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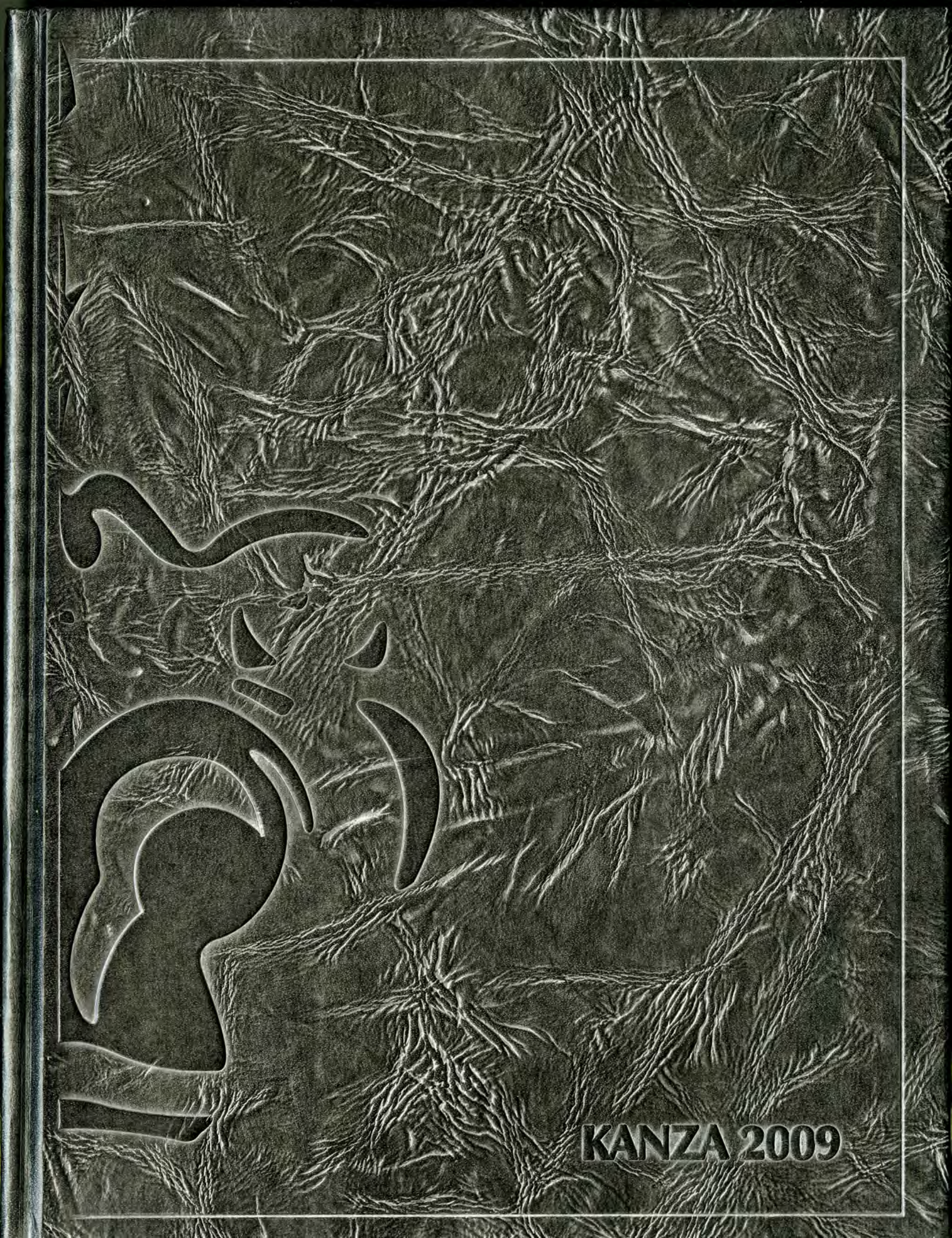
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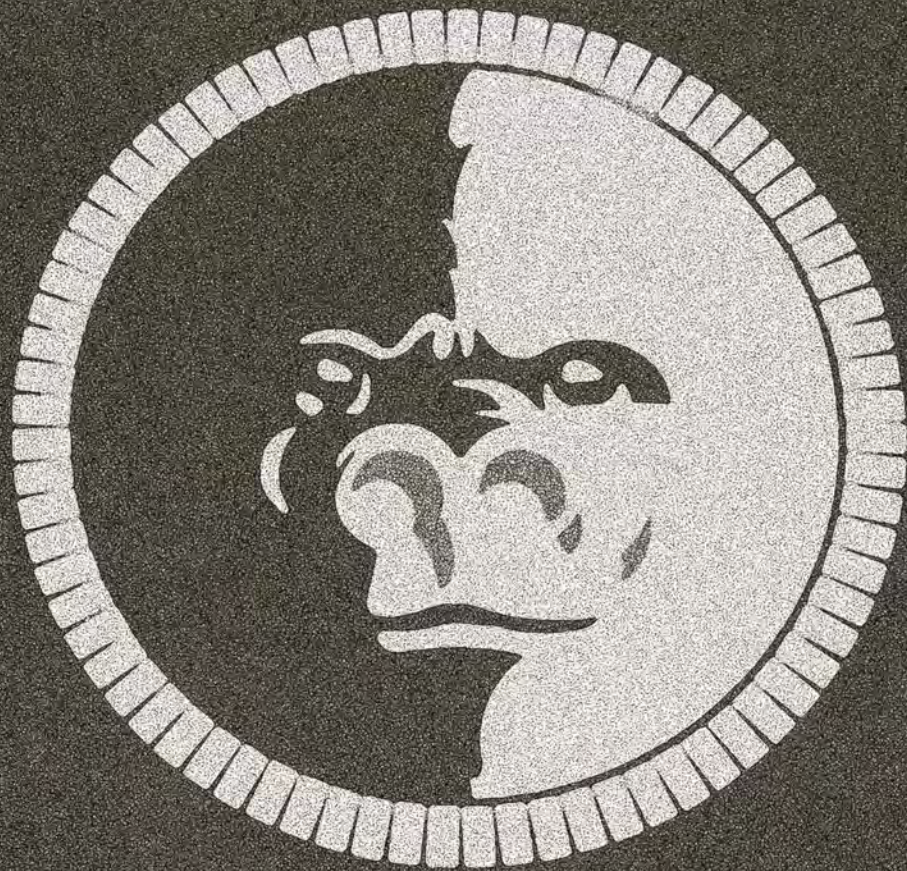
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كازا

**KANZA 2009**



2009 Kanza, Volume 100  
August 2008 through May 2009  
Enrollment: 7,127  
Pittsburg State University  
Pittsburg, Kansas



*photo by Brett Armbruster*

During a break in the third quarter of the Fall Classic, senior Aaron Poe, manufacturing engineering technology, and Jessica Moore, junior in construction engineering technology, pose for a picture.



*photo by Cayla Thomlinson*

Swinging her flag, a color guard member performs the team's routine at the Homecoming parade, Oct. 18.



photo by Brett Armbruster

Gus Gorilla tries to rally fans at the seventh Fall Classic held at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, Mo.



photo by Katie Swatek

Senior drum major Ashley Hirt and the rest of the Pride of the Plains Marching Band yell while the Pitt State defense stops University of Omaha offense.



*photo by Brett Armbruster*

Preparing backstage for the first of a three-part fashion show exhibiting Indian dress, Dimpy Singh, master's of business accounting student, puts the finishing touches on Manpreet Kaup, graduate student in human resource development. The first fashion show displays the traditional wedding dresses.



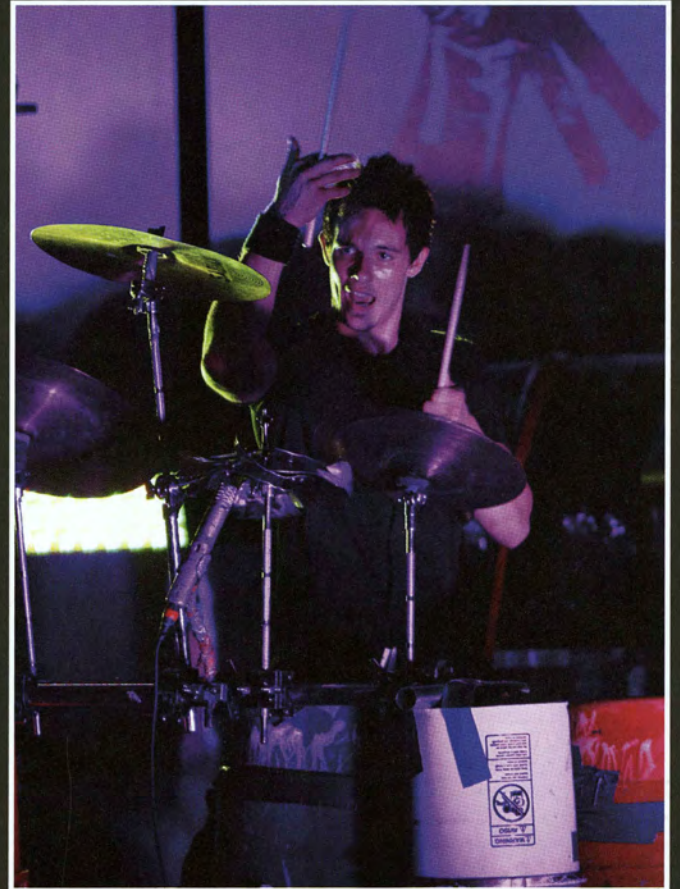
*photo by Katie Swatek*

Senior in instrumental music education, A.J. Beu, takes a bow after his tuba solo in the "Wassail Song" during the Community Holiday Concert on Dec. 7. Beu has been principal tuba with the Pittsburg State Wind Ensemble since his freshman year.



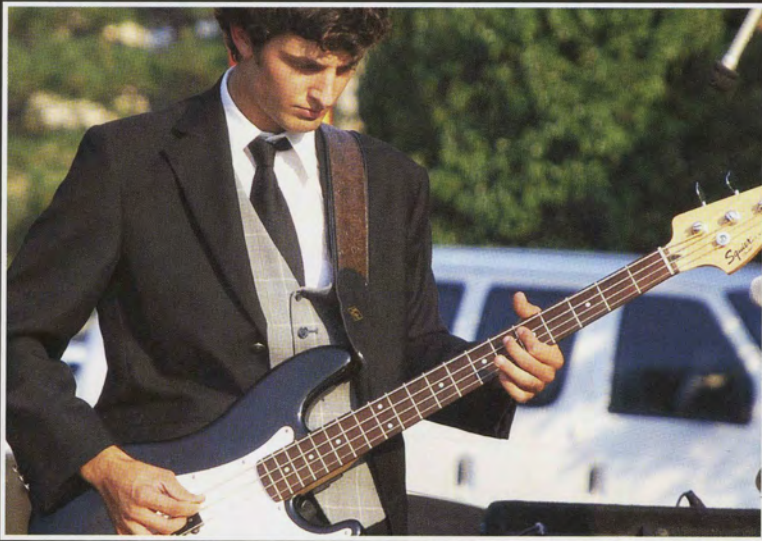
*photo by Shalin Patel*

Water drips off a Polar Bear Plunge participant's face after he jumped into the cold water at the Crimson Villas pool, Feb. 14.



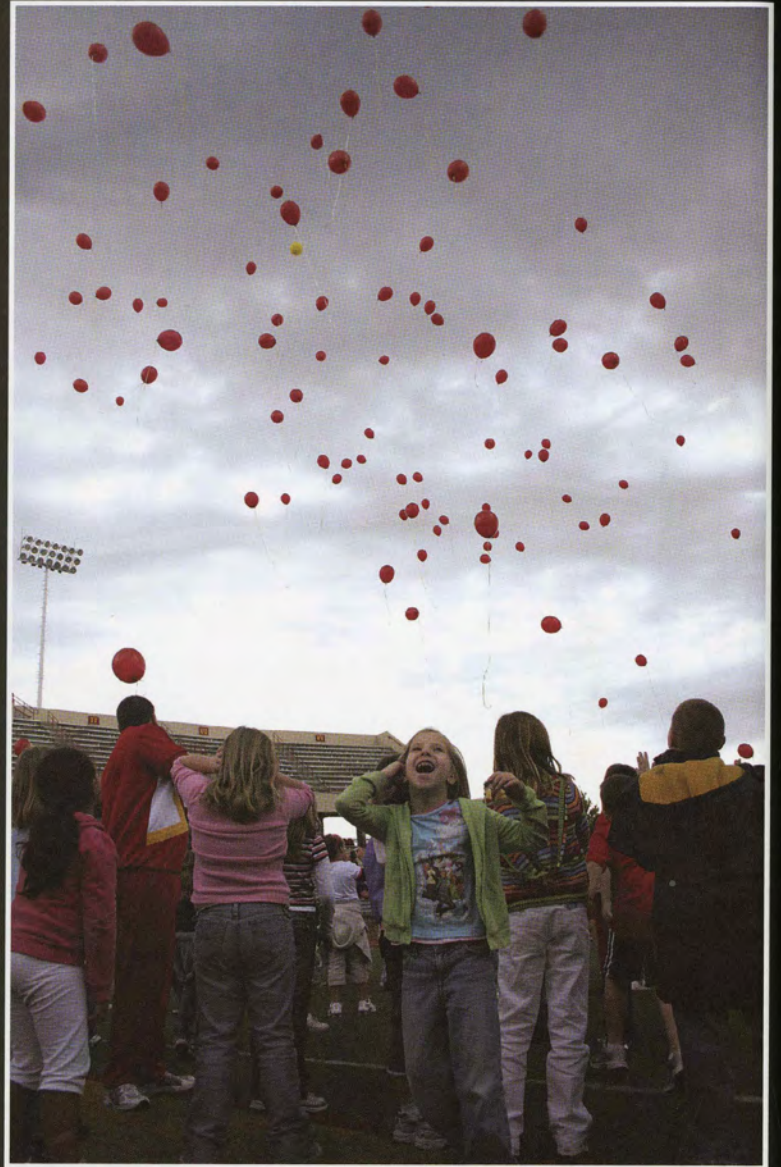
*photo by Brett Armbruster*

Recycled Percussion supporting drummer, Ryan Vezina, twirls one drum stick, not missing a beat. Vezina and fellow drummer Justin Spencer trade off during a concert highlighting each of the talents.



*photo by Shalin Patel*

Josh Johnson, senior in music, plays the guitar with his band, The Medicine Men, during Pitt Stock, Friday, Sept. 26.



*photo by Cayla Thomlinson*

A little girl grins as she releases her red balloon at Carnie Smith Stadium on Friday, Oct. 17. The event was part of "Paint the Town Red." Area businesses decorated the outside of their stores in an effort to boost team spirit during Homecoming Week.





*photo by Aaron Anders*

Soprano Karrie Fenech sings and plays Mabel in the comedic opera "The Pirates of Penzance," featuring Pittsburg State University's Opera Workshop and the PSU Department of Music.



*photo by Brett Armbruster*

Portraying Joan Rivers, junior Sarah Valencia, communication, introduces Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority's airband performance on Friday, April 17.



*photo by Salman Alkhulif*

Don Judd, associate professor in the English Dept., shows his appreciation for one of the acts in the Lambda Pi Eta, communication honor society talent show on Wednesday, April 8.



*photo by Katie Swatek*

From left to right: Jason Lord, sophomore in music education, Daniel Warlop, senior in music management, Andy Slater, sophomore in music performance, and Zach Trosper, senior in music education, play the marimba in the Oval on Wednesday, April 22. The musicians are part of the Apex Percussion Club.

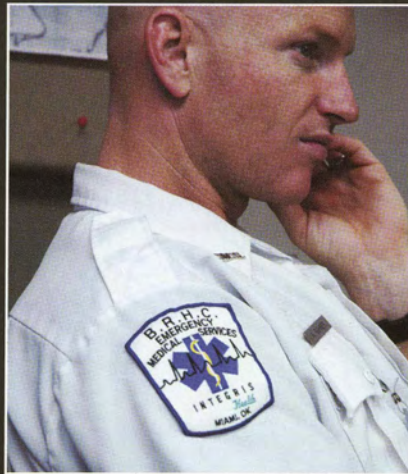
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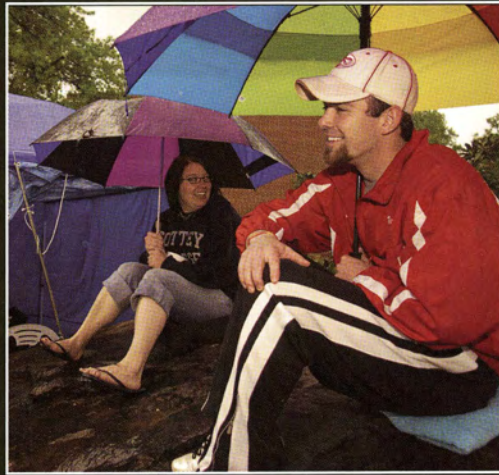
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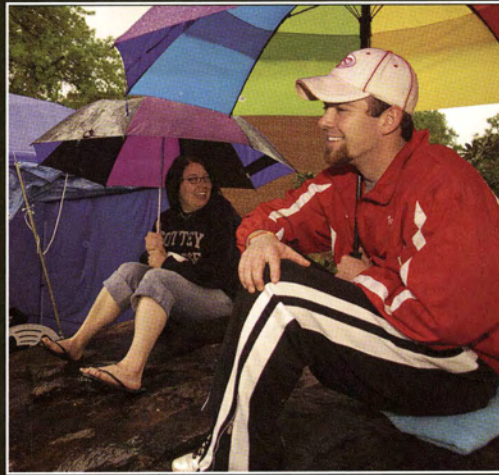
# Contents

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photo by Brett Armbruster



To raise money for Kappa Mu Epsilon math honor society at Pitt State, students put money in jars with math professors' names on them. Whichever jar contained the most money, Tuesday, Nov. 4, that teacher would have to kiss a cow. Erin Wells, a graduate assistant in the Math Department, was the lucky contestant who got to kiss Lexi the cow, Wednesday, Nov. 5, in the stadium parking lot.

# Student Life

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*photo by Brett Armbruster*

# On-the-job training

Students completed summer internships around the state

story by Marissa Copas & Mandy Toepfer

Many students spent their summer working at department stores, fast-food establishments or restaurants, while others padded resumes with internship experiences. Whether it was required or not, interns spent six weeks or more working for a company that was similar to their future career.

Internships are not something students are handed. Information about internships is offered at career fairs, at the Career Resource Center and on the Internet.

An alternative option is to go through the business pages in the phone book.

"I had been looking for internships for weeks and weeks," Hannah Combrink, junior in family and consumer sciences, said. "I finally opened the phone book and decided to start calling. Big firms were no's or gave me the run around. She (Alice McBride) was my first yes!"

Combrink worked for Alice McBride at Décor and More Ideas, which is a small design firm in Andover. Combrink's emphasis, interior design, made the company a perfect match to satisfy her internship requirement.

Jason Landrum, junior in commercial graphics and marketing, also did an internship for class credit. He clocked in more than 320 hours during his three-month internship at Matthew Shepherd Advertising and Design in Kansas City.

He stressed the importance of



photo by Shalin Patel

Hannah Combrink, junior in family and consumer sciences, works on her part of a group project in Studio III where they had to design a Santa Fe adobe home.



looking early for an internship.

"I think that's one thing a lot of students need to be careful about when doing internships is allowing enough time to prepare," he said. "If you start looking ahead of time, that's what can really help you prepare for it."

He says advisers are more valuable to students than they know.

"I would recommend people start seeing their adviser more as a mentor because they have all this experience on campus, they can help us," he said. "I'm really glad I have the relationships I do with my advisers. They are a huge part of my success."

At Matthew Shepherd Advertising and Design, Landrum performed a variety of jobs, including image manipulation and page layout. He created mailers, cards, annual reports and helped design window art for the Brandeis building in Omaha, Neb.

It wasn't all work for Landrum; he also got a taste of Kansas City barbecue.

"Almost every Friday we went to a different barbecue place, so now Matt says not only did I get an internship, I got a barbecue internship," he said.

It wasn't all fun and games for the interns. Whether they received paychecks or not, they kept busy.

"Keeping up with Alice was pretty tough. She is 70 but keeps going," Combrink said. "We would have appointments one after another. It was hard to keep people straight."

Brandon Gibbs says being at work every day by 7 a.m. was not his favorite



photo by Shalin Patel

Jason Landrum, junior in commercial graphics, looks over some of the work he created at his internship at Matthew Shepherd Advertising and Design.

part of the internship. However, he got a chance to apply and improve skills from the classes he's taken at the Kansas Technology Center. Gibbs spent the summer as a mechanical engineering technician intern at Black & Veatch in Overland Park.

"I learned faster ways to operate in design software packages and learned new design software packages," Gibbs said. "My knowledge of power plants, power delivery and their design improved significantly."

The experiences gained from internships brought valuable lessons and

workplace skills. Internships also gave insight to future career decisions.

"It is a great experience to work on specific applications that you have been exposed to at PSU and also gives you a feel for how you can improve your skills when you return to school," Gibbs said.

It also gives you a head start on the job search.

"It gives you a chance to get to know companies that you could potentially work for when you graduate," Gibbs said.



**Far Left:** Combrink and Alice McBride pose for a photo. Combrink interned at Decor and More Ideas for six weeks, starting June 2008. **Left:** As part of his internship, Landrum designed window art for the Brandeis building in Omaha, Neb.

# The art of unpacking

Hundreds of students moved into the residence halls on move-in day, Saturday, Aug. 23. Parents and those participating in move-in crew were busy helping residents carry in their belongings. Resident assistants were on hand to help residents check in and to go over routine information with them. Later that night, ice cream socials took place in the halls so students could get acquainted with other students.



Freshman Hilary Erbert, center, and her family set up a loft bed in her room in Nation Hall. Like other freshmen, Erbert moved into the dorms on Saturday, Aug. 23, in order to attend Gorilla Warm-ups and other campus events on Sunday.

photos by Cayla Thomlinson



Members of Residence Hall Assembly serve the residents of Nation Hall during the ice cream social Saturday, Aug. 23.



photos by Cayla Thomlinson



Nathan Crits, who graduated in 2006, helps Joseph Brooks, senior in construction engineering, by steadying the cart on move-in day.



Mikki Werner, freshman in nursing, watches the bell chime out her effort after pulling on its rope.

# Bell tolls for freshmen

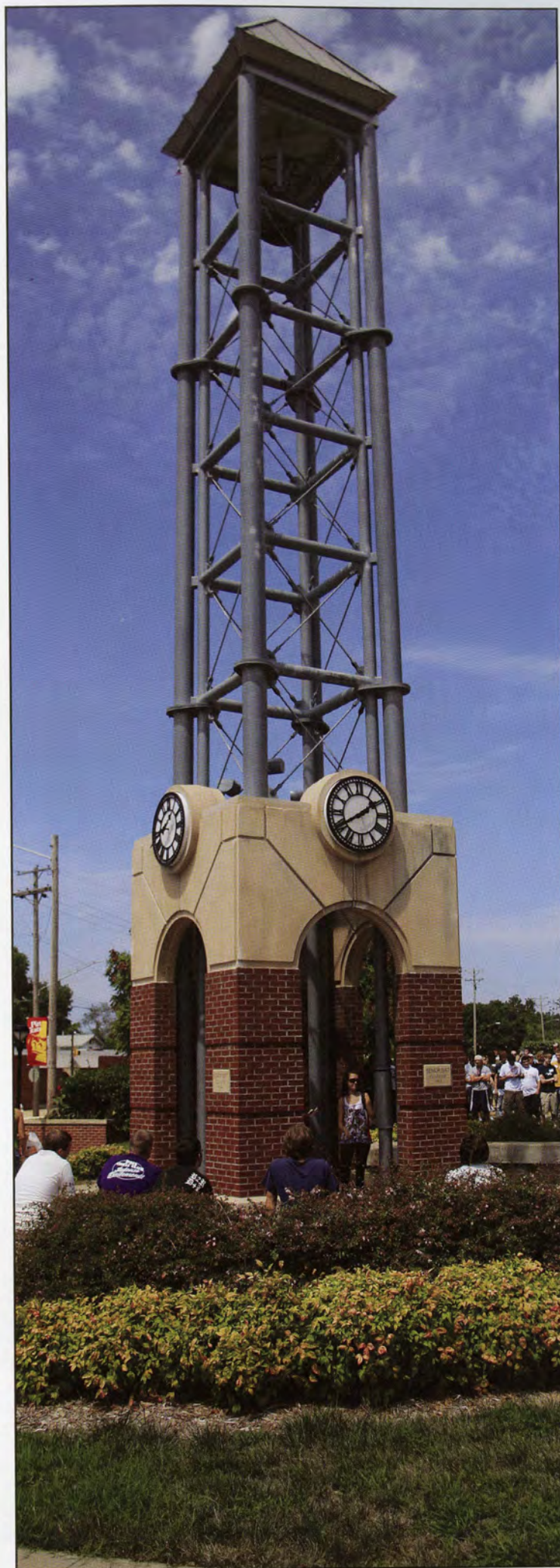
Ring the bell at the Centennial Bell Tower has become a Pitt State tradition. Each year, freshmen ring the bell as part of Gorilla Warm-Ups, where they meet their Freshman Experience classes and get acquainted with the campus. While freshmen ring the bell to symbolize starting their school career at PSU, seniors ring it at the end of the year to signify they are graduating and leaving PSU.

The \$100,000 25-foot bell tower was the Senior Class gift for the class of 1993, but the class of 1994, 1995 and 1996 pitched in to make it a reality.



*photos by Brett Armbruster*

Freshman Josh Baker, communication, strains to ring the bell under the direction of Candy Noltensmeyer during Gorilla Warm-ups.





photos by Brett Armbruster

After being dismissed from the stage, Amanda Fifield, freshman in communication, still enjoys the show and seeing all of the crazy things she didn't have to do.

“At first I thought it was a hoax, but turns out, it was real.”

**-Jaakko Seppälä**  
senior in computer engineering

## Hypnotist Michael C. Anthony gets a kick out of...

story by Kelsie Collins

After 15 years of being a hypnotist, Michael C. Anthony still doesn't know what to expect at his performances.

“I don't really do a lot of preparation for my shows, I just go for what the audience responds the best to,” Anthony said.

For the fourth year in a row, Anthony wowed Pitt State students on Sept. 3 during two shows: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Both shows were packed with students waiting to be either hypnotized or entertained.

One student, Jaakko Seppälä, senior in computer engineering, called the show “unbelievable hypnosis action.”

“It wasn't what I expected,” Seppälä said. “I thought maybe one or two people would go up there. At first I thought it was a hoax, but turns out, it was real.”

Anthony, who performs 110 shows annually at colleges across the United States, started off the show with a warm-up laugh. He performed a card trick with the help of a student volunteer. He then



In order to see how receptive the volunteers are to hypnotic suggestion, Anthony first does a little test relaxing the participants and telling them that in their right hands is a very heavy book, while their left is as light as air.

# trance-forming students

explained to the crowd that not everyone can be hypnotized, and warns them not to come up to the stage if they are drunk, stoned or schizophrenic.

Anthony asks for 30 volunteers to come to the stage, causing a stampede of students rushing for the opportunity to be put into a trance. He tells his victims that being hypnotized will feel like they have had eight hours of sleep when it is over.

This proved to be true for Hannah Hunsinger, freshman in nursing.

"I could not sleep that night," she said. "I lay in bed for like three hours and couldn't fall asleep."

Anthony begins the trances on the students and tells them to get comfortable. The students who aren't focused enough are noticed immediately and asked to return to the crowd, and the laughter begins.

"It's like you know what's going on around you, but you are tuned into his voice," Hunsinger said.

She says that she's afraid to dance in front of people, but it didn't bother her to

dance on stage while she was hypnotized.

Anthony had the students believe they were smoldering hot and then ice cold. He tricked them into thinking that a belt was a snake and made them all scream and jump. Anthony sent rolls of laughter through the Crimson and Gold Ballroom during both shows.

Hannah Galyon, freshman in music education, said seeing her roommate Hunsinger get hypnotized was hilarious.

"It was funny when Hannah was dancing on stage. I didn't think I would ever see her dance," Galyon said.

Anthony says as long as everything goes well and everyone on stage is funny, then his show is a success.



Undeclared freshman Rachel Hall believes she is making a bottle of water float and move toward her, but it is really Anthony who is moving it. Upon suggestion from Anthony to the participants, they did not see him but could hear his voice.

# Road to royalty

Candidates go through many steps to get crowned King and Queen



photo by Brett Armbruster

Honors College king candidate Jason Landrum, junior in commercial graphics, is interviewed by alumna Diana Turnbull, class of 1975, during the homecoming king candidate interview held in the student center, Thursday, Oct. 9.



photo by Shalin Patel

Patricia Condiff and Skannnd Tyagi, Homecoming Queen and King, host Yell like Hell.

story by Kelsie Collins

## Two Weeks Before

Each of the 53 candidates turned in a candidate form and profile sheet. After the paperwork was completed, there was candidate orientation and they took a picture to display in the student center and group discussion interviews took place. Group discussion counts as 25 percent of each candidate's total score. They are evaluated on communication, appearance, character, congeniality, intellectual response and poise.

## One Week Before

Personal interviews were held in groups. The queen and king candidates had their interviews on different days. The personal interviews are 40 percent of the candidates' total points.



## Oct. 14: Fishbowl and Dinner

Fishbowl is where candidates draw a question out of a clear, glass fishbowl and have only a few seconds to think of an answer before replying to the audience. The candidates are judged on their intellectual response and the fishbowl contributes 35 percent of the final score. For Patricia Condiff, fishbowl was the most nerve-wracking.

"You have 10 seconds to think of an intelligent, creative answer and address the student body," she said. "I don't even remember my question. It's just kind of a blur."

## Oct. 15: Convocation

Convocation is the event where the winners are announced. The audience votes on the top six female and top six male candidates to determine the Homecoming queen and king. Top six is determined by current point standings from the interviews and fishbowl. The crowd's ballots account for 40 percent of the final decision, and the judges make up the other 60 percent. Skannnd Tyagi says he was surprised when he was voted homecoming king.

"I was deeply humbled by the choice of the students and feel that it is important to uphold the reasons why they voted me and set an example for the student body," he said.



# 2008 Homecoming Queen and King



photo by Brett Armbruster

2007 Homecoming Queen Cherrelle Jones crowns the 2008 queen, Patricia Condif, representing Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternity.



photo by Brett Armbruster

2007 Second Attendant Jonathan Eastman awards the 2008 Homecoming King, Skann Tyagi, representing Alpha Sigma Alpha, with a medal and boutonniere.

## Oct. 16: Yell Like Hell

The newly crowned king and queen co-host this pep rally and competition between the organizations. They are given a script the day before at Convocation and introduce the sports teams and competitors during this exciting, crowd-packed event. Tyagi says Yell Like Hell was the most memorable event he was involved in as crowned king.

"Definitely. I loved the entire environment of the stadium at that time. And the excitement."

## Oct. 17: Crimson & Gold Dinner

The Crimson and Gold Dinner is held each year for the king and queen and their attendants. Condif says she liked the dinner with everyone.

"I really enjoyed the dinner. We learned the history of SGA, it was really interesting. I learned a lot. And the food was delicious," she said.

## Oct. 18: Homecoming Parade

Floats are built, decorated and driven through downtown Pittsburg. The theme of the 2008 homecoming was "Gus Saves the Day." The candidates ride through the parade with their organization. Condif represented Alpha Sigma Iota and Tyagi was the king candidate for Alpha Sigma Alpha.

## Homecoming Game

The king and queen and their attendants watch the Gorillas defeat the University of Nebraska - Omaha from the skybox.

## Acceptance speech

"I would thank the organization, definitely, because that's how it all started... My mom. When I told her, she got excited and was optimistic. She kept telling me, 'Don't count yourself out'... All my friends in the music department, my roommate, everyone else..." Condif said.

"I would have thanked my parents: I am what I am because of them," Tyagi said. "I would have thanked the PSU staff, especially the international office, and the instructors because they have been extremely helpful and have never made it a difficult experience. I would have thanked all my friends and all the people who voted for me."

# Pitt's best DANCE crew

Students who braved the chilly weather crowded the stands at Carnie Smith Stadium Oct. 16 to watch Yell Like Hell. The traditional Homecoming event is where organizations compete in a dance-chant showdown. Each organization is required to choreograph and perform a dance, make a pyramid with their members and present an original chant.



photo by Brett Armbruster

Members of the Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority Yell Like Hell team yell out their cheers during the spirit portion of their performance.

photo by Shalin Patel

Below: The Crimson and Gold Dance Team perform while the judges tally up the final score.





The Sigma Phi Epsilon team donned masks imitating the Jabbawoc-keez dance crew from MTV's reality show, "America's Best Dance Crew," during their Yell Like Hell performance. This creativity and their impressive dance moves helped them win Yell Like Hell 2008.

photo by Brett Armbruster

Left: Holly Hrabik, freshman in biology, performs with Alpha Gamma Delta.

photo by Brett Armbruster

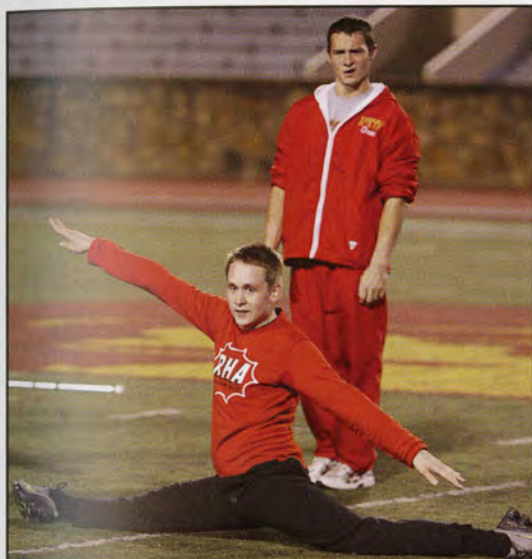


photo by Brett Armbruster

Sophomore in history Jacob Mendez does the splits, linking a pyramid chain during the Residence Hall Assembly's performance.

## And the winners are...

### Men's Division

- 1st: Sigma Phi Epsilon
- 2nd: Sigma Chi
- 3rd: Sigma Tau Gamma

### Women's Division

- 1st: Alpha Gamma Delta
- 2nd: Sigma Sigma Sigma
- 3rd: Alpha Sigma Alpha

### Co-ed Division

- 1st: Kansas Association of Nursing Students
- 2nd: Newman Club
- 3rd: Residence Hall Assembly



# Art, fun



photo by CaylaThomlinson

(from left to right) Alpha Sigma Alpha members Emily Lionberger, sophomore in elementary education, Lauren Zerr, undecided sophomore, Candin Nelson, freshman in history, Ashley Maxton, senior in elementary education, and Lacie Worrell, sophomore in psychology, apply more glue to their Yard Art before it is judged.



photo by Katie Swatek

Tyler Lewis of Lambda Chi Alpha wins the spaghetti contest after finding all five ducks hidden within the pasta. The spaghetti find was part of Gorilla Games on Monday, Oct. 13.



photo by Shalin Patel

Joanne Lee, Ili Bakhtiar and Puteri Sabira, show their pride for their country, Malaysia, by holding the flag during the Homecoming Parade, Saturday, Oct. 18.

## And the winners are...

### Yard Art

- 1st: Residence Hall Assembly
- 2nd: Lambda Chi Alpha
- 3rd: Pi Kappa Alpha

### Parade

#### Large floats:

- 1. Tau Kappa Epsilon
- 2. Sigma Sigma Sigma and MCA

- 3. RHA and Sigma Phi Epsilon

#### Mini Floats:

- 1. Hispanics of Today

# & floats



photo by Shalin Patel

Cari Shaw, junior in elementary education, prepares her organization's float for homecoming at the Newman Center.



photo by Shalin Patel

Jessica Kesler, senior in English education, makes a big comic book board for the Homecoming Parade.

## Gorilla Games

### Women's Division:

1. Tri-Sig
2. Alpha Sigma Alpha
3. Alpha Gamma Delta

### Men's Division:

1. TKE
2. Lambda Chi
3. Pike

### Co-Ed Division:

1. Associated General Contractors
2. Honors College
3. RHA

## Sweepstakes

- 1st: RHA
- 2nd: Sig Ep
- 3rd: Lambda Chi

# Prescription: Peru

story by Kelsie Collins

Imagine hiking at an elevation of 16,000 feet, carrying a backpack with equipment and camping gear and trudging through frigid streams. This may not be an ideal trip to some, but 25 people experienced these and many other unforgettable memories on a study abroad trip to Cuzco, Peru.

"It was awesome to actually experience another culture," said Nathan Woodward, senior in biology. "I liked working hands-on and seeing how they live day-to-day."

The trip took place at the end of May 2008. Twenty Pitt State students from the pre-med, pre-dental and pre-pharmacy fields, three students from the University of Kansas that helped film a documentary about the trip and two professors treated about 800 people during their two-week trip.

Before the students left, they had to take a class first. Dan Zurek, associate professor in biology, planned a medical training course to prepare the group for the ethics and culture of Peru.

The group did the training to be effective in the tasks they could perform and to not get overwhelmed by tasks they were not qualified to do.

The group planned the trip through a travel service called ProPeru.

"We went with ProPeru because we wanted a good experience and wanted our students to be safe," Zurek said.

ProPeru allows students to spend two weeks exploring Peru, helping those in need and expanding their understanding of the world.

It seemed that service didn't have medical services in mind.

"When we got our itinerary, there was a lot of tourist stuff in it," Zurek said. "We changed it to do more medical things. We were there to help the people."

To get to some of the more remote villages, the group had to hike with their backpacks in the mountains.

Although the weather conditions were unfavorable, the sights were remarkable.

"It was amazing watching the sun rise over Machu Picchu," Garrett Barton, senior in biology, said.

The group traveled to local villages and set up their medical base at their

"I really enjoyed the entire trip. The warmth we were met with was deeply moving."

**-Dan Zurek**  
associate professor in biology

schools. Zurek says that the communities didn't have any public buildings besides the schools, so that is usually where they worked.

"I enjoyed working with the people and being in the clinics and villages," sophomore in biology Erin Carrington said. "I made connections with the people who went on the trip, too."

The students performed medical tests and dental work, distributed vaccines and filled prescriptions. The female students performed pap smears on the women, as well.

Most of the children the group saw were malnourished and infected with intestinal worms. Because of the disease, the children there were smaller than kids in the United States. The natives also believed that blood was sacred, so they were reluctant to let their kids get tested and treated.

Zurek says he was there for more of a support role.

"My role in the trip was to give the students

a space where they could put forth the leadership to really make the trip their own," Zurek said. "This included working on organizing the students so that everyone had an assigned task to accomplish and getting official approvals in my role as a faculty member at various steps along the way."

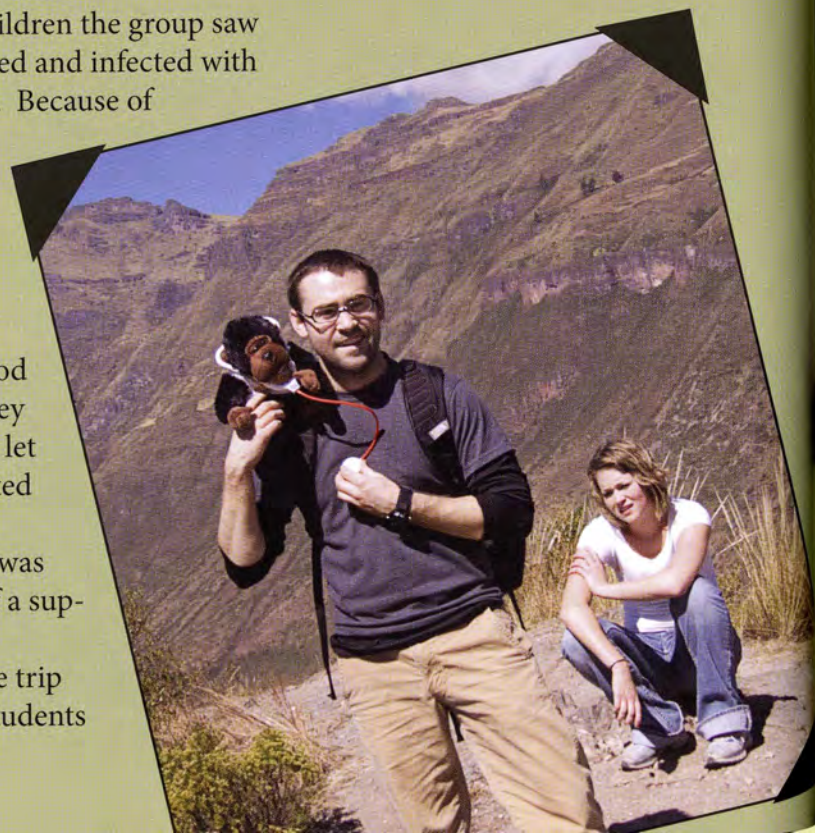
Zurek was in charge of coordinating the trip and keeping in contact with Julia Helminiak, the study abroad coordinator at Pitt State. He also helped the students prepare for their trip and worked on fundraising and publicity.

Zurek says they had a slight disadvantage on the trip.

"Many of the people didn't even speak Spanish," Zurek said. "They still spoke the language of the Incas (Quechua) so it was difficult to communicate."

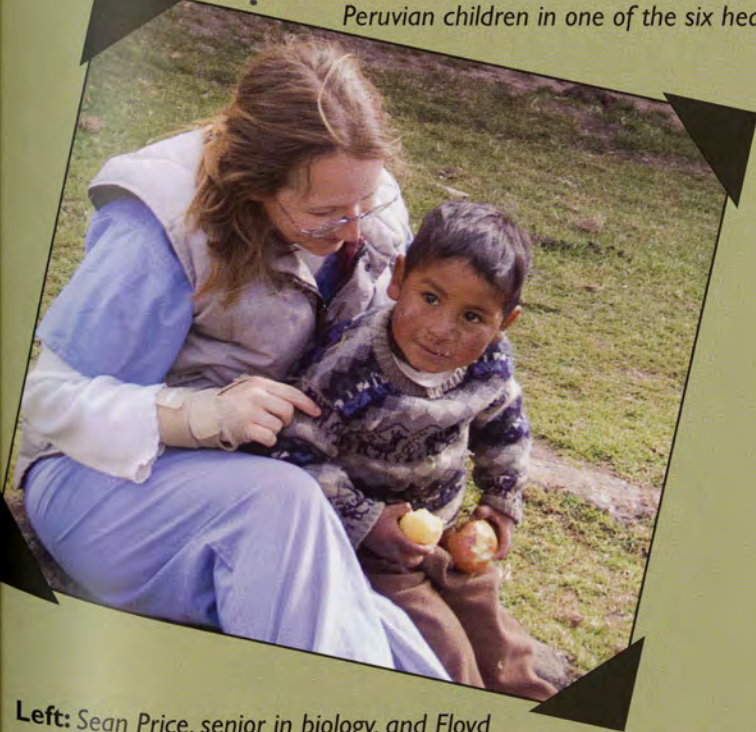
But overall, Zurek says the trip was a big success and a great learning experience for the students. They plan on taking another trip next year, this time including other members of the faculty and the medical students.

"I really enjoyed the entire trip," Zurek said. "The warmth we were met with was deeply moving."

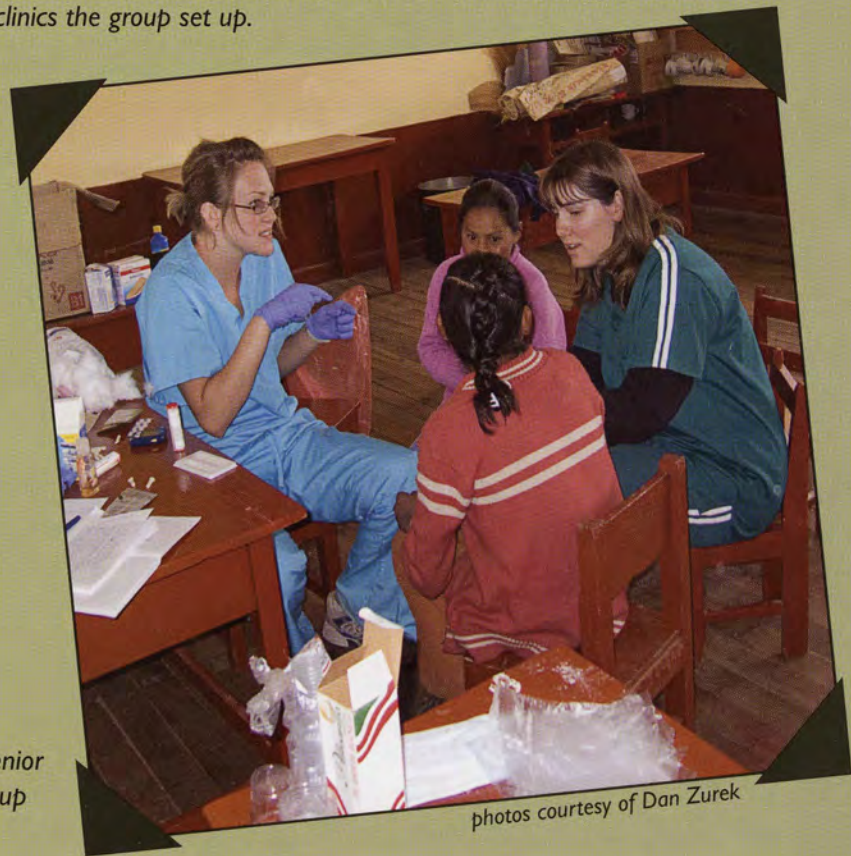




The view of the Andes mountains is breathtaking as the group of students and the two advisers hike to their destination on their two-week trip to Peru. **Bottom right:** Erin Floyd, senior in chemistry, and Kylie Quick, senior in biology, help two Peruvian children in one of the six health clinics the group set up.



**Left:** Sean Price, senior in biology, and Floyd pose with a stuffed Gus Gorilla on the side of the mountains. **Above:** Senior in biology Emily Walters helps a small boy eat and keep his pants pulled up after a health clinic in one of the villages.



photos courtesy of Dan Zurek



# Preaching to the *campus*

photo by Brett Armbruster

Drue Barton, junior in biology, debates with Rev. Matt Bourgault. Bourgault of Consuming Fire Campus Ministries, garnered a large crowd of students and onlookers for his sermon of errors of college students lifestyle choices.



## Evangelist causes stir in Oval

story by Mandy Toepfer

More than 100 students circled around a small, balding man who was standing on a bench in the Oval preaching to the students nearby. It was hard not to stare at Matt Bourgault, the preacher who was speaking, because of his dynamic and dramatic yelling. In his three-hour rant on Wednesday, Oct. 8, Bourgault called out students who engaged in premarital sex, taking drugs and drinking alcohol. He said they were rejecting Christianity by doing these things.

With students flicking cigarette butts at him and holding up signs saying "Too bad his mother wasn't pro-choice," it was apparent he was not welcome.

Ashley Taylor, senior in psychology, was one who wasn't thrilled.

"He's like a clown wheeling around in the Oval juggling things," she said.

Carol Johnson, junior in biology, says she couldn't take the preacher seriously.

"I'm actually skipping class to see this," she said. "I try not to get too emotionally involved. It's like arguing with a wall. It's just for entertainment."

Bourgault of Kinard, Fla., is no stranger to stirring up trouble. In 2005, he picketed alongside the famous Fred Phelps' Westboro Baptist Church at the funeral of a gay man who was murdered in Iowa. In 1999, he created Consuming Fire Campus Ministries, a group that travels from state to state using "confrontational evangelism" on college campuses. His wife and five children accompany him on his evangelism escapades.

Bijou Alusa, freshman in nursing from Kenya, says that if this preacher was truly God-sent there would be a bigger crowd.

"I don't think PSU should put up with this," she said.

Mike McCracken, director of University Police, says the university allows speakers such as Bourgault to use the campus as a forum.

McCracken says Bourgault was not allowed to use a microphone, but as long as he follows the university's policies he can speak.

However, several police officers stood nearby for security.

"We're basically here to protect him," McCracken said. "He's allowed to do what he does. We're here to make sure everyone is safe."

Don Smith, campus minister at Campus Christians, says he wasn't surprised by the preacher.

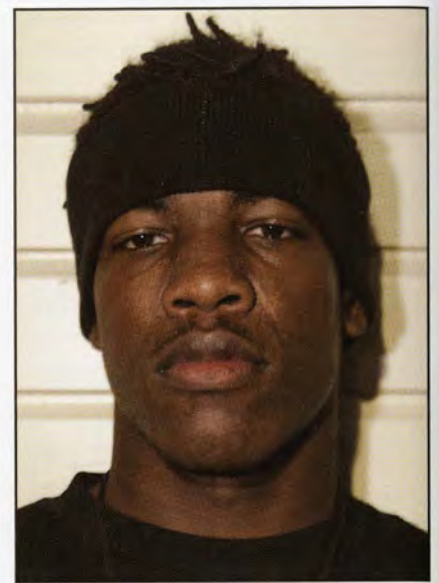
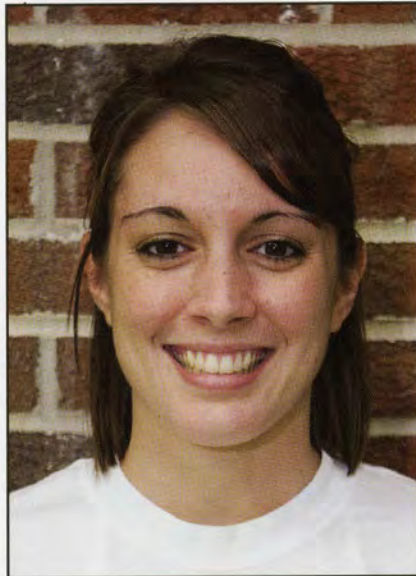
"It's not something new," Smith said. "Larger campuses see it more. They generally like the bigger campus."





“If McCain and Palin were elected, I wouldn’t trust her. She doesn’t seem like she has much experience. I don’t think there will be any changes for minorities or women no matter who wins the election.”

**-Rebecca Carpenter**  
freshman in chemistry



“It would be nice to get a woman’s point of view in the office. We’ve tried multiple times and we finally got a chance to get a woman in there.”

**-Holli Barnes**  
freshman in elementary education

“I think the country has been too mundane for too long. If Obama wins, I think he will make a lot of changes for equality.”

**-Key Jones**  
sophomore in physical education

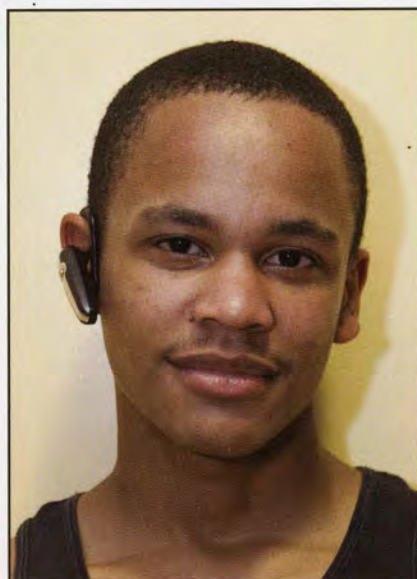
“I believe this election will make a major change. It will give a lot of minorities the ambition and motivation to do great things.”

