

The Resource

Fall 2008



**The University of Missouri
The School of Natural Resources**

from the Director

In recent weeks the economy has been front and center for most of us. I hear lots of talk about wise investing to yield positive, and safe, returns in the future. Well, I've got a great investment for everyone! Higher Education. There is no safer, more effective investment for society and for individuals. Take the School of Natural Resources, for example. Faculty from SNR, through research and outreach, contribute to: better water quality; improved weather forecasting; safer parks, increased food production (from fish to nuts), enhanced economic development (from bioenergy to tourism), fewer wildlife-human conflicts...the list could go on for pages. Oh, and yeah, let's not forget the education of the next generation of professional natural resource managers and scientists (and well-educated citizens). Faculty in the school, leverage state funds on about a ~4.5:1 ratio (i.e., for every dollar of state support to SNR, our faculty generate about \$4.50 in funding from other sources). Most of us would take that kind of return on investment in a heartbeat! Those funds provide jobs, pay for goods and services, and help the state economy – even before the intellectual returns start to roll in.



Those economic investment returns generated by the School are real. But, as a professional educator, I am convinced that the greatest payoff comes through the education of people. The combination of state and individual investments (e.g., tuition) results in better quality, more productive lives for our graduates and, in turn, a better world for everyone. I talk to students all the time about investing in themselves, beyond just tuition, by investing their time and energy on their academic lives so that they achieve their dreams. Dreams of professional careers that contribute to the happiness and well-being of people and the sustainability of the planet we live on. What greater return on an investment than a fulfilling, meaningful, and enjoyable life that makes the lives of others better?

We, the staff, faculty and students of SNR are proud of our contributions to a better

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In this Issue...

The Resource

Fall 2008

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The Resource

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On the Cover...



Graduate students and faculty from the Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department paddle down the Missouri River near Rocheport in this photo, snapped by Dr. David Vaught department co-chair

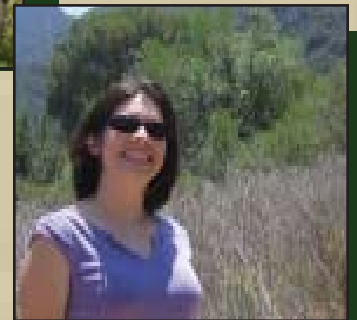
and internship coordinator.

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From our house to yours...we send you greetings of the fall season and upcoming holidays. We hope you enjoy the news we bring you each year and appreciate your continued support of our programs. Christine is now a Graduate Student in Parks, Recreation and Tourism so you will continue to see her excellent writing and editing skills for a few more years. Thanks, Christine! To all our readers, happy holidays and stay in touch!

Anita

from the Academic Programs Office

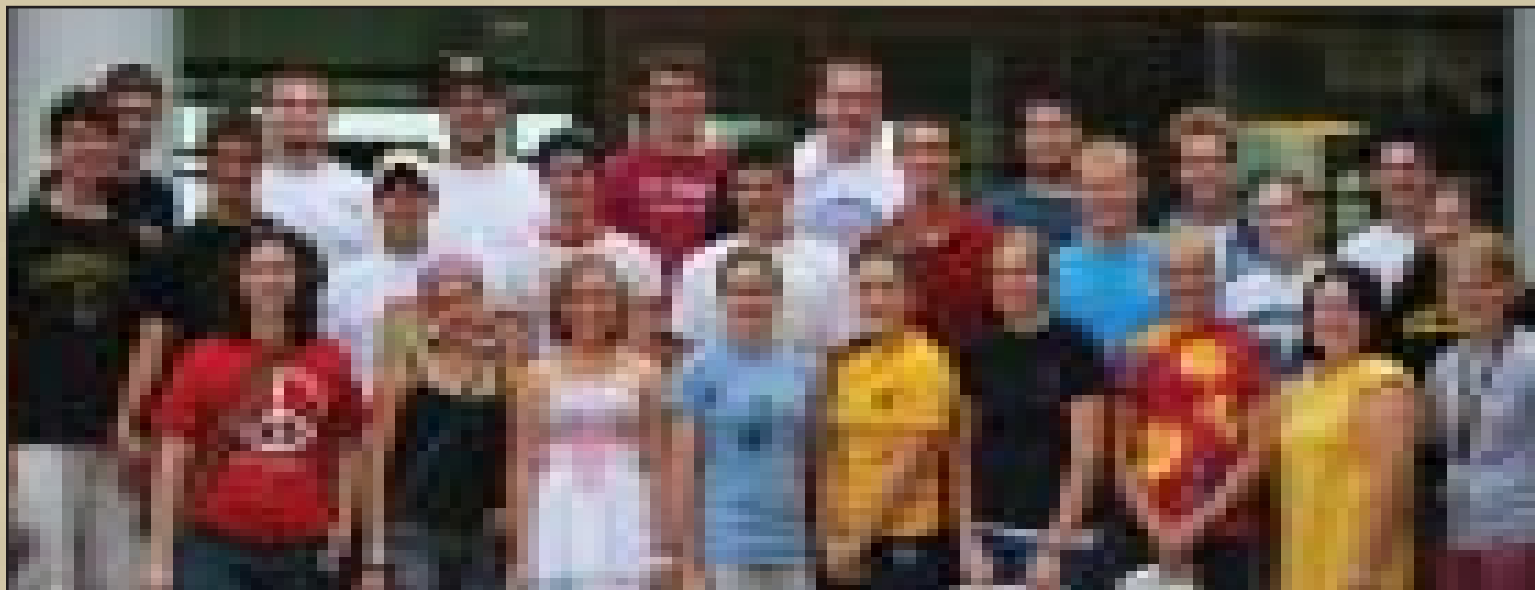


Bruce Cutter
CutterB@missouri.edu
Associate Director of
Academic Programs
University of Missouri

This fall we have over 460 undergraduate students in the School and nearly 90 graduate students. The Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences department has the largest undergraduate enrollment, followed by SEAS, then PRT, and finally, Forestry. If you wonder why we do not provide exact numbers, they change every day as students transfer in and out!

Earlier this year, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education approved the offering of the Master's in Natural Resources degree. This 30-credit, non-thesis graduate program was developed for the continuing education of mid-career professionals who want to acquire expertise in the latest developments in the natural resources and related disciplines. We have had one student complete their degree and a second should be finishing soon.

Continued on facing page...



School of Natural Resources faculty and staff gathered to welcome the freshman class of 2008 for the SNR New Student Breakfast in late August. The Office of Academic Programs sponsored the breakfast.

After many years in the dark (e.g. the Wood Tech lab in the old Ag Building), the large cross-section of bur oak from Big Oak Tree State Park (25 miles south of Charleston, MO) has been placed in the light for everyone else to see. The section is about 5 feet in diameter and came from a champion bur oak that had died in 1952 in the park. The section of the tree that we have was cut from several feet up the tree (the tree had a circumference at breast height of 21 feet and 4 inches or a diameter of nearly 6' 10") and dates to 1649! Personnel from the Missouri Tree-Ring Lab sanded and polished the cross-section and placed important dates on the section. The section now is displayed proudly in the ABNR lobby for everyone to see and is attracting a lot of attention.

We have also placed a flat-panel TV screen in the lobby where we are showing information and programs about the School and our students. This show is updated regularly by personnel in the Academic Programs Office with information about the programs and activities in the School.

