to troubleshoot the sound system in the 24-year-old, frequently-used facility that seats 1,100. Following the engineer's recommendation, Northwest purchased four new floor monitors, a new equalizer and two new compressor/limiters. In addition, the high frequency diaphragm was replaced in the center speaker cluster of the theatre.

Randy Wolf '90, a vice president at Vista Productions, returned to his alma mater to install the sound system and accompanying computer software. He also provided training for Northwest

personnel and students.

Shawn Wake '92, the Performing Arts Center's technical director and performance facilities manager, said the gift also allowed the department to purchase a wireless headset system.

Houston, a former member of the Northwest Foundation Board of Directors, is president of the J.L. Houston Company in Hopkins, where he has been employed since 1967. He attended Northwest from 1960 to 1963 before transferring to the University of Missouri-Columbia to receive a degree in industrial engineering. In addition to his involvement at Northwest, Houston is active with the Maryville Industrial Development Corporation and the Steel Tank Institute. ■

For more information about supporting Northwest or the Department of Communication, Theatre and Languages, contact Teresa Macias at [teresa@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:teresa@nwmissouri.edu) or (660) 562-1248.

## Mühsam's life, artwork reflects Native American culture

Like many young boys, Armin Mühsam, associate professor of art, grew up fascinated with a fictional character in his favorite author's novels. His interest in this character, and by extension the Native American culture, shaped his life in many ways, and continues to be a part of who he is today.

Mühsam was born in Transylvania, part of modern day Romania. As a young child, he recalls reading Western-themed dime novels at his grandfather's house. To pull him away from these "trashy" reads, Mühsam's father introduced him to the German author Karl May, whose books feature a character named Winnetou, a fictional Apache chief.

"May's books shaped my Native American image. These books were extremely popular in Germany," Mühsam said. "I began reading all of them thinking they taught me all I needed to know about Native Americans."

Although May is virtually unknown in the United States, Mühsam said he was once the most popular author in Germany. "To Germans, Winnetou used to be like Paul Bunyan, Abe Lincoln and Elvis rolled into one."

However, when Mühsam discovered that what was presented as fact in May's books was just as clichéd as the dime novels, he set out to learn the facts about Native American history. His friends and family thought his interest in the subject matter was simply a passing infatuation, but it wasn't. In fact, Mühsam's love and respect for Native American culture formed many of the

decisions in his life, including his pursuit of higher education.

"I chose to go to graduate school at Montana State because there are

seven reservations nearby," Mühsam said. "My plan was to paint Cheyennes and Crows 'on site,' but I soon decided that this would be just another form of colonialism."

Early in his profession, Mühsam's paintings often featured human figures; however, his experience of the vast open spaces in Montana and knowledge of Native American history led him to depict human intervention with the natural environment.

"The artificial environment of machines and concrete mixed in with the natural beauty of the land shape society's views and, ultimately, how they feel about something," Mühsam said. "My art attempts to visualize this by showing landscapes 'populated' with basic man-made elements. It often describes humanity, without depicting specific people."

After graduate school, Mühsam, whose paintings are showcased internationally, began teaching at Northwest in 2000. He also was a member of the team that organized the University's first powwow in 2004, an event that has become a popular annual tradition at Northwest.

"I saw my first powwow in Canada when I was 14. It blew me away," Mühsam said. "It exemplified the vitality of a living culture whose resilience should make Americans pause and think."

The culture has indeed made a lasting impression on Mühsam, whose life has been guided by a subject that started as a boyhood interest.

"Native Americans are a minority like no other minority," he said, "because they were the continent's majority population for millennia. They know this land like no one else, and we should look to their vast experience in all matters regarding our interactions with the natural world. My studies of several Native American cultures have certainly influenced the way I view myself and my own culture in this context." ■



Northwest's annual powwow in Bearcat Arena is the ideal venue for Armin Mühsam to observe the Native American culture that he often depicts in his artwork.



"Badger Wahwasuck Singing and Drumming," Marker/Watercolor, 2007





**MISSION:**

The Northwest Alumni Association fosters lifelong relationships through initiatives and opportunities that advance the University and its Alumni, future alumni and friends.

**Northwest Alumni Association  
2007-2008 Board of Directors**

**President**

Tim Sullivan '75, Urbandale, Iowa

**Vice President**

Neil Neumeyer '98, Kansas City

**Past President**

Kay Thomas '71, Blue Springs

**Alumni Programs**

Mike Zech '86, Maryville

**Membership Committee**

**Chairperson**

Steve Moss '87, Columbia

**Chapters Committee**

**Chairperson**

Jackie Lionberger Damiani '71, '76,  
Edmond, Okla.

**Members**

Cindy Tjeerdsma Akehurst '01,  
Kansas City

Amy Willits Harlin '95, Kansas City

Allen Kearns '62, Omaha, Neb.

Vic Kretzschmar '70, '71, Hemple

Larry Maiorano '69, '74, Lenexa, Kan.

Paula Northup Miller '95, Mound City

Mark Pickerel '76, St. Joseph

Nicole Bankus Porterfield '91, St. Louis

Dave Snider '80, '83, Olathe, Kan.

John Van Cleave '73, '89, Maryville

Hal Wilmarth '69, Maryville

Mel Young '67, '73, Lincoln, Neb.

**Ex-Officio Board Members**

Jim Blackford '72, President,  
Northwest Foundation, Maryville

Shoba Mansukhani Brown,  
Annual Giving Committee,  
Northwest Foundation, Maryville

Orrie Covert, Vice President for  
University Advancement

Dean L. Hubbard, University President,  
Maryville

B.D. Owens, President Emeritus,  
Clearwater, Fla.

Peggy Purdy, Accounting Specialist

Steve Sutton '71, Director of Alumni  
Relations

Brenda Untiedt '00, Alumni Relations  
Specialist



**1957 Golden Years reunion**

Members of the Class of 1957 and their spouses returned to campus Homecoming weekend for their 50-year class reunion. With 52 attendees, this was the largest group to return for the Golden Years Class Reunion in many years. During the reunion, honorees enjoyed a campus and community bus tour, a luncheon, the annual flag-raising ceremony at the International Flag Plaza, a Homecoming social, the Homecoming parade, a pregame barbeque and the Bearcat football game. Attendees from the Class of 1957 included (front row) Mickey Mallen, Curtis Thomas, Nancy Rainey Hamilton, Nancy Kariger Eide, Kaye Ferguson Bishop, Pat Adams Maher, Sherri Heath Reeves, Delores Moore Collins, Sue Wright Owens, Frank Garey, Floyd Davis, (back row) Henry Elliott, Richard Phillips, Charles Adair, Jim Bishop, Gweldon Long, Lester Wooten, Millard Haning, Fred Maher, Walter Arms, Victor Cromer, Stan Stewart, Arthur Buckingham and Loren Putney. ■

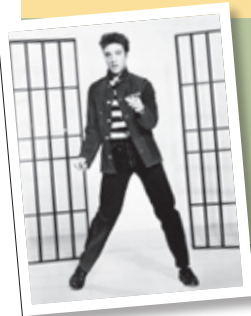


Millard Haning '57, Lester Wooten '57 and Darleen Wooten reminisce during the Golden Years Society reception at the Alumni House.



Jim '57 and Kay Ferguson '57 Bishop, who live in Georgetown, Texas, took a lead role in encouraging their classmates to attend the reunion.

**1958. What a year!**



- Elvis receives his draft notice.
- The Soviets launch Sputnik 3.
- The Jolly Green Giant debuts on TV.

AKD

**YOU graduated from Northwest!**

Registration information will be mailed closer to the date.

*Don't miss this  
once-in-a-lifetime  
reunion.*

Golden Years  
Society Reunion

Honoring the  
Class of 1958

October 17-18  
Homecoming Weekend

## Tourin' Bearcats visit wine country, hit the slopes

Northwest alumni and friends participating in the Tourin' Bearcats' travel program enjoyed the Colorado ski slopes during the second-annual Bearcat ski trip while others ventured to California wine country, one of the world's foremost wine-producing regions.

The January ski trip included three days of skiing in Winter Park, Colo. Those who attended the wine excursion visited COPIA: The American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts for a tour, tasting and class on wine and food pairing

followed by lunch at Julia Child's Kitchen. The trip also featured tours and tastings at such well-known wineries as the Robert Mondavi Winery, Kendall Jackson Winery, Ravenswood Winery, J. Vineyards Winery and Homewood Winery as well as stops in the quaint towns of Calistoga and Healdsburg.

For more information about upcoming Tourin' Bearcats' trips, call the Office of University Advancement at (660) 562-1248 or e-mail [alumni@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:alumni@nwmissouri.edu). ■



(From top) Following a tour, John Eiberger is given a taste of one of Robert Mondavi's finest wines. Brian and Sandra Badami '93 Quill enjoy COPIA before dining at Julia Child's Kitchen. Mike Rogers, Charles Holm '70, Janet Holm, Mike Graham and Kathy Plummer O'Riley '71, '86 participate in a wine and food pairing class.



(From top) Winter Park was the destination for this year's alumni ski trip. Tanner Blackford, Don Brown '64, '70, Matt VanCleave, Matt Schieber and Steve Sutton '71 couldn't resist the warning signs. Skiers, including Tim Brechbiel '98, Jeff Tromans, Michelle Wickersham and Larry Wichersham '98, enjoyed pizza and refreshments after a day on the slopes.

### NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

#### 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

#### Central Iowa Chapter

Chartered Aug. 1, 2002  
President Nick Wallace '00  
Vice President Kim Wall '01  
Secretary Sarah Beggs '04

#### Chicago Chapter

Chartered Jan. 12, 2008  
President Todd Keiser '95  
Vice President Matt Borgard '80, '82  
Secretary Karen Ranieri '97

#### Colorado Chapter

Chartered Jan. 12, 2004  
President - Vacant

#### Dallas Chapter

Chartered June 23, 2006  
President Deb Tripp '92, '96  
Vice President Stan Swan '70, '76  
Secretary Chris Johnson '93, '94

#### Japan Chapter

Chartered July 21, 2005  
President Yuki Osawa '97  
Vice President Mamiko Noda '03  
Secretary Aya Takahashi '00

#### Kansas City Chapter

Chartered Jan. 25, 2001  
President Jennifer Smith '86  
Vice President Brian Stewart  
Secretary Leslie Dean '01

#### Maryville Chapter

Chartered Sept. 22, 2001  
President Paul Wilmes '75  
Vice President John  
Van Cleave '73, '89  
Secretary Jamie Long '93, '98

#### Mid-Missouri Chapter

Chartered April 12, 2007  
President Chrissy Beck '02  
Vice President Dave Teeter '86  
Secretary Ashlee Erwin '04

#### Nebraska/Western Iowa

Chartered June 5, 2003  
President Joe Glab '01  
Vice President Susan Hilton '74  
Secretary Jamie Christensen '06

#### St. Joseph Chapter

Chartered May 20, 2002  
President Doug Schmitz '92  
Vice President Dave Price '70  
Secretary Patty Roach '71

#### Southern California Chapter

Chartered Feb. 29, 2004  
President - vacant

#### Southern Iowa Chapter

Chartered April 1, 2006  
President Dennis Bunch '69  
Vice President Kevin Klomhaus '92  
Secretary Karleen Stephens '77



## Alumni chapter news

1. Bearcats living in the Chicago area display their new chapter's banner. The group met at the Downers Grove, Ill., home of Matt Borgard, who was elected vice president of the chapter.

2. The Mid-Missouri Chapter hosted a tailgate Sept. 15 at MU's first home football game of the 2007 season. Attending were (from left): Dave Teeter '86, Scottie Rawlings, Janet Scott Gladstone '76, Chrissy Beck '02, Ashlee Erwin '04, Clint Prange '04, '05, Amber Prange, Jay Davidson '98, Anne Taylor Davidson '97, Nancy Gassen Moss '90, Frank Finley and Steve Moss '87 (and the Moss and Davidson children in the front row).

3. In December, 12 members of the Southern Iowa Chapter attended the performance of the Five Browns at Northwest's Performing Arts Center: (front row) Joen Gross Brown '69, Teri Campbell, Pat Stream, (second row) Dennis Bunch '69, Gwen Maynes, Carolyn Brown Nelson '73, (third row) Adam Bunch, Karen Mills Shawler '65, Barb Fox Hannon '55, (back row) Joan Lynch Jackson '65, Judy Bunch and Linda Wiley Pickering '74.

4. The Mid-Missouri Chapter collected 68 pounds of food for the Central Missouri Food Bank at a happy hour at Truman's Bar and Grill in Columbia. Chapter members participating in the event included Chrissy Beck '02, Clint Prange '04, '05, Nancy Headrick '78, Deann Ege, Ashlee Erwin '04, Dustin Wasson '03, Tina Coffelt '01, Jennifer Van DeVyvere '04, Michael Head '02, '03 (with daughter, Annabelle), Steve Yaple '04 and Dave Teeter '86.

5. Members of the St. Joseph Chapter gathered more than 45 pounds of canned food items for the local food bank, challenging each chapter to do that or more for each chapter's community food bank.

### CHICAGO

The Chicago Alumni and Friends Chapter was chartered Jan. 12. Officers are President Todd Keiser '95, Vice President Matt Borgard '80, '82 and Secretary Karen Raniere '97. To get involved with the Chicago Chapter, contact the Northwest Alumni Association at alumni@nwmissouri.edu or (660) 562-1248. ■



1



3

### MID-MISSOURI

The Mid-Missouri Chapter ended 2007 with a national championship watch party Dec. 15 at Truman's Bar in Columbia, and in January the chapter members cheered on the University of Missouri Tigers at a basketball game. Visit [www.midmobearcats.com](http://www.midmobearcats.com) for the latest chapter news and events, including a barbecue on June 14, the Twilight Festival at Harpo's on June 26 and a happy hour at the Coliseum Bistro on July 16. In addition, the chapter will have an end-of-summer gathering on Aug. 2 to send local Northwest students back to school. Area students and parents interested in Northwest also will be invited to attend and find out more about being a Bearcat. For more information about the Mid-Missouri Chapter, contact President Chrissy Beck '02 at [chrissy\\_b@hotmail.com](mailto:chrissy_b@hotmail.com). ■



2



4



5



**CENTRAL IOWA**

Members of the Central Iowa Chapter participated in an Oktoberfest beer tasting and tour of the Raccoon River Brew Co. in Des Moines, Iowa. In addition, the chapter's social chair has revived a time-honored tradition of "Thirsty Thursday," a chapter social on the first Thursday of each month. In January, the chapter participated in the annual "Bearcats at the Bucs" outing at the Des Moines Buccaneers hockey game. Northwest alumni and friends in central Iowa are encouraged to provide their contact information to President Nick Wallace '00 at [nicholas.wallace@smithbarney.com](mailto:nicholas.wallace@smithbarney.com) so they can be notified of upcoming chapter events. ■



**JAPAN**

Last October, members of the Japan Alumni Chapter gathered in the Ikebukuro area of Tokyo. They were joined by Dr. Charles McAdams, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Chapter President Yuki Osawa '97 led a discussion about potential activities and encouraged the members to let her know the names and addresses of other Northwest alumni currently living in Japan. McAdams provided an update of activities on Northwest's campus and answered questions on a variety of topics. Three of the alumni assisted McAdams at the USA Recruitment Fair in Tokyo two days later. ■



6. More than 100 Northwest alumni and friends in central Iowa attended watch parties in Windsor Heights and Urbandale, Iowa, to cheer on the Bearcat football team during its trek to the NCAA Division II National Championship game.

7. Several Northwest alumni living in Japan attended the Japan Alumni Chapter dinner in Tokyo, including (front row) Aya Takahashi '00, Ai Kobayashi, Yuki Osawa '97, Dr. Charles McAdams, dean of Northwest's College of Arts and Sciences, Hitomi Nagasaki '95, Akiko Sakamoto, (back row) Nobutaka Nakamura '05, Shota Kawano, Toru Yamauchi '99, Mamiko Noda '03, Kasumi Sekai, Jeannette Ferguson '00 and Rie Ogusu '05.

8. Eight members of the Dallas Alumni Chapter, including Katie Tripp '05 and Mercedes Ramirez Johnson '97, sold ice cream and bottled drinks to thousands of fans at the Southern Methodist University vs. Tulane University football game as a fundraiser for the chapter's scholarship.

9. During the meeting of the Japan Alumni Chapter in Tokyo, Mamiko Noda '03 and Jeannette Ferguson '00 realized that Jeannette was an RA on the same floor where Mamiko lived her freshman year.

10. Northwest alumni, family and friends gathered at the home of Mike '85 and Kenna Miller '84, '87 Johnson (center) in Greeley, Colo., to watch the Bearcats play in the Division II National Championship game.

11. Alumni in the St. Louis area gathered for a focus group meeting to discuss chartering an alumni chapter. Those in attendance were Nicole Bankus Porterfield '91, Dave Jespersen '72, Sherry Skarin Jespersen '72, Judy Stark '95, Mark Cromley '94, Sue Johnson Hockensmith '72 and Dana Hockensmith.

## Williams receives first Bob Gregory Award



Jim Williams (right), joined by Northwest Athletics Director Dr. Bob Boerigter, displays the Bob Gregory Award to fans during a Northwest football game. Williams received the award for his involvement in and support of Northwest athletics and contributions to the teaching and coaching profession.

Longtime coach and educator Jim Williams '70, '73 was presented Northwest's first Bob Gregory Award during the Nov. 10 Bearcat football game.

The award is given to someone who has emulated the life, qualities and attributes of Coach Bob Gregory at Northwest or in Bearcat athletics. Gregory, a 1942 Northwest graduate who died in 2007,

was the University's baseball, basketball and tennis head coach and also assisted in football and track and field during the 1950s.

"The athletics department has been working on the development of an appropriate honor

for people who have been closely affiliated with Northwest athletics and have made significant contributions not only to Northwest but also to their professions. Jim is the perfect choice to receive the initial Bob Gregory Award," said Dr. Bob Boerigter, director of athletics. "He was a very competent and versatile athlete as an undergraduate, he was a student of Bob Gregory's, and he was a lifelong educator."

Williams was a three-sport athlete at Northwest, competing in football, wrestling and golf. After graduation, Williams coached football, guiding St. Charles High School to a 1982 state championship and earning Missouri 4A Football Coach of the Year honors.