**-Jeremy Smith**  
freshman in music performance

## New perspective

The 2008 Presidential race broke barriers by having candidates that aren’t the typical caucasian male: an African American ran as president and a woman ran for vice president.

Students give their opinions on what they expect from the candidates in the election results:



“Obama will make a lot more changes for minorities than McCain would. He realizes they have been ignored for awhile. A black getting nominated for the Democratic Party is obviously a giant leap for us.”

**-Elijah Ryne**  
freshman in communication

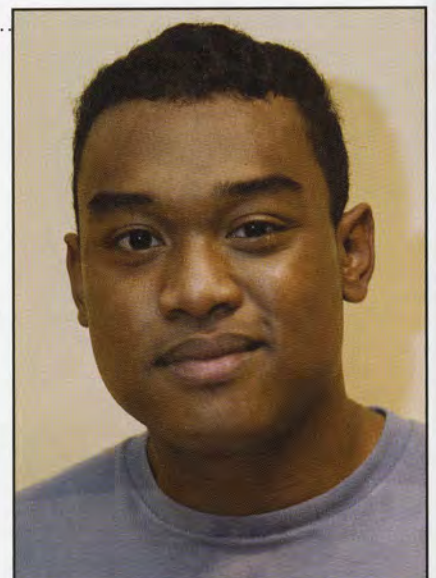




photo by Brett Armbruster



photo by Brett Armbruster

Slattery makes his way to each audience member including Pitt State faculty member Tina Westbay.

## Senate Democratic nominee visits PSU

Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Jim Slattery acknowledges a student's question during a meet and greet held in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom at Pitt State, Monday, Oct. 6. The event was sponsored by Campus Democrats and gave students the opportunity to question Slattery about his campaign and goals for office.

## MTV's Rock the Vote drops by for a campus visit

story by Kelsie Collins

Shane Landrum, from "Road Rules Season 11: Campus Crawl," came to PSU to raise student awareness about voting. Landrum drew a crowd of 40 students in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom for MTV's Rock the Vote on Tuesday, Sept. 30.

Landrum encouraged the young adults in the crowd to reach out and raise awareness with their peers to make a difference. He said in the 2004 election, 47 percent of college students voted.

"We got to get more people out to vote!" Landrum said.

The presentation showed the most important issues based on college students' opinions, which decide which candidate they vote for on election day.

"We're starting to come out and be more interested in politics," Allie Williford, freshman in history, said. "I support the war. We started it and need to finish it."

James Smith, freshman in commercial graphics, says his key issues for the election are the economy, gay rights and abortion.

"I believe in equal rights for all, like it's given in the Constitution," Smith said.



photo by Shalin Patel

Participating in the Rock the Vote event are Lauren Williams, freshman in fashion merchandising, McKenzie Hatfield, freshman in marketing, Bryan Payne, sophomore in construction management, Brian Woods, freshman in communication, Chase Richardson, freshman in marketing, James Smith, freshman in commercial graphics and Lindsay Nance, sophomore in chemistry.

# Obama

*Crawford County and America make their voice heard during the 2008 election and elect **the first African-American president***

*story by Curtis Thom*

It could be heard seconds after the final projection was made.

Moments after presidential candidate Barack Obama was projected as the 44th president of the United States, some students of Pittsburg State University took it to the streets.

Playing an assortment of instruments, a group of about 10 students paraded down Joplin Street across campus, cheering at passing cars, and chanting "Obama."

Carlton Fish, a PSU sophomore, said he was just celebrating the outcome.

"It's just a change," said Fish. "He's not in office yet, but it's good to have a different outlook for the future."

According to CNN polls, Obama won the popular vote by more than 8.5 million votes over Republican candidate John McCain. Obama also carried the Electoral College vote by a count of 365 to McCain's 173.

"We've had Bush for eight years now, it's just time for something

new," said Fish. "It's time for something to get people talking again."

Possibly the most notable win for Obama on a local level was his victory in Crawford County, one of only three counties in Kansas to endorse the Democratic candidate.

"Crawford County has historically been more liberal than the surrounding counties," said Crawford County Clerk Don Pyle. "The people came out in numbers, and ultimately their voices were heard."

By fewer than 193 votes, Obama overcame McCain, winning Crawford County, despite McCain pulling approximately 57 percent of Kansas' popular vote.

At Sigma Phi Epsilon, a group had gathered to watch the election results unfold by projecting it on the side of their fraternity house.

"We had about 30 guys out here watching at one time," said Sig Ep President Jeff Johnson. "As soon as it was dark enough, we just came out

here and started watching it ... and we've been out here ever since."

Members of Sig Ep continued to watch the election unfold, even after it was announced Obama had clinched the race.

"I voted McCain today," said Johnson. "It's going to be interesting with Obama in office, but he has a lot of work to do, a lot waiting for him."

PSU freshman Christina Blair, who also voted for McCain, says that Obama brings a fresh face to the office.

"I'm disappointed McCain wasn't elected, but if more people can rally around Obama, then I'm all for it," Blair said.

For his acceptance speech, Obama addressed a crowd exceeding 65,000 people from Grant Park, in Chicago, Ill., reassuring the crowd of the progress coming.

"I will always be honest with you about the challenges we face,"



AP Photo/Morry Gash

President-elect Barack Obama smiles during his acceptance speech at Grant Park in Chicago Tuesday night, Nov. 4, 2008.

Obama said. "This victory alone is not the change we seek. It is only the chance for us to make that change. And that cannot happen if we go back to the way things were."

By becoming the 44th president, Obama also became the first African-American elected to office. Nationwide, Obama carried an astounding 96 percent of the registered African-American voters, according to CNN.

Ariel Yager, a PSU freshman, says she is excited to be a part of history.

"I think that it's awesome that this is the first time we elected an African-American president," said Yager. "Obama spoke on the issues that were important to me, and it's good to have someone different to rally around."

For Crawford County, the largest

surprise came when 3,446 advance ballots were cast, an increase of more than 1,200 advance ballots received during the primary elections.

"We expected an increase, because of it being a presidential election, but nothing at that level," said Pyle. "A lot of that is due to the importance of the race, but both parties advertised the importance of this race, and it showed."

While the advance ballots are collected early, provisional ballots are ballots filed on the day of the election. Provisional ballots, which are given to voters prevented from voting by various registration difficulties, were also on the rise, according to the Crawford County Clerk's office.

"We've had people coming out to vote in this election that haven't

voted in over ten years," said Liz Hart, director of election services for Crawford County.

With Obama gaining 51 percent of voters between 18-29, Pitt State could have gained Obama the much-needed swing votes he needed to gain Crawford's presidential nod.

"Crawford County is primarily known as a Democratic county anyways," said Pyle. "I saw people from all age groups openly supporting Obama. The college being in town could have helped in part, but it was an equal representation across the board, from all age groups."

# Baracking the vote

Campus Democrats, Green Gorillas team up to celebrate election results

story by Kelsie Collins

To celebrate the end of President Bush's term in office, the Campus Democrats and Green Gorillas held an inauguration celebration. Baracking the Vote was held at Parrott Bey, a local catering and banquet building, Jan. 24, four days after the new president was inaugurated.

Brent Castagno welcomed the Democrats and the Greens, and Heather Horton, owner of Sweet Designs Cake and former Pitt State student, donated the cake. Tickets were sold for \$6 in advance and \$15 at the door and the Democrats and Greens evenly split the profits from the night, which ended up somewhere between \$800 and \$1,000.

"The amount of people here tonight surpassed our expectations," said Megan Reynolds, president of the Campus Democrats. "We had about a hundred people here tonight."

The guests filled their Saturday night and Parrott Bey with laughter and mingling. Snack foods and drinks were provided, including fried chicken, meatballs, egg rolls, and O-shaped Obama cookies. Many of the guests wore President Obama T-shirts in support of the inauguration of the 44<sup>th</sup> president of the United States.

After the mingling died down, the tribute began with Mark Peterson,

professor in social sciences and adviser of the Democrats and Greens. Peterson began by explaining that the party was originally planned "as a celebration of the end of an error." However, on election night as the Democrats watched and waited for the results to come in, the group decided that this party was to celebrate much more than that.

"This has been the most meaningful election for me since I've been able to vote," Peterson said. "I won't tell you how long that's been."

Together, seven people worked on the idea and planned the Baracking the Vote celebration party even before Election Day in November.

"We're here tonight to celebrate the end of now-former President Bush



Waiting Jesus Lo way thro celebrat Gorillas

and the election of President Obama," Peterson said.

Guests joined in on sing-alongs of "Goodbye George," "This Land is Our Land," and "Happy Days Are Here Again," dubbed the Democratic unofficial theme song by the Campus Democrats.

The crowd watched clips from Saturday Night Live with look-alikes

of Al Gore and Vice President Joe Biden and shared laughs about the former and current presidents of the United States, George Bush and Barack Obama.

After the presentations were over, Peterson opened the floor to anyone who wanted to share their reaction to the election results.

One woman told the crowd that





Waiting for the festivities to begin, Spencer Stern (left), Jesus Lopez (center), and Humberto Lopez make their way through the line to get food at the Democratic Party celebration sponsored by Campus Democrats, Green Gorillas and the Crawford County Democratic Party.

and the election of President Obama,” Peterson said.

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of Al Gore and Vice President Joe Biden and shared laughs about the former and current presidents of the United States, George Bush and Barack Obama.

After the presentations were over, Peterson opened the floor to anyone who wanted to share their reaction to the election results.

One woman told the crowd that

her cousin in Jamaica witnessed many Jamaicans claiming that Obama is the second coming of Jesus. Many said they were happy, and some said they cried. As nine o’clock drew nearer, the band, Colors You Can’t See, began setting up the stage to play.

The crowd gradually dissipated, but some of the guests got up and danced to the music.



photos by Brett Armbruster

Before their performance, Tyler Gariglietti (left) and Matt Crystal, an undeclared sophomore, order their drinks before going on stage. Gariglietti and Crystal are two of the five members of Colors You Can’t See, a local band hired to play at the Democrat party.

Left: During a showing of a Saturday Night Live opening skit featuring an actor portraying Vice President Joe Biden, Betsy Gordon (left) and Wendy Long of Pittsburg join the crowd in laughing.

# Read all about it

A summary of the **COLLEGIO**'s biggest stories of the year

## Aug. 28, 2008

### Bryant announces retirement



photo courtesy of Malcolm Turner

A tearful Tom Bryant stood before PSU staff at the annual Opening Faculty meeting on Aug. 28 and struggled through the announcement of his resignation as PSU president.

"... At the end of this fiscal year, I will retire from the presidency of this university," Bryant said. "And I'm doing that to give the Kansas Board of Regents time to find a new leader for this great university. And I guess I want to tell you all this, we still have much to do in this current year and there is one thing that I know. You, the faculty and staff, you won't let me become sloppy or lazy. I want to tell each of you that I appreciate you and I appreciate your dedication to our students and I thank you for caring about one another. I am very proud to be here with you today, and I am blessed."

### PSU budget grows by \$5.3 million

PSU's budget for fiscal year 2008-'09 anticipates expenditures of \$91.7 million, an increase of \$5.3 million, or 6.1 percent.

The increase is the largest in four years, which stands in stark contrast to the tuition increase, one of the smallest in nearly a decade.

## Sept. 18, 2008

### Kleypas sentenced to death for second time

Gary Kleypas was found guilty on Sept. 15 for a second time for the 1996 murder of Pittsburg State University

student Carrie Williams.

Kleypas was sentenced to death in the original trial in 1997, making him the first man sentenced to death after Kansas made it legal in 1994. In December 2001, the Kansas Supreme Court ruled that the law did not give jurors enough information to determine when to sentence a person to death, overturning Kleypas' sentence.

## Dec. 4, 2008

### Indian students express shock at Mumbai attacks

Harprett Notae was watching CNN when he heard the news about his country.

"I was shocked and scared," Notae, senior in electronics and telecommunications and president of the Indian Students Association. "I felt sorry for those who got killed or hurt."

On Nov. 26, at about 10 p.m., reports came in that there had been a shootout and blast near the historic Taj Mahal Hotel in India.

"Frankly speaking, the first thing that came to my mind was to leave everything over here and go home," Rohan Ratnapal, graduate student in graphic imaging and print management from India, said. "Do whatever that would help my country to fight terrorism."

Initially, at least 80 people were reported to have been killed in a series of terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India's financial and entertainment capital. But the numbers increased with each passing day. At the issue date, an estimated 179 were killed in the attack.

## Jan. 29, 2009

### City says no to Joplin St. request

After three months of discussions, board meetings, letters, e-mails and phone calls, the Pittsburg City Commission voted 4-1 against PSU's request to vacate a section of Joplin Street.

Tom Bryant, PSU president, originally asked that Joplin Street be closed between Cleveland and Lindburg



streets to achieve a more pedestrian-friendly campus and eliminate the potential traffic hazard to students crossing the street.

## Feb. 19, 2009

### Governor ends standoff; state employees get paid

The state of Kansas narrowly dodged the proverbial bullet when Gov. Kathleen Sebelius signed a rescission bill introduced by Republicans that made about \$300 million in adjustments to the fiscal year 2009 budget. This brought to a close a standoff between the governor and Kansas Republican leaders and avoided a statewide situation that would have left 42,000 Kansas state employees unpaid this pay period.

Falling under the umbrella of "state employees" are all employees of Pittsburg State University, including faculty, staff and student workers.

## April 16, 2009

### Students, community protest government policies

Members of the community gathered at the Pittsburg Veterans Memorial to peacefully assemble on April 15 as they participated in the Tax Day Tea Party. The Pittsburg rally, which had an estimated 1,000 people in attendance, was one of many across the nation in collaboration with the national Tax Day Tea Party organization.

The gathering was sponsored by the PSU Campus Republicans and was organized by members of the community. According to the Tax Day Tea Party Web site, it is "a national collaborative grassroots effort organized by Smart Girl Politics, Top Conservatives on Twitter, the Don'tGo Movement, and many other online groups/coalitions."

Initially, the Tea Party protests sprang from a comment by on-air editor for CNBC Rich Santelli aimed to "expose the bankrupt liberal agenda of the White House

administration and Congress, specifically the flawed 'Stimulus Bill' and pork filled budget," according to their Web site.

## April 23, 2009

### PSU Foundation ponders improvements to president's home

The Pittsburg State University Foundation wants to improve the president's home on campus. At a meeting on Friday, April 3, the foundation's 48-member board of directors voted unanimously to begin identifying ways to use private gifts to either improve the existing house or replace it. It is an issue that has been discussed by the board for more than a year.

## May 7, 2009

### Scott outlines immediate plans



photo by Katie Swatek

The chairwoman of the Kansas Board of Regents praised Steve Scott as the right pick for PSU president because he is student-oriented.

Donna Shank spoke at a ceremony to formally introduce the ninth president of PSU to students, faculty, staff and the community.

"Scott has senior administrative goals and demonstrated the challenge of a rapidly changing environment," she said.

About 60 people from across the country applied for the job, with four finalists selected for on-campus interviews.

"We took three of those finalists and found that Dr. Scott was the man for the job," Shank said. "This is a bittersweet day for him, a bittersweet day for us."

# Fun, games, music...and 'transvestites'



photo by Aaron Anders  
Colonial Fox Theater volunteers and students do the Time Warp dance during the "Rocky the Picture Show" in the Old Armory as part of Festival on Broadway in September.

## Fox Theater hosts 'Festival on Broadway'

**A**

story by Kathleen Groves

lthough rain called for some quick location changes, the "Festival on Broadway" on Sept. 12 was a success for the Colonial Fox Theater Foundation.

"We had no idea what to expect," said Vonnie Corsini, president of the Fox Theater Foundation. "Hours and hours went into planning this. There were lots of people and lots of collaboration with various agencies."

The festival included a children's fair, live music and a midnight showing of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show."

"The focal point of the festival was the midnight movie," said Jennifer McDonald, co-chair of the events committee.

More than 300 people showed up at the armory in time for the "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

"It was really fun," said Alana White, junior in political science. "They made it very interactive."

Throughout the movie, the audience used cues from the film to add a twist to the experience.

"There is a scene when Dr. Frank N. Furter says 'a toast!' so everyone threw toast at the screen at that part," said White. "Then there is another scene where it rains, so everyone had water guns to shoot in the air to make it seem like it was raining inside."

White also said every time someone in the movie said,

"Great Scott!" the toilet paper even  
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"Great Scott!" the audience would throw toilet paper everywhere.

To put on an event such as this one, the foundation depends on donations from residents and businesses.

"We had Heckert Construction provide us with a crew to move us to the armory, the National Guard provided us with the armory as a location, All-Quip let us use a lift that allowed us to

paint a movie screen on the side of the Fox Theater, Sherwin-Williams donated paint and supplies, Bob's Grill and 1106 donated ice for the day, Westar was going to provide us with electricity until we had to change venues, the Pittsburg City Police Department provided us with two officers for the entire night," said Corsini. "It was really a cross community collaboration, which took a lot of time to do."

Planning for this festival began in February, when the foundation applied for a grant to fund the activities.

"The grant wasn't funded until the end of the summer," said McDonald. "So it was kind of a rush job to plan it. But we had a really great committee so it took a little over a month to get everything ready."

Original plans were for the festival to occur on Broadway, but the threat of rain caused it to be relocated to the Pittsburg Armory for the day's events.

"We spent a lot of time and a great deal of work painting the side of the Fox Theater for a movie screen," said Pat Jones, public relations director and trustee for the foundation. "So it was kind of disappointing that the weather kept us from using it."

White was also disappointed, especially since she was looking forward

to having an event at the historic theater.

"I haven't ever really been to the Fox Theater, but it has always looked like a place I would want to check out," said White. "So I was kind of disappointed it was at the armory."

However, the foundation members thought better safe than sorry.

"Because of all the rain on Thursday, we were worried about the weather for Friday," said McDonald. "Moving it indoors was probably a call that didn't necessarily have to be done, but we would rather move it indoors than not have it at all."

Not only was it a struggle to move the festival across town, but getting the word out about the location change to the public was a bit of a challenge.

"It was a little frustrating because I didn't really know where to go," said Bret Crockett, junior in jewelry design. "But once we got there, we had a good time."

Foundation members enlisted the help of local radio stations and word of mouth to spread the word of the location change. Although the quick change may have discouraged people from coming to the festival, many fans of the movie were still there to show their support.

The festival began with a children's fair at 4 p.m., with activities that included spin art, a duck pond, bounce room and various games. Also, the YMCA dance troupe and community theater came to perform.

There was also a sidewalk chalk art contest in front of the armory. Luckily, rain did not interfere with this part of the festival.

"The sidewalk chalk was a juried exhibit, so not just anyone could enter," said Jones. "We asked to see examples of their artwork first so we knew these people had a background in art."

"The chalk art ended up looking really cool," said Patrick Briggs, junior in computer information systems. "Those artists did a really good job."

Three teams and one individual entered the chalk contest: teams from Girard, Frontenac and Pittsburg high schools, as well as a professional artist

who entered individually.

"We had judges as well as a people's choice," said McDonald. "The people's choice was voted on with money donations or tickets."

Live bands performed for free after the children's fair. The Johnny Zibert Band, Blue Grass Jam, and Shane Duling and the 11:11 band played from 7:30 until the midnight showing of the "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

Aubrey Jones, junior in commercial graphics management, said the live music was a hit.

"The people who gave up their time to come play were amazing," said Aubrey, who is actively involved in helping her mother, Pat, with foundation activities.

"The bands sounded great," said Briggs. "It was pretty cool of them to come and play."

Before the movie started, volunteers taught audience members the time-warp dance.

"I had no idea how many people wanted to see that movie," said Corsini. "It was so much fun. I saw people of all ages. Everyone was dressed up and just having the best time at this movie."

Not only were many audience members dressed up, but volunteers who helped run the festival were dressed up as well.

"There was a guy who was all dressed up like Dr. Frank N. Furter, and at the part in the movie when the time warp started, he got up there and sang along with the movie," said White. "That was really fun to watch."

Foundation members said the event was such a success that they want to repeat it twice a year.

"We aren't in business yet in the theater, but we are in business in raising money and awareness and getting an organizational foundation to restore the theater," Corsini said.

Foundation members say they want residents to offer ideas for other events and for possible uses of the Fox.

"We want the Fox Theater to be a place that represents the interest of all our area, so we are always pleased to hear any ideas for activities," said Jones.





photos by Shalin Patel

Six Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority sisters hold hands while leaping into the swimming pool at the Crimson Villas during the third annual Polar Bear Plunge on Saturday, Feb. 14. The event raised money for the Special Olympics. Inset photo on opposite page: Janea Anderson, graduate in business administration, smiles after plunging into the 35-degree water.



Jordan Currier, senior in wood technology, spreads his arms before he hits the water. Currier jumped for the Sigma Phi Epsilon team.



# Shivering for charity

People donning outrageous outfits such as homemade Superman costumes and capes, bunny ears and tails, cupid attire and Village People costumes stood around the Crimson Villas pool area, waiting. When the deejay announced their name or team, participants jumped into a 4-foot-deep pool of clear, blue water that was a chilly 35 degrees.

McKenzie Veach, freshman in nursing, was startled when she hit the water.



"It was freezing," she said. "It knocked my breath out."

The daring act wasn't just for show, but for the third-annual Polar Bear Plunge.

With the help of sponsors and \$75 per jumper, the event, held on Feb. 14, raised a little more than \$15,000 for Special Olympics.

The freezing water wasn't enough to stop first-time plunger Kelly Hedgpeth from having a good time.

"It's for a good cause and it was fun," Hedgpeth, sophomore in social work, said.

# Taking the plunge



Students in the scuba class circle around Fred Gebhardt as he teaches them how to properly put on a weight belt.

## Little-known class offers big-time certification, fun

story by Kelsie Collins

Scuba tanks line the edge of the Weede pool as students don their wetsuits. First they check the equipment and the tank pressure. These students are part of a scuba certification program provided by Jayhawk Divers Inc. every semester.

The program typically begins with class-work, but the last hour and a half is devoted to the pool. So, they put on their masks and jump in.

The tanks hiss as divers sink into the clear water. Then, all that can be heard are the bubbles on the water's surface.

Diving instructor Fred Gebhardt surfaces from his first dive to add more weight to his belt.

"Scuba diving is the only time a fat guy can put on a rubber suit and it's not kinky," Gebhardt says. He chuckles as he adds eight

pounds and then sinks again to join the class.

The eight- to 10-week class normally holds about 12 people and is open to anyone ages 12 and up.

"Sometimes our students who are claustrophobic do just fine," Gebhardt said. "But sometimes they get all the way through the semester and can't finish their dives to get the certification."

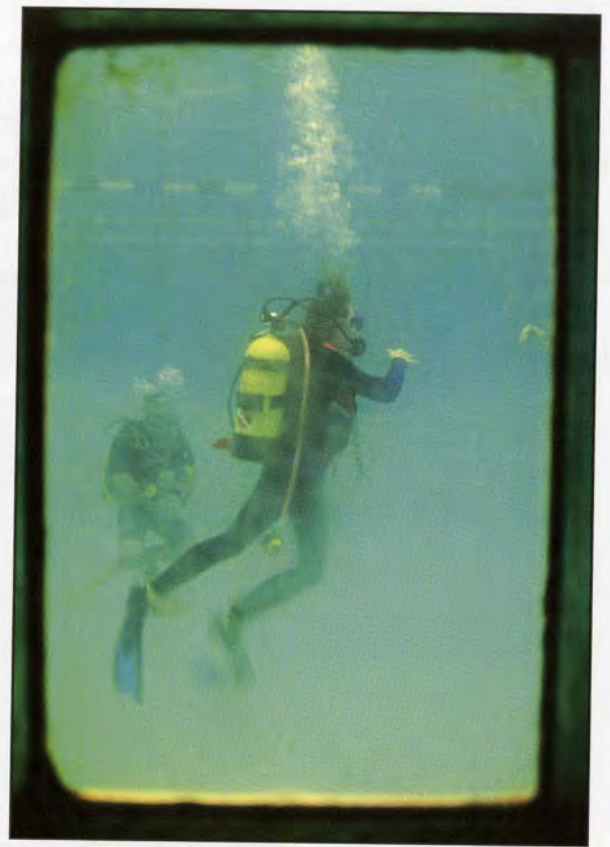
For those people, Gebhardt and co-instructor Jim King offer a one-day introductory course called Discover Scuba. Gebhardt says this is a good way for students to see if they are interested and can handle the gear.

The scuba class is every Tuesday night and costs \$200 for the semester, which covers the cost of certification testing, the books, the equipment which is shared by the entire club and the certification card.

"If more than one person from a family wants to take the class, we'll knock 50 bucks off the 200," King said. "It makes it a little more affordable for families



Brushing up on his scuba skills and testing out a new buoyancy control vest, Valerio Bevilacqua of Pittsburg, breaks the surface.



photos by Brett Armbruster

A student goes to surface during the aquatic portion of the scuba certification class in the pool at the Weede. A small maintenance window located in the basement of the building allows for a unique view.

to get certified together.”

Not many students know about the class, even though it's been offered since 1964. And, it isn't listed on PSU's schedule of classes because it offers no credit.

Gebhardt has been the scuba instructor at PSU since 1983 and King, senior in construction management, since 1998. The two say they can teach a small summer session for people planning to take a diving vacation trip.

“Diving is something I've always wanted to do,” said Tate Whitesell, a PSU employee and former student. “I don't have anything going on on Tuesdays so I figured, why not? It's fun so far.”

Most students can complete the program in eight to 10 weeks, but those who can't are allowed to return the following semester at no extra charge.

Certification testing begins with a 50-question written test over the textbook. Next is the open water dive. It's a two-day test in which the instructors and the students dive in a local lake and prove they mastered the skills taught in class. The certification testing may seem a little intimidating, but there's a big payoff at the end: scuba certifications - and diving memories - last a lifetime.



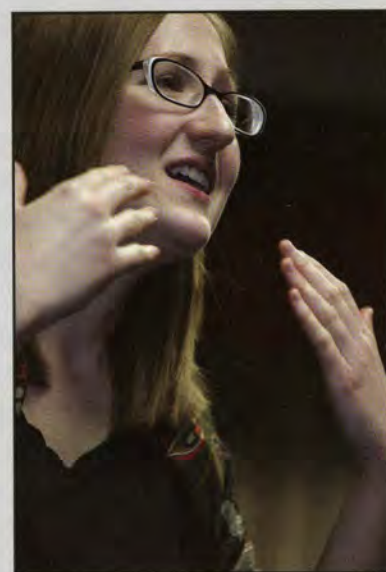
Brushing up on his scuba skills and testing out a new buoyancy control vest, Valerio Bevilacqua of Pittsburg, breaks the surface.



Julie Jones, graduate in communication, performs "Hair."



Ashley Taylor, senior in psychology, acts out "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy."



Liz Darling, senior in art, gestures as she performs "I Was in the Room."

# Empowered women

'Vagina Monologues' sheds light on issues women face, both good and bad

story by Taryn Jones

"The Vagina Monologues" is meant to inspire and empower women.

"I hope audiences will see that we, females, are and should be proud of ourselves for who we are," Denise

Williams, graduate in communication and an actress in this year's show, said. "That we as a gender should be outspoken and stand up for what is right."

Another goal of "The Vagina Monologues" is to get people comfortable hearing and using words that are not normally said. At one point during the show the characters come on stage and start listing different names for the word vagina in a monologue called "Lists." In the beginning of the show you can see the obvious discomfort on most audience members' faces.

Timi Myers says the discomfort is part of the message.

"I like how it really gets the point across overall that we really don't have open conversations about vaginas and women's issues," Myers, junior in social work, said.

"The Vagina Monologues" discussed other taboo topics such as

rape, child molestation and physical details of the vagina. Among the serious topics, the show was light-hearted in its skit "A Six Year Old Girl." The monologue had an older woman asking a 6-year-old questions

"I hope audiences will see that *we, females, are and should be proud of ourselves for who we are.*"

-Denise Williams  
graduate in communication

about her vagina, what it would wear, what would it say if it could speak and what's special about it?

Throughout the performance, actresses read off statistics and facts about domestic violence, female genital mutilation in other countries and rape.

The material presented in the show didn't scare off Joy Wadino, 2005 graduate.

"It is what I expected," she said. "My sister prepared me a little bit, but it was much better than I anticipated."



Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" started as a collection of interviews with more than 200 women. "The Vagina Monologues" led her to create V-Day, a global movement that helps raise awareness and stop violence against women and girls. V-day first began on Feb. 14, 1988, at a sold-out performance of the "Vagina Monologues" at New York's Hammerstein Ballroom.

Ensler performed with other famous actresses, including Susan Sarandon, Glenn Close and Whoopi Goldberg. The

performance raised \$250,000 for local anti-violence groups.

After 10 years, V-Day has raised more than \$60 million. V-Day has grown rapidly since its debut. "The Vagina Monologues" is translated into 45 languages and performed in 120 countries. The money raised goes to local groups.

Pittsburg State's "The Vagina Monologues" was performed by the Women's Studies club on Feb. 27 and 28 in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom. The Women's Studies club charged students \$5 and non-students \$10 and raffled

items such as gift cards at the end of the show. Proceeds went to the Crisis Resource Center of Southeast Kansas, which provides services to adults and children who have been victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The agency's services include a 24-hour crisis hotline, temporary emergency shelter, individual counseling and support.

Megan Stoneberger, senior in communication and director of "The Vagina Monologues," hopes audience members gain insight from the show.

"I like that the show brought to light the issues women deal with everyday," she said. "I hope that the production sparked conversation later on."

*photos by Cayla Thomlinson*

Junior in communication Michelle Rhoades performs one of her monologues during the "Vagina Monologues" dress rehearsal Monday, Feb. 23. The show is to raise awareness on sexual and emotional abuse. Ninety percent of the proceeds go to the Crisis Research Center and 10 percent to Women in the Congo.



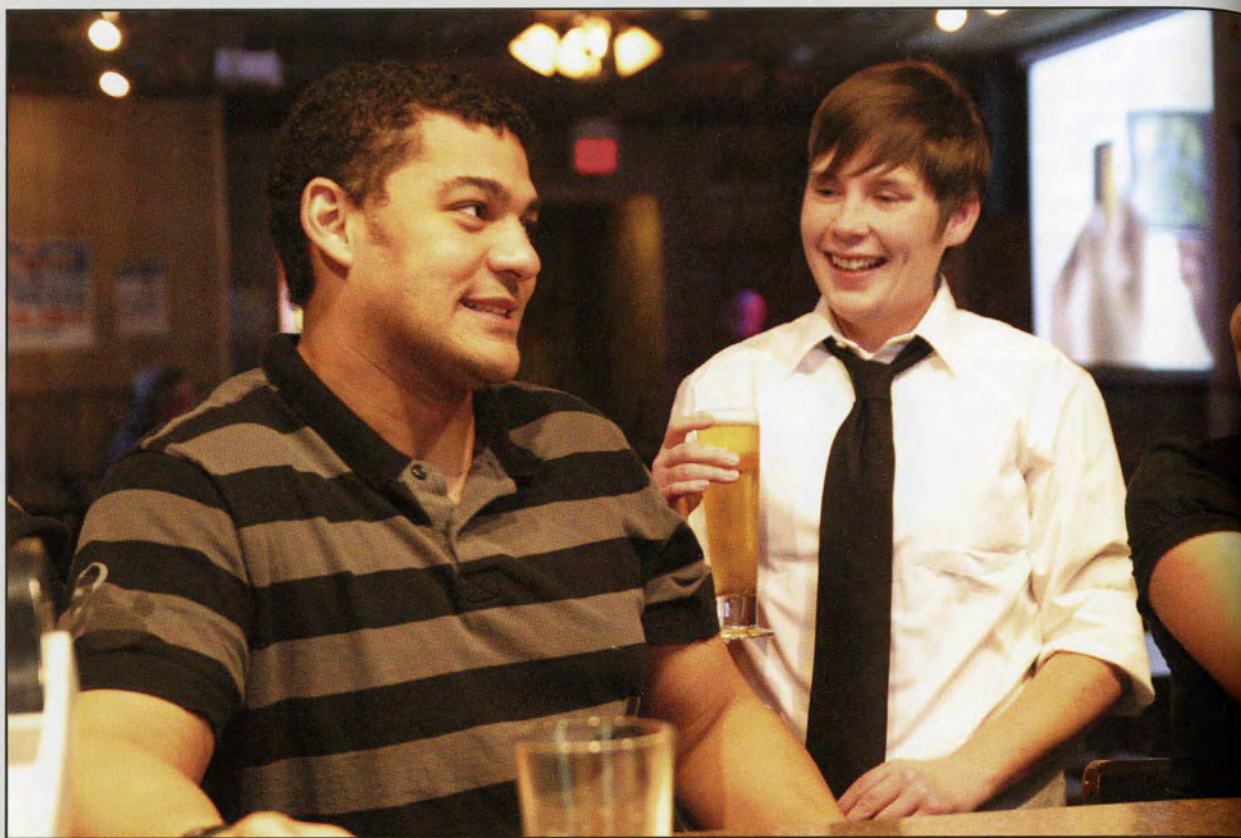


photo by Katie Swatek

Brenton Garrett, senior in general studies, and Becca Ransome, senior in international business, chat while they sample the beer in 5th Street's new addition, The Beer Loft.

# 108

story by Krystal Pakitos

Jeff Strahan, owner of 5th Street Bar and Grill, was getting tired of the average bar scene. His business wasn't going in the direction that he wanted, and after 12 years of being open, he put it up for sale. One weekend, while Strahan was visiting Nashville, Tenn., with his wife, they stopped at "The Flying Saucer," a franchise restaurant known for its wide variety of domestic and imported beer.

"We were just sitting there discussing what we were going to do with the upstairs (of the bar)," Strahan said. "I was burned out on it. My wife said, 'Why don't we do this?' We did a lot more research and decided that's

what we were going to do. When we came back, we stayed open and got our plan down."

Strahan renovated the upstairs, transforming the bar and dance floor into what is now known as The Beer Loft.

"With the layout, I had no idea what I was going to do," Strahan said. "I knew we couldn't do it with the existing bar that was in here."

The menu, headlined "The Most Beer in over 100 Miles," lists 108 types of beer, 35 of which are on tap.

"It's something that has never been done in Pittsburg before," Strahan said. "Thirty-five beers on tap has never been seen in this area."

Strahan said that since the opening of the loft, his sales have dramatically

## 8 Bottles of Local bar expands upstairs

increased without any advertisement.

"I knew that word of mouth was going to be good, but I didn't think it'd be as good as it was," Strahan said. "We kind of expected to start slow and progress one day at a time."

Strahan said that eventually he wants to offer incentives for people to try all 108 beers.

"We are going to do 'Around the World,'" Strahan said. "We are going to get a kiosk that will allow people to apply and get their own card and then come in and swipe it. Whatever beers they've had it will keep track and whatever beers they need, it will keep track. And then we are going to have a wall of fame. We are going to put their 8-by-10 picture on the wall and the number of which they did it, how long it took and the date."

Vanze Endicott, bar security, was the first person to finish all 108 beers and he did it in seven days. Endicott said that the loft has an environment to offer that other bars in town do not.

"Here, you have the opportunity to try a lot of different beer that you normally wouldn't be able to have and be able to relax," Endicott said. "You don't have to worry about a dance floor or that kind of stuff."

Shay Alford, senior in psychology, agrees that the setting at the loft is unlike any in town.

"I really like the atmosphere," Alford said. "It's different from the downstairs because it's more laid back. I liked the variety of beer on tap that they had, and I'm not a big beer drinker."

In addition to the largest beer selection in town, the loft also has a 135-inch projection screen, the second largest viewing screen in town only to the Jungle Tron. There are a total of

four TVs in the loft, and Strahan said that his goal is to become the place where the people of the community can come to watch sporting events.

"Any time a big game is on, we will have it on surround sound," Strahan said. "You won't just be able to see it; you will be able to hear it. I will turn the music off. We want to be known as the bar that will be playing all of the games."

By next year, Strahan also hopes to revamp his menu, offering new items in addition to the other types of bar food already offered.

"We're going to incorporate a few sandwiches and some soups and some more appetizers," Strahan said. "It's not going to be a restaurant; it's just going to be a bar and grill, a place where you can get a good sandwich and soup."

Although 5th Street is known for "Taco Tuesdays," in which they offer three tacos for a dollar every Tuesday night, Strahan said he is going to start having other daily specials. He wants to offer different types of beer nights, such as "Stout Night" and "Wheat Night." Strahan said he also is going to get T-shirts for the loft, but since he didn't anticipate how quickly the bar would get busy, he hasn't gotten around to designing them yet.



photo by Ty Cox

A 5th Street bartender pours a Strong-bow cider.



photo by Ty Cox

Thirty five beers can be found on tap in The Beer Loft at the 5th Street Bar and Grill.

# beer on the wall

to create the largest beer selection in town

# Experiencing the symptoms

Nursing students use virtual reality to feel what schizophrenia is like



Junior nursing major Zach Smith tries out a virtual reality machine that simulates what it would be like to have schizophrenia. This machines uses sight, sound, smell and feel to make the experience as real as possible.

story by Krystal Pakitsos

*You pull the mask over your face and a screen appears inches from your eyes. You're suddenly in a home, walking around, performing everyday tasks. You can see hands on the screen and the hands begin to feel like your own. Suddenly, many voices begin talking to you. The voices are arguing. They are telling you that you are worthless, incompetent. You pour a cup of coffee and the voices tell you not to drink the coffee because it is poison. A rancid, pungent smell fills your nostrils, the smell of poison coffee.*

MINDSTORM is a tool that lets people experience symptoms of schizophrenia through a virtual reality headpiece. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, a company out of Overland Park, brought MINDSTORM to the Nursing Department on Tuesday, March 31, to allow nursing students to experience these symptoms.

"It's supposed to change the perspective of students so that they really understand that these people are sick, they are actually hearing these voices," Linda Bitner, nursing instructor, said.

Bitner was the first person at PSU to try the virtual reality headset and was surprised by its accuracy.

"You actually feel like you are that person, and this

person is off of their medication, so they are hearing voices and they are seeing things," Bitner said. "They think that the food and the coffee is poison. You have the smell, the olfactory sensation that the coffee is bad."

The virtual reality experience lasts seven minutes and those participating are placed in a quiet room with the lights off to avoid external distractions. Jillian Ryan, junior in nursing, was one of the first students at PSU to try out the machine. She explained that the reality of schizophrenia was almost overbearing.

"I wanted to have the whole experience, but I was definitely shaking and nervous," Ryan said. "It's chaos. There is so much going on and you're hearing three or four different voices telling you different things. The pizza guy comes, the TV's on, but the smell is what got to me. You even feel the weather."

Zach Smith, junior in nursing, said that the machine expressed the life of a schizophrenic in ways that can't be taught.

"I don't know how they function," Smith said. "It gave me a better understanding of how their everyday life is. You can read about it, but it's not the same."

Bitner explained that people with schizophrenia are often misunderstood by society.

"(Society looks) at them and they think they are crazy," Bitner said. "That's one word we don't use in psych class."

Rodney Longhofer, senior area business specialist for Janssen Pharmaceuticals, agreed with Bitner, saying that schizophrenics are, in a sense, shunned by society.

"When you think of mental illness, it's always a stigma," Longhofer said. "No one is ever proud to say they have a mental illness or they don't want to talk about it. But yet, you'll tell someone that a loved one has cancer, and, quite frankly, I think being diagnosed with schizophrenia is worse than cancer."

Longhofer said that unlike cancer, there is less compassion for people with mental illness and the funding for treatment is continuously being cut.

"It's something you have for life," Longhofer said. "You can improve your functionality, though. By going to groups, adhering to medicine and by having a good support system, you can be a functional person."

Longhofer said that MINDSTORM was developed by asking the people who know schizophrenia better than anyone else: schizophrenics.

"It was just a group of schizophrenics who were in a room along with some techno-geeks, and they asked, 'What's it

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“It's supposed to *change the perspective* of students so that they really *understand that these people are sick*, they are actually hearing these voices.”

**-Linda Bitner**  
nursing instructor

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photos by Jennifer Nichols

Junior nursing student Michelle Foltz experiences what it would be like to have schizophrenia, using a virtual reality machine that affects sight, smell, hearing and touch.

like?' and they explained it to them and developed the program," Longhofer said.

Although the program is primarily shown to law enforcement as a training tool, it is also shown to social workers, caregivers, healthcare professionals and friends and family members of those with schizophrenia. Longhofer explained that the ultimate goal for the program is to get people to develop compassion and understanding about a misunderstood illness.

"These are people, for crimony sakes. They're people; they are phenomenal," Longhofer said. "They joke around, they kid around. Just have the compassion and see it in a different light."

# Depending on a test

Students dedicate hours to preparing for the MCAT

story by Victoria Robinson

**M**elissa Roush plans to be a medical doctor for the Army. But first, she has to get into a medical school. And before she can get into med school, she needs to take the MCAT.

The MCAT, or the Medical College Admission Test, is used by medical colleges to decide which applicants are accepted for admission. Other than grade-point average, the MCAT is one of the most important aspects to the evaluation process.

"This has been the most stressful time so far in my life," said Roush, junior in biology. In addition to her other classes, Roush attends a three-hour Kaplan review course three times a week.

"But there is still a lot of studying outside of the class. I try to study at least one hour each day," she said.

Because the MCAT is one of the most important factors in getting accepted into medical school, doing well on the test is essential.

She said that although she hopes to do well the first time on the test, if she doesn't she will have to take it again, because her future depends on medical school.

"Some others can take it and just keep taking it; with my situation it's different because of ROTC," Rouse said. "I have to be accepted by the fall of next year, so it's a whole different timeline."

The Kaplan review class is held in Kelce Center and has 11 students. The course, says Roush, helps her gain test-taking skills.

Although the course is expensive, amounting in \$1,366, it can benefit students who want to grasp how to apply their knowledge for a

standardized test, says Virginia Rider, professor of zoology.

"It gives students the strategies they need to take the test," Rider said. "It teaches you how to take a standardized exam."

But not all students who plan to take the MCAT register for the Kaplan class. Some, like Grant DePoy, prefer to prepare for the test on their own.

"I self-study," said DePoy, junior in biology. "A lot of people do the Kaplan, but I am pretty self-motivated."

DePoy, who hopes to be an emergency-room physician, started studying in January and does so about 20 hours a week.

But another way students have to prepare is the Biology Department's pre-health orientation class.

"The pre-health orientation class has former students come in and speak about their experiences with the MCAT," Rider said. The former students offer advice on the best times to take the MCAT, when to start applying to medical schools and where to find tools to help them do well on the MCAT.

Roush said that the pre-health orientation is a great way to keep students on track on where they should be in order to apply for medical school on time.

"I think it's pretty interesting," said Roush. "It's fun to go hear actual physicians tell what they do everyday. It really keeps you on track and lets you know what you need to do."

Armed with that advice, Roush started studying after Christmas break. She says this is the most stress she has ever experienced in college.

"Hell, yeah," she said.





*photo by Brett Armbruster*

Surrounding herself with textbooks and Kaplan review guides, Melissa Roush studies for the MCAT on Wednesday, April 29, in the library. By taking the Kaplan course and studying on her own, Roush studies at least 15 hours each week for the exam.



photos by Cayla Thomlinson

Jenae Palmer and Aaron Journot mix and match ties, vests and coats on mannequins at Jean Scene in Pittsburg about a month before their wedding.

# Exams

Three women manage planning a wedding and schoolwork

story by Victoria Robinson

Kristin Heuer, senior in English and French, alternates between flipping through wedding magazines and skimming textbooks. She says that sometimes it is hard planning a wedding while being a college student, but she and her fiancé manage.

Jenae Palmer, junior in public relations, says that she has trouble focusing at times.

"It's more of sitting in class and I am bad at zoning out," Palmer said. "So I just think - I need to do this and this."

Planning the number of guests, deciding the size and flavor of the cake and selecting just the right wedding gowns are all necessary details when planning a wedding. So, how do PSU students balance this with class and studies? Kayla Hay, whose wedding is scheduled for June 27, says that taking fewer classes has helped.

"I took a light load this semester so I can plan the wedding," Hays said. "So it's not so bad."

Alex Miceli, junior in English, says that she sometimes sets aside time, but for the most part she goes with the flow.

"It depends on what I can accomplish at the time," she said. "If I have an appointment to do something, I have an appointment ... (if I have) just spare time and I see something online that might be possible, I'll



# & engagements

just click on it. I have to do a lot of my planning by Internet and phone.”

But Palmer and her fiancé, Aaron Journot, decided to take a more structured approach to planning their wedding.

“I started out looking at magazines,” Palmer said. “We then became registered on theknot.com. We have a checklist with what we need to do, and a countdown.”

Journot, senior in wood technology, said that he lets his fiancée come up with the ideas and he takes care of the paperwork.

“She plans in her head and I take care of it on paper,” Journot said.

Heuer says she loves being engaged, but at times planning the future gets stressful.

“It is difficult because there is a lot of strain between my devotion to school and my devotion to my relationship,” Heuer said.

When time permits, some couples choose to pass on the college party scene and take full advantage of their quality time.

Heuer and her fiancé find that it is most important to be together during their free time.

“We are strictly home life,” Heuer said.

Though planning a wedding can be difficult, getting advice from family and friends helps alleviate



Kayla Hay, sophomore in math, makes finishing touches on her bouquets in Trout Hall on April 22.

some of the stress.

Miceli says that any student planning a wedding should ask others who have been through it and look for freebies.

“My advice would be to get advice from college students who have done it before,” Miceli said. “It can really take a chunk out of your budget ... look into Timmons Chapel because it’s free.”



Seniors Alex Miceli, English creative writing, and Jordan Radcliff, general studies, visit the Timmons Chapel on campus. Miceli and Radcliff are to be married there on June 8, after a little over a two-year engagement. The two met while attending Independence Community College in Independence and began dating in late 2005.



Members of Circle K (clockwise from bottom left) Marissa Ritter, graduate in teaching, Stephanie Burger, junior in nursing, Kim Shroyer, senior in early/late childhood, and Sarah Dees, senior in early/late childhood, volunteer their Saturday afternoon at the Southeast Kansas Recycle Center sorting paper as part of their duties for the organization. Seaniece Davis, the little sister of Dees in the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization, spends time with her big sister while sorting from inside the box of paper.

# Pitching in

Students volunteer time to help others

story by Kelsie Collins

**M**any Pitt State students volunteer, but the reasons and the ways they do are different for every individual.

"Helping others is very important," said Stephanie Burger, junior in nursing. "Since I'm able to help out I feel like I should."

Whether students are walking dogs, sorting recycled goods, being a lunch buddy for a young student, or helping with Special Olympics, student volunteers have a reason for doing what they do in the community.

Michelle Bernhart, senior in biology, helps at the Humane Society.

"It's good for self-worth," Bernhart said. "Then animals just love you."

## Big Brothers Big Sisters

Pitt State has a little-known club called PSU Bigs, and all the members are either a Big Brother or Big Sister for an elementary or middle school student. The Pitt State students are committed to their Little for about two hours a week and are matched with the same buddy for the whole

school year.

Alyssa Hillman, junior in social work, says the best part about being a Big is getting to know the Little.

"If I'm having a bad day, she can help me out with what we're doing," Hillman said.

Hillman, also the president of the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization, she got her start with the Big Brothers Big Sisters in high school and wanted to do it in college. She sometimes gets to see her Little twice a week, just once.

## SEK Recycling Center

In 2008, the Southeast Kansas Recycle Center collected 4.5 million pounds of recycled paper with only 11 paid full- and part-time employees. All the help they can get. Circle K, a group of students involved with several volunteering organizations, goes out at the recycling center once a week.

"They don't get a lot of help," said Marissa Ritter, Circle K. "They are very appreciative of what we do."

Kim Shroyer, senior in elementary education, says



photos by Brett Armbruster

One of Michelle Bernhart's responsibilities is to handle the puppies to make sure they aren't afraid of people.



Bernhart, junior in biology, carries Fox, a rescued dog, outside. Bernhart who has been volunteering at the Southeast Kansas Humane Society for about one year, partnered with Fox for the dog walk at the mall the next day.

school year.

Alyssa Hillman, junior in social work and Spanish, says the best part about being a Big is getting to see her buddy.

"If I'm having a bad day, she can cheer me up no matter what we're doing," Hillman said.

Hillman, also the president of the PSU Bigs club, said she got her start with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program in high school and wanted to do it more. She said she sometimes gets to see her Little twice a week, instead of just once.

### SEK Recycling Center

In 2008, the Southeast Kansas Recycling Center collected 4.5 million pounds of recycled goods. However, with only 11 paid full- and part-time workers, they need all the help they can get. Circle K, a Pitt State group that is involved with several volunteering projects, tries to help out at the recycling center once a week.

"They don't get a lot of help," said Burger, president of Circle K. "They are very appreciative when we come in."

Kim Shroyer, senior in elementary education, agrees

with Burger.

"I like the recycling center 'cause they take all the stuff that people recycle so it's good to go and help out," Shroyer said.

### Humane Society

Students who volunteer at the Humane Society are kept on their toes. Whether they are walking dogs, cleaning or helping out with fundraisers, volunteers find enjoyment in helping out at the Humane Society.

"The work is very varied," said Bernhart. "It's never boring and very fun. Dogs get out, you get covered in mud, and I can choose what I want to do there."

Bernhart says she likes to help out at the Humane Society because she lives in the dorms and can't have a pet there. She heard the Humane Society was a no-kill center, which was heartening and encouraging in her decision to volunteer.

"I needed something to do in the afternoons. I can use my experience later on," she said.

# PLAYBILL

*photos by Hadyn Barnes*

Josh Letner's character urges Genny, played by Lucy Miller-Downing, to go ahead and break his neck, like she used to do to the chickens when she was a little girl. Despite her anger with her father for making her a chicken choker at such a young age, she can't bring herself to kill him.



Amy Rowland, playing the part of Fran, a previous employee at Ithaca Techno Solutions, narrates a memo that Miller-Downing's character had just found after attempting to detonate a bomb in the office building.



Duke Walter tries to persuade Miller-Downing not to detonate the bomb she just found by telling her personal information about himself. Although she appreciates the gesture, she's already made her decision to blast the office building they're working in.

# Temporarily employed

## Students perform offbeat 'TempODYSSEY'

story by Taryn Jones

"TempODYSSEY" isn't a typical play. It has no songs, no sappy romances and no over-the-top sets. The show pairs an office atmosphere with a quirky storyline.

Genny, a farm girl from Appalachia, moves from Atlanta to the rainy city of Seattle. She makes her living by being a permanent office temp. She chooses this work because she believes that people who get close to her will inevitably end up dying before their time. Through Genny's office adventures, the play is a search for one's personal identity.

Gil Cooper, director, says he wanted to change things up from his past darker plays, "Marisol" and "Wait Until Dark."

"I wanted to do a show that was amusing, funny and a comedy," Cooper said.

"It was lighter than the last show I had done before and (this play) could relate well with the students."

He says that the show did not come out as he had originally envisioned it, but he was happy with the result.

"I had a very different vision, but that's the great thing about collaboration," Cooper said. "With collaboration the show becomes a different and better show."

