

Winter 1990

University of Missouri

Columbia

VVMIR

College of Veterinary Medicine and Cooperative Extension Service



**MISS AMERICA
DEBBYE TURNER**

also: WOMEN
IN VETERINARY MEDICINE



DEAN'S COLUMN

Calling all horse enthusiasts: Equine Center seeks support for new clinic

The excitement around Missouri's College of Veterinary Medicine continues to grow.

On Sept. 9, the University System Board of Curators approved construction plans for the new teaching hospital and authorized the letting of bids. We are looking forward to the ground-breaking ceremony, which is scheduled for March 31.

The state has authorized \$18.67 million for the total building costs. Of this, the college will raise at least 20 percent. Depending on how bids come in, the construction budget ceiling is very close to permitting the inclusion of the Equine Center in the campus-based teaching hospital. This would bring the entire clinical operation under one roof, assuring a number of efficiencies through shared use of services such as pharmacy, receiving, billing, reception, radiology, anesthesiology and clinical pathology.

So far, the college has pledged and cash for approximately \$2.8 million of our \$4 million goal. We are genuinely grateful for the overwhelming support of alumni, who have pledged more than \$400,000; parents, who have pledged \$250,000; and corporations, who have pledged nearly \$2 million. If you equine veterinarians know of horse enthusiasts who might make generous contributions to swing the balance in favor of a new equine clinic being included, please let us know.

In addition to gearing up for the new building, the college is undergoing curriculum change and development of a strategic plan.

And of course we are all proud and happy about fourth-year student

Debbie Turner being crowned Miss America 1990 in September. Her one-year reign will gain national attention and recognition for the college, the University of Missouri-Columbia, and the veterinary medical professions.

You have many reasons to have pride in your alma mater. Here's to continued progress.

Thank you and best regards,

ROBERT F. KAHRS, Dean

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ON THE COVER: Now that the brainy and beautiful Debbie Turner is Miss America 1990, the college is home to the most famous veterinary medicine student in the nation. See Mizou's Miss America, page 3. Photo by Rob Hill.



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MIZZOU'S

Cheers rose up in living rooms all over Columbia as friends and fans of veterinary student **Debbie Turner** sat before their television sets, watching the poised, articulate young woman walk down the runway in Atlantic City, N.J., as the newly crowned Miss America 1990.

"The phones around here have been ringing like crazy," said Associate Dean Ken Niemeyer after the Sept. 16 pageant. "We were all confident that Debbie would do well, because she's such a capable, intelligent and beautiful young woman. But now that she's Miss America, the college has been getting all sorts of calls. Everybody's excited."

Turner's ascent to national prominence began with her winning the Miss Columbia pageant in February and going on to be chosen as Miss Missouri in June. The 24-year-old, originally from Jonesboro, Ark., managed to balance rigorous pageant preparations with her work as a third-year veterinary student, and dazzled judges and an estimated 55 million television viewers alike at the national competition.

Turner plans to complete her final year of school to earn her DVM after her one-year reign. She came to MU after fulfilling pre-veterinary school requirements in three years at Arkansas State University with an impressive 3.9 grade point average. After graduating from Mizzou she intends to pursue an internship and later a residency, with an eye toward a career in academic veterinary medicine.

"Anybody can be anything they want to be if they try hard enough, if they never give up," she said at her first press conference after the pageant. Turner's chosen mission as Miss America is "motivating American youth to excellence." And according to Dean Robert Kahrs, she's the right person for the job: "She has a positive, upbeat attitude. She's bright, alert and intelligent with an amiable, charming personality. She has a tremendous work ethic, being dedicated to whatever she does."



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A jubilant Debbie Turner.

From the moment the bejeweled crown was placed on her head, Turner has been whisked from one function to another, rubbing elbows with movie stars, diplomats, politicians and even the president. She has been interviewed on the *Today* show and *Late Night with David Letterman*, and taped a guest appearance with the Rev. Jesse Jackson on *The Cosby Show*. She was a special guest at a Soviet Embassy party, where she met Yulia Sukhanova, Miss USSR.



Columbia welcomes the new Miss America at the Homecoming parade.

Turner also was honored at a reception in Missouri Sen. Kit Bond's Washington office in early October, and got to chat with President Bush in the Oval Office. "I told him about my concern in encouraging young people to challenge themselves to be academically excellent as well as being happy with who they are and achieving other goals," she said afterward.

Columbia's own Miss America, the first Missourian to capture the national crown, was treated to a big welcome home during the Sesquicentennial Homecoming Oct. 27 and 28. Turner participated in the Homecoming parade Saturday morning, riding with NASA astronaut and grand marshal Dick Richards in a wagon pulled by the college's mule team, Hilda and Louise.

What with the 200 or so appearances a Miss America is automatically obligated to make during her yearlong reign, there is not a lot of time left over for other things. Pageant business manager Bob Brian in Atlantic City explains that while the pageant sponsors get first dibs on Miss America's calendar, he does make an effort to fit in events related to Turner's first love, veterinary medicine. "We've been able to squeeze in appearances at two major veterinary medicine meetings and conventions," he says, "which is pretty good considering the demands on her time. She's got a full schedule, believe me."

The publicity surrounding Turner will inevitably bring attention to Missouri's College of Veterinary Medicine as well as the profession in general, as she shares with audiences her goal of practicing and teaching animal medicine.

"We're extremely proud of Debbie," Kahrs says, beaming. "I can't think of a better representative for the college, the University and the state of Missouri."

The votes are in, and it's unanimous — when the pageant judges picked Debbie Turner as Miss America 1990, they picked a winner. □

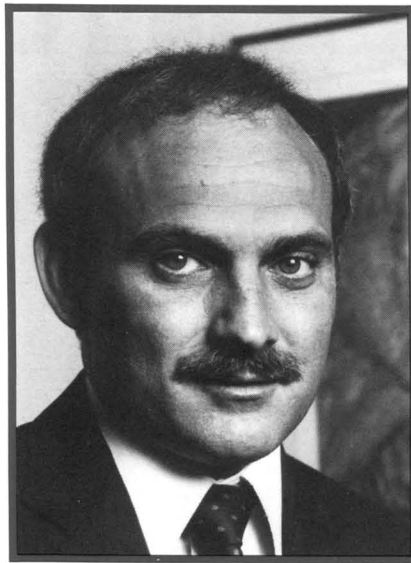
MISS AMERICA

In sickness and in health, 'til death do us part. . .

There are no vows exchanged when one decides to share one's life with a pet. The tacit understanding is that the human half of the partnership will provide food, shelter and a modicum of attention in exchange for unconditional love and hair on the upholstery. Statistics reveal, however, that two out of three family pets encounter serious illness or an accident at some time in their nine or fewer lives — which means one day a pooch or tabby could run up quite a tab with the veterinarian. Pet owners often find themselves saddled with medical expenses they're unable or unwilling to pay.

But with the advent of pet health insurance, where there's an ill, there's a way.

Veterinary Pet Insurance Co., or VPI, is a fully licensed casualty insurance company designed to offset the medical care costs incurred by cats and dogs. While the firm's national headquarters are in Santa Ana, Calif., VPI has sold more than a quarter of a million policies to pet owners in 36 states and the District of Columbia. The company, which boasts a healthy 82 percent renewal rate among its policyholders, quotes *Time* magazine in its brochure: "Medical costs for animals climbed 183 percent from 1981 to 1986 in contrast to only about 59 percent for their masters." It would seem that, according to animal-adoring America, pet health insurance is an idea whose time has come.

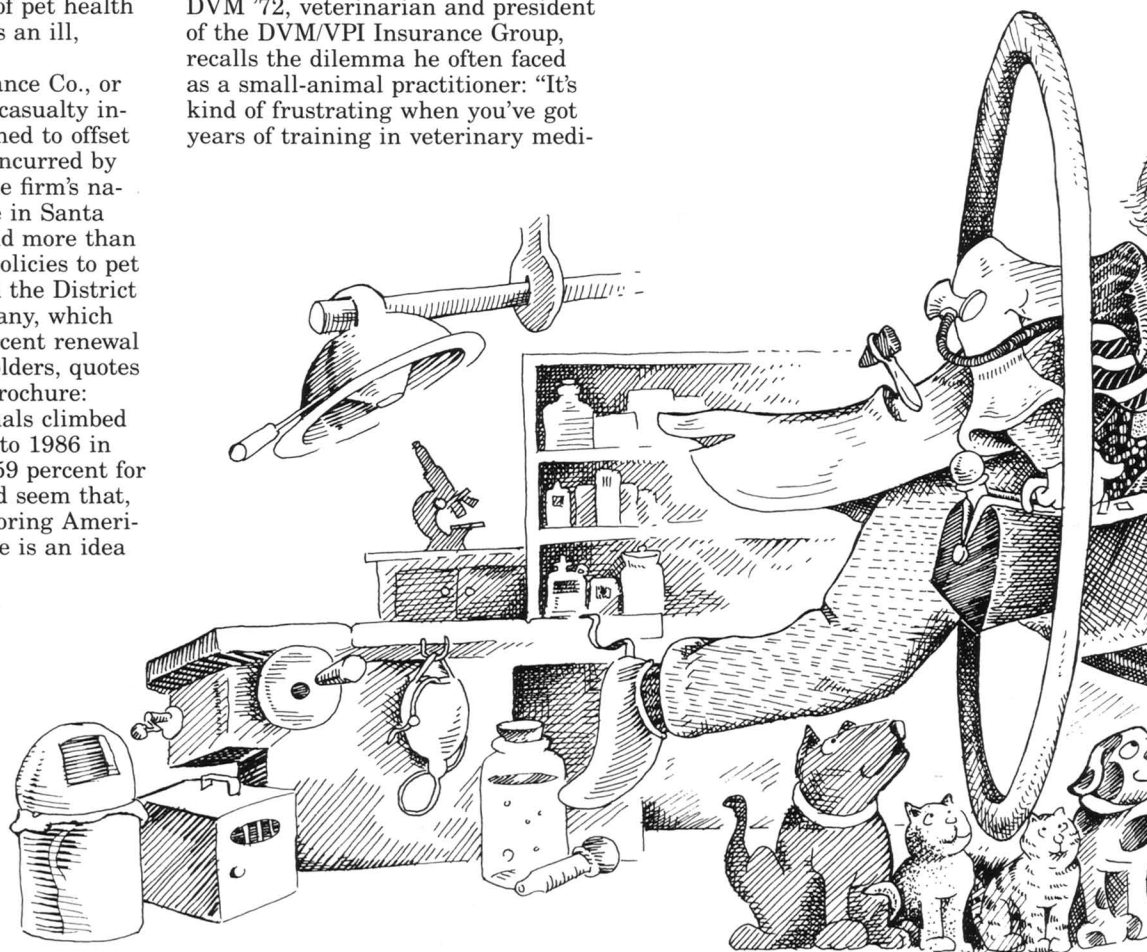


Dr. Jack Stephens

Certainly some veterinarians were ready for it. **Dr. Jack L. Stephens**, DVM '72, veterinarian and president of the DVM/VPI Insurance Group, recalls the dilemma he often faced as a small-animal practitioner: "It's kind of frustrating when you've got years of training in veterinary medi-

cine, but the average animal owner just can't pay for the services. Too many times there was a sophisticated treatment that needed to be done — something that was going to cost some money — and economics would interfere. The client would choose to have the pet put to sleep, instead."

Stephens, who is past president of the Orange County and Southern California Veterinary Medical Associations, was encouraged by members of those professional groups to explore the idea of insurance for pets. The veterinarian boned up on the insurance business, took courses in marketing, obtained a securities license and spent time analyzing the potential for such a venture. "The more I looked into it the more I felt there was a need for third-party payments to help offset the costs, so that more pets could be returned to



FROM OPERATING ROOM

A veterinarian gets into the business of pet health insurance.

good health," he says.

VPI was incorporated in 1981. "The first thing we had to do was raise capital," Stephens recalls. Eight hundred veterinarians in California decided to become shareholders, investing "a couple of million dollars." Stephens and other founders of the company randomly surveyed veterinary hospitals in the state to gather the actuarial data needed to calculate risks and establish appropriate premiums. Another Mizzou alumnus — **Dr. James Conroyer, DVM '73** — is medical director and manages claims.

Although the amounts VPI pays vary depending on coverages and billings, the plan has paid as much as 95 percent of the veterinary care for an insured animal. A lamnecotomy on a 6-year-old Lhaso Apso, for example, resulted in a \$636 bill — VPI paid 86 percent of that amount. The owner of a 3-year-old terrier with bladder stones was reimbursed \$161 or 66 percent for a \$244 bill.