MU places a lot of emphasis on the research accomplishments of the faculty. Many of the colleges and schools are starting to advertise the teaching expertise that their faculty have. We have placed a display outside the Academic Programs Office listing the international, national, system, campus and college teaching awards our faculty have won. We are very proud of our faculty and staff!

-Bruce



Dr. Bruce Cutter showcases the new display in the lobby of the Anheuser Busch Natural Resources Building.

School of Natural Resources

Undergraduate Enrollment 2008-2009

Parks, Recreation & Tourism	96
Soil, Environmental & Atmospheric Sciences	135
Forestry	58
Fisheries & Wildlife	176

Graduate Enrollment 2008-2009

Parks, Recreation & Tourism	12
Soil, Environmental & Atmospheric Sciences	29
Forestry	25
Fisheries & Wildlife	41

SEAS is the fastest growing undergraduate department, increasing by nearly 50 percent in the last year!

Student Success



Wisdom has taken advantage of many opportunities during his undergraduate experience, participating in both research projects and student organizations.



Josh Wisdom attributes his success to “just showing up.”

As the 2008 School of Natural Resources Student Council President, Wisdom has earned plenty of responsibility for his participation in campus organizations, volunteer programs and natural resource management agencies.

His involvement began in the student chapter of The Wildlife Society. “It was something to do,” Wisdom said. “I just started showing up.”

TWS served as a springboard, earning Wisdom a seat on the SNR Student Council during his first year at the University of Missouri. He served as TWS chapter president in 2006-2007, before filling the president’s role in the Student Council for 2008.

“TWS has definitely been the big thing that got me into stuff and kept me busy,” Wisdom said. “It seemed like I fit in better with people in the School of Natural Resources than a lot of the people I went to high school with.”

Wisdom’s decision to leave his hometown of Sikeston, Mo. to study fisheries and wildlife management at MU was heavily influenced by his older brother, Jered.

“I came to MU because [Jered] went to MU,” Wisdom said. “I saw how cool the things were that he was doing, and I wanted to do them, too.”

Wisdom followed his older brother’s footsteps to MU, then into the TWS chapter presidency.

“My brother was TWS president, too,” he said. “My brother’s done everything I’ve done first, but second place has worked out alright for me. I don’t really feel like I have big shoes to fill or anything.”

A willingness to work hard and a humble attitude were some of the first things **Laura Hertel** noticed about the younger Wisdom brother. Hertel advises the SNR Ambassadors group, of which Josh Wisdom is a second-year member.

Wisdom's responsibilities as an ambassador for the School of Natural Resources include working with prospective and new students, as well as alumni.

"He's so helpful," Hertel said.

At the Welcome Back Barbeque he volunteered to grill the whole time, and during the New Student Breakfast, Wisdom chatted with freshmen and faculty about both his experiences and the opportunities available to SNR students.

"He does a great job with the students," Hertel said.

Wisdom also followed his older brother's footsteps to work for the Missouri Department of Conservation. He currently works on wildlife habitat management projects in the Loutre Valley District, of east-central Missouri.

However, his job experience is not limited to MDC. Wisdom has worked for the US Forest Service and the US Department of Agriculture. He has also contributed to two campus-based research projects; studying raccoons for a fisheries and wildlife graduate student, and salamanders in his own undergraduate research experience.

Job experience has taught Wisdom a few things about his career options, too. "You can get paid for doing things that you'd do for free," he said. "The career field for natural resources is much broader than people give it credit for – you don't have to have a job you don't like."

Wisdom also credits his leadership roles in TWS and the Student Council with preparing him for a career in natural resources. The groups have helped him learn about working with people that have very different interests and backgrounds, as well as understanding everything that goes into planning events, he said.

"It lets you realize how difficult it can be to manage people," he said. "It doesn't make me want to be in upper management, but it doesn't make me afraid of it either."

Given the option, Wisdom would like to translate his more than 100 volunteer hours in the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service into a full-time position.

He has a strong interest in wildlife damage management, and experience with both feral hogs and geese, he said. "One opportunity in Missouri would be keeping wildlife off the runways at airports."

"That's the kind of stuff that I'd do for free, but that some people actually get paid to do."

Researching hellbenders for his undergraduate research project taught Wisdom just how much he enjoys field work, he said.



Getting into Research

Students, like Wisdom, with an interest in research, may become McNair Scholars through the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. The program provides a stipend, as well as mentorship for juniors and seniors that are considering going on to graduate school.

While Wisdom is working on a degree in the School of Natural Resources, his undergraduate research experience was based in a different department on campus, biological sciences.

For more information on the McNair Scholars Program, contact the program office at:

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University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211
(573)882-1962**

Students Going Places

Natural Resources Freshman Interest Group

Students enjoyed a beautiful afternoon at the research farm.



Students in freshman interest groups live together in the same residence hall on campus, and attend many of the same classes. However, those students in the natural resources-focused FIG have the added benefit of field trips sponsored by the School of Natural Resources.

On one October afternoon, **Dr. Michael Gold**, a faculty member in the Forestry Department, took the FIG to the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center in New Franklin, Mo. At the Center, they learned a lot about what goes on as far as what grows on the land and studies done, said **Brian A. Mallioux**, peer advisor for the group.

Students learned about chestnuts, mushrooms and many different methods of managing land.

Fourteen students, 13 in Natural Resources FIG and one guest, made the trip to HARC with Gold. After returning to Columbia, Gold treated the FIG to Shakespeare's Pizza.

Gold also serves as a co-facilitator for the group. He participates in a weekly class led by Mallioux, and makes himself available to mentor students as needed. Students in the group represent all majors in the School of Natural Resources, as well as many from the larger College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and from the larger University community. Students must only have an interest in natural resources to participate.

The group also visited Devil's Icebox Cave in Rock Bridge State Park this fall, and has been active within Gillett residence hall, where they represent the third floor.

While at the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, students had a chance to socialize and explore at their own pace.

Were you in the Natural Resources Freshman Interest Group? We'd love to hear about your experiences in the FIG, and after graduation! Contact us at SNRNEWS@missouri.edu



A Revolutionary Challenge

Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department student Katie Stanley served as the National Society for Children of the American Revolution 2007-2008 President.



Most undergraduate students would balk at the assignment to write a 200-page paper. With wide eyes they might shake their heads slowly, rereading the offending syllabus or email. Even in the highest levels of undergraduate studies, few students pen 50,000 words on a single topic. Even fewer want to try.

Katie Stanley volunteered for the job.

Stanley is a senior in the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Missouri, as well as the national president of the National Society of the Children of the American Revolution.

Her position with NSCAR included the responsibility of producing the 200-page national convention agenda. She also sharpened her communication skills as she spoke with more than 10,000 people through her involvement in the Children of the American Revolution.

As the national president, Stanley represented more than 10,000 members of the largest and oldest patriotic youth organization in America.

“It’s really about leadership and training the leaders of the future,” she said. “You see 10 year olds getting up to the microphone in front of 500 people and speaking eloquently.”

Stanley was one of those young people that stepped up to the microphone. She joined the organization when she was nine years old, and gained friendship and a sense of responsibility during community service and education events.

During her freshman year of high school, she served as the Missouri state president for NSCAR.