One of his favorite parts of directing this show was being able to work with the cast and crew.

"Working with them was a lot of fun and a good experience," Cooper said.

Duke Walter, who played Dead Body Boy, agreed and said he enjoyed

working with Cooper again.

"He and I have a long history together," Walter said. "He gets good things out of me and I get good things out of him."

Walter describes his character as a person with good qualities.

"(He's) confident and fragile and funny and unsure of himself all at the same time," he said.

Walter says the show was a new challenge, but that's what he loves about acting.

"I don't take a role and not do all that I can do to bring it to life," Walter said. "...You have to ask yourself and find answers to hundreds of questions about your character if you want to come across as more than someone on stage saying lines that they memorized."



After being told that he's dead, Walter's character tries to "raise his heart rate with cardiovascular exercise!" He soon realizes that there's no hope; he is, in fact, dead after all.



Miller-Downing's character gasps at the realization that she has just killed her co-worker, played by Walter, after he tried to kiss her in the basement of their office building.

# Changes on



photo by Jennifer Nichols  
Contributors to the project and members of Student Government Association break ground to celebrate the start of construction on the new student health center.

## New student health center to open in Fall 2009

story by Kelsie Collins

Student Health Services has been in its current location on Joplin Street since 1971. When it was established, they offered primary care and had to refer students to a physician for anything more. At the time, the health center had one nurse and physicians from around the area volunteer one or two hours.

Currently, the center has three physicians and is lacking adequate space. There is a lack of privacy, and the mental health services are at a different location on campus. The health center is looking to make some changes.

“We want to offer students as much if not more than

their own primary care physician in their hometown,” said Donald Holsinger, medical director at Student Health Services.

The new facility will combine the current health services and the Mental Health and Wellness into one building on Broadway. They will provide X-rays and have better digital equipment. They will also have a larger recovery room for students who are dehydrated and aren't in bad enough condition to go to the hospital.

“We aren't trying to make a profit on our students,” Holsinger said. “We just want to offer them the best services possible.”



photos by Mandy Toepfer

**Left:** As of June 3, more work has to be done on the health center. When construction is complete, the final layout is going to look like the image above.

# campus



photo by Shalin Patel

Several members of Student Government Association, military members, Tom Bryant, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, and other supporters cut the ribbon at the recreation center's dedication ceremony, Sept. 27.

## Recreation center opens Aug. 4

The \$16 million, 97,000-square-foot PSU student recreation center and Kansas National Guard Armory opened on Aug. 4. The building was dedicated on Sept. 27 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The building holds training areas for the National Guard, Health, Human Performance and Recreation department office and, of course, a place where students can exercise on treadmills, ellipticals and other equipment.



photo by Shalin Patel

The weight area in the recreation center.



photo by Shalin Patel

The indoor track overlooks several basketball courts.

## McCray and Porter get a facelift

New windows, new heating and air system and a new tile roof are just a few of the upgrades McCray Hall is receiving. The project is estimated to cost \$2.8 million. Porter Hall isn't missing out on the esthetic change. Porter's project is estimated to cost \$3 million and the same renovations that McCray received are expected to be done in Porter as well.



photo by Aaron Anders

New windows are installed in McCray on Wednesday, Nov. 12.

## Parking may get better

The long-time problem of parking may improve within the coming year. The task of renovating and enlarging the parking lots of Nation Hall and Grubbs Hall started during the summer and several houses were removed north of Shirk Hall to make way for a new parking lot entirely.

# On display

Senior exhibit touches on personal, practical

story by Lisa Norris

The culmination of four years of study for six female artists was on display in Porter Hall for the senior art exhibit, titled "So on and So Forth..." The exhibit featured the students' selection of works from their portfolios and personal creations.

A variety of media was displayed, from photography and painting to calendars and stationery. All of the works reveal the artist's personal style and preference on choice of color and subject matter.

Tera Reed's paintings are studies of flora and the human form. The rich color palette Reed employs keeps the mind and the eye moving through the images from one detail to another. Reed's portraits are accurate representations of the lively individuals they depict.

More paintings were on display from Deann Norris, who captured the skyline and riverfront of a city, the open spaces of rural life, and the changing of the seasons. Her representations of these scenes are accurate and beautiful compositions.

Her brush strokes and the movement captured in her images keep the eye roving through her pieces. Norris' flamingos are lively and vibrant on their textured foreground. They look so realistic and gorgeous. The same realism is found in her oil painting "Light," where her use of layered paint and heavy strokes on the bricks implies their natural texture and qualities.

Simple but beautiful jewelry was featured from artist Shaina Stroud. Her self-portrait brooch features a geometric visage. It is an intriguing and eye-catching piece, crafted from brass. Stroud has also dabbled in sculpture in



photos by Aaron Anders

An artistic chandelier hovers over Randi Leihoff's senior art exhibit.





A photograph titled "Fear" by senior Brooke Letourneau was in the "So on and So Forth..." exhibit on the second floor in Porter Hall.

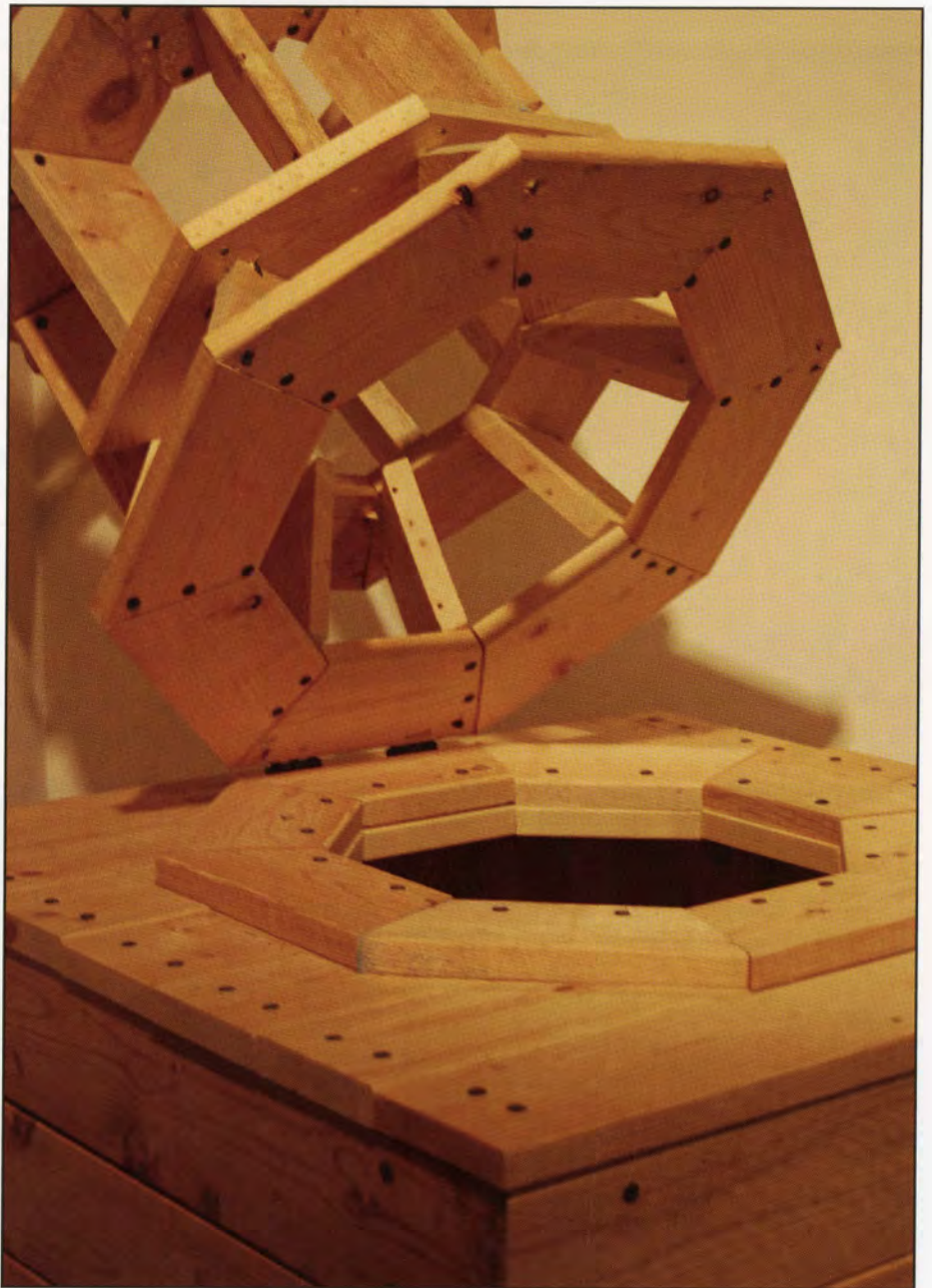
her time in the Art Department, an effort that has yielded the creation of an oversized nail polish bottle, made from wood.

A lighted pinhole portrait illuminates Alysha Dockhum's display of handcrafted stationery, wooden boxes and a 2010 calendar book featuring Dockhum's drawings and composite images. Dockhum uses vintage fabric and lace ribbon in much of her work, creating delicate designs that give her work a feminine quality. All of Dockhum's pieces are painstakingly detailed and intricate.

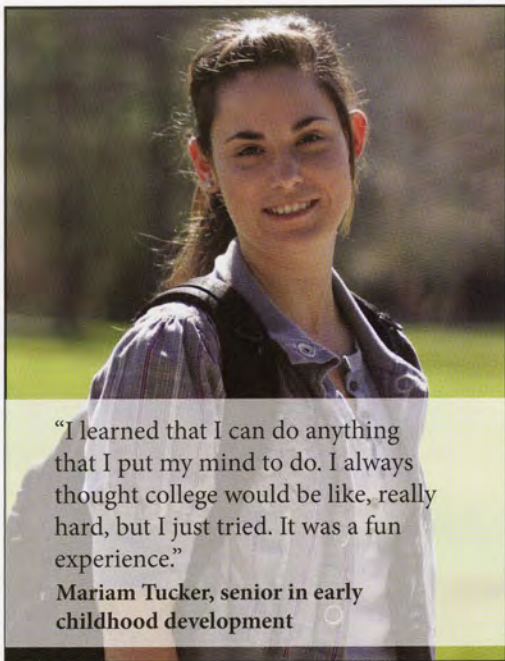
Photographer Brooke Letourneau's body of work concerns the female form within the limitations of the acceptable norm. Her display also featured two portraits of females and a collection of stationery including business cards with her designs and holiday cards. The process of producing the ideal image motivates Letourneau's work.

The sixth exhibitor, Randi Leihoff, contributed an altogether different aesthetic to the exhibit. Leihoff's works emphasize computer-generated graphics rather than traditional artistic outlets in the other featured works. Leihoff also displays stationery, cartooned portraits, a coloring book and decorative elements such as a coffee mug and chandelier. Her pieces have vibrant colors and simplistic designs reminiscent of the original Lisa Frank stationery line.

All of the senior exhibitors produced intriguing works that appeal to a variety of people. From the traditional studies of sculpture, drawing and painting to the technologies of computer graphics and photography, all of the disciplines are beautifully executed.

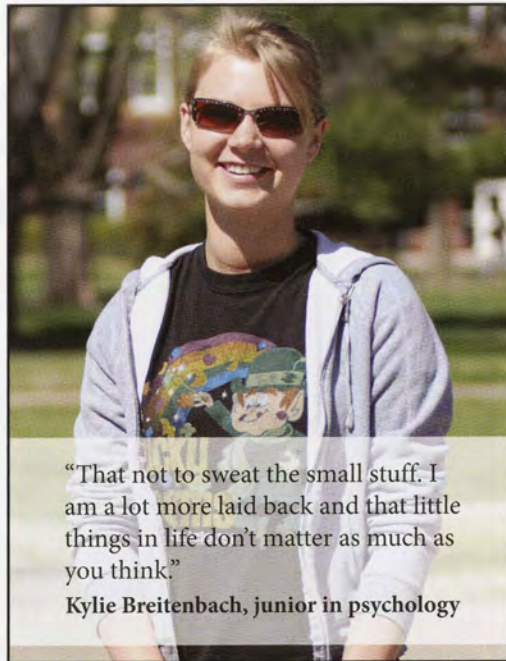


A nail polish bottle made out of wood was part of Shaina Stroud's senior exhibit. But sculpture wasn't the only art Stroud displayed. She also exhibited jewelry she had created.



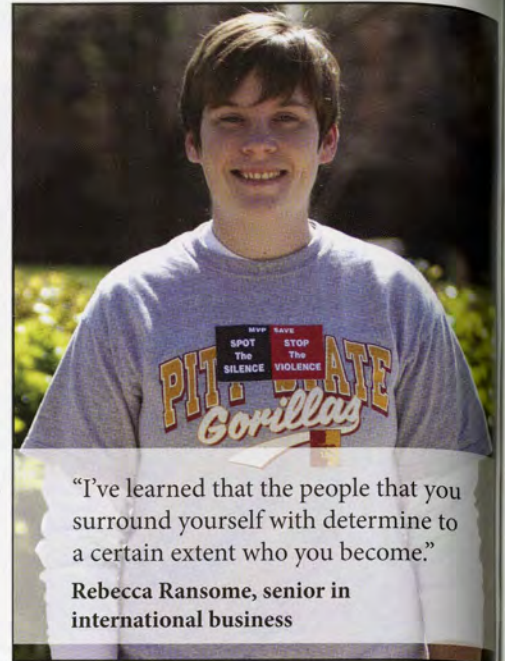
“I learned that I can do anything that I put my mind to do. I always thought college would be like, really hard, but I just tried. It was a fun experience.”

**Mariam Tucker, senior in early childhood development**



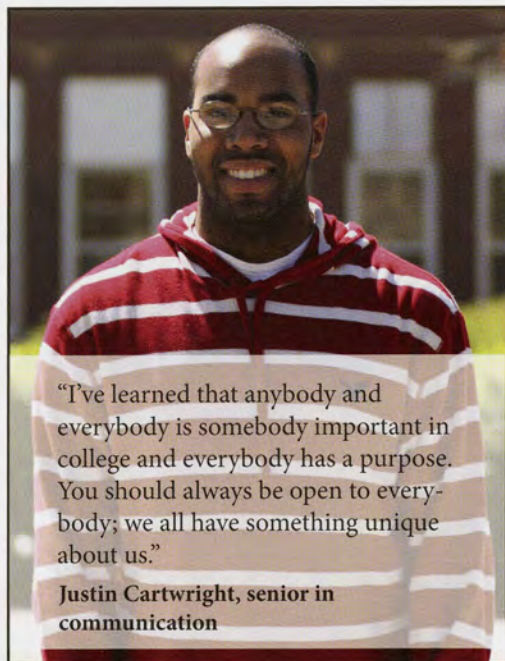
“That not to sweat the small stuff. I am a lot more laid back and that little things in life don’t matter as much as you think.”

**Kylie Breitenbach, junior in psychology**



“I’ve learned that the people that you surround yourself with determine to a certain extent who you become.”

**Rebecca Ransome, senior in international business**



“I’ve learned that anybody and everybody is somebody important in college and everybody has a purpose. You should always be open to everybody; we all have something unique about us.”

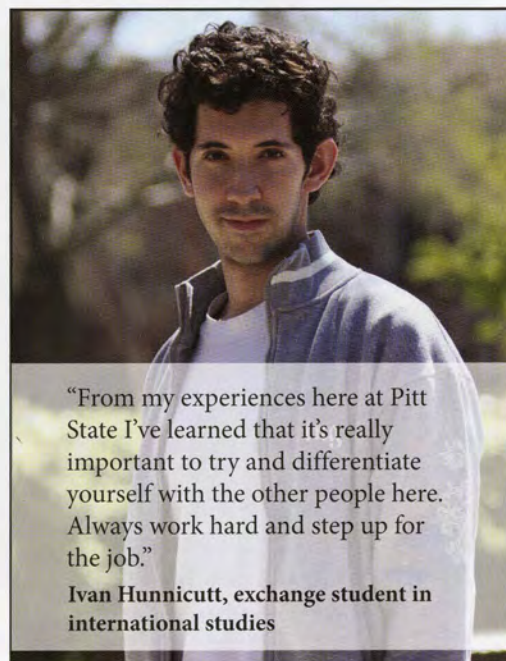
**Justin Cartwright, senior in communication**

# What have you learned about yourself while in college?



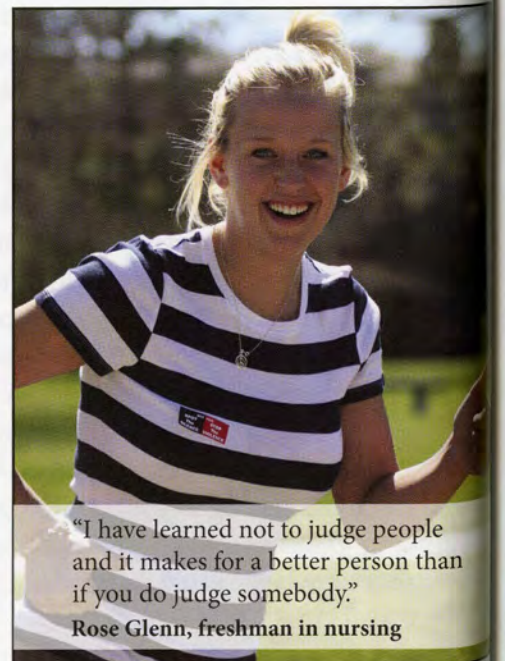
“I learned about my capabilities on how we do things. Being away from home you have to depend upon yourself. Joining the organization we learned how to particularly to be organized. You learn a lot that you won’t get from home.”

**Li Shin Chang, sophomore in accounting, finance and economics**



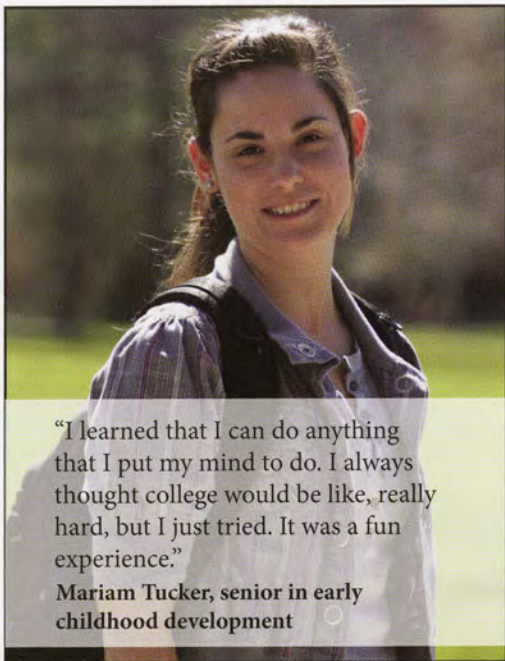
“From my experiences here at Pitt State I’ve learned that it’s really important to try and differentiate yourself with the other people here. Always work hard and step up for the job.”

**Ivan Hunnicutt, exchange student in international studies**



“I have learned not to judge people and it makes for a better person than if you do judge somebody.”

**Rose Glenn, freshman in nursing**



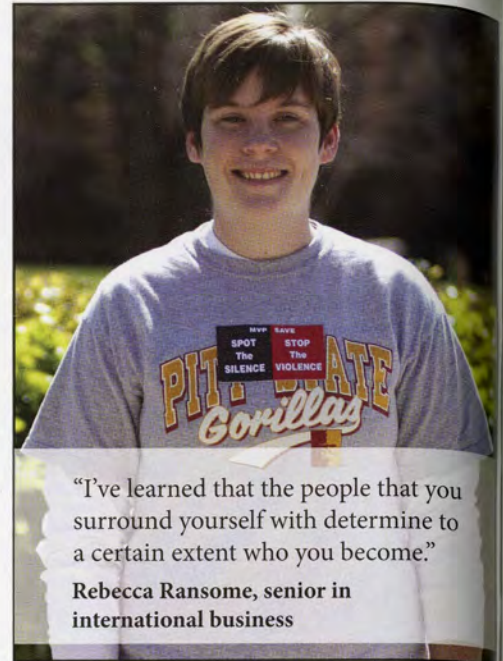
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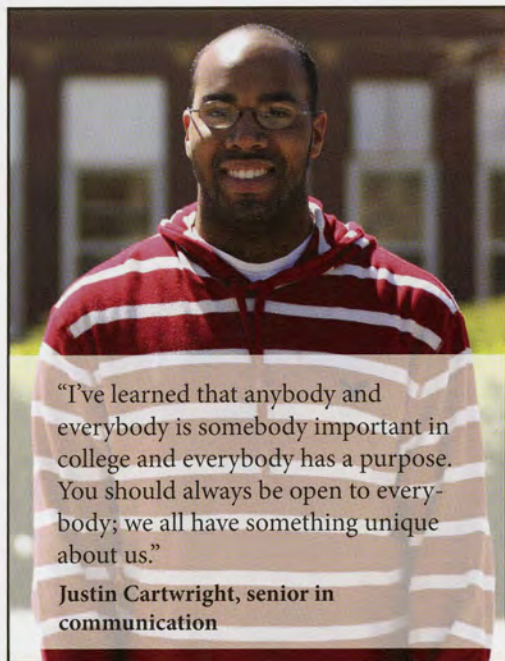
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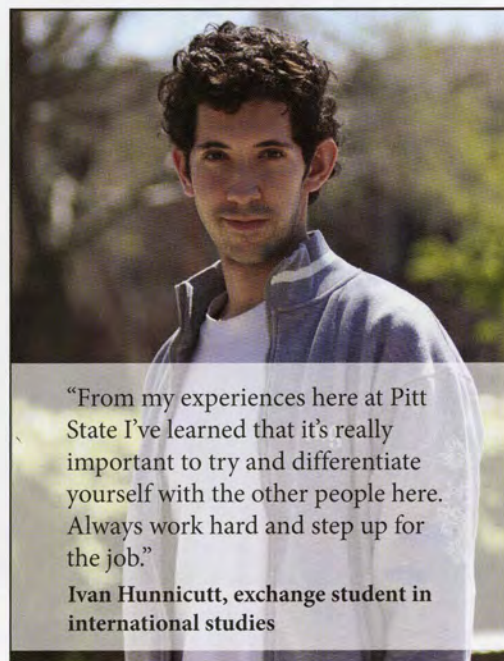
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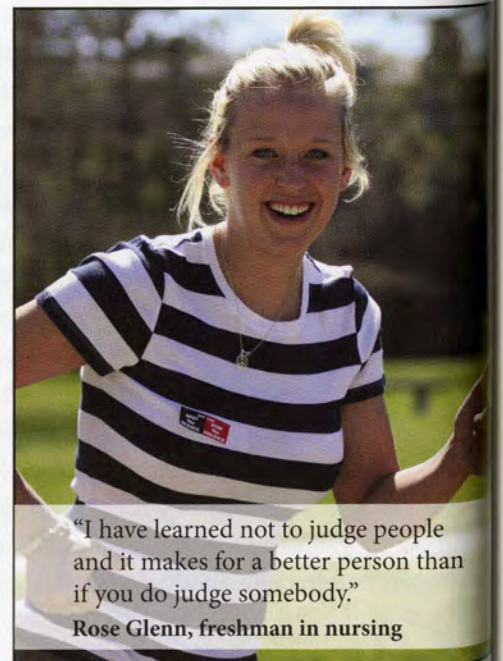
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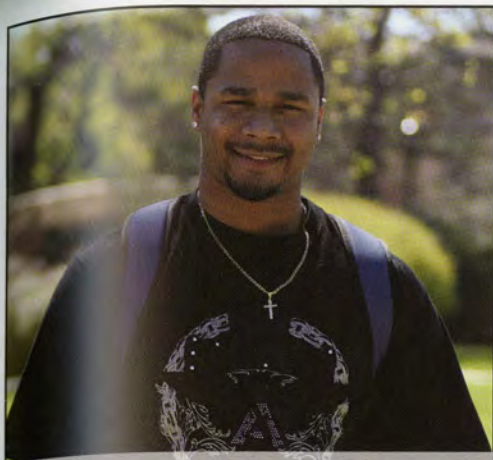
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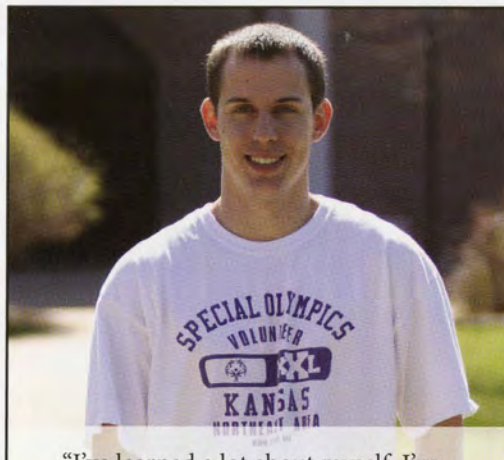
“I have learned not to judge people and it makes for a better person than if you do judge somebody.”

**Rose Glenn, freshman in nursing**



"More excited, I would say, since I'm older now and more focused on the things I need to do."

**Briceton Wilson, senior in physical education**



"I've learned a lot about myself. I've learned that I like to go to class and get straight A's and have a lot of fun in college."

**Aaron Rehmert, junior in physical education**



"I've learned that if you don't go to class then you won't make the grades. Get out as soon as possible."

**Scott John, junior in physical education**

*quotes recorded by Victoria Robinson*

*photos by Cayla Thomlinson*

College not only gives you the resources to learn through classwork, but also the atmosphere to learn about yourself. On April 9, a Kanza writer and photographer asked what students have discovered about themselves during their college career.



"I've learned how much I can tolerate, my tolerance for ignorance and how much I've matured over the years. It's been a long ride on a short leash basically because of basketball. College made me learn how to put distractions aside and concentrate on the bigger picture which is my degree and my future."

**TJ Stukes, junior in physical therapy**



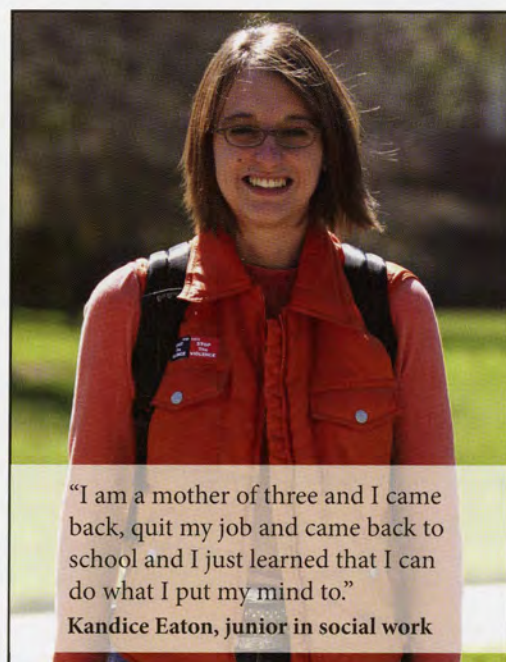
"I've learned to become really open minded. I never realized how open minded I was."

**Mitchell Grant, junior in communication**



"I have found that I have more strengths than I thought that I had: to return to school and to set goals and do whatever I want to do."

**Janice Hendrix, junior in psychology**



"I am a mother of three and I came back, quit my job and came back to school and I just learned that I can do what I put my mind to."

**Kandice Eaton, junior in social work**

# Saving — the — scenery

## Pitt State participates in the green movement

*story by Mandy Toepfer*

**W**ith the help of environmental documentaries such as “An Inconvenient Truth,” hybrid cars and SUVs showing up at car dealerships and reusable bags becoming a staple in grocery stores, the environmental movement has come a long way since the first Earth Day in 1970.

Because Google retrieves 11.5 million results for the keywords “going green,” it seems everyone wants to be a part of the green movement.

Pitt State isn’t missing the bandwagon.

Around Apple Day in 2007, Pittsburg State saw a need to save resources. Steve Erwin, associate vice president of campus life and auxiliary services, Jim Triplett, biology professor, and other administrators formed the University Committee for Energy and Resource Conservation. They split the group into two subcommittees: recycling and resource conservation.

“We didn’t want it to just be about recycling,” Triplett said. “Steve Erwin and I realized there was a bigger picture there.”

But their first project as a committee did have to do with recycling.

Even though the recycling center location has since moved, Quick Print served as the first collection and drop-off point.

“That was the key element to getting the recycling program going because we had a real place to call the recycling center and we made it easy for people to bring their stuff over when they

came over to pick up their mail,” Triplett said. “And we knew that was only the beginning.”

As Triplett had predicted, the effort grew. With the money that was generated from recycled materials, the committee could now hire student help and place recycling containers on campus.

Several physical plant workers, who are part of the 12-member group, added their own solutions to energy conservation. According to Triplett, these members have installed light control sensors that shut off lights when no one is in a room. They have also replaced doorways to Grubbs and Yates halls because they were leaky and wasted energy.

Triplett says by taking these steps Pittsburg State is heading in the right direction.

“You have to kind of crawl before you can walk and run,” he said. “I’d say we’re just about to transition from the crawl to walk stage.”

The group’s projects keep growing in scale.

The construction engineering technology students and faculty teamed up with the committee and built the first green building on campus property: the Natural History Reserve Laboratory, located on the university’s 80-acre Natural History Reserve.

An old wooden, termite-infested laboratory was torn down to make room for the new building. The structure was made of ECO-BLOCK, a wall insulator that has a Styrofoam core, in the middle of which concrete is poured. For the roof and siding, the group used metal salvaged from when

*continued on Page 70*



*photo by Mandy Toepfer*



photos by Mandy Toepfer

After rummaging through the tables of clothes, Lee Ann Hockman, freshman in nursing, holds up a purple tank top to see if it will fit. The items, including lofts and a futon, were donated by students in the dorms and were sold at the Move-Out Madness sale for between 25 cents and \$5.

*continued from Page 68*

the Southeast Kansas Recycling Center burned down in 2003.

Triplett says instead of installing a regular heat pump, which would cost \$6,000, the team placed an energy-efficient heat pump that does the heat exchange in a pit. Although the unit cost \$10,000, it runs at about 40 percent of the energy cost of a regular heat pump, resulting in a four-year payback.

Triplett says not only did the project incorporate green technology to a new building, but it allowed the construction engineering students to gain experience.

“That’s another really bright spot for the university,” he said. “Mr. (James) Otter and the faculty out there and constructive technology are moving toward having the capacity, putting people out there trained to meet LEED certification, which is the certification system for being green.”

### Promoting the cause

Jon Bartlow, assistant director of admissions and energy committee chair, is more focused on promoting the committee’s green practices.

“We try to send out e-mails weekly or every other week about simple things you can do at your home or things you can do here on campus to make the world a little bit greener,” Bartlow said. “Whether it’s shutting your car off when you’re at a drive-through if you’re going to be sitting there for more than a couple minutes or, of course, recycling, or shutting your lights off when you leave a room, things like that.”

Bartlow says awareness is essential.

So, the group set up a table on Earth Day in the student center to promote recycling. Among the exhibits that caught people’s attention, Bartlow says, was a Styrofoam cup. It was labeled with the long time it takes to disintegrate in a landfill.

In addition to the e-mails and the booth, Bartlow got the idea of a moving sale. The sale, called Move-Out Madness, is to help reduce the amount of trash being thrown away during finals week when students are leaving for break. Students are encouraged to donate quality items such as books, electronics, storage bins and clothing to the drop-off point in their residence hall. The items went into a citywide garage sale May 21-23. Sale proceeds went to the committee to fund more ways to promote a greener campus

and add more recycle bins.

### Green in the classroom

But the greening revolution is occurring inside the classroom, too.

Within the Biology Department is a course called environmental protection. The class not only mentions what one should do to help the environment, but teaches the rules and regulations governing the environment.

Perry Morrow, junior in biology, says all she wanted to do was to help the cause.



The students in Denise Bertoncino's interior design class had to build a green structure complete with furniture, lighting and flooring. The class was given six weeks to work with the theme of "Under the Sea: Plant and Animal Life." The completed model was located in the entrance of the Family and Consumer Science building.



As part of the requirements for the project, the students could use only found materials to create their structure. Foam disks and wood, possibly from other projects, were used to make this chair.

"When I came here I really didn't know anything about it," she said. "I just knew I wanted to protect it or conserve it or do something that was related."

The online class is centered on environmental law and includes units such as the Clean Water Act, natural resources and the Clean Air Act. Students also participate in discussion boards.

From these discussions, Morrow learned not every one is on the same page.

"I've learned it's a lot more complicated than I would have thought because you have to realize there are two sides to an issue," she said. "There are those who are in favor of the environment and those who are in favor of using the land so that they can earn a profit. So you have to make compromises that will benefit both sides of an issue."

Denise Bertoncino, associate professor in family and consumer sciences, had a different take on the green movement for her creative problem solving class.

Over a period of six weeks, Bertoncino gave her class of seven students the task of designing and building a space made entirely of recycled materials.

The class was given the theme "under the sea: plant and animal life" for inspiration and from there the group split into smaller groups to create furniture, flooring, lighting and the structure from found objects.

Bertoncino says the group had anything you could think of for objects: water bottles, egg cartons, old carpet, foam from old projects and baby food jars, among others.

Bertoncino says the materials are what frustrated the group so much.

"They have great designs and sketches, but when it came time to execute (the project) it was frustrating they couldn't go and buy what they wanted to make it look like they wanted," she said. "They had to work with what they had."

### What the future holds

Despite naysayers, Triplett is optimistic about the future.

"I think we'll get there," he said. "Ultimately I think the cost of being wasteful will catch up to us and we'll have to make some changes."

According to Earth 911's Web site, people can adopt eight simple steps to get greener: unplug all items that are not being used, conserve water, use beauty products that contain organic ingredients or come in recycled packaging, carpool, shop smart by buying locally grown foods, use a reusable bag when shopping, recycle and reuse paper, and compost leftover food.

Simple changes such as these, Bartlow says, can make a big difference.

"I think people get kind of freaked out about tree huggers and things like that," he said. "Just do something small like recycle."

Triplett agrees.

"While we may seem small on our part, collectively we're huge in the impact we have on the planet we live on."



# Volunteering for the community

Together, students completed tasks at 112 houses for the Big Event

*story by Luke Pryor*

PSU's Student Government Association sponsored the 7th annual Big Event on Saturday, April 18. The Big Event is a one-day event where students from various clubs and organizations across campus volunteer to help give back to the community. The students began their work at 9 a.m. and worked until every one of the 112 houses had been visited and their respective tasks completed.

"It's a one-day service project and all the students can participate, organizations and individuals," Alyssa Hillman, coordinator for the Big Event, said. "We go to every job site and complete it, then come back."

Katie Engelland, another member of the committee, participated in the Big Event last year and described the type of work as raking leaves, cleaning gutters, picking up trash, washing windows and other types of yard work.

Even though the main focus of the event was the students volunteering in the community, there was a lot of work done by the Big Event committee in planning and organizing the event, as well as working to keep the activities on the day of the event running smoothly.

"We (the committee members)

were organizing food, making sure everybody got supplies back and delivering trash bags to the sites," Hillman said.

Rebecca Wilson, junior in communication, was also in her second year as a volunteer for the Big Event and said that it was a good way to help the community that gives so much to students throughout the school year.

"I like to give back to the community," Wilson said. "It's nice that Pittsburg, Kansas, lets PSU students come in here for so many months out of the year and then we just leave in the summer. I think it's nice that we give back and show the town that we appreciate them letting us be part of the community."

Although Hillman did say that this year's event's participation was down a bit from last year, both in the number of job sites and the number of student volunteers, she hopes to help expand it for next year's event.

"I'm the event coordinator for next year too," Hillman said. "I hope to change the times up, hopefully make it later in April, and maybe push back the starting time to noon, so hopefully the weather will be nicer."



Jesus Lopez, sophomore in Spanish, picks up leaves on Tuesday, April 21, as a part of The Big Event. Lopez and other students participate in The Big Event to help clean homes of Pittsburg community members. The Big Event was held on Saturday, April 18, but some participants delayed their tasks because of the weather.



Jesus Lopez, sophomore in Spanish, picks up leaves on Tuesday, April 21, as a part of The Big Event. Lopez and other students participate in The Big Event to help clean homes of Pittsburg community members. The Big Event was held on Saturday, April 18, but some participants delayed their tasks because of the weather.



*photos by Salman Alkhulif*  
Kevin Coker, senior in history, and Andrea Gordon, junior in accounting and finance, participate in The Big Event by cleaning the backyard of a local resident's house on Tuesday, April 21. Last year, more than 500 students both individually and part of campus organizations, worked at more than 100 job sites in the Pittsburg community.

# Art of precision



photos by Aaron Anders

From the tradition of Tantric Buddhism, millions of painted sand grains are carefully placed to make ancient spiritual symbols into artwork. The Mystical Arts of Tibet was made in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom.

## Monks travel to PSU to make mandala sand painting

story by Krystel Pakitsos

In February, PSU students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to witness traditional spiritual artwork in progress and then watch it be destroyed.

The Mystical Arts of Tibet, a touring group of monks endorsed by the Dalai Lama, came to PSU on Monday, Feb. 23, and were engaged for a week in Mandala sand painting, a form of painting in which millions of grains of colored sand are meticulously placed on a flat platform over a period of days or weeks.

In most cases, at the end of their established time period, the works of art are destroyed shortly after their completion as a metaphor of the impermanence of life. After being destroyed, the remains are swept up and placed in an urn and represent healing. Some of the remnants were distributed to the audience at the closing ceremony.

The opening ceremony took place at

noon Monday, Feb. 23, in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom of the Overman Student Center. During the ceremony, the monks began by consecrating the site and then engaged in about 30 minutes of spiritual chanting and music.

"It was so remarkable," Kathleen Cameron, associate professor in social sciences, said. "I can tell you that I felt the energy in the room change as the monks chanted. I will confide that during those moments I prayed for suffering to be eased, and I thought, 'Is this what God sounds like?'"

Skannnd Tyagi, senior in computer science, said he really enjoyed the art that was being created.

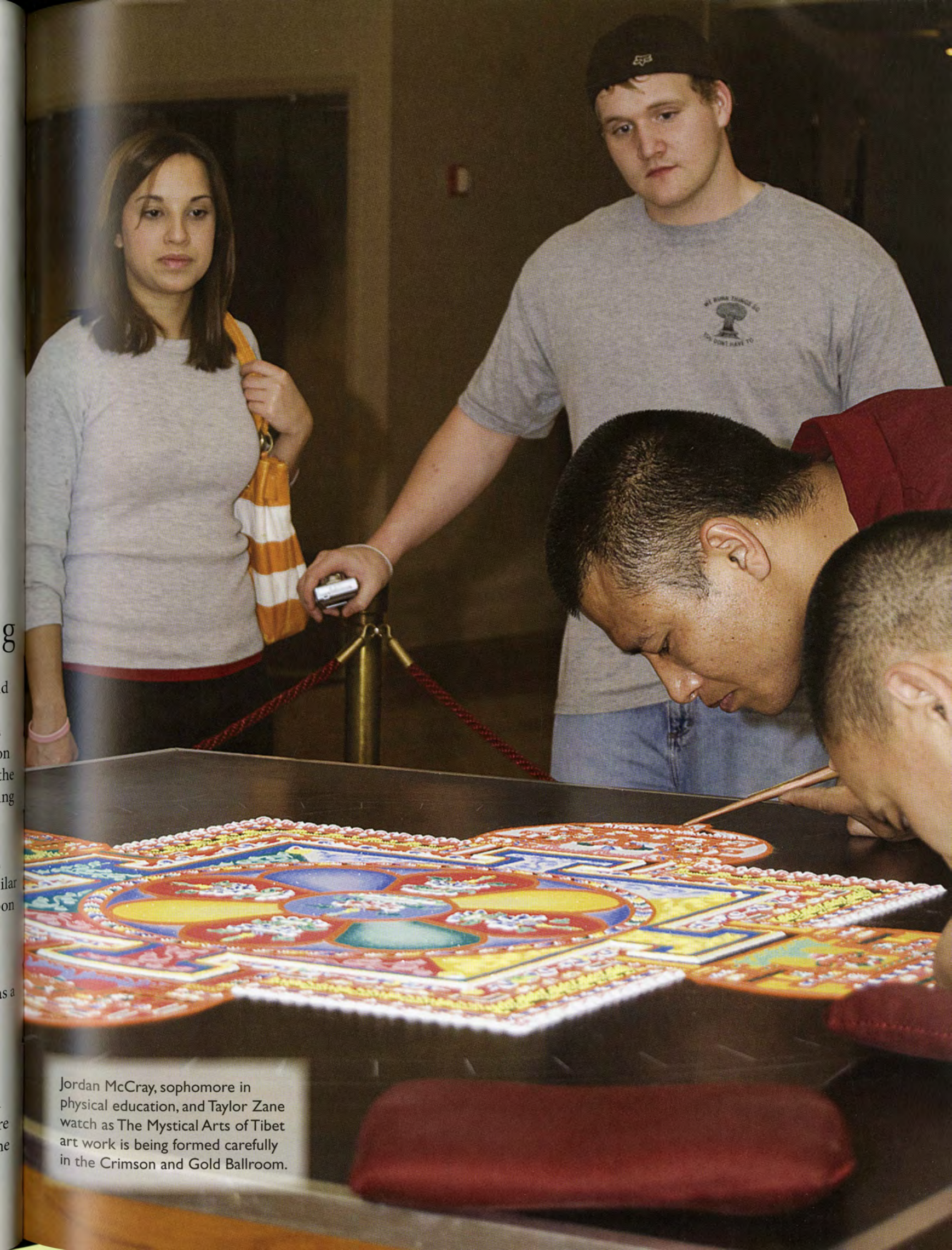
"I liked the Mandala sand display," Tyagi said. "It was amazing how they could control the flow of sand to achieve color gradients."

On Tuesday Feb. 24, a lecture

explaining the symbolism of the sand Mandala was held to describe the meaning behind the art. The monks explained that the goal of the creation is to attain enlightenment, both for the monks creating it and the surrounding community. The repeated creation of shapes and symbols in the art is similar to prayer for the monks, and contemplation of those symbols similar to meditation for those who look upon it.

Michael Fienen, a PSU alumnus who's been practicing Buddhism for four years, said the sand painting was a rare event.

"It's not like going to the movies," Fienen said. "This isn't the sort of thing you get to see whenever you want. The rituals are fascinating and it's a great chance to share in a culture that is single-mindedly devoted to the happiness of others."



Jordan McCray, sophomore in physical education, and Taylor Zane watch as The Mystical Arts of Tibet art work is being formed carefully in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom.



*photo by Mandy Toepfer*

Waiting to respond to an emergency call, Nick Bahner sits in the Integris Baptist Regional EMS station. Bahner works 48 hours each weekend as a paramedic.

# People

# The 2008 Fre



Members of the 2008 incoming freshman class pose for a group photo at Carnie Smith Stadium on Aug. 24, the day before classes began. This portrait tradition started in 2003 and the pictures are hung in the basement hallway of the Overman Student Center.

# freshman Class



photo courtesy of Malcolm Turner



# On the *homefront*

Having a relationship with a man in the military has its struggles back in the States

story by Mandy Toepfer

**K**atherine Smith reaches into her purse and pulls out a stack of a hundred or so photos. She flips through the wallet-sized prints of her and her fiancé. Sayings such as “Sleeping Beauty let a lifetime pass” line the edges of the picture in pastel letters. Smith is sending a picture along with a Christmas card to each of her friends in the Facebook support group “I love a Sailor.”

Being in the military can be hard on the men who are deployed to war-ridden countries, but what’s unseen is the struggle their wives experience back home.

For Smith, senior in general studies, the struggle is one of frustration and isolation.

Smith and her fiancé, Chris Jesmore, were set to marry on their four and a-half year anniversary. The Navy approved the date, but then had to reschedule their wedding to June 5.

This is when Smith realized that in marrying Jesmore, she was also marrying the military.

“It frustrates me because I have

to abide by what the military tells me to do,” Smith said. “I can only talk to him a few times during the week. I can only get e-mails.”

To help ease her frustrations, Smith talks to her sorority sisters, the members of the Facebook group, “I love a sailor,” and her family about what she’s going through.

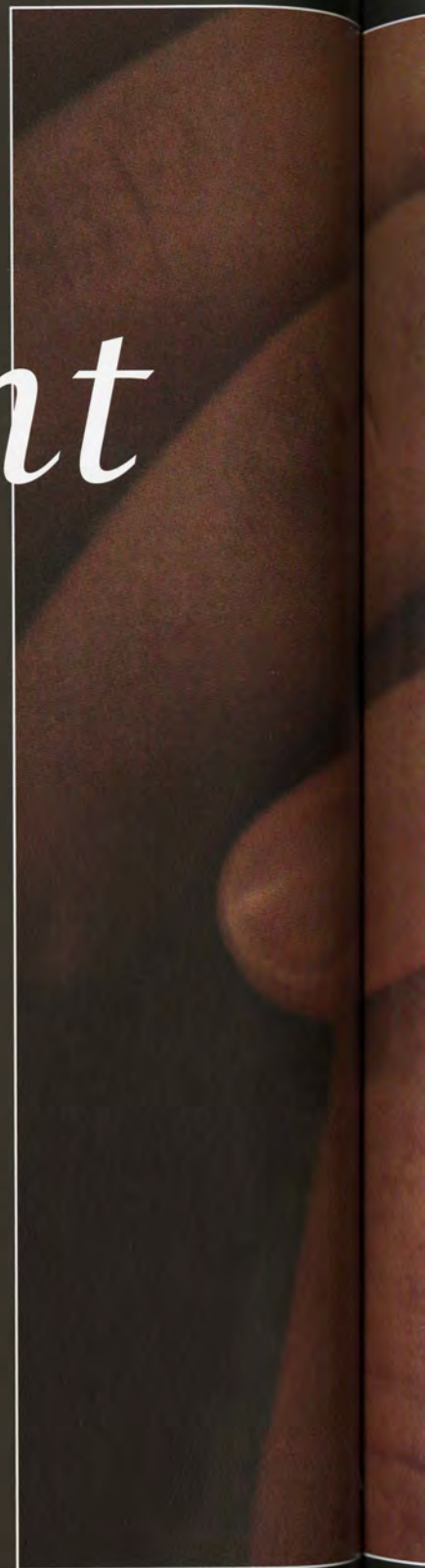
“Family is the best thing I have to turn to,” she said.

Even though Smith misses her fiancé and doesn’t get to see him for months at a time, she says she couldn’t be prouder of him.

“I’ve been the one to walk with him when someone comes up and says, ‘thank you’ and that just makes me feel proud,” she said.

While Smith handles her problems, other military wives encounter being head of the household for the first time or finding that whom they married before is not a person they recognize when they get back. According to the U.S. Department of Defense, military divorce rates have risen .1 percent to 3.4 percent in 2008. That’s 26,242 military divorces for 2008. However, the

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nt



*photo by Cayla Thomlinson*

Justin and Chelsey Erbe show their wedding rings during their photo shoot. Justin injured his left hand just beside his wedding ring in an explosively shaped projectile blast on March 7, 2008. The blast struck the lead vehicle in his platoon's convoy in Baghdad, Iraq.

number seems small compared to the Family Dynamics Institute divorce number for the rest of the U.S. population in 2008: 884,380.

Chelsey Erbe, junior in social work, didn't have to worry about divorce, but she discovered what it was like to handle everything back home in Kansas when her husband was in Germany.

Erbe and her husband, Justin, are high school sweethearts. Justin joined the Army in October 2005 and was deployed to Iraq in August 2007 to serve a 15-month tour. He is a mortar man in the infantry division of the Army. Erbe followed him to Washington state where he was stationed at Fort Lewis and then to Vilseck, Germany. She lived in Germany with him for a while and then decided to move home in December 2007 to be closer to family.

She got an apartment in Pittsburg and started living on her own. She came back with only two suitcases and had to live out of those until August, when her things would arrive from Germany. In the meantime she had to borrow necessities like silverware and furniture until her belongings came to the States.

The tasks that she would normally have Justin do, like replacing the exhaust in the car, Erbe had to do herself.

"I didn't even know what the exhaust was," she said.

But completing these tasks made her feel independent, Erbe said.

"You can do anything on your own if you have to."

Among the obstacles Erbe was dealing with was her constant worrying about Justin. When a death or injury occurs within the unit, the computers and phone lines are shut down, making her worry if Justin was the one who was hurt.

"Every call you get or every knock on your door, your heart just drops," she said.

Nevertheless, she says she is proud of her husband's work.

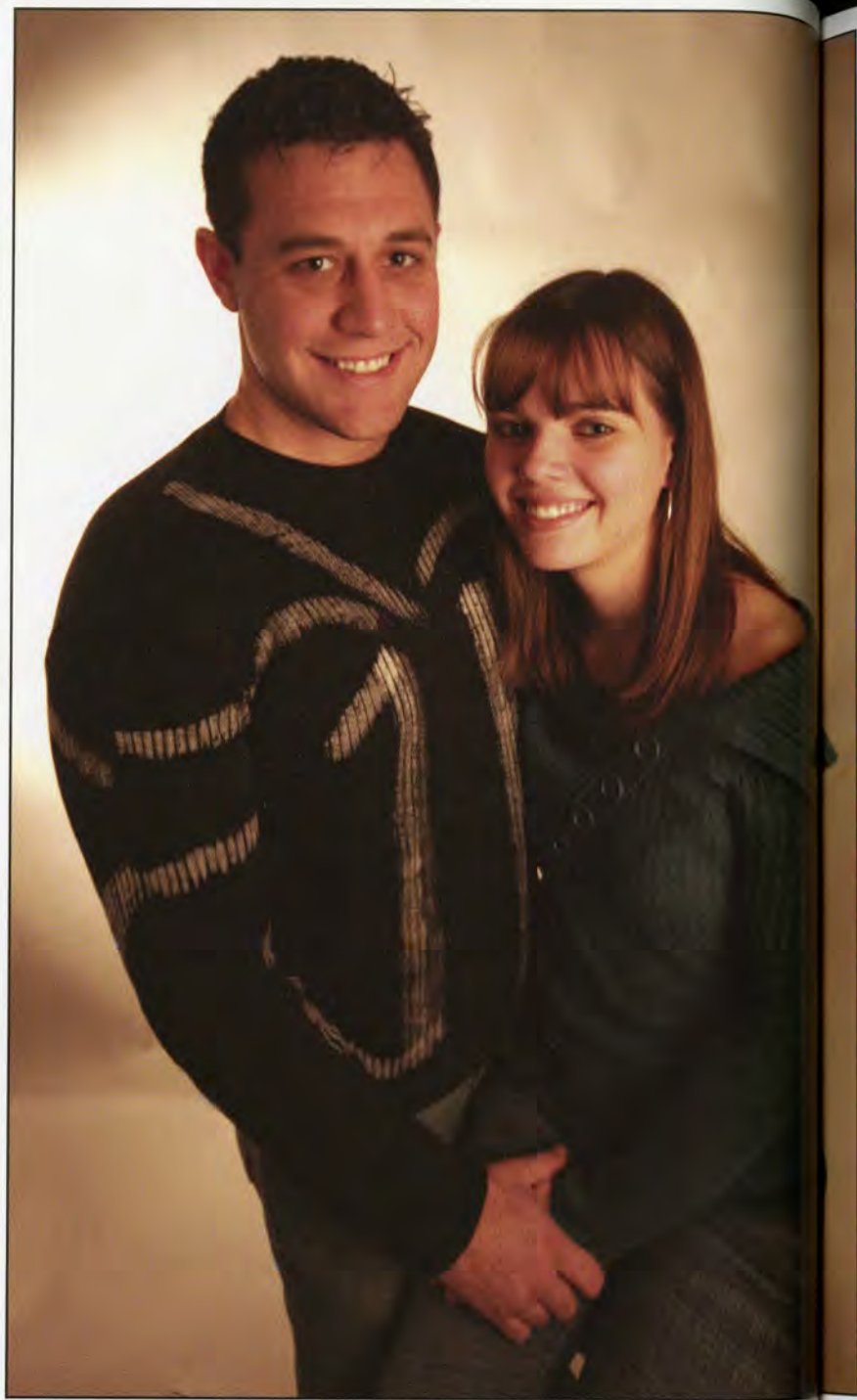
"As much as you want him home, you also realize he's doing a job and he's needed where he's at," she said.