"We custom designed the policy for pets — it's one of a kind," states Stephens. "And we also custom designed our benefits schedule, which had never been done before."

During the first year Stephens leased his veterinary practice, but in 1982 sold it in order to devote himself to the insurance business full time. In April of that year VPI began selling policies, and to date has paid more than \$3.75 million in claims benefits. "And we're still growing nicely," says the company's CEO. "We've already done more than 52 percent over last year."

At least some of VPI's success is due to its built-in simplicity. The company offers insurance for dogs and cats only, with the animal's age the deciding factor in setting the premium. Neither species nor breed are relevant here — a St. Bernard pup will cost the same to insure as a Siamese kitten. There are two plans available, with deductibles of either \$20 or \$40. The average annual premium, Stephens says, is \$50.

"We really have to control our costs because we're primarily limited by the premium," he explains. "We have a higher priced premium that pays more benefits that we market in more metropolitan areas, but it just doesn't sell. The average consumer is not willing to pay \$90 or

\$100 a year. But they will pay \$40 or \$50. So almost all our policies are in the smaller category."

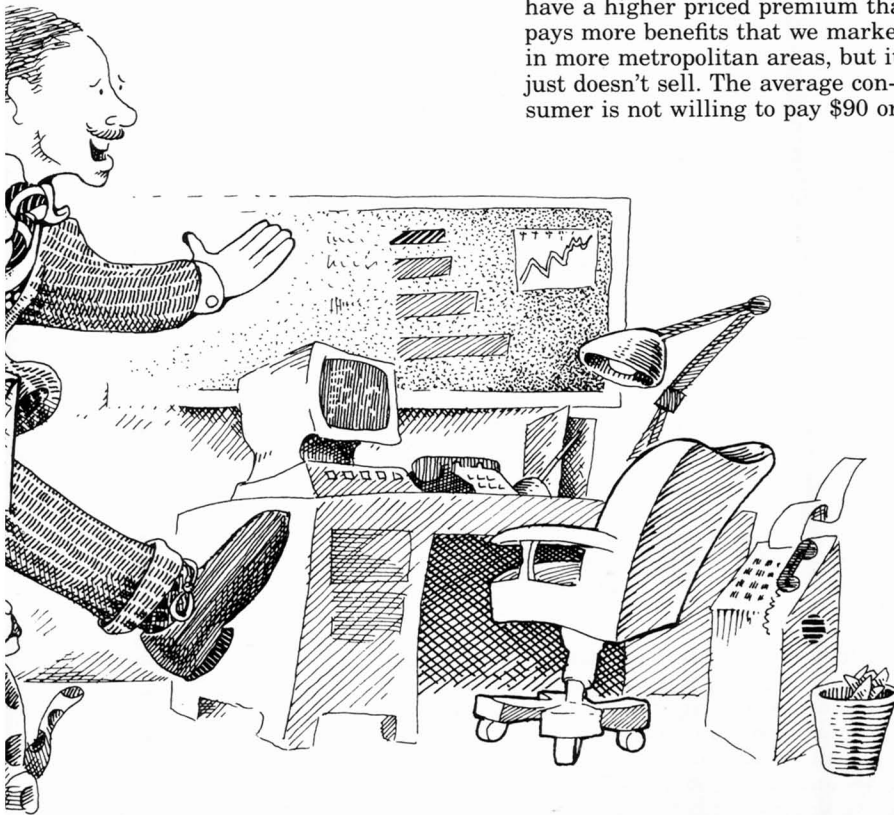
Insured animals are covered for accidents, illnesses and poisoning. Because of the low premium structure, Stephens says, the policy does not cover congenital or hereditary defects or diseases, vaccinations, elective procedures, behavioral problems, pet foods, grooming, parasites, routine teeth cleaning, orthodontics or pre-existing conditions.

VPI's program is marketed primarily through point-of-purchase displays and brochures in the offices of licensed veterinarians. The company also markets through direct mail, selective high quality pet stores, grooming facilities, telemarketing, pet food companies, agents and group sales. The pet insurance is even offered as an employee benefit for group sales to corporations and associations.

While the results of a current client survey are not finalized, VPI Marketing Director Rebecca Moore notes that past research points to a new puppy or kitten as the inspiration for most first-time policy sales. While the demographics of the company's clients defy generalization, she says, a significant portion of VPI policyholders are senior citizens. "Several people have written to us about the insurance," Moore adds, "saying that they can't afford health insurance for themselves but wouldn't go without it for their pets because it's so affordable."

Stephens notes that with VPI, insured clients increase their visits to the veterinarian by 44 percent and spend 53 percent more dollars than non-insured clients — which means owners are less likely to ignore pets' medical problems or request less than the best care for their animals.

The switch from operating room to board room has been a satisfying one for the company's president. "There are things about practicing medicine that I miss," Stephens says. "But the bottom line is, I'm able to help a lot more pets. When I was in practice I might treat 2,000 or 3,000 pets a year — now I see more than that get financial assistance every month. That means fewer animals suffering and fewer pets euthanized needlessly, which is great." □



TO BOARD ROOM

BY DEBORAH BEROSSET DIAMOND

DENNIS MURPHY ILLUSTRATION

BY DEBORAH BEROSSET DIAMOND

Women in Veterinary Medicine

“We do not take women applicants.”

That a college of veterinary medicine would issue such a statement today is unthinkable, with females comprising about half the veterinary student population across the country. But while the strides made by women in the profession are great,

they were long coming. **Dr. Frankee Eliot**, associate clinical professor at Mizzou's College of Veterinary Medicine, remembers when her applications to veterinary schools brought refusals because of her sex.

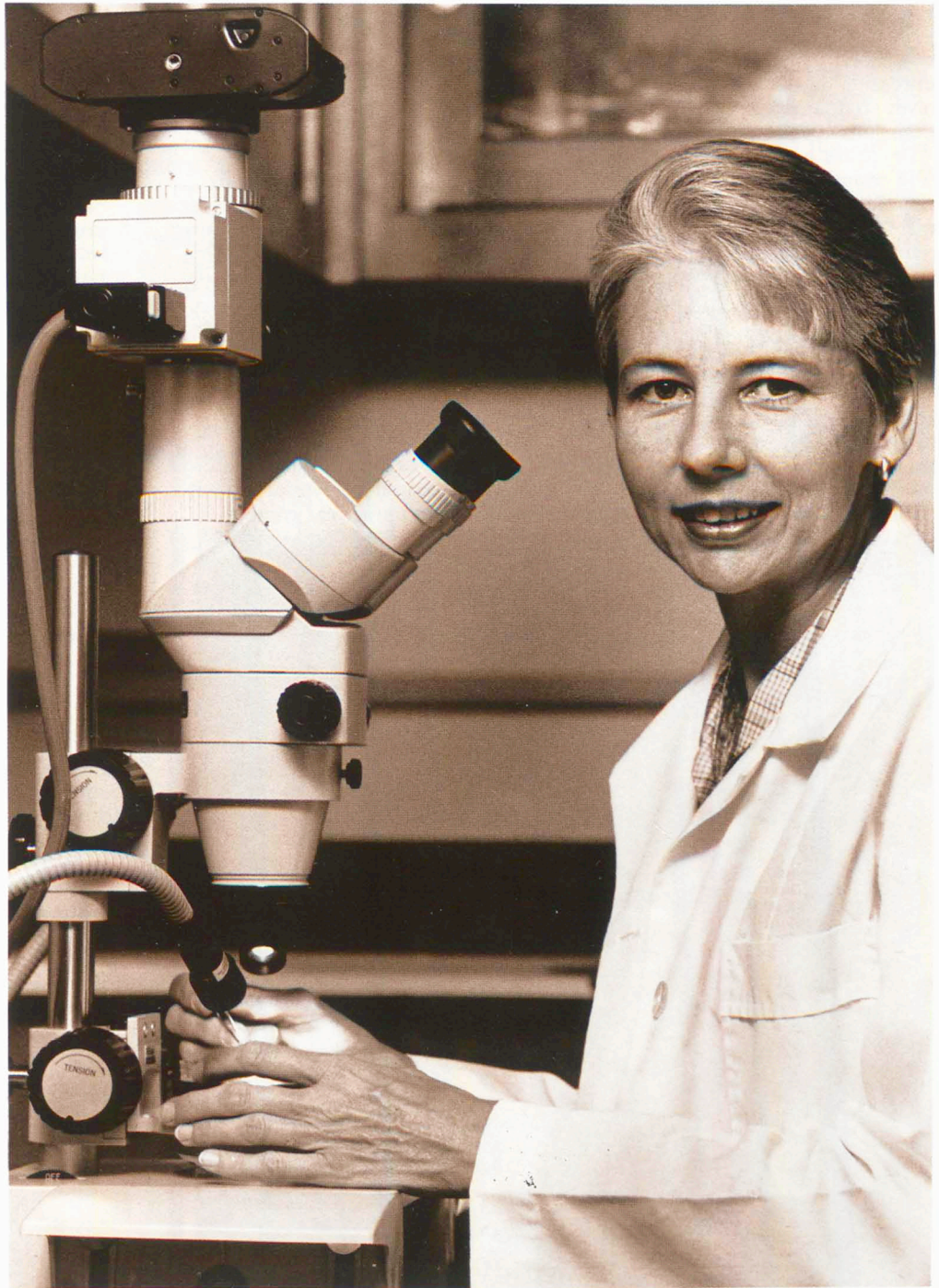
“It was in the '50s,” Eliot recalls. “Before that, during World War II, the schools had accepted women. But in the postwar period there were many veterans using their benefits to go to school, and veterinary

schools no longer needed women to fill their classes. Many of the letters I received said, ‘We don't take women applicants, period.’ I thought that was kind of interesting.”

Eliot persisted and went on to become one of the first two female graduates of Colorado State University's veterinary medicine program, as well as the first practicing woman veterinarian in the state of New Mexico. “I didn't take no for an answer,” she says. “I just decided they didn't understand that I was serious about this, that it wasn't a passing fancy. So I worked hard and applied myself, and eventually they realized I meant what I said.”

Eliot's story has a familiar ring to most women who entered the profession in all but the most recent years. **Dr. Linda Collier**, associate professor of veterinary pathology at Mizzou, remembers the pressure she felt as one of only six female veterinary medicine students in Cornell University's 65-member class of 1975. “There was still quite a lot of discrimination at that point,” Collier says. “The prevailing attitude was that it was a waste of time and money to train women as veterinarians, since they would likely just graduate, get married, get pregnant and leave the work force. Some even thought the women wouldn't make it through school.” Five of the men in her class dropped out of veterinary school for various reasons — all six women are now DVMS.

Until recent years, women choosing veterinary medicine as a profession faced skepticism and blatant discrimination. "The prevailing attitude was that it was a waste of time and money to train women as veterinarians," says Dr. Linda Collier, associate professor of veterinary pathology at Mizzou.



PAT NICHOLS PHOTO

"Some of the male students and faculty were glad to have us there," Collier says, "but others weren't sure we really belonged. We felt like the pressure was on us to try to outperform, to prove that we did deserve to be there. It was up to us to prove we could do it."

A few pioneers had already demonstrated that veterinary medicine

is a viable career choice for people without Y chromosomes. The first American woman DVM was Mignon Nicholson, who completed the degree at McKillip College in 1903. More than three decades later, in 1934, there still were only 16 women veterinarians in the entire country. As late as 1963, only about 150 of the 4,000 American and Canadian veterinary students were women, with

light enrollment of females being the rule until recent years.

For most women who have been in the profession 10 years or more, there were no female role models to emulate. One of the lucky ones was **Dr. Donna Walton Angarano**, BS Ag '77, DVM '79, now an associate professor at Auburn University's department of small animal surgery and medicine and a diplomate of the

American College of Veterinary Dermatology. She remembers a female practitioner who made a strong impression on her when she was a prevet student working in a practice in her native Florissant, Mo.

"Dr. Anita Fischer, who got her DVM from Missouri in '71, joined the practice while I was there," she says. "There were hardly any women around then, and here was Dr. Fischer, one of the top people in her graduating class and very sharp. She was a little bitty gal, less than 5 feet tall, and I noticed that when she was doing orthopedic surgery, for instance, she did some things differently than the guys. Where they would put broken bones together using muscle, she would do it with clever maneuvering. It was great to watch her. So while I'd already made the decision to go into veterinary medicine, working with her was an added bonus."

Women have demonstrated that ingenuity and experience count at least as much as size, weight and physical strength. **Dr. Linda Shilling Scorse**, DVM '75, recalls being told that women couldn't handle large animals because they weren't as big as men: "I said, 'Hey, it doesn't matter if you weigh 140 or 240 — if that 2,000-pound bull wants to stomp you, he will.'"

