

CENTURY SCOREBOARD	1955	1956	1957	1958
	NEBRASKA 18 MISSOURI 12	MISSOURI 15 KANSAS 13	MISSOURI 14 NEBRASKA 13	MISSOURI 13 KANSAS 13

# R A H !

Spirit squads, including cheerleaders, dancers, mascots, twirlers and bands, help make Homecoming memorable.

Stories by Stephanie Detillier ★ Photo by Rachel Coward

1985

Marvin Cobbs, BS Ag '85, and Vivian King, BJ '87, are the first black couple to be crowned Homecoming king and queen.



1985

Campus holds first Homecoming blood drive.



1989

Homecoming celebrates MU's Sesquicentennial, and Miss America Debrah "Debbie" Turner, DVM '91, serves as co-grand marshal with NASA astronaut Dick Richards, BS ChE '69.

\* 1960 KANSAS WON THE GAME ON THE FIELD BUT LATER FORFEITED DUE TO THE USE OF AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER.

# SPRIT!

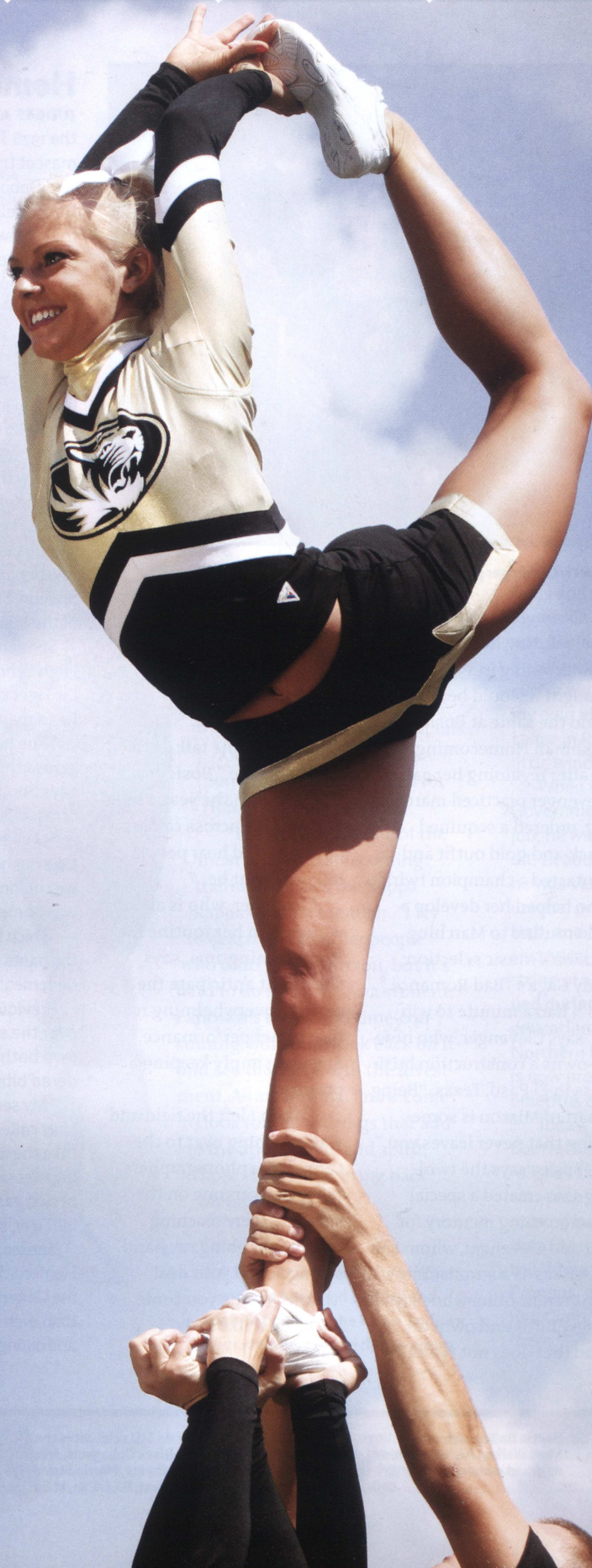
1959  
MISSOURI 9 NEBRASKA 0

1960\*  
KANSAS 23 MISSOURI 7

1961  
MISSOURI 10 NEBRASKA 0

1962  
MISSOURI 57 COLORADO 0

CENTURY SCOREBOARD



Cheerleader Marnie Matthews of St. Louis goes to great heights in support of Tiger athletics.