Military divorce rates are minuscule compared to civilians, but being a part of the 26,242 is still an obstacle to face.

Kenna Kennedy was close to being included in that statistic.

Kennedy hasn't seen her husband, Dustin, a sailor in the Navy, in months. In the time they have been away from each other, she says they have grown far apart.

"He's not exactly in the mindset to be a husband," Kennedy said. "He needs to be a sailor first and foremost to make sure his job gets done. If he doesn't perform his job correctly things can happen and



Justin and Chelsey Erbe, junior in social work, were reunited just before winter break and are now both attending Pittsburg State University. Chelsey returned from Germany after Justin was shipped to Iraq.

there can be fatalities."

In August, they laid the divorce proposal on the table.

"(I told him) this is not the life I want to live, this is not the life he wants to live either," she said.

Not only did the two grow apart, but they changed as people during the months.

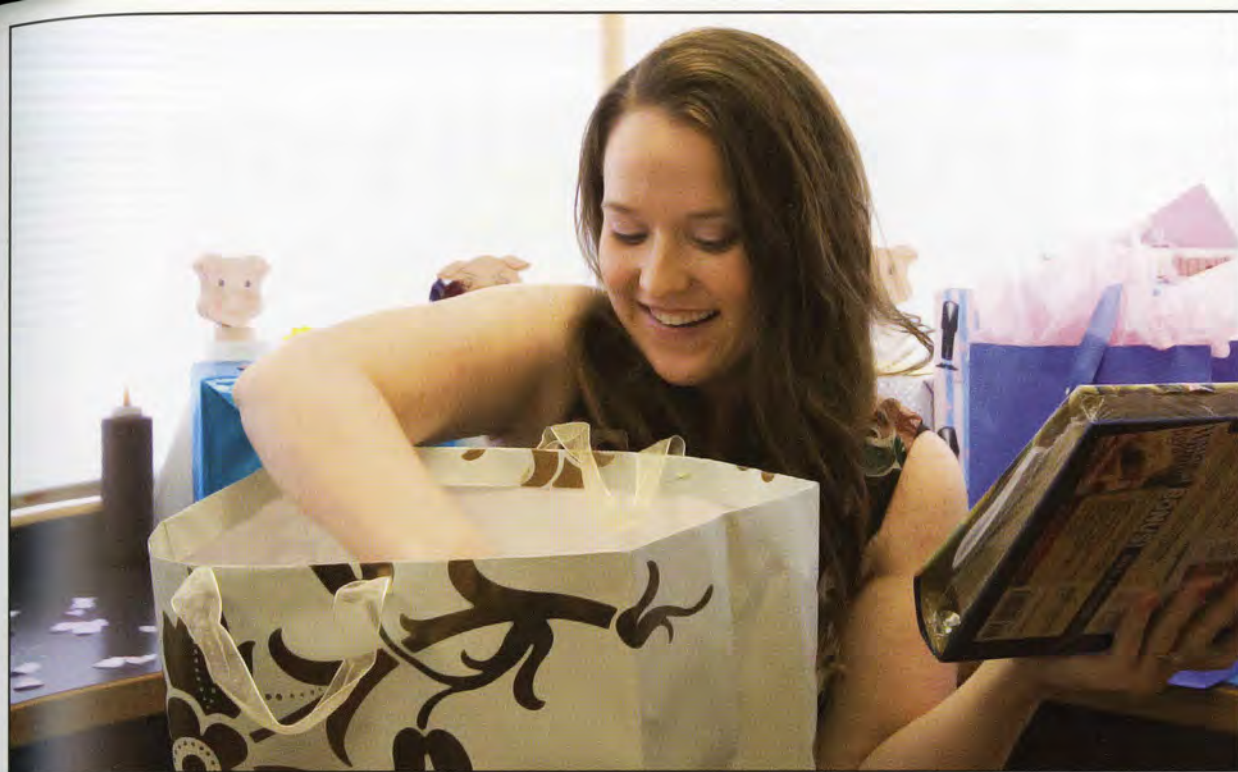
"We're human, people change," she said. "You can't expect someone to be the exact same person before they left, but you can appreciate who they are now."

She says there wasn't anything specific that changed.

"We just had a lot of time to change our minds: who we are and what we want out of life," she said.

Kennedy plans to move to Lemoore, Calif., to try and save her marriage after she graduates.

"You basically have to start over when they come back, so that's



Soon to be Mrs. Chris Jesmore, Katherine Smith, senior in general studies, opens gifts at her bridal shower. One of Smith's maid of honor, her mother and boss, owner of Curb Side Barbecue, hosted her bridal barbecue at Curb Side in Pittsburg.

photos by Cayla Thomlinson



Kenna Kennedy, senior in communication, is trying to save her marriage with her sailor, who is currently stationed in California, while Kennedy is still here in Kansas.

what we're going to try and do," she said. "(We'll) see how it works out. We've made it this far."

To help strengthen military marriages, each branch of the military has developed outreach programs to help "buck the societal trend" of divorce. The programs focus on "communication, intimacy and

conflict management, which research shows increases marriage satisfaction and reduces marital challenges," according to the U.S. Department of Defense. Strong Bonds is the main program within the Army to help keep families together.

The program consists of four parts: programs for couples who are preparing for returning deployments, programs for families and single soldiers and another general couples program. Strong Bonds is led by chaplains who help soldiers and their families build strong relationships.

The military also provides FRGs, Family Readiness Groups, which are groups willing to listen and to help spouses or families with problems while their other half is deployed.

Laura Krom, coordinator of the 772 Family Readiness Group in Pittsburg, says the organization helps answer a variety of questions, from emotional needs to financial problems.

They are also there to reassure wives and fiancés. "We're there to remind them that their soldier is going to be OK," she said.

Krom says they hand out books about reintegrating soldiers back to normal, civilian life. This may be a way the group helps to curb divorce.

"The wives don't know what soldiers went through and we don't want them to give up," she said.

Smith, Erbe and Kennedy say that when one marries the military, he or she takes the good with the bad. Erbe doesn't seem to be too bothered by the bad. She says she doesn't regret marrying a man in the military.

"You don't choose who you love," she said. "I would marry him no matter his occupation."

# Assess, diagnose, treat

Paramedic puts his skills to the test each weekend

story by Mandy Toepfer

There is one noise Nick Bahner will never forget: the sound of a mother wailing.

It was 8 a.m., just an hour after he started his shift, when he got the call about a 3-month-old who wasn't breathing. The child had SID (sudden infant death)



photo by Mandy Toepfer

Positioning his instruments correctly, Nick Bahner, junior in nursing, practices intubation on a dummy.

syndrome. Bahner remembers walking into the family room and seeing the fire department perform CPR with no positive results. He had to intubate the child,

providing advanced life support, while hearing the mother wailing in the other room.

Bahner says the intensity of the situation was hard to handle.

"(They were) handing you a dead child at 8 o'clock in the morning, that 3-month old, saying 'fix it.' 'Fix it, fix this child,'" Bahner said. "That's probably the hardest thing."

Even after going through the protocols and rushing the infant to the emergency room, the infant didn't make it.

Bahner has to respond to high-emergency cases, such as this one, as part of his job as a paramedic at Integris Baptist Regional EMS. Bahner, along with three other people on his shift, covers almost all of Ottawa County, running about 300 calls a month, averaging 10-15 calls per shift.

"Unfortunately, little Miami, Okla., is like a little Saigon," he said.

Bahner says most of the calls come from nursing homes or homes of people with

cardiac or respiratory problems. The other 20 percent, he says, are trauma cases that involve car and motorcycle accidents.

Like any medical field job, becoming a paramedic takes a lot of work. The schooling is two full-time semesters and a summer. Then the applicant has to do 1,400 clinical hours, pass 14 stations and also pass a 200-question test that has a 35 percent first-time pass rate.

After completing the necessary steps, Bahner applied at IBR EMS and has been working there for three years.

Most EMS employees work a Kelly schedule, which is 24 hours on the job and 48 hours off. However, Bahner's job allows him to work for 48 consecutive hours, from 7 p.m. Friday to 7 p.m. Sunday.

This means little time to sleep and makes getting back into the school-week routine even harder.

"It usually takes me until Tuesday or Wednesday to feel normal again," he said. "...I kind of feel like an alien in my own body."

After he leaves the station Sunday night, Bahner goes straight to Riverside Friends Church where he is a youth leader and then starts nursing school again each Monday.

Sandra Bahner, senior in Spanish and Nick's wife, says he is so busy he doesn't have time to recount all that happens during those 48 hours.

"I don't think he even has time to process all the emotions of the weekend," she said.

Bahner says there are a lot of negatives that come with the job: high stress, sleep deprivation and being away from family.

He says Sandra hates the weekends.

"At about 5 o'clock on Friday evenings you can see that her countenance changes," he said. "...I will say it has definitely been a sacrifice: it has left a mark on us for sure."



photo by Brett Armbruster

Bahner spends 48 hours of his weekend at work, either at the station or on an ambulance, responding to calls. When Bahner has down time, he studies for nursing school.

better right in front of your eyes and I especially love seeing that with heart attacks.”

Because Miami is at least 30 miles from Joplin, Mo., where the nearest hospital is, his EMS team is allowed to have more aggressive protocols than those in bigger towns, because it takes longer to get to the hospital.

“We have extremely aggressive protocols that allow us to take people that are on the verge of cardiac arrest and in a matter of 10 minutes they don’t even want to go to the hospital because we’ve reprofused the heart and stopped a clot from progressing.”

One of Bahner’s favorite healing stories deals with heart complications.

“We had a 60-year-old male who was complaining of chest pain, a possible heart attack,” he said. “When we got there, it’s a 10 out of 10 scale; he was in 12 out of 10 pain, with his back arched off the couch, clenching his chest, just a huge, huge M.I. (myocardial infarction.)”

Bahner called a helicopter to come and meet them at their helicopter pad and while they waited, they initiated treatment. They treated him with fluid boluses, oxygen, aspirin,

thrombolytics and nitrates.

“We basically threw every tool we had at him and I would say by the time the helicopter showed up, he was smiling and he had zero out of 10 pain, and he didn’t even want to go to the hospital,” he said.

Sandra says Nick makes a good paramedic not only because he’s outgoing and smart, but because he loves what he does.

“He loves the medical field,” she said. “That shows a lot of character about a nurse or doctor - being passionate about it.”

Being around death is also one of the many stresses that come with the job.

“You’re around death a lot and that has to affect you even if you don’t pay attention. It has to,” he said.

Even with the bad experiences, Bahner keeps coming back year after year to help.

He says he likes the self-determination.

“It’s the autonomy,” he said. “The challenge to do this, the challenge to walk in and assess, effectively assess someone, attempt to diagnose and treat them.”

But what he says he loves most about the job is seeing people recover quickly.

“I love seeing the acute improvements of your treatment and diagnosis,” he said. “I love seeing people get



# Peace, love & hot dogs

Having a snack before going out for the night, Alyssa Hillman, sophomore in social studies and Spanish, puts ketchup on her hot dog.

story by Kelsie Collins

On Shark Night, Campus Christians handed out 776 hot dogs to Pitt State students. On a normal Friday night, from 10 p.m. to around 2 a.m., they grill and give about 400 hot dogs to passers-by.

Volunteers from Campus Christians brave the harsh weather and set up their white tent at the corner of Broadway and Lindburg every Friday night that school is in session.

"We are out here every Friday, whether it's 90 degrees or negative 10 degrees. We're here all year," Adam Reynolds, senior in sociology, said.

Reynolds is in charge of Hot Dog Fridays and is also the discipleship minister for Campus Christians. He attended the University of Kansas for a year, which is where he got the idea for Hot Dog Fridays. Campus Christians started the program during the fall semester of 2007 and have been providing midnight snacks to students every Friday since.

Eric Dvorak said the stand has been a great convenience.

"I was starving at like 1:30 in the morning, so I went by to grab a hot dog and had three instead!" Dvorak, freshman in automotive technology, said.

Other students have become regulars at Hot Dog Fridays. They stop by

the tent every Friday night and chat with the volunteers. A small group of students said they walked more than a mile up and down Broadway, making more than one stop for hot dogs.

"I got three wieners tonight. I'm getting another one in a minute," James Beeshaw, freshman in psychology, said. "The hot dogs are excellent!"

Reynolds says he started this program to show God's love. About 10 volunteers help at the tent. They are available to talk to students about questions they may have about the Bible or their beliefs. Campus Christians say they would never force their beliefs on anyone, but are willing to provide help to anyone who wants it.

"We see all kinds of students that come by for a bite to eat," Reynolds said. "We see a lot of people who are intoxicated and quite a few that are sober. Sometimes we can have good conversations with people."

Skannnd Tyagi, senior in computer science and commercial graphics, and two friends sway back and forth with their arms wrapped around each other and sing, "All You Need Is Love."

"These guys are so nice," Tyagi said. "I love coming over here and getting hot dogs from these guys."



Cooking up some more hot dogs for hungry passers-by, Logan Harris, junior in construction management, and other Campus Christians members man the hot dog stand in the brown parking lot along Broadway every Friday night.



photos by Brett Armbruster

Night owls and party-goers congregate at the Campus Christians' hot dog stand located on the edge of campus along Broadway to eat free hot dogs and refreshments.



# Emily's world

*Emily Walters, senior double majoring in mathematics and biology, is involved in many on-campus and off-campus organizations. She sat down for an interview with Krystel Pakitsos.*

**Q: What organizations are you involved with on campus?**

I am legislative affairs director for Student Government, co-director for the Pitt State Pre-Med free clinic, I am a Student Ambassador, an Advancement Ambassador, the treasurer for Kappa Mu Epsilon – the math honors society – and I am in Omicron Delta Kappa. Those are the campus organizations that I'm involved in. I'm also the executive director for the Little Room.

**Q: Tell me about the Little Room.**

It's a venue for art and we try to have a very broad definition of art, like performance art, or interpretive dance. We always have paintings and photography and sculpture. Part of our guiding philosophy has been 'whatever we enjoy.' If an event gets stressful, we don't do it. We don't have to worry about offending anyone; we only have to worry about the caliber of the work. If we want to display art that may be more controversial, we don't have to worry about it because we own the space. I think normal people watch TV for relaxation, but I have ideas and I go out and do them. If I have an idea and it resonates with people, that's when things happen.

I always have ideas. It's a great feeling watching something jump out my head and jump into other people's heads and lives. It's kind of like

having a kid and watching a kid grow up.

**Q: What is the most demanding of all of your campus activities?**

The most demanding thing that I do is research with Dr. Virginia Rider. It's also the thing that I'm most proud of. We work on the causes for gender bias in systemic lupus erythematosus. The work that she has me do is work that I couldn't do anywhere else because she is willing to trust me and teach me. I'm able to do work that is way beyond what most undergraduates usually get to do just because she is so awesome.

**Q: What exactly is the free clinic?**

I was elected to be the co-director and it was an honor. The free clinic is wonderful. It's an elected position for the pre-med club. We have a clinic that operates Tuesday evenings at Wesley House and we have doctors who come in and volunteer their time. We get to meet with (the patients) and take their vitals and present them to the doctor and then we shadow the doctors while they treat the patients.

**Q: Do you enjoy your work there?**

Yes. You really get to help people. We see a lot of people who work very hard and either don't make enough at their job or have other burdens.

**Q: Have you established relationships with these people?**

Yes, and you see some heartbreaking stuff. We've had people who have been diagnosed with some pretty severe diseases or struggling to get off of drugs.

**Q: What advice would you give to freshmen?**

Everyone I talk to, I tell them to get involved on campus. It makes you feel a part of instead of apart from. Sometimes you think that you won't fit in or that you aren't the right person to be there. You feel like you're faking it, but you show up and realize that everyone else is faking it, too.





Ryan Acker  
senior in automotive tech.  
Ryan Adler  
senior in construction management  
Jordan Adcock  
freshman in nursing  
Yallamanda Ala  
grad. in manufacturing engineering tech.  
Karen Allison  
senior in psychology  
Aaron Anders  
soph. in graphic communications mng.



Erik Anderson  
senior in automotive tech.  
Zach Anderson  
senior in commercial graphics  
Ajax Arbogast  
junior in biology  
Samantha Arnold  
senior in finance  
Ramyasree Arva  
graduate in chemistry  
Briana Baker  
senior in elementary ed.



Unmil Bankar  
graduate in print management  
Anna Barlow  
senior in management  
Hadyn Barnes  
senior in communication  
Ricky Batton  
senior in electronics  
Dana Beckenhauer  
senior in elementary ed.  
Sara Beckenhauer  
junior in family & consumer science



Kelly Bedore  
junior in psychology  
Azarina Benitez  
senior in international business  
Jason Bilberry  
junior in management  
Brodi Birch  
senior in family & consumer science  
Ashley Birk  
senior in marketing and management  
Danielle Bishop  
freshman in history/government



Christina Blair  
freshman in history/government  
Krystal Bledsoe  
senior in psychology  
Jerrod Bohannon  
senior in automotive tech.  
Jessica Booth  
freshman in mathematics  
Brian Bourbina  
senior in history  
Heather Brazeal  
freshman in biology



Michelle Bringle  
junior in political science  
Marilyn Brock  
senior in music  
Adam Brown  
freshman in early/late childhood  
Paul Buckmaster  
senior in automotive tech.  
Katy Burton  
senior in communication  
Jessica Caldwell  
senior in elementary education

# No speed limit

*Jeryka Lobner, senior in fitness management and amateur drag racer, sat down for an interview with Sara Faught.*

**Q. Is drag racing the smaller cars that race distances and not laps around a track?**

Yes, they have eighth-mile races at most tracks and then at some they'll have quarter-mile races. At MO-KAN it is only an eighth-mile and if you win, you come back and go again, and if not, then you just get to sit and watch.

**Q. You are a professional drag racer?**

I'm just a drag racer right now. I'm not a professional yet.

**Q. What's the difference between being a professional and what you're doing right now?**

Professionals will usually have a major sponsor and will get to do it for a living. What I'm doing right now is more like a hobby. I just do it on the weekends and pay for it by myself with my dad's help.

**Q. When did you start racing and how long have you been doing it?**

I started when I was 10 in the Junior Dragster League and that's for little kids until they are 16. And then I moved up into what I'm doing now. Now I'm in Super Comp or Super Pro and I've been doing that for about five years now.

**Q. Where do you race? Do you race at the track between Pittsburg and Joplin?**

We do go to MO-KAN, which is outside of Pittsburg, and we also go to Topeka and Springfield, but we've

also been to Florida and Michigan.

**Q. Do you think there are any major misconceptions about drag racing?**

It's a very expensive hobby. It costs a lot to get started and up and going. For us, it's even more expensive because we have three cars to get running and to take care of. I mean just getting our three cars to the track is expensive.

**Q. So everywhere you travel is out of your pocket also?**

For the most part. Usually my dad will help and then whatever I win will go back to him and go into our racing account.

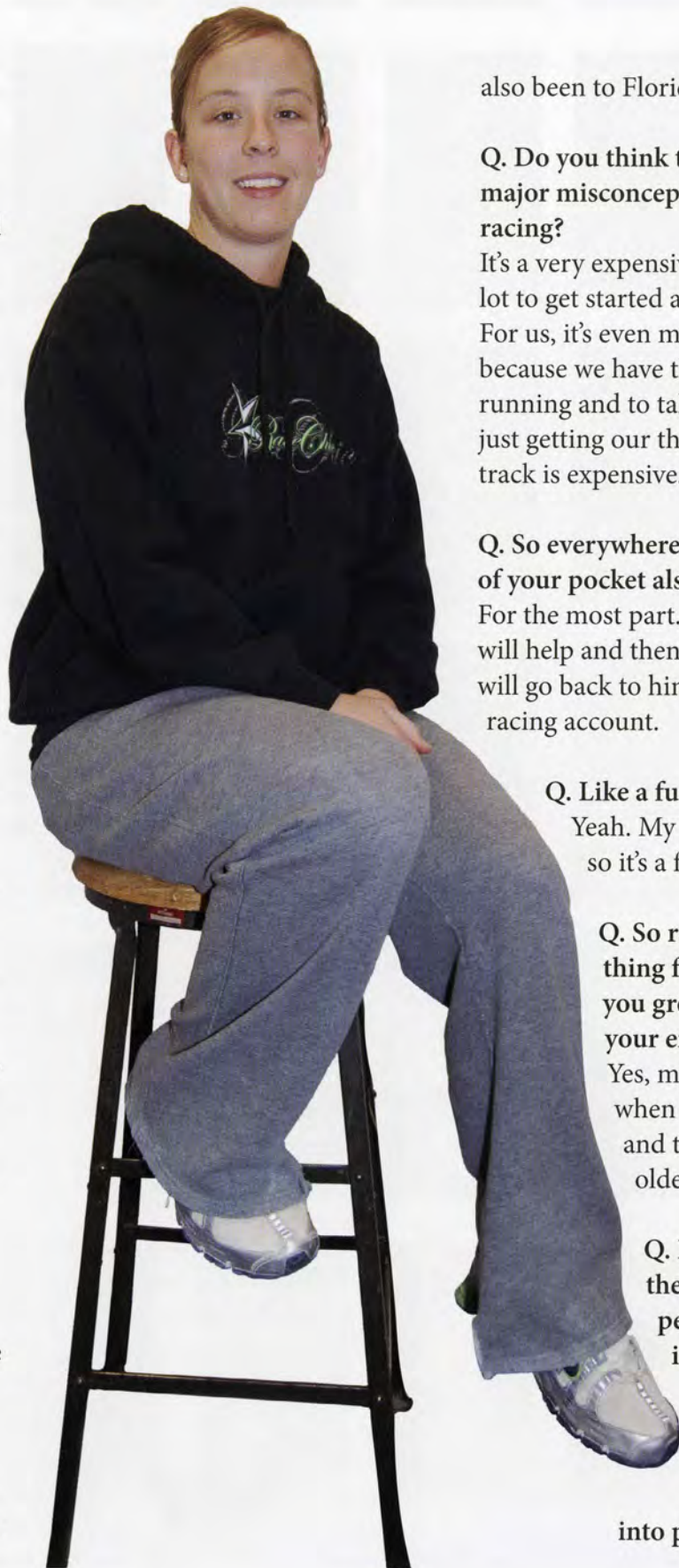
**Q. Like a fund?**

Yeah. My brother races also, so it's a family fund.

**Q. So racing is a family thing for you then? Did you grow up around it your entire life?**

Yes, my dad was a racer when he was younger, and then as we got older he got us into it.

**Q. Do you think the majority of people who are involved in racing are involved because their families were, or do you run into people who are**



**just starting from scratch?**

I'd say the majority are people who were brought up with it. But there are people who went to watch with a friend and then realized it's something that maybe they'd be really into doing.

**Q. Was your dad a professional or did he just do it as a hobby also?**

He just did it for fun like we do right now.

**Q. Did you build your own car?**

Actually there's a place in Florida that built it, but then we put it together. My dad and I will put the motors together and assemble it.

**Q. How often do you race? Is it something that happens every weekend?**

Yes. Once we start, probably in the middle of March, until the beginning of November, we'll race every weekend. I'll have a couple weekends off, but that's it.

**Q. Is there an obvious difference between the number of female racers vs. male racers?**

Yes. More girls are starting to get into racing, but when I started there were very few. It was almost rare to see a girl race, but there are more and more coming up every year.

**Q. What kind of awards or prizes have you won through your racing?**

I won a race in Memphis a couple years ago that paid \$5,000 to win and I won that. There are other races that can pay \$10,000 or \$20,000 to win. Hopefully I can get some of those sometime. But if you get down into a certain level of cars, they'll pay \$50 or \$100, it just depends on how you do. The further you get, the more money they'll pay.

**Q. So \$5,000 was the most you've ever won and you had to put it in the**

**family racing fund?**

Yes. I got to keep some of it just to have, but the majority of it went back to dad. He is the one that pays for the trailer to get the cars back and forth from the tracks.

**Q. Whenever you're in preseason, like right now, are there things that you have to do to keep your car ready for when racing season begins?**

Yeah, we will take the motors out of the cars and look through them to see if there is anything wrong that needs to be fixed. Otherwise we just kind of clean everything up and make sure it's all ready to go when the races start back up.

**Q. It is a hobby, but it appears to be a lot like a job as well. When racing season starts, how much time do you think you spend a week working on it?**

Sometimes we'll just leave the cars in the trailers and not even do anything with them. Every now and then we'll unload them, wash them, change the oil and make sure everything is all right. Then we'll head back to the track.

**Q. When you go to the track, do you have to show up early in the morning or do you just show up for your race?**

Some races will be Thursday through Sunday races and we'll get there late Wednesday night and stay until late Sunday night. We'll race all day for most of the days, and then we'll go home.

**Q. When you're at a racing event, do you just have one race or do you race multiple times throughout the day?**

You will start off doing two practice runs, which are called time trials. Then they'll begin eliminations. If you lose first round, you can usually just pay more money to get back into the race. However, if you lose second round, then you're done. If you win the round,

then you'll just continue on to the next and it's elimination and more and more people will get knocked out every race. Starting off, there can be 50 cars and then the second round there could be 25 and you'd be racing someone else. Each round it just gets smaller and smaller until there are only two.

**Q. Are there very many wrecks?**

Not as many as you would think. Today, cars are made very well and the safety equipment that we have to wear is made very well also. If you do crash, it's usually not very bad because you're just kind of stuck in this little car.

**Q. What kind of protection do you have, clothing and car-wise?**

I have a fire suit to wear and we have a five-point harness system that we have to wear as well. We also have arm restraints so that our arms don't fly out and gloves to protect our hands. For our heads, we have to wear a helmet and a neck brace.

**Q. If you had the chance to move to professional racing, would you rather do that than whatever you are aiming toward with a college degree?**

Yes! If I could go professional I would much rather do it than whatever I could do with my degree. I don't even know what I'll end up doing with my degree.

**Q. Do you ever get wrapped up into your hobby and find yourself thinking, "Why am I even in school if this is what I really want to do with my life?"**

Yes, but I knew that I needed something else also. I figured I needed something else to start with and then continue on and just kind of see how it goes with racing. I really believe that the smartest thing was to get a career going, focus on my racing, but always have something else to fall back on also.

# Wheels for school

## Campus pastor rents bikes to students

story by Marissa Copas

Over 200 international students flocked to Don Smith's office, not to ask about religion, but to rent bikes.

"About 65 percent of international students have had bikes from me before they leave," Smith, pastor of Campus Christians, said.

Since 1978, Smith has helped students of all nationalities get adjusted to college life.

Culture Crossing, the international program of Campus Christians, focuses on international students and

what they need. Smith hosted a "culture outing" for international students as part of orientation.

"We take them to an American farm, to the state park, lunch, and then church," Smith said. "It is free without any strings attached."

At the orientation, Smith told students about the bicycle program he has at Campus Christians. Smith got the idea to start renting out bikes from a friend who had started a campus ministry called "Lend a Friend a Bike." The program started at five to 10 bikes, but then grew to more than 500.

"Bikes come from people in the community who know that we use them," Smith said. "We recycle everything we can. Whatever we can't use, we send to a metal reclaiming company."

To rent a bike, students give their information and a \$30 deposit. Smith checks each bike to make sure they are in good condition before sending it with a student. When students return the bikes, they receive their deposit back.

"Occasionally students will say keep the money when they return the bike," Smith said. "However, thousands of bike parts were paid for by students who didn't give the



bike back. They either forget about them or steal them."

The bikes have numbers on them so Smith can keep track of who's renting what bike. He could report them to the police if he knew they were stolen.

"Twice I have been called by the police saying that they found a bike that was stolen," Smith said. "Two years ago I got a call from Washington state. Last week I got a call from New York state!"

Smith fixes bikes other than the ones from Culture Crossing free of charge.

"I'm not here to put bike shops out of business," Smith said. "I'm here to help poor college students."

Students give back to Smith, after he helped them.

When Smith had left rotator cuff surgery, student volunteers fixed up bikes while he recovered. After he recovered, volunteers continued to help maintain the bikes. Some students who were mechanically inclined just grabbed tools and started fixing bikes.

Other students tried to help however they could.

"I had 12 people help me right after the surgery," Smith said. "Some of them were international students. I remember a couple of girls from China who came early (to school) and helped. They got really good at it."

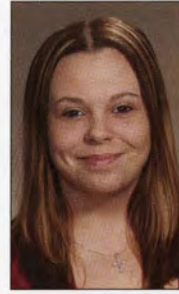
Bikes are just one of the programs Campus Christians has to offer international students. There are individual Bible teachings during the week and Bible class on Sundays at Countryside Christian Church.

"There are two reasons why we (Campus Christians) are here: to help students generally and to help them find a reference point in God," Smith said. "Bikes are just part of it."

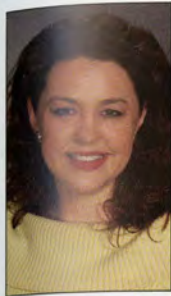


photos by Brett Armbruster

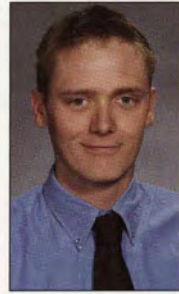
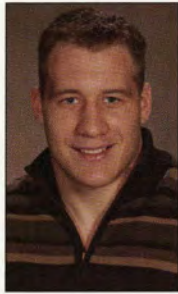
Spare parts and tools lie about the yard of the Campus Christians' house. They are needed to fix discarded and forgotten bikes left on campus at the end of the year. Don Smith picks these bikes up from campus police to refurbish and save for students next year.



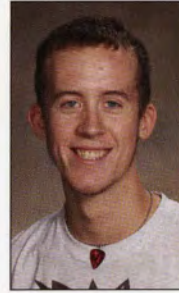
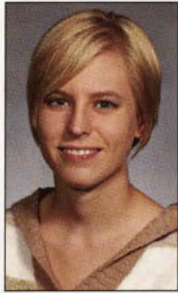
Ethan Caldwell  
*freshman in communication*  
Jennifer Carnes  
*senior in history*  
Julie Carpenter  
*junior in management*  
Justin Cartwright  
*senior in communication*  
Lindsay Carvan  
*freshman in nursing*  
Shannon Cavender  
*senior in justice studies*



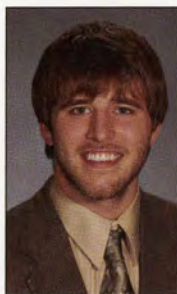
Robinett, Charissa  
*senior in interior design*  
Kelsie Collins  
*freshman in communication*  
Jacob Coltrin  
*senior in justice studies*  
Ty Cox  
*senior in commercial graphics*  
Paul Cox  
*junior in mechanical engineering tech.*  
Emily Crenshaw  
*senior in accounting*



Jennifer Cumming  
*senior in elementary education*  
Shawna Currie  
*senior in justice studies*  
Keith Curtis  
*undeclared sophomore*  
Stacy Daniels  
*sophomore in early/late childhood*  
Caleb Dean  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Adam Deeds  
*senior in construction management*



Sarah Dees  
*senior in elementary education*  
Emily Derfelt  
*sophomore in chemistry*  
Andrea Dinkel  
*senior in music ed.*  
Joshua Dooley  
*senior in history and government*  
Jenna Duesi  
*undeclared freshman*  
Eric Dvorak  
*freshman in automotive tech.*



Heidi Eck  
*senior in math ed.*  
Mia Elliot  
*senior in vocational and technical ed.*  
Timothy Engle  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Dustin Ewan  
*senior in computer science*  
Chris Farmer  
*senior in nursing*  
Nicole Ferguson  
*freshman in early childhood unified*



Diego Ferreira  
*senior in business management*  
Maria Ferreira  
*senior in psychology*  
Larry Fleury  
*senior in early/late childhood*  
Carol Ford  
*senior in elementary ed.*  
Trenton Franklin  
*senior in justice studies*  
Brandon Fry  
*senior in nursing*

Caitlin Furnish  
senior in interior design  
Paloma Fuster  
sophomore in management  
Chancy Garbitz  
senior in interior design  
Belinda Ghumm  
senior in history  
Kristine Gillispie  
senior in elementary ed.  
Thomas Goff  
sophomore in biology



Eduardo Gonzalez Gill  
junior in psychology  
Timothy Good  
senior in mechanical engineering  
Bankapalli, Gopi  
graduate in business administration  
Daniel Goran  
senior in wood technology  
LaDonna Graham  
graduate in art  
Heather Gray  
faculty



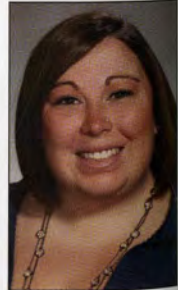
Jessica Grazier  
sophomore in communication  
Ramiz Haddadin  
graduate in communication  
Ishteyaq Haddadin  
senior in communication  
Dwayne Hale  
senior in vocational and technical ed.  
Regina Hanson  
senior in elementary ed.  
Vishal Hardikar  
graduate in technology



Seth Harley  
graduate in nursing  
Kevin Harvey  
senior in early/late childhood  
Kayla Hay  
sophomore in math  
Caleb Hays  
freshman in computer science  
Danielle Hays  
sophomore in social work  
Jin He  
graduate in accounting



Richard Hendren  
freshman in construction management  
Kristin Heuer  
senior in English  
Courtney Hinkle  
senior in early childhood ed.  
Samantha Hixon  
senior in political science  
Lee Ann Hockman  
freshman in nursing  
Cassandra Holloway  
senior in general studies



Dustin Holmes  
senior in management  
Stefanie Holthouse  
senior in nursing  
Tyla Horacek  
junior in management  
Janae Hughes  
junior in nursing  
Katelyn Humphreys  
senior in elementary ed.  
Lewis Hundley  
senior in music ed.





Hannah Hunsinger  
freshman in nursing  
Charles Ibe  
graduate in engineering tech.  
Kenkichi Iino  
senior in sociology  
Aubrey Jensen  
senior in psychology  
Kimberly Jimenez  
senior in psychology  
Jeremy Johnson  
senior in English



Taryn Jones  
senior in social work  
Tymeeka Jones  
senior in social work  
Aaron Journot  
senior in wood tech.  
Matthew Kaaz  
senior in construction management  
Myung-Gu Kang  
junior in computer science  
Terry Kelley  
senior in information systems

## Have you ever feared for your life?



“ One time I was skateboarding and I jumped off a 10- or 12-foot ledge. I ended up breaking four of my toes. ”

-Kyle Barnhart  
junior in automotive tech.

“ I was young and stupid and wanted to climb a tree. I was 50 feet up in the air, and I was looking out. All of a sudden the tree branch broke, and I hit every branch all the way down. ”

-Matt Harris  
junior in construction engineering



“ I have an irregular blood flow to the brain and I also have a lung condition. I had half the lung capacity of a normal child. But I play a lot of athletics and things like that. One day, my lungs gave out on me, and my heart stopped pumping. I stopped breathing and I pretty much blacked out. (People around me) thought I was going to die. ”

-Phillip Grubb  
freshman in communication



“ My friend crashed the car we were in. It spun 360 degrees into a tree, because of a deer that ran across the road. It was a scary moment, kind of like: “What is going to happen next?” But we just hit that tree. ”

-Ryan McCullough  
freshman in economics

“ I was driving my vehicle and I ended up hitting some loose gravel going 45 miles per hour. I lost control and ended rolling my vehicle three times. ”

-Frank King  
senior in construction management







# Tale of two twins

Identical sisters  
attend college  
together

photos by Cayla Thomlinson

**E**ighteen years of having to share the same room. Eighteen years of taking the same classes and trying for better grades. Eighteen years of being together constantly. One year apart during their freshman year of college. Being separated from each other would not work for the Watson twins.

Brianna Watson first attended Baker University, but found she wanted a bigger and more active campus to call home.

Brittany Watson had the solution: Pitt State.

“It’s not too big, it’s just right,” Brittany said. “It has a small-school feel and she’ll love the dorms here and she’ll

Melanie Kent  
*senior in justice studies*  
Aaron Kichler  
*senior in electrical engineering*  
Nichole King  
*senior in management*  
Savana King  
*senior in psychology*  
James Kirby  
*graduate in international business*  
Asia Kittrell



Elizabeth Klingenberg  
*freshman in nursing*  
Andrea Koch  
*sophomore in psychology*  
Mallory Koonz  
*senior in nursing*  
Lisa Kratzberg  
*senior in nursing*  
Carrie Krebs  
*senior in marketing*  
Jatinder Kumar  
*graduate in physics*



Vidhi Kundalia  
*graduate in human resource development*  
Karl Launchbaugh  
*senior in manufacturing tech.*  
Joanne Lee  
*senior in communication*  
Yeimi Lee Sin  
*senior in international business*  
Jeremy Leithoff  
*senior in justice studies*  
Randi Leithoff  
*senior in commercial art*



love it here on campus and its walking distance.”

The following fall, Brianna transferred to Pitt State and the twins were together again.

Brittany said their time apart was really hard.

“We’re best friends. It’s hard being separated from your best friend,” she said. “And we used to run into each other’s rooms going, ‘I need clothes, I need shoes, I need jewelry,’ and I’ll call her and be like, ‘I want your necklace,’ and she’s like, ‘Come get it.’”

Besides sharing accessories, the twins share the same campus activities. Residence Hall Assembly, their sorority, Sigma Sigma Sigma, concert band, color guard and university band are among them. They, however, play different instruments in the band. Brittany plays the French horn, while Brianna plays the tenor saxophone.

The twins attend the same school, but prefer to have separate dorm rooms.

“It’s nice to have separate rooms so we can run away to each other’s rooms if we’re having a bad time or just to escape,” Brianna said. “I can go hide in her room or she can come hide in my room.”

That’s one of the things Brianna likes about going to the same school as her twin, that there’s one person she can always turn to.

“It’s a shoulder to cry on whenever you have a really bad day,” she said. “Someone you can run to and you’re not worried about what they’re going to think or anything. They’re just there.”

The twins don’t know whether they will live in the same town as the other when they graduate.

In the meantime, they are making the rest of their college memories count.

“It’s been the best experience being on the same campus with my sister,” Brianna said.

Brittany couldn’t agree more.

“I couldn’t think about a day without her here with me,” she said.



Nicole Levitt  
*senior in marketing*  
Tyler Lewis  
*junior in construction engineering tech.*  
Holly Lewsader  
*senior in social work*  
Michael Main  
*graduate in educational leadership*  
Twyla Mariano  
*graduate in workforce development & ed.*  
Rebekah Markham  
*senior in accounting*



Kyle Marlin  
*sophomore in physical ed.*  
Kyle Martin  
*undeclared freshman*  
Monica Martinez  
*senior in justice studies*  
Nickole Masoner  
*senior in psychology*  
Lauren Matthews  
*freshman in marketing*  
Joshua Mayfield  
*freshman in chemistry*



Tara McEndree  
*freshman in early/late childhood*  
Trevor McEndree  
*freshman in justice studies*  
Megan McFall  
*freshman in commercial graphics*  
Jacob Mendez  
*sophomore in history*  
Matthew Merz  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Jennifer Myer  
*senior in nursing*

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# 'Master storyteller'

Teacher still captivates students after 50 years

*story by Mandy Toepfer*

Judith Shaw has been teaching for more than half a century. Since she started teaching, she's seen more than 10 presidents, been through the Vietnam era and the Watergate scandal and witnessed all the changes Pitt State has been through. It's surprising that in the beginning she didn't want to teach at all.

Shaw, PSU associate professor in history, comes from a long line of teachers including her dad and grandmother, but she was determined, for a while, to not follow in their footsteps.

"I grew up telling my father firmly that I didn't want to teach," she said. "But then when I grew up, I started thinking what I wanted to do and teaching just seemed to be the best option, the one I knew the most about."

Education has always played a big role in her life, starting at the age of 4 when she attended her first college class. It was her dad's class, and she attended because it happened to be close to her kindergarten.

Even though it was her dad's class, she was not allowed to participate.

"I was told to sit in the back row and be quiet," she said.

After she decided she really did want to become a teacher, she attended several schools to do her coursework, including Western Kentucky in Bowling Green, Ky., for her undergraduate work and the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Ky., for her master's. After she got her master's, she studied in Paris on a Fulbright scholarship, where she researched her doctoral dissertation.

"It was about a French public minister who managed through his incompetence to cause a war to last several extra years," she said.

She, however, never did complete her dissertation.

She had already had her deadline extended once, so she couldn't get her deadline pushed back again even when she got the mumps.

Shaw also completed an extra year of graduate work at the University of Texas in Austin.

It seems Shaw did have a knack for teaching. She has been teaching for 51 years, though, because she taught at Georgetown College for a year.

John Daley, chairman of the History Department, has known Shaw for 14 years. He describes her as a "master storyteller," who is willing to share vast amounts of information.

"She is a very dynamic instructor, very traditional, yet unconventional," he said. "She still doesn't need them (the notes). Frankly, I'm jealous."

Shaw says the only teaching style she has ever used is lecturing. However, students have seen that her lectures have a different feel than other lecture classes.

"She tells stories instead of just facts," Neva Kellhoff, junior in history, said. "It's usually information people have heard over and over again, it (the storytelling) gives it a new slant - a new perspective."

Shaw says she has always presented lectures as if they were stories and says it helps students pay attention.

"None of us can concentrate for very long and so if you can throw in something ridiculous, something scandalous, some blood and gore - it's kind of like Mary Poppins and her spoonful of sugar, because people start listening again," she said.

To be teaching 50 years, there has to be a driving force to stay with it, but Shaw says she simply enjoys it.

"I always said if I found something better, I'd quit," she said. "I guess I like people, students - being around them."

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“None of us can concentrate for very long and so if you can throw in something *ridiculous*, something *scandalous*, some *blood and gore* - it's kind of like Mary Poppins and her spoonful of sugar, because *people start listening again*. ”

**-Judith Shaw**  
associate professor in history



photo by Katie Swatek  
In her Ancient Greece class, Judith Shaw, associate professor in the History Department, tells stories of the 300 Spartans who took the Hot Gates against the Persians. Shaw is the longest serving teacher at Pitt State.

# Hope is

## PSU student gets stem-cell treatment for spinal injuries

story by Krystal Pakitsos

**D**avid Francis was an average boy. Growing up in Golden City, Mo., he was ornery, loved the outdoors, hanging out with friends and getting his hands dirty working on cars.

He was just beginning his second semester in the PSU automotive program when his whole life changed. One morning in 2006 when David, his dad, uncle and sister were driving to Joplin, their tire exploded, leaving his father fighting for control of the vehicle.

"It sounded like someone lit up a 12-gauge shotgun in the car," Francis said. "That sent the car into a skid and dad had to fight with all he had to steer the car away from other drivers and get the car down into the median."

The car started spinning, eventually flipping over on its top and smashing the roof completely in. When Francis woke up, he was still in the vehicle.

"I couldn't move my arms and legs and I couldn't scream because I lost control of my abdominal muscles," Francis said.

His sister died from substantial head injuries. The smashed roof dislocated Francis' fourth and fifth vertebrae, paralyzing him. His uncle had fractured vertebrae, 10 broken ribs and a broken hip. His dad was conscious the entire episode.

"He watched his brother screaming in agony, he saw his little girl die by the side of the highway, he saw my limp body being pulled from the car and air lifted away," Francis said. "Our lives forever changed."

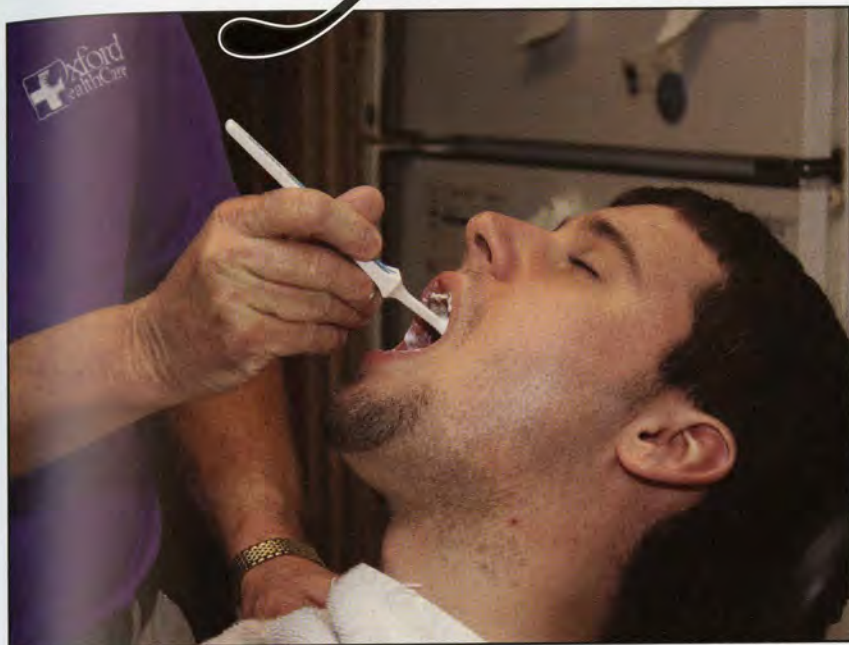
That was three years ago, and since then, Francis, now a quadriplegic, has had to develop an entirely new way of living. He is dependent



photo courtesy David Francis

Since a car accident in 2006, David Francis has been paralyzed from the chest down. He uses an electronic wheelchair to get around as much as possible.

# my ally,



photos by Hadyn Barnes

**Left:** Because he has no use of his hands and little use of his arms, Francis has to have help with basic daily functions, such as brushing his teeth and bathing. He has a nurse, Terry, who comes to the house to assist in these endeavors. **Above:** Francis uses special wrist braces with writing attachments to text on his phone and type on the computer keyboard.

on the aid of his family and nurses who take shifts throughout the day. Things that most people would consider day-to-day tasks, such as brushing teeth or simply getting in and out of bed, have become hurdles for Francis.

After doing some research, Francis read about a company in the Dominican Republic that is using stem-cell research to treat spinal cord injuries with positive results. Although stem-cell research is still experimental in the United States, it has been used in other countries for years.

After more research, Francis found out that his case could be treated. The only obstacle was money. The first treatment would cost \$30,000 and each treatment after that would cost \$12,500, not to mention the thousands of dollars in traveling expenses. After

finding out that he had a chance for improvement, Francis was determined to raise the money.

"I had so much money to raise and I felt like that would never come," Francis said. "I felt my life going by and there was something out there that could help and I couldn't raise enough money for it."

Over several months, people in the community began holding fundraisers and making donations. All of this, in combination with Francis' Web site, which explains his story and allows people to donate online, raised more than \$16,000.

Francis was starting to wonder if and how he was going to reach his goal of \$30,000. So he decided to call the doctor himself.

"It was just dragging on," Francis said. "I called him and I told him about my injury and about what I

could and could not feel. He got really excited and said, 'If you can feel all of that stuff then I feel like my treatment can help you regain most, if not all, of what you lost.' I was elated. It was a euphoric feeling."

Francis said he found it hard to believe that he could be treated. The doctor was ready to make an appointment. But Francis still didn't know if he'd be able to acquire the money.

"I'm just a poor kid from Southwest Missouri and I don't have money," Francis said.

When the doctor asked how much Francis had accumulated, he told him \$16,000. The doctor told Francis to call him back in four months and see how much he could earn before then.

"He said we would work something out, which was frustrating and hopeful at the same time," Francis

*continued on Page 102*

# The treatment



photo courtesy David Francis

In the treatment room in the Dominican Republic, Francis receives some stem cells through an I.V. to help boost his immune system before the neuronal stem cells are put into his body.



photo by Hadyn Barnes

Francis waits while his nurse, Terry, and his father check in at the Springfield-Branson Airport in Springfield, Mo. They flew to the Dominican Republic in March of 2009 so he could receive his first stem cell treatment in hopes of reversing the paralysis he sustained in the car accident in 2006.



photo courtesy David Francis

The stem cell treatment, a non-invasive procedure, required only four small shots in Francis' abdomen. The entire process took about an hour to complete.

*continued from Page 101*

said. "I got off of the phone and I was desperate for money."

Four months and many generous donations later, Francis was at \$20,000 and followed up with the doctor's request. When he told the doctor how much he had acquired, the doctor said he would do the procedure.

"I truly believe he just likes helping people," Francis said.

Francis had his first stem-cell treatment in March and has already seen improvements. By the end of

April, he was able to move his right thumb for the first time in three years. His feet are also showing signs of feeling.

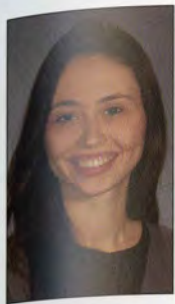
Francis' dad, David, explained that some people are leery about making donations because of their political or religious beliefs about stem-cell treatment.

"Be slow to judge until you're looking at your child, your family member, your spouse, your mother or father, your daughter," Francis Sr. said.

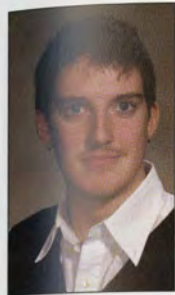
"It has brought it home to this little town."

Friends and family are constantly trying to find ways to earn money for follow-up treatments, having held a golf tournament, a barbecue and concert and a softball tournament. Until his next treatment, Francis said, he will just continue pushing forward.

"Once you've lost hope, there is no point in living and I would like to continue living the best life that I can," Francis said. "Hope is my ally."