Scorse, sole owner and operator of Joplin Veterinary Hospital Inc., a small-animal practice, grew up around dairy cattle and practiced large-animal medicine for several years. "There's no sense in anyone,

male or female, getting out there and trying to play cowboy," she says emphatically. "If you've got any smarts you'll use chemical or physical restraint, so it just doesn't matter how big you are."

Times they are a-changin', and the women veterinarians of tomorrow will have plenty of role models providing encouragement and inspiration. Last year 57 percent of the nation's veterinary medicine students were women, according to Dr. Billy Hooper, executive director of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges in Washington, D.C. At Mizzou's College of Veterinary Medicine about half the students admitted in the past five years have been women.

All the female veterinary medicine students, faculty members and practitioners interviewed for this article agreed that they see comparatively little overt sex discrimination in the profession today. "Maybe there are some old-fashioned farmers out there who feel that a woman

Professional women today face difficult choices. Dr. Linda Shilling Scorse, owner and operator of a small-animal clinic in Joplin, Mo., has decided children would not be a wise addition to her and her husband's extremely busy lives: "I didn't want to be in the position so many women are, trying to be Supermom."



shouldn't be pulling their calves, but I really haven't seen it," says **Rosalie LoScudato**, a fourth-year student from Bayonne, N.J., currently in the large-animal rotation. "These days it seems that if you're doing a good job, it doesn't make any difference whether you're a man or a woman."

Collier concurs. "Women are pretty well accepted in the profession now," she says. "I don't think female students feel they're being set apart or watched especially closely, and I think the same is becoming true of women faculty members."

When females in the profession face discrimination now, it generally takes a more subtle form, women veterinarians say. "A graduate student of mine was nearly eight

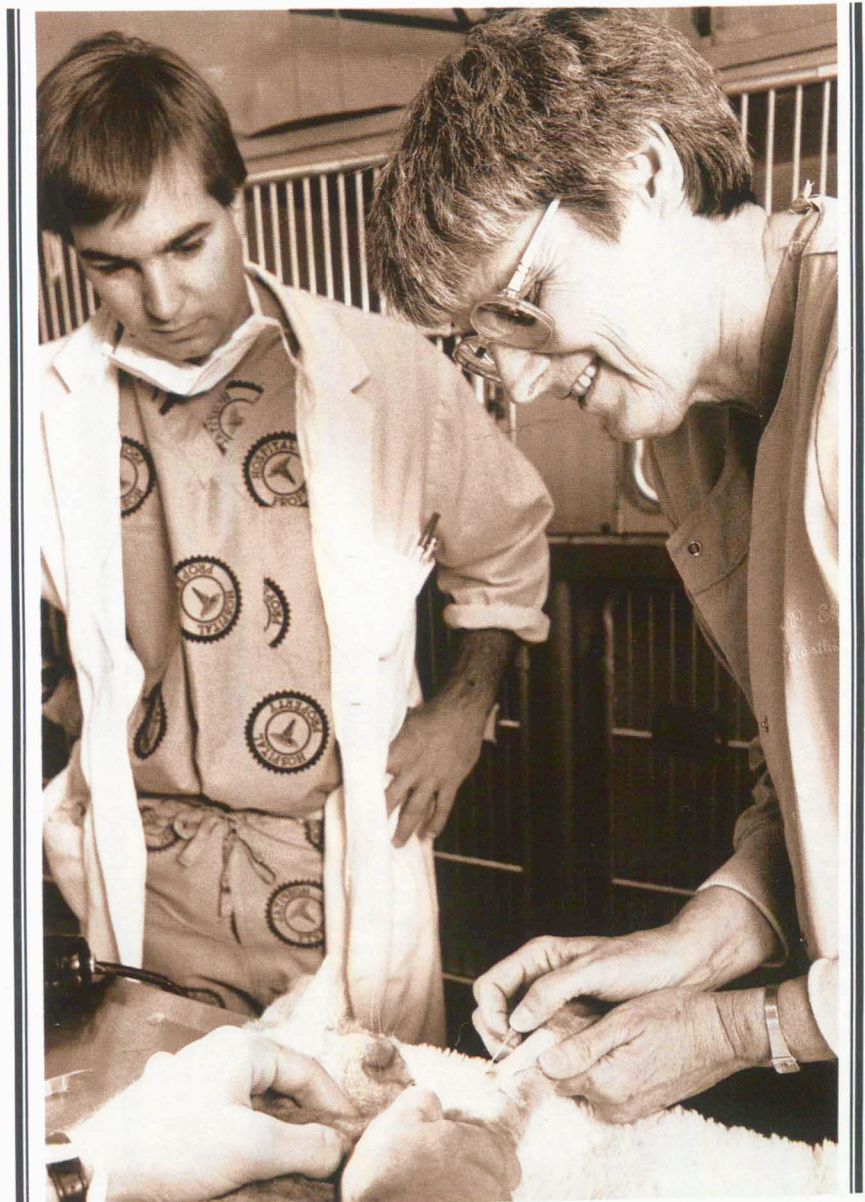
months pregnant when she went to a conference to present a paper," says **Dr. Carol Maddox**, assistant professor in Mizzou's veterinary microbiology department with a joint appointment at the Diagnostic Laboratory. "She walked up to the speaker's registration desk, and they immediately said, 'No, the wives' registration desk is over there.' So you still get a little bit of that sort of thing."

Professional self-image can be affected when a woman joins an all-male practice, Angarano explains. "She's really not 'one of the guys,' and may relate more easily to female technicians and receptionists. She'll be friendly and be on a first-

name basis with them, which is fine. But then when a younger male associate comes on board he's referred to as 'Dr. Smith' and she's 'Donna.' It's a subtle thing, but it affects the way clients perceive her and the way she feels herself."

Another issue that concerns women in the profession is money. Figures on men's and women's respective salaries in veterinary medicine are hard to come by. But female physicians, for example, made 62 cents for each dollar earned by male doctors in 1985 and 1986, according to the American Medical Association. The Department of Labor's 1988 statistics indicate that women working full time in all professional spe-

Today women and men are entering the profession in roughly equal numbers. But Dr. Frankee Eliot, associate professor at Mizzou, got anything but a warm welcome from veterinary schools when she first applied in the 1950s: "Many of the letters I received said, 'We don't take women, period.' I just didn't take no for an answer."



PAT NICHOLS PHOTO



PAT NICHOLS PHOTO

Women earning their DVMs in recent years have little to worry about in terms of blatant sex discrimination, says Dr. Carol Maddox, assistant professor in veterinary microbiology. What does surface on occasion, she reports, are more subtle forms of bias: "Sometimes people mean no harm, but say things without thinking."

cialties made an average of \$25,220 annually, or 75 percent of full-time men's average salary of \$33,852.

"Getting equal pay for equal work is a big issue that everyone in this profession is going to have to face in the next 10 years," says Scorse. Angarano says that part of the problem is that female veterinarians are often less adroit at asking for top dollar. "I've noticed that women in general aren't quite as good at asking for the amount of money they think they're entitled to," she says. "There's the notion that if you do a good job, the raises will automat-

ically come your way. But of course that doesn't necessarily happen."

All agree that personal choices often have a big impact on opportunities for women in the field. "If a woman is married, she may move for the sake of her husband's career, in which case she limits her job search to a certain radius," says Angarano. "The salary in this case may be less important than the location, and the veterinarian hiring her will often take advantage of that. I know women in that situation who have accepted salaries I would have thought insulting, they were so low."

And then there are the challenges involved when a woman decides to incorporate children as well as a career in her life. Eliot and her husband, both veterinarians, managed to have successful careers and three children. "We were able to do it because we shared everything," she says.

Others, such as Scorse and her husband, a policeman, have decided that children would not fit into lives that already seem full to the point of bursting. "I didn't want to be in the position so many women are, trying to be Supermom," she explains.

"When I go to meetings and seminars I hear all these stories from women veterinarians who say, 'I've got my 2-year-old at home and I've got my practice, and I feel guilty when I'm at the office, and I feel guilty when I'm at home, with all that needs to be done at work.'"

"I already feel torn, and I'm neglecting my personal life as it is," she adds. "My own animals at home need their teeth cleaned, and I just can't get time to do it. So I can imagine the pressure experienced by women with children."

Female veterinarians often have an edge over their male colleagues when it comes to client perception, reports Dr. Ava Frick, owner of a practice just outside St. Louis: "Right or wrong, some animal owners assume that a woman will be more emotionally involved with a sick pet than a man would."



Student LoScrudato plans to marry eventually and have children as well as practice small-animal medicine. "I know female faculty members who are board-certified in their specialties, yet who are married and have children," she says. "They've mixed their profession with a family, and I look up to them for that. I look at them and think 'Yeah, it can be done.'"

Convincing a prospective employer it can be done might be a different matter, however. **Nicole Fulcher**, VM3, of Columbia, is married and would like to have children some day. But she is concerned about how — or whether — to handle that issue in a job interview. "I've had some older male veterinarians tell me they don't want to hire a female veterinarian who might decide to have a baby in the next few years," she says. "One man made it clear that he'd definitely consider the person who wasn't going to have a child over the person who was. So is it best to volunteer my plans not to have a baby for at least two years?

Or is it better to say nothing at all about that in an interview? If I'm asked, should I refuse to answer the question? I don't know."

But while there are special challenges faced by women in the profession, there are those who point to advantages associated with being a female veterinarian. **Dr. Ava Frick**, DVM '80, owns County Seat Animal Hospital and Services, a primarily small-animal practice in Union, Mo. Right or wrong, she says, pet owners often assume a woman practitioner is going to be more emotionally involved with a sick animal than a male counterpart. "Some clients feel a female will interact more with that pet and be more compassionate," she says.

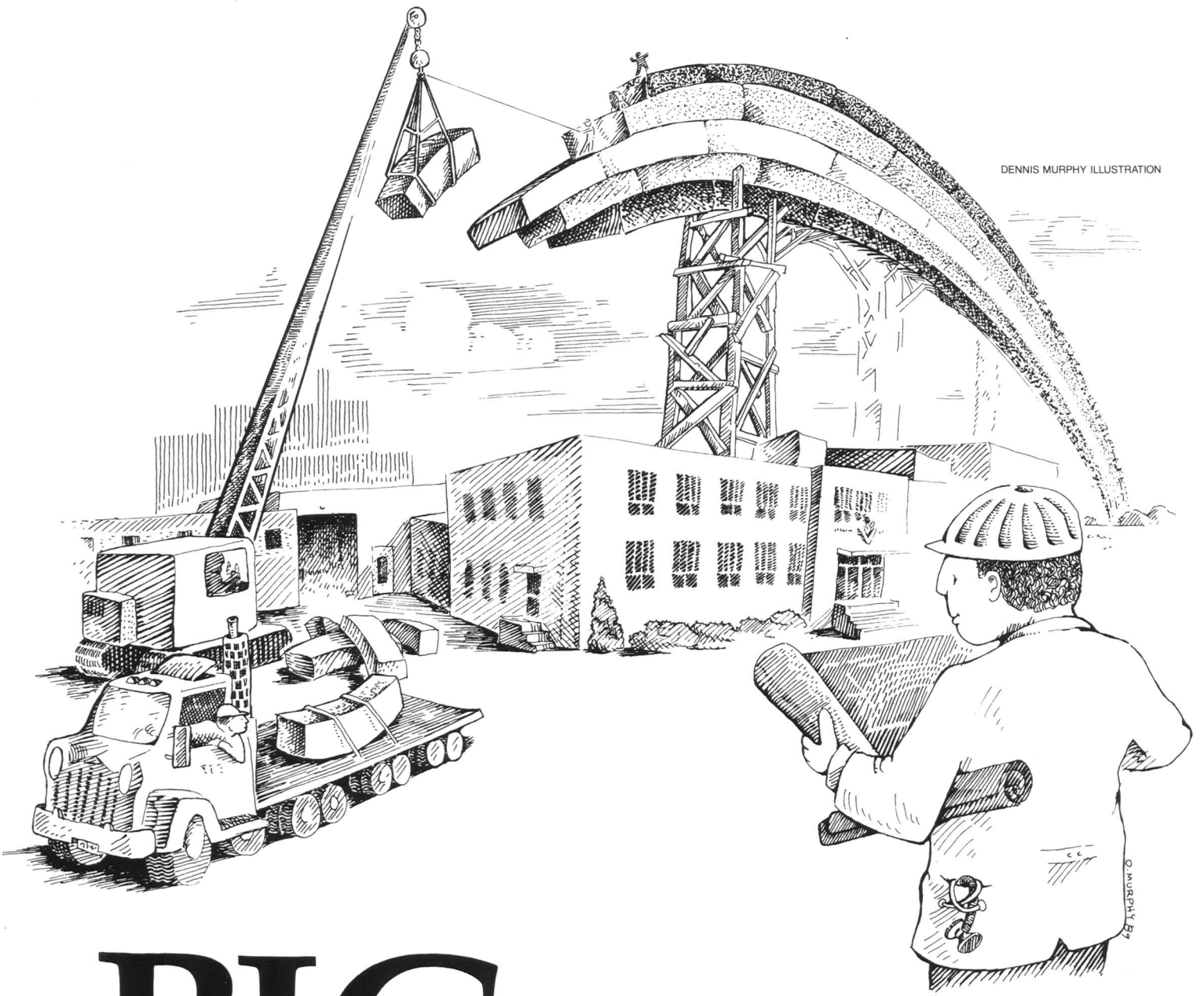
And Angarano notes that some dogs owned by single women are less anxious and aggressive with a

female veterinarian. "Because of things like that," she says, "many people are realizing that the female veterinarian is a great asset to a practice."