The national theme for her year of leadership, 2007-2008, was “Leading the American Adventure.” As the face of the organization, Stanley played a large role in the fundraising campaign for the Yorktown National Battlefield, as well. NSCAR is working to endow a web developer position, making the battlefields and their history more accessible and interactive.

During her national presidency, she also met with Laura Bush and French dignitaries. One of her sessions during the national convention even attracted international attention, catching the eye of the French Ambassador to the U.S.

Stanley’s additional responsibilities included attending state conventions most weekends between January and April, participating in wreath layings at historic sites and preparing for a new museum exhibit in Washington D.C.

The ability to juggle many

responsibilities and a complicated schedule will serve Stanley well as she completes her bachelor of science degree in parks, recreation and tourism. A love of travel and exploring drew her to the program and she knows where she’d like to go in the future.

“Right now I’m hoping to go into event planning,” she said. “Someday I would like to have my own consulting company.”

Stanley is a 2004 graduate of Hickman High School in Columbia, Mo.



Parks, Recreation & Tourism News

by **Curt Wohleber**
Senior Information Specialist
University of Missouri Extension

Walking on the boardwalk
on Moniteau Creek at Diana
Bend.

Graduate student
Bryan Danford,
leading the bike
trip, stops where
flood waters cover
the Katy Trail.



MU researchers help high school teachers make Missouri River history come alive

Students at Frederick Douglass High School in Columbia are learning about the Missouri River and its history through a series of field trips and activities developed by their teachers in collaboration with researchers from the University of Missouri School of Natural Resources.

Funded by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Corps of Discovery project enhances classroom learning in cultural and environmental studies through field trips, service-learning projects and interactions with conservation and wildlife professionals. Most of the activities take place at the Overton Bottoms, a unit of the Big Muddy National Wildlife Refuge, which is operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

“We want students to learn more about the social, cultural, and environmental history of the Missouri River; improve their awareness, understanding and appreciation of the Big Muddy; and help them explore some career opportunities in natural resource management,” said **Mark Morgan**, associate professor in MU’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. “We feel that active involvement would be a better way to learn this information, as compared with using a traditional classroom approach.”

Big Muddy NWR occupies 10,000 acres in eight sites along the Missouri River floodplain. While rich in history and endowed with a diversity of plant and animal life, the refuge remains little-known.

“Although the refuge is charged with a responsibility to provide outdoor recreation and environmental education, it has limited staff and financial resources,” Morgan said. “Bringing students to the refuge is a benefit to the students and the Fish and Wildlife Service.”

Douglass High School, an alternative public school with fewer than 200 students, provides a non-traditional curriculum tailored to at-risk students.

“Due to barriers and constraints, some disadvantaged students, especially minorities, have fewer opportunities for field trips than those attending other high schools in Columbia,” Morgan said. “We wanted to make sure that these students received the same opportunities as others in the district.”

Graduate student **Bryan Danford** worked with Morgan and **Charlie Nilon**, an MU fisheries and wildlife professor, to



develop a curriculum model for two courses, environmental studies and cultural studies. Teachers **Angela Waller** and **John Reid** built on this work, incorporating their own knowledge and experience as teachers and nature enthusiasts in the design of their courses. Waller’s cultural studies class covers Missouri River history through such topics as the Lewis and Clark expedition and American Indians of mid-

Missouri, while Reid’s course on environmental studies uses the Missouri River and Overland Bottoms to explore subjects such as water and nutrient cycles, plant and animal habitats, pollution, recycling and the role of fires and floods in ecological succession.

Through the field trips and service-learning projects, students gain firsthand experience with many of the concepts discussed in the classroom. For example, a trip to the Diana Bend Conservation Area, across the river from Overland Bot-



toms, provided students an opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark, see an Indian burial mound and taste native edible plants (for those who dared). **Brian Flowers**, outdoor skills specialist for the Missouri Department of Conservation, discussed how ancient

glaciers shaped the local geology, while students could see for themselves how recent rainfall had flooded stretches of the Katy Trail.

Activities during the fall semester included planting native grasses to replace invasive plant species at Overland Bottoms and studying water quality by testing samples for nutrients, pH and turbidity.

“This project has given our students real-world experiences that we can build on in the classroom,” said Waller, who teaches the cultural studies course. “We aren’t just offering notes or pictures from a projector. They have memories and experiences to help them connect and process new information.”

Graduate Student Experience by Bryan Danford

This past March, I was contacted by Mark Morgan about a USFWS project that dealt with Douglas High School. It was perfect timing for me because I wanted to come back to school to obtain my master’s degree and this project was a perfect fit for me. I obtained a BS in Wildlife Biology at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama in the spring of 2005. During this period of time I moved around the United States and worked for a number of different companies. My latest adventure was working for the USFWS out in Grand Junction, Colorado doing endangered fish population surveys.

I arrived in Columbia this past May and didn’t really have any expectations and didn’t quite know what to expect. Over the summer I worked with the teachers to come up with the curriculum and implemented it this fall. The classes seem to be going very well and is flowing smoother than I thought. As for the field trips, the students seem to be very responsive to them and are doing more than I ever could have hoped for. This is a great group of students and I hope that I can positively affect each and every one of them.

Reid, who teaches environmental studies, said the project has more than just academic benefits. “This is building self-confidence in students by challenging them to push beyond their comfort zones,” he said. “It’s also giving them the opportunity to enjoy healthy outdoor activities that I hope will continue throughout their lives.”

Fisheries & Wildlife News

Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Society Organization Spotlight

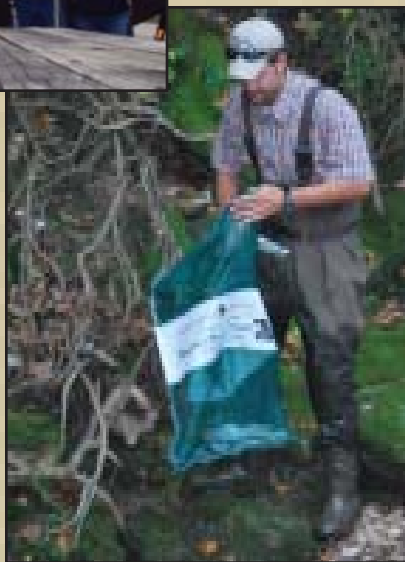
The student chapter of the Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Society is one of the more active organizations in the School of Natural Resources. In addition to their frequent college-wide lunchtime fish fries, twice-a-semester fishing trips and participation in professional conferences, the group volunteers with the Missouri Department of Conservation Stream Team program. During the first of two fall visits to their adopted stream, the Flat Branch Creek in Columbia, Mo., the group hauled 12 bags of trash from the bed and banks at the Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT) trailhead area. Fifteen students helped remove the trash, which included unopened cans, socks and an automobile oil pan.



The F.A.S.S. Stream Team after a September visit to their adopted area.



Club members participate in fishing trips every fall and spring.



F.A.S.S. members at MU have been participating in the Stream Team Program since the mid 1990s, said chapter president **Tony Overmann**.

There are nearly 30 members in the club this year. Most students major in fisheries and wildlife sciences, but all SNR areas are represented in the organization.

Club members are also getting practical experience they can draw from when applying for internships and full-time positions, said Tony Overmann, club president. "We're implementing a management plan for a private landowner for the experience."

