

PARENTS HAND DOWN THEIR  
COLLEGE OF CHOICE TO

# The Next Generation

BY DAWN KLINGENSMITH • PHOTOS BY ROB HILL

If you ask Abbie Brown why she came to MU, she'll hand over an oft-thumbed snapshot, taken years ago at a family gathering. All 14 sport MU gear. "It's in the blood," she says. For the Browns, the Black and Gold passes from one generation to the next like a venerated coat of arms. The same is true for families all over the

Show-Me State—and beyond. In fall 1999, the \$1,500 Alumni Excellence Awards—formerly for Missourians only—will be extended to new out-of-state freshmen who qualify and who have a parent who is a Mizzou graduate. MIZZOU magazine visited with four students whose families bear the MU escutcheon.



JENNY HENRY AND  
GRANDMOTHER GLEE ROLLINS

THESE WOMEN ARE TRUE-BLOODED TIGERS,  
AND THE PROOF IS CAST IN BRONZE.



## A RIGHTFUL HEIR

Jenny Henry of Fort Worth, Texas, stared up at the stern, bearded face and rigid torso, cast in bronze and mounted atop a tall pedestal. Grandpa Jim's great-granddad? Wow, she thought. She knew the late "Jim Sid" Rollins—her stepgrandfather on her mother's side—had descended from a man with a street named after him, and she'd figured that ancestor had done "something cool" to warrant the honor. She just didn't know that her grandfather's great-grandfather was the ultimate BMOC—the father of the University of Missouri.

The original James Sidney Rollins, a legislator from Boone County, persuaded Missouri lawmakers in 1839 to build the public university in the heart of the state. He suggested six counties: Cooper, Cole, Saline, Howard, Callaway and Boone. When Rollins discovered the sum of the competitors' bids, he sped to Columbia on horseback—so the legend goes—to encourage his neighbors to dig down to their pocket lint. They put together \$82,300 in cash and \$36,000 in land, securing the location of the University of



ED AND DYANNE WARMANN WITH SON DOUG

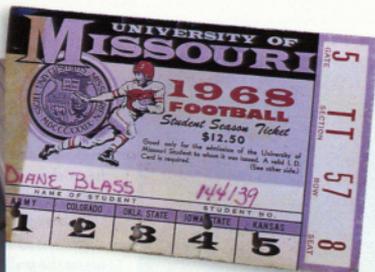
ED AND DOUG ARE NOT JUST FATHER AND SON. AS MEMBERS OF THE BETA SIGMA PSI FRATERNITY, THEY ALSO ARE BROTHERS.

Missouri in Columbia. He later served as president of the Board of Curators.

In 1872, the Board of Curators bestowed upon Rollins the title *Pater Universitatis Missouriensis*—the father of the University of Missouri. A bronze relief of the proud pater, who died in 1888, adorns the gates at the north entrance to campus on Eighth Street, and his bust presides in Jesse Hall.

Jenny, a freshman majoring in textile and apparel management with an emphasis in international studies, traveled some 600 miles to attend MU because it “felt like home.” She’d lived in Columbia until she was 4 and has vague, happy memories of toddling in and out of the Columns. Her grandmother, Glee Rollins (Jim’s widow), still lives near campus. A number of family members on her mother’s side attended MU: stepgrandfather James S. Rollins, BS BA ’49; uncle Durk Price, AB ’71 and his wife, Jane Midyett Price, BS HE ’75; aunt Patricia Price, BS ED ’88; and mother Cathy Price Henry, Educ ’84, who attended on and off starting in 1968.

But gazing up at that big bronze man gives Jenny an even greater sense of belonging. The transplanted Texan is, by rights, a daughter of the University.



#### FIT FOR A KING

Before junior Doug Warmann was initiated into the brotherhood of Beta Sigma Psi, he had to pass a little quiz. For question No. 51, “Who was credited in 1993 to have saved the Iota chapter,” the parks, recreation and tourism major from St. Charles, Mo., penned in a familiar name: Ed Warmann, BS BA ’70—his father.

Ed hadn’t been active in the Lutheran fraternity since he graduated, but when his oldest son, Matt, BS ’96, applied to MU in 1992, memories of the good ol’ days plucked his heartstrings. After Matt’s campus tour, Ed took the whole family to the Beta Sig abode at 206 S. College Ave. When Ed lived there in the late ’60s with 70 other men, the place “looked like a million bucks,” he says. Some 25 years later, the red-brick building housed a scant 18 and looked more like an IOU. Still, the residents gave Ed, his wife—Dyanne Blass Warmann, BJ ’70—and three sons the red-carpet treatment.