The opportunities for women in the profession are tremendous, Angarano adds, with plenty of options besides clinical veterinary medicine. "With many of them there's great variation in the hours, travel opportunities, and so on," she says. "It's pretty exciting."

Women studying veterinary medicine today have much to look forward to, but should, some say, take time for an occasional grateful backward glance. "When you look at the pictures of graduating classes over the years you see more and more female faces," says student LoScrudato.

"Sometimes I think about those women who were the only women in their classes, and what they must have gone through. Things have changed so much — I guess we female veterinary students today owe it all to them." □



DENNIS MURPHY ILLUSTRATION

BIG PLANS

Sketches on the

There's been a lot of cogitating, contemplating and calculating going on at the college in recent months.

Administrators and architects have been huddled over stacks of documents and drawings, striving to arrive at the perfect balance between fantasy and funds as they discuss plans for new facilities.

In September the University System Board of Curators approved preliminary drawings for a \$17.5 million addition to MU's College of Veterinary Medicine. The Proposed two-story addition to the veterinary medicine building south of Rollins Street will house clinics, laboratories and teaching facilities.

"Talk about squeezing the nickel until the Indian hollers. . . ." says Dean Robert Kahrs, laughing. "This building is going to be very efficient, with the maximum return for every dollar invested in its construction."

Kahrs notes that the AVMA accreditation team's site visit last spring was encouraging, if inconclusive. As of this writing, college administrators were waiting to see the official report. "The vibrations were pretty positive and upbeat," the dean says. "But they still had reservations about our facilities. While we feel our efforts have been Herculean, they would like to see a hole in the ground and girders going up."

According to Associate Dean Ken Niemeyer, the process has moved from the schematic stage to deciding the function of every new room. "We're asking things like, 'Where do

you want surgery lights in this room?' and 'What do you want on that wall?'" he says. Next come the construction documents, and eventually — perhaps by February — the letting of bids.

The official ground-breaking ceremony is slated for March 31 to coincide with the 1990 Gentle Doctor Benefit and Parents' Day. "And we hope we'll be digging a big hole out there by some time in June," adds Niemeyer.

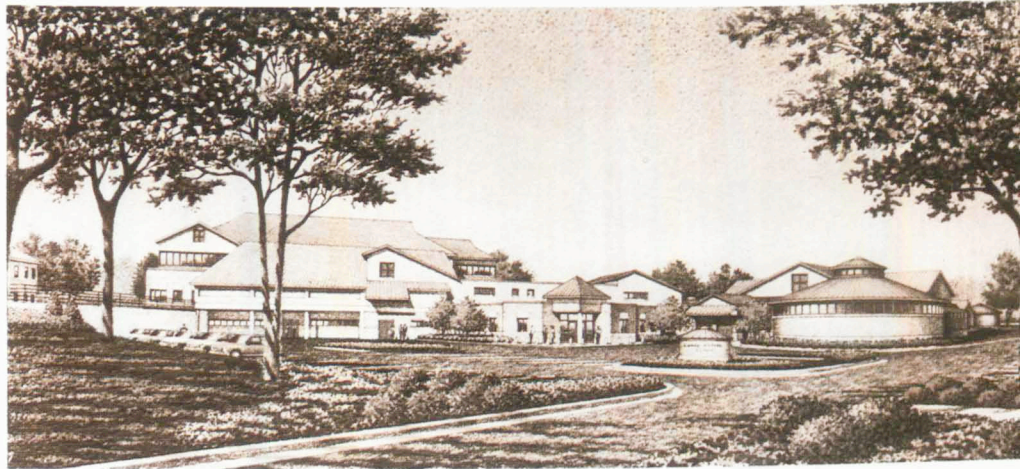
But plans for new buildings aren't the only ones being generated in the college these days. With the guidance and funds of the Pew National Veterinary Education Program, the faculty have composed a strategic plan that identifies goals and priorities for the college. The PNVEP is a

\$5.5 million project funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts that seeks to strengthen colleges and schools of veterinary medicine in the United States and Canada.

The first phase of the program's four-phase initiative involved a study on "Future Directions for Veterinary Medicine," an analysis of the broad environmental changes that confront the veterinary profession and veterinary medicine educational institutions.

The second phase was a series of leadership development activities for veterinary school faculty and administrators.

The third phase of the program is a strategic planning process involving all 27 U.S. and four Canadian colleges. These planning initiatives,



An artist's concept of the College of Veterinary Medicine complex after construction of a two-story addition. The new building will sit between the existing Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and the School of Agriculture's Animal Science Lab. This view of the south side shows the college as it will appear when approached via Ashland Gravel Road.

college drawing board indicate changes both inside and out.

BIG PLANS

begun in the fall of 1988 and concluded during the fall of 1989, were supported by a grant of \$30,000 to each U.S. school.

Dr. Gerald Buening, associate dean for research and postdoctoral studies, coordinated the planning process at MU. "We organized it a little differently from most other colleges," he says. "While most used a top-down method with administra-

tive boards bringing in faculty only occasionally, ours was a more grass-roots effort. We used a faculty-driven process, and a lot of faculty spent a lot of time on this."

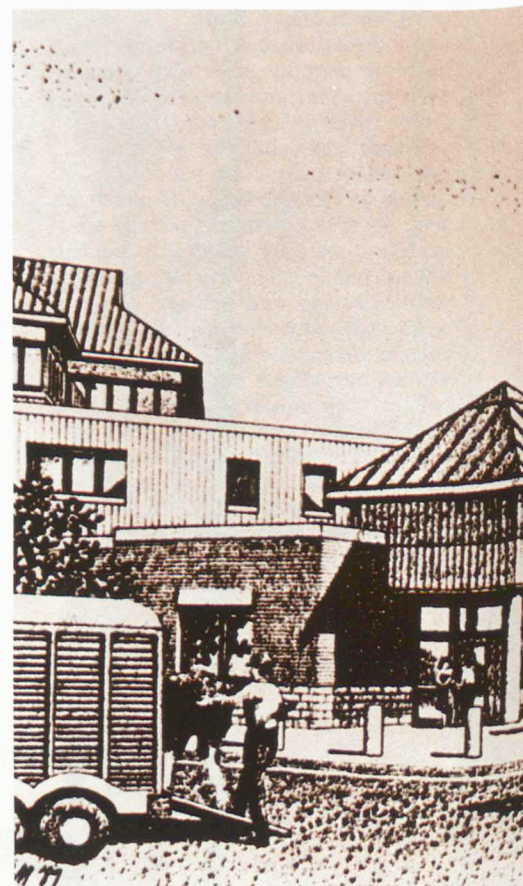
Volunteer faculty members established five task forces, with the chairs and co-chairs of those groups serving on the strategic planning advisory board. In a series of interactions among the task forces, the advisory board and the faculty-at-large, the groups examined the college's strengths and weaknesses, the expectations of its constituencies and publics, demographic and environmental factors and faculty prioritization of program emphasis.

A faculty vote resulted in a list of five top priority strategic goals for the college:

1. A program for improving edu-



Above is the entrance to the small-animal clinic, which will be located on the north side of the building. At right, a drawing shows a closer view of the south side of the College of Veterinary Medicine — the large-animal clinic entrance is on the left, the equine clinic on the right.



cational quality within the college, possibly an institute for excellence in veterinary medical education.

2. Development of veterinary medical communications, marketing and public relations tied to University Extension and Continuing Education programs.

3. Development of a five-year plan of equipment and space needs for professional student education, graduate programs, clinical and diagnostic service needs.

4. Curriculum modification to assure elective opportunities and special interest tracking for veterinary students.

5. Establishment of added stipends to strengthen graduate education.

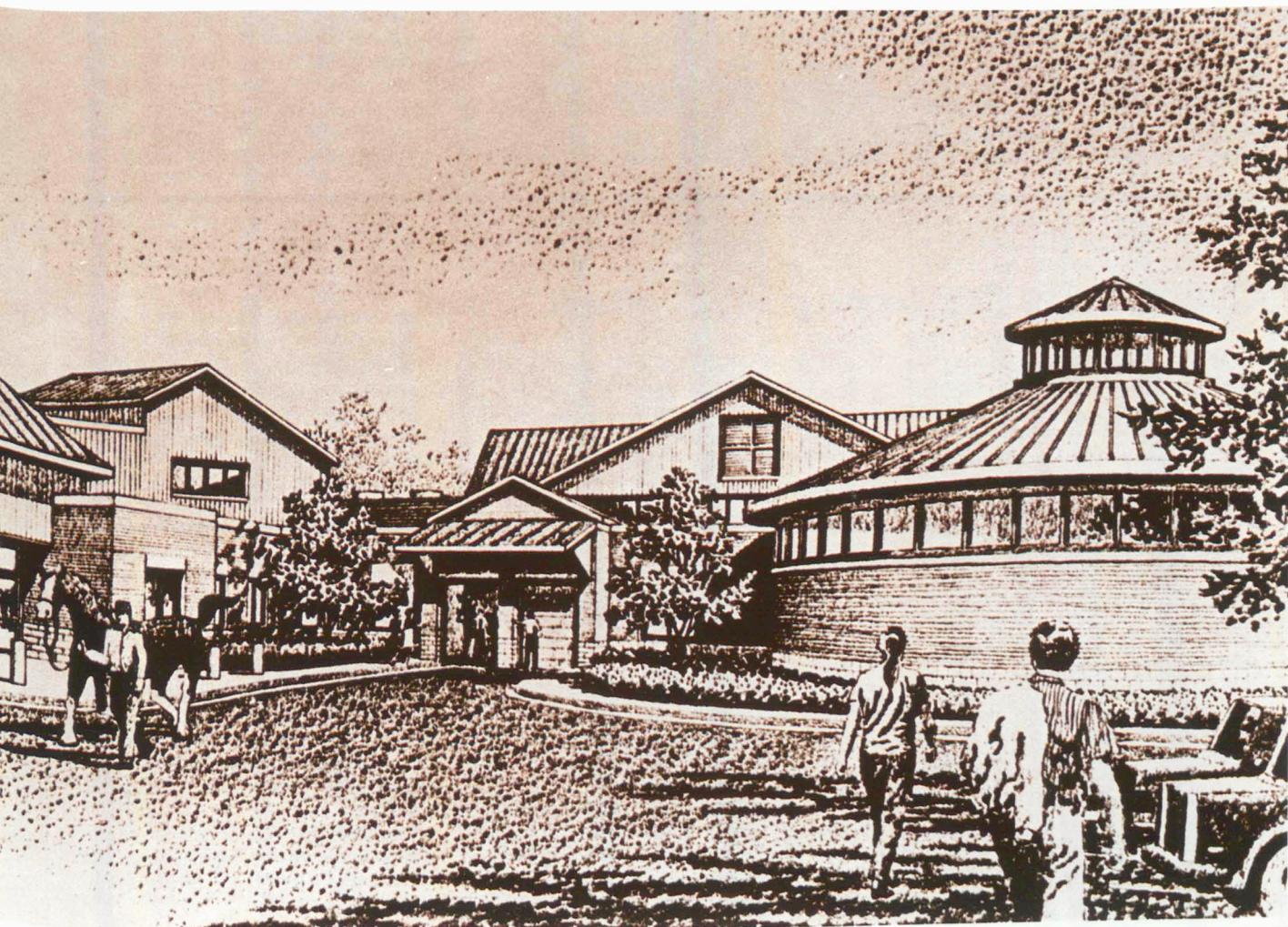
Dean Kahrs was pleased with the strategic planning results. "The pri-

orities identified reaffirm what I see as the college's longstanding philosophy — that education is at the center of what we do."