## Committed to twirling

### BEVERLY SWAFFORD CLEVENGER

is a woman of her word. But when she promised to twirl at the 2010 Homecoming if her granddaughter Julia Bosley enrolled at Mizzou, Clevenger didn't realize all the elements that would stand in her way.

Not only was she a 67-year-old woman who hadn't picked up her baton in four years, but she also had broken several bones in her left foot after falling down some stairs in November 2009. The injury required corrective surgery, three titanium screws, two pins and intense therapy.

"I had no idea how this would work out while looking at my cast that winter," says Clevenger, who was an MU feature twirler in 1961. "But Julia had been accepted to Mizzou, and I had to do it."

Clevenger, who attended MU from 1961-63 and finished her degree at UMKC in 1989, made the promise during Mizzou's 2005 Homecoming, when she performed with the alumni band for the third time and took along Bosley, then an eighth-grader.

"As a middle-schooler, I thought it would be neat if we'd go to the same school," says Bosley, now an MU sophomore sociology major from Excelsior Springs, Mo. "But I didn't quite realize what a big deal it would be to have the same alma mater."



Photo by Nicholas Benner

**Beverly Clevenger performs solo during the 2010 Homecoming pregame.**

Clevenger had performed a solo during her first Mizzou Homecoming in 1961 and thought it would be fitting to do the same at Bosley's freshman Homecoming. So after regaining her gait, Clevenger practiced marching, ordered a sequined black-and-gold outfit and contacted a champion twirler who helped her develop a solo routine to Marching Mizzou's music selection: Lady Gaga's "Bad Romance."

"I had a minute to win it," says Clevenger, who now co-owns a construction business in El Paso, Texas. "Being a part of Mizzou is something that never leaves you."

Bosley says the twirling solo created a special Homecoming memory for her and Clevenger, whom she describes as a surprisingly hip grandmother who plays Angry Birds and owns an iPad (but does not typically

listen to Lady Gaga). On game day, Bosley proudly carried a sign featuring Clevenger's photo and the slogan "Tiger Stripes Never Fade."

"She was the talk of the town, for sure," Bosley says. "Even later in the year, as I was walking across campus or in class, I'd hear people talking about her."

Clevenger, who is already working on her routine for Homecoming 2011, says she didn't anticipate the crowd's overwhelming reaction to her performance. She was simply keeping a promise.

"When I left the field and was marching over to the tunnel, the photographers, referees, everyone on the sidelines were reaching out and grabbing my hand, saying 'loved your deal,' 'thanks,' 'hope you come back.' I felt like Lady Gaga!" ■■

## Homespun mascot

JUDGES AT the 1976 Tiger mascot tryouts told Deborah Durk Snellen that she wasn't involved enough at Mizzou to wear the costume. Rejected yet determined, the MU freshman vowed that would be the last time someone told her that.



Photo courtesy of Deborah Snellen

**Deborah Snellen wears her Lil Tiger uniform.**

The Kappa Alpha Theta member participated in enough campus events to earn the Lil Tiger mascot role her junior and senior years. As an alumna, Snellen, BS Ed '79, MA '80, served as president of the Mizzou Alumni Association in 2003-04.

Snellen, a Columbia native and Hickman High School Kewpie mascot, recalls the Lil Tiger costume: a fur suit and a heavy head made of plaster and chicken wire.

"The head wasn't secure, so when I ran across the field, it bounced against my face," says Snellen, who often left games with scratches on her face.

"Unlike today's Truman, we were allowed to take our heads off because on really hot days, we couldn't breathe. And because the costume was homemade, when kids pulled on the tail — which happened frequently — sometimes the pants would rip. You had to wear clothes underneath the suit to avoid embarrassment."