In 17 years of coaching, Williams fell one win short of 100 victories in his career, finishing with the most wins in St. Charles history. Williams and his wife, Ruth Hallquist Williams '74, live in St. Charles and have a son, Jamie, and a daughter, Julie. ■

## Player Spotlight: Alicia Johnson



Sophomore Alicia Johnson was awarded Second Team All-MIAA as she recorded 20 double-doubles and led the MIAA in aces per game. She and her teammates finished the 2007 season with a 17-17 overall record and 6-7 in the MIAA, the most wins since 2000.

Alicia Johnson, a sophomore from Tripoli, Iowa, led the MIAA in aces per game with 0.60 and was fifth in points per game, averaging 4.74. Johnson, who transferred from the University of Iowa, finished the season with 20 double-doubles and recorded a season-high 25 kills in one game. She led the Bearcats in kills (483), kills per game (3.86) and aces (75) and earned second-team All-MIAA.

**Q: Why did you transfer to Northwest from Iowa?**

A: I felt that Iowa wasn't quite the right fit for me, and I wasn't enjoying volleyball. That's when I definitely knew that a change needed to be made.

**Q: What's the biggest difference between the teams at Northwest and Iowa?**

A: I think the biggest difference is our overall love for the game and enjoyment when it comes to games and practices. We all truly love to play volleyball at Northwest, and that just makes everything click so much better.

**Q: In the short time you've been at Northwest, what's your favorite memory?**

A: There are quite a few, but if I had to choose one it would be when we beat the University of Nebraska-Omaha this year at home. We played so great together, and it was so reassuring that we had that in us. I think that was just a preview of how far our team will go.

**Q: Have you bonded with your fellow teammates?**

A: Most definitely. We learned more and more about each other as the season went on, and it makes me happy and excited that I have two years left to play with these girls. ■



## Northwest: A program West Texas wants to emulate

Whether you're a season ticket holder or haven't been to a Northwest football game since your days as a student, this column written by Greg Jaklewicz of the *Amarillo Globe-News* following the playoff game against West Texas A&M is enough to make any Bearcat proud.

I saw West Texas A&M athletic director Michael McBroom for only a few minutes before Saturday's football game against Northwest.

His eyes reminded me of those of a kid who got separated from his parents in Toys "R" Us and was locked in the store overnight.

And it wasn't because we were briefly stuck in an elevator. It was The Wow Factor.

To compare the football programs at Northwest, which has an enrollment of 6,500 students, and WT, which has about 7,500, is comparing apples to apples.

There is one big difference, however: Northwest plays on campus.

Paw prints were painted on streets leading to Bearcat Stadium. A sign in front of one business

on a nearby street read: "Go Bearcats. Herd those Buffaloes back to Texas."

It felt like game day.

The sound generated by fans and Northwest's band reverberated. It sounded like a college football game.

A park behind the

home stands was tailgating central. Close enough for the marching band to stop by and toot the fight song to fire up fans at their grills.

Speaking of firing up, a cannon was positioned at a nearby frat house. It boomed like 1812 after every Bearcat touchdown.

The home side of the stadium was refurbished in 2003, and this past summer Field Turf was added.

One end zone proclaims "Northwest," the



With new lights and FieldTurf added this season, Bearcat Stadium, which includes Mel Tjeerdma Field, is one of the nation's most elite venues in Division II football.

other "Bearcats." The visiting team knows whose turf they've stepped onto. Perhaps it's why Northwest has won 16 straight home games.

Fans joined fans on the opposite side of the stadium in back-and-forth chants of "B-E-A-R" and "C-A-T-S."

A four-story press box rises above the Bearcats' field. An elevator takes media and other officials to the fourth level, one stop above 10 luxury suites.

The visiting team dresses in a locker room under one end of the home stands. At the other end are meeting rooms where postgame interviews were held. When an NCAA game is played at WT, postgames are conducted in a tent.

The home team dresses in spacious quarters in the activity center, and their weight room is not the converted entrance to the former student union building, as it is at WT.

"They obviously have put a lot of thought and money into their facilities. Every group that's important ... the fans, the teams, the media ... all were well served," McBroom said.

Until the day comes when facilities at WT can be dramatically upgraded, the Buffs have one way to avoid a trip to the home of the Bearcats: earn home-field advantage. ■

### Bearcats return to Florence for third consecutive year

After defeating three undefeated opponents to earn a third consecutive trip to the NCAA Division II National Championship game, the Bearcats once again came up just short of attaining their third national football crown. The Bearcats were defeated by Valdosta State 25-20.

"I don't know if words can describe the disappointment that I feel for these guys," said Coach Mel Tjeerdma. "They've done a great job, and we've had a great run. They got beat by a very good football team."

Northwest ended the season 12-2 and became just the fourth program to appear in three consecutive championship games. The Bearcats' three championship losses were by 3, 4 and 5 points. ■

For more information about the Bearcats' outstanding season, including photo galleries, post-season accolades, a media guide and statistics, visit [www.nwmissouri.edu/sports/football/index.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/sports/football/index.htm).



Quarterback Joel Osborn, a junior from Harlan, Iowa, guided the Bearcats to their third consecutive national championship game.



Thousands of enthusiastic fans traveled to Florence, Ala., to support the Bearcats at the NCAA Division II National Championship.



### Former Coach Gregory players reunite at Homecoming

Homecoming 2007 had a special meaning for a group of former Northwest student-athletes. Alumni who played for Bearcat Coach Bob Gregory reunited in conjunction with Homecoming to honor their late coach.

The plans for the reunion, spearheaded by Dick Phillips '57, had been initiated prior to Gregory's death in June 2007. Gregory, a 1942 Northwest graduate, was the University's baseball, basketball and tennis head coach and assisted in football and track and field during the 1950s.

During Homecoming weekend, the group of 11 former players and their spouses attended a Bearcat basketball practice, enjoyed Homecoming activities and were recognized at the Bearcat Zone tailgate as well as at the end of the first quarter of the Bearcat football game.

The former players presented Gregory's widow, Helen, with a token of their appreciation for her husband's dedication as a coach, mentor and friend. ■



Sophomore guard Lance Sullivan led the Bearcats in several categories this season, including assists (67), free throw percentage (83 percent), steals (59) and successful three-pointers (56).

### Bearcat basketball wrap-up

The Northwest men's basketball team won its fourth MIAA tournament championship following a 57-51 win against Emporia State. It was the third time the Bearcats have won the tournament as a No. 2 seed. After an opening round win in the NCAA South Central Regional tournament, the men fell 73-59 to Central Oklahoma. The men ended the season 24-8 (12-6 MIAA). Senior center Matt Withers and junior forward Hunter Henry were named second-team All-MIAA.

The Northwest women's basketball team won three games in four days and punched its ticket to the NCAA Division II tournament with an 82-58 win against Southwest Baptist in the MIAA tournament. The Bearcats, who had to win all three games to extend their season, qualified for the tournament for the second year in a row. After an opening round win in the NCAA South Central Regional tournament, which included a 40-foot bucket at the buzzer in overtime, the Bearcat women were defeated by Emporia State, 83-71. The women finished the season 18-14 (9-9 MIAA). Senior center Mandi Schumacher was awarded Second Team All-MIAA honors. ■

### M-Club Hall of Fame inducts volleyball team, five individuals



The 1980 Northwest volleyball team still holds the record for most wins in a season with 52. The team, then known as the Bearkittens, defeated Division I foes Oklahoma State, Missouri and Kansas. Inductees present at the ceremony included (front row) LeeAnn Rulla Jones '82, Miriam Heilman McNally '82, '84, Coach Pam Stanek, Lanita Richardson, Debra Scribner Shermwell '83, (back row) Debbie Cone Fay '82, Dixie Wescott '85, '91, Saundra Hagedorn Hess '81, Rebecca Johnson Wigal '82, Toni Cowen Espey '83 and Donna Shuh Beste '82.



Five former student-athletes were inducted into Northwest's 2007 M-Club Athletics Hall of Fame: two-time wrestling All-American Ron "Jesse" James '67; two-time cross country All-American Kathy Kearns Behounek '98; two-time All-MIAA basketball player Russ Miller; All-American and MIAA MVP baseball player Scott Spurgeon '91; and consensus first team All-American football player Chris Greisen '99.

## Redd inducted into Missouri Sports Hall of Fame

Former Northwest student-athlete, coach and athletic director Dr. Jim Redd '66 was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame during the Feb. 10 ceremonies at the hall's headquarters in Springfield.

Redd was a three-sport athlete in high school but focused on football at Northwest, earning All-MIAA honors in 1965 as a first-team defensive tackle and second-team offensive lineman. He served as captain for the Bearcats for three seasons.

After receiving his master's degree, Redd returned to Maryville in 1967 as an assistant under Ivan Schottel and then Gladden Dye in 1971. He became head coach in 1976, earning MIAA Coach of the Year honors in 1979 after guiding the Bearcats to a conference title.

He resigned from coaching following the 1982 season but remained at Northwest as an instructor. From 1984 to 1985, Redd worked on his doctorate at Oklahoma State University, returning to Northwest in 1986 to become an associate professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

He was appointed Northwest director of athletics in 1993. Under his leadership, Northwest completed renovations at Bearcat Arena, constructed new softball and soccer facilities, renovated Herschel Neil Track and reconstructed the east grandstands at Bearcat Stadium.