The group is working with a pond and the surrounding pasture, as well as learning about crayfish through the management plan experience. Many of the members can apply this practical experience in their coursework, too. Almost all F.A.S.S. members will take the natural resources practicum course, for juniors and seniors in the School, which requires students to create their own management plans for an area.

Chapter President, Tony Overmann, cleans Flat Branch Creek with the help of other club members.

Smart Collection Update

The School of Natural Resources' Anheuser Busch Building is home to a group of birds more than 45 years old.

The 287 preserved specimens in the **Glen Smart** Waterfowl and Upland Game Bird collection represent 238 different species. Native species from all continents except Antarctica are included.

Updates for the collection began in the summer of 2007, with a new case for a portion of the birds, funded by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Bass Pro Shops.

"We have such a great collection, and the cases should be equally as nice," said **Dr. Walter Wehtje**, curator for the Glen Smart Collection. The new cases also created an opportunity for interactive learning for students and visitors.

Touch-screen technology allows people to interact with and learn from the display, Wehtje said. A monitor beside the new case provides photos and history for each specimen.

A second monitor has recently been purchased, programmed and placed in the hallway for use, as well.

The new cases are also better for the preserved mounts, he said. "There is better protection. They are better sealed, lighted and the lights have UV filters to prevent the mounts from fading."

Seven additional cases and screens are planned to house the entire collection, but that expansion is dependant on further funding, Wehtje said. The current grant does not provide for the entire project.



Bringing technology to the Smart collection should make the information more accessible to students of all ages.

Park Break! Fellowship for Pope

Brandon Pope plans to use his graduate studies toward a career in animal husbandry or education at a Zoological garden.



Pope is a master's degree candidate in the fisheries and wildlife program within the School of Natural Resources. He expects to complete his degree in the fall of 2009. The University of Missouri graduate student is also a 2008 Park Break! fellowship recipient.

The Park Break! program is established at four national parks and covers a variety of topics with participants from the collegiate and professional levels. Pope worked on a discussion about the Wildlife-Urban interface at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore .

"Basically, the complexity involved with the interactions of urban inhabitants and their relationships with the natural world," he said, describing the interface. "Considering the large human dimensions aspect of my (graduate) research, it is of particular interest to me."

Pope's graduate research uses the 4-H programs Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program as a model to educate elementary school-aged children about wildlife and outdoor experiences. He hopes to determine if an education program can develop enthusiasm for the outdoors in inner-city children.

The 2008 Park Break! program accepted 29 graduate students and professionals. Pope was one of eight at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. He worked with students from the University of Florida, Michigan Tech University and the University of Vermont.

Pope's academic advisor, **Charlie Nilon**, directed him to the online application for the Park Break! program.

Soil, Environmental and Atmospheric Science News



Undergraduate students get hands-on experience launching balloons from the weather station on the University of Missouri South Farm. Students practice every step of the launch process, from determining wind direction and speed to filling the balloon and recording data. From left: Christopher Brame, sophomore; Dr. Patrick Market; Adam Wettlaufer, sophomore; and Josh Kastman, sophomore.

Students in the atmospheric science program will have the opportunity to fine-tune their forecasting and measurement skills this winter through a research partnership between MU faculty and researchers at the University of Illinois.

The research project, which will include forecasting and following winter storms that produce large amounts of snow, requires the use of an upper-atmosphere data gathering system, said Dr. Patrick Market, the corresponding faculty member at MU. Researchers will collect data on air movement and precipitation before, during and after the storms.

However, the University of Illinois team was unable to secure a similar system, which uses balloons to transport sensors to high elevations, for use during their project.

After a delayed equipment request to the National Center for Atmospheric Research, University of Illinois faculty member Dr. Bob Rauber contacted Market.

“We have the system,” Market said. “It was purchased in September of this year for educational purposes, but it can be used for research, too.”

The system made its debut launch during the annual South Farm Showcase event, sponsored



After a successful launch, the balloon sails upward, trailed by the radiosonde and its orange parachute. The radiosonde contains many sensors, as well as a transmitter, and allows researchers to have real-time data following a launch.

by the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Then, on October 10, Market and Dr. Anthony Lupo, department chair, worked with five undergraduate students to do practice launches of the weather balloons from the University weather station in Columbia, Mo.

Those launches were the first test-runs for the project with the University of Illinois, which will require several students, with guidance from Market, to launch balloons every 90 minutes for 24 hours.

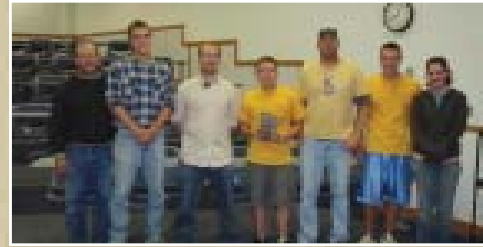
The team will travel throughout the Midwest following those storms likely to produce the most snow between January 15 and February 21, 2009. The group won't know their destination until they complete forecasts for the area.

"In this project, if it comes down as rain, we don't care so much," Market said. "Because we're working with snow and winter storms, if we're under rain, it means that our forecasting was flawed."

Market expects the team to make a trip east of the Mississippi River every seven to 10 days during the data collection period. "It takes two to three people to launch the balloon," Market said. He hopes to travel with teams of four to five, allowing for rotations as individuals become tired during the 24-hour launches.

MU Atmospheric Science will receive all data collected, as well as reimbursement for travel expenses in exchange for the use of their upper-atmosphere data gathering system. Market also hopes to collaborate with researchers at the University of Illinois to analyze the data and prepare manuscripts for publication.

Market has been involved with research and teaching at MU for ten years. His research interests are focused on storms producing large amounts of rain or snow, which is very closely related to this project. He taught at St. Louis University for three years prior to joining the faculty at MU.



Soils Judging Team

The University of Missouri Soils Judging Team took third place in group judging at the Region 5 competition in Cloquet, Minnesota in September 2008.



Team members identify horizons during competition.



Data collected by the radiosonde streams directly to a computer inside the weather station. Market and students use the data to track the balloon, as well as atmospheric conditions. During the October launch, the balloon traveled more than fifteen miles north of the weather station, and reached an elevation near 6,000 feet.

Forestry News

Timber Tigers

University of Missouri Forestry Club

and

Student Chapter of the Society of American Foresters

Organization Leadership

Society of American Foresters

President - Mark Peper

Vice President - Dave Haberl

Secretary - Shane Boland

Treasurer - Cody Campbell

Forestry Club

President - Cody Campbell

Vice President - Cory Meyer

Secretary - Danielle Mocker

Treasurer - Khristi Huber

Conclave Captains - Marissa Jo

Daniel & Danny Moncheski



The Timber Tigers had a great showing at the conclave competition at Michigan Technology University with a second place overall finish.

The University of Missouri Timber Tigers are having a great year! As a team, they showcased their forestry skills with a second place overall finish at the conclave competition at Michigan Technology University. The group also participated in Timberfest, an event sponsored by Stihl and held in Doniphan, Missouri.

The group will also be holding their annual Christmas tree sale at the Hearnes Center on the MU campus December 4 through 7. The sale funds activities during the year, as well as the Forestry Club Scholarship for students attending summer camp at University Forest.

Students do not have to be studying forestry to join the organization, which is very active in the School of Natural Resources and the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.