“They weren’t expecting us,” Ed says, “but they invited us in and gave us the grand tour.” As the Warmanns exited that crumbling colossus, Matt announced his

intention to become a resident. Ed was thrilled.

Soon after

Matt joined, though, the Warmanns learned that the Iota chapter of Beta Sigma Psi was three years behind on its prop-

erty taxes and very close to having its building “sold on the courthouse steps,” Ed says. They swung into action. A certified public accountant, Ed was a shoo-in for alumni board treasurer. He and Matt—voted honor pledge and rush chairman his freshman year—acquired census reports from the Lutheran church and used them to locate hundreds of prospective students. They wrote letters, made phone calls and knocked on doors. Their sweeping campaign netted just 13 pledges, but it was the most the Beta Sigs had seen in years.

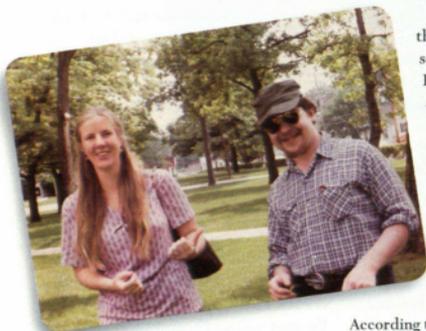
During Parents Weekend, Ed hit moms and pops up for \$500 loans and got enough to pay off the property taxes. All the loans have been repaid except one: Ed hasn’t paid himself back yet, although the fraternity is now financially stable. With his second son now living in the house and a third, Rob, likely to move there next fall, Ed considers it a good investment.

Both the national organization and the Iota chapter of Beta Sigma Psi formally commended Ed and Matt’s extraordinary efforts. These days, Ed, Dyanne and Matt log most waking hours at the family-owned Dairy Queen, so it’s up to the newbies to hold down the fort. Doug—who’s served as second vice president and plans to run for house president—is doing just that, though he seldom speaks of the fraternity’s problems. Instead, he focuses on the positive. The Beta Sigma Psi fraternity might have modest packaging, but in the ways that matter, it’s rich. “The guys here are genuine,” he says. “We’re a good-spirited group.”



**KATE AND GLENN BROWN WITH DAUGHTER ABBIE**

"THE PLACE STILL SMELLS THE SAME," SAYS KATE OF THE CHEZ COFFEEHOUSE, A STUDENT HANGOUT SINCE THE 1960s. BELOW, KATE AND GLENN HANG OUT IN COLUMBIA DURING THEIR STUDENT DAYS.



## COFFEE, TEA AND A DEGREE

The Chez coffeehouse is a three-dimensional scrapbook. Wobbly tables and heart-shaped ice-cream parlor chairs cramp the floor between the bar and stage. The collage of photos on the wall spans four decades, from flat-tops to feather cuts. The menus, featuring 12 flavors of coffee, a variety of teas and

five kinds of java floats—all for under a buck fifty—are stained with the ink and spilled mocha of would-be wordsmiths. A bookshelf holds hardbacks, vinyl records, Scrabble and checkers, and a Lite Brite with pegs that spell out "The Chez." The very air seems yellowed by time.

On a far wall, someone has scrawled a few words of wisdom: Love is not an emotion of the moment, but a commitment of a lifetime.

"Everybody brings something here, and everybody takes something away," says Abbie Brown, the manager of this student hangout in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church at 100 Hitt St. The MU junior from Purdin, Mo., brings hard work and dedication. Living in the attached four-bedroom apartment with three other "Chezkeepers," she lives and breathes the Chez.

According to her mother, Kate Wasson Brown, AB '76, who teaches Spanish and yearbook production, Abbie is "almost single-handedly creating a revival" of this relic of the '60s coffeehouse craze. But she's taking still more away.

Abbie had a soft spot for the Chez, a student-run ministry since 1964, long before she entered Mizzou. Her parents—Kate and Glenn Brown, BS Ed '76—met there when they attended MU, so throughout Abbie's childhood, her

grandparents—Thomas Brown, BS Ag '49, MS '59, and Mildred Graue Brown, BS Ed '50, M Ed '74, of Columbia—clipped local newspaper stories about the Chez and sent them to the Browns. "My parents were always talking about it when I was growing up—the Chez this, the Chez that"—so when I came to MU I thought I should check it out," Abbie says. The place felt like home.