During his tenure as AD, the Bearcat football

team won two national championships under current head coach Mel Tjeerdsma. Northwest also won the 1997-98 MIAA All-Sports Trophy and 20 MIAA titles.

Redd retired from Northwest in 2001 but reentered higher education as the director of athletics and physical education at William Jewell College in Liberty the following year. In 2002, he was inducted into the Northwest M-Club Hall of Fame.

Redd is the ninth person with Northwest ties to be inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame. Prior inductees include:

- Henry Iba, men's basketball coach, 1961
- Herschel Neil, track student-athlete, 1972
- Wilbur "Sparky" Stalcup, men's basketball coach, 1979
- Ryland Milner, student-athlete, coach and athletic director, 1988
- Howard Iba, men's basketball student-athlete, 1991
- Wayne Winstead, women's basketball coach, 1994
- Pat Harr, team physician, 2001
- David "D.C." Colt, athletic trainer, 2006 ■



Dr. Jim Redd '66 (left) accepts a plaque from Executive Director Jerald Andrews during the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Other inductees included former Kansas City Royals catcher and manager John Wathan and former Kansas City Chiefs defensive end Neil Smith.

## Class notes

### 1957

#### JIM AND KAY FERGUSON BISHOP

celebrated their 50th anniversary in August. They are retired and live in Georgetown, TX.

### 1959

#### JERRY AND BEVERLY MYERS WETZEL ◆

celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 24. They are retired teachers. Beverly taught 30 years, and Jerry taught and

coached high school girls basketball 36 years. They live in Indianola, IA.

### 1961

#### MARY ADAMS ANDERSON

has released her sixth children's book, "Gracie Gannon: Middle School Zero." Her work has appeared in more than 100 periodicals. She writes stories and articles for adults and children and teaches writing classes at community colleges

throughout Nebraska.

She and her husband, **DON ANDERSON '60**, live in Lincoln, NE.

### 1960

#### WILLIAM PRICE

and his wife, Mary Beth, received Missouri Honor Medals for Distinguished Service in Journalism from the University of Missouri School of Journalism in October. Bill is chairman/CEO of Empower MediaMarket-

ing in Cincinnati, OH, and is a member of the Northwest Foundation Board of Directors.

### 1964

#### DON LENTZ (MASTER'S '74, SPECIALIST '86)

is a funeral director, pre-need salesman and notary public at Clark-Sampson Funeral Home in St. Joseph. He was a teacher and principal in the St. Joseph School District for 40 years.



**1968**

**JACKIE CLARK LEWIN  
(MASTER'S '72)**

is the executive director of the St. Joseph Museum. She also is the co-author of "The St. Joe Road" and "On the Winds of Destiny: A Biographical Look at Pony Express Riders."

**ED WEISSENBACH**

retired in March 2007 as a senior manager in marketing from Principal Financial Group in Des Moines, IA. He and his wife, Lila, intend to travel, and Ed will work part time as a marketing consultant for



Cascade Health Services in Kansas City, owned by two of their children. They live at Lake Viking near Gallatin.

**1970**

**JERRY INGLE ♦**

retired from US Bank after 20 years and is now employed at Nodaway Valley Bank in St. Joseph as a senior vice president working in the commercial loan department.

**1971**

**RUTHI DUNHAM TURNER**

is an instructor at Sandersville Technical College, preparing students to enter the workforce in manufacturing, customer service, warehousing and distribution and supervision. She and her husband, Eddy, live in Tennille, GA.

# Where are you?

Please help Northwest locate the following alumni from the Class of 1958. Their 50-year class reunion is in October, and we don't want them to miss out on the fun of reuniting with fellow Bearcats.

Please send any contact information to [alumni@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:alumni@nwmissouri.edu) or call (660) 562-1248.



Jerald Baker  
Mildred Melvin Barker  
Rex Boyer  
Beverly Fletchall Bricker  
Margurete Costin  
Campbell  
Carl Carmichael  
Beth Van Houten  
Chappell  
Harry Clark  
Phyllis Cox  
Jack Crawford  
William Crawford  
M.B. Deshazer

Berniece Roach Dowell  
Shirley Denny Dunster  
Duane Edwards  
Marian Fitzgerald  
Raymond Forret  
James Foster  
Edward Fuller  
Margaret O'Connor Gray  
Mary Griffin  
William Hanson  
Marilyn Comer Henry  
Flesher  
Carroll Henson  
Edwin Hill

Charles Hood  
Richard Horton  
Ronald Hunt  
Judith Jeffries  
Sidney Jones  
Charles Kidd  
Jack Little  
Gwenda Looker  
Bob Lynch  
Kent Maffitt  
Sharon Reimer Majors  
Walter Maris  
Deggys McHarg  
Monty McVicker

Robert Merkle  
Roger Miller  
Donald Norton  
Richard Olson  
Robert Oren  
Lawrence Daxton  
Lyle Ratahak  
Ervin Ristau  
Lyle Rogers  
Albert Schnrapp  
Richard Severson  
Albert Smith  
Billy Sparrow  
Edith Steele

Charlene Olson Stout  
Daniel Sullivan  
Jamie Tankersley  
Wendell Tate  
Elsie Smallwood Tharp  
Joye Hardcastle Tobin  
Nadean Henning Underwood  
Judy Cross Vane  
Charlene Steiner Walker  
Paul Wells  
Jo Ann Beeson Werley  
Robert Wilson  
Mildred Kean Wurster  
Richard Young

**1972****RICK AND JOY BROWN ('71)  
NIELSEN**

have taken early retirement after teaching 35 and 36 years, respectively. They both taught 31 years at Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn. They now substitute teach. Their daughter, **JODI NIELSEN '99**, is a magazine editor in Arizona.

**1973****RICHARD MILLER**

has had his eighth book published, "Lincoln and His World: The Early Years, Birth to Illinois Legislature." This is the first in a multi-volume series. He was a KXCV broadcaster and is using public radio scripting techniques in writing his Lincoln books. He lives in Kansas City.

**BOB SWEENEY  
(MASTER'S '83) ♦**

is the assistant principal/athletic director at Atlantic (IA) High School. He was selected the 2006-2007 Iowa High School Athletic Director of the Year.

**1976****CARY HILTGEN**

is vice president of Defense Research Institute, the nation's largest organization of civil defense attorneys.

**1977****BARB POTTER SHAW**

is a coordinating analyst with the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Her husband, Troy, died in October. She lives in Lenexa, KS.

**1978****ANTHONY LEFFERT**

was appointed by Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter to the State Local Government Limited Gaming Impact Advisory Committee. He is a trial lawyer in the Denver-based law firm of Robinson Waters & O'Dorisio, P.C. He is a former federal prosecutor and deputy special counsel to the attorney general.

**1979****LORE MCMANUS SOLO**

is principal and vice president of public relations at Strategic America in Des Moines, IA. She has been re-elected to the Worldcom Public Relations Group Board of Directors. Worldcom is the largest international public relations network. She lives in Clive, IA.

**1980****PAUL MARTIN ♦**

is a waste technical specialist with the Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho Falls, ID. He previously was with the Rock Flats Environmental Technology Site in Denver, CO, for 23 years. He and his wife, Sulinda, live in Rigby, ID.

**1981****ROGER KELLEY  
(MASTER'S '87)**

is the director of fine arts in the Liberty Public School District. He was named the Missouri

Administrator of the Year at the 75th annual conference for the Speech and Theatre Association of Missouri for his overwhelming support of speech and theatre.

**BILL OLIVER**

is the general manager at KETR Radio at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

**BARBARA TIFFIN WOOLSEY  
(SPECIALIST '81) ♦**

completed her Ed.D. in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri-Columbia in May 2006. She is a special education coordinator in the Blue Springs School District. She and her husband, **RON WOOLSEY '74, '78**, enjoy attending football games in Maryville.

**1983****SARA GANN ♦**

works with the International Food and Commercial Workers for World Bank. As a volunteer, she is involved in urban forestry.

**LINDA MARTIN LAVELY**

is an administrative assistant for the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation. She lives in Omaha, NE.

**TERRY MILLS  
(MASTER'S '95) ♦**

is general manager of Wagner Industries Inc. in North Kansas City. He previously worked for Guys Foods and Pepsi. He lives in Liberty with his wife, Cissy, and daughter, Sydney.

**STU OSTERTHUN ♦**

is director of public information and marketing at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, NE. He previously was the marketing specialist at Northwest.

**1985****LESLIE GALBREATH ♦**

earned an Ed.D. in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She is director of Northwest's Talent Development Center.

**STACY GRIGGS ♦**

and his wife, Jennifer, and 9-year-old daughter live in Bixby, OK, and recently earned their Black Belts in karate. Stacy is director of sales operations at Dayco Products, LLC, and says hello to his Phi Sig buddies, especially Cheese and Take Down.

**1987****JIM MOZENA**

and his wife, Rachel, announce the birth of Andrew James on May 16, 2007. They live in St. Louis.

**1988****DAVE BENSCOTER**

is a product manager at HDR Architecture Inc. He started as a mechanical draftsman in 1988, advanced to a mechanical design technician and currently works in the IT department. He would like to hear from friends from Phillips Hall at smolkinsquid@cox.net.