Timberfest, held in Doniphan, Mo., was a great chance for the Timber Tigers to showcase their skills in their home state.



Pawpaw: The tropical native

Researchers at the Center for Agroforestry are exploring pawpaw production on University land in New Franklin, Mo.

by **Michelle Hall**
Senior Information Specialist
Center for Agroforestry

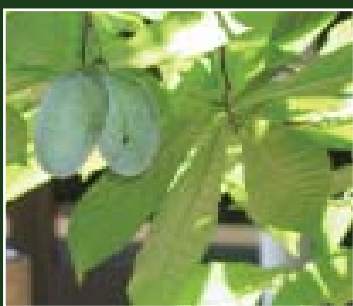
It's hard to believe a fruit with the flavor of the tropics could be native to Missouri. But it's true. And the MU Center for Agroforestry is working to get the word out about the pawpaw.

"People are pretty blown away that this exists here," said **Michael Gold**, associate director of the Center and research professor of forestry. "That's the fun thing about introducing people to it."

The pawpaw is an oval-shaped fruit indigenous to the Eastern U.S., and is green when unripe, maturing to yellow or brown. Its flesh is peachy-colored, creamy, custard-like, and tastes like a cross between a banana, mango and pineapple.

Taste-wise and botanically, it is related to tropical fruits; the pawpaw is in the mostly tropical custard apple family, *Annonaceae*. In its native habitat, the pawpaw tree grows in clumps in deep, wet soils as an understory tree.

A Place in History for the Pawpaw



Few people have tried pawpaw — outside of the Columbia Farmers' Market one day in September — although the pawpaw has a long history in the Eastern part of the United States. Lewis and Clark noted that their men were "very fond of" the "Pappaws" or "custard apples" of which "this country abounds."



Dr. Michael Gold manning the pawpaw booth at the Columbia Farmer's Market, where 200 fruits sold in only a few hours.

The pawpaw is eaten fresh (avoiding the numerous large black seeds) or processed into desserts and baked goods – it's a great texture and flavor for adding to smoothies, ice cream and yogurt, for example. Pawpaws are higher in protein than most fruits, and are a good source of calcium and Vitamin C.

The University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry is partnered with a group of universities and other organizations to try to shift pawpaw from the wild to a cultivated orchard crop, Gold said. The Center's Dr. **Ken Hunt** planted one acre composed of 10 cultivars at the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, New Franklin, in 1999. They are looking to see which pawpaw cultivars are best for Missouri, in terms of size, taste, etc. Cultivars are grown in orchards in full sun and produce a much heavier fruit set and larger fruits than in the wild.

Continued on page 19.

Missouri Chestnut Roast

by **Michelle Hall**
Senior Information Specialist
Center for Agroforestry

Growing Missouri

More than 4,000 people travelled to New Franklin, Mo. for the annual Missouri Chestnut Roast on a beautiful fall day.



Kids explore the popular straw bale maze at the 6th annual Missouri Chestnut Roast. Other children's activities at the event included a live bat presentation and a Chestnut Roast fact hunt.

Areas of interest at Missouri Chestnut Roast '08:

- Two cooking-with-chestnuts demonstrations
- Live bluegrass and Caribbean/Spanish guitar music
- Live bat presentation and children's fact hunt
- Bus and walking tours of the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center
- Tours of the 1819 Hickman House, in the final stages of an historic rehabilitation

The Missouri Chestnut Roast, hosted by the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry each fall, is quickly becoming a spotlight for Missouri specialty agricultural products. It is both a showcase and a festival, celebrating Missouri's bounty above and beyond traditional crops like corn, soybeans, rice and wheat.

Vendors showcase their spreads, from fresh goat cheese, gooey pecan candies, diverse Missouri wines and zesty regional beer, immune-boosting elderberry extract, to fresh chestnuts, roasted -- of course -- over an open fire.

Man, Missouri can be mouthwatering.

"Specialty crops are a great fit for Missouri landowners," said **Michael Gold**, associate director of the Center for Agroforestry and professor of forestry. "Diversified farm income, new market opportunities, sustainable agriculture, land stewardship and habitat for wildlife are just a few of the benefits agroforestry can bring to your land."

Hickman House Update



Attendees toured the 1819 Hickman House, currently undergoing an historic rehabilitation. Efforts have included pouring a new foundation by digging out the house 4 feet at a time;

restoring original window size and replacing panes and sashes; reshingling the roof in period materials; removing paint from and stabilizing the exterior brick; refinishing original floors and woodwork; and restoring interior plaster. In addition, the four chimneys have been rebuilt from a state of crumbling and the original summer kitchen has been reconstructed based on archaeological and historical information.

The Missouri Chestnut Roast, held this year on Saturday, Oct. 18, celebrates the chestnut, pecan and black walnut harvest at the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, and is a great reason to invite Missouri's other local specialty crop vendors over for the day.

In addition to product samples and sales, the Roast, in its 6th year, offered sales of native plants, nut trees and elderberries, expert presentations on elderberry production, regional cuisines and heritage tourism, and Missouri's local foods.

"Local is the 'new' organic," Gold said. "Eating local has piqued the interest of people across the country. Missouri has so much to offer in this arena, and we love to show it off through the Roast. Eating local is good for the environment, the economy, and your palate, of course!"



Above: Sales and samples of specialty agricultural products, such as fresh goat cheese and jalapeno jelly, are a delicious part of the Missouri Chestnut Roast.



Cherry Grove 4-H offers a variety of fall decorating items for sale at the Roast.

Pawpaw in Missouri

Continued from page 17.

Eating a Pawpaw

Although the pawpaw is a healthy fresh fruit choice and has a distinct, tropical flavor (right here in the Midwest!) there is a slight "catch."

The fruit is highly perishable (keeps only a couple of days after harvest and just slightly longer in the fridge – where its flavor can even be altered) and does not ship well, in addition to the storage issues. Pawpaw harvest lasts for only a few weeks between August and October, depending on the cultivar.

To eat fresh, cut a pawpaw in half and scoop the flesh out, avoiding large seeds, or open one end and squeeze flesh into your mouth. You can also substitute pawpaw flesh in recipes calling for banana.



Hunt, Gold and others took the Center for Agroforestry's harvest (the first big one since planting) to the Columbia Farmers' Market in September to test the public's response to the fruit.

"We had a great reception," Gold said. At \$1 apiece, the 200 pawpaws they brought along were sold out in a couple of hours. Samples were available to familiarize buyers with the unique, unfamiliar taste.

Although the perishability of pawpaws has long counted them out as prime candidates for heavy cultivation, Gold and others feel pawpaws could have a future as an orchard crop. They are native, have few pests (easy to grow organically), are fairly low maintenance and are a beautiful tree; in addition, the perishability can be addressed by freezing pawpaw pulp (Gold sees this as having larger market potential than fresh fruit).

"Our goal is to bring pawpaw on as another new alternative crop for landowners," Gold said. "Right now we're sort of 'dipping our toe in the water' to see if the market is receptive. Stay tuned!"

Faculty & Staff

Lupo Stepping into New Role: SEAS Department Chair



Big news isn't confined to offices and e-mails in the School of Natural Resources. The incoming Soil, Environmental and Atmospheric Sciences Department Chair learned of his new administrative appointment during a walk across the University of Missouri campus in Columbia.