The Pew program's fourth phase means a chance at making those priorities come to life. The PNVEP advisory committee is standing ready with \$3 million to distribute to veterinary colleges to implement the ideas that emerged from the strategic planning process. According to the prospectus for the funding aspect of the program, the money will be used "to support projects that are particularly innovative, have great potential for changing the national system of veterinary medical education, have little chance of securing outside funding from other sources and which are truly excellent in concept and design."

While the PNVEP will make awards of up to \$250,000 to selected institutions, no one school is likely to receive support of their entire strategic plan. The awards will be announced in February. Kahrs is optimistic: "So many plans of this type that are generated are wish lists for \$25 million worth of stuff. This list is not as formidable as many plans that come up through the ranks."

The winds of change are blowing at Mizou's College of Veterinary Medicine, and predictions of a bright future are not just so much hot air, Kahrs notes cheerfully. "The joy of it is, I see a lot of things are clearly workable within the context of being fiscally responsible," he says. "While we're small, the emphasis is on efficiency and excellence." □



AROUND THE COLLEGE

Biomedical Sciences

Dr. Gheorghe M. Constantinescu, associate professor of veterinary anatomy, became a U.S. citizen on May 1. He published "A clinical note on the vascular anatomy of the black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) forelimb" with R.E. Miller, R.C. McClure and W.Y. Boever in the *Journal of Zoo Wildlife Medicine*, Vol. 20, No. 2, 228-230, 1989.

Kathy Engler, VM2, won first prize in the Phi Zeta-Beecham Research Day section on undergraduate research in April. The winning paper, written with **Dr. Wade V.**

Welshons, assistant professor, was "Lithium-stimulated growth of MCF-7 cells."

Dr. Robert C. McClure, professor, was elected to a second term as vice president for the South Central Re-

gion of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

Dan Nonneman, senior research lab technician, won second prize in the Health Sciences Section of the Graduate Professional Council's research competition in April.

Dr. Vincent St. Omer, professor, is serving as acting director of the University of West Indies School of Veterinary Medicine in St. Augustine, Trinidad, from September 1989 to September 1990.

Diagnostic Laboratory

Dr. Stan W. Casteel, assistant professor, joined the faculty in June. He received a DVM from MU in 1983 and a PhD from Texas A&M University in 1987. Before joining the MU faculty, he was an assistant professor

at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Toxicologists, and has conducted research and published in the area of poisonous plants.

Dr. William H. Fales, professor, published "Antimicrobial susceptibility and serotypes of *Actinobacillus (Haemophilus pleuropneumoniae)* recovered from Missouri swine" with L.G. Morehouse, K.R. Mittal, Carol Bean-Kundson, S.L. Nelson, L.D. Kintner, J.R. Turk, M.A.M. Turk, T.P. Brown and D.P. Shaw in the *Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation*, Vol. 1, 16-19, 1989. He published "Summary of porcine respiratory diagnosis at the Missouri Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory for the years 1984-1986" with J.R. Turk, M.A.M. Turk, L.D. Kintner, S.L. Nelson, D.P. Shaw, T.P. Brown and L.G. Morehouse in the same issue, 183-184, 1989.

Fales presented "Combination antimicrobial susceptibility testing: de-

University faculty form political action group

In an effort to make up for inadequate state funding of higher education, University faculty members have joined forces and formed their own political action committee, MU-PAC.

Dr. Allen Hahn, professor of veterinary medicine and surgery and chairman of the group, says the two main functions of MU-PAC are gathering information on education issues and raising funds for candidates throughout the state who support public higher education.

While Missouri is 15th among the 50 states in population, it ranks 47th in per capita state spending for higher education. State Rep. Ken Jacob has noted that the PAC is a good idea because competing interest groups such as mental health, prisons, social services, and elementary and secondary education already take such measures.

Within the first few months of its

formation, the committee received about \$2,000 in donations from MU faculty, staff, administrators and students. "People have responded with their checkbooks," Hahn says. The average donation is \$100.

MU-PAC also welcomes contributions from alumni and friends concerned about the future of the University. Contributions may be sent to MU-PAC at P.O. Box 7081, Columbia, Mo. 65205.

Olson earns Fulbright honors

Dr. LeRoy D. Olson of the College of Veterinary Medicine was among the six Mizzou professors selected to receive the prestigious Fulbright Scholarships for study and research abroad for 1989-1990.

Olson, professor of veterinary pathology, began a sabbatical leave at the University of Zimbabwe October 1 to lecture on swine and poultry diseases, veterinary pathology and necropsy to veterinary students.

Olson will also spend time familiarizing himself with the clinical signs and lesions of livestock diseases foreign to the United States but endemic to Zimbabwe and of great danger to this country's livestock industry.

The professor has been working with poultry and swine diseases and in veterinary pathology at MU for 24 years.

velopment of an *In Vitro* combination susceptibility testing system for resistant *Pasteurella hemolytica* type 1 isolates recovered from Missouri cattle with bovine respiratory disease complex" with M.A.M. Turk, L.G. Morehouse, H.S. Gosser, L.W. Pace, J.R. Fischer, J.N. Berg and G.E. Burrows at the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians meeting at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, in 1989.

Dr. Gayle C. Johnson, assistant professor, joined the MU faculty in September from Ohio State University's department of veterinary pathobiology. She received a DVM from the University of California in 1975 and a PhD from Washington State University in 1982. She is a diplomate in the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and has conducted research with Potomac horse fever and diseases associated with retrovirus infections in animals.

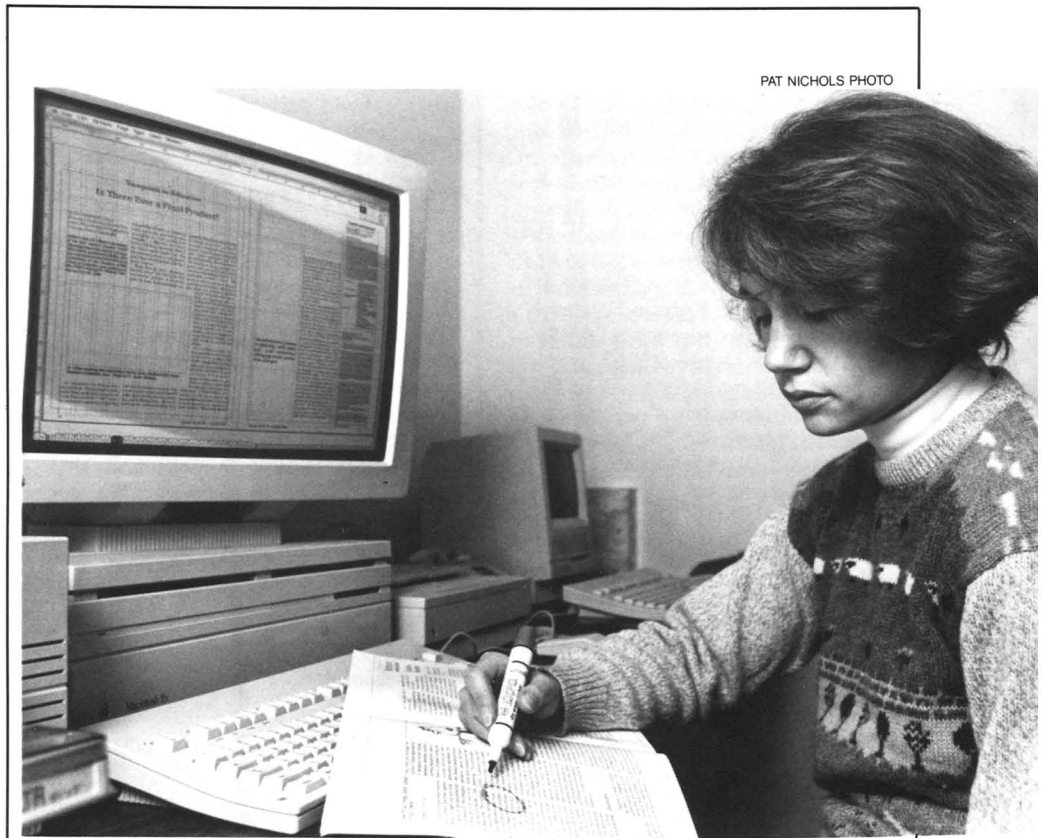
Dr. John M. Kreeger, assistant professor, came to MU in July from Colorado State University, where he was an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow. He received a DVM in 1984 and a PhD in 1988 from Louisiana State University. He has conducted research in cattle infected with *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis*.

Dr. George E. Rottinghaus, associate professor, published two articles in the *Proceedings of the Fescue Toxicosis Conference, Columbia, Mo., Jan. 6, 1989*: "High pressure liquid chromatography determination of ergovaline levels in endophyte infected tall fescue" with G.B. Garner, and "Seasonal variation in ergovaline concentration in endophyte infected tall fescue leaves, stems and seed heads with and without nitrogen" with J.L. Ellis, G.B. Garner and R.J. Crawford.

Rottinghaus also published two articles in the *Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation*: "Mass spectral confirmation of oosporein in poultry rations" with P.F. Ross and D.L. Osheim, Vol. 1, 271-272, 1989, and "A rapid screening procedure for detecting the mycotoxin oosporein in poultry rations" with H.T. Sklebar, L.H. Senter and T.P. Brown, Vol. 1, 174-175, 1989.

In addition, he published two articles in *Poultry Science*: "The individual and combined toxicity of deoxynivalenol and T-2 toxin in broiler chicks" with R.B. Kubena, W.E. Huff, R.B. Harvey and T.D. Phillips, Vol. 68, 622-626, 1989, and "Influence of ochratoxin A (OA) and T-2 toxin singly and in combination on broiler chickens" with R.B. Kubena,

(Continued on page 18)



PAT NICHOLS PHOTO

Student editor Ruth Marrion Halenda has big plans for *Intervet*.

National journal for vet students headquartered at Mizzou again

Intervet is back. And once again, Mizzou students are making a nationwide impact on veterinary medicine.

Each year a different college produces *Intervet*, the national journal of the student chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association. When MU's College of Veterinary Medicine was first in charge of the publication two years ago, students here introduced several innovations including totally computerized production. During 1988-1989, the magazine went to Iowa State University.

This year at the national SCAVMA convention, however, Missouri students again submitted a bid to produce *Intervet* and were awarded the job.

Student editor **Ruth Marrion Halenda**, VM3, of Columbia, and her staff have big plans for the six issues in 1989-1990. "We want to become more depth-oriented," explains Halenda, who served as copy editor for *Intervet* two years ago. "We want to stir up controversy — get students involved in issues — and stimulate letters to the editor."

To that end, Halenda wrote an edi-

torial in support of animal welfare for the kickoff issue. There will be a series of articles on nontraditional careers in veterinary medicine, and students are planning to devote an entire issue to international veterinary medicine. "And this year we'll have color advertising in addition to the color covers of past years," the magazine's editor adds.

The core staff besides Halenda includes six other third-year students: advertising manager **Jim Foster**, business manager **Rich Westhouse**, computer layout artist **Maury McNutt**, copy chief **Mike Bowen**, news editor **Nicole Fulcher** and photographer **Anne-Marie Farrell**. Other students help out on an occasional basis.

This year has already proven to be an important one for the publication — Ralston Purina Co. donated money for a computer system that will travel with the magazine from school to school each year.

"Putting the publication together is a lot of work," Halenda notes, "but it plays an important role for veterinary students. Somebody had to do it, so I thought, 'Why not us?'"

(Continued from page 17)

W.E. Harvey, W.E. Huff, D.E. Corrier and T.D. Phillips, Vol. 68, 867-872, 1989.

Dr. James R. Turk, associate professor, rejoined the faculty in July. Turk was a pathologist in the VMDL for three years before accepting a position as senior research fellow with Merck, Sharp and Kohme Research Laboratories. He received a DVM from MU in 1977 and a PhD from Washington State University in 1981. Turk is a diplomate in the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and has conducted research in bovine respiratory disease.

Medicine and Surgery

Dr. Everett Aronson, associate professor, was a guest lecturer at the Prince Edward Island School of Veterinary Medicine at the Atlantic Veterinary College in Canada March 28 through 31. He presented a paper on thoracic radiology.

Dr. C.J. Bierschwal, professor

emeritus, was named the sixth recipient of the David E. Bartlett Award, sponsored jointly by the Society for Theriogenology and the American College of Theriogenologists to annually reward a distinguished theriogenologist who has made important contributions to the field. Bierschwal presented an address to the society at the fall conference in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, on Sept. 30. **Dr. C.B. Chastain**, professor, published "Anti-triiodothyronine antibodies associated with hypothyroidism and lymphocytic thyroiditis in a dog" in the *Journal of*

Mizzou's highest honor goes to veterinary pathologist

Wagner's winning ways earn Professorship

The May 9 Sesquicentennial Commencement ceremony was a memorable event for **Dr. Joe Wagner**. For not only did he watch one daughter graduate from law school and another from journalism school that day, the professor and chairman of the veterinary pathology department was given the highest honor the University of Missouri can confer upon an active faculty member: a Curators' Professorship.