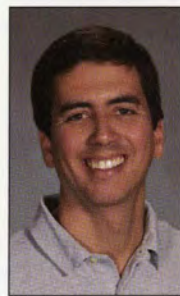
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*senior in justice studies*  
Jessica Moore  
*junior in family & consumer science*  
Kamiasha Moses  
*senior in marketing*  
Penny Mott  
*senior in psychology*  
Jennifer Muoghalu  
*graduate in business administration*  
Jennifer Murphy  
*senior in family & consumer science*



Nicholas Myers  
*junior in early/late childhood*  
Jyothi Narlapuram  
*graduate*  
Ben Naumann  
*senior in mechanical engineering*  
Jacob Neely  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Brant Ness  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Jennifer Nichols  
*senior in communication*



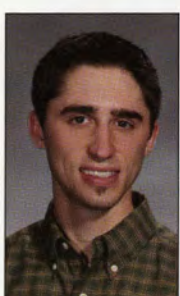
Frederick Njoroge  
*senior in management*  
Ashish Oberoi  
*graduate in business administration*  
Christian Omara  
*senior in electrical engineering*  
Chinomnso Onuoha  
*graduate in business administration*  
Krystel Pakitsos  
*senior in communication*  
Shruti Panchal  
*graduate in international business*



Mayank Patel  
*senior in computer science*  
Shalin Patel  
*senior in plastic engineering*  
Mihir Patel  
*non-degree seeking freshman*  
Mitch Patterson  
*senior in general studies*  
Javier Gimenez Pena  
*graduate in human resource development*  
Paloma Perez  
*senior in psychology*



Jeff Perkins  
*senior in wood tech.*  
Lauren Perkins  
*senior in music*  
Keissey Pettit  
*freshman in communication*  
Ryan Piskas  
*freshman*  
Aaron Plumley  
*senior in electrical tech.*  
Amy Price  
*junior in accounting*



Yuxuan Pu  
*graduate in technology*  
Kyle Puskas  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Jordan Racher  
*freshman*  
Tiffany Raftopoulos  
*freshman in music*  
Rachiyta Raina  
*graduate in business administration*  
Jazmin Ramirez  
*senior in political science*



Michael Ramsey  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Ashley Reavis  
*junior in math*  
Adam Reynolds  
*senior in sociology*  
Nora Rindt  
*freshman in early/late childhood*  
Misty Ristau  
*junior in nursing*  
Marissa Ritter  
*senior in elementary ed.*



Elizabeth Rix  
*freshman in early/late childhood*  
Victoria Robinson  
*sophomore in English*  
Jacqueline Rodriguez  
*senior in justice studies*  
Amanda Rose  
*senior in commercial graphics*  
Beverly Ruedy  
*senior in physical ed.*  
Jay Russell  
*senior in biology ed.*



## What do you find most difficult about college life?



“ It’s the balance between personal stuff and work and school. My first year in college was a month after my dad passed away. It made it really hard to concentrate. That was three years ago. I live at home now with my mom and three-year-old sister. I just have to find my own ‘place,’ you know? And I can talk to my friends. ”

**-Chris Borghardt**  
junior in English



“ I’m student teaching, so I’m having to make everything work while also teaching class. It’s hard because I have to complete the work for the class in addition to having to teach it. And I’m teaching 12 hours, but I’m at school every day, all day long. Still, I love what I’m going into. ”

**-Portia Wright**  
senior in elementary ed.



“ It’s the culture shock. Everything is ripped away from you when you come here. I’m three hours away from all my family and friends. I’m having to buy my own groceries, pay my own bills, do my own laundry. And then I have to make everything work together, schedule my time for homework and get it all done. It took me about two weeks, but I got to know the guys on my floor, and that made a difference. You’re on your own, but that doesn’t mean you’re not gonna be OK. ”

**-Chris Mueller**  
freshman in mechanical engineering



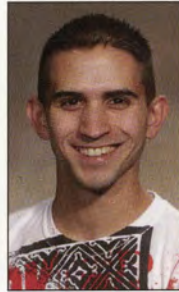
“ I haven’t felt homesick yet. But U.S. Politics, that class isn’t very difficult. It’s the culture. You know it because you learned these things as kids. But it takes me so much more time. I have to do extra research every day. And the language makes it hard, too. Sometimes I can’t always understand. I take my dictionary everywhere. But, I think I’m OK. I’ll get by. ”

**-Qing Cai**  
freshman in management

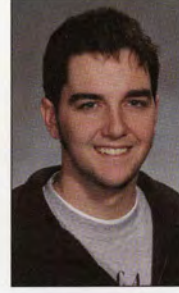


“ There’s just too much homework. I’m doing it every day, when I’m at work, hours of it. But there was even more homework in South America. It’s good that I’m here, because an American degree is better than a South American degree. You get a degree in South America and come here for work, they laugh at you. But I’m going to stay here. I’m not going anywhere. So it’s worth it. ”

**-Freddy Roman**  
freshman in service management and marketing



Jonathan Salazar  
*sophomore in construction management*  
Analia Saldivar  
*senior in accounting*  
Christina Sanders  
*senior in justice studies*  
Joseph Sarmiento  
*sophomore in psychology*  
Nikita Saxton  
*senior in commercial graphics*  
Jeffrey Schuman  
*senior in general studies*



Christa Scritchfield  
*senior in elementary ed.*  
Crystal Seal  
*senior in commercial graphics*  
Dean Shackley  
*senior in construction management*  
Ketul Shah  
*senior in accounting*  
Katie Shaul  
*junior in art ed.*  
Christopher Shively  
*senior in automotive tech.*



Chrystale Simpson  
*senior in social work*  
Deepika Singh  
*graduate in business administration*  
William Skucias  
*senior in marketing*  
Karen Slater  
*senior in early childhood ed.*  
Barry Smith  
*senior in computer science*  
Katherine Smith  
*senior in general studies*



Matthew Smith  
*senior in plastics engineering tech.*  
Heidi Smith  
*undeclared freshman*  
Travis Smith  
*junior in management*  
Tyler Smith  
*junior in electronics engineering tech.*  
Sarah Smutz  
*senior in biology*  
Caleb Snowberg  
*sophomore in automotive tech.*



Kim, Soyeom  
*senior in communication*  
Travis Spencer  
*senior in business management*  
Laurel Spriggs  
*senior in vocational and technical ed.*  
Tiffany Steele  
*senior in nursing*  
Ross Stone  
*senior in communication*  
Kayla Stout  
*senior in nursing*



Ryan Sullivan  
*senior in information systems*  
Sara Sullivan  
*senior in social work*  
Clifford Sutton  
*senior in business management*  
Cordelia Sykes  
*senior in English*  
David Tallmadge  
*junior in nursing*  
Kangheng Tao  
*graduate in communication*

Julie Taylor  
*undeclared junior*  
Kristen Taylor  
*junior in family & consumer science ed.*  
Joshua Terrill  
*senior in construction management*  
Nicole Thomas  
*senior in commercial graphics*  
Tyson Thomas  
*senior in construction management*  
Cayla Thomlinson  
*junior in communication*



Aaron Thompson  
*senior in communication*  
Carmon Thompson  
*senior in social work*  
John Thompson  
*senior in mechanical engineering*  
Katherine Thompson  
*senior in elementary ed.*  
Matthew Thoren  
*senior in applied science*  
Michael Thurman  
*senior in engineering tech.*



Mandy Toepfer  
*junior in communication*  
Miriam Tucker  
*senior in family & consumer science*  
Tieg Tullis  
*senior in management*  
Patrick Tyler  
*senior in music ed.*  
Chris Uhlig  
*junior in management*  
Kristen VanLeeuwen  
*junior in commercial graphics*



Chelsea Vaughn  
*freshman in nursing*  
Julie Veliz  
*sophomore in biology*  
Julia Vickers  
*senior in family & consumer science*  
Amelia Vogt  
*freshman in justice studies*  
Linsah Walker  
*senior in elementary ed.*  
Roxanne Wallace  
*junior in biology*

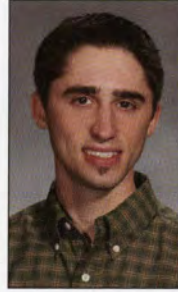


Devin Walter  
*freshman in automotive tech.*  
Chienpin Wang  
*graduate in business administration*  
Zhaoyang Wang  
*senior in accounting*  
Daniel Warlop  
*senior in music and management*  
Brittany Watson  
*sophomore in accounting*  
Brianna Watson  
*sophomore in nursing*



Christa Weber  
*senior in music ed.*  
Danielle Weishaar  
*junior in commercial graphics*  
Jacklyn Welch  
*graduate in communication*  
Alison Wilkins  
*senior in English ed.*  
Ursula Williams  
*senior in fashion merchandising*  
Jeremy Williford  
*senior in physical ed.*





Lyndon Wilson  
*senior in general ed.*  
 Michael Wise  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
 Fernanda Wlassow  
*senior in physical ed.*  
 Sarah Wolfe  
*freshman in biology*  
 Jason Wright  
*graduate in school psychology*  
 Janet Wydick  
*senior in elementary ed.*



Shanhe Xu  
*junior in management*

## Strollin' in the rain



*photo by Brett Armbruster*

Senior Jarin Redman and junior Megan Carlson, biology, cope with the effects of Hurricane Gustav on Tuesday, Sept. 2, as they make their way to class.

# Life in the *fast lane*



photos by Shalin Patel

Kali Bayles-Spire, senior in general studies, plans to graduate college at the age of 19. She was driven to complete college as soon as she could so she could "go and live the big life."

## Kali Bayles-Spire enters college at age 16 and finishes at 19

story by Mandy Toepfer

Kali Bayles-Spire is speeding through life.

At 16, she started college at Pitt State. At 18, she got married. Now she's graduating at the age of 19.

Some people may question her timing, but Bayles-Spire says she

wouldn't have it any other way.

"I like getting everything out of the way early so I can go and live the big life, you know?" Bayles-Spire, senior in general studies, said. "It feels like I'm still in the womb here. I want to get out and be a grownup and live and

make history."

Bayles-Spire says her thirst for something more came down to one day when she was talking to her mom. She told her mom she felt like she was going to run away. Her mom had another idea: college.



Bayles-Spire works on a photograph at home. Bayles-Spire plans to see where photography leads her after she graduates in December 2009.

"She says, 'OK, how about instead of that, let's go to Pittsburg and look at the college?'" Bayles-Spire said.

The plan worked. After completing high school in two years, Bayles-Spire went to college.

Even at her fast pace, she never took on more than 18 credit hours. She says it wasn't her plan to get ahead; it just kind of worked out that way, when her adviser said she had only 23 more hours to go.

Being successful in school seemed to run in the family. One of her relatives graduated at 19 and Bayles-Spire is pushing her sister to enroll in college at 16, too.

She says her family wasn't too surprised that she was going to graduate early.

"My mom basically just says what she always says: 'Kali rocks, Kali rolls, that's my girl,'" Bayles-Spire said.

Not only has she been getting an education in the past three years, but she's gotten married.

The proposal was spontaneous.

Bayles-Spire was sitting in the student center with Isaac Spire, sophomore in creative writing,

complaining of being bored. Spire asked what she wanted to do and she replied, "Oh, let's get married." The two filled out paperwork that same day and then a month later on Aug. 8, 2008, they went by Wal-Mart to buy the rings and drove to an Oklahoma courthouse.

She says she enjoyed the spur-of-the-moment nuptials.

"It's a totally different story," she said.

Spire describes Bayles-Spire as the smartest person he's ever met, aside from her parents.

He says he always enjoys learning little tidbits from her, such as how Q-tips were created.

"It's always a learning experience but I relish it," he said. "A lot of guys would probably be insulted by a woman trying to tell them things they didn't know, rather than them learning for themselves, but I'm not."

Bayles-Spire has completed more milestones within her teen years compared to the average 19-year-old.

She says she's glad she didn't follow the same life as a stereotypical teenager.

"I look at other people's teen years and I say, 'Oh, that's stupid.' Like grow up," Bayles-Spire said. "I don't want to

waste it on drama and childish things."

She says the world seems completely different from when she was a freshman. In one way, she's more goal-oriented.

"It was more about building friendships and everything freshman year and 'Oh, this is college, let's have fun,'" she said. "Now it's OK what are we doing. Let's plan two semesters ahead and get it over with and how are we going to work the budget?"

Bayles-Spire plans to receive her degree in general studies with an emphasis in psychology in December 2009. When she entered college, she hoped to get her doctorate and start her own practice. Now, instead, she's set up her own photography business, called With Heart Photography. After graduation, she plans to pursue photography to see where that leads her. Spire says he is excited to see what she can do outside of college.

It seems anything is possible.

"Really, it's just a let's see what happens now," she said. "...But I really don't think it'll be too tough. It hasn't been tough yet."





photo by Cayla Thomlinson

A hot air balloon passes over Pittsburg State University just after 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 8. As the balloon drifted over Willard Hall, a student leaving the Gibson Dining Hall shielded his eyes to watch as the balloonist shouted, "Hello, Pitt Sate."



# Riding high

Walter wins many awards and sponsorships for BMX competitions

*story by Sheikh Murad Kalal*

**D**evin Walter is sitting on top of a wave. Only this wave is built of wheels and spokes, brakes and handlebars.

"I started riding when I was 9," says Walter, freshman in automotive technology. "My cousin always took me out to the track. For my 10th birthday, my parents bought me a membership so I started racing."

Walter explains that BMX, bicycle motocross, offers similar challenges and thrills as motocross, only at a lower cost. It is a type of cycling done with specially designed bicycles that have 20-inch wheels. The action-filled sport includes BMX racing, which is racing on earthen tracks, and Freestyle BMX, which is performing tricks on bikes.

BMX has come a long way since the first dirt track in the early 1970s. The sport is gaining popularity with the development of BMX racing tracks across the country.

Since he started competing, Walter has won numerous titles.

"This year I have won a national in Atlanta, the Kansas state champ, district champ, Redline Cup Central champ," Walter said. "In the USAC

(United States of America championship) I got a seventh place and at the Race of Champions I got seventh place."

Walter's success has attracted lots of sponsors, including Stellar 1, Formula Bikes, Fox Racing, Adidas, Shimano DXR, Sunringle, THE products, Tagent products, Intense Tire Systems and WPS. Most of his sponsors are leading brands in sports. These companies provide him with equipment such as hubs and brakes, as well as his entrance fees to competitions and his hotel bills.

Walter said his accomplishments are the result of practice, practice, practice.

"I practice in Topeka. It is my home track, which my parents run," Walter said. "There are also tracks in Blue Springs and Raytown, Mo. There are no tracks in Pittsburg, so I just go to the recreation center and do sprints and rides on my bike."

All that practice takes lots of time and dedication to the sport, but Walter says it isn't hard for him to manage his time between studies and BMX riding.

"Managing time is really not too hard. I just do my homework, then I go train."



photo by Brett Armbruster

*I'm glad I had the opportunity to serve,*

Tom & Koeta Bryant reflect on their 10 years leading Pitt State



photo by  
Brett Armbruster

**Q: Why did you decide to become president?**

Tom: I don't know that I decided to become president. I think I responded to a lot of years ago to a need we had here at Pittsburg State.

**Q: What input did you, Koeta, have on the decision?**

Koeta: Well it was one of those things where we didn't have much input. I mean they had selected him and it was a different kind of process than you normally go through, but I just was very supportive because I thought he was certainly the right choice.

**Q: Why did you decide to retire?**

Tom: I think there's a time for everything and this seemed to be the appropriate time to step down and I've always said I need to get out of the way of some of the younger people. I was going to get run over.

**Q: And Koeta, how much influence did you have on his decision to retire?**

Koeta: Well, actually, I said that he was the one that was doing the job and it should be his decision when he was ready to retire. Tom: I'm not sure I'm ready, but it's the right thing to do and for the university.

**Q: I know you've done a great amount of work here on campus, with fundraising a lot of money for the (University) Foundation and then also renovating buildings on campus, but what accomplishments are you most proud of?**

Tom: I think I'm most proud of the accomplishments of our students. In the past ten years, of what they've done.

**Q: Do any students stick out to you?**

Tom: Oh no, they all do. Our students are something to be proud of. It has never been difficult to support our students here at Pitt State for me.

**Q: If you could do it all over again, would you change anything?**

Tom: I don't think so.

**That's a great thing, because that means you feel you did everything correctly.**

Tom: Oh, I don't know about that, but I wouldn't ask for anything to change.

**Q: What would you like to see the administration accomplish after you leave?**

Tom: I think just to always keep a vision out there in front of yourself and to work towards carrying out that vision.

**Q: What will you take away from your experience?**

Oh, man. Old age I guess. Oh I can't quite answer it that way.

Koeta: Nah, I don't think you should.

Tom: What I will take away is certainly a lot of friendships that have developed in my tenure year with faculty and staff and students, and alumni and friends of the University.

**Q: And, Koeta, what will you take away from this experience?**

He took my answer. I think probably the relationships that we've made with all of the supporters whether they be here now as students and staff and faculty but there's a lot of great opportunities to connect with new friends that have been supporters of the university for years. We just didn't know them. I think probably a chance to get to personally meet lots of students when they came over to the house to eat or for meetings or that type of thing. Because as a teacher for years, I'd always taught high school students, but not such a chance to connect with college students.

**Q: What do you feel you brought to PSU?**

Tom: I think I've brought hard work and dedication. Energy and enthusiasm for the university.

**Q: What does it take to be a university president?**

It certainly takes some knowledge of certainly the mission of the university, what that mission is. (It takes) skill and leadership and management to carry out that mission. At times you don't have all those skills when you start and may not ever totally arrive to what it has to be, but you learn as you go through as to what works and what doesn't.

**Q: What challenges will higher education face in the coming years?**

I think one of it is going to be just access-- how to make sure that future generations have access to higher education.

**Q: Are you happy with whom they picked as the next president?**

Very much so. (He's) a person who can lead Pittsburg State University and enhance where we are at the moment.

**Q: What advice would you give to Dr. Scott?**

My advice to Dr. Scott would be "you have prepared yourself well to do this to be the leader of Pittsburg State, and so be yourself."

**Q: What have your feelings been throughout the year?**

Well, I would have to say until just recently, just the last two or three weeks, we really haven't had time to think about it. We decided to let the Board of Regents know in August to give them

time to have this year to carry out their search and we were willing to be a lame duck president, instead of having to do an interim. We could have waited until today to announce, but we didn't think that was in the best interest of the university. I think one reason we were able to do that is I'm a faculty member of Pittsburg State University and I was a faculty member before I was president and I'll be a faculty member after I step down, at least for one year.

Koeta: Bittersweet, wouldn't you say?

Tom: I would say that's probably a good description.

**What have your feelings been throughout the year?**

Koeta: Like I tried to say, I think it's bittersweet. You're going to miss a lot of the people that you're used to being around and the opportunity to meet new people, see new things, have closer relationships with the students. See all the university activity and everything that goes on. We'll miss the college lake. All the activity that goes on around the house and at the university. We'll miss all that.

Tom: The activity, the energy.

Koeta: But it'll be nice to have time to ourselves and do this and do things we want to do and see more of family.

**Q: You guys have talked about what you want to do when you retire, but what are some other specifics you can think of? Like do you want to travel more?**

Tom: Well, we'll travel but it's not as though we haven't been traveling. We go a lot. But spending time on the farm will be neat and then obviously we want to continue to support the Gorillas here at Pitt State. We'll take in a lot of the activities on campus. We want to support the university in any way we can during our retirement, that's important to us. I have no idea (what that will be, but) that's what we say, 'once a Gorilla, always a Gorilla.' And the thing is both Koeta and I have degrees from Pittsburg State, she has two degrees, I have one. And that's pretty good for us. I'm a faculty member at Pitt State ... and Koeta's always been proud of being a cheerleader here.

Koeta: Our connections go back a long way.

**Q: Anything else you want to add?**

Tom: I'm glad I had the opportunity to serve Pittsburg State for well going on 39 years and hope for 40.

Koeta: It's ending now. I would say it's ending 39.

Tom: Yeah, ending 39 years.

# Saying goodbye

Students, faculty and staff celebrate Tom Bryant's presidency

story by Krystal Pakitsos

Students, faculty and staff said their goodbyes to President Tom Bryant and wife, Koeta, at his farewell reception on Thursday, April 30. Bryant and his wife received awards expressing thanks for their contributions to the university from the Student Government Association, Classified Senate and Faculty Senate and a certificate of recognition from the state of Kansas.

During the ceremony, students, faculty and staff were served refreshments while they mingled and said their personal goodbyes to Bryant.

Howard Smith, assistant to the president, spoke on behalf of the university and listed some of Bryant's accomplishments during his time at PSU, including a rise in enrollment, receiving numerous accreditations and an increased number of endowed scholarships.

Some of the renovations under Bryant's presidency were Carnie Smith Stadium, Willard Hall, Russ Hall, McCray Hall and Porter Hall. New constructions included the Family and Consumer Sciences building, the Student Recreation Center and Pittsburg Armory, Veterans Memorial, Tyler Research Center and the nearly finished Student Health Center.

"Certainly his commitment, his work ethic and his desire for this university to be the best has certainly paid off," Smith said. "More students have the opportunity to attend college



President Tom Bryant accepts an award from Mark Johnson, a technology professor, for all of the achievements and projects the president has completed during his 10-year tenure as president of Pittsburg State University.

today because of his leadership."

Anna Nimz, graduate assistant for women's basketball, attended the ceremony to show appreciation for Bryant's support of women's basketball.

"Dr. Bryant was someone that I will not forget," Nimz said. "He was such a great supporter of the women's basketball team and every team at PSU. We could not begin to say thank you enough for everything he has done."

Bryant said that announcing his resignation was one of the most difficult things he had to do during his presidency.

"I couldn't believe I couldn't handle

it," Bryant said. "I've handled many things as president of Pitt State, but that one I really struggled with. I never expected to be the president and now those ten years are coming to an end. There will be a lot of things I'll miss from that standpoint."

Bryant explained that saying goodbye to the people he surrounds himself with every day is going to be the most difficult part of stepping down.

"That's who I am, that's who I care about," Bryant said. "That makes it tough. The truth of it is, if you don't care, it's not so hard and if you care it's really, really hard. But it's worth it."



Upon the introduction of Bryant and his wife, Koeta, a standing ovation erupts throughout the packed Crimson and Gold Ballroom.

“ Dr. Bryant was someone that I will not forget. ”

-Anna Nimz  
graduate assistant for women's basketball



Before the reception, Bryant and his wife, Koeta, welcomed everyone through the doors into the Crimson and Gold Ballroom. Bryant and Joe Leek of Community National Bank exchange greetings and laughs.



photos by Brett Armbruster

Fruit, cheese and crackers were presented for guests before and after the reception for President Bryant.



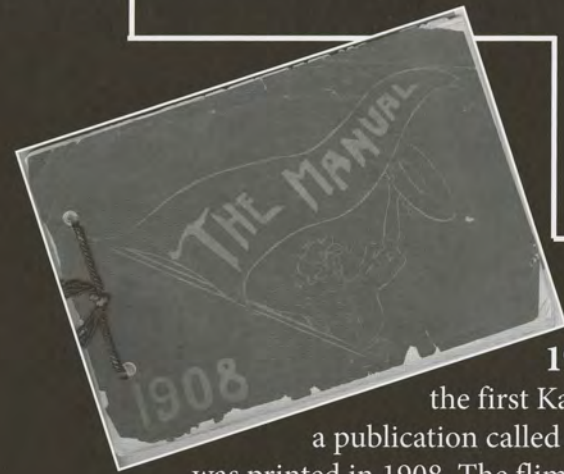


*photo by Brett Armbruster*

Members of the Kanza staff try to blow out the 100 candles on the cake. The 2009 Kanza marks the yearbook's 100th volume.

# Anniversary





**1908:** Before the first Kanza came out, a publication called the Manual was printed in 1908. The flimsy booklet was put together by the Porterean society and it had only two pictures in the entire book. However, one of those pictures was the first published picture of Russ Hall. It was of Russ Hall being built. Little drawings and sayings made up the majority of the book as well as advice from the seniors to the juniors.



The 2009 Kanza marks the 100th volume of the yearbook. To commemorate the last 100 books, the staff found an interesting fact about the Kanza for each decade and to put it into perspective, we've listed world and school events that happened in the same decade.

# Back to the past

**1910:** Kansas State Manual Training Normal published its first yearbook, called the Kanza. The school has gone through several name changes since it first began, but the name of the yearbook has remained the same through time. The first edition was very plain compared to volumes after. The cover was red and had Kanza 1910, written in gray letters, as the only words on it. Inside, the only content is pictures of buildings, classrooms and faculty. The portraits aren't the same as today. Instead, each class took a group photo and a roster was printed below each one. The sports section contained the football schedule and individual players posing, but no action shots.

With the help of technology and creativity, the Kanza has grown since 1910, but the principle the book was based on still exists. It shows the people who make the school what it is and showed the activities the students participated in throughout the school year.

What else happened during the 1910s?

- ◇ 1907: The school holds the first Apple Day. The day to commemorate the state appropriation for Russ Hall.
- ◇ 1908: Russ Hall construction is completed.
- ◇ 1910: The colors red and gold were reserved for the senior class only. Juniors, sophomores and freshmen had to have other colors.
- ◇ 1912: The Titanic sinks.
- ◇ 1913: The first crossword puzzle created.
- ◇ 1914: The first traffic light was installed.
- ◇ 1917: U.S. enters World War I.



What else happened during the 1930s?

- ◇ 1930: Pluto is discovered.
- ◇ 1931: The United States officially gets national anthem.
- ◇ 1933: FDR launches New Deal.
- ◇ 1934: Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg participates in Civil Works Administration project that put students to work on campus projects.
- ◇ 1934: The cheeseburger is created.
- ◇ 1934: Parker Brothers sells the game Monopoly.

**1938:** Jack Overman is the business manager for the Kanza.



# past



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**1938:** Jack Overman is the business manager for the Kanza.

**1925:** During the 1920s, the Kanza set up a unique way to sell yearbooks, called the Kanza Queen competition. Overall, Kanza Queen was a competition to see who the most popular girl was at school and to sell yearbooks at the same time. Each class chose a queen and two maids of honor to represent their class in the contest. The class that sold the closest to 100 percent of their class won the competition and chose the Queen. The second highest class named the maids of honor. A ball was also held at the end of the contest. The tradition of Kanza Queen lasted until 1973.

What else happened during the 1920s?

- ◇ A vacuum cleaner cost \$40.
- ◇ 1921: The first Miss America contest is held.
- ◇ 1922: The 19th Amendment is ratified, granting women the right to vote.
- ◇ 1929: The stock market crashes.
- ◇ 1923: The school is renamed the Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg.
- ◇ 1925: The gorilla is adopted as the mascot.
- ◇ 1927: The first library is completed and named after Ebenezer Porter.



KANZA

THE 1937 HANZA

HANDS THIRTY EIGHT



The

**1948 & 1949:** The Kanza did not always come as one complete book. The 1948, '49 and '50 books were printed and distributed in two or three parts.

What else happened during the 1940s?

- ◊ Casablanca, Bambi and Citizen Kane are among the top movies of the decade.
- ◊ The jitterbug, drive-in movies and nickel jukeboxes were the craze in the '50s.
- ◊ 1943: Two hundred thirty enlisted men at the school were called to active duty to fight in World War II.
- ◊ Airmail postage is 8 cents.
- ◊ 1946: The first computer was invented.

What else happened during the 1950s?

- ◊ 1955: Jonas Salk invents the polio vaccine.
- ◊ The McDonald's corporation is founded.
- ◊ Cinderella and Alice in Wonderland are released.
- ◊ Bread costs 14 cents, gas is 20 cents and milk is 82 cents.
- ◊ Willard Hall is the only dormitory on campus, and it's only for women. Men had to rent rooms off campus and most had to hitchhike to school.
- ◊ Instead of tailgating, there was a bonfire and a pep rally for the teams before every football and basketball game.

# from the '40s

**1958:** The Gorillas broke numerous records during the football season of 1957. They were first in the nation with a string of 11 victories for 1957, better than any college in the United States. They were also named National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champions and State of Kansas champions. The team broke school records including most rushing yards in one season, most victories in one season and for scoring 347 points in a season.



1958: Team members pick up Coach Carnie Smith after they win the Holiday Bowl.



1958: Dick Adamson clicks off yardage against Tahlequah.



Kanza

Kanza

KANZA

Kanza

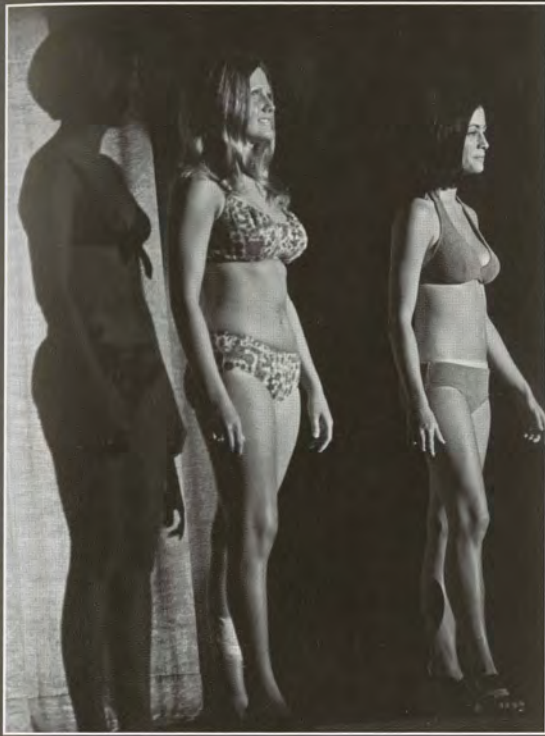
KANZA  
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KANZA

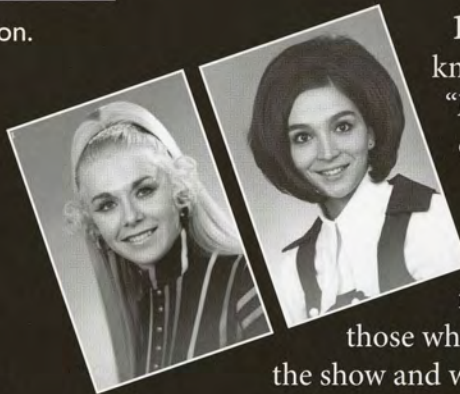
# ...to the '70s



1971: Swimsuit part of the competition.

What else happened during the 1960s?

- ◇ 1962: PSU's first president, Russell S. Russ, dies at the age of 102.
- ◇ 1963: President Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.
- ◇ 1964: Congress passes the Civil Rights Act.
- ◇ 1965: Senior class gift was a fiberglass gorilla that sits in front of the student center.

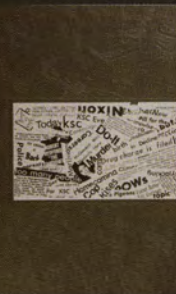
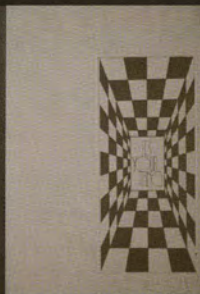


1968: Miss Pittsburg State Debbie Barnes and the runners up.



1972: Miss Pittsburg State and the runners up.

**1966:** Many people may not know that PSU had its own "Miss America"-type pageant called Miss Pittsburg State. The contest began in 1966 and lasted until 1972. In order to be chosen, contestants sent in portraits to be judged. Of those who made the cut, they made it to the show and were judged on talent, swimsuit and interview. Miss Pittsburg State was set up to be a first step toward Miss Kansas. In 1968, this proved to be true. Debbie Barnes won Miss Pittsburg State, went on to win Miss Kansas and ended up winning Miss America.





# from the '80s.

**1977:** The cover of the book has a meaning behind it. The front shows a gorilla standing on top of Russ Hall, just like King Kong on the Empire State building. The 1977 Kanza was the first yearbook to don the Pittsburg State University name. King Kong Kollege was suggested, among others, for the school. It was ignored. As for the cover, no one knows whether the students were mocking it or if they liked it.

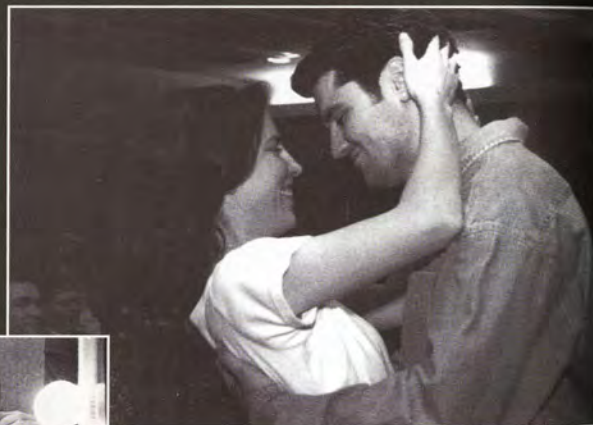
What else happened during the 1970s?

- ◇ 1970: The Beatles break up.
- ◇ 1971: VCRs are introduced.
- ◇ 1973: Abortion is legalized in the United States.
- ◇ 1975: Microsoft is founded.
- ◇ 1979: Sony introduces the Walkman.
- ◇ 1971: Garfield W. Weede dies.
- ◇ 1975: The Gladys Kelce Center for Business and Economic Development is dedicated.
- ◇ 1976: The alumni center was completed and donated to the university by Cecil and Eva Wilkinson.
- ◇ 1979: The \$3.6 million Axe Library was built.

What else happened during the 1990s?

- ◇ 1990: Nintendo is the most popular game on the market.
- ◇ "Thriller" by Michael Jackson, "Born in the USA" by Bruce Springsteen and "Purple Rain" by Prince and the Revolution are among the Top 10 albums of the decade.
- ◇ 1993: Michael Jordan announced his retirement from the Chicago Bulls.
- ◇ 1996: Danny Glover and Felix Justice come to campus to perform readings in honor of Black History Month.
- ◇ 1999: PSU defeats Washburn to give Coach Chuck Broyles his 100th victory. He becomes the first collegiate coach in the 20th century to win 100 games in less than 10 full seasons.

**1993:** Gary Green makes himself up for his role as the Master of Ceremonies in Cabaret.



**1996:** Lori Cox and Brandon DuVall intimately wrap themselves in a romantic kiss to demonstrate different kissing techniques at a lecture the Student Activities Council put on.

**1997:** During the late 1990s, technology was introduced to the Kanza. In the 1997 edition, a CD-ROM was included in the book. The disc contained several short video clips that caught events such as the Homecoming parade, baseball games and Yell Like Hell on film.



# s...to the 2000s

**1980:** From 1980 to 1988, there was an event on campus every year called Ape Fest. It was a spring festival that was three days full of activities. For example, this is the schedule of the 1981 Ape Fest.

Friday:

- Talent show
- Pig roast
- Frisbee demo clinic
- Showing of the movie "1941"
- Midnight skate at Skateworld

Saturday:

- 10-mile bike race
- Free outdoor concert
- Carnival booths are set up
- Alumni football game
- Ultimate Frisbee game
- Another five-hour free concert

Sunday:

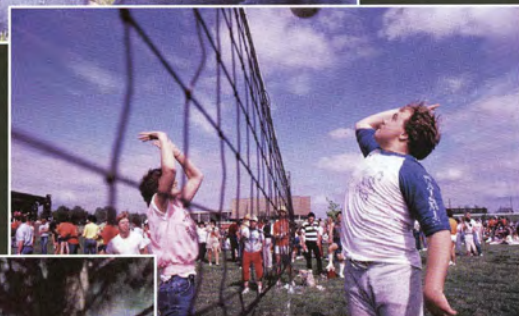
- Car show in the Oval
- Showed the movie "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"

What else happened during the 1980s?

- ◇ 1981: First case of AIDS is discovered.
- ◇ 1986: Challenger explodes 73 seconds into flight.
- ◇ 1989: Berlin Wall is torn down.
- ◇ 1983: Students throw a MASH Bash, because the television series came to an end.
- ◇ 1985: The cost of parking permits goes up. For a brown permit the price jumps from \$6 to \$9 and an orange permit changes from \$5 to \$10.



1985 Ape Fest



1985 Ape Fest



1981 Ape Fest

What else happened during the 2000s?

- ◇ 2000: PlayStation 2 is released.
- ◇ 2001: Terrorists attack New York and Washington, D.C. on Sept. 11.
- ◇ 2001: The Kanza has a special 16-page section dedicated to covering the Sept. 11 attacks.
- ◇ 2003: The school celebrates its centennial year.

**2005:** The Kanza wins first place in Best of Show from the Associated Collegiate Press.





photo by Cayla Thomlinson



A flag team member stands in the rain during the half-time show of the Missouri Southern State University game on Sept. 13.

# Athletics

*photo by Cayla Thomlinson*





photo by Katie Swatek

Kyle Green, senior in communication, expresses his frustration during the second half of the Fall Classic game at Arrowhead.

# Stumbling block

## Gorillas frustrated by Bearcats in battle of unbeaten teams

story by Josh Letner

The Pitt State Gorillas (5-1, 3-1) failed to exorcise their past demons at Arrowhead, falling 35-10 to their old nemesis, the Northwest Missouri Bearcats (5-1, 4-0).

The Bearcats scored the first three touchdowns of the game, held on Saturday, Oct. 4, to take a commanding 21-0 lead. After being forced to punt on their first possession, the Bearcats got on the board when LaRon Council carried it in from six yards out to cap a 12-play 71-yard drive that was a harbinger of things to come.

Northwest would score on its next two possessions, a 21-yard pass from Joel Osborn to Nick Rhodes, and another 6-yard run by Council.

The Gorillas would not break into the scoring column until the waning minutes of the first half, when Mark Smith hit Harrison Kush for a 6-yard touchdown pass.

Both teams headed to the locker

room with Northwest leading 21-7.

In the second half, the Northwest defense clamped down, allowing the Gorillas just three points and forcing three interceptions on Pitt's final three possessions.

Northwest was 9-of-12 on third down while the Gorillas were just 2-of-10. The Bearcats outgained the Gorillas 456-228 and ran 19 more offensive plays (71-52).

Northwest quarterback Joel Osborn finished 21-of-28 for 263 yards with one touchdown and two interceptions. Council, the leading scorer in Division II, ran for 144 yards on 24 carries with four touchdowns. Wide receiver Kendall Wright pulled down 11 passes for 157 yards.

For the Gorillas, the offensive numbers were well below average for one of the nation's top units. Mark Smith was 10-of-17 passing for 117 yards and one touchdown and one interception. He also carried the ball



photo by Brett Armbruster

Senior Jon Gilligan watches as the fourth quarter ticks away of the seventh Fall Classic football game between Pitt State and Northwest Mo. State.

for 69 yards on 13 carries. Tailback Caleb Farabi was held to just 28 yards on nine carries.



*photo by Brett Armbruster*

No. 6 Brett Shamblin and No. 8 Ferrari Welch double up to bring down Northwest Mo. State's runningback, LaRon Council.

photo by Brett Armbruster  
Football players charge out of the locker room to the cheers of fans in Carnie Smith Stadium.

## ► Playoff Caliber

It would be a quick turnaround for Pitt as they were forced to take an extra travel day to reach their next destination, Chadron, Neb., to take on the eighth-ranked team in the nation, the Chadron State Eagles.

Offense ruled the day as both teams drove the ball up and down the field. The Gorillas led for much of the ball game, but the Eagles were able to tie the game in the fourth quarter. On the Gorillas' final drive, Smith broke loose from the Chadron defense and scampered 61 yards for the go-ahead score. The Eagles mounted a final drive, pushing the ball into Gorilla territory before redshirt freshman Caleb Sanders picked off a Joe McClain pass to ice the game 38-31.

## The conference season

marked a return home for the Gorillas as they hosted the Missouri Southern Lions in the Miner's Bowl. During the preceding weeks, construction crews installed the "Jungletron," a 2,800 square foot scoreboard and video screen that was made possible by private donations that were earmarked for a new scoreboard.

Mother Nature did her best to spoil the atmosphere of excitement surrounding the game as rain fell in sheets causing many fans to take shelter. Missouri Southern fumbled four times in



the soggy conditions, but despite the miscues, the Lions were able to tie the game at 14-14 with just less than three minutes left to play.

The Gorilla offense responded, driving 60 yards in 10 plays. With just 16 seconds left in the game, Smith found senior receiver Marques Nelson in the back of the endzone for the winning score 21-14.

## The following week,

the Gorillas were back on the road again traveling to St. Joseph, Mo., for

a grudge match with the Missouri Western Griffons. The Gorillas held a six-point lead in the final minute of the fourth quarter, but Western drove the ball inside the Pitt 10-yard line. The Griffons had no time-outs and were forced to attempt three passes to conserve time in the waning seconds of the game. The Gorilla defense forced three straight incompletes and Pitt escaped St. Joseph with the win 46-40.

The Gorillas' match-up with Central Missouri would see Pitt State unleash

a high-powered passing attack. The Gorillas would score their first four touchdowns through the air and rack up 392 passing yards in the game. Nelson finished with a game-high 170 yards on just three catches with two touchdowns as the Gorillas rolled to a 49-28 win.

## Pittsburg State's return

to Arrowhead for the Fall Classic VII against Northwest Missouri did not go as the Gorillas would have hoped. Northwest scored the first three touchdowns of the game and cruised to the

**From left to right: Pitt State** attempts to block Nebraska-Omaha's field goal kick. **After** dodging around Truman State defenders, tailback Caleb Farabi is hoisted up by offensive lineman Travis Greer in the endzone. **Back** to receive a kick-off after a Washburn touchdown, senior Nate Thomas, moves toward the ball to catch it on the run, Saturday, Nov. 1.



photo by Stalin Patel



photo by Brett Armbruster



photo by Brett Armbruster



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### Pittsburg State's return

to Arrowhead for the Fall Classic VII against Northwest Missouri did not go as the Gorillas would have hoped. Northwest scored the first three touchdowns of the game and cruised to the

35-10 victory. The Bearcats converted nine of 12 third-down attempts and rolled up 456 yards of total offense.

Although the loss to their hated rival was a disappointment, the goal for the Gorillas remained the same, and if Pitt wanted to reach the playoffs and compete for a national championship, they would have to get back on the winning track.

The Gorillas got back on course the following week with a 45-28 win over the Truman Bulldogs.

**On homecoming weekend,** the Gorillas hosted the newest member of the MIAA, the Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks. In their first season in the MIAA, the Mavericks had been ranked second in the conference, ahead of Pittsburg State, in the pre-season coaches' poll. Despite the rankings, the Gorillas were able to down the Mavericks 35-28 in front of a large homecoming crowd.

The Gorillas powered through the rest of their conference schedule, defeating their last three opponents (Fort Hays, Washburn and Emporia State) by an average score of 45-10. Pitt finished the regular season with a 10-1 record and placed second in the MIAA. The Gorillas were also ranked third in the Super regional 4 rankings, guaranteeing Pitt a first-round home game in the playoffs.

Pitt State's first round opponent was a familiar one as the Gorillas hosted Nebraska-Omaha for the second time. The Gorillas jumped out to an early lead, but the Mavs rallied to take a 21-20 lead early in the fourth quarter. The

Gorillas would reply by scoring the final two touchdowns of the game, as they advanced to the second round with a 33-21 win.

### The playoff schedule

ended up being an extension of Pitt State's conference schedule as the Gorillas traveled to Maryville, Mo., to face Northwest for the second time. Once again, the Bearcats jumped out to an early lead and led 24-13 at the half. Northwest came out of the locker room and added another score to push the lead to 31-13. This time, however, the Gorillas refused to play dead. Pitt stormed back, scoring three unanswered touchdowns to take a 35-31 lead. The Bearcats put together a drive of their own, however, converting on a fourth-down and 10 before scoring on a 15-yard pass to pull out the 38-35 win.

Despite the playoff run coming to an end, the Gorillas continued to garner recognition for their achievements both on and off the field. Molz, Caleb Farabi and sophomore defensive back Alex Kuhlman earned Daktronics All-Super regional 4 honors. Molz also earned Daktronics second-team All-America honors. Farabi and junior center Jay Nunez also earned ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America honors for excellence in the classroom.

The Gorillas may have fallen short of their ultimate goal of a national championship, but they returned the Gorilla nation to the post-season, and served notice to fans and rivals alike that the tradition is alive and the future is bright for Gorilla football.



photo by Brett Armbruster



photo by Brett Armbruster

### Football Scores

Central Oklahoma	W	16-12
Chadron State	W	38-31
Missouri Southern	W	21-14
Missouri Western	W	46-40
Central Missouri	W	49-28
Northwest Missouri	L	35-10
Truman	W	45-28
Nebraska-Omaha	W	35-28
Fort Hays State	W	34-7
Washburn	W	48-17
Emporia State	W	52-7
Nebraska-Omaha	W	33-21
Northwest Missouri	L	38-35



photo by Brett Armbruster

Pitt State's defense stands on the benches watching the offense push forward against the Washburn University Icabods.

# Playoff caliber

Gorillas get their groove back, return to post-season

*story by Josh Letner*

The 2008 season marked a return to playoff caliber football for the Gorillas. Although they didn't achieve their primary goal of winning a national championship, the Gorillas reasserted their position as one of the top programs in the MIAA and the nation as a whole.

Pittsburg State finished the season with an 11-2 mark including a trip to the NCAA Division II playoffs. The Gorillas advanced to the second round of the playoffs before falling to eventual national runners-up, the Northwest Missouri Bearcats.

The Gorillas played one of the toughest schedules in all of Division II as they faced a total of six opponents that were ranked in the AFCA Top 25 poll. To compound the strength of their schedule, the Gorillas also started the season with long road trips to each of their non-conference games.

The Gorillas returned seven starters on each side of the ball, including three All-MIAA performers: senior quarterback Mark Smith, senior tailback Caleb Farabi and senior offensive lineman Kendall Molz.

The defense took on a new personality with the hiring of former Emporia State head coach Dave Wiemers as defensive coordinator. Wiemers took over a unit that was a question mark for many observers coming into the season, but the defense would prove early on that they were much improved.

The Gorillas suffered from a severe case of first game jitters as they narrowly defeated Central Oklahoma 16-12 to start the season. The Pitt offense fumbled five times in the game, but with the Gorillas clinging to a four-point lead in the fourth quarter, the defense forced the Bronchos to punt on their final three possessions to seal the victory.

continued on pg. 132 ►





Pitt State outside guard Kendall Molz, senior, breaks out of the tunnels at the Arrowhead game against Northwest Missouri on Oct. 4. Before the game, seniors were announced separately and individually from the team.



photo by Brett Armbruster





**First row, from left, across page:** Terrance Isaac, Nathan Thomas, Caleb Farabi, Bryan McMurtrey, Heckroth, Levi Richardson, Ryan Holt, Mark Smith, Giorgio Majors, Jeff Smith, Jared Witter, Jared Jerkins, Kush, Nate Morris, Eric Love, Jon Thomas, Jeremy Jackson, Kiara Jones, Todd Hertzog, Billy Ewy, Tyler

**Third row:** Antonio Graham, Rusty Morgan, Chris Swartz, Austin Cartright, Luke Stringer, Spencer Myles Jennings, Brock Lohr, Dustin Smith, Ryan Belcher, Craig Durfee. **Fourth row:** Shawn Churchman, Cummins, Billy Cox, Dustin Wiley. **Fifth row:** Aaron Kolich, Travis Greer, Nick Sloan, Jason Weeks, Damyon Dooley, Blake Byford, Martin Burke, Kendall Fisher, Marques Nelson, Kyle Speichinger, Derek Dawes, Joe Kennard, Jacob Tupper, Josiah Cody, Ted Thompson, JR Jones. **Eighth row:** Frank Naccarato (running backs), Steve Wells (asst. coach - offensive line), Tim Beck (asst. coach - offensive coordinator), (asst. coach - defensive secondary), Carl Roth (asst. coach - inside linebackers), Greg Warlop (asst. coach asst.), Ryan Hellwig (graduate asst.), Chad Weeks (graduate asst.), Neal Philpot (asst. coach - strength),



Brandon Clark, Brett Shamblin, John McCoy, Ferrari Welch, Alex Kuhlman, Chadd Snyder, Dustin Elijah Olabode. **Second row:** David Vaughn, Caleb Sanders, Daron Love, Aaron Sawyer, Harrison Bennett, Chad Hays, Colby Childs, Marquis Hines, Alex Port, Caleb Pazzie, Zack Langston, Worthington, Joey Zdeb, Jeremiah Burton, Tyler Larson, Mike Roberts, Alex Lord, Travis Ratliff, Jay Nuñez, Nick Pugh, Nick Pohlmann, Jeremy Kadoich, Kell Smalley, Kendall Molz, Stephen Nick Speed, Grant Garwood, Josh Paoni, Ty Cobb, Shane McGinnis. **Sixth row:** Ricky Ludeman, Fisher, Bristan Kelley, Dillion Wagnon. **Seventh row:** Jordan Karr, Joe Uzzel, Rashad Pittman, JC (asst. coach - wide receivers), Larry Garman (asst. coach - tight ends), John Pierce (asst. coach - Chuck Broyles (head coach), David Wiemers (asst. coach - defensive coordinator), Lance Cullen - outside linebackers). **Ninth row:** Richie Adkins (graduate asst.), Chris Landqvist (graduate John Kemp, Ike Eguae (graduate asst.)



photo by Brett Armbruster

Sophomore libero Cassie Wilson steps back to serve after a point for the Gorillas.

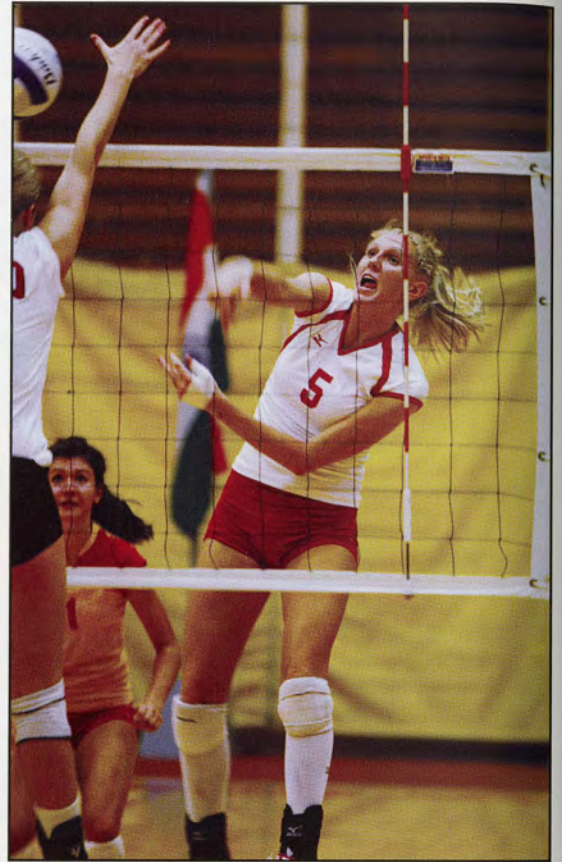


photo by Brett Armbruster

Pitt State right side hitter, senior Sammie Williams, strikes through a kill to gain a point for the Gorillas against division newcomers Nebraska-Omaha on Sept. 19 in the Weede gymnasium.

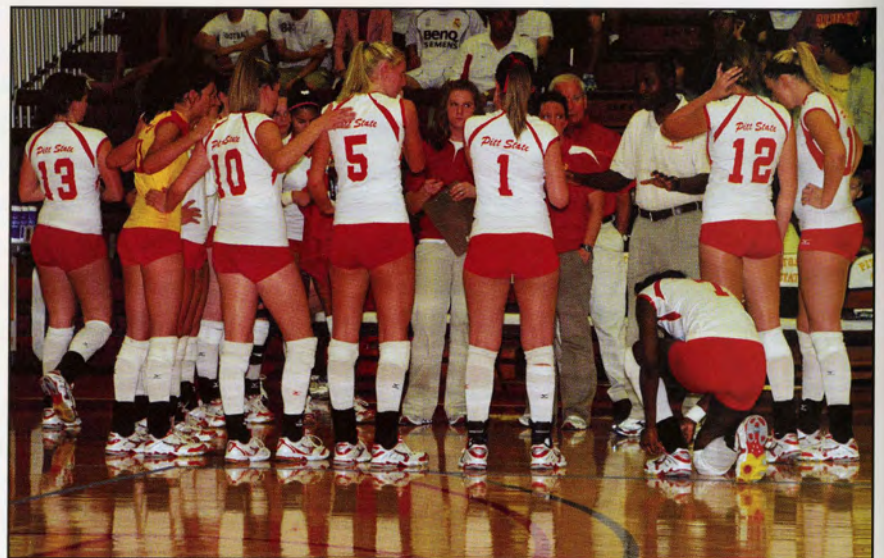


photo by Shalin Patel

Head coach Ibraheem Suberu gives the team some last minute guidance at a home game.