In a way, it is. Back in 1972, when the Chez drew crowds seven nights a week, "Chezkeeper" Glenn lived in the very room his daughter occupies in the attached apartment. He built the storage shelf that looms over her bed. Kate volunteered behind the coffee bar on Monday evenings, when Glenn—now superintendent of schools in Linn County, Mo.—ran films for the Chez's "Movie Night."

These days, the Chez is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings only, catering to a small group of regulars. Still, "there's a lot here that needs to be preserved," Abbie says. "For a lot of people, this place is a big part of college life."

For Abbie, hanging at the Chez is just a snapshot in the family album. Aunts, uncles and cousins defined college life a little differently, but they all did it at MU. Abbie's North Dakota cousins—Christopher Brown, a senior studying forestry, and Jonathan Brown, a freshman in engineering—attend MU, though they don't frequent the Chez. When the trio graduates, 12 members of Abbie's family will have earned degrees from MU. Abbie's brother, Sean, a high-school senior, also plans to attend. Sister Colleen started Truman State this fall, branding her the family "deviant," Abbie jokes.

Abbie traced the family boughs back to MU and the Chez, and after graduation, she'll follow her folks into the field of education. Last fall, when she met a man at the coffeehouse, her parents thought she'd retrace their footsteps all the way to the altar. Alas, in the words of the wall-writing sage, that relationship proved "an emotion of the moment." For now, Abbie's heart belongs to the Chez.

## HONOR THY KINFOLK

Back in the 1920s, on a farm etched in the hard, rocky soil and thick timber of Putlaski County, Mo., Charles and Katie Rumbaugh crimped their backbones raising crops and kids. That patch of earth, though beautiful, was stingy, and the children—five of them—were quicker to sprout than the corn. In 1927, the Rumbaughs made a swap with a Boone County man. He wanted their land for hunting and fishing, and they liked the looks of his rich, black soil. But the Boone County land had another big selling point: It was close to the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Charles and Katie had completed only eight grades in school, but they wanted all their children to harvest the tree of knowledge to its tip-top branch. All five entered MU, and three—Grace Rumbaugh Baugh, BS Ed '40; Ruby Rumbaugh Robinson, BS Ed '43, M Ed '50; and Charlie Rumbaugh, BS Ag '49—came out on the other side, sheepskins in hand.

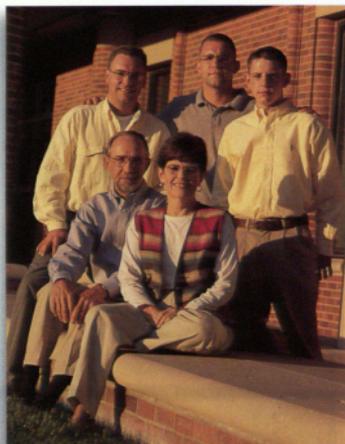
For three generations, this chapter of family lore has passed down like the genetic code, with almost as much influence. Aaron Baugh, a freshman from Hallsville, Mo., knows it by heart. Charles and Katie were his great-grandparents, and 25 members of their clan, including those who married in, attended MU. Aaron's parents—Tom Baugh, BS Ag '71, M Ed '87, Ed Sp '97, and Cecilia Maher Baugh, BS Ed '68, M Ed '96—figured their youngest son would do right by the family and carry on the MU tradition, just like his older brothers, Scott, BS IE '94, and Andy, AB '95, JD '98. But Aaron had other ideas. "I wasn't about to choose a school just because it was a 'family thing,'" he says. "I looked at a lot of other colleges. I wanted to explore all the options."

Aaron built a fine résumé in high school, earning good grades and taking part in Future Farmers of America, Future Business Leaders of America and Boys' State. An avid horseman, he built a

**TWENTY-FIVE MEMBERS OF THE  
 FAMILY ATTENDED MIZZOU.  
 NOW AARON'S GIVING IT THE  
 OL' COLLEGE TRY.**

breeding operation on his parents' farm and shows the best of the bloodline at national competitions. Other schools would have been thrilled to have him, but Aaron, who studies animal sciences in preparation for veterinary school, found that MU had the best facilities, faculty and programs.

He came around. In the back window of his new forest-green Ford Ranger—a high-school graduation gift—he displays the family crest: a black-and-gold Mizzou sticker. ☼



**TOM AND CECILIA BAUGH WITH  
 SCOTT, ANDY AND AARON**