Tony Lupo and SNR Director **Mark Ryan** were walking near Brady Commons when Lupo received the news, he said. Lupo replaces **Steve Anderson**, who is stepping down after more than five years in the administrative role.

"I've got a tough act to follow," Lupo said. "Dr. Anderson has done a great job with SEAS. I will rely on him for advice."

That 'tough act' includes establishing the environmental science emphasis area and renaming the department to better reflect the curriculum. Great strides were

also made in promotion and tenure among the atmospheric science and soil science faculty.

The department has also been recognized consistently for teaching excellence by the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. SEAS faculty members have received four of the ten teaching awards given to faculty by the college during the past five years.

One of those awards went to Tony Lupo, who has taught ten different courses at the undergraduate and graduate level at MU. His research is focused on the jet stream, specifically the effects on global climate and climate change.

Lupo assumed his additional duties September 1. As Chair, he monitors special departmental funds, reports regularly to the Director and maintains effective communication with faculty, staff and students.

The past Chair, Steve Anderson, announced in April that he would be stepping down to focus more specifically on his research interests in the application of computed tomography for evaluation of soil processes.

"It's been about ten years since an atmospheric science faculty member has served as the department chair," Anderson said. "It's useful to have someone come in with new ideas."

Ernest Kung, a professor emeritus of atmospheric science, retired from the position in 1998.

After more than five years in an intensely administrative role, Anderson plans to devote more time to the activities he enjoys most about his career. In addition to research, he teaches courses in soil physics and watershed management.

Anderson also advises six graduate students, two at the Master of Science level and four pursuing doctoral degrees.

While serving as Chair, Anderson was awarded the distinction of fellow from both the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America.



Accomplishments

Dr. Bruce Cutter received the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Golden Apple Teaching Award for excellence in the classroom.

Anita Carter attended the Financial Research Administrators meeting in Charleston, South Carolina.

Karen Decker and **Niki Fuemmeler** attended the National Council of Research Administrators regional meeting in Kansas City, Missouri.

Tammie Gross, Sharon Burnham and **Lisa Roseman** attended the Conference on Women in St. Louis, Missouri.

Dr. Carla Barbieri and **Dr. Sonja Wilhelm Stanis** established a research laboratory for students in Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Laura Hertel attended a suicide prevention conference in Jefferson City, Mo.

Dr. Rich Guyette and his team received local and national attention for research and an article on the "Dark Day."

Research conducted by **Dr. Chung-Ho Lin** led to additional warnings on the labels of some Bayer CropScience chemicals.

PRT Department Co-Chair Position Filled

One year after being named the Interim Co-Chair of the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department at the University of Missouri, **David Vaught** is losing the "interim" portion of his title.

Mark Ryan, director of the School of Natural Resources, commended Vaught when making the co-chair announcement. Ryan also serves as co-chair with Vaught.

"David has done an excellent job in that role, and therefore, effective immediately, I am removing the Interim title," Ryan said. "David and I will continue as co-chairs."

Vaught assumed departmental duties in mid-2007. He followed the legacy of retired department chair **C. Randy Vessell**, who served for more than 15 years in the role.

Vaught teaches several courses and is an academic advisor in the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department. He also serves as the director of internships for the department, placing approximately 70 students per year in both domestic and international positions.

As co-chairs, Vaught and Ryan share administrative duties within the department.

Ryan will manage the Promotion and Tenure process within the department while Vaught handles all other administrative and leadership duties.

"David will function just as the other department chairs in the School do," Ryan said, "with my role primarily related to tenure and promotion issues."

While teaching at MU, Vaught has participated in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Teaching Scholars and New Faculty Teaching Scholars programs, as well as the Program for Excellence in Teaching.

Vaught completed a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis in May 2007 from the University of Missouri. He also holds a Master of Science degree in Parks, Recreation and Tourism and a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from MU.

Before joining the faculty, Vaught held professional positions with the Missouri Department of Transportation and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.



New Faces



While she was an undergraduate student in biology and environmental studies, **Sonja Wilhelm Stanis** spent time studying and traveling in Australia. She attributes much of her interest in human dimensions of natural resource management to the time she spent in Australia. Those interests will likely serve her well as she joins the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department faculty in the School of Natural Resources.

“I’m interested in people’s interactions with nature,” she said, “and people’s use of natural areas, especially large nature-based parks.”

Wilhelm Stanis’ primary research area is in outdoor recreation and recreation resource management, and includes the role of parks and other public lands in public health, as well as factors that facilitate and constrain individuals’ use of those spaces for recreation.

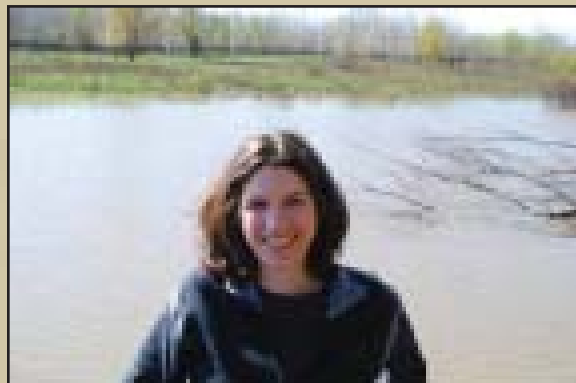
Joining the School of Natural Resources family really appealed to her, both because of the warm welcome she received and the strong research dynamic of having the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism within the School of Natural Resources.

As a faculty member, Wilhelm Stanis will continue to pursue her research interests while teaching both undergraduate and graduate students. She will begin teaching courses in the spring. She is currently working with Carla Barbieri, another faculty member in the department, to establish a parks, recreation and tourism research lab for students.

This fall, she has been preparing research manuscripts, exploring Missouri and getting to know people both at the University and within the natural resources industry. She is involved with many professional organizations, including the International Association for Society and Natural Resources, the National Recreation and Park Association and the George Wright Society.

While she calls the Midwest home, Missouri is new to Wilhelm Stanis. She completed her undergraduate work at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota and her graduate work at the University of Minnesota. She also calls a family cabin in northern Wisconsin her favorite place to visit for an escape from daily life.

Missouri is starting to grow on her, however. Wilhelm Stanis loves all the outdoor recreation opportunities Missouri and the Columbia area have to offer. She currently resides in Columbia with her husband, Greg, and four-year-old black lab, Casey.





Laura Gilpin

Laura Gilpin joined the School of Natural Resources staff in the Forestry Department. She will provide administrative support to faculty in forestry, as well as in other areas of the School. Gilpin will focus on managing the University purchasing cards for full-time employees.

She joins the School of Natural Resources after working in the School of Journalism for ten years. Using her background in graphic design, Gilpin spent four years as an ad designer and four years supervising the newsroom at the Columbia Missourian newspaper. She also supervised the Creative Services Department for two years.

Gilpin contrasts working in the Forestry Department with the often noisy and high pressure environment of the newsroom, describing SNR as a “very polite, quiet and courteous” place to work. The School also appealed to her interests in the outdoors.

“I just thought it sounded like a great place to work,” she said. Gardening, fishing and hiking, and spending time with her granddaughter top Gilpin’s list of favorite pastimes. She is also a big fan of Mizzou football.

Originally from San Diego, California, Gilpin has lived in the Columbia area for more than 20 years. She has two daughters and one granddaughter.