Previous Lil Tigers had worn white aprons over the striped suit, and Snellen sewed her own both years. The aprons with embroidered bibs once caused a stir.

"My senior year, Athletic Director Dave Hart called me to his seat and asked me to take the apron off because he had been receiving messages that it was sexist. I only had one or two games left and was tied to the image of Lil Tiger, so I declined to take the apron off."

Snellen, of Whitefish, Mont., will return for Homecoming. "Now that I don't live in Columbia, the University of Missouri means more to me than ever. It's important for me to stay involved, and during Homecoming I have to be back."

1992 Students team up with Habitat for Humanity to build a house on Crowder Field.

1992 Beetle Bailey cartoonist Mort Walker, BA '48, serves as grand marshal.



1993 As MU celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Legion of Black Collegians, Mizzou's first African-American football players, Norris Stevenson, BS Ed '61, M Ed '63, and Melvin West, BS Ed '61, M Ed '69, serve as grand marshals.

## Gold-sequined memories

**SOME MIZZOU FANS** file out of the bleachers in pursuit of nachos and sodas or bathroom breaks, but Kim Richardson Voss stays behind for her favorite part of the football game — halftime.

As a former Golden Girl, Voss watches the Marching Mizzou and spirit squad performances with pride — and a tinge of jealousy for the costumes of the modern era.

“I was a Golden Girl back in the ‘80s, when all we sported was the gold-sequined, long-sleeved unitard with our white boots,” says Voss, BS Ed ‘87, M Ed ‘91.

“We did get to shed the boots for a while and wear white Keds tennis shoes and white leg warmers after the movie *Flashdance* came out. Every once in a while, we’d go out and make a skirt or vest to go over the sequins, but that was it.”

Voss’ golden ambitions began when her grandparents Robert and Marie Sullivan took her to Mizzou football games as a child. Before kickoff, they’d gather on Francis Quadrangle, where Marching Mizzou and the Golden Girls performed a small concert, and then they’d follow the band’s procession to the stadium. The pregame tradition and her love of dance led Voss to try out for the team her freshman year. She danced with the squad from 1984–87, two years of which her sister Michele Richardson Grace, BS Ed ‘88, was also a Golden Girl.



“As a student, I was doing it for the fun, the joy and the bond with the university,” says Voss, who works part time as a math teacher and a billing manager for Zick, Voss & Politte law firm in Washington, Mo. “But as I got older and became an alumna, the thing I appreciated more was the part I played to provide the spirit for the university. It was an honor being part of an organization that was the face of the university for parades and halftimes.”

In 2006–07, Voss showed her Tiger pride in a different way — serving as the Mizzou Alumni Association’s president and helping commemorate the association’s 150th anniversary. Coming from a black-and-gold family — her parents, husband and two sisters are alumni — Voss maintains a strong university connection and frequently returns for Homecoming festivities.

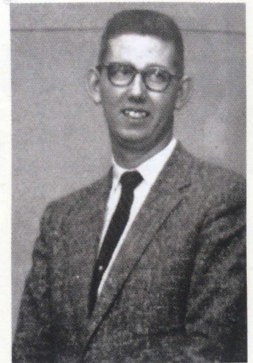
“House decs are one of the most unique Homecoming traditions,” says the Kappa Kappa Gamma member. “I try to describe it to other people who didn’t go to Mizzou, but it’s hard to do it justice. As a student, I know it’s costly and time-consuming, but you’ll look back on it and see that it’s worth the investment. As an alumna, I now come to look for those things that add to the atmosphere and spirit, those things that bring back memories.” ■

**A 1984–87 Golden Girl, Kim Voss sports a sequined unitard and white boots — the iconic uniform for members of the dance group.**

Photo courtesy of Kim Voss

## Boothe for one

**THESE DAYS**, three students lead a group of about 30 others who organize the massive Homecoming celebration. But back in 1959, the top layer of management was a lone student. “I



Leon Boothe

1959 Savitar photo

was the one honcho, the Homecoming chairman,” says Leon Boothe, BS Ed ‘60, MA ‘62, of Cincinnati. “I appointed leaders for the parade and house decorations and other events who formed their own committees and reported to me. I was like a CEO. We had staff meetings, deadlines and progress reports. It was such a big and demanding job that I had my own office in the alumni association space in Read Hall. I even had my own little window to look out.”