**ANGELA JOHNSON**

is an administrative assistant at Arena Pharmaceuticals. She moved to San Diego, CA, in March 2007 after several years working with lobbying firms in Washington, D.C.

**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](mailto:alumni@nwmissouri.edu) or online at [www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/magazine/classnotes.htm](http://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](mailto:alumni@nwmissouri.edu). (Photographs with children or pets will not be accepted.)



## Star-struck alum works alongside the housewives of Wisteria Lane

Working in Hollywood on one of television's most popular shows is an aspiration that many people seek but few actually achieve. But for Panela Leung '04, her dream of working in Tinsel Town became a reality.



Panela Leung, a set designer, takes time to stop and smell the (fake) flowers on the set of "Desperate Housewives" during her three-week internship.

Leung, a freelance set designer, was working in the University of Missouri-Kansas City Theater Department when opportunity knocked on her door. Tom Walsh, the Emmy-winning production designer for television's "Desperate Housewives," was conducting a workshop at UMKC. Leung attended, and at the conclusion of the workshop was asked by Walsh to accompany him to Los Angeles for a three-week internship on the set

of the popular TV show.

"I was so excited about the opportunity," Leung said. "Most people go to Los Angeles on a whim, but I was able to go with a purpose and a place."

Leung, who admits to being star-struck, was amazed at the time and preparation spent on set design for each episode. In the theater, Leung would spend weeks working on set details. In television, she said the set goes up in a matter of days.

It became a routine for Leung to wake up early, arrive on the set, attend concept meetings and be amongst celebrities. Not only did she see the cast of the show, but Steven Spielberg, Harrison Ford and other well-known actors and actresses were filming outside her office window.

"I felt like a movie star," Leung said, "because I had free reign to wander all around Universal Studios. It was quite an experience. I learned a lot but also discovered how much more I need to learn about the industry."

Leung also learned many of the set "secrets" of the show's Wisteria Lane.

"Of course all of the houses are nothing more than facades," she said, "but it's funny that one of them is the old 'Leave it to Beaver' house and another is the old 'Adams Family' home."

Currently Leung is studying scenic painting in New York and hopes to return to Los Angeles in the summer. Her next goal: working on the next Harry Potter movie. ■

### 1988

#### DOUG BAKER

is senior vice president at KRC Research in Washington, D.C.

#### STEVE SAVARD

was the honorary chairperson for Second Wind-St. Louis's 2007 Lung Walk, an event that raises funds to improve the quality of life for lung transplant recipients and their families. He is the radio voice of the St. Louis Rams and KMOV-TV sports director.

### 1989

#### TODD LOCKHART

is general manager of Dawn Foods in Mexico,

MO. He has been with the company for eight years. He lives in Paris, MO. His children are Cole, 14, Zane, 12, and Drew, 8.

### 1990

#### STEPHANIE WYNNE GRIER

and her husband, Mike, announce the birth of Patrick James on May 15, 2007. He joins Will, 8. They live in Leawood, KS.

#### DUANE AND SARA MCCLELLAND ('94) HAVARD

live in Erie, PA, with their two children, Garrett and Dylan. Duane is the executive director of the French Creek Council

of the Boy Scouts of America. Sara is working toward a master's degree in education and substitute teaches.

#### KEITH MABON

is working at a correctional facility in Lincoln, NE.

#### ERIC (MASTER'S '92) AND MICHELLE MCKNIGHT ('93, '97) KELLAR ◆

live in Pella, IA, with their children, Molly, 10, and Jay, 2. Eric teaches and coaches at Eddyville Blakesburg High School, and Michelle is the director of counseling services at Central College in Pella.

### 1992

#### CURTIS LANDHERR ◆

is an assistant general counsel at Garmin in Olathe, KS.

#### TODD AND LESLEY MCCRARY STREVER

live in Keller, TX, with their daughters, Madison, Marlee and Ella. Lesley walked 60 miles in the Dallas/Fort Worth Three-Day Breast Cancer Walk in honor of her Northwest college roommate and best friend, MEREDITH FOSTER PETRICK '93, who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006.

**1993**

**SUTTON MOUTRAY MCCREA** is a member of the Kansas City Police Department. Her daughter is a political science student at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

**MEREDITH FOSTER PETRICK** and her husband, Christian, and daughter, Campbell, 3, live in Lincoln, NE.

**ROB RUSH**

and Tara Rowland were married in June 2007 on Galveston Island, TX. Rob teaches speech in the Comal Independent School District. He is also the head boys soccer coach at Canyon High School. They live in New Braunfels, TX.

**1994****CHAD BRINTON (MASTER'S '00)**

is the assistant principal at Park Hill High School and will be an assistant principal at the new Staley High School in Kansas City North. He was a teacher at Park Hill for three years before becoming an assistant principal for the past four.

**JENI GATHERCOLE RECTOR** is a copywriter at The Integer Group in Des Moines, IA. She has worked in corporate communications for 13 years. Jeni and her husband, Todd, and daughters, Jana and Joy, live in Altoona, IA. Contact her at [jeni@jenirector.com](mailto:jeni@jenirector.com).

**MIKE AND CARMEN WENDLER SCHAEFER**

live in Ottawa, KS. Mike is a buyer at Kalmar Industry, and Carmen is the assistant principal and athletic director at Ottawa Middle School.

**ROBERT AND MEGHAN CAVALIER ('98, '02) SHEIL**

announce the birth of William Francis on Nov. 14. He joins Lauren, 13, Jonathan, 11, and Ella, 3. Rob is an engineer for Bonded Lightning Protection, and Meghan teaches pre-kindergarten and coaches junior high cross country at St. Joseph's Catholic School. They live in Stuart, FL.

**1995****JEREMY GUMP**

is vice president of human resources and administrative serves for Daimler Sales and Financial Services in Detroit, MI.

**RICHARD (MASTER'S '96) AND KRISTINA EASTEP ('96) HANSEN**

live in Gretna, NE. Richard is the human resources manager at ConAgra Foods.

**BRIAN HESSE**

and his wife, Holly, announce the adoption of Jaxon on Nov. 17. Brian is a global account manager at Ryerson Inc. in Chicago. After teaching music for 10 years, Holly is now a full-time mom. They live in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

**KEVIN KOOI**

is a principal in the North Kansas City School District. He and his wife, Laura, have two children, Kennedy and Keagan. They live in Kearney.

Northwest, originally known as the Fifth District Normal School, developed an agricultural program very early, and the farm was located northwest of the present-day Administration Building. Construction of the barn took place in the late teens or early '20s.

**ANTHONY ROBINSON (MASTER'S)**

will serve as principal of Ritenour High School effective

July 1. He is currently an assistant principal at Pattonville High School.

**DOUG SWINK**

is the registrar at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Contact him at [swinkd@umkc.edu](mailto:swinkd@umkc.edu).

**TINA BRACKETT WOOD** is assistant director of new student and family programs at Drexel College in Philadelphia, PA.

**BECKY WYNNE SCHOMMER** and her husband, Mike, announce the birth of Meah Grace on Oct. 25. She joins Anna, 4, and Katy, 2. Becky is a stay-at-home mom, and Mike is a district manager for US Bank. They live in Nashville, TN.

**1996**

**DENISE HOPF ACKERLUND** is a psychology assistant at the Woodward Resource



Center. Her husband, Aaron, is a service adviser at Granger Motors. They live in Granger, IA.

**PHILIP CAPPS**

is a master control operator at KRCCG-13 in Jefferson City.

**JENNIFER BOOTH**

has returned to work as an auditor for the Chicago Department of Revenue.

**SHAWN VEHE FISHER**

and her husband, Quinn, announce the birth of Reese Marie on Dec. 28. She joins Abby and Kaelyn, both 3. Shawn is a crime analyst for the Omaha Police Department.

**JOHN HOPPER JR.**

is working at the Metro Disability Commission of Louisville, KY.

**MELISSA CLARK MILLER (MASTER'S '02)**

and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of Nicholas Michael on April 5, 2007. He joins Blake, 6, and Katie, 3. Melissa is a stay-at-home mom, and Michael is vice president of Spirit/Miller. They live in St. Joseph.





**KRISTI SWEENEY** is professor of sport management at Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH. She received her doctoral degree in 2003 from the University of New Mexico.

**LISA TUMMEL** is an English teacher in the Canton City Schools in Canton, OH. She earned a master's degree in reading from Kent State University in May. She has three children, Jacob, 12, Cecilia, 2, and Georgia, 1, and was expecting her fourth child in February.

**1997**  
**KELSEY BREDENSTEINER BLU (MASTER'S '03)** and her husband, Tommy Dow, announce the birth of River Stanley Dow on June 20. Kelsey is a teacher in the Tarkio School District, and Tommy is owner of Dow Construction and Roofing. They live in Tarkio.

**MICK AND EVE MECHANIC HOOVER** announce the birth of

Lael Brynn in September. She joins Chase Bryant, 3. Mick is a manager in the Strategic Planning Department at St. John's Mercy Hospital, and Eve is a physician assistant at the Chester Clinic. They live in Waterloo, IL.

**STACY VANDEGINSTE KREWSON** and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of Alexander Davis on Aug. 11. They live in Kansas City.

**JEREMY RIEDELL** and his wife, Jessica, announce the birth of their adopted son, Andrew Joseph, on Sept. 26. Jeremy is a Web coordinator at Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc.