Chris James

Chris James joined the School of Natural Resources staff as a System Support Administrator. He will manage the computer systems within the School, providing technical support for faculty and staff, as well as student computer labs.

James is new to both SNR and the University. He joins the team after working as a computer technician for Columbia Public Schools for more than three years. He is a graduate of Lincoln University in Jefferson City, where he studied computer information systems.

The work environment offered at the School was attractive to James, as it has been to many employees. “It’s a really friendly environment, and pretty laid back,” he said. “Everyone definitely made me feel at home.”

Growing up in the small town of Mokane, Missouri, James enjoyed hunting, fishing and sports. He played basketball while in college, and is a big fan of Mizzou football. He also enjoys spending time at his family’s cabin at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Working at the University also ties in to his goals of furthering his education, James said. At some point I’d like to go back to school, he said. He is interested in electrical engineering and technology.

Achievements

2008 School of Natural Resources Photo Contest and Calendars



This photo of a foggy Jefferson City park received the most votes from faculty, staff and students during the 3rd Annual School of Natural Resources Outdoor Photography Contest. **Drew Backues**, System Support Analyst for the Dean of Agriculture and School of Natural Resources, took the photo at the North Jefferson City Recreation Area.

Contest Results

First Place: Drew Backues
Second Place: Kyle Spradley
Third Place: Jacob Swafford

Request a copy of the calendar by contacting the School of Natural Resources Academic Programs Office at (573)882-7045!



While traveling between Columbia and St. Louis, **Kyle Spradley** stopped alongside Interstate 70 to photograph this cornfield after harvest. The stormy weather caught the attention of the agricultural journalism and natural resources senior.

While traveling between Columbia and St. Louis, **Kyle Spradley** stopped alongside Interstate 70 to photograph this cornfield after



Jacob Swafford, a junior studying forestry, fisheries and wildlife, photographed this raccoon on the Roubidoux River, near Houston, Missouri while working for the Missouri Department of Conservation on an otter research team.

Jacob Swafford, a junior studying forestry, fisheries and wildlife, photographed this raccoon on the Roubidoux River, near Houston, Missouri while working for the

Special thanks go out to the School of Natural Resources Alumni Board for sponsoring the 2008 contest, including cash prizes, and printing and framing the top three photographs. The images now hang in the Emogene Houston Sampson Student Reading Room in the Anheuser Busch Natural Resources Building on campus.

Youth Conservationist of the Year: Mark Corio

Mark Corio was just taking advice from his high school guidance counselor when he applied to the Conservation Leadership Corps in 2003. That was the first time the counselor, **Danny Bequette**, had singled him out, Corio said.

Corio is now a member of both the Conservation Federation of Missouri and the Conservation Leadership Corps. He serves as a director-at-large on the CFM Board of Directors; the youngest individual to receive a presidential appointment to the Board.

He was also named the 2007 Youth Conservationist of the Year by the Conservation Federation of Missouri. He was recognized during a spring 2008 ceremony at the Lake of the Ozarks.

The CFM Youth Conservationist of the Year award is open to any resident of Missouri under age 21. Individuals or groups that have demonstrated leadership, ability and accomplishment in conservation may be recognized, according to CFM bylaws.

Corio committed to a lifetime membership to the CFM August 2006 and has volunteered countless hours to the future of natural resources in Missouri and throughout the U.S.

“In 2006 I helped write the piece of legislation that halted the selloff of 300,000 acres of National Forest land,” he said. “28,500 of those acres were in Missouri.”

Corio did not end his involvement after turning 21 in late February. In March 2007, he shared his perspective on youth in conservation activities with a national audience.

“I traveled with some other members of CFM and CLC to the National Wildlife Federation Convention in Washington D.C.,” he said. “There, I was one of the keynote speakers for their leadership luncheon.”

Fellow Conservation Leadership Corps member **Mike Baker** recognized Corio’s accomplishments with the nomination for the CFM award. “Nobody cares about the future of our environment more than Mark,” Baker said. “He’s a true leader in conservation and will make the best decisions to benefit all parties involved.”

Baker attributes his positive experiences with the CLC to Corio’s leadership. Corio encouraged him to become a member, he said. “He impressed me when an argument was placed on the floor at CLC that no one was supporting,” Baker said. “Mark believed in the issue and stood up in front of everybody and pled his case. In the end the resolution passed. It is currently being discussed on the state level.”



Corio is the son of **Joe and Denise Corio** of Clarksburg, Maryland. He is a junior in the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department at the University of Missouri, and a 2005 graduate of Grand View High School in Hillsboro, Missouri.

The Youth Conservationist of the Year award was one of 13 presented during the Conservation Federation of Missouri ceremony. Former University of Missouri School of Natural Resources Students **Justyn Foth** and **Tiffanie Hamilton** were also recognized. They received 2007 Student Conservation Achievement awards.



Undergraduate Honors

School of Natural Resources Scholarship Recipients 2008-2009

UMC Forestry Club Scholarship

Shane Botard
Cody Campbell
Marissa Daniel
David Haberl
Khristina Huber
Samuel McKee
Danielle Mocker
Mark Peper
Justin Twenter

R.H. Westveld Fund

Shane Botard
Marissa Daniel
Elisha Engelken
David Haberl
Daniel Leach
Samuel McKee
Danielle Mocker
Justin Twenter
Thomas Nelke

Ann Weber Hoyt and Earl H. Hoyt Scholarship

Mark Peper
Shannon Heinze

Thomas S. Baskett Memorial Scholarship

Samuel McKee

G. Andy Runge Scholarship

Elisha Engelken
Marissa Daniel

Charles Edmund Marshall Scholarship

Kristen Veum
Bei Chu

Lee K. & Lois Paulsell Forestry Scholarship

Mark Peper

Ed & Vera Woods Memorial Scholarship

Justin Twenter

Charles H. Kirk Memorial Scholarship

Cody Campbell

L. Morgan and Wanda Schwind Scholarship

James Christ

General Federation of Women's Clubs of Missouri

Marissa Daniel

Forestry Class of 1964 Memorial Scholarship

Samuel McKee

Bill Crawford Scholarship

Rebecca Welly

Jerry J Presley Scholarship

Katie Gessling
Lauren Loney
Andrew Montague

Scholarship Winners:

*The School of Natural Resources
awarded nearly \$44,000 in
scholarships for 2008-2009
undergraduate students!*

Donald P. Duncan Scholarship Fund

Josh Anderson
Daniel Leach

Gwinner Scholarship

David Haberl
Marissa Daniel
Josh Wisdom

G.M. and E.M. Gwinner Memorial Scholarship

Keith Brown

Wilbur H. Allen Memorial Scholarship

Kelly Mottaz
Brett Rankin

Charles and Elizabeth Schwartz Scholarship

Timothy Graven
Jacob Swafford
Robert Voss

Osal & Juanita Capps Scholarship

Marissa Daniel
Danielle Mocker

McCormick Scholarship Fund

Shane Botard

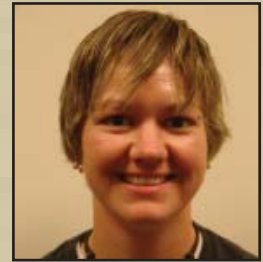
William Kohner Scholarship

Keith Brown
Danielle Mocker

Roger Dustin Shaw Scholarship

Khristina Huber

Rebecca Welly
Senior
Fisheries & Wildlife



Elisha Engelken
Senior
Forestry



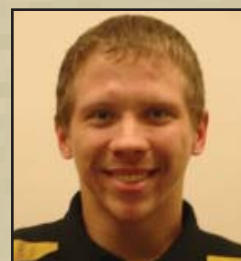
David Haberl
Junior
Forestry



Samuel McKee
Senior
Forestry



Jacob Swafford
Sophomore
Forestry



Robert Voss
Sophomore
Fisheries & Wildlife

SNR Alumni Board

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the School of Natural Resources:

For nearly five years the School of Natural Resources' Alumni Association has been a vibrant part of our campus community. Our mission has always been to strengthen the lifelong bond between the university and its alumni, to foster enduring friendships among alumni, to support students, and to help shape the future of the University of Missouri—an institution that has played such a major role in all of our lives. With more than 5,000 living alumni, our organization reaches across the United States, and around the world, and as president of this active organization, I am happy to report that alumni participation has never been stronger!