When the president of Student Government appointed Boothe to the job, he wasn’t sure he could take it on. In addition to majoring in history, he was vice president of the student unions, president of his house in Defoe Hall, and he worked at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection. That string of accomplishments has continued during Boothe’s career in higher education, including his presidency of Northern Kentucky University, where he is now president emeritus and professor emeritus of history.

Today, more than 50 years since Boothe first set foot on campus, he still relishes the memories. “Going to Mizzou was such a marvelous experience that coming back transports me back in time. As much as Mizzou has grown, the White Campus is still the White Campus, and the Red Campus is still the Red Campus — I just feel really at home there.” — Dale Smith

1996 Mizzou-roni campaign kicks off, collecting boxes of macaroni and cheese for food shelters around Missouri.



1999 Mizzou receives recognition for top Homecoming in the nation from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

2000 KU 38, MU 13 — First MU-KU Homecoming game since 1960.

<b>CENTURY SCOREBOARD</b>	1971 KANSAS ST. 28 MISSOURI 12	1972 MISSOURI 20 COLORADO 17	1973 MISSOURI 13 OKLAHOMA ST. 9	1974 MISSOURI 9 ARIZONA ST. 0
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# Alumnus keeps marching



Photo courtesy of Jeff Zumsteg

**WHEN JEFF ZUMSTEG** attended his first Mizzou Homecoming game in 1979, he was not a football fan. He was a Smithton High School senior determined to join Marching Mizzou the next year. Because his Smithton, Mo., school had no football team, he had never marched on a field and didn't know the rules of the game. Concerned about his lack of experience, the French horn player convinced his school's concert band director to enter the Mizzou Homecoming parade.

The practice paid off for Zumsteg, who landed a spot with the "Big 'M' of the Midwest" in 1980. Since then, he's marched in every Mizzou Homecoming game — returning each fall even though he lived as far away as Chicago and Atlanta.

"Marching Mizzou gave me an immediate family and became a close circle that I felt at home with," says Zumsteg, BES '84, MBA '86. "For one week in the year, I step back in time. You fall back into the same jokes and same routines. You look at each other and remember that road trip to Florida or the bowl game in San Diego. There are all these silly things you suddenly remember about these people."

Zumsteg played the mellophone for his first four college years, eventually serving as section leader. He switched to the baritone horn during graduate school and then joined the Marching Mizzou Alumni Band.

"I remember my freshman year seeing the alumni band rehears-

ing on the practice field while we were marching in the Homecoming parade. I realized it's not just me having fun; this camaraderie has been there for years."

Although Marching Mizzou has undergone changes, Zumsteg says the pregame show he performs with the alumni band is the same one he performed with Marching Mizzou 30 years ago.

"You might be in a different letter than you used to be, but many of us have been in every letter," says Zumsteg, now a senior business manager for AT&T in Kansas City, Mo. He moved back three years ago. "Everyone hates to be in the Z's because they're the hardest, but we know how to line up so as to not end up there. The younger ones probably don't know the trick yet."

**Jeff Zumsteg and the Tiger mascot march in the 1983 Holiday Bowl Parade in San Diego. Zumsteg hasn't missed a Mizzou Homecoming since 1979.**

Seeing the growth of the campus invokes school pride, but Zumsteg also finds pleasure in noticing the things that haven't changed. The band yells the same cheers and gives out the same silly awards at its annual banquet. The baritone section even still wears T-shirts emblazoned with SOB's (Society of Baritones) on the front.

"Even though we might not have been in Marching Mizzou at the same time," Zumsteg says, "once you're in the alumni band, you're part of one infinite family." ■■■

2002 Mizzou Alumni Association dedicates Tiger Plaza.

2003 First Black Family Reunion is held.

2007 Mizzou Alumni Association dedicates first set of bricks in Legacy Walk.

WE ENJOY YOUR MEMORIES

# Crowd pleaser

IN THE EARLY 1960S, twirler Warren Bass, BS Ed '65, was a campus celebrity of sorts. With his 100-foot-high baton tosses, under-the-leg throws and energetic high struts, he thrilled Mizzou football crowds during pregame and halftime performances. The show-stopping, two-time U.S. National Baton Twirling champion got his start by twirling a broom for two hours a day in the alley behind his St. Louis home.