**TAUSHA CATON TAYLOR (MASTER'S '05)** is a senior counselor for Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation in St. Joseph.

**MARC AND KIM LAW ('98) VASQUEZ** announce the adoption of Jakob Marcus on Sept. 5. He was born Aug. 9.

**1998**  
**ERIN CAMPBELL HUDSON ♦** is the outreach planning and resource development director for West Central Community Action in Harlan, IA.

**1999**  
**TRAVIS AND JENNIFER FRISK ('04) JAQUES** are the owners of Enchanted Learning Childcare in St. Joseph where Jennifer also serves as director.

**JEFF LUKENS** and Megan Levine were married Sept. 1 and live in Southington, CT. Jeff graduated from Andover Newton Theological School in May 2007 with a master's in divinity and is seeking ordination in the United Church of Christ.

**JODI NIELSEN** is a magazine editor at Sunshine Media in Scottsdale, AZ.

**SUSAN SHEETS** is a major in the U.S. Air Force. She is stationed at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma.

**LURINDA TURNER** has joined the Northwest faculty as an instructor in agriculture.

**2000**  
**JUSTIN AND JENNIFER BRANNEN ('01) DAMMANN** announce the birth of Jillian Marie on July 21. Justin and Jennifer farm near Clarinda, IA, and live in Essex, IA.

**ERICA MONJARAZ DANIEL** and her husband, Ryan, announce the birth of Jacob Ryan on July 31. Erica is a hair stylist/colorist at Thomas Joseph Studio I in San Diego, CA. Daniel is a regional sales director at Barden Circulation.

**ALLISON MCCLAIN (MASTER'S '02) DULL** and her husband, Greg, announce the birth of Josiah Gregory on Oct. 8. He joins Josie, 3. Allison is a homemaker, and Greg is a captain with the Kansas City Police Department.

**MEGAN FOSTER EDWARDS** and her husband, Ben, announce the birth of



## Show your Bearcat Pride and earn great rewards for yourself.

Apply today for your Northwest Visa Card

A portion of every purchase you make with your card helps to support the Northwest Alumni Association in its mission to provide student and alumni programs. Plus you'll earn rewards for yourself.

Call (800) 853-5576 or visit the Northwest Alumni Association on the Web at [www.nwmissouri.edu/ALUMNI](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/ALUMNI) and click "Membership and Benefits."



## Hadley authors book on ill-fated B-29 mission

Gregory Hadley '87, professor of American cultural studies at Niigata University of International and Information Studies in Japan, is the author of the recently published book "Field of Spears: The Last Mission of the Jordan Crew."

Hadley spent three years researching and writing the story of an ill-fated B-29 crew shot down over Niigata, Japan, in July 1945. His research included personal interviews with both eyewitnesses and the relatives of villagers who lived in the countryside near where the plane went down. He also spoke with members of the American flight crew who survived the crash and a harrowing internment as prisoners of war.

Hadley, who completed the book in June 2007, said people were initially reluctant to share their experiences with him.

"I didn't look like them," he said "I was born in the United States and I look more like the people they captured. However, I explained to them that I had lived in Japan for 15 years, I spoke Japanese and I had a Japanese wife. They



eventually opened up. They need to get this out of their bodies, and I was a 'safe' person to them."

Written in narrative form, "Field of Spears" draws on recently declassified documents and previously unpublished photographs while describing the capture and lynching of B-29 crew members by Japanese civilians and the horrific experiences of the survivors.

In addition, Hadley explores the tepid efforts of war crimes

investigators after the war and studies the effect of the incident on both the American survivors and Japanese villagers, who were all largely forgotten by their governments.

"By writing this book, I wanted to show what happens to ordinary people in times of war. Everyone was reluctant to talk, but they all wanted to be heard," Hadley said. "At the same time, everyone had something to add to this story but also something shameful to hide."

"Field of Spears" reached the top of the Amazon.com best-seller list in the Oral History category. ■

Avery Clare on Sept. 24. Megan is an eighth-grade teacher at Antioch Middle School in the North Kansas City School District. Ben is employed at Uhlig LLC in Overland Park, KS. They live in Kansas City.

**NEAL GRAY (MASTER'S)** has joined Gertsema Wealth Services as a Raymond James financial service wealth associate in St. Joseph. He previously worked in sales at Brown Manschreck and human resources management at Gray Manufacturing. He is a registered state investment adviser.

**KYLE HANSEN** is employed at Hertz Farm Management in Nevada, IA. He previously was assistant vice president for Peoples Trust & Savings Bank in Jefferson, IA.

**NICOLE FULLER KNOWLES** and her husband, Ryan, live in Treynor, IA. Nicole is an RN in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Nebraska Medical Center. She also is a member of the Treynor Fire and Rescue squad. Ryan is a body shop technician at Kenworth of Omaha.

**KRISTIN SCHMALJOHN LITTLE** and her husband, Nathan, announce the birth of John Russell on April 24, 2007. Kristin is a stay-at-home mom, and Nathan is an electronics instructor for the U.S. Coast Guard. They live in Petaluma, CA.

**AMY WEEKLY RAPP (MASTER'S '02)** and her husband, Jacob, announce the birth of Nolan Michael. Amy teaches in the Smithville School District, and Jacob teaches in the Liberty School District. They live in Liberty.

**SARAH THOMAS** and Jose Cepeda were married Oct. 21, 2006. She ran her sixth and seventh marathons last fall in Minneapolis and New York City. She ran the NYC marathon for Team Hole in the Wall, which supports Hole in the Wall Gang Camp for children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. She is a music teacher at St. John's Episcopal School and lives in Columbia, MD.

I Did  
you  
know?

The Culture of Quality is the name given to Northwest's continuous quality improvement program. As the first institution of higher education to practice this form of management, Northwest has strengthened all aspects of undergraduate and graduate education and enriched campus living. This innovative program, which remains unique among the nation's colleges and universities, was introduced to the University by President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard when he became Northwest's ninth president in 1984. Since that time, the University has received state, national and international recognition as both a pioneer and practitioner of quality. ■



**BURTON TAYLOR**

is a media relations manager at Shook, Hardy & Bacon working to support the public relations needs of the firm's nine offices in the United States, London and Geneva. He previously was a government relations director/lobbyist for the University of Missouri System. He lives in Kansas City.

**2001**

**GEORGE (MASTER'S '02) AND JULEE PALTANI ('99) BOOTH**

announce the birth of Anthony George on Aug. 26. He joins Sebastian, 3, and Dominic, 1. George is a finance director for Superior Chevrolet in Shawnee Mission, KS, and Julee is a stay-at-home mom. They live in Raymore.

**KIMBERLY BURKEMPER**

and Shawn Pinto were

married Nov. 25 in Old Monroe. Kimberly is a physician assistant specializing in surgical oncology at Georgia Breast Care. Shawn is a physician assistant specializing in general surgery at Advanced Surgical Group. They live in Atlanta, GA.

**CARRIE CLELAND**

and Jason Fishner were married Oct. 7. Carrie earned a master's in higher education administration last year from SUNY Albany. They live and work in upstate New York.



**SCOTT GRAF**

was named the North Carolina Radio Journalist of the Year by the Radio Television News Directors Association of the Carolinas. He is a host and reporter for WFAE Public Radio in Charlotte, NC.

**CHRISTOPHER HARPER**

is a personal security specialist with the office of the chief information officer for the FBI in Washington, D.C.

**JOY MCCALLISTER**

is a fifth-grade teacher in Nevada, MO.

**KATIE PHILLIPS NOVAK**

welcomed a daughter, Maggie, in August. Katie is a labor relations attorney for Union Pacific in Omaha, NE.

**BRYON RANKIN**

is president and CEO of Dynamic Cleaning Systems Inc., which he founded in 2005. He lives in Miramar Beach, FL.

**DONOVAN SPEARS**

is employed with the Kansas City Fire Department.

**JUSTIN TYLER** ♦

and Julie Jacobusse were married

Aug. 24 in Leawood, KS.

Justin is a firefighter/paramedic for the City of Lenexa, KS, Fire Department. Julie is a personal banker at Hillcrest Bank in Overland Park, KS. They live in Platte City.



## Barbecue buddies succeed at 'Blowin' Smoke'



After bragging to each other about their grilling successes, Jeff Thompson, Pete Amys and P.J. Amys decided to join forces to create Omaha's Blowin' Smoke barbecue team.

There is no secret sauce that P.J. Amys '92 uses when his barbecue team enters a competition. It's all in the rub.

A special blend of seasonings has contributed to Amys and his cooking comrades winning plenty of prize money as well as a unique cooker they fondly refer to as "The Big Green Egg."

Ten years ago, while sharing stories of their individual grilling successes, Amys' father-in-law encouraged him, his dad, Pete Amys, and his friend Jeff Thompson '92 to enter a barbecue competition he was organizing. The men took him up on the offer, and

they have been serving up the barbecue ever since.

"It started out strictly for fun because we didn't have high expectations for ourselves. We were showing up with little Weber kettle grills," Amys said. "Then, after we started winning some prize money, our expectations changed quite a bit."

Amys and his barbecue team, Omaha's Blowin'

Smoke, has competed throughout the Midwest grilling chicken, pork ribs, pork shoulder and beef brisket on a 7-foot-long custom-built pit. But, sticking with tradition, the team also puts their original Weber kettle grill that started it all to good use.