# Final voyage

Four seniors lead Gorillas to 28-8 record

story by Curtis Thom

Senior leadership is an asset for many coaches. Luckily, for head coach Ibraheem Suberu, he had four.

With seniors Sammie Williams and Linda Igbiginie manning the Gorillas' frontline, the Gorillas captured an above-the-net advantage.

PSU kicked off its season with a 9-1 stretch during its first 10 games of the season, before falling to the No. 20 Central Missouri squad, spoiling the Gorillas' MIAA home opener.

Following losses to No. 11 Emporia State and No. 8 Washburn, the Gorillas found themselves 19-5 with some pivotal conference games left, including a border showdown with conference foe Missouri Southern.

"There's a lot at stake in that match because it's halfway through the MIAA," Suberu said. "Missouri Southern needs a win to continue

to make progress, and so do we. Playing at Missouri Southern has been traditionally a tough place for us to play, but I think our team is ready for the challenge."

Entering Joplin, the Gorillas dropped the Lions in four sets (25-16, 22-25, 25-21, 25-17), bringing their record to 20-5 overall.

Going into the final weeks of the season, Suberu felt his team was in control of its destiny.

"By and large, we're a good team that knows what's going on," Suberu said.

With nine returning players from last year's squad, Suberu felt assured of his team's chances entering two pivotal match-ups with MIAA rivals, Emporia State and Washburn. Both had beaten the Gorillas earlier in the year but Pittsburg State hosted both teams at John Lance Arena, where the Gorillas had accumulated a 12-game winning streak.

In consecutive days, the Gorillas posted victories over both Emporia and Washburn, closing out their regular season at 28-7 and raising them to the No. 11 team in the nation.

With its string of successes, Williams was confident before the team's regional tournament.

"We're a team that can execute with the best of them," said Williams. "If we play up to our capabilities, we're a very difficult team to beat."

Awaiting the Gorillas in the first round was No. 3 West Texas A&M, which tallied an astounding 33-4 record. The Gorillas ultimately fell to West Texas in four sets, ending their run for a national championship. Their final season: 28-8, 14-6 MIAA.

For many seniors, their names will remain at Pittsburg State in the record books.

Williams and Igbiginie, along with junior Pamela Cartagena, all garnered AVCA All-America honors. Igbiginie, who finished the year with 147 blocks, good for third in the MIAA, received first-team honors, while Williams and Cartagena captured third-team distinction.

Pitt State has now had seven players earn nine All-America honors, all since head coach Suberu took over the program.

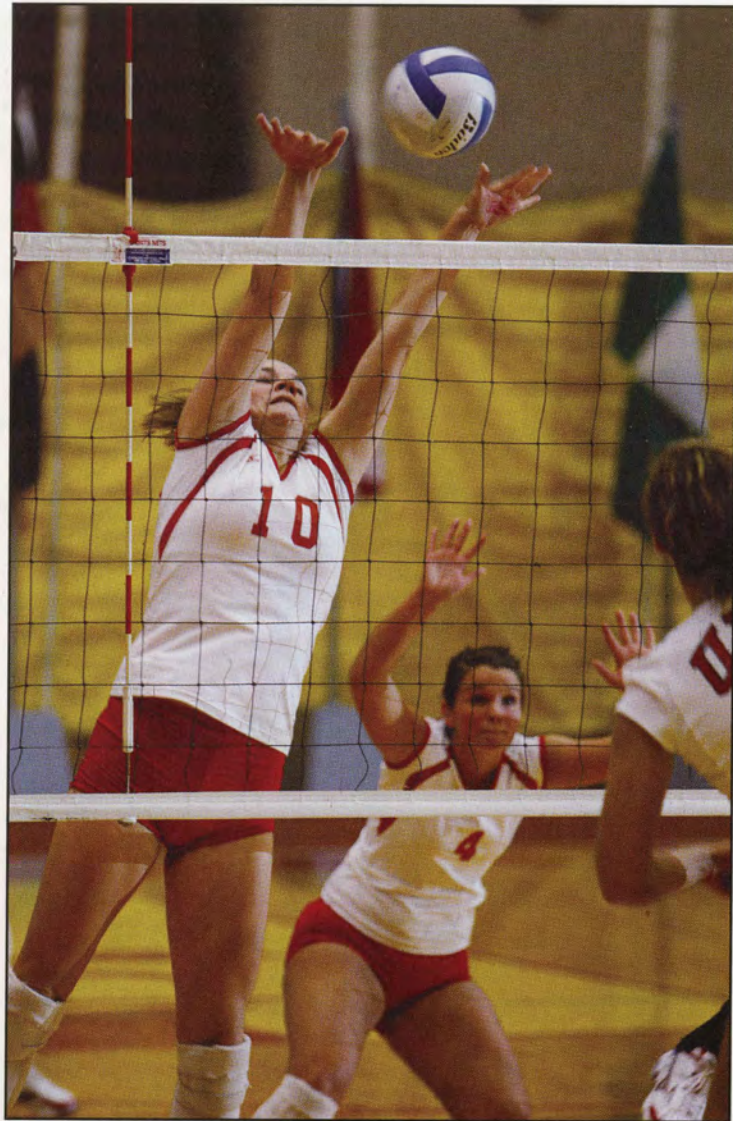
Cartagena and Williams earned their first All-America honors after the 2007 season and are the first two-time All-Americans in school history.

Williams, a four-year starter at PSU, finishes her career as the Gorillas' all-time leader in kills with 1,825, beating the previous record holder by 11 kills. Joining Williams as an all-time leader is Igbiginie, who was all-time blocks leader in her last game, gaining her 600th block, good for the No. 1 spot on the all-time blocks list.



photo by Brett Armbruster

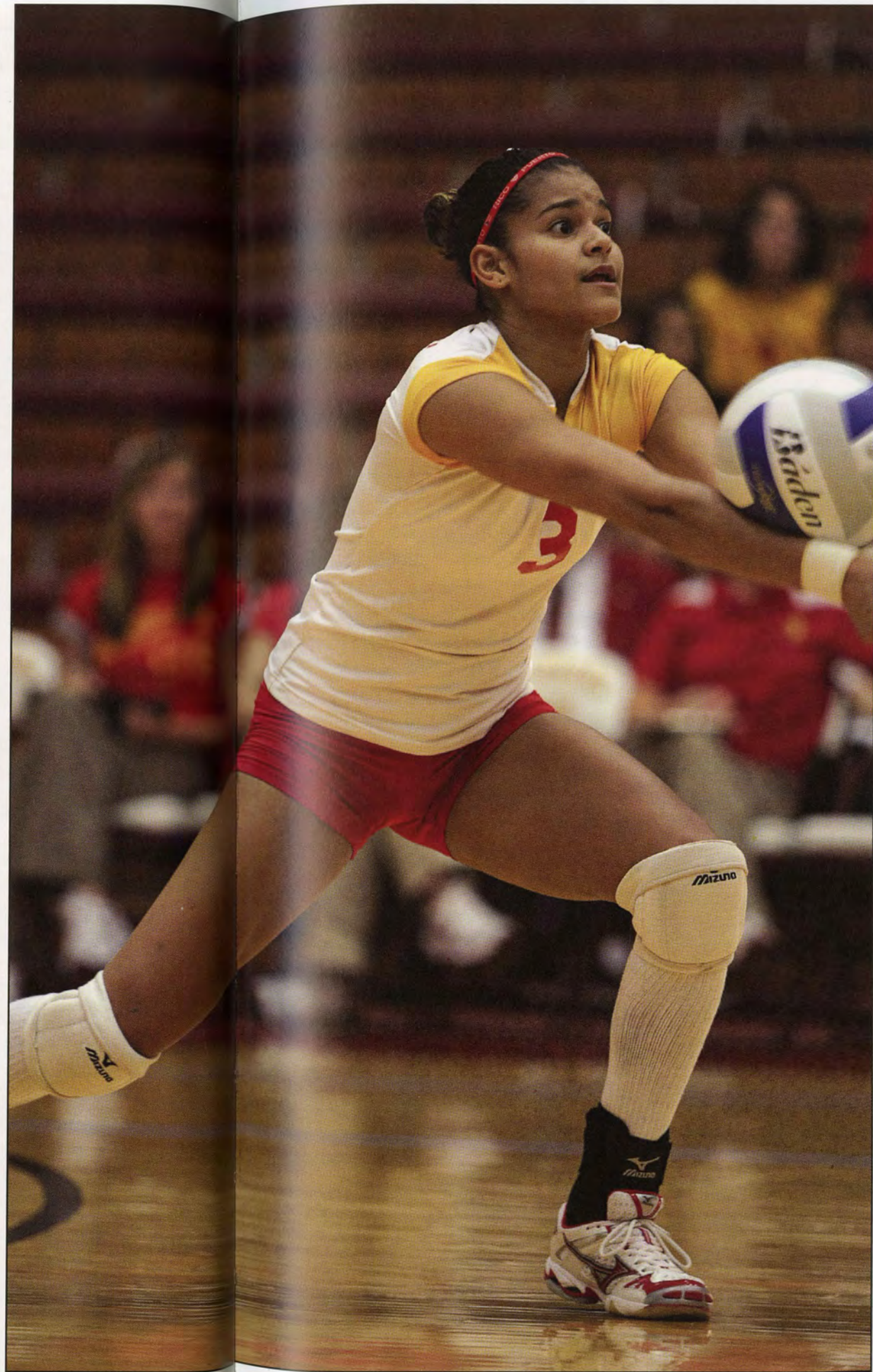
During residence hall night at a home volleyball meet, students painted signs on their bodies in support of the Gorillas.



Trying to retain the lead in the second set, middle blocker senior Lindsay Quall jumps up to block a UNO hit.

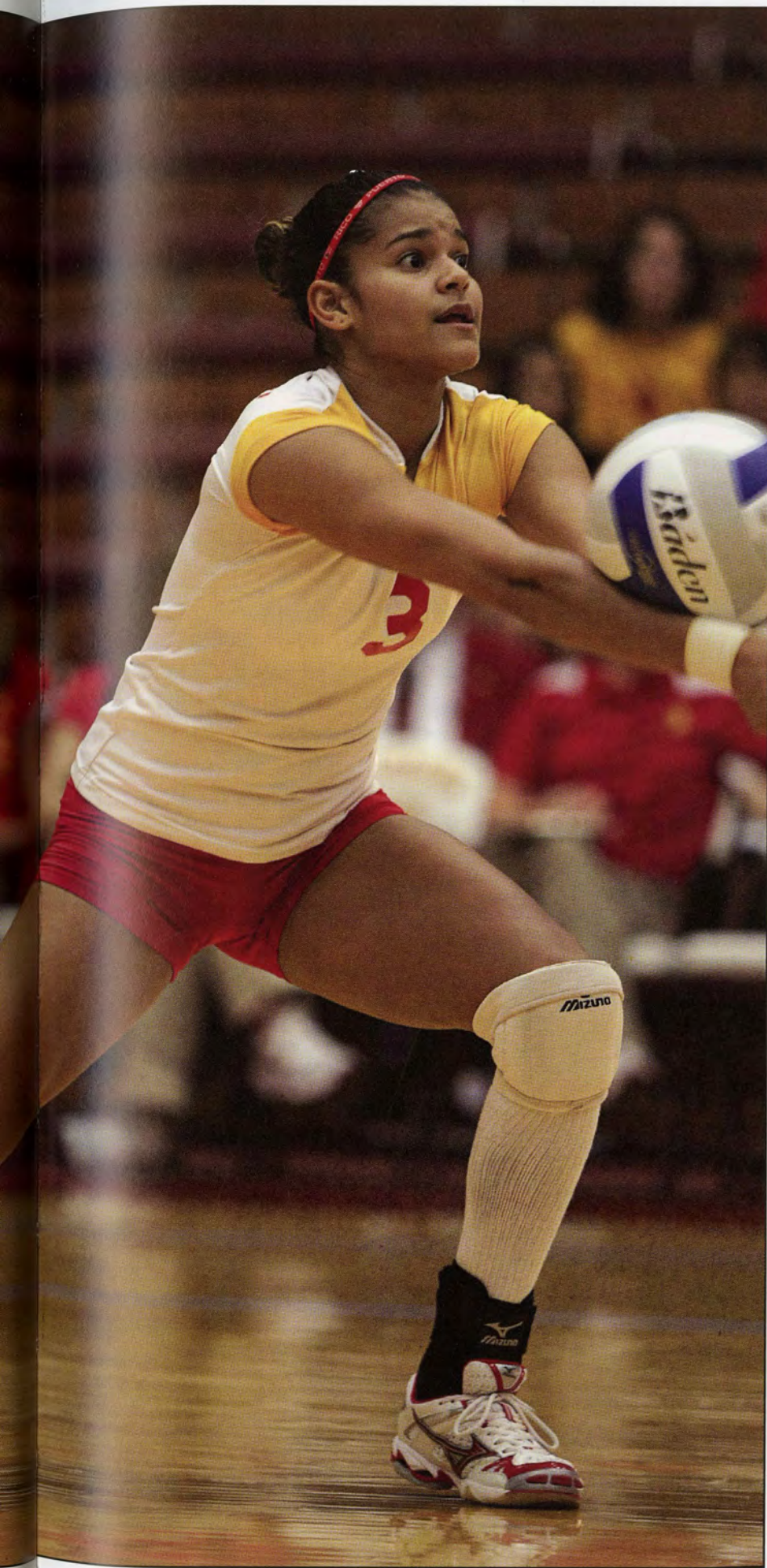


**Front row:** Pamela Cartagena, Emily Vosseler, Sammie Williams, Linda Igbinigie, Klaudia Grelowska, Lindsay Quall. **Back row:** Tesia Lahm, Molly Redmond, Kara Rosebrough, Meagan Montis, Valeen Finney, Samantha Franiuk, Cassie Wilson, Samantha Ball, Mae Eisenbarth.



photos by Brett Armbruster

Known as a killer offensive player, senior Pamela Cartagena picks up one of 12 digs during the NW Missouri game.



photos by Brett Armbruster

Known as a killer offensive player, senior Pamela Cartagena picks up one of 12 digs during the NW Missouri game.

## Volleyball Scores

St. Cloud State	W	(3-1)
SW Oklahoma St.	W	(3-0)
USI	W	(3-0)
Grand Valley St.	L	(0-3)
Texas Wesleyan	W	(3-0)
SE Oklahoma	W	(3-0)
Cameron	W	(3-1)
Texas Woman's	W	(3-1)
Minn.-Moorhead	W	(3-1)
SE Oklahoma	W	(3-0)
Central Missouri	L	(0-3)
Edinboro (Pa.)	W	(3-1)
Nebraska-Omaha	W	(3-0)
Central Missouri	L	(1-3)
St. Mary (Kan.)	W	(3-0)
Missouri Western	W	(3-0)
Northwest Mo.	W	(3-0)
Truman State	W	(3-1)
West Texas A&M	W	(3-0)
Angelo State	W	(3-0)
Abilene Christian	W	(3-1)
Fort Hays State	W	(3-0)
Emporia State	L	(2-3)
Washburn	L	(1-3)
Mo. Southern	W	(3-1)
Southwest Baptist	W	(3-1)
Nebraska-Omaha	L	(2-3)
Missouri Western	W	(3-0)
Northwest Mo.	W	(3-1)
Truman State	L	(3-0)
Fort Hays State	W	(3-0)
Emporia State	W	(3-0)
Washburn	W	(3-2)
Mo. Southern	W	(3-1)
Southwest Baptist	W	(3-1)
Nebraska-Omaha	L	(2-3)
Missouri Western	W	(3-0)
Northwest Mo.	W	(3-1)
Truman State	L	(0-3)
Fort Hays State	W	(3-0)
Emporia State	W	(3-0)
Washburn	W	(3-2)
Mo. Southern	W	(3-1)
Southwest Baptist	W	(3-0)
West Texas A&M	L	(1-3)

# Pleasing results

## Gorilla men finish 17th, women 18th in NCAA-II Championships

story by Curtis Thom

A rough set of circumstances set back both Gorilla cross-country teams in the Division II National Championships.

The Pitt State men finished with 467 points to tie Colorado-Colorado Springs for 17th place. Adams State captured the national championship with 67 points, 21 points ahead of second-place finisher Western State.

Racing without two of their premier runners, junior Cliff Miles led in the 10-kilometer race, finishing in 57th place with a time of 32 minutes, 45 seconds. Junior MJ Hassaballa finished 69th in 32:56, while senior Jon Garrett (103rd 33:36), sophomore John Van-Gundy, (110th, 33:43) and junior Josh Coberley (128th, 34:14) rounding out the top five finishes.

"We thought if we raced out of our minds we might be able to finish 15th," said head cross country coach Russ Jewett. "This finish is about where we are ability-wise."

The Gorillas will return four of their top-five finishers from this year's race back to the squad next year, leading to a bright future for PSU.

Ultimately, Jewett was happy with the showing of his men's squad.

"When you look at the season from the perspective of us being without two of our best runners, with Tim Testa and Mason Stout (out) due to injuries, I'm happy with the outcome of our last

photos by Carla Wehmeyer

Erica Ogle runs ahead of her competitors in the Missouri Southern Stampede race.





Mason Stout keeps stride alongside a Southwest Baptist University runner at Missouri Southern.

race,” said Jewett. “We had a couple guys step up today and that’s how it’s been all year. Miles had his best race of the season and Garrett had a career-best performance.”

The Pitt State women fell under the same circumstances as the men, finishing 18th after the Gorillas lost one of their best competitors.

Senior Erica Ogle, racing in her final collegiate race, was tripped near the 2-mile mark. Despite the fall, Ogle, who was already dealing with a hamstring injury, reclaimed her stride, finishing 103rd in the race.

“I’m proud of the women who picked up the slack and finished in front of her,” said Jewett. “Venessa Lee had her best race of the year today and all the sophomores stepped up.”

Sophomore Brittney Graff led the Gorillas in the 6-kilometer race, finishing 58th overall in 23:25. Senior Lee placed 64th in 23:33, sophomore Caitlin Laskowski placed 76th (23:43), as sophomore Megan Ballock (101st, 24:04) rounded out the top-five for the Gorillas.

“The women’s situation is about the same as our men’s,” Jewett said. “Sixteenth was about as good as we could have finished, so I’m pleased with the team finishing 18th.”



First row: Matt Seifert, Tim Testa, MJ Hassaballa, Mason Stout, Tyler Anliker, Drew Beggs. Second row: Matt Haffner, Ian Silovsky, Cliff Miles, James Ward, Josh Coberley, Brad Jochems, Matt Horn. Third row: Russ Jewett (head coach), Jon Sanell, John Van-Gundy, Jon Garrett, Hunter Whitmarsh.



Front row: Marissa Quillin, Jenna Mellen, Caitlin Laskowski, Brittney Graff, Erica Ogle. Back row: Russ Jewett (head coach), Haley Beggs, Lauren Renfrow, Kaley Temaat, Megan Ballock, Venessa Lee, Lauren Carr.

## Cross Country Scores

Event	Men's Rank	Women's Rank
UCM Mule Run	3	1
Missouri Southern Stampede	8	7
Minnesota Roy Griak Invitational	2	2
SIU-Edwardsville Border Wars	2	2
MIAA Championships	2	2
NCAA-II South Central Regional	3	3



# Just cricket

## Indian Student Association brings sport stateside

story by Sheikh Murad Kalal

"Cricket in PSU, oh wow!" was the reaction of the Indian Student Association when the president, Harpreet Singh, announced that they were going to have a cricket match.

Cricket is a bat-and-ball team game that was invented in England and is now played in more than 15 countries. The game is popular in India and played with people of all ages.

In a cricket match, two teams of 11 players face each other on a field of grass. In the center is a flat strip of ground 22 yards long called a pitch. A wicket, generally made of wood, is placed at each end of the pitch and used as a target.

The bowler, a player from the fielding team, bowls a hard leather, fist-sized cricket ball from the area of one wicket toward the other, which is guarded by the batsman, who hits the ball into the field, much like baseball.

And, like baseball, the bowler's team members stand in various positions in the field as fielders, to stop the batsman scoring runs, and if possible to get him or her out.

For Gaurav Pathare, playing cricket improves other skills.

"Other than enjoyments, this game helps me to improve my present leadership skills," Pathare, captain of west zone team, said.

To play the game, the teams had to be divided up.

"As most of the Indian students are participating, hence we have divided the teams into three zones, namely north zone, west zone and south zone," Singh said.

Depending on his or her skills, a player may be classified as a batsman or bowler. Teams nearly always include a specialist wicket-keeper because of the importance of this fielding position. Each team is headed by a captain, who makes tactical decisions.

A practice match helped Praveen Panasa, captain of the south team, decide strategy.

"During practice, I observed all the players, what they are good at," Panasa said. "It helped me to decide the batting and bowling order of my team. It also helped to find out the strength of each player."

Because there were three teams, a draw was done to determine which team went to the final.

"In the draw, North Zone team made it to the finals without playing the leg match," Singh said.

Finally, the day arrived and teams West and South Zones faced each other, with the West Zone team winning 99-80.

"We won the match because of our team effort and each player contributed their best," Pathare said.

However, the West Zone team got its comeuppance when it was beaten by the North Zone team, 57 runs to 14.

Even though his team lost the final match, Chetan Joshi says the game brought back memories of his home country.

"Playing this game here in PSU brings a greater joy to me and helps me to overcome homesickness," Joshi, graduate student in print management, said.



photo courtesy of Tushar Deshpande

Shalin Patel, freshman in plastics engineering, celebrates after making a sensational catch.



photo by Shalin Patel

Manoj Gilani, an MBA student, defends the ball.

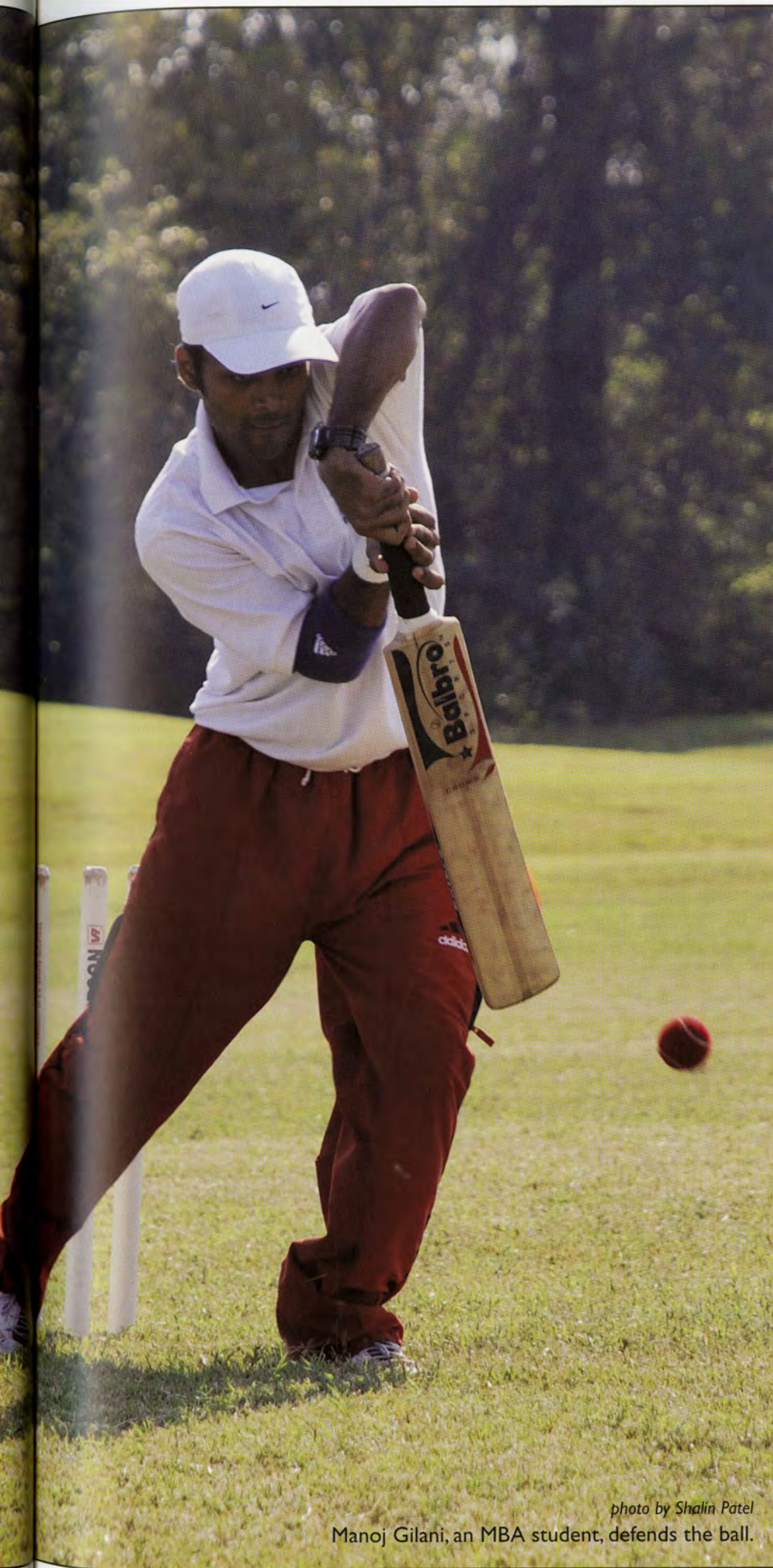


photo by Shalin Patel  
Manoj Gilani, an MBA student, defends the ball.



photo courtesy of Tushar Deshpande

The team celebrates the fall of the crucial wicket and their good teamwork.

“ *Playing this game here in PSU brings a greater joy to me and helps me to overcome homesickness.* ”

**-Chetan Joshi**  
graduate in print management

# Missed shot

Despite hard effort, men's basketball team doesn't see playoffs

story by Josh Letner

The 2009 season was a tough campaign for the Gorilla men's basketball team. The Gorillas started hot with wins over Lincoln, Mid-America Christian, Henderson State, Newman and Southwestern College. Despite going 5-2 in the non-conference portion of their schedule, the Gorillas struggled through a tough MIAA season posting a 5-15 conference record and finishing 10-17 overall.

Pitt struggled on the road posting a 1-9 record. They found winning to be tough at home as well as they finished the season with a 7-8 record at John Lance Arena.

Although the Gorillas struggled to find a way to win, they were rarely blown out. They were involved in four overtime games, but were able to win only one: an 88-86 thriller over Nebraska-Omaha on Jan. 21 at John Lance arena.

The post players carried the load for the Gorillas in the win. Forward Rodney Grace led the team in scoring with 22 points and 10 rebounds. Pitt forced UNO to commit 18 turnovers and committed just five.

The Gorillas came out on the short end of what was perhaps their most thrilling game of the season, a 100-102 quadruple-overtime loss at Emporia State. Pitt took a 40-37 lead into halftime, but the Hornets came back in the second half and forced the game into overtime. The two teams matched each other through three overtime periods before

Emporia was able to pull ahead by four in the fourth overtime. A three-point bucket by Carlos Taylor cut the lead to one, but the Hornets hit a free throw to push the lead to two with three seconds on the clock. Taylor missed a three-point attempt at the buzzer, and Emporia escaped with the win.

Perhaps the high point of the season was a thrashing of the Gorillas' cross-border rival, the Missouri Southern Lions on Feb. 11 at John Lance Arena. The Gorillas jumped on the Lions early, taking a 45-29 lead into the half. Pitt shot 50 percent for the game while holding Southern to 35.7 percent shooting. Grace led all scorers with 21 points, and Taylor added 17. Forward TJ Stukes was a beast on the boards, pulling down 13 defensive rebounds. Stukes also logged five blocks as the Gorillas cruised to a 76-58 win.

Although the Gorillas failed to qualify for the MIAA post-season tournament, their record was not indicative of the effort that they put forth on the court. If one or two possessions had gone their way, their record would have been different.

Senior guard Taylor was honored following the season by being named to the All-MIAA second team. Taylor led the team in scoring with 475 points and finished his career with 1,104 points. He is the 20th player in school history to eclipse the 1,000-point mark. Taylor played in 106 games as a Gorilla and is ranked 12th all-time in scoring at PSU.



With a total of 12 points on the night, junior forward Rodney Grace jukes his defender and puts up two points with a jump shot.

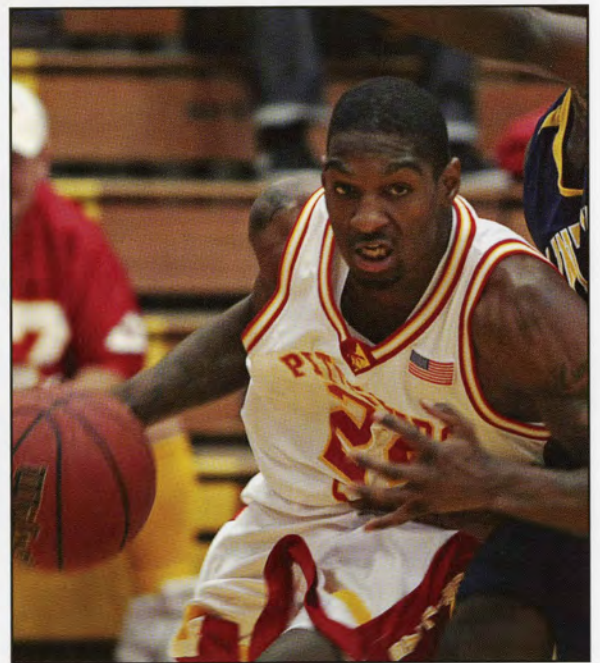


photos by Brett Armbruster

After a teammate recovers a UNO turnover, Pittstate forward TJ Stukes (21), receives a pass on a breakaway and takes it to the hoop Wednesday, Jan. 21.



Junior Ivan Evans (15) drives from the baseline to attempt a layup against UNO's guard, Michael Jenkins (20).



Pitt State's Chris Wilson pushes to get inside a St. Mary's defender to set up a scoring opportunity for a teammate.



**Front row:** Timothy Enayati, Jordan Embers, Ivan Evans, Chris Wilson, David McKinnie, Andy Smith, Bryan Campbell, Carlos Taylor, Zach Quick. **Back row:** unidentified, Spencer Magana, Rodney Grace, Henry Rogers, T] Stukes, Justin McCoy, Josh Walker, Seth Burris, Jeff Ivory, Lucas Lumb.



photo by Brett Armbruster

Senior guard Carlos Taylor goes up over University of St. Mary guard Quinten White for a layup, scoring two points for the Gorillas

## Men's Basketball Scores

Lincoln	W	65-49
Mid-America Christian	W	73-53
Saint Mary	L	67-71
Evangel	L	94-98
Henderson State	W	65-55
Missouri Western	L	75-86
Truman	W	81-73
Newman	W	79-77
Southwest Baptist	L	76-82
Southwestern College	W	95-44
Central Missouri	L	72-79
NW Missouri State	W	63-61
Missouri Southern	L	76-88
Emporia State	L	100-102
Washburn	L	73-85
Fort Hays State	L	74-63
Nebraska-Omaha	W	88-86
Missouri Western	L	79-68
Truman	W	60-59
Central Missouri	L	62-73
Southwest Baptist	L	67-81
NW Missouri State	L	72-75
Missouri Southern	W	76-58
Emporia State	L	74-84
Washburn	L	69-80
Fort Hays State	L	59-65
Nebraska-Omaha	L	78-86



photo by Brett Armbruster

Junior Ivan Evans (15), Pitt State guard/forward, goes up uncontested for an offensive rebound during a home game against Newman University, Monday, Dec. 8, in John Lance Arena.

# Moving on up to MIAA

## Team finishes winning season at tournament

*story by Victoria Robinson*

Pittsburg State's women's basketball team finished the 2009 season in a big way - with an overall record of 20-9.

"We had a great year," said Lane Lord, head coach. "It's our best since 1994 with 20 wins."

Not only did the team win 20 games, but it also placed third in the MIAA for the first time in 10 years.

The team started its season off strong, winning both games during preseason against Paul Quinn (108-50) and Southwestern College (91-46).

Even though three players blew their ACLs early in the season, Lord was still expecting the team to end strong.

"Even after the injuries, we felt like we could make it," Lord said. "We had a good team because we were winning road games."

The team won nine road games, seven of which were MIAA in-conference games.

Winning road games wasn't the only reason for the team's success. Lord said that the team's improvement on the outside combined with the defense coordination helped its performance.

"Our inside game and transfer of first-team all-MIAA player Nicole McCombs (helped the team out), because when post plays are good we have a better perimeter game," said Lord.

Besides McCombs, DePrice Taylor, Brianna Buchanan and Candice Gilbert received all conference honorable mentions.

During the first round of the MIAA tournament in Kansas City, Mo., PSU beat Nebraska-Omaha 81-79 for the third time in the season. This victory, Lord said, was particularly significant.

"It was a good win because it's hard to beat a team three times in one season," Lord said. "Omaha played well, but we got the first win since 1998 in the tournament. That was an emotional day."

Lord hopes to continue that success next season. Using off-season to work hard on essentials and conditioning will be the key to getting there, he said.



Senior Candice Gilbert (20) goes for a layup one on one with a University of Nebraska-Omaha defender. Gilbert co-led the Gorillas in points with 13.



*photos by Brett Armbruster*

Kayla Hruby (12), comes up against opposition as she brings the ball down court.

“During off-season, we’ll work on fundamentals, and as a team we want to make it to the finals,” said Lord. “So we have to have a good off-season.”

Lord said he saw the team’s potential during the home game against eventual conference champion, Washburn.

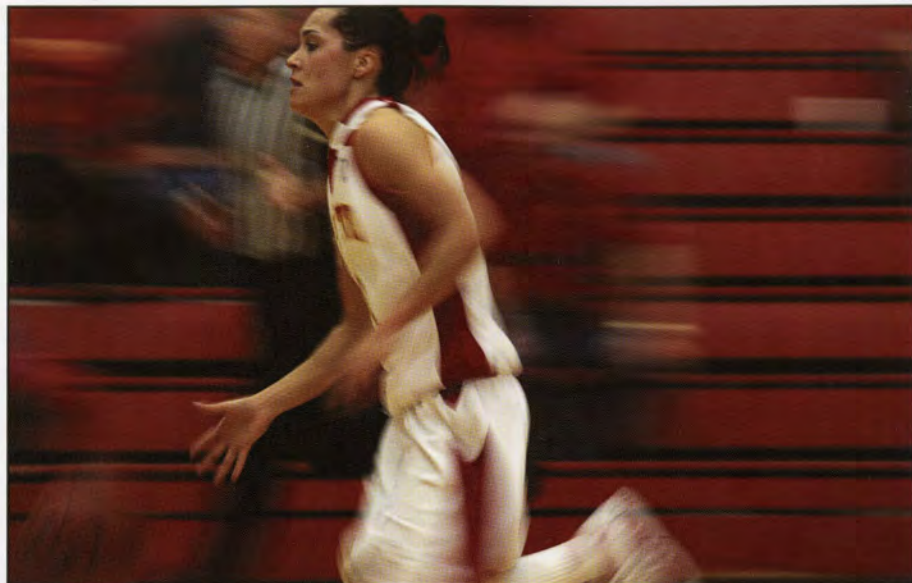
“For us to beat Washburn was a big win,” he said, because it helped build the team’s confidence.

Not only did Pittsburg beat the team 94-87, but of those 94 points, Buchanan scored 31 of them, making her the top scorer of the season.

But the best moment was getting to the MIAA tournament, Lord said.

Though this season was one of the best in years, Lord hopes to go even further next season.

“We want to continue to build on our success for next year and go to the NCAA tournament.”



Dribbling down the court, Caitlin Demarest heads for the basket during the University of Nebraska-Omaha game, Jan. 21.



Bringing the ball to the baseline, junior guard DePrice Taylor drives to get position inside the lane against a Southern Missouri State University defender, Wednesday, Feb. 11.





*photos by Brett Armbruster*

Pitt State forward, junior Nicole McCombs, is fouled by Missouri Southern players as she dribbles toward the basket.



**Front row:** Whitney Conerly, Caitlin Demarest, DePrice Taylor, Amanda Orloske, Kayla Hruby, Bailey Waugh. **Back row:** Brianna Buchanan, Marissa Poppe, Nicole McCombs, Larissa Richards, Aubrey Jones, Laura Glenn, Candice Gilbert, Courtney Tate.



Pitt State women's basketball coach Lane Lord critiques the girls during a timeout during a home game.



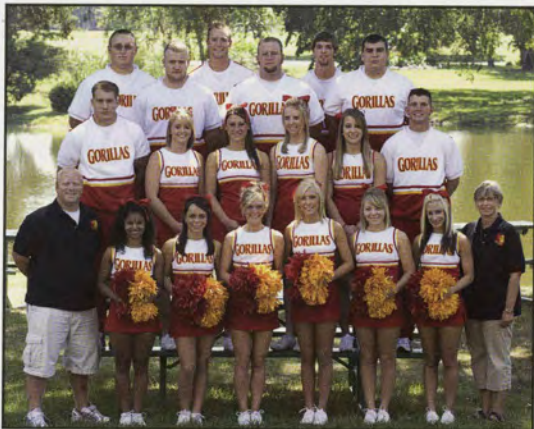
Senior guard Caitlin Demarest (3), on defense, watches the ball as a University of Nebraska-Omaha opponent brings it down the court. The Gorillas beat the Mavericks 69-56, Wednesday, Jan. 21, in John Lance Arena.

## Women's Basketball Scores

Paul Quinn	W	108-50
Southwestern College	W	91-46
Central Oklahoma	L	77-83
Southwestern Oklahoma	W	70-57
Missouri S&T	L	75-78
Evangel	W	85-81
Missouri Western	W	74-67
Truman	W	77-56
Southwest Baptist	W	74-64
Central Missouri	L	56-66
NW Missouri State	W	73-70
Missouri Southern	W	77-68
Bethany	W	94-48
Emporia State	L	76-78
Washburn	L	55-74
Fort Hays	W	71-60
Nebraska-Omaha	W	69-56
Missouri Western	W	72-67
Truman	W	87-62
Central Missouri	W	81-79
Southwest Baptist	W	90-87
NW Missouri State	W	72-57
Missouri Southern	L	55-58
Emporia State	L	70-85
Washburn	W	94-87
Fort Hays State	L	64-83
Nebraska-Omaha	W	77-70
Nebraska-Omaha	W	81-79
Washburn	L	64-83

# *This squad is bananas:* **B-A-N-A-N-A-S**

Spirit squad  
brings pep to the games



**First row:** John Rowe (asst. coach), Molly Cantrell, Ariel Dennis, Hillary Heflin, Joy Leek, Jennifer Lechien, Maggie Gorman, Linda Graham (coach). **Second row:** Keith Curtis, Olivia Gysel, Jaimee Gittleman, Kelssey Pettitt, Brittany Baxter, Brodie Holmes. **Third row:** Michael Leach, Jordan McCray, Nick Brownlee, Craig Noland (captain), Kenny Vickers, Jeff Cherne. **Not pictured:** Dustin Long, Travis Faught, Danielle Bortmes, AJ Foos.



The PSU Spirit Squad performs a halftime routine at a home basketball game.



photos by Carla Wehmeyer

Kenny Vickers runs with the "I" flag in Gorillas to start the game against Missouri Western.



Cheering, Joy Leek helps get the fans pumped up for the football game.

# *So you think you can* **DANCE?**

Dance team spices up halftimes at basketball and football games



photos by Carla Wehmeyer

Donning a jersey, Caitlin Villamaria is in sync with the rest of the team during a halftime performance at a home basketball game.



Katie Jones gets into the music while performing during a home basketball game.



**First row:** Katie Jones, Maggie Stephens, Lauren Matthews, Megan Lyman. **Second row, curving up:** Jenn Koelsch, Caitlin Villamaria, Tiffany Raftopoulos, Meghan Skanes. **Third row:** Erin Donovan, Liz Kester, Kaylee Hanf, Megan Villamaria.

# Bringing the PIZZAZ

Color guard and twirlers add extra element on the field



*photos by Carla Wehmeyer*

Twirling her baton, Amber Siebert joins the band during halftime at the Fall Classic game at Arrowhead stadium in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 4.



Michelle Burton waves the flag in time with the other color guard members at a home football game.

## Did you know?

- ◇ The twirlers and color guard members are part of the 175 members of the Pride of the Plains Marching Band.
- ◇ Twirlers and color guard members have to try out for their position during band camp.
- ◇ The color guards receive a stipend for their work with the band.



Students watch the movie "Ink Heart" on the Jungletron inside Carnie Smith Stadium on Wednesday, April 15.

## Jungletron said to be largest video board in Division II

story by Marissa Copas

Music and voice tests could be heard all over campus the week before the first home football game as construction workers finished the details on the Jungletron, Pitt State's new scoreboard and display. Light was seen coming from the south side of Carnie Smith Stadium during the nights up to game day.

"From Frontenac, I could see an aurora of light over Pittsburg and I knew it wasn't the northern lights," said Zach Krumsick, freshman in biology. "I called my friends in the dorms and they told me that it was from the Jungletron. That screen is huge."

Construction started on Aug. 6, 2008, just about five weeks before the first home football game on Family Day against Missouri Southern State University. The screen is made of 24 LED (light-emitting diode) panels. Audio and camera systems are situated on top of the panels.

Manufactured by Daktronics, the Jungletron was named the largest

scoreboard in D-II sports. Standing almost 40 feet tall with a horizontal span of 70 feet, the Jungletron became a fixture to the allure of Carnie Smith Stadium.

The \$1.7 million video screen was made possible by private donations to the university after a \$400,000 donation from the PSU University Foundation.

Before the game against Missouri Southern began, patrons cut ribbon to dedicate the Jungletron. During the ceremony, donors' names were shown on the screen as thanks for their support. The Jungletron withstood the rain as the football team beat Missouri Southern 21-14.

The Jungletron is not just a scoreboard. During the games, commercials are shown along with announcements, stories on students and instant replays right beside the score. The Jungletron is used for other purposes during the year. The track and field program, university organizations, and outside groups will be able to use

the field and Jungletron. It will also be used for student activities like movie nights and for emergency notifications.

"It would be so cool to have movie nights at the stadium," said Michelle Sudac, freshman in biology. "I can see it now, Brad Pitt, 40 feet tall."



photos by Brett Armbruster

Members of Crossland Construction start early and end late to finish the Jungletron on the south end of Carnie Smith Stadium in order to unveil it at the home-opener football game. The project was scheduled to conclude the week of Sept. 8.



# NOT JUST FAIR.

Gorilla supporters go



photos by Brett Armbruster, Carla Wehmeyer & Malcolm Turner

# R-WEATHER FANS

o the distance for their team







Watching his drive, Bren Fisher competes in the Pitt State Invitational Sept. 16. Fisher tied for 11th place as an individual in the MIAA tournament with a 228 score.

# Playing in the rough

Golf season doesn't fare well



Keith Capps weighs his options about where to strike the ball.

## Golf Scores

Tournament	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Total Team Score	Vs. Par	Finish
Pitt State Invitational	304	288	-	592	+14	6th of 16
Drury Invitational	315	311	-	626	+50	12th of 12
SBU Invitational	315	315	-	630	+54	11th of 12
Blue Devil Classic	313	311	-	624	+48	2nd of 15
Drury Spring Invite	348	344	-	692	+116	11th of 11
UCO/Kickingbird Classic	320	326	308	954	+114	18th of 18
Ichabod Invitational	312	-	-	312	+28	11th of 12
MIAA Championship	312	320	309	941	+89	7th of 8



photos courtesy Carla Wehmeyer  
Eric Gorenc chips a shot at the Pitt State Invitational Sept. 16.



**Front row:** Tyler Casey, Bren Fisher, Kyle Thacker, Eric Gorenc, Fletcher Harder. **Back row:** Bo Merrill, Keith Capps, Shane Collins, Kyle Capps, Eammon Krusich, Garrett Fowler.



# Soaring above

Men's team places in NCAA-II championship

photo by Shalin Patel  
Chad Appleton warms up by going through a practice run of his event, the pole vault, on Saturday, April 4.



photo by Brett Armbruster  
On his third and final throw in the weight throw competition on Friday, Feb. 13, undeclared sophomore Brandon Hubbard goes into his spin before throwing his weight ball 53 feet.

photo by Shalin Patel  
Rounding the curve of the track, Tim Testa strides ahead of his Fort Hays State competitors at the PSU Triangular meet on April 4.

## Event

### Indoor

Fazoli's/  
UCM In  
Radio S  
Frank S  
Pitt State  
Nebrask  
MSSU In  
MIAA C  
NCAA-I

### Outdoor

PSU Tri  
Gorilla  
UCM M  
KU Rel  
Drake R  
MSSU In  
MIAA M  
MIAA C  
NCAA-I



**First row:** Cliff Miles, Gregory Wright, James Ward, Mason Stout, Cody Frieden, Christian Smith, Stanley Pendergrass, Josh Coberley, Matt Horn, Brad Jochems. **Second row:** David Martin, Tim Testa, Cody Thomas, Kiara Jones, Ian Silovsky, Matt Haffner, Tyler Anliker, Alex Talbott, Nathan Thomas, MJ Hassaballa, Ethan Hobbs. **Third row:** Grant Garwood, Chris Gravely, Ben Loats, John VanGundy, Alex Kuhlman, Grant Hartman, Brett Siegle, Jon Sanell, Tyler Edwards, David Cotter, Anthony Garrett, Brian Allen. **Fourth row:** Eric Atkinson, Roylan Rountree-Garcia, Brian Woods, Matt Obert, Daniel Haines, Aaron Sawyer, Mike Beeler, Brandon Hubbard, Eric Wells, Jeremy Jackson, Anthony Hance. **Fifth row:** Darius Johnson, Gavin Wuthrich, Greg Clawson, Josiah Cody, Braden Hayes, Jordan Karr, Jon Garrett, Derek Wise, Hunter Whitmarsh, Travis Lee. **Sixth row:** Phil Carr, Jeremy Dunkle, Gabe Halsey, Russ Jewett, Brian Mantooth, Matt Brown, Ermelinda Spies.

## Men's Track and Field Scores

### Event

#### Indoor

Fazoli's/Baymont Inn Invite (MSSU)  
 UCM Invitational  
 Radio Shack Open Invite (MSSU)  
 Frank Sevigne Husker Invite (Nebraska)  
 Pitt State Invite  
 Nebraska Tune-Up Meet  
 MSSU Invitational  
 MIAA Championships  
 NCAA-II Championships

### Outcome

non-scoring  
 113.5 points, 2nd/ 5 teams  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 85 points, 3rd/ 8 teams  
 20 points, 8th

#### Outdoor

PSU Triangular  
 Gorilla Classic  
 UCM Mules Relays  
 KU Relays  
 Drake Relays  
 MSSU Invitational  
 MIAA Multi Events  
 MIAA Championships  
 NCAA-II Championships

159 points, 1st/ 3 teams  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 non-scoring  
 168 points, 2nd/ 8 teams  
 29 points, 6th tie

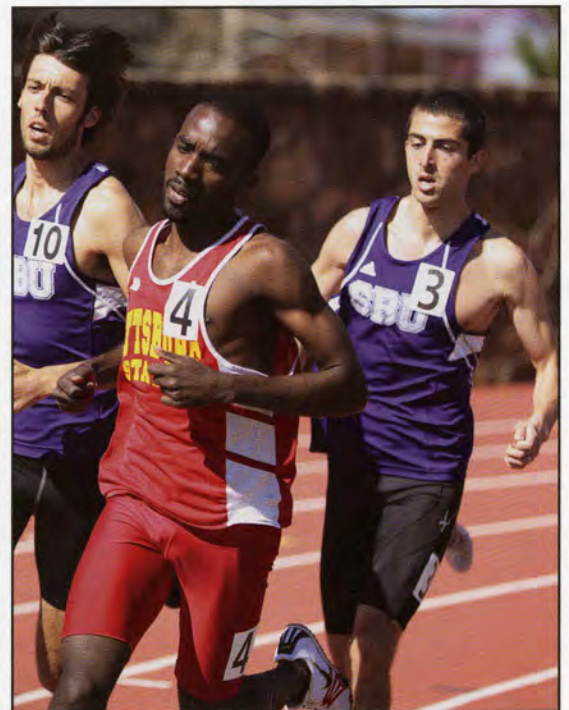


photo by Brett Armbruster

Rounding a turn during the men's 1500 meter race, MJ Hassaballa keeps up his pace to finish third with a time of 3:55.85.

# Keeping up

During the season, the women's team isn't ahead or behind



Arching her back, Caitlin Rolfs, junior in communication, tries to clear the bar in the high jump.



photo by Brett Armbruster

**Right:** Katie West does warm-ups for her race on April 4. **Far right:** Senior Hailey Mendicki reaches back as teammate Mary Jo Mott tries to place the baton in Mendicki's hand during the 4x100 meter relay in which four runners each run 100 meters passing off a baton.



photo by Shalin Patel



photo by Brett Armbruster



photo by Brett Armbruster

Bounding down the runway, senior Ali Shaffer leans back to launch her javelin during the Gorilla Classic field events. Shaffer came in third with a throw of 120.6 meters, her personal best.



photo by Brett Armbruster



photo by Brett Armbruster

Bounding down the runway, senior Ali Shaffer leans back to launch her javelin during the Gorilla Classic field events. Shaffer came in third with a throw of 120.6 meters, her personal best.

## Women's Track and Field Scores

Event	Outcome
<b>Indoor</b>	
Fazoli's/Baymont Inn Invite (MSSU)	non-scoring
UCM Invitational	101 points, 3rd/ 5 teams
Radio Shack Open Invite (MSSU)	non-scoring
Frank Sevign Husker Invite (Nebraska)	non-scoring
Pitt State Invite	non-scoring
Nebraska Tune-Up Meet	non-scoring
MSSU Invite	non-scoring
MIAA Championships	60 points, 5th/ 9 teams
NCAA-II Championships	6 points, 26th (tie)
<b>Outdoor</b>	
PSU Triangular	166 points, 1st/ 3 teams
Gorilla Classic	non-scoring
UCM Mules Relays	non-scoring
KU Relays	non-scoring
Drake Relays	non-scoring
MSSU Invitational	non-scoring
MIAA Championships	93 points, 5th/ 8 teams
ESU Qualifier	non-scoring
NCAA-II championships	6 points, 36th (tie)



**First row:** Josie McCracken, Megan Stahl, Stephanie Sheldon, Brittney Graff, Leslie Gilbert, Shannon Lynch, Marissa Quillin, Carissa Hughes, Mary Jo Mott. **Second row:** Tanitra Bedford, Haley Mendicki, Sara Thurber, Jenna Mellen, Jayna Castro, Caitlin Rolfs, Caitlin Laskowski, Lauren Carr, Ali Shaffer, Ashley Erdman, Michelle Mitchell. **Third row:** Venessa Lee, Lauren Renfrow, Misty Petersen, Megan Ballock, Kaley Temaat, Emily Middleton, Haley Biggs, Tracy Naumann, Heidi Smith, Tara Falkner. **Fourth row:** Phil Carr, Jeremy Dunkle, Gabe Halsey, Russ Jewett, Brian Mantooth, Matt Brown, Ermelinda Spies.