To receive this particular appointment is to be recognized for a truly exemplary academic career — the honor, which provides a lifetime salary supplement and research support, has been bestowed upon only seven people in the 150-year history of the University.

"Awards aren't something you plan for or work toward," says Wagner, who is internationally recognized for his contributions to laboratory animal medicine. "But this certainly was a great honor. Being awarded a Curators' Professorship gives you a sense of responsibility to perform at a certain level. And of course it involves serving the entire University, being a systemwide resource."

Wagner's specialty involves the study of the care and treatment of animals used in teaching and research, as well as the design of scientifically sound and humane research protocols for studying questions requiring animal subjects. The professor's own expertise lies in the area of laboratory animal diseases and comparative pathology.

The discovery of feline cytauxzoonosis in 1975 is the single accomplishment that has brought Wagner

the most notoriety in the veterinary profession. His paper on the disease was the first documentation of organisms of the family *Theileriidae* outside the cloven hoofed animal, and the discovery continues to be of worldwide interest due to its similarity to African East Coast Fever in cattle.

Wagner modestly credits his mentors — Dr. Paul Beaver at Tulane, Dr. Norman Levine at the University of Illinois and Dr. Jack Frenkel at the University of Kansas — with providing the training that enabled him to recognize the cat disease as being unique and theretofore undescribed. "There's a saying that 'Chance favors the prepared mind,'" says Wagner. "And thanks to those gentlemen, I was prepared and had the confidence to go ahead and publish my findings."

"I always have lots of projects — I enjoy wearing several different hats."

Wagner's long list of honors starts with the G.G. Graham Award for clinical proficiency in veterinary medicine, presented to him upon graduation from Iowa State University in 1963. He received a master's degree in public health at Tulane University in 1964 and a PhD in pathology from the University of Illi-

nois in 1967. Wagner then served as chief of research in laboratory animal medicine at the Kansas City Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Since that time, the veterinary pathologist has found his home in academia. He was an assistant professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center, and came to Mizzou in 1969 as associate and then full professor. In 1986 Wagner received his field's most prestigious honor, the Charles River Prize.

Wagner's hefty curriculum vitae shows a continuum of more than 120 scientific papers, dozens of abstracts and chapters published, and a best-selling veterinary medical text written with J.E. Harkness: *The Biology and Medicine of Rabbits and Rodents*.

The Curators' Professorship is designed to allow appointees to engage in teaching and research across divisional lines and to contribute to the entire University. As director of the University of Missouri Research Animal Diagnostic and Investigative Laboratory, Wagner has for some time been providing professional guidance for all four institutions in the University of Missouri System, and the Midwestern biomedical research community as well. RADIL specializes in the diagnosis and study of naturally occurring diseases of research animals and animal models of human disease.

"Animals used in research don't have immunity to disease because of the rigidly controlled environments in which they're raised," Wagner explains. "Investigators often send us animals to check for naturally occurring diseases when their research

the *American Veterinary Medicine Association*, Vol. 194, 531-534, 1989. He published "Colorful language" in *Veterinary Technician*, Vol. 10, 164-165, 1989. Chastain's chapter on "Use of corticosteroids" was published in *Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine*, third edition, edited by S.J. Ettinger, 413-428, 1989.

Dr. E. Allen Corley, professor, retired Sept. 1 to take a position as director of the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals in Columbia.

Dr. Peter Farin, resident, was in El-Biar, Algiers, May 18 through June 2 to provide technical guidance and

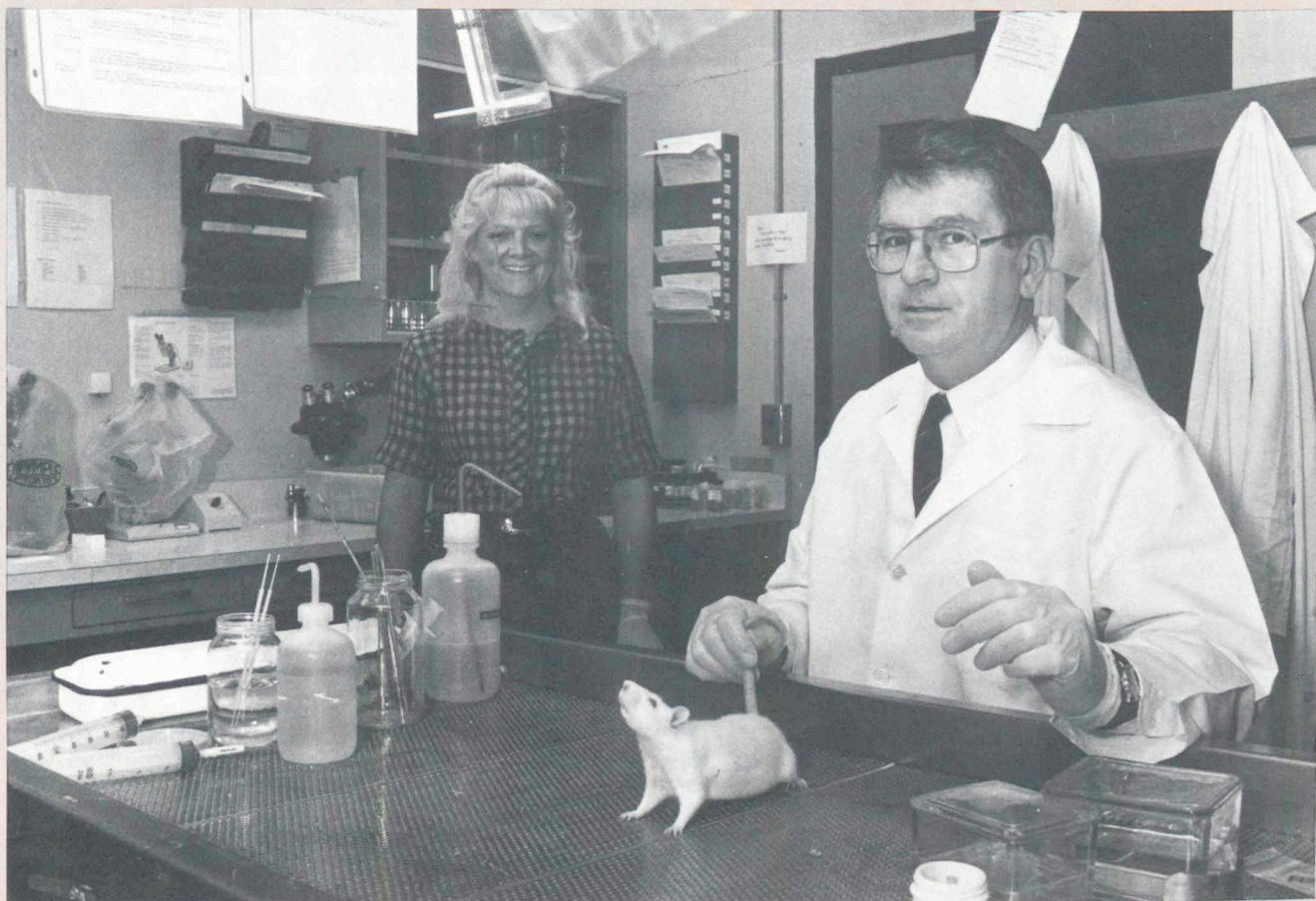
to design a reproductive herd health program for the Demonstration Farm Project Dairy Farm. He was sponsored by the U.S. Feed Grains Council.

Dr. Ed Fleming, third-year small-animal medicine resident, passed the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine's general examination on the first attempt. He also placed third in the Phi Zeta-Beecham Research Day section for interns/residents/graduate studies with "Sex predilection clinical findings and complete blood count abnormalities associated with the

feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) infection," written with D.L. McCaw. **Dr. Marjorie E. Gross**, assistant professor in veterinary anesthesiology, joined the faculty Aug. 16. She is a graduate of Oklahoma State University, interned in small-animal anesthesiology there, and completed a three-year anesthesiology residency at the University of Illinois.

Mr. Ron Haffey, administrative manager of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, was in Trinidad July 2 through 16 to consult for the Pan American Health Organization on

(Continued on page 20)



STEVE SHELTON PHOTO

Wagner, whose specialty is lab animal science, is co-author of the veterinary medical bestseller, The Biology and Medicine of Rabbits and Rodents. Here the pathologist examines a rat in the necropsy lab as laboratory technician Phyllis Kauffman looks on.

isn't going as anticipated. In the course of providing diagnostic support, we uncover many new and previously unreported diseases and conditions."

RADIL has developed steadily over the 20 years of Wagner's tenure at Mizzou, and has been continually supported by the National Institutes of Health since 1969.

"Through Dr. Wagner's efforts," says Dean Robert Kahrs, "MU is the nation's largest source of veterinarians trained in the specialty of laboratory animal medicine. He is a superbly balanced faculty member with an unsurpassed record of productivity, prominence, publications and program leadership in teaching, research and public service."

With kudos like that, what's left to accomplish? "I don't see my plans as changing much," Wagner says, fiddling with the large microscope that sits on his desk. "I always have lots of projects going on at the same time — I enjoy wearing several different hats."

Veterinarian, research animal pathologist, writer, editor, educator — if Joe Wagner continues to wear his many hats with such aplomb, he'll be considered a feather in the University's cap for many productive years to come.

(Continued from page 19)

the opening of the Trinidad-Tobago Medical Complex.

Dr. Brent Jones, associate professor, was in London, England, July 26 through August 16 to present papers to the London Academy of Veteri-

nary Medicine: "The use of liver function tests: a clinician's perspective," "Diseases of the liver," "Liver biopsy techniques," "Gastritis, erosions and ulcers," "The pathophysiology and treatment of acute diarrhea" and "The medical problem of chronic di-

arrhea."

Dr. Kim Knowles, resident, passed the certification exam and is now board certified in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine specialty of neurology.

Dr. K.H. Kraus, resident, won first



STEVE LEVIN PHOTO

An Amish farmer's horse emerged skinned up but alive from the well in the foreground above.

Well spells deep trouble for wayfaring horse

The teaching hospital's ambulatory unit received an interesting call for help from the Boone County fire department in August, when a horse got in some deep trouble — 14 feet, to be exact.

Marty, a 4-year-old gelding belonging to an Amish farmer in west Audrain County, had been turned loose in an oat field to enjoy what grain the harvesters had left behind. When Marty failed to appear in the barnyard as usual the following morning, the farmer's son set out on horseback to search for him. Sounds of a struggle led the young man to a 14-foot-deep abandoned open well, where the unhappy gelding had fallen and apparently spent the night in

neck-high water.

Upon learning of the horse's misfortune, the farmer, who had no telephone, rode about a half-mile to a neighbor's house to call for help.

Associate professor **Dr. Robert Miller**, head of the college's food animal section, arrived along with some other teaching hospital personnel and was lowered by rope into the hole by firefighters already on the scene. "The horse was weak and pretty badly skinned up from rubbing against and pawing the stone walls of the well," Miller says. "But there didn't seem to be any brain injury. When I spoke to him he knew someone was there and calmed down."

Miller administered a tranquilizer

to the animal and then looped rope lines around its head and shoulders. Ten minutes and one tow truck later, Marty was out of the well.

The farmer declined further treatment for Marty at the MU's Equine Center. "But I checked on the horse a few times afterwards," Miller says, "and he seemed to be all right. He was lucky."

The college often teams up with local firefighters and paramedics as part of the Animal Rescue Program, which teaches emergency workers animal first aid and safety. "We work together quite a bit," Miller notes. "They call us in as needed, and we're happy to help."

place in the Phi Zeta-Beecham Research Day section for interns/residents/graduate studies with "The effects of aortic occlusion on transcranially induced evoked potentials in the dog," written with E.R. Pope, D. O'Brien and B.L. Hay.

Dr. F.A. Mann, assistant professor, was senior author of two abstracts published in the proceedings of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress held in Harrogate, England, March 30 to April 2: "Testosterone and estradiol 17-beta concentrations in dogs with perineal hernia: 15 cases (1984-1986)" and "Cranial pubic ligament rupture in dogs and cats."

He published "Serum testosterone and estradiol 17-beta concentrations in 15 dogs with perineal hernia" with H.W. Boothe, M.S. Amoss, et al., in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medicine Association*, Vol. 194, 1,578-1,580, 1989.