Preparing for each barbecue competition is a lot more time consuming than "cookin' with gas."

"It takes a full day before the event to prepare for any barbecue competition," Amys said. "We usually show up on a Friday afternoon to start trimming and seasoning the meat with our homemade rubs. We hang out until about 10 o'clock, and then we start putting the larger pieces of meat on the smoker."

Amys said the barbecue competitions have become a family affair.

"It's something that we can all do and enjoy together," he said. "My wife, Chris (Pavalis '98), usually turns in our entries to the judges so we can start to prepare for the next entry. The overall support and encouragement from our wives and friends are always a big help." ■

## 10 things I learned about living in the dorms

**1** Always take the trash out and do the dishes or you will get fruit flies.

*Elizabeth Nunn, sophomore*

**2** Do your laundry often or you will find yourself in the basement laundry room for hours upon hours.

*Jessica Nance, sophomore*

**3** The true meaning of dorm is Dirty Old Room of Mine. This holds true for even the neatest of neat freaks come finals week.

*Michelle Richardson, senior*

**4** If you're going to throw a party, make sure you're quiet. Make friends with the R.A.'s. You'll get in less trouble if you do.

*Brice Ball, senior*

**5** I've learned not to leave laundry hanging in the hallway to dry because people will steal your Victoria's Secret underwear.

*Tracie Giaccetti, junior*

**6** A good way to make friends is by getting in one of those moving bins and having someone push you around from door to door meeting new people. I did that my freshman year, and I

met some of my closest friends that way.

*Heather Lucy, senior*

**7** I learned to appreciate my dorm and its memories because they may mark it for demolition the following year. I will always remember you Hudson Hall.

*Seth Euler, senior*

**8** What I have learned from living in the dorms is that it's a great way to meet people. Don't just hide in your room. Keep your door open.

*Katie Warman, sophomore*

**9** I learned that the furniture, especially your bed and closet, are very hard to move by yourself. Try to get a strong man to help and a really good soft hammer to fix your bed.

*Beth Oates, senior*

**10** I learned choosing to live with someone random is better than living with a close friend. Not only do you get to meet people who live on your floor, you get to meet people on your buddy's floor.

*Alex Gore, junior*



When she lived in the dorms, Jessica Nance, who now lives in the apartments on campus, learned the importance of doing laundry as often as possible.

### 2002

#### ZACH BOMAN

and his wife announce the birth of a son. Zach teaches in the North Kansas City School District.

#### HEIDI FLOERSCH

and Anthony Vondra were married Sept. 28 in Omaha, NE. Heidi is in marketing for the Vail Resorts Development Company, and Anthony is a dentist. They live in Dillon, CO.

#### ZACH SMITH ♦

coaches football and teaches social studies at

Crest Ridge School in Kansas City. He plans to pursue a master's degree in political science from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

#### KRISTIN WATSON WEAR

and her husband, James, announce the birth of Lillian on May 21, 2007. Kristin is a program manager at Sprint, and James works at Chrysler Financial. They live in Overland Park, KS.



#### CONRAD WOOLSEY

completed his Ph.D. in health education/promotion with an emphasis in sport psychology at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is an assistant professor in the psychology department at Lincoln University in Jefferson City.



### 2003

#### DANIEL AYALA

is associate director of U.S. university relations for Golden Key International Honor Society in Atlanta, GA.

#### JASON DAUNTER

was a production assistant on his first Broadway show, "Cyrano de Bergerac," starring Kevin Kline and Jennifer Garner.

#### LINDSAY GEIER ♦

and Ty Pechek were married Nov. 17 and live in Pueblo, CO. Lindsay is an MBA director at Colorado State University-Pueblo, and Ty is a dentist.

#### LESLIE LOBER

and Mike Smith were married July 23 in Gatlinburg, TN. Leslie is employed at Smith Brothers Farm and Logging, and Mike is the co-owner of Smith Brothers Farm and Logging.



## Northwest alum talks travel as Orbitz spokesperson

Jeanenne Diefendorf '98 has the inside scoop when it comes to travel. And as the Orbitz Travel Insider, when she talks, people listen.

Diefendorf, who also serves as the Orbitz senior manager for public relations and company spokesperson, said becoming a travel expert was something she stumbled on.

After graduation, Diefendorf worked at Edelman Public Relations Worldwide in Chicago before joining the Orbitz team. During her time at the PR agency, she interacted with many online travel and technology clients through whom she gained expertise in the field. It wasn't long before she parlayed that experience

into a new career in the travel industry.

Diefendorf regularly appears as a travel expert on broadcast outlets including MSNBC, ESPN,

Good Morning America Radio, Wall Street Journal Radio, CBS Radio Network and local television affiliates in major markets across the country such as New York, Chicago and Washington, D.C. She has made appearances on national television shows including Fox News Channel's Fox & Friends, The Rachael Ray Show and The Weather Channel. In addition, her advice and tips have been sought and quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*.

"My appearance on Rachel Ray's show really stands out," Diefendorf said. "That was a unique and exciting experience because it was a live studio audience, and it was a really fun atmosphere."

At Orbitz, Diefendorf, who lives in Chicago, spends much of her time "conducting research" – in other words, traveling. Fortunately it's a job responsibility she thoroughly enjoys.

"It's the nature of the business. I travel at least once a week," she said. "It's nice because I've been to some great destinations." ■



Jeanenne Diefendorf uses her public relations skills and travel expertise to serve as the company spokesperson for Orbitz, a leading online travel company.

### TREVOR AND JESSICA MIESNER ('03, '04) MCGINNIS

were married June 9 in Coon



Rapids, IA. Trevor is a loan officer at Wells Fargo Financial, and Jessica is a senior underwriter at Allied Insurance. They live in Johnston, IA.

**MARK MUNDELL (SPECIALIST)** is the activities coordinator and assistant principal at Winnetonka High School and will be an assistant principal at the new Staley High School in Kansas City North. Mark's primary role will be overseeing all athletic and extracurricular activities at Staley High. He taught science at Oak Park High School from 1986 to 1992 and also served as head wrestling coach and

assistant football coach. He then moved to Winnetonka as an assistant principal and was named activities coordinator in 2000.

**MATTHEW ROSE** graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Law School, passed the bar and is in private practice in Kansas City. **AMANDA SHAFFER** and Terry Mykins were married Aug. 4 in Kansas City. Amanda is obtaining elementary education certification from Avila University, and Terry is employed at Overland Park Jeep. They live in Overland Park, KS.

**ABBY SIMPSON** is working in the Missouri Attorney General's office in Kansas City.

**AMY WEST** and Bodie Dostal were married June 22. Amy is a

senior benefits specialist at Lincoln Financial Group, and Bodie owns Dostal's Construction. They live in South Bend, NE.

### KODI (MASTER'S '04) AND AMANDA SCHMUCK ('04) CALFEE

announce the birth of Noah Robert on Aug. 7. Kodi is a fund accounting analyst at Fidelity Investments, and Amanda is a paralegal. They live in Bedford, TX.

### 2004

**IAN DUNLAP** is chief of staff for State Sen. Wes Shoemyer.

**JENNIFER COOPER JENSEN** and her husband, Brandon, announce the birth of Kolton William on Nov. 12. Jennifer is in loan operations at Nodaway Valley Bank, and Brandon is self-employed in home construction. They live in Maryville.

### CODY AND JOANNE BURKERT ('99, '06) SNAPP

live in Queens Village, NY. Cody is director of publications at Molloy College, and Joanne is assistant director of admissions at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine. Their daughter, Sylvia, was born in May 2007.

**STACY THERRIAULT** is a case manager for the Nebraska Department of Corrections.

### JERED WEBER

is the Sioux County assistant prosecutor in Orange City, IA.

### WILLIAM SPIKING AND STELLA WOLFE ('06)

were married Sept. 29 in Lee's Summit. William is a GIS specialist at Tetra Tech EM Inc. in Kansas City, and Stella is a claim representative at State Farm Insurance in Independence.

## Jeanenne Diefendorf shares her knowledge on how to travel hassle-free.

**1** If you can't risk losing the contents of your checked baggage, mail items to your destination instead. Make sure to insure the contents, and use a trackable service such as FedEx or UPS.

**2** E-mail yourself. Before you go, always e-mail yourself a copy of all the important information such as airline numbers, credit card phone numbers, passport and drivers license numbers. That way if your documents or wallet are lost or stolen, all you need to do is log on to access all your details.

**3** Check alternate airports. You can score on almost every front – parking, rental cars, traffic to and from, nearby hotels – and save both time and money.

**4** Flexible travelers almost always save more. If traveling to leisure destinations, midweek packages are typically cheaper. Look for Tuesday or Wednesday departures.

**5** Don't just label the outside of your bag. Include a card with your name and address inside in case the outside tag gets torn off.

**6** Hotel weekend packages are a best kept secret. People often are amazed at what kind of a deal they can get by staying over a weekend in cities like New York, San Francisco or Chicago. Downtown might be for business Monday through Friday, but on the weekend these hotels are catering to the leisure crowd. These are hotels that are normally full of business travelers but have good availability during the weekend.