This past year, your Alumni Association has implemented many of the programs you have identified as important and relevant to your life stage, including professional development, social networking, and outreach to students. Our strategic plan calls for developing more opportunities for volunteerism, as well as increasing paid membership, and supporting collaboration between the SNR Alumni Association and the Mizzou Alumni Association. We are working to recognize the unique college experience of each generation, while keeping you in touch, informed, and involved in your alma mater of today.

You are connecting in greater and greater numbers, via the Alumni Association's online alumni directory (Mizzou Net), electronic newsletter, reunions, sporting event receptions, and mentoring opportunities. I would also encourage everyone to check out our Facebook Group, *SNR Alumni Group*, on www.facebook.com.

As we move through another exciting semester at Mizzou, I encourage you to continue actively supporting your Alumni Association. Become involved by participating in your local Alumni Club, attending an event, volunteering your time, or become a paid member; it is a rewarding experience and one that makes a lasting difference to our whole Mizzou community!

Go Tigers,

Eric

Eric Aldrich
President, SNR Alumni Association
BS '01 Soil, Environmental
& Atmospheric Science
Meteorologist, KOMU-TV



The whole group posed for pictures while waiting for the parade to begin. More than 20 alumni, staff and students rode the 2008 float.

Homecoming 2008 with the SNR Alumni Board

Homecoming 2008 “Strength in Stripes”

In the weeks leading up to the 97th Mizzou Homecoming festivities, members of the School of Natural Resources family were putting together plans for an outstanding parade float and all-day tailgate.

The ‘bloat’ was back again for 2008, all decked out in black and gold and loaded down with alumni, staff and students. The group showered more than 120 pounds of sugary treats onto the crowds lining Hitt Street, Broadway, and Ninth and Sixth Streets. In addition to the candy, the group tossed black and gold pompoms to especially spirited tiger fans.

After the parade, the group retired to the School tailgate to heat up the grills and set up a washers tournament.

Many went on to attend the evening football game, where the Mizzou Tigers defeated the Colorado Cowboys 58-0.

Plans are already being discussed for 2009. We hope to see you there!



Jeff Finley and Mark Ryan catch up over a tailgate breakfast.



Travis Moore helps everyone find their size in the new SNR hoodies.



Brent Hummel loads boxes of candy onto the float.

Alumni News



Staying connected...

A crucial component to the human experience is the feeling that we're connected to one another. I'm fortunate to have the opportunity to interact regularly with the college's alumni, students, donors and friends and I'm constantly amazed at how excited people get when given the chance to connect with Mizzou. Recently, we sent an email to all of our alumni for whom we have email addresses asking them to submit what we call "connecting points." Connecting points are bits of information that tell us what people have been doing since leaving the college. I didn't know what sort of response to expect. Would we hear from 20 people or 200? I was overwhelmed by the response! We received more than 200 responses within the first 24 hours after the call went out. Here are just a few samples of submissions from our SNR alumni.

- **John Terwilliger**, forest management 1979, started a new forestry job after being in the computer field for 11 years. He lives in Kansas City.
- **David Herzog**, fisheries and wildlife management 1988, recently became "empty nester" by sending his youngest, Ali, to MU. His other son, Jake, is a senior.
- **Barrett Vahle**, fisheries and wildlife 2001, is a litigation attorney at Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal in Kansas City. He and his wife Ellen have two children, ages four and six.
- **Josh Terhune**, fisheries and wildlife 2002, announced his engagement to Molly Borel. They plan to marry in Feb. 2009 and live in Kansas City.

We'll use this information in the inaugural issue of CAFNR Magazine when it comes out in late 2008 as well as posting the information on the college's website.

It's important to stay in touch and we want to make that process easy for you. I hope you'll take a moment to visit The Connecting Point link in the Alumni portion of the SNR website and let us know what's new with you and how we can help you feel connected to Mizzou!

Kristen E. Smarr
Director of Communications
College of Agriculture, Food
and Natural Resources
University of Missouri
office: 573-882-8832
SmarrK@missouri.edu

SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL

The School of Natural Resources Advisory Council met October 9-10, 2008 in Columbia, Mo. The group discussed future plans for the School, met with faculty and graduate students, and visited the Boone's Lick Conservation Area during their two day meeting.

The Advisory Council has worked for more than fifty years to support the teaching, research and extension objectives of the School of Natural Resources. The group began in the School of Forestry in 1958 with 59 members. Currently, more than 70 individuals representing natural resources organizations, agencies and their personal interests are members of the Advisory Council.

For more information about the School of Natural Resources Advisory Council, contact Cindy Harper in the SNR Director's Office at (573)882-6537 or HarperC@missouri.edu.



In Memorial

Dr. J. Milford "Nick" Nichols
1917-2008

Nichols died Sunday, June 12, 2008 in Apache Junction, Arizona. He was 90.

Nichols was a veteran of World War II and a Missouri farmer. He served as a forestry management professor from the 1950s through the 1970s, and also worked as the University Forest Manager. Nichols was also a Christmas tree grower in Boone County, Missouri.

Nichols is survived by his wife, Alice, and their son, Randal.

University of Missouri - Columbia



School of Natural Resources

College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

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UPCOMING SNR ALUMNI BOARD EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 20, 2008 | School of Natural Resources Fall Commencement Ceremony
Jesse Hall at the University of Missouri
Contact: Sharon Burnham (573)882-7045 |
| January 22, 2009 | School of Natural Resources Alumni Board Meeting
and Undergraduate Mentoring Event (Chilin' with SNR Mentors)
School of Natural Resources
Contact: Laura Hertel (573)882-7045 |
| February 5, 2009 | Missouri Natural Resources Conference Alumni Luncheon
Tan-Tar-A Resort at the Lake of the Ozarks
Contact: Laura Hertel (573)882-7045 |
| March 2009 | Speed Mentoring for SNR Seniors
Heidelberg Restuarant in Columbia
Contact: Laura Hertel (573)882-7045 |
| April 17, 2009 | School of Natural Resources Alumni Board Meeting
School of Natural Resources
Contact: Laura Hertel (573)882-7045 |
| May 2009 | School of Natural Resources Senior Send-Off Luau
School of Natural Resources
Contact: Laura Hertel (573)882-7045 |