Dr. Terri McCalla, resident, successfully completed the examination by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology on her first attempt in August and is now certified as a veterinary ophthalmologist.

Dr. Dudley McCaw, associate professor, and **Drs. Edward J. Fleming** and **Marilyn Mikiciuk**, residents, have published the following articles in the Renal Disease Symposium in *Veterinary Medicine*: "Reversing acute renal failure," Vol. 84, 290-295, 1989; "Managing dogs with flomerular disease," Vol. 84, 304-306, 1989; "Chronic renal failure in dogs: managing an irreversible condition," Vol. 84, 297-303, 1989; "Selecting the right diagnostic tests for renal disease," Vol. 84, 266-272, 1989; and "Interpreting the results of urinalysis: a key to diagnosing renal disorders," Vol. 84, 281-286, 1989.

Dr. R. Eric Miller, adjunct assistant professor, published "A clinical note on the vascular anatomy of the black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) forelimb" with R.C. McClure and G.M. Constantinescu in the *Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine*, Vol. 20, No. 2, 228-230, 1989.

Dr. Clifton N. Murphy, assistant professor, was in Costa Rica May 13 through 24 and Aug. 14 through 27 to perform and teach embryo transfer at CATIE. He was in Spain July 30 to Aug. 4 to consult with the Holstein Association and the Spanish government concerning training and embryo gestation in that country.

Dr. John T. Payne, assistant professor in small-animal surgery, joined the college Aug. 1. The graduate of Ohio State University completed a

residency in small-animal surgery and a MS degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University at Blacksburg, Va.

Dr. Eric R. Pope, assistant professor, was a speaker at the American College of Veterinary Surgeons European Forum in Munich, West Germany, May 25 to June 12. He also visited Cambridge Veterinary College and Surgical Referral Practice in Cambridge, England.

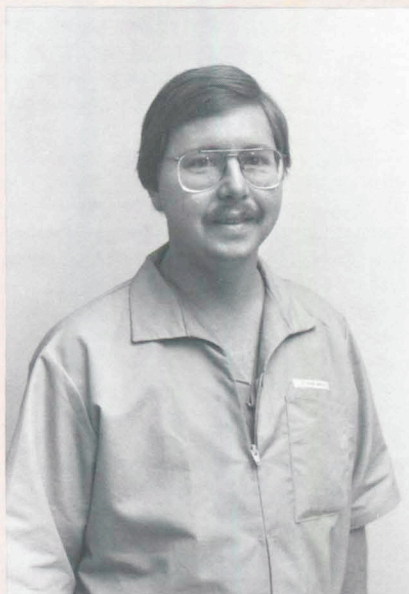
Dr. Jim Tomlinson, associate pro-

fessor, visited the Japanese cities of Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya from July 20 to August 19 to help with a continuing education program for Japanese veterinarians.

Dr. Robert S. Youngquist, professor, published "Effect of termination of pregnancy or long-term progesterone exposure on subsequent estrous cycle length and concentration of progesterone in plasma of heifers" with J.P. Copelin, M.F.

(Continued on page 22)

New faculty on board at the college's teaching hospital



Dr. John Payne

Two faculty members have recently joined the college's department of veterinary medicine and surgery and the teaching hospital.

Dr. John Payne, who joined the department's small-animal surgery section as an assistant professor, received a DVM from Ohio State University. He was an associate in a small-animal practice in Cincinnati for two years.

Prior to coming to Missouri, Payne completed a three-year residency in small-animal surgery at Virginia Tech, where he also received a master's degree.



Dr. Marjorie Gross

Payne's special interest areas are orthopedic and soft tissue surgery on small animals.

Dr. Marjorie Gross has been appointed assistant professor in the department's medical services section.

Gross received a DVM from Oklahoma State University and remained there after graduation to complete an internship in anesthesiology. She then did a three-year residency in anesthesiology at the University of Illinois.

Gross is qualified in anesthesiology for equine, food and companion animals.

(Continued from page 21)

Smith and H.A. Garverick in the *Journal of Animal Science*, 1989.

Microbiology

Dr. C. Andrew Carson, professor and chairman, represented MU's College of Agriculture in a live,

hour-long telecast via satellite link from Iowa State University at Ames to a meeting of Governmental Agencies and Extension Universities in the Western Hemisphere (REDCA) held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on October 31. Carson's presentation, which he delivered in Spanish, was "How the University of Missouri can contribute to agricultural development in Latin America."

Contributed by **Dr. David Weaver**, professor of veterinary medicine and surgery.

Clinical corner

A 22-kg crossbred Hampshire ewe lamb was presented to the college's Food Animal Clinic in June with a complaint of "swelling under the jaw." The lamb was comatose, anemic (packed cell volume or PCV 4 percent) with pale mucous membranes, and had edema under the jaw.

Fecal flotation revealed small strongyles 4+ including *Haemonchus contortus*, and *Nematodirus*

species, and occasional coccidia. A clinical diagnosis of severe parasitic gastro-enteritis was made.

Over a four-hour period, the lamb received 1 liter of whole blood taken from a donor ewe, and 500 ml of lactated Ringer's solution intravenously. An hour later, the lamb was observed standing, eating and drinking water mixed with electrolytes. Later that day the PCV was 37 percent.

The next day the lamb received anthelmintic medication (0.75 ml Ivomec subcutaneously) and was discharged from the clinic with advice to the owner to develop an anthelmintic program for the remainder of the flock. The lamb recovered without further complications.

Personnel involved in this case included **Richard Westhouse**, VM3, intern **Kenneth Hornbuckle** and resident **Terry L. Morris**.

VMR welcomes readers to contribute their own cases of extraordinary recoveries.



This anemic lamb was presented for treatment with a PVC of 4 percent.

Pathology

Dr. Cynthia Besch-Williford, assistant professor, received a continuation on an NIH grant entitled "Zinc and copper status and nervous system function" for Feb. 1, 1989 through Jan. 31, 1990.

Dr. Linda L. Collier, associate professor, published "The lesions of ovine lysosomal storage disease: initial characterization" with R.D. Murnane, D.J. Prieur, A.J. Adhern-Rindall and S.M. Parish in the *American Journal of Pathology*, Vol. 134, 263-270, 1989. She published "Multilobular osteosarcoma of the mandible and orbit in a dog" with T.L. McCalla, C.P. Moore and J.T. Turk in *Veterinary Pathology*, Vol. 26, 92-94, 1989.

Dr. Gary S. Johnson, associate professor, received a grant from the Morris Animal Foundation to study "The molecular genetic basis for canine von Willebrand's disease" from Sept. 1, 1989 to Aug. 31, 1991.

Johnson published two articles in the proceedings of the AAHA 56th Annual Meeting, 1989: "A procedure for measuring bleeding times in dogs and cats and its clinical implications" with R.M. Halenda, G.S. Johnson, M.J. Wilkerson, M.T. Parker, L.T. Forsythe and T.G. Bell, and "Innovations in the diagnosis, characterization and treatment of von Willebrand's disease in dogs" with M.J. Wilkerson, R.M. Halenda, M.T. Parker, K.H. Kraus and M.A. Turrentine.

Dr. LeRoy D. Olson, professor, was selected to receive a Fulbright Scholarship for study and research abroad for 1989-1990. He will lecture at the University of Zimbabwe. (See story page 16.)

Olson published "Lesions of transmissible gastroenteritis virus infection in experimentally inoculated pigs suckling immunized sows" with R.A. Moxley in the *American Journal of Veterinary Research*, Vol. 50, No. 5, 708-716, 1989.

Dr. Joseph E. Wagner, professor and chairman, was awarded a Curator's Professorship May 6 at MU's Sesquicentennial Commencement. (See story page 18.)

Wagner published two articles in *Lab Animal Science*: "Diagnostic exercise: increased fetal wastage in guinea pigs" with S. Motzel in Vol. 39, No. 4, 342-344, 1989, and "Cysticercus fasciolaris infection in a breeding colony of mice" with J.A. Davis, S. Donkaewbua and R.G. White in Vol. 39, No. 3, 250-252, 1989.

Going to seed

by Robert Burns

If land stewardship is a religion, then **Dr. George Gates**, BS Ag '64, DVM '66, founder and president of Bluestem Seed Co., is one of its apostles.

Gates, a small-animal practitioner, didn't intentionally set out to be a spreader of the seed. The Mizzou graduate originated Prairie Villege Animal Hospital in the Kansas City suburb of the same name in 1970, later taking in a partner and an associate. "But even as a veterinarian, I've always had an interest in agriculture," he says. "I always figured you had to have plants before you had animals." The full-time practitioner traces his conversion to land stewardship back to his grandfather, who instilled in him an appreciation for the natural balance of the environment.

In the early 1970s, Gates bought 120 acres of very rough ground in Worth County, Mo., largely for sentimental reasons, having grown up in the Grant City area and never severing his roots. The farm was to be a family retreat from the city where he practiced, so he could farm on the side a little and be near his folks.

Being conservation-minded, Gates also wanted to re-establish wildlife habitats on the farm, and that meant reseeding to grass. But what grass? A prairie biologist from the Missouri Department of Conservation visited the Gates farm and suggested planting a warm-season species.

The biologist pointed out a clump of what Worth Countians called broomsedge, a plant they thought good for nothing. It was, in reality, big bluestem, the biologist explained, a warm-season grass native to the Midwestern prairies and perfectly suited to the land and climate of Worth County. In fact, the whole Corn Belt had once been covered with the tall grass.

By 1980, Gates had 100 acres of big bluestem established. When a drought that year burned up fescue and ruined many area farmers, Gates' father, Paul, announced he would sell his commercial beef herd rather than pay \$150 per ton for hay to feed them. Gates, who had by then read of feeding trials in the western states, suggested Paul put the herd on bluestem. At first the veterinarian's father was skeptical of feeding his cattle wild grass. He later decided to sow bluestem himself when he saw how the half of his herd eating the grass was thriving.

After his father's conversion and an Extension tour of his property that attracted 275 curious people, Gates decided to go into the warm-season seed business. "I said to myself, if my father is convinced that it would work on his place, I think I can convince a lot of other people," he recalls.

Studies showed that by having 40 percent to 50 percent of his available pasture in native warm-season grasses, a producer can increase his carrying capacity by as much as 50 percent. Not only that, but warm-season grasses are more efficient users of nitrogen, and, with roots stretching down 12 feet, they use moisture cool-season grasses can't reach.

For the next few years, Gates sank everything he made as a veterinarian into seed-processing equipment. Processing and cleaning grass seed is labor intensive, so there were salaries to be paid. The first projections of seed yields were too high. To make matters worse, Worth County was struck by another searing drought in 1983. Gates doesn't like to think about how much money he lost those first few years.

"The IRS audited me and couldn't believe anyone was so foolish as to pour so much money into a losing

ROBERT BURNS PHOTO



Veterinarian George Gates, founder and president of Bluestem Seed Co., has discovered the value of native prairie grasses.

business," Gates says. "But I really believed in this. And we were seeing a steady increase in demand."

Bluestem Seed Co. made moderate progress, going from a losing proposition to a money-making one. Today the company is one of the larger employers in Worth County. The seed farm supplies seed to producers from Colorado to the eastern states. Gates doesn't like to talk about what Bluestem Seed Co. grosses in sales.

"I'd rather think of it as putting millions of dollars back into the hands of Missouri farmers," he explains.

More importantly, Gates says, the success of Bluestem Seed Co. is a recapitulation of the principal tenant of land stewardship: "Give of yourself, and you shall receive."

A longer version of this article appeared in the Missouri Ruralist. Reprinted with permission.

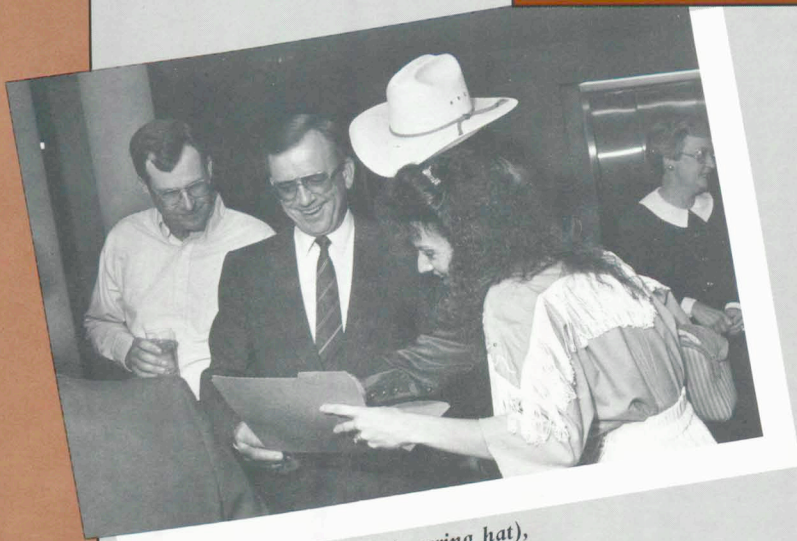
Alumni DAY

What more could you ask for? The college's 10th annual Alumni Day Sept. 9 was an opportunity to press the flesh with old friends, enjoy some sunny fall weather, and watch the Missouri Tigers trounce the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs 14-10.