**7** For parents, while you can't bring the bedroom with you, be sure to bring along some of the comforting items that will help your child relax and feel at home. Consider some of your child's easy-to-pack items: pillow, favorite stuffed animal and books for bedtime stories. ■

### 2005

#### LINA BARBER

is entering a master's program in human resources management at Tarleton State University in Killeen, TX.

**BRET (MASTER'S '07) AND KRISTI GIRARD DEARDORFF** announce the birth of Brody Everett on Oct. 10. Bret is a direct support coordinator at Mosaic, and Kristi is a vocational rehabilitation counselor at Stricklett and Associates. They live in Omaha, NE.

**PHILIP AND RANDA BRUNKHORST ('04, '05) DOTY** were married Nov. 17 in Fayette. Philip is the agriculture instructor in the Northeast Nodaway School District, and Randa is an ag business specialist with the University of Missouri Extension. They live in Maryville.

#### ASHLEY LITTLEJOHN

has entered law school at the University of Kansas.

**SAMMY PANETTIERE** is a staff assistant for U.S. Sen. Christopher Bond. He works out of the Kansas City office.

**JORDAN ORSCHELN** has returned from teaching in China and lives in Hudson, FL.

### 2006

#### ROSS CROUCH AND NATALIE BLANCHARD

were married Oct. 13 in North Kansas City. Ross is a bank examiner at the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City, and Natalie is a student progress representative at Grantham University in Kansas City.

#### BRETT CLEMENS AND COLLETTE MCQUILLEN ('07)

were married June 1



in Kansas City. Brett is a financial analyst at Hallmark Cards, and Collette teaches health in the North Kansas City School District. They live in Kansas City.

**LYDIA DOMBROWSKI** is pursuing a master's degree in counseling and therapy at Bellevue University in Omaha, NE.

**JASON GREENE** is a social studies teacher in the Raytown School District and is pursuing a master's degree in political science from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

**PATRICK HUNT** is an investigator at Baty, Holm & Numrich P.C. in Kansas City.

**MICHELLE MARQUIS** and Ryan Vulgamott were married June 15, 2007, in Columbus, NE. Michelle is a math teacher

at Central High School in the Omaha Public School System. Ryan is an inventory specialist at Hy-Vee. They live in Omaha, NE.

**SUZIE SCHUCKMAN** is pursuing a master's degree in English from Northwest.

### 2007

**JAMIE CAMPBELL** is pursuing a master's degree at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

**EMILY HEIDBREDER** is a first-year student at St. Louis Law School.

**JONATHAN LOWREY** is employed with Phi Sigma Kappa national fraternity.

**AUBRE MORIN** and Gregory Biermann were married June 2 in Craig. Aubre works at MFA, and Greg is employed at Hiawatha Implement.

## Bookmark it

Visit Northwest on the Web at [www.nwmissouri.edu](http://www.nwmissouri.edu)



## In Memoriam

**GLADYS MILLER BAKER '40**  
89, died in October in Grand Rapids, MI. She was a physical education teacher at Central High School in St. Joseph from 1952 until her retirement in 1978.

**VERONICA ROSE FISHER BARMANN**  
99, died Jan. 8 in Maryville. She taught in one-room schools in Buchanan County.

**IRMA LEHMAN BEUERMAN '68**  
died Aug. 2. She retired in 1990 from Montana Tech. She and her husband operated a chemical consulting business for 14 years before their retirement in 2004.

**ALINA BOSTIC '01**  
30, died Oct. 8 in Kansas City.

**KENNETH CLOWER '70**  
59, died Sept. 26 in St. Joseph. He worked at Friskies Pet Care in St. Joseph for more than 30 years.

**JOHN CRACRAFT '60**  
77, died Aug. 25 in Bayonet Point, FL. He taught industrial arts in Melcer, IA, for four years and was with the Marion Independent School District for 27 years, 13 as an industrial arts teacher and then as director of buildings and grounds. He retired in 1991.

**RICHARD DEMPSEY '41**  
87, died April 2, 2007, in San Antonio, TX. He served in the Army for more than 31 years and was an administrator of nursing homes in Texas for more than 20 years.

**EUGENE FRENCH '48**  
84, died July 18 in Huntsville, AL. He was a retired Air Force officer with 23 years of service. He also was a juvenile counselor for the Mobile County Juvenile Court.

**MADELEINE MONGOLD GILLIS '60, '90**  
69, died Oct. 9 in Mound City. She spent 35 years of her 42-year teaching career in the Mound City School District.

**BILLY GROOM '55, '60**  
died Oct. 1 in Raytown. He retired in 1990 as an elementary principal in the Kansas City School District.

**TIMOTHY HARTNETT '80**  
died Dec. 15.

**DONALD HARVEY '56**  
88, died Feb. 28, 2007, in Independence. He was an ordained minister in the Community of Christ Church.

**DANIEL HIGDON '70 (MASTER'S)**  
65, died Nov. 11. He spent 20 years teaching and coaching boys basketball and track. He was a financial planner and training consultant at the Principal Financial Group.

# You can make a difference — The Northwest Annual Fund —

Your gift to the Northwest Annual Fund helps recruit and retain the finest faculty.



Professors come to Northwest because they love what they do. They genuinely care about their students and are committed to helping them succeed. Northwest professors are experts in their respective academic areas with 70 percent of faculty holding the highest degree in their field. Funding for seminars, conferences and research helps maintain a competitive faculty profile and Northwest's reputation for excellence.

It takes dedication and support to build an outstanding university that inspires learning and changes lives. Your annual gift, no matter what size, is greatly valued.



To make a gift to the Northwest Annual Fund, call (660) 562-1248, e-mail [advance@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:advance@nwmissouri.edu) or visit [www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/giving/onlinegiving.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/giving/onlinegiving.htm).

**FRANCES INSCHO HIRTLER '49**

87, died Dec. 9 in St. Joseph. She taught 35 years in the Agency and St. Joseph school districts.

**WILLIAM F. HUMPHREY '57**

72, died Dec. 4 in Clearmont. He and his brother ran Clearmont Oil and Cafe and Humphrey Hardware.

**CLARA ALLEN LUCHT '43**

85, died May 25 in Panora, IA. She taught at

Panora High School for 42 years.

**MARY JO MCGEE '39**

90, died Sept. 23 in Lee's Summit. She taught for 40 years and retired from the Kansas City School District in 1978.

**ROBERT MCQUERRY '67**

67, died Aug. 18 in Cameron. He was a teacher, counselor and school administrator for 37 years in Missouri.

**JAMES MULLIN '60**

69, died Feb. 7 in West Des Moines, IA. He retired as a mortgage banker from Norwest Mortgage.

**ALMA MURRELL OLDFIELD '55** died Aug. 30 in Jackson, MS.

**DAMON OWEN '00**

30, died Oct. 13 in Kansas City after a four-year battle with cancer. He was a project manager at MJ Harden/GE Energy.

**ELAINE THOMPSON PIEL '49**

80, died Aug. 29. She taught from 1945 to 1954 at the Jones Branch, Swallow, Swinford and Lincoln schools in Nodaway County and was a homemaker.

**BERNIECE LAUGHLIN WOHLFORD '45, '72**

87, died Dec. 20 in Maryville. She taught elementary school for 27 years in the Maryville R-II School District.

**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](mailto:alumni@nwmissouri.edu). No pictures please. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

## Former president Dr. Robert Foster dies at 90

Dr. Robert P. Foster, Northwest's seventh president, died March 10 at his home in Kansas City. He was 90.

Foster served as University president from 1964 until his retirement in 1977, when he was named president emeritus. His wife, Virginia Mutz Foster, survives of the home. The couple lived in Maryville following Foster's retirement until moving to Kansas City about two years ago.

Foster attended public schools in Warrensburg and what is now the University of Central Missouri, earning a bachelor's degree in 1939. He was a teacher, coach and high school principal at Carrollton High School from 1939 until 1942.

At the beginning of World War II, Foster was working on a master's degree at the University of Missouri-Columbia but left to join the U.S. Navy. He served from 1941 until 1945 in the North Atlantic and Caribbean theaters of operation, rising to the rank of lieutenant commander.

After the war, the Fosters moved to Maryville, where they purchased the E.L. Townsend Grocery Co., which Foster operated until 1948, when he was named registrar and director of admissions at Northwest. He resumed his studies and completed his master's in education in 1951.

Foster served as registrar at Northwest from 1948 to 1959 and received his doctorate in education from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1960. He was Northwest's dean of administration from 1959 until his appointment as president in 1964.



During his years as president, Foster led efforts to expand the campus by acquiring land and building new facilities. He was instrumental in securing nearly \$15 million for capital improvements and in the creation of the Northwest Foundation.

Construction projects completed during Foster's administration included the Garrett-Strong Science Building; the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building; four high-rise residence halls; a major expansion of the J.W. Jones Student Union, the Donald N. Valk Building and the Memorial Bell Tower.

One of Foster's most significant achievements at Northwest was his leading role in securing funding for the establishment of KXCV/KRNW radio, the University's 100,000-watt public radio station.

In 1981, the University's Robert P. Foster Aquatic Center was named in his honor. ■

### Share your favorite Dr. Foster story today.

E-mail your remembrance of Dr. Foster to [alumni@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:alumni@nwmissouri.edu). Several of the submissions will be included in the next issue of the *Northwest Alumni Magazine*. Others will be posted at [www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni), the Northwest Web site for alumni and friends.