# Stopped short

With losing record, team doesn't make post-season play



photos by Brett Armbruster

Senior Taylor House (1) is tagged out at home by Emporia State University catcher Mike Sharp (27) when the batter hit a deep fly ball to right field.



On a deep fly ball, Taylor House (1) tags up at second base, rounds third and makes a break for home plate as the ball comes in from right field to Emporia catcher Mike Sharp (27).



After giving up a home run, senior Anthony Martinez (24) comes back with a strikeout to end the second inning against Emporia State University. The Gorillas had a double header against the Hornets on Wednesday, April 15, losing both games.



Sophomore Ryan Bartling (23) winds up for a pitch to the Hornets' batter waiting at the plate.

## Men's Baseball Scores

Opponent	Series	Win/Loss
NW Missouri State	(3-1)	W
Missouri Western	(0-4)	L
Drury	(0-1)	L
Washburn	(2-2)	-
Emporia State	(0-2)	L
Missouri Southern	(1-3)	L
Emporia State	(0-2)	L
Fort Hays	(0-4)	L
Nebraska-Omaha	(0-4)	L
Truman	(3-1)	W
Upper Iowa	(0-4)	L
Northeastern	(0-1)	L
Southwest Baptist	(2-2)	-
Central Missouri	(1-1)	-
Wayne State	(1-3)	L
Northeastern State	(1-0)	W
Cameron	(1-3)	L



Second baseman Taylor Sibala (13) lays down the tag out when Emporia's Caleb Williamson (22) tries to steal second.



**First row:** Taylor Sibala, Luke McKown, Taylor House, Jason Miori (asst. coach), Gary Grimaldi (asst. coach), Steve Bever (head coach), Beau Schultz (asst. coach), Anthony Martinez, Ryan Bartling, Shane Drenick. **Second row:** Jeremy Filer, Mitch Cooper, John Chaisson, Jason Murphy, Anthony Powell, Wes Hefley, Tim Brown, Nate Percy, Rhett Rigby, Brice Cole, Kyle Bates, Brian Dean, Chris Dunlap. **Third row:** Chris Barnes, Nick Giuliani, Jason Porta, Tyler Link, Ben Ahrens, Nate Templeton, Ryan Hintze, Austin Kirkwood, Ryan Thayer, Zach Potter.



# A building season

Softball's record almost  
breaks even, 31-25



photos by Brett Armbruster



Junior catcher Lindsay Birchfield gives her pitcher a big target to aim for behind the plate.



Third baseman Maria Bernal, senior, makes contact with a pitch from Missouri Southern State University's Tara Kuykendall.

## Softball Scores

Opponent	Series	Win/Loss
Fort Hays State	(0-1)	L
Nebraska-Omaha	(0-1)	L
Fort Hays State	(1-1)	-
Missouri Western	(0-2)	L
Truman State Univ.	(2-0)	W
Nebraska-Omaha	(1-1)	-
Missouri Southern	(1-1)	-
Emporia State	(1-1)	-
Washburn	(1-1)	-
Newman Univ.	(2-0)	W
Southwest Baptist	(2-0)	W
Central Missouri	(0-2)	L
Northwest Missouri	(2-0)	W
Quincy	(1-0)	W
Concordia-St. Paul	(0-1)	L
Upper Iowa	(0-1)	L
Wayne State	(1-0)	W
Panhandle State	(2-2)	-
Oklahoma City	(0-1)	L
Missouri Southern	(1-0)	W
Bellevue	(1-0)	W
Northwest Missouri	(0-1)	L
Fort Hays State	(1-0)	W
Missouri Science & Tech.	(1-0)	W
Cameron	(1-0)	W
Oklahoma City	(0-1)	L
Fort Hays State	(1-0)	W
Washburn	(0-1)	L
TAMU-International	(1-0)	W
St. Edwards	(1-0)	W
Abilene Christian	(1-0)	W
Southwestern Oklahoma	(0-1)	L
Central Oklahoma	(1-0)	W
Angelo State	(0-1)	L
Newman	(1-0)	W
Baker	(2-0)	W
Midwestern State	(0-1)	L
Texas A&M - Kingsville	(1-0)	W
St. Edwards	(0-1)	L
Texas Woman's	(0-1)	L

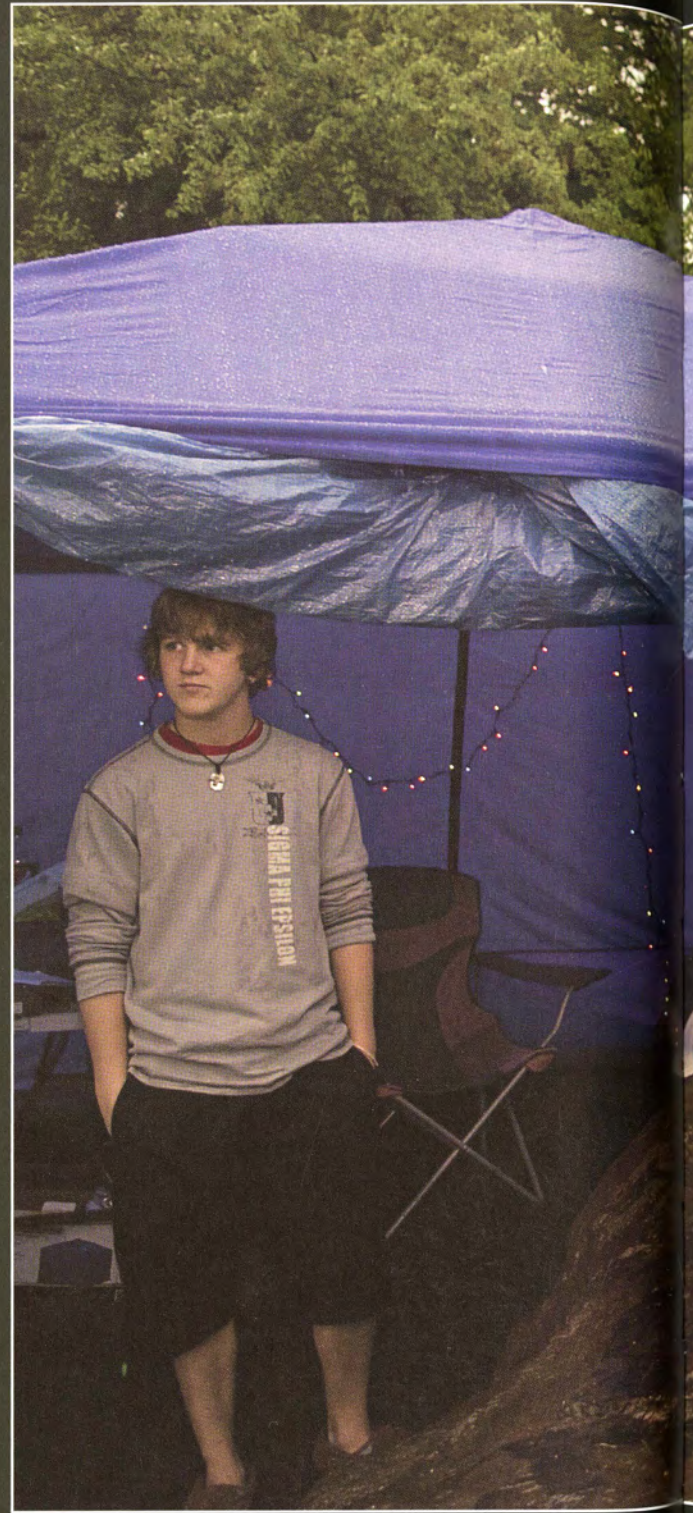


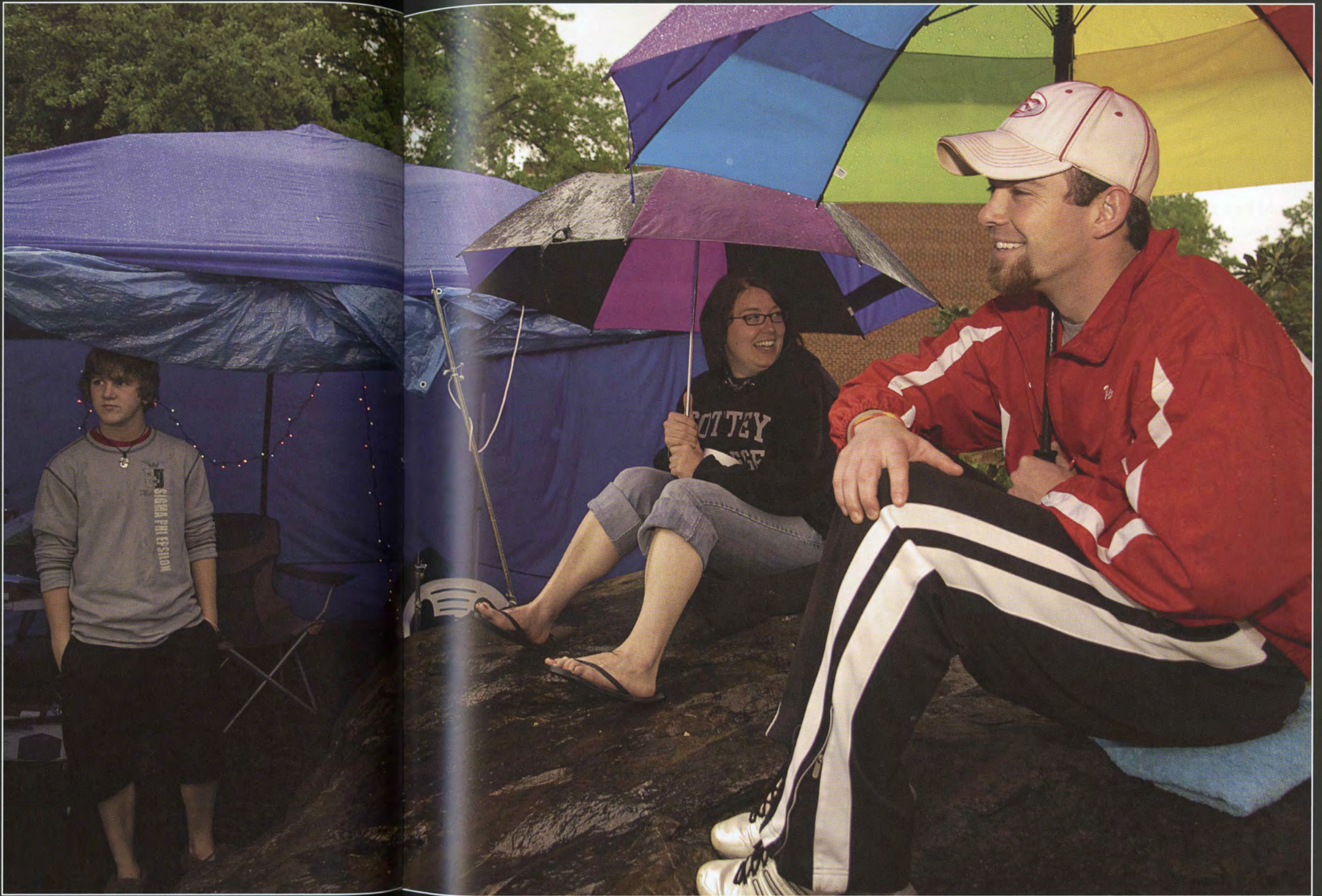
First row: Ali Scruggs. Second row: Lori Lockhart, Maria Bernal, Erin DeStefano. Third row: Cassie Martin, Lindsey Birchfield. Fourth row: Melissa Slayden, Hilary Erbert, Haley Deaton, Alycia Fivecoats. Fifth row: Amanda DeCastro, Tiffany Swanson, Kaitlin Casey, Annie Thurber, Jessica Jones.



Pitcher Melissa Slayden, junior, follows through on a pitch to an Emporia State batter.

# Organizations





*photo by Brett Armbruster*

To show their support for domestic and sexual abuse victims, Students Against Violence Through Education (SAVE) and Men Against Violence Program (MVP) sit on the big boulder behind the student center starting Monday, April 27, to Friday, April 31. Andy Majors (right), graduate student in education, Katie Ogle, senior in psychology, and Ryan McCullough, freshman in economics, take their turns sitting on the rock during the wet weather on Wednesday, April 29.

# Hands-on sport

## Students introduce handball to Pitt State

story by Krystal Pakitsos

When Kevin Coker transferred to PSU in 2007 from Fort Scott Community College, he saw a need for an organization that had not yet been formed. Coker had been playing handball, a sport similar to racquetball but which doesn't use racquets, for years and says he thought it would be a good organization to introduce to PSU.

"I started playing as a rehab thing," Coker said. "I had shoulder surgery when I was going to Fort Scott Community College and playing football there. So I didn't get a dead arm or a frozen arm, they recommended that I do some kind of non-weightlifting activity to make sure I was keeping mobility in my arm."

Coker began playing outside of school with Tom Little, a handball instructor from FSCC. Coker began practicing with him regularly and attended tournaments and eventually went to nationals.

Since handball has become such a major part of Coker's life, he and some other FSCC transfers decided to start a handball club. The club now has 16 members and recently attended the National Collegiate Handball Tournament in Minneapolis, Minn., coming in 26th place out of 49 colleges.

Aside from getting 26th place, Coker also won a Sportsmanship Award chosen by coaches who attended the tournament.

Andrea Gordon, junior in accounting and a member of the handball club, says that although the organization doesn't technically have a captain, all the players look to Coker as their coach.

"He's kind of a coach at heart," Gordon said. "He was going around helping everyone. Our whole team looks to him as our coach. I think the main reason he got it was because one of our players dove head-first into the cement wall. She was laying there in a pool of blood and he was the one that handled all of the people and gave her room to breathe and bringing people in to take care of her."

Gordon explained that the organization is constantly looking for more players to join, but that many people don't even know it exists.

Like Coker, Gordon began playing as a form of rehab.

"I was on the volleyball team here and had knee surgery," Gordon said. "After I was able to walk again, I started playing as rehab as well, and I've only been playing for a short amount of time."



photo by Salman Alkhalil

Kevin Coker, senior in history, practices handball at the Weede building. Coker is the president/coach of the Pitt State handball team.

Although she hasn't been playing for long, Gordon says that playing handball not only helped her rehabilitate, but was also a great way to meet people.

"Some players just play for the social aspect," Gordon said. "We range from going out there to hang out with friends and meet new people to being very competitive. You can pick what level you want to play at."

Spencer Stern, senior in political science, is also a member of the handball organization and says that he joined mostly because of the social benefits.

"My friends were playing, so I joined," Stern said. "It's a really fun sport."

Coker said that the best thing about handball is that it is not a sport limited to the athletic ability of youth.

"It's something you can play for the rest of your life, and I think that is captivating to some people," Coker said.

## National Residence Hall Honorary



**Clockwise:** Jeremy Albright, Jason Wright, Katelyn Humphrey, Christa Weber, Sean Harper, Ash Sahni, Jamie Wildschuetz, Brittany Watson.

## PR/Ad Club



**Clockwise:** Ashlee Ricks, Danielle Weishaar, Julie Burdick, Kendra Liekam, Amy Wassenaar.



## Biology Club

**Front row:** Emily Derfelt, Perry Morrow, Kortney Schippers, Emma Hayes, Cassie Shaw, Kaela Lopez, Paresa Tafreshi. **Back row:** Michelle Bernhart, Kathryn Hallacy, Roxanne Wallace, Brandon Carlisle, Shelly Compton, Kyle Marcotte, Jeanice Bradshaw.

## Student Ambassadors



**First row:** Hadyn Barnes, Katy Burton, Meagan Hastert, Melissa Horne, Jessica Moore, Ashley Davis, Emily Walters, Haley Lawrence, Mandy Riffel, Katie Jones, Julie Burdick, Kylie Quick, Erin Wells. **Second row:** Brandon Mills, Salvador Almanza, Katie Engelland, Cyndi Moore, Robyn Pillers, David Martin, Rachel Sneddon, Venessa Lee, Kacie Wayman, Kacee Allison, Cassie Shaw, Sara Shaffer, Brittany Kjonggaard, Sarah Valencia, Shelly Compton, Amber Hilbus, Alison Wilkins, Anthony Truong, Whitley Spengler. **Third row:** Yury Kuzmichev, Evan Loudermilk, Kathleen Groves, Krista Nucci, Lisa Wendt, Amy Wassenaar, Jenna Myers, Ashley Birk, Shawna Currie, Stacey Light, Jamie Wildschuetz, Paresa Tafreshi, Emily Alley, Samantha Arnold, Alex Phillips, Josh Dooley. **Fourth row:** Justin Pfeifer, Josh Ingold, Michael Admire, Eddie Penner, Melissa McDonald, Hilary Wilson, Erin Richmond, Andy Nail, Vinnie Juliano, Johnna Wendt, Sonya Goetschius, Christa Weber, Katie Merando, Luis Marroquin, Shine Fischer, Daniel Creitz, Aaron Loehr.



# Band

*of brothers  
(& sisters)*

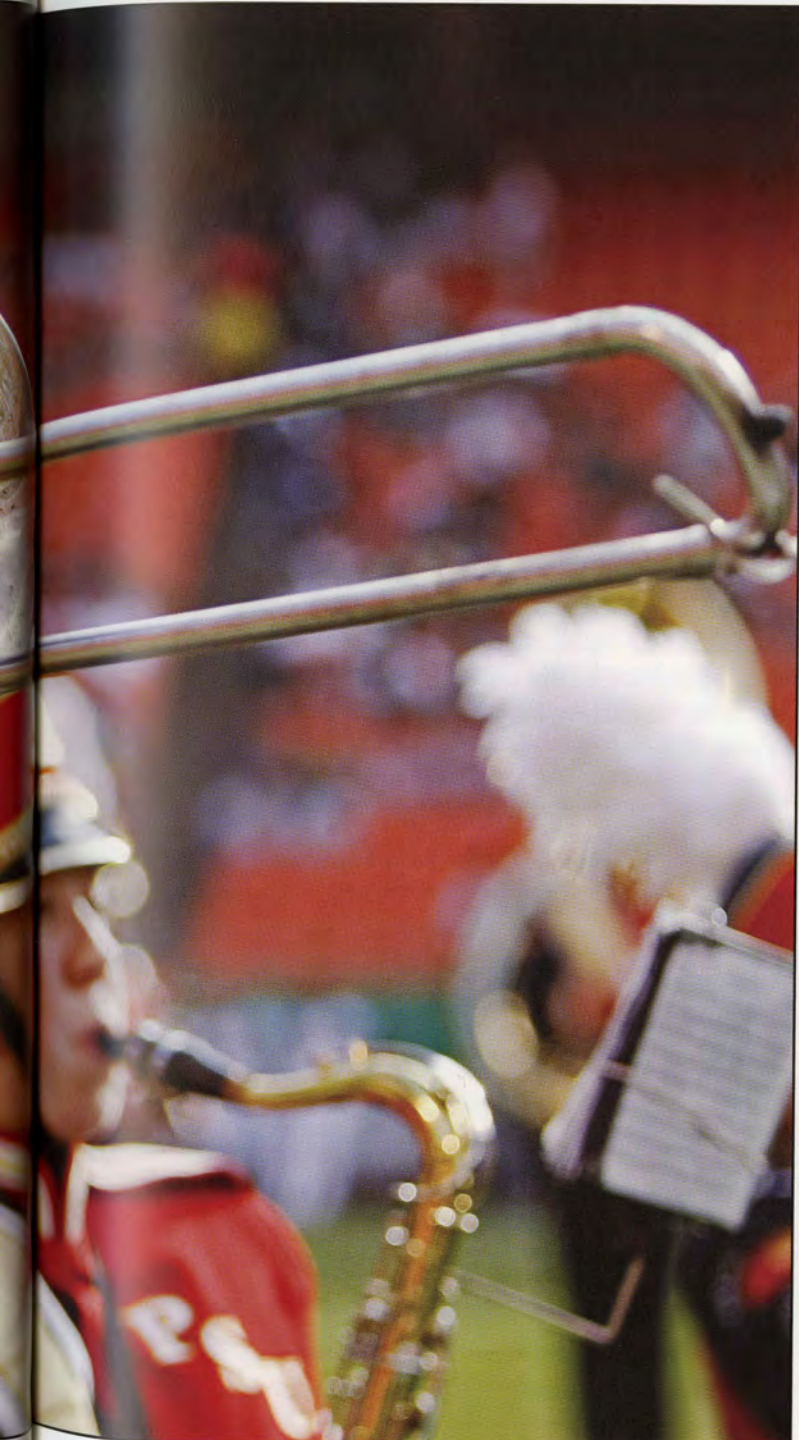
Bundled against the cold, Atale Neal, junior in physical education, strikes her bass drum during halftime of the University of Nebraska-Omaha playoff game, Saturday, Nov. 15.



Performing before the game, Cooper Neil, senior in music, and the Pride of the Plains marching band play a few songs alternating with Northwest Missouri State's band before the Fall Classic at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City.

photos by Brett Armbruster

*of brothers  
(& sisters)*



The drumline of Pitt State's Pride of the Plains marching band drum out a steady line, keeping the rest of the band in tempo.



Will Koehler, junior in music, leads the trumpet section of the band during halftime at a home football game.

photos by Brett Armbruster



# These shoes are made for *helpin'*

The Fashion Merchandising Association paired up with TOMS shoes to help their cause. For every pair of shoes the group sells, TOMS gives a pair to a child in need.



While shoes that were created last year by PSU students are displayed, Alana George, sophomore in fashion merchandising, purchases a pair to design so a kid somewhere will also have a pair of shoes. So far, TOMS has delivered shoes to kids in Argentina, South Africa, Ethiopia and places in North America.



Walking to his car, senior Mike Wagner, construction management, stops to look at the table and students decorating shoes in the parking lot of Mooreman's across from campus.



## Omicron Delta Kappa



**Front row:** Barb McClaskey, Ashley Davis, Emma Hayes, Jessica Moore, Dustin Holmes, Pamela Myers, Kylie Quick. **Back row:** Michelle McCullough, Mark Neely, Kipp Voth, Sonya Goetschius, Roxanne Wallace, Skannnd Tyagi.

## Early Childhood



**Front row:** Kayla Baker, Meagan Hastert, Lindsey Julian, Afton Cowen, Karen Slater, Amber Tankersley. **Back row:** Maleah Yurchak, Katie Bazal, Alex Mosley, Elizabeth Jackson, Kari Chronister.



photos by Brett Armbruster

Kelsy Brandon (left) and Laura Hardin, employees for TOMS shoe company, travel to college campuses with the Vagabond Tour selling shoes. For each pair of shoes sold, a pair is given to a child in need. Pitt State's Fashion Merchandising Association sponsored the Design Your Sole event, Friday, Oct. 31, where people can come and design a pair of shoes to raise money for shoes for children.

## Fashion Merchandising Association



**Front row:** Hannah Fowler, Crayton Caldwell, Sarah Roderique, Leah Benzin, Brittany Perry, Carra Shaffer. **Back row:** Jessica Snider, Lindsey Caldwell, Laura Anderson, Lauren Williams, Alana George, Cassie Sump, Kayla Blanco, Kelci Mason, Margo Strand, Angie Dowell.

## Green Gorillas



**Front row:** Brandon Mills, Audrey Stallard, Perry Morrow. **Back row:** Mark Peterson, Joni Jantunen, Don Judd, Richard Lipka.



Lindsey Julian, Afton  
ck row: Maleah  
Jackson, Kari

## Students in Free Enterprise



**First row:** Jenae Palmer, Jason Landrum, Katie Gull, Emily Morrell, adviser Robyn Hess. **Second row:** Tieg Tullis, Steven Norris, Thomas Gregory, Cindy Serrano, Brittney Squire. **Third row:** Heath Barnes, David Hedges, Peter Kipp.

## Ticket Office



**First row:** Mark Seeley. **Second row:** James Needham, Katie Harshman, Portia Wright, Mark Turner. **Third row:** Jill Pjesky, Aubrey Jensen, Jennifer K. Murphy.



## Pre-Vet Club

**First row:** Daniel Zurek, Kim Hunn, Jessica Woods, Jessica Rupp, Lacie Fincher. **Second row:** Kendra Wallace, Maya Baayoun, Roxanne Wallace, Becky Holthouse.

## Physical Plant Custodial Staff



**First row:** Jerry Meyer, Sue Ann Barnes, Ritta Tierney, Linda Higgins, Michele Williamson, Tina Gregory, Sandy Keltner, Yvonne Gaddy, Irene Cavitte, Evelyn Neett. **Second row:** John Potts, Grace Pugh, Marian Patton, Ali Nash, Dorothy Murphy, Ruby Pingree, Jan Keith, Eddie Spiagg, Cindy Merando, Connie Baker, Jana Giles, David Redd. **Third row:** Randy Marietta, Rich Snider, Randy Adcock, Jerad Jameson, Kay Lynn Jiles, Dale Lucchi, Lewis Stewart, Mike Harry, Olive Collins. **Fourth row:** Claude Reno, Kevin Malle, Jake Keltner, Mark Hall, Blake Cameron, Hank Sanley, John Black.

## Marketing Association



**First row:** Jessica Hicks, Ashley Birk, McKenzie Hatfield, Taylor Jurski, Ashlee Ricks, Lacey Johnson, Sarah Ferris, Nicole Levitt. **Second row:** Libby Clark, Alyssa Roberts, Jenae Palmer, Katie Smith, Chelsey Johnson, Lauren Westhoff, Mallory Waggoner, Brittney Squire, Shipra Paul.

# Showcasing the strong, classic & unusual

The Kansas Technology Center's parking lot displayed a different set of cars on Saturday, April 25. The Society of Automotive Engineers held its annual car show. With a registration fee, anyone could show off his or her car. Although the event was about showcasing cars, they also destroyed one.



Paul Buckmaster, senior in automotive technology and member of SAE, tries to crush a car with his Chevrolet Blazer, named Crazyblaze.



photos by Shalin Patel

Jack Alvested's red 1938 Ford three-window coupe is displayed in the KTC parking lot.



Larry Reese shows off his Ford Rat Rod at the SAE car show on Saturday, April 25.

# Sitting to gain

Student groups sit on rock to raise sexual-assault awareness

*story by Amanda Rose*

Students Against Violence Through Education (SAVE) and Men for Violence Prevention (MVP), which are part of the Office of Violence Response and Prevention, put together a weeklong activity to help raise awareness on campus and reach out to people who have been sexually assaulted. Members of these organizations are taking turns sitting on a rock in the Oval to help raise awareness during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Katie Ogle, senior in psychology and member of SAVE, says she sat on the rock for six hours on Monday and was already up to three hours by noon on Tuesday.

"I've had a lot of people read our sign and I answer their questions, but the sign for the most part is pretty self-explanatory," Ogle said. "There are a lot of people who avoid this area altogether and intentionally go out of their way to walk around it."

Paresa Tafreshi, junior in nursing, says that she respects these students for taking their time to inform other students about such tragedies.

"I think it's really cool they are doing this," Tafreshi said. "I respect them and it makes me reflect on my life now."

Sitting on the rock is to symbolize how uncomfortable, alone and out of place a victim of rape or sexual



*photos by Katie Swatek*

Senior in psychology and member of SAVE Monika Perrine braves the rain and cold on the lava rock, Monday, April 27, in the northeast corner of campus for "Week on the Rock." The members of SAVE and MVP sit on the rock 24 hours a day five days a week to demonstrate how alone, vulnerable and uncomfortable victims of sexual assault feel.

# awareness

assault would feel. Students in these organizations are taking turns with sitting shifts. They are expected to eat on the rock and sleep on the rock. For students who want to sit and chat, extra chairs and a tent are provided by the organizations.

Ashley Taylor, senior in psychology and member of SAVE, says that she will be sitting on the rock throughout the week and has signed up for all of Thursday night's shift so far.

"Someone will always be on the rock, but there must be at least two members at the rock during the night, for safety reasons," Taylor said.

Taylor says that the rock is symbolically fitting.

"Most rape victims experience side effects such as insomnia," Taylor said. "It is hard to sleep when you are constantly plagued by nightmares; likewise, it is also hard to sleep on a rock."

Julie Allison, director for SAVE and MVP, says that sitting on the rock could never compare to being the victim of sexual assault.

"We know that those who have experienced rape and/or sexual assault face physical and emotional consequences following the trauma," Allison said. "While we are not, in any way, trying to suggest that sitting on a rock for one week is the same as experiencing the consequences of rape, it is one way to show support, as sitting on a rock for one week is physically uncomfortable."

Taylor also explained that victims often feel alone and exposed.

"As a rape victim, you feel different, like everyone knows and they are staring at you. You feel this way on the rock, too, because the passing students stare," Taylor said.

While sitting on the rock, Taylor said that they get a lot of curious looks.

"After people have been camped out on the rock for a



From left to right: Danny Cox, senior in general studies, Savannah Schmitt, sophomore in psychology and criminal justice studies, and Stacey Light, senior in psychology, sit on the rock and play cards to pass the time on Tuesday, April 28. The members of SAVE and MVP take shifts during Week on the Rock so that there is at least one member on the rock at all times.

couple of days, students start to get curious and ask us why we are doing this," Taylor said. "That is where the awareness part comes in."

Ogle says that she doesn't get bored during her shifts.

"There is never a dull moment," Ogle said. "It's really easy to stay occupied with all the conversations going on and people walking around campus. We play games at night and there are always other members of the organization there with you."

Taylor says that the rock is used for more than awareness.

"Hanging out on the rock can be a fun time as well as an educational tool," Taylor said. "If you walk through campus at 3 a.m., you might even catch us playing hide-and-go-seek or freeze tag. It is always a good time."

# Losing to win

story by Sheikh Murad Kalal

Imagine a competition in which the competitors lose and at the end, the one who loses the most is the winner. That's the goal of a weight-loss competition held among nine residents of Willard Hall.

In total, the competitors lost 51 pounds in a period of four months, but the biggest loser was Sean Harper, junior in math education. His loss came to 25 pounds within the competition period.

"I started working out three to four days per week, cut back on fat food, drink more water and eat dessert but not every single day," Harper said.

The students started the weight-loss contest in September as a project for fourth-floor residents of Willard Hall.

"The goal of the competition is to see who can lose the largest percentage of weight in three months, and therefore win the title of the 'Biggest Loser,'" said Christa Weber, senior in music education. "The whole idea for our floor's Biggest Loser came from one of my residents, Sean Harper, who was excited about the new Student Recreation Center and was motivated to lose weight."

In the group's first meeting, the participants discussed weight loss tips, healthy eating tips and how they wanted to run their competition. Weber provided the floor with healthy snacks like grapes, bananas and 100-calorie-snack packs. The competitors weighed in every two weeks to keep them on track.

"I am very proud of my floor and their initiative to do something healthy for themselves," she said.

Losing weight requires planning and dedication, said Harper.

Working in teams helped.

"Team activity makes this competition more important and accountable; it also helps to motivate each other," he said.

By keeping his effort up, Harper lost an additional 20 pounds by March.

Eating less to lose weight was tough for Misty Ristau, majoring in nursing and one of the participants.

"This competition has changed my lifestyle and

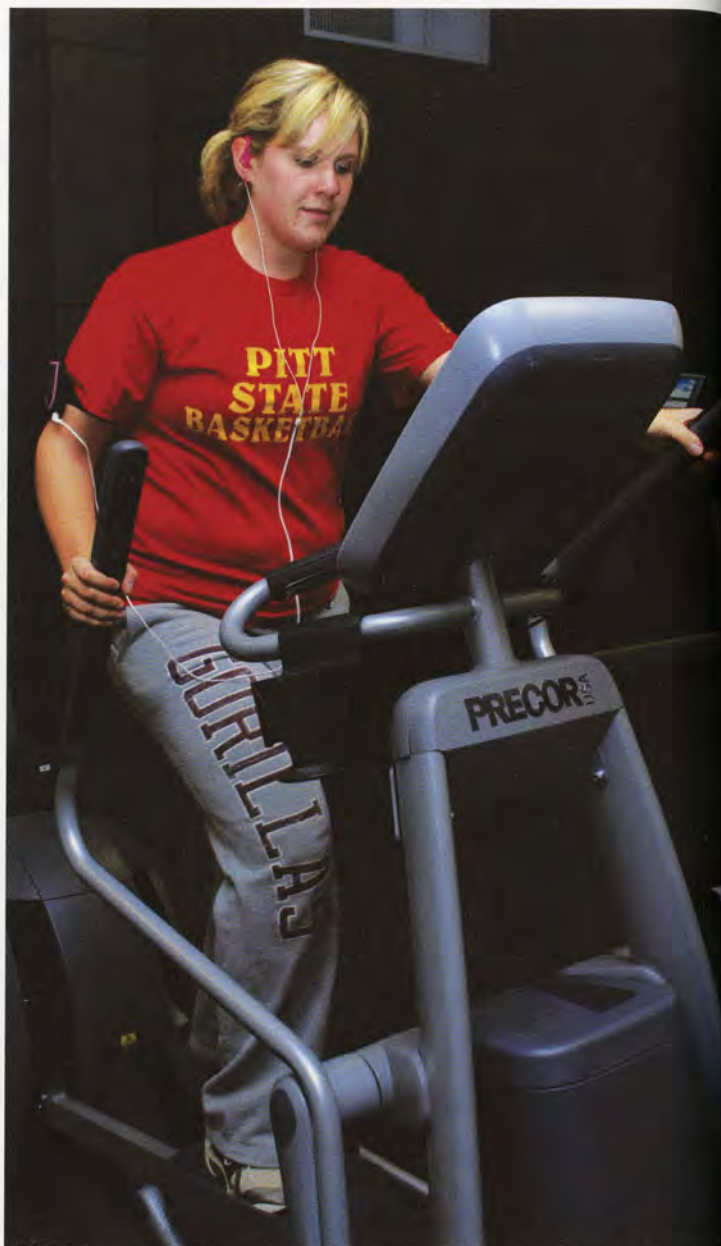


photo by Shalin Patel

Working out on the elliptical, Christa Weber, senior in music education, exercises to stay healthy. Weber participated in The Biggest Loser competition, a contest to see who could lose the most weight.

increased my awareness about the food we eat," Ristau said. "Also, we can see what other people are doing and get inspired."

A closing party with food and fun was held during dead week. Final weigh-in was done and, in addition to the title of "Biggest Loser," Harper won a T-shirt and a \$10 gift card to the PSU Bookstore.

## Their weight loss tips

"Drink plenty of water and eat in moderation." -Misty Ristau

"Losing weight is incredibly difficult, but you have to stick with it in order to see results." -Christa Weber

"Exercise is important, even if it's just a little bit each day." -Christa Weber

"Be healthy and exercise." -Sean Harper

## Bowen Third Floor



**First row:** Sarita Cai, Ally McNay, Ali Wilbert, Erin Cooley. **Second row:** Li Shin Chang, Teresa Zeng, Bubble Lin, Ili Bakhtiar, Sandy Huang, Vivian Wang, Janice Wang, Alexandra Anger, Song Zhang. **Third row:** Zhuojun Wang, Tyla Horacek, Brandy Jakobsen, Kaylee Rhodes, Julie Taylor, Jennifer Murphy, Meron Garedeu.

## Dellinger Fourth Floor Short



**First row:** Rara Falkne, Kasey Heckman. **Second row:** Alexandra Wallace, Autumn Mauller, Lauren Hankins, Tanitra Bedford, Allison Rodriguez, Jamie Wildschuetz. **Third row:** Shawna Catt, Rebecca Miller, Kayleigh Cook, Kayla Page.



## Nation First Floor

**First row:** Ashley Horn, Rebekah Dallman, Kerra Tener, Emily Schenk, Raquel Gibson. **Second row:** Michelle Burton, Megan Howerton, Paresa Tafreshi. **Third row:** Liz Kester, Lauren Beck, Jennifer Marshall, Cayce Karg, Cayla Thomlinson, Brooke Richardson. **Fourth row:** Kristen Storey, Alex Paterson, Ashley Barney, Heidi Smith, Josie McCracken, Kristin Stanley. **Fifth row:** Marissa Copas, Amanda Orloske, Amanda Johnson, Shylo Starbuck, Rosanna Saylor.

## Dellinger Fifth Floor Long



**First row:** Devin Chrisjohn, Adam Brown, Jon Sanell, Jay Griffin, Mitch Ayers. **Second row:** Luke McKown, Andrew Stuhlsatz, Gabe Hayes, Seth Amott, Jay Zaeb, Kyle Martin. **Third row:** Josh Herder, Kevin Wellington, Ben Louts, Kyle Renner, Jeremy Kaufman, Daniel Cunningham, Kyle Whaley, Taylor Kent.

## Tanner Third Floor



**Front row:** Shae Georgeson, Jimmy Sanchez, Bronson Knapp, Ben Wimer, Tyler Meyer, Zach Latow, Tyler Parrigon, Matt Smith. **Back row:** Willy Watzke, Jared Baier, Trent Gray, Sutton Martin, Devon Griffin, Brendan Matthews, Christopher Powers, Dave Nieto, Josh Clark, Sam Olker, Chris Ford.



## Nation Third Floor East



**Front row:** Katie Wright, Kristin Shillington. **Back row:** Sunny Eunsun Choi, Kaley Temaat, Laura Mies, Megan Stahl, Amanda Ortis, Alyssa Hillman.

## Nation Basement West



**Front row:** Jenna Duesi, Sarah Rocco, Meghan Coones and Hannah Gibbs. **Back row:** SooMi JEon, Julie Veliz, Tara McEndree, Nichole Brown, Taylor Woodson.

## Willard Fourth Floor



**First row:** Erin Jones, Christa Weber, Cody Frieden, Taylor Sibala, Anthony Garrett. **Second row:** Perry Morrow, Jenny Harter, Becca Bryon, Mandy Toepfer, Sean Harper. **Third row:** Jahee Son, Rakaan Al-hssaf, David Culter, Ethan Hobbs, Chad Hadge. **Fourth row:** Tzu-Hsuan, Liao, Marshall Weber, Stanley Pendergrass, Brett Siegle.

## Willard Third Floor



**First row:** Taryn Jones, Katie Clopton, Christine Lovell, Karen Allison, Logan Harris, Tanner Couvelha, Blake Wortley. **Second row:** Mary Slater, Tony Blazer, Rita Latimer, Lacey Arroyo, Amanda Walker and Thomas Hurford. **Third row:** Eren Tuncer, Kevin Mudy, Aaron Carroll, Chris Torek, Randy Watts, Jordan Pressgrove, Holden Kraus.



## Nation Fourth Floor East

**Members of the floor:** Micah Heider, Jason Gibson, Jeremy Butler, Adam Field, Jeremy Kadoich, Alex Wiedemann, Ted Thompson, Jeremy Harding, Darren Redburn, Jared Wetzel, Keatin Herder, John Sigg, Cole Johnson, Wesley Hefley, Adam Deeds, Scott Richman, Keith Hughes, Dalton Williams, Nathan Corn, Alex Port, Yong Cheng, Marco Geandomenico, Hal Rivard, Jarson Seifert, Alex Moskowitz, Jack Walton.

# No *trickin'* for these *treats*



photos by Cayla Thomlinson

Carol Johnson, junior in biology, watches as a child throws a bean bag through the Public Relations Club's game during Safe Trick or Treat.

Costumes and fun were present in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom on Tuesday, Oct. 28, for Safe Trick or Treat, sponsored by the Student Activities Council. Organizations, including the Social Work Club and Gorillas in Your Midst, set up stations for kids to do different activities. Anyone who tried their hand at it got a candy prize. Residence Hall Assembly also had its own version of Trick or Treat; volunteers would walk kids through the residence halls to select rooms that were handing out candy.



Sarah Ferris, junior in marketing, Becca Deal, sophomore in marketing and management, and Mallory Waggoner, senior in marketing, cut out masks for kids to decorate with crayons.



Kelsey Lewis, senior in elementary education, helps 2-year-old Alivia Sanders pretend to feed a banana to the Gorillas in Your Midst's gorilla during Safe Trick or Treat in the Crimson and Gold Ballroom on Tuesday, Oct. 28.

# Trick my ride



photo by Shalin Patel

Johnny Ward, part of Team XMx from Kansas City, pops a wheelie and extends his left leg out to show his skill. Ward was part of a stunt show put on by Jay Hatfield Kawasaki on Saturday, April 25. The PR/Ad Club brought everything together to make the show what it was. Kendra Leikam, president of the club, said the group created fliers, posters, a Web site and a Facebook group. She said the group handed out about 1,500 fliers. It turns out the publicity was well worth it: about 700 people attended the event.



## Student Association of Broadcasters

**First row:** Andrew Reeves.  
**Second row:** Dallas Cross, Adrien Stolifer, Liz Harris. **Third row:** Eric Stripling, Jacob Anselmi.



## International Business Student Association

**Front row:** Cindy Serrano, Deepika Singh. **Back row:** Shanhe Xu (Shine), Devin Weaver, Chieh-yin Lai (Samantha).

## ROTC



**First row:** Josh Mau, Jason Werner, Timothy Brinkman, Zachary Baker, Chris Fite, Talisha Ly, Erin Jones, Joseph Bennett, Tony Wilson, Brian Wiseman, Emery Baughan, Anna Helmer, James Taylor, Logan Allan, Kayla Dillon, Jessica Grazier, Joseph Sarmiento, James Wildschuetz, Tyler Conyers, Ryan Divine, Don Stoner. **Second row:** David Brock, Chessie Baxter, Jeffery Nelson, Ethan McLean, Christopher Powers, Jared Baier, Callie Wheeler, Alex Gerges, Emmett Pellant, Matthew Lewis, unidentified, Myles Reisig, Andrew Webster, Richard Hoyt, Rachel Friedman, Doug Taylor, Douglas Magill, Eric Harden, Tyson Patrick, George Johnson. **Third row:** Jason Nelson, Cody Kilmer, Sam Haskins, Justin Briggs, Dustin Hanna, Michael McGill, Brendan Matthews, Justin Dillow, Kyle Byler, unidentified, Ethan Brotherton, Kole Giles, Jesse West, Kyle Kunkel, Scott Lechner, James Reynolds, Robert Van Wey, AJ Steuterman, Will Giles, Hal Rivard, Sam Olker, Matthew Newbanks, Riku Saastamoinen, David Hansen, Brodie Holmes, Drew Polen.

## Kansas National Education Assoc.



**First row:** Jamie Wildschuetz, Cheyenne Hunziker, Clint McCorkle, Portia Wright, Dana Beckenhauer. **Second row:** Jessica Charles, Caitlan Cleary, Brittini Brown, Sarah Dees, Linseh Walker, Kristy Hull, Tyana Maiseroulle, Ke'o Verzon, Kenny McDougle. **Third row:** Tara Posch, Kaity Smith, Kelsie Martin, Janielle Duffin, Ann Zier, Marissa Ritter. **Fourth row:** David Dyer.

## Kappa Delta Pi



**Front row:** Ke'olani Verzon, Katherine Thompson, Mark Dulek, Kirati Khuvasanond. **Back row:** Howard Tush, Rhonda Oestreicher, Stacy Daniels, Rachel Southard, Regina Hanson, Kasee Price, Natalie Lopez, Jamie Wildschuetz, Cari Shaw, Briana Baker, Christina Jordan.

## International Student Association



**First row:** Kohei Hayachi, Stephanie Jones. **Second row:** Rohan Ratnapal, Jazmin Ramirez, Jeff Hashman, Rachel Chen. **Third row:** Vidhi Kundalia, Echo (Ni Zhang), Joanne Lee, Puteri Sabira, Halimah Hathah. **Fourth row:** Osama Abu Salah, James Kuo, Murtaza Doctor, Yusuke Nakamura.

## United Methodist



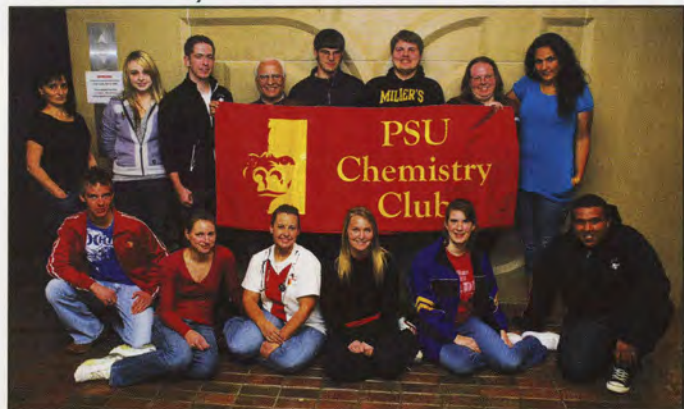
**First row:** Daniel Canaday, Megan Wade, Mason Stout, Jon Garrett, Eric Jones, Harold Wallace, Nikhil Mamendra, Doug Drybread, Hong Jie Xu. **Second row:** Hyeran Jo, Hyerook Shin, Hasook Kim, Gabrielle Iley, K. Michele Jimenez, Andrew Webster, Melissa Archuleta, Rachel Azuara, Laura Hernandez, Analia Saldivar.

## History Department

**First row:** Jean Griffith, Kathleen Fischer, John Daley, Jonathan Dresner. **Second row:** LaShawna Pavers, Sarah Tosh. **Third row:** Donita Barone, Brittany Guardia, Judith Shaw, Stephen Harmon.



## Chemistry Club



**Front row:** Trevor Drenik, Rebecca Carpenter, Emily Derfelt, Sadie Smith, Christina Butler, Ahmed Said.

**Back row:** Irene Zegar (adviser), Lindsay Nance, Yury Kuzmichev, Khamis Siam (adviser), Chris Coble, Joshua Holloway, Carrie Nelson, Parisa Ighani.

## Kappa Kappa Psi



**First row:** Devin Walker, Doug Whitten, Kris Stephens, Jason Curran, Joseph Gregory. **Second row:** Mitch Grant, Jeff Gibbens, Jenny Harter, Ashley Hirt, Kendra Wallace, Julia Madison, Kevin Pommier. **Third row:** Neva Rowland, Haley Ruther, Perry Morrow, Greg Scheetz, Ashley Curran, Ashley Hagen.

## Sigma Alpha Iota



**First row:** Haley Ruther, Kayla Hay, Katie Hockman, Christa Weber. **Second row:** Kristen Taylor, Patricia Condiff, Stacey Light, Mary Slater. **Third row:** Mary Jo Harper, Christine Lovell, Laura Mathews, Holly Kerr, Kayla Pulliam.

## Student Association of Photographers



**First row:** Kenna Rogers, Hadyn Barnes, Cayla Thomlinson, Danielle Snyder, Zack Fields. **Second row:** Ron Pettibon, Aaron Anders, Mike Gullett, Ann Elder, Mary Henderson, Jeremy Brittle.

## Honors College



**First row:** Alison Wilkins, Darcy Peach, Emily Derfelt, Julie Penner, Tracy Fienen, Heidi Tate. **Second row:** Eddie Penner, Dana Pugh, Ke'o Verzon, Paresa Tafreshi, Shawnell Shepherd, Vanessa Peach, Briana Baker, Kathryn Hauser. **Third row:** Terra Laird, Jessica Berntsen, Roxanne Wallace, Tieg Tullis, Stephen Artinger.

## Masters of Business Administration Assoc.



**First row:** Wenting Wu, Marshall Blinzler, Alex Khmelev, Priyesh Narsale, Tim Morris. **Second row:** Chieh-yin Lai, Shruti Panchal, Rachiya Raina, Precious Thornton, Leah Angleton, Deppika Singh, Dimpy Singh, Santhosh Bairy, YongRan Yoon. **Third row:** Mike Muoghalu (adviser) Osama Abu Salan, Heath Barnes, Segun Oluwafemi, Ashish Oberoi, Gopi Bankapalli, Parshant Agnihotri, Ajith Ponugoti, Joseph Bahalla.

## Order of Omega



**Front row:** Keegan Fields, Meagan Hastert (treasurer), Vincent Juliano, Abby Williams, Alison Sauls, Katy Burton, Katie Engelland. **Back row:** Amanda Smith, Andrew Nail (vice president), Sonya Goetschius (president), Kipp Voth (secretary/ritual), Melissa McDonald, Erin Richmond.

## Pre-Med Club



**First row:** Stephanie Eckert, Corina Akuna, Nicole Wilt, Haley Lawrence, Daniel Zurek, Emily Derfelt, Emily Walters, Amber Alber, Melissa Roush, Christy Hanika. **Second row:** Erin Carrington, Leanne Bal, Jordan Simoncic, Natalie Carroll, Kaylyn Price, Shelly Compton, Elise Rhannesen, Kylie Quick. **Third row:** Anthony Truong, Brittany Maples, Kyle Mariotte, David Ramsey, Eric Hann, Zach Krumsick, Kyle Renner, Marissa Copas, Kortney Schippers, Cassie Shaw, Jarin Redman, Jackson Dairymple. **Fourth row:** Drue Barton, Brett Siegle, Dustin Graham, John-Michael Watson, Kipp Voth, Sean Harris, Tom E. Goff, Tom H. Goff, Dominic Cosimano, Korbyn Steadman, Grant DePoy, Erin Floyd.

## Moment of silence



photo by Sunny Kim

Deepika Singh, a member of the Indian Student Association, takes a moment to remember the victims of the Mumbai attacks in the Oval on Wednesday, Dec. 10.

# Celebrating *culture*

The International Student Association held its annual Food and Culture Fair, a multi-country event, on Saturday, March 28. Some of the countries represented in the festivities included China, Paraguay, Malaysia and Korea, among others.