More than 100 alumni, spouses and friends attended the college's program, which included an alumni seminar, a seminar for spouses, the football game, and dinner and receptions at Columbia's Holiday Inn Executive Center. The classes of '59, '69 and '79 all had reunions, with alumni traveling from as far as California to join former classmates for the day.

"It went over very well," says Associate Dean Ken Niemeyer of the event. "Every year we promise a sunny day and a Tiger win, and this time that's exactly what they got."

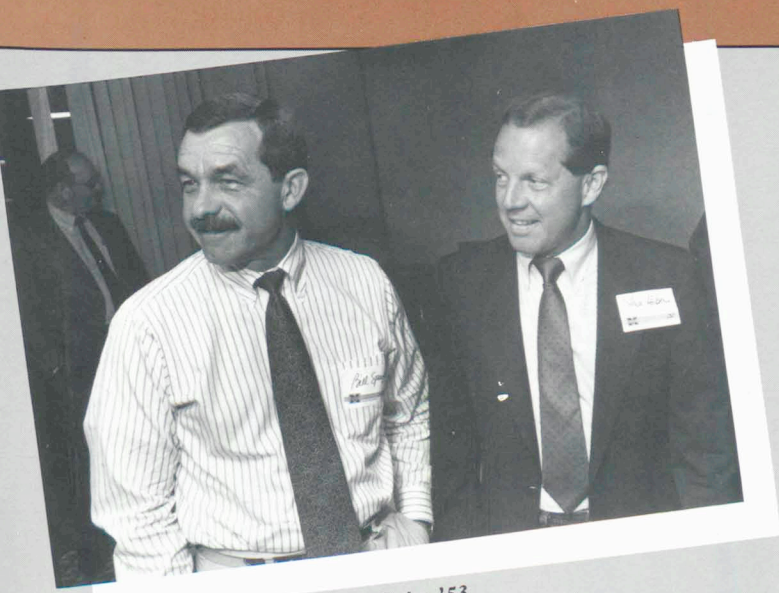
IAN SIGHTS PHOTOS



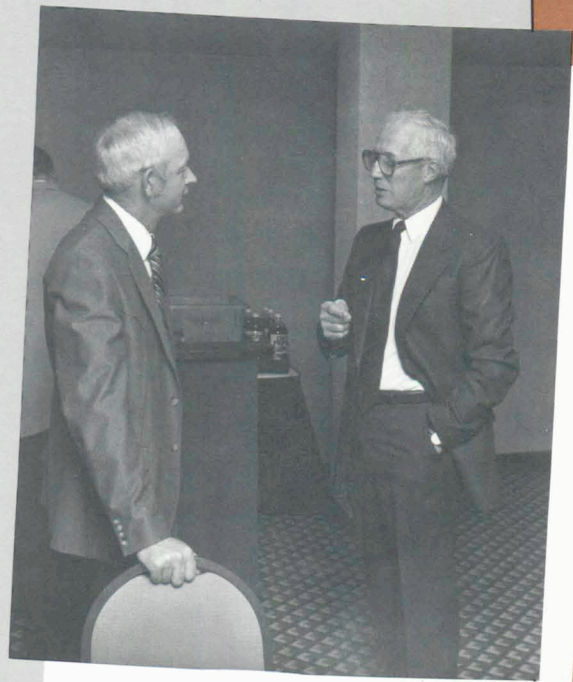
Dr. John Parker (wearing hat), DVM '69, and his wife, Karla, examine the class composite held by Dr. Don Walsh, DVM '69, of Pacific, Mo. Dr. Steve Smith, BS Ag '69, DVM '69, of Salisbury, Mo., looks on.



Drs. Joe Walker, BS Ag '67, DVM '69, of Kansas City, left, and Lawrence Ryan, BS Ag '65, DVM '69, of Edmonds, Wa.



Drs. John Perry, BS Ag '53, DVM '59, of Brookfield, Mo., and Kenneth Vroman, BS Ag '67, DVM '69, of Glasgow, Mo.



Drs. Bill Spangler, DVM '69, of Sacramento, Calif., left, and Steve Huber, DVM '69, of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.




From left, Drs. Kathleen Hawkins, DVM '79, of Ann Arbor, Mich., Sue Dorsey, DVM '79, of Hannibal, Mo., and Ann Shanon, DVM '79, of Macon, Mo.



From left, Drs. Bill Shore, AB '74, DVM '79, of St. Louis, Mar Doering, DVM '79, of Jefferson City, Dave Doering, DVM '79, of Hols Summit, Mo., and Bill Armon Jr., DVM '79, of Fenton, Mo.

“ . . . have general education to enable every man to judge for himself what will secure or endanger his freedom.” Thomas Jefferson

Jefferson Club



Individuals sharing Thomas Jefferson's commitment to quality public higher education make up the College of Veterinary Medicine's Jefferson Club. Its members are dedicated to promoting interest in and support of the University and the College of Veterinary Medicine. The Jefferson Club's newest members include:

Dr. Harry H. Berrier
BS Ag '41, MS '60
Lina Berrier
MA '61
Columbia

Kenneth L. Brown
AB '54, MA '58
Carolyn Buehrle Brown
BS Ed '57
Leawood, Kan.

Dr. Gerald M. Buening
Carolyn Buening
Columbia

Dr. James E. Creed
BS Ag '54, DVM '66
Jayne Creed
Columbia

Dr. Melvin L. Gerstner
BS Ag '62, DVM '66
Deena M. Gerstner
South Pasadena, Calif.

Robert J. Gourley
Elizabeth Marlese Gourley
Lee's Summit, Mo.

Dr. G. Ashby Green
Dr. Eleanor Green
Columbia

Dr. Billy E. Hooper
BS Ag '61, DVM '61
Janice Hooper
Alexandria, Va.

Dr. Isaac McKay
BS Ag '72, DVM '76
Faye McKay
Steele, Mo.

Dr. Ronald M. McLaughlin
DVM '85
Columbia

Dr. Reuben Merideth
BS BA '70, DVM '78
Tucson, Ariz.

Missouri Cattlemen's Association
Ashland, Mo.

Ronald L. Pfost
BS Ag '55
Joyce Pfost
Lake Quivera, Kan.

For more information on how you can join the Jefferson Club and invest in Miz-zou's College of Veterinary Medicine, write Michael Tarry, Director of Develop-ment, W203 Veterinary Medicine, UMC, Columbia, Mo. 65211, or call (314) 882-3768.

'56

Paul Nicoletti, BS Ag '56, DVM, was given the Award of Merit for In-ternational Service to Agriculture in April 1989 by the Florida chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, the honor soci-ety of agriculture. He was elected as an honorary member of the Ameri-can Veterinary Epidemiological Soci-ety at the AVMA meeting in Orlando, Fla.

'64

Royal W. Ranney, BS Ag '50, MS '60, DVM, was selected Veterinarian of the Year for 1989 by the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association. He has a small- and large-animal prac-tice in Rolla.

'74

James O. Britt Jr., DVM, is a veter-inary pathologist for the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission in Little Rock.

John Clark, BS '70, DVM, and his wife, Jennie, announce the adoption of their daughter, Pilar Ojeda, June 16, in San Gil, Colombia. Pilar, born Dec. 22, 1988, is their third child.

'77

Arlen G. Mills, DVM, sold Pleasant Valley Veterinary Clinic, a small-animal practice in Coshocton, Ohio, and is now practicing large-animal medicine and surgery, primarily dairy.

Join the Alumni Association

Be an active member of the Miz-zou Alumni Association. Your \$25 annual dues make you a member of the College of Veterinary Medi-cine Alumni Association, plus you will receive other benefits. Part of your membership dollars will sup-port Miz-zou's Homecoming, stu-dent recruitment, reunions, spirit squad and seminar weekends.

Send your payment to the Alum-ni Association, 132 Alumni Center, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

ALUMNI

News

'80

James A. Crooke, DVM, was elected to the Springfield, Mo., city council in April 1989.

'81

Pierre Tung, DVM, and **Kay Jones Tung**, BS Ag '78, DVM '82, purchased Bridgeton Animal Clinic in Bridgeton, Mo., in April 1989. They perform veterinary endodontics (fillings, root canals and restorations) as well as general practice.

'83

Nannette E. (McCarthy) Clark, DVM, of Fenton, Mo., announces the birth of her fourth son, Eric Taylor, Sept. 15, 1988. Clark does relief work in St. Louis.

'84

David S. Bruyette, DVM, and his wife, Gibson M. Reid, announce the birth of a daughter, McKenna Stewart Bruyette, July 1. Bruyette is employed as assistant professor in the department of surgery and medicine at Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine as of Aug. 1.

Michael J. Joyner, DVM, moved to a new veterinary clinic in Killeen, Texas, in April 1988. He was named to Who's Who in Veterinary Medicine and Science for the 1988 edition.

'85

Gene Grellner, BS Ag '80, MS '82, DVM, opened a new mixed-animal clinic in Loose Creek, Mo., in December 1987.

'86

Ross Henry, DVM, announces the birth of a daughter, Katelyn Mae, April 19, 1988. Henry purchased Kimberling Pet Clinic in Kimberling City, Mo., in June 1988.

David D. Roberts, DVM, has left a television show practice in Boston to take a position with Veterinary Associates in St. Louis County.

Robin M. (Wilkinson) Smith, AB '81, DVM, of Columbia, shows common Missouri snakes to children at preschools and elementary schools. The snakes are from MU's biology department.

'88

Mark A. Clemons, DVM, and **Donna J. Brush**, DVM '89, were married Aug. 12, at Sterling Acres Baptist Church in Kansas City. Donna is a first-year resident in lab animal medicine at the college, and Mark practices at Crysler Animal Hospital in Independence, Mo.

Stacy Leigh Martin, DVM, and **Morgan Ross Beamer II** of Las Vegas, Nev., were married March 4.

Melanie Swope, DVM, and **Kevin Swope**, DVM, announce the birth of their first child, Jared Samuel, Sept. 9.

John L. Vahle, BS Ag '85, DVM, and his wife, Kathy, announce the

birth of a daughter, Katherine "Katie" Elizabeth, June 13. Vahle is an associate at the Brookfield Veterinary Clinic in Brookfield, Mo.

'89

Lori McCool, DVM, was a recipient of the Iams Company Paw Print Award and Scholarship. For her winning essay, "The role of taurine in feline well-being," McCool received an engraved plaque and \$500. The Wright City, Mo., native was one of 28 veterinary students nationwide to win in the essay contest.

Obituary

Robert J. "Joe" Moye, DVM '70, of Springfield, Mo., died March 11 at age 42. Moye was adjunct professor in the agriculture department of Southwest Missouri State University. Survivors include his wife and two daughters.

Alumnus of the Year Nominations Sought

The most prestigious award granted by the Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association is the college's Alumnus of the Year award.

Use the attached coupon to nominate a graduate who has made outstanding contributions both within the profession of veterinary medicine and beyond, through community, state or national activities.

Keep this outstanding tradition alive. Send your nomination today.

My nominee is:

Dr. _____

My name and address are:

My telephone number is: _____

The recipient must be present at the annual fall conference to receive the award. Mail nomination form to Dr. K.H. Niemeier, 203 Veterinary Medicine Building, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

No pain and plenty to gain



"This won't hurt a bit," the pups were promised, as one-by-one they were treated to quick, painless tattoos and lifetime membership in the National Dog Registry. The Sept. 16 tattoo-registration clinic, sponsored by Mizou's Laboratory Animal Veterinarians, was a welcome opportunity for Columbia resident Emelise Baughman and her daughter, Becky, to have four of their Chesapeake Bay retrievers permanently marked with her husband's Social Security number. Here 7-year-old Champion Lick Creek's Old Squaw, bred by the Baughmans, is worked on by Tod Koen, senior research lab technician, and Virginia Loder, VM4, of Anaheim, Calif. Statistics show that one out of every five dogs will become lost or stolen each year. "This is something I've been putting off and feeling guilty about for a long time," Baughman said. "I was very grateful for the chance to have it done."



Veterinary Medical Review

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and Cooperative Extension Service

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