Bass first became interested in the baton after reading about scholarships for twirlers at a Midwestern university.

"One day I picked up a broomstick and started clowning around with it," Bass told *Ebony* magazine, which ran a five-page photo spread on him in its January 1963 issue. "Then I watched a twirler in a parade, and I was fascinated. I decided I was going to learn to twirl."

Although he had never taken professional music lessons, Bass played the piano and organ at St. Louis' Westside Baptist Church so he could afford to train with champion twirlers. After two years of twirling lessons, he began entering competitions and placing near the top. In 1960, as drum major at Sumner High School, Bass twirled at MU's high school band day and won standing ovations from the crowd. That caught the attention of Marching Mizzou director Charles Emmons, who recruited Bass to become a feature twirler the following fall.

"Professor Emmons allowed me the freedom to do practically anything I felt like on the field," Bass told *Ebony*. "He had confidence that whatever I did would be complementary to the band."

Bass dedicated most of his time to studying, working and practicing. He was a busboy for the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity house and played the organ at Columbia's Second Baptist Church.

In July 1962, Bass was barred from

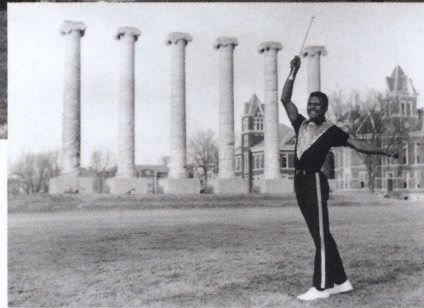


Photo courtesy of University Archives c-1/141/2

Left: Recruited to Mizzou in 1961, Warren Bass became the feature twirler of Marching Mizzou. Above: For Homecoming 1982, he returns to lead the alumni band's performance on Faurot Field.

competing in a state twirling competition in Monett, Mo., because organizers were concerned his appearance would lead to a race riot. But a few months later, he beat more than 400 competitors in the Mid-South Fair's national twirling contest to take the grand prize. He was the first African-American to compete in the Memphis, Tenn., event.

After graduating in 1965, Bass moved to California and taught physical education in the Los Angeles Public School System. He returned for Homecoming several times. The 1978 pregame performance was his first since 1964.

"I've wanted to come back for a long time," he told *Missouri Alumnus*, the name of this magazine until 1995. "Having another generation of Mizzou students screaming and applauding when they heard my name was beautiful! I couldn't believe it."

In 1981, Bass made another appearance in *Ebony* — this time in a feature on eligible bachelors. By then, the 37-year-old's face had been seen in magazine ads, billboards, commercials, films and TV shows. He had moved

to New York, where he found work as a musician, model, actor and semi-professional tennis player. He described his ideal woman as someone who "reflects style, class, intelligence, love and a true sense of humor."

In 1990, Bass died at age 47. Beverly Clevenger, who twirled with Bass in 1961 [See story, Page 38], says former Marching Mizzou members often ask about Bass when the alumni band performs at Homecoming. She still recalls how he helped her when she struggled adjusting to a more military strut her freshman year.

"One day Warren said, 'You're just having an awful time with that, aren't you? How about if I watch, and we'll figure out how to do this?' We figured out how to pose my arm in a position that looked right," Clevenger, HE '63, of El Paso, Texas, says. "Warren was totally his own person and a tremendous showman. I felt honored over the years to have become friends with him." ■

SEE MORE PHOTOS OF WARREN BASS. [MIZZOUMAGAZINE.COM](http://MIZZOUMAGAZINE.COM)

2010

MU 36, OU 27 — Undefeated Tigers knock off undefeated and No. 1-ranked Sooners with ESPN's College GameDay in attendance.



2011

New Big MO drum, which will be the largest collegiate marching bass drum at 9 feet in diameter, will debut.