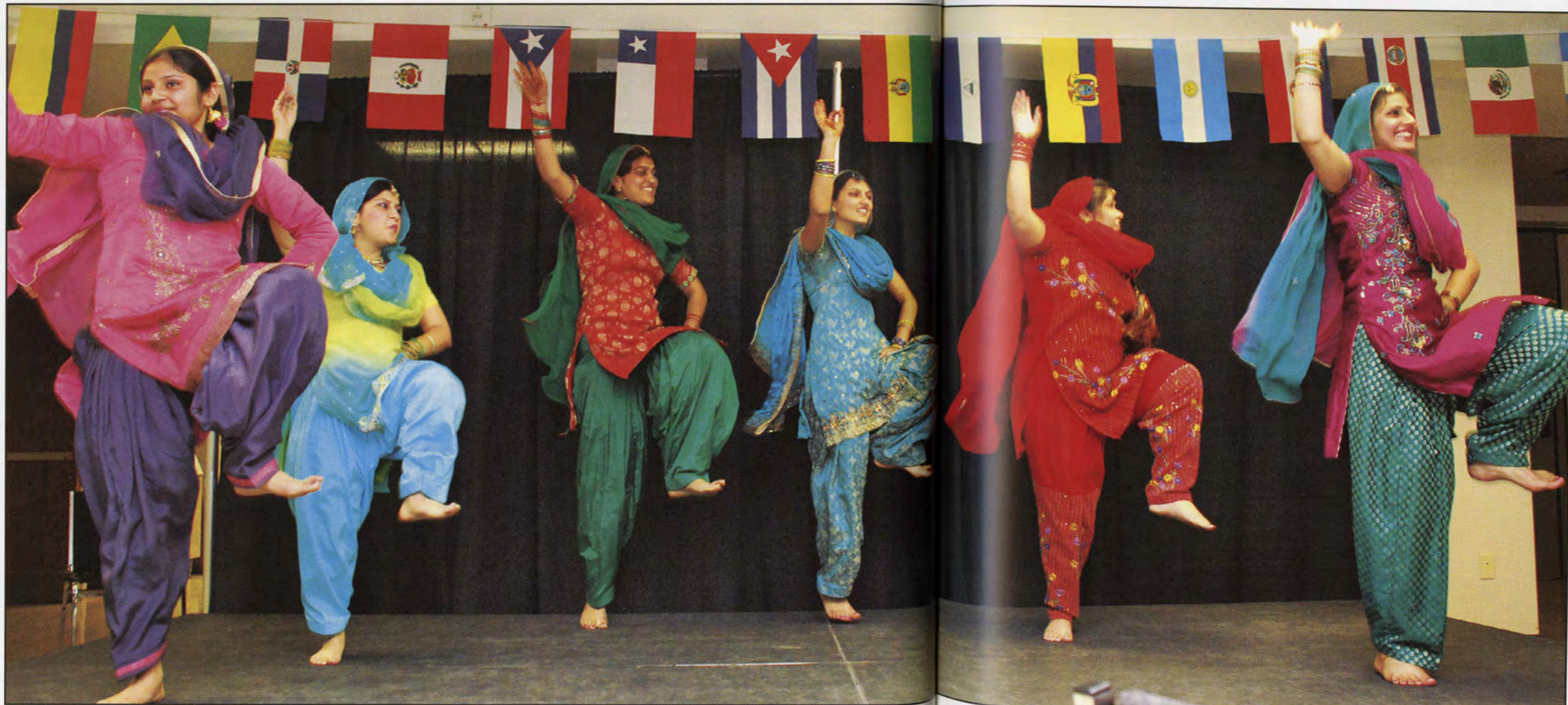


Shaking her hips to the music, Ishteyaq Haddadin, graduate in communication, performs the belly dance at the Food and Culture Fair.



Manis Deepchanda, coordinator for ISA, serves her native Indian culture.

Casey Khoo, represents her native...



Indian girls show their moves to a traditional punjabi song at ISA's Food and Culture Fair.

photos by Shalin Patel



Manis Deepchandani, graduate in business administration and an event coordinator for ISA, helps two people by providing information on Indian culture.

Casey Khoo, representing Malaysia, serves her native food.



photos by Shalin Patel



President of ISA, Jazmin Ramirez, senior in political science and international studies, performs "The Bottle Dance" to traditional Paraguayan music.



# THE 2009 GREEK



Nine fraternities and sororities gathered in the Oval on Wednesday, April 15, for their annual Greek Week group picture.

# KFAMILY



photo courtesy Malcolm Turner

# Alpha Gamma Delta

Rebecca Antes  
*senior in art education*

Samantha Arnold  
*senior in finance*

Marissa Ballard  
*junior in family & consumer science ed.*

Ashley Birk  
*senior in marketing and management*

Cassandra Boucher  
*junior in family & consumer science ed.*

Amy Bowmaker  
*junior in psychology*



Hayley Buehler  
*junior in nursing*

Hannah Burdette  
*senior in technology ed.*

Jenna Burks  
*sophomore in communication*

Rachel Butler  
*freshman in nursing*

Samantha Campbell  
*freshman in early/late childhood*

Ciara Clincy  
*sophomore in early/late childhood*



Emily Conrad  
*senior in accounting*

Christy Cox  
*sophomore in psychology*

Carmen Crawford  
*junior in physical ed.*

Nikki Currie  
*junior in family & consumer science ed.*

Courtney Decker  
*sophomore in communication*

Kelsey Downing  
*sophomore in marketing*



Megan Emrich  
*sophomore in early/late childhood*

Mandi Jo Gash  
*senior in family & consumer science ed.*

Rose-Marie Glen  
*freshman in family & consumer science*

Sonya Goetschius  
*senior in nursing*

Jessica Hicks  
*junior in management*

Kara Hixon  
*freshman in biology*



Brogan Hoover  
*freshman in biology*

Holly Hrabik  
*freshman in biology*

Erin Jones  
*junior in nursing*

Kondja Kamatuka  
*senior in communication*

Jennifer Koelsch  
*senior in commercial graphics*

Michelle Lindsay  
*sophomore in commercial graphics*



Jennifer Long  
*senior in political science*

Ericka Lowe  
*sophomore in commercial graphics*

Bailey Mahrt  
*freshman in nursing*

Tiffany Martin  
*senior in communication*

Carrie McDowell  
*senior in chemistry*

Laura Mies  
*freshman in biology*





Ashley Mihans  
*junior in early/late childhood*  
Molly Miller  
*freshman in physical ed.*  
Amy Moore  
*junior in early/late childhood*  
Jenna Myers  
*senior in psychology*  
Laura Ohmes  
*freshman in communication*  
Elise Papp  
*freshman in nursing*



Alexandra Paterson  
*undeclared freshman*  
Stephanie Peterson  
*sophomore in nursing*  
Aubrey Poindexter  
*freshman in family & consumer science*  
Bethany Pommier  
*sophomore in technology ed.*  
Samantha Richens  
*undeclared freshman*  
Alyssa Roberts  
*junior in marketing*



Ashley Rohleder  
*senior in political science*  
Allison Sauls  
*junior in family & consumer science*  
Brittany Schmitz  
*sophomore in family & consumer science*  
Laura Sirridge  
*senior in family & consumer science*  
Jessica Smith  
*undeclared sophomore*  
Katherine Smith  
*senior in general studies*



Whitney Smith  
*sophomore in early/late childhood*  
Anne Speck  
*senior in family & consumer science*  
Chelsie Swearingen  
*sophomore in early/late childhood*  
Nicole Thomas  
*senior in commercial graphics*  
Ashton Titus  
*sophomore in biology*  
Taylor Touslee  
*sophomore in nursing*



Kellie Walsh  
*junior in early/late childhood*  
Katie Walton  
*sophomore in psychology*  
Madison Weller  
*senior in communication*  
Abby Williams  
*junior in nursing*



photo by Brett Armbruster  
Alpha Gamma Delta sorority members scream out cheers and chants as they wave signs brandishing their letters and mascot, the squirrel, as the Alpha Gam team performs its Yell Like Hell dance, Thursday on Oct. 16, in Carnie Smith Stadium.

# Alpha Sigma Alpha

Laura Anderson  
*junior in family & consumer science*  
Allison Benignus  
*senior in finance*  
Kristina Bortmes  
*sophomore in communication*  
Maddie Burchett  
*freshman in nursing*  
Christina Butler  
*freshman in chemistry*  
Katie Casterline-Moore  
*freshman in communication*



Brenda Chappell  
*adviser*  
Elizabeth Clark  
*senior in marketing and management*  
Andrea Cole  
*junior in finance*  
Rachel Curry  
*sophomore in management*  
Kyla Curtis  
*freshman in commercial graphics*  
Brandi David  
*sophomore in nursing*



Caitlin Dillon  
*sophomore in nursing*  
Kathleen Engelland  
*junior in accounting*  
Amanda Fifield  
*freshman in communication*  
Emily Friskel  
*freshman in family & consumer science*  
DeAnna Gainer  
*sophomore in art education*  
Lisa Hemenway  
*senior in early/late childhood*



Lauren Hermansen  
*sophomore in accounting*  
Alyssa Hillman  
*junior in social work*  
Kierstin Houk  
*freshman in political science and finance*  
Ashley Hummel  
*junior in communication*  
Leah Jolosky  
*freshman in family & consumer science*  
Emily Klaver  
*freshman in nursing*



Grace Langley  
*freshman in nursing*  
Emily Lionberger  
*sophomore in early/late childhood*  
Danielle Long  
*freshman in commercial graphics*  
Amy MacDonald  
*freshman in commercial graphics*  
Ashley Maxton  
*senior in early/late childhood*  
Kayla McCarter  
*freshman in marketing*



Jessica McKelvey  
*junior in psychology*  
Amy Mertens  
*senior in nursing*  
Tara Moore  
*junior in nursing*  
Candin Nelson  
*freshman in history*  
Rebekah Parrish  
*undeclared freshman*  
Bee Robinson  
*sophomore in nursing*





**Edina Sakhilingam**  
senior in communication  
**Katie Shaul**  
sophomore in art education  
**Melissa Skelly**  
senior in international business and Spanish  
**Emily Smith**  
freshman in family & consumer science ed.  
**Laurel Spriggs**  
senior in technology  
**Michelle Suknot**  
freshman in early/late childhood



**Jessica Tobias**  
sophomore in nursing and Spanish  
**Caitlin Villamaria**  
sophomore in family & consumer science  
**Megan Villamaria**  
senior in communication and political science  
**Jessica Walrath**  
freshman in mathematics  
**Ana Weber**  
freshman in commercial graphics  
**Raquel Woodruff**  
sophomore in nursing



**Lacie Worrell**  
sophomore in psychology  
**Brian Young**  
man of the year  
**Lauren Zerr**  
sophomore in management

### What kind of programs does your sorority put on?

“Some of the programs we put on are a lot of philanthropy events, the teeter-totter-athon and our swing-a-thon, which benefits the Smith Center, and the Special Olympics. Then we do our Mr. Cinderella, which benefits our ASA Foundation. We help out with the Special Olympics when they are here. We participate in the Big Event and Leaf Rake. We put on events for sisterly bonding. We all go to leadership conferences, just stuff you can use inside and outside the sorority.”

**-Lauren Zerr**  
sophomore in management



photo by Katie Swatek

From left to right: Members of Alpha Sigma Alpha Lacie Worrell, sophomore in communication, and Katie Shaul, sophomore in family and consumer science, and Pi Kappa Alpha Scott Hopson, senior in accounting and finance, swing for the S. June Smith Center in front of the Alpha Sigma Alpha house on Tuesday, March 31. The members of the sorority and fraternity took one-hour shifts during the 72-hour swing-a-thon, which benefits children with learning disabilities.

### What is being in a sorority like?

“Being in a sorority is probably like the most fun thing I’ve ever done. There are constantly people around to help you with things like boyfriends and how to cook. There’s just someone there to help you out when you have a bad day.”

**-Lauren Hermansen**  
sophomore in accounting

# Sigma Sigma Sigma

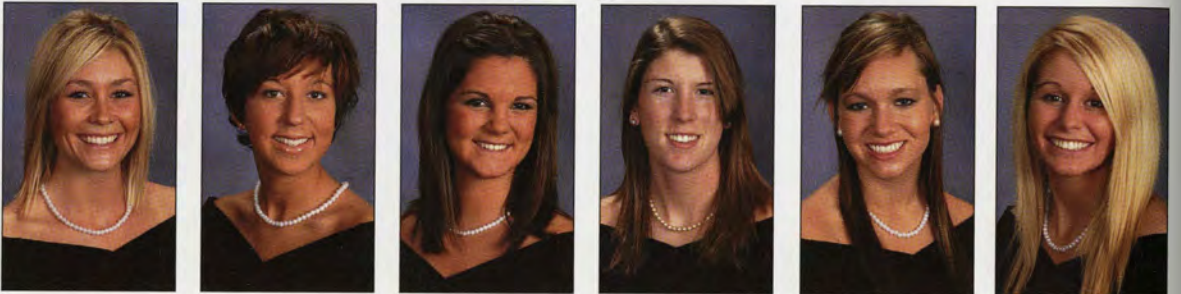
Kacee Allison  
*sophomore in nursing*  
Ashley Arnold  
*senior in early/late childhood*  
Kathryn Baker  
*freshman in business management*  
Ashley Barney  
*undeclared freshman*  
Sarah Batten  
*junior in nursing*  
Monika Blodgett  
*sophomore in commercial graphics*



Sarah Bowers  
*junior in management*  
Casey Bradshaw  
*senior in nursing and family & consumer sci.*  
Katy Burton  
*senior in communication*  
Stephanie Carter  
*undeclared freshman*  
Ashley Dugan  
*sophomore in social work*  
Samantha Ellison  
*freshman in early/late childhood*



Sarah Ferris  
*senior in marketing*  
Keegan Fields  
*senior in nursing*  
Mallory Friday  
*soph. in family & consumer science ed.*  
Haydon Gallagher  
*freshman in wood technology*  
Katelyn Goode  
*undeclared freshman*  
Erin Greenhaw  
*sophomore in nursing*



Christine Groves  
*freshman in early/late childhood*  
Kaylee Hanf  
*junior in management*  
Meagan Hastert  
*senior in family & consumer science*  
Katie Hawkins  
*junior in nursing*  
Amber Hilbus  
*junior in early/late childhood*  
Amanda Hiser  
*undeclared freshman*



Ashley Hovermale  
*junior in communication*  
Molly Jensen  
*freshman in nursing*  
Katie Jones  
*junior in communication*  
Taylor Jurski  
*sophomore in marketing*  
Katherine Kanatzer  
*senior in history and government*  
Kayla Kelsey  
*junior in Spanish and psychology*



Jessica King  
*freshman in family & consumer science*  
Brittany Kjonggaard  
*senior in Spanish and international studies*  
Kait Kruse  
*junior in marketing*  
Leslie Kuss  
*freshman in family & consumer science ed.*  
Stevie Long  
*sophomore in psychology*  
Melissa McDonald  
*junior in commercial graphics*





Erin Mendon  
*senior in political science*  
Tanner Milbourn  
*freshman in early/late childhood*  
Danielle Minnis  
*freshman in nursing*  
Jennifer Moore  
*sophomore in nursing*  
Erica Oberlechner  
*junior in nursing*  
Jessica Pearson  
*sophomore in nursing*



Kimberly Plumlee  
*junior in psychology*  
Hannah Porter  
*freshman in early/late childhood*  
Erin Richmond  
*junior in chemistry and biology*  
Mandy Riffel  
*junior in communication*  
Kortney Schippers  
*junior in biology*  
Sara Shaffer  
*junior in accounting and Spanish*



Cassie Shaw  
*senior in chemistry and biology*  
Jessica Simmons  
*sophomore in management*  
Amanda Smith  
*senior in nursing*  
Heidi Smith  
*undeclared freshman*  
Adrienne Speer  
*junior in commercial graphics*  
Ashley Stout  
*freshman in marketing*



Sarah Valencia  
*junior in communication*  
Chellsee VanLeeuwen  
*freshman in nursing*  
Chelsea Vaughn  
*junior in nursing*  
Tahnee Villabos  
*undeclared freshman*  
Brianna Watson  
*sophomore in nursing*  
Brittany Watson  
*sophomore in accounting*



Lisa Wendt  
*sophomore in early/late childhood*  
Marissa Wiley  
*graduate in communication*  
Hana Withington  
*junior in early/late childhood*



**What was the best part about living in a sorority house?**

“...There was always someone there willing to go anywhere and everywhere with you if you just wanted to get out of the house and do something. There was never a dull moment.”

**-Kayla Kelsey**  
junior in Spanish and psychology

photo by Shalin Patel  
Members of Sigma Sigma Sigma pose for a group picture March 9.



# Lambda Chi Alpha

Mitch Bringle  
*junior in physical ed.*  
Clint Brown  
*senior in construction management*  
Tucker Brown  
*sophomore in psychology*  
David Bukovaz  
*freshman in justice studies*  
Cedric Caine Jr.  
*freshman in international business*  
Nick Doffing  
*sophomore in commercial graphics*



Ben Ferraro  
*junior in management*  
Dillion Fullerton  
*senior in chemistry*  
David Haist  
*junior in biology*  
Sean Harris  
*junior in biology*  
Josiah Hillis  
*sophomore in biology*  
Brian Holland  
*freshman in construction management*



Jacob Hughes  
*undeclared sophomore*  
Kyle Hughes  
*senior in construction management*  
Craig Huskey  
*junior in automotive tech.*  
Chris Kephart  
*junior in construction engineering tech.*  
Jeff King  
T.J. Korhn Jr.  
*freshman in manufacturing engineering tech.*



Patrick Lewis  
*freshman in management*  
Tyler Lewis  
*senior in construction engineering tech.*  
Jessica McLeod  
*sweetheart*  
Sam Morris  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Tyler Newsome  
*junior in plastic engineering tech.*  
Brett Ritchey  
*sophomore in automotive tech.*

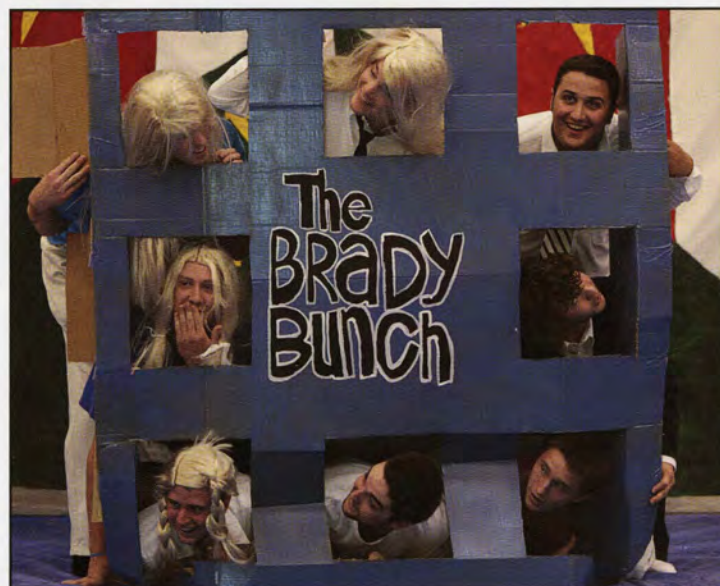
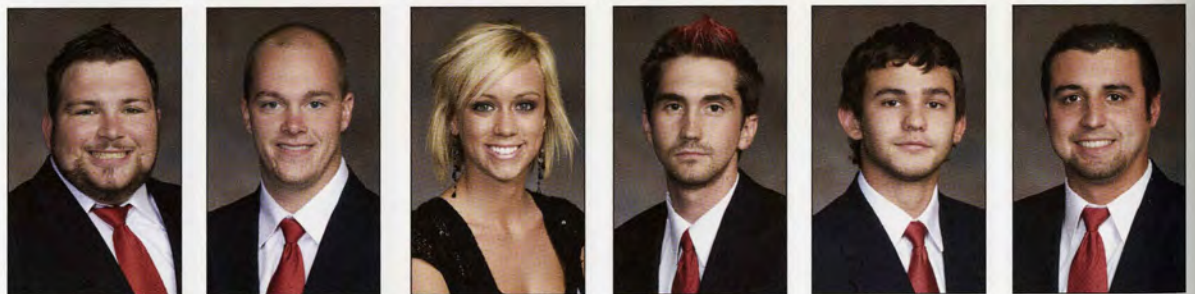


photo by Brett Armbruster

Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity brothers pop their heads out in sequence with the Brady Bunch theme song during airband, Friday, April 17. The competition consists of skits in the theme of Greek Week choreographed to music in which the contestants must lip sync.



Jay Robbins  
junior in mechanical engineering tech.  
Dan Rundquist  
sophomore in automotive tech.  
Keith Runyan  
alumni adviser  
Chris Shively  
senior in automotive tech.  
Jesse Smith  
undeclared freshman  
Matthew Smith  
senior in plastics engineering tech.



Keith Starling  
junior in automotive tech.  
Jeremy Stitt  
junior in justice studies  
Ryan Sullivan  
senior in computer information systems  
Bucky Watts  
sophomore in marketing  
John Wellington  
junior in communication  
Zach Whitehurst  
sophomore in construction engineering tech.



Doug Younger  
adviser

**What's the best thing about being in a fraternity?**

“ Being in a frat is one of the many things to do on campus, get involved and build life-long friendships with my brothers. Try new things I wouldn't normally do. ”

**-Ben Ferraro**  
junior in management

photo by Shalin Patel

The men of Lambda Chi Alpha get together and pose for a group picture May 12.

**What are the benefits of being in a fraternity?**

“ (The benefits) is just becoming a better man and a better leader. We have seven core values we go off of and by learning these and implementing them in my day-to-day life will help me in the long run. ”

**-Tyler Lewis**  
junior in construction management



photo by Brett Armbruster  
Lambda Chi Alpha members Ben Ferraro (right), Mitch Bringle (center), and Clint Brown re-enact the scene from the movie "Office Space," where the main characters destroy a fax machine that has been malfunctioning.

# Phi Sigma Kappa

David Barr  
*junior in construction engineering tech.*  
Matthew Barr  
*freshman in construction management*  
Steve Chastain  
*junior in construction management*  
Eric DeFore  
*senior in psychology*  
Jonathan Gilligan  
*senior in plastics engineering tech.*  
Matthew Graham  
*freshman in art*



Chris Gray  
*freshman in art*  
Kyle Green  
*senior in communication*  
Corey Hamm  
*junior in management*  
Dane Holady  
*senior in construction management*  
Tim Holdsclaw  
*sophomore in commercial graphics*  
Cory Howell  
*senior in construction engineering tech.*



Mike Jaklevic  
*junior in electronics engineering tech.*  
Garrett Johnson  
*senior in electronics engineering tech.*  
Alex Kenny  
*soph. in construction engineering tech.*  
Jake Lampe  
*freshman in automotive tech.*  
Shawn Largent  
*freshman in plastics engineering tech.*  
Brandon Mills  
*sophomore in political science*



Shawn Naccarato  
*adviser*  
Mikael Peters  
*junior in construction management*  
Michael Rahmberg  
*junior in political science and sociology*  
Andrew Rangel  
*senior in marketing*  
Scott Richman  
*junior in mechanical engineering tech.*  
Sam Roberts  
*senior in commercial graphics*



Jason Russell  
*senior in technology management*  
Greg Scheetz  
*freshman in music*  
Kalvin Seifert  
*sophomore in automotive tech.*  
Bryce Suppes  
*junior in construction management*  
Lauren Zerr  
*sweetheart*



photo by Shalin Patel  
Standing in front of their house, the members of Phi Sigma Kappa get together for a group picture on March 9.

# Pi Kappa Alpha



Corey Base  
senior in plastics engineering tech. and math  
Matt Brady  
sophomore in mechanical engineering tech.  
Ryan Burns  
freshman in recreation  
Aaron Carroll  
sophomore in automotive service tech.  
Jonathan Crane  
senior in technology management  
Carmelo Ferreira  
sophomore in international business

Jake Fontes  
senior in communication  
Bryce Hannigan  
junior in automotive tech.  
Scott Hopson  
senior in accounting and finance  
Matt Knoche  
senior in communication  
Deron Lundgren  
senior in automotive tech.  
Anthony Marciano  
sophomore in communication

Chad McCubbin  
freshman in communication  
Alex Moore  
senior in psychology  
Marcus Nelson  
freshman in communication  
Aaron Plumley  
senior in electrical tech.  
Alyssa Roberts  
sweetheart  
Mike Skiles  
senior in management

Austin Trumpp  
senior in construction management  
Skannnd Tyagi  
senior in computer science  
Alex Valliant  
senior in communication  
William Chen Wang  
sophomore in management  
Trenton Williams  
senior in plastics engineering tech.



## Why did you join a fraternity?

“ I joined because I was an international student. I really didn't know anyone on campus. I asked around and everyone said that PIKE is the best fraternity, in terms of brotherhood and activities on campus. So I joined PIKE. ”

-Skannnd Tyagi  
senior in computer science

Senior Alex Moore, psychology, and Deron Lundgren, automotive technology, of Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity take the audience back to their childhood with their version of the "Reading Rainbow" theme song.



Mark Stieber  
*junior in construction management*  
 Alonzo Vail  
*undeclared freshman*  
 Hunter White  
*sophomore in recreation*  
 Blake Womack  
*sophomore in communication*



*photos by Brett Armbruster*

Members of Sigma Chi come together in a chorus line to the music of "Robin Hood: Men in Tights" during Greek Airband, a competition during Greek Week.



Clapping and hollering for the Sigma Chi Yell Like Hell performance, junior Blake Womack (left), communication, alumnus Dereck Glauser (center), and senior Aaron Livingston, business management, cheer on their dancing fraternity brothers on the football field in Carnie Smith Stadium.

**What do you hope to gain from being in a fraternity?**

“ What I hope to gain is to make lifelong friends and to obtain major leadership skills and to always have lifelong friends and to always fall back on something. It will give me a good base for the future. A good base to be a good person in the real world. ”

**-Ben Leinwetter**  
*freshman in marketing*

**Why did you join a fraternity?**

“ (There) wasn't really much to do and (there) wasn't really any campus activities that I was interested in. And I looked around at the other houses and I found one that I like. If you don't get involved here at PSU then you're just bored hanging out in the dorms all the time. I wanted to join something bigger than I am. ”

**-Hunter White**  
*sophomore in recreational management*

# Sigma Phi Epsilon

Ace  
mascot



Michael Admire  
sophomore in communication



Mitch Ayers  
freshman in plastics engineering tech.

Taylor Bailey  
sophomore in management

Zachary Baker  
junior in political science

Steven Barker  
senior in political science

Jordan Binyon  
freshman in management



Jamie Bradbury  
sweetheart

Seth Cable  
freshman in communication

Ian Clark  
freshman in construction engineering tech.

Jeff Clark  
sophomore in construction management

Orbus Conner  
freshman in mechanical engineering tech.

William Cribbs  
senior in psychology



Nicholas Cruz  
senior in plastics engineering tech.

Brett Currier  
soph. in manufacturing engineering tech.

Jordan Currier  
senior in wood technology

Phillip Daniels  
sophomore in management and accounting

Joey Donatelli  
senior in communication

Jacob Edwards  
freshman in biology



Josh Fields  
freshman in technology ed.

Jesse Gibson  
sophomore in finance

James Griffin  
freshman in electrical tech.

Keith Hughes  
freshman in economics

Josh Ingold  
senior in automotive tech.

Jeff Johnson  
junior in manufacturing engineering tech.



Alex Jones  
sophomore in management

Vincent Juliano  
senior in nursing and Spanish

Jonathan Kane  
senior in finance

Jarrod Kline  
freshman in construction management

Karl Launchbaugh  
senior in manufacturing engineering tech.

AJ Lee  
freshman in music



Josh Lopez  
freshman in civil pre-engineering

Gabriel Mader  
senior in communication

Brandon Mailand  
freshman in biology

Ryan McCullough  
freshman in economics

Wesley Moore  
junior in finance



**Justin Morgan**  
senior in manufacturing engineering tech.  
**Kenneth Nail**  
junior in accounting  
**Colby Neal**  
freshman in automotive tech.  
**Jake Oberlechner**  
sophomore in construction management  
**Justin Pfeifer**  
sophomore in construction management  
**David Pfortmiller**  
sophomore in technology ed.



**Tyler Pinneo**  
freshman in art  
**Eric Rex**  
freshman in political science  
**Donnie Sumple**  
sophomore in communication  
**Cory Tworkowsky**  
freshman in construction engineering tech.  
**Kipp Voth**  
senior in chemistry  
**Michael Wagner**  
senior in construction management



photos by Shalin Patel

Gathering outside their house, members of Sigma Phi Epsilon get together for a group picture March 6.

**What's the best part about being in a fraternity?**

“...The binding between you and your brothers. The atmosphere with 12 guys living in a house or 30 guys just hanging out.”

**-Michael Admire**  
sophomore in communication



**Brendan Wallace**  
sophomore in marketing  
**Thomas Winford**  
senior in automotive tech.

**How is being in a fraternity different than being a regular college student?**

“The amount of involvement you have. You have people pushing you to get involved in the house and on campus. You always have stuff going on, you're always busy. You're just forced to cram things in a small amount of time. It really helps you with time management.”

**-Phillip Daniels**  
sophomore in accounting



Several fraternity members enjoy the warm weather outside by playing a pickup game of football March 6.

# Sigma Tau Gamma

Edwin Baerga  
*junior in automotive tech.*  
Yousef Baitalmal  
*sophomore in information systems*  
Zach Barrett  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Bronson Barson  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Chris Brixey  
*sophomore in construction management*  
James Bruner  
*sophomore in psychology*



Paul Caesar  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Collin Chenoweth  
*sophomore in construction management*  
David Coady  
*senior in plastics and engineering tech.*  
Sean Collins  
*sophomore in history and government*  
Keith Daniels  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Brian Dolan  
*junior in management*



Justin Duffy  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Scott Eckelberry  
*sophomore in communications graphics*  
Joel Erickson  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Taylor Fawcett  
*sophomore in construction management*  
Isaac Fox  
*senior in history*  
Kristopher Funkhouser  
*senior in automotive service tech.*



William Gray  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Thomas Gregory  
*freshman in international business/Spanish*  
Ben Grise  
*senior in construction management*  
Donald Gruss  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Bret Heiser  
*sophomore in management*  
Andrew Henrich  
*freshman in wood tech.*



Jimmy Hopkins  
*freshman in construction management*  
Joseph Housel  
*senior in recreation*  
Eric Jones  
*junior in communication*  
Jenn Koelsch  
*sweetheart*  
Caleb Krier  
*freshman in construction management*  
Jessi Lane  
*junior in automotive tech.*



Matt Ledbetter  
*senior in construction management*  
Ryan Lundblom  
*junior in communication and graphics*  
Brice Magarity  
*senior in automotive tech.*  
Bryan McCoy  
*senior in auto tech.*  
Joe Mitchell  
*sophomore in auto service tech.*  
Garrett Moyer  
*freshman in construction management*







R. Scott Norman  
graduate in career and technical ed.  
Tyler Pengelly  
senior in automotive tech.  
Anson Pruneda  
sophomore in art  
Trent Rathgeber  
sophomore in automotive tech.  
Adam Reams  
sophomore in mechanical engineering tech.  
Justin Reilly  
sophomore in recreation



Robert Susnik  
adviser  
Matt Toney  
senior in automotive tech.  
Seth Van Winkle  
senior in automotive tech.  
Michael Venegoni  
sophomore in automotive service tech.  
Matt Watson  
senior in automotive tech.  
Jared Wetzel  
freshman in communication



Jeremiah Zane  
senior in automotive tech.

Members of the fraternity take advantage of a spring day and grill hotdogs and hamburgers.



photos by Brett Armbruster  
The Sigma Taus pose in front of their renovated house on March 4. The house received several additions this year including new washers and dryers, a 52-inch LCD television and a customised shuffleboard.



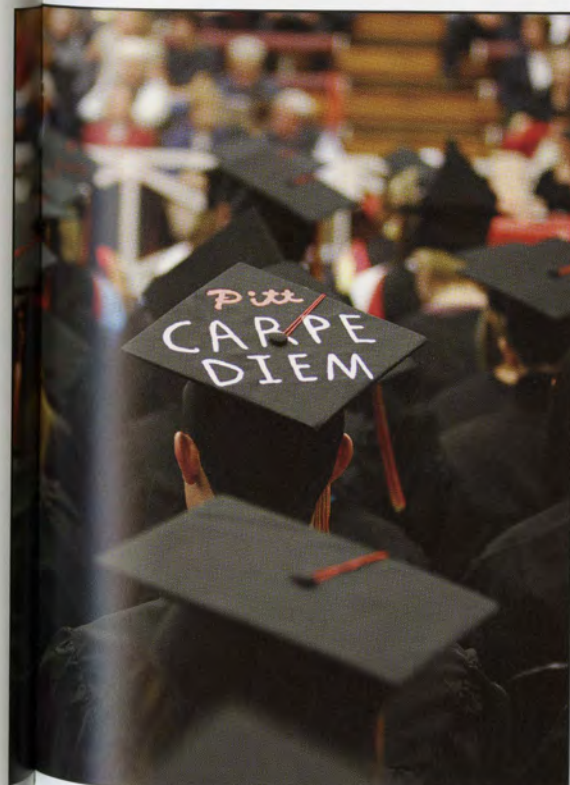
photo by Brett Armbruster  
After her name is called, Morgan Croan, graduate in psychology, accepts her diploma and shakes President Tom Bryant's hand during fall commencement held in John Lance Arena in the Weede, Friday, Dec. 19.

photo by Carla Wehmeyer  
Looking forward, Kishanchandra Golla, graduate student in engineering technology, watches and listens to the commencement ceremony. Golla was one of 181 graduate students to receive his degree.



# Moving forward

More than 615 students received degrees at fall commencement, Friday, Dec. 19. Of those graduating, 434 were undergraduates and 181 were graduate students. Sutipong Ittipong, Lt. Gen. Duane David Thiessen and Gary Heine each received the Meritorious Achievement Award.



# Moving forward

More than 615 students received degrees at fall commencement, Friday, Dec. 19. Of those graduating, 434 were undergraduates and 181 were graduate students. Sutipong Ittipong, Lt. Gen. Duane David Thiessen and Gary Heine each received the Meritorious Achievement Award.



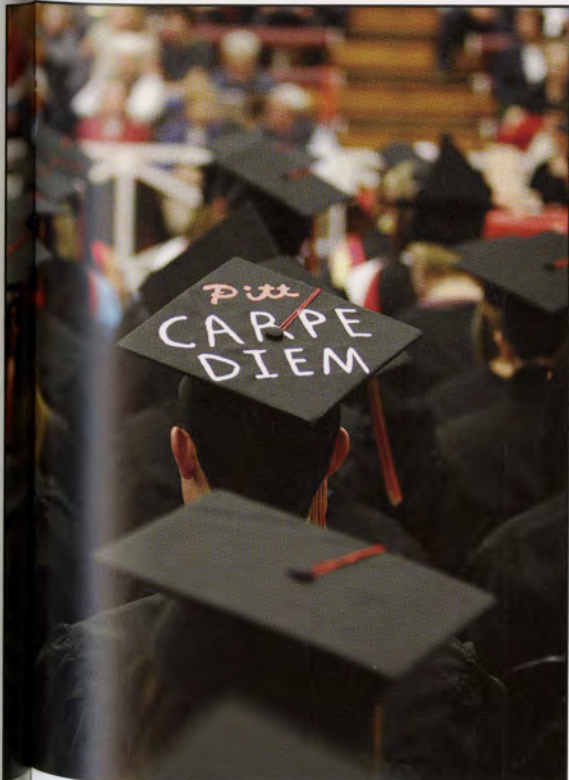
photo by Brett Armbruster

Standing out from her neighbors with a split face on her cap, graduate Trisha Lashley, general psychology, reads her program as speakers address the student body and friends and family gathered at fall commencement.



photos by Brett Armbruster

**Middle:** When the graduates sit down during commencement, the audience can see that some have written messages on top of their caps. The messages range from thanking mom and dad to this expression which means 'Sieve the Day.' **Left:** Todd Hastings, music professor, plays the trumpet during the commencement ceremony.



# Celebrating the *moment*

**A**bout 1,100 students gathered in the Weede to walk during the 105th spring commencement exercises on Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16.

It seemed as though President Tom Bryant got a little emotional at his last graduation ceremony. He says he felt a special connection with the class of 2009 because it's as if they were moving on together.

But he then went on to lighten the mood by telling graduates not to worry if they took an extra year or two to



photo by Shalin Patel

To remember the day, two graduates get their picture taken at the ceremony.

finish because it took him even longer to leave Pitt State. As a thank you to Bryant,

the attendees gave him a standing ovation at each of the ceremonies.

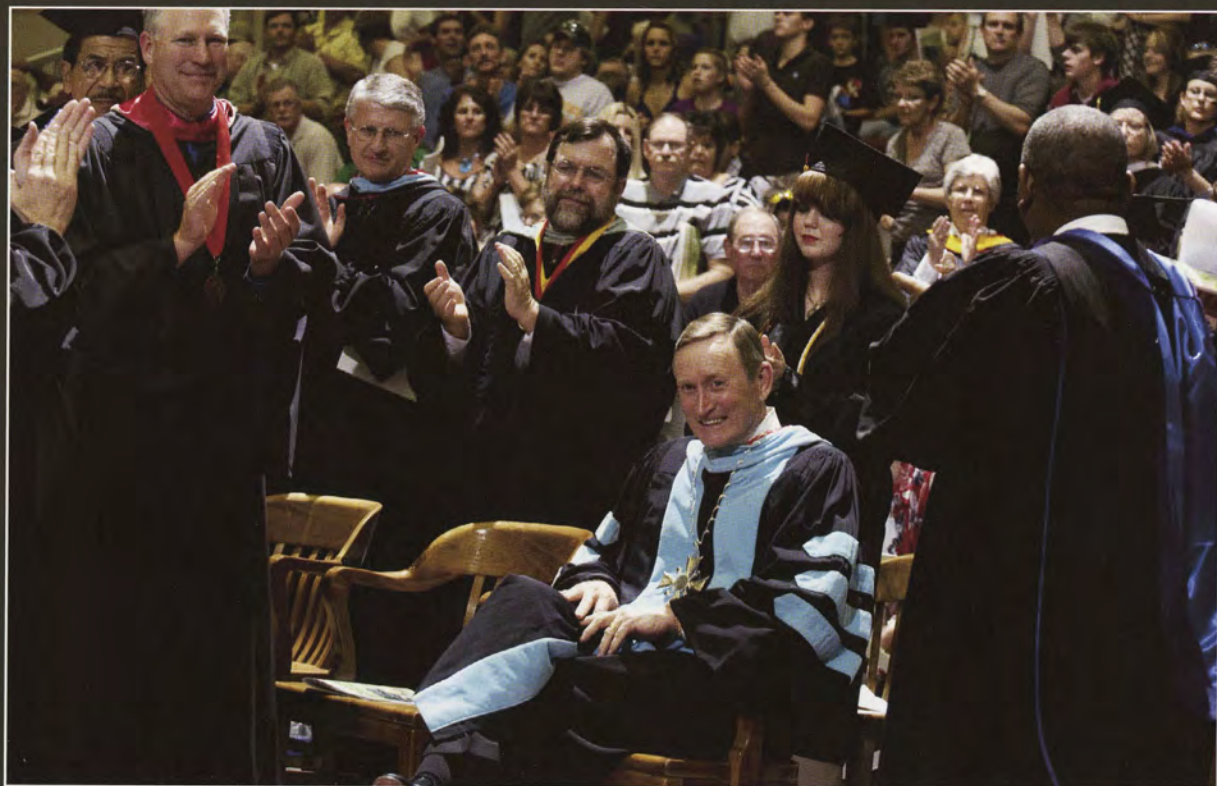


photo by Carla Wehmeyer

Feeling overwhelmed by the praise, Tom Bryant sits in his chair while he's given a standing ovation for his service to PSU and to his last graduation ceremony.



photo by Carla Wehmeyer

Mark Peterson, assistant professor in the Social Science Department, leans in to give Jazmin Ramirez, senior in political science and international studies, a hug.

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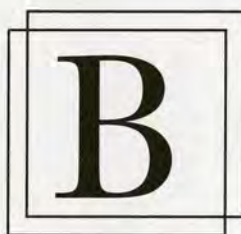


Natalie Lopez, Paresa Tafreshi, April Wiland and Bryan Payne pose with crazy props as part of Kanza Yourself on Wednesday, Sept. 10. Kanza Yourself is a photo shoot set up in the Oval and it's an opportunity for students, who may not have been interviewed for a story or had their portrait taken, to be in the yearbook.



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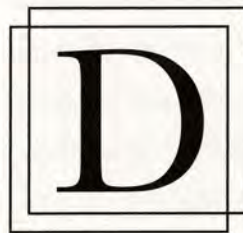
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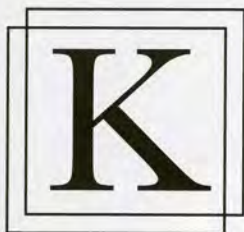


Mallory Wimsatt and Kylie Angleton



Matt Newbanks

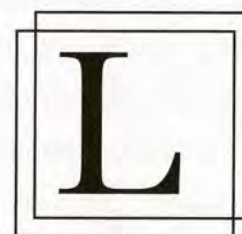
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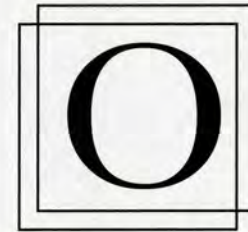
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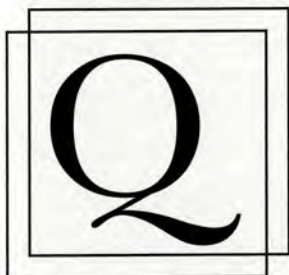


Tiffany Martin and Matt Knoche

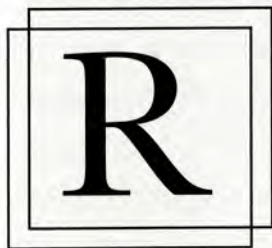
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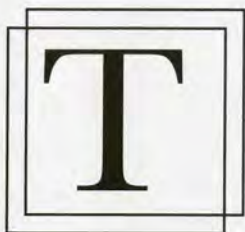
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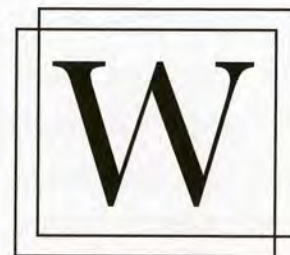
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## Dessert, anyone?



photo by Aaron Anders

Karen Allison, senior in psychology, was pied Monday, April 20, when students got the opportunity to pie their resident assistant.

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## Dessert, anyone?



photo by Aaron Anders

Karen Allison, senior in psychology, was pied Monday, April 20, when students got the opportunity to pie their resident assistant.

# Icy kiss



*photo by Cayla Thomlinson*

Amanda Garcia, Intensive English Program, kisses a tiny snowman Wednesday in the center of campus after a winter storm. Garcia and her friends from Paraguay said they were excited about the snow as they laughed and took pictures with the little snowman they found beside the bronze gori la.



Front row: Taryn Jones, Mandy Toepfer, Brett Armbruster, Cayla Thomlinson, Hadyn Barnes. Back row: Ty Cox, Shalin Patel.

The 2009 Kanza, Volume 100, was printed by Walsworth Publishing Company, 306 N. Kansas Ave., Marceline, Mo. 64658. The 240 pages were submitted electronically by Adobe PDF files. Walsworth printed, bound 700 yearbooks and sent each book to the students' permanent addresses. The Kanza is also sold for \$35 and distributed throughout the year.

The pages were created by the staff using Adobe Creative Suite 3 software on Macintosh computers, running Mac OS X software. Variations of font families were used throughout the book. Baskerville was used for headlines. Optima was used for section pages, copy for portrait and Greek composite pages, deckheads and text on the cover. Gill Sans (TI) was used for cutlines and photo credits. Minion Pro was used for copy. Thorton Studios in New York City took the individual student portraits, while the other photos and Kanza Yourself were taken by the Kanza staff.

The cover has a leather grain on rich, matte, jet black material. Half of the split face was mirrored for symmetry. The split face and text was embossed, while the box around the cover is debossed. A silver overtone is over the contents of the cover.

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Randy Roberts  
for help on the Anniversary section

# Kanza Staff 2009

What was your favorite memory from this year?

**Editor-in-Chief** Mandy Toepfer

I loved everyone just being together. I loved that we collaborated, that we joked and laughed with each other and pulled off a book together. I couldn't ask for a better team than that.

My favorite was when Mandy and I were sitting in reporting and I got a text saying there was a bomb threat, so I just left. Then we stood out in the cold for like four hours, all for nothing.

**Adviser** Gerard Attoun

**Business Manager** Amy Bowyer

**Photo Editor** Brett Armbruster

## Designers

Zach Anderson  
Ty Cox

## Photographers

Salman Alkhulif  
Aaron Anders  
Sunny Kim  
Jennifer Nichols  
Katie Swatek  
Shalin Patel  
Cayla Thomlinson

My favorite moment is when I applied as a photographer, which is my life's first job application, and the second day I got a call from the office saying I was selected to work at the Kanza/Collegio as a photographer.

Mine too...the cake night was so much fun. I think the best meeting was when my small group class members were observing us for the first time. I was like someone removed all of our brains that Friday and we were all completely off subject and loud, but it was a lot of fun!

## Writers

Kelsie Collins  
Marissa Copas  
Sara Faught  
Kathleen Groves  
Taryn Jones  
Sheikh Murad Kalal  
Josh Letner  
Lisa Norris  
Krystal Pakitsos  
Victoria Robinson  
Curtis Thom

My favorite Kanza memory was when we all got together for the 100th anniversary and we took the photo with the cake.

I'm going to have to go with the 100th anniversary! I know people already said that, but somehow you just can't top 100 burning candles in a cake. However, I also enjoyed our trip to Hutch! It was the first time I really felt part of the staff and it was nice getting to know everyone!

## Webmaster

Hadyn Barnes

The cake for the 100th anniversary was pretty awesome! Especially when it melted into a gooey mix of wax and frosting...and we ate it anyway!



Front row: Taryn Jones, Mandy Toepfer, Brett Armbruster, Cayla Thomlinson, Hadyn Barnes. Back row: Ty Cox, Shalin Patel.

The 2009 Kanza, Volume 100, was printed by Walsworth Publishing Company, 306 N. Kansas Ave., Marceline, Mo. 64658. The 240 pages were submitted electronically by Adobe PDF files. Walsworth printed, bound 700 yearbooks and sent each book to the students' permanent addresses. The Kanza is also sold for \$35 and distributed throughout the year.

The pages were created by the staff using Adobe Creative Suite 3 software on Macintosh computers, running Mac OS X software. Variations of font families were used throughout the book. Baskerville was used for headlines. Optima was used for section pages, copy for portrait and Greek composite pages, deckheads and text on the cover. Gill Sans (TI) was used for cutlines and photo credits. Minion Pro was used for copy. Thorton Studios in New York City took the individual student portraits, while the other photos and Kanza Yourself were taken by the Kanza staff.

The cover has a leather grain on rich, matte, jet black material. Half of the split face was mirrored for symmetry. The split face and text was embossed, while the box around the cover is debossed. A silver overtone is over the contents of the cover.

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Special thanks to  
Carla Wehmeyer & Malcolm Turner  
for getting the photos we couldn't get

and to

Randy Roberts  
for help on the Anniversary section



*photo by Salman Alkhulif*

Grace Plume, junior in psychology, and Erin Richmond, sophomore in biology, display their dresses during the Ali Kemp Educational Foundation Benefit Fashion Show on Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium.



*photo by Salman Alkhulif*

Ash Sahni, senior in accounting, hosts the Price is Right show where students played to win prizes in the Dellinger Underground on Wednesday, March 25.





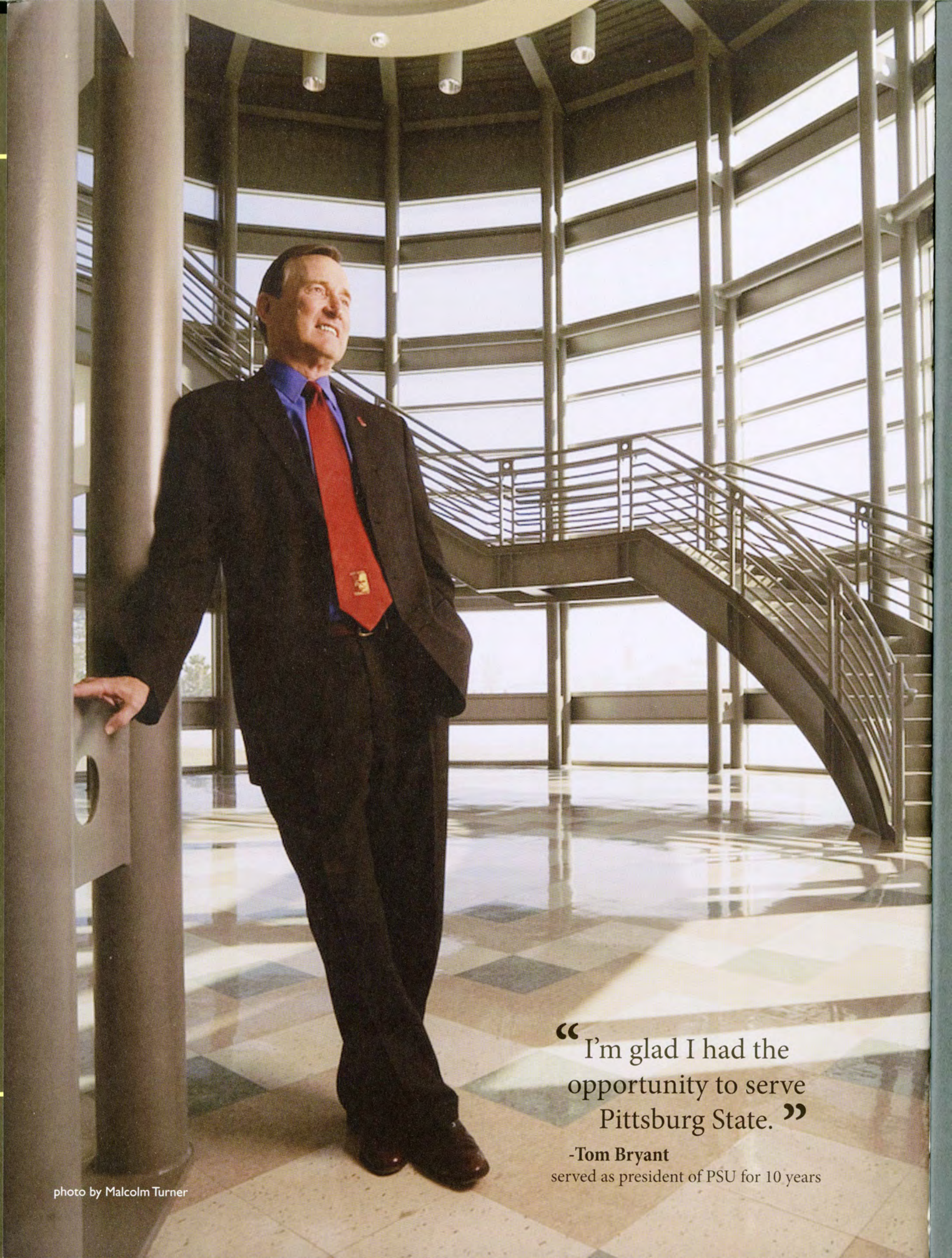
*photo by Salman Alkhulif*

Ash Sahni, senior in accounting, hosts the Price is Right show where students played to win prizes in the Dellinger Underground on Wednesday, March 25.



*photo by Cayla Thomlinson*

Jonathan Clay performs in the University Club Wednesday, Feb. 18. The Student Activities Council scheduled the performance for 7 p.m, but Clay arrived in Pittsburg, Mo., instead of Pittsburg, Kan. As a result, around 30 students had to wait about an hour before the concert began. The unsigned artist, who has an acoustic, indie-folk rock sound, has had songs featured on The Hills, The Real World and Newport Harbor.



“ I’m glad I had the opportunity to serve Pittsburg State. ”

-Tom Bryant  
served as president of PSU for 10 years

