

One of nature's most delightful phenomena, twins naturally attract stares, curiosity and sometimes envy. Meet five sets of Mizzou twins who are accustomed to the

DOUBLE TAKES

Story by CAROL HUNTER
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Being a twin is being cropped from the class picture because the photographer thought you were a double exposure.

It's being engaged in conversation by strangers who mistake you for your brother.

It's being the only two who have to wear name tags in class.

It's being winked at by your sister's boyfriend.

It's having people mad at you for something your twin did.

But it's also having a built-in best friend. "He's more than a brother," MU senior Barry Kirk says of his identical twin, Brian. "I think of him as an extension of myself."

Twins occur once in 90 births; identical twins account for one in about 250 births. Identicals have the same chromosomes and often share other traits. Each of the identical sets profiled here, for instance, have almost the same grade-point average. While some attribute it to studying together for the same tests, others have different majors.

There is no record of the number of twins on Campus. But in a 1987

freshman survey, 12 of 2,025 respondents, or .6 percent, reported that they are identical twins. Another 24, or 1.2 percent, said they are fraternal twins.

Assuming that the campuswide percentages are similar, it is interesting to note that one of the pairs featured here, Lee and Layton Etel, were assigned a residence-hall room previously occupied by identical twins. The first twin occupants, reports Lee, were so much alike that their fans oscillated in unison.

THE MONTGOMERYS

With identical class schedules, Lora and Nora Montgomery only have to buy one textbook for each course. One highlights important sections in pink; the other in green.

The 22-year-old seniors in family economics and management started taking the same courses as a matter of convenience when they were commuting to Campus from their home in Auxvasse, Mo. After moving to Columbia their junior year, the daughters of Virgil and Sara Montgomery continued to double up in classes because they had the same major.

Cover twins Lora, left, and Nora Montgomery developed their own language as toddlers, a common trait of identical twins. At right are Layton, left, and Lee Etel, honor students in engineering.

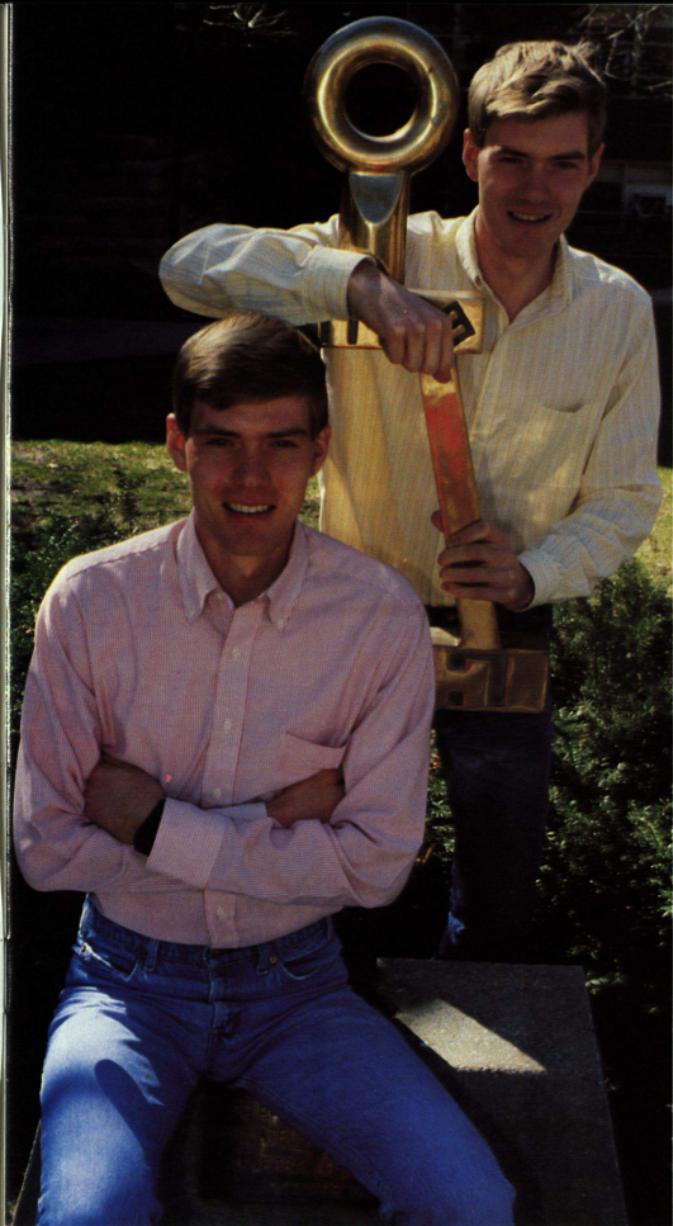
"We miss the same questions on tests, probably because we study together," Nora says. Once, when they didn't earn the same grade, a professor accidentally switched their marks. "It took us all summer to get it straightened out," Lora says.

Outside of school, the women are on the same softball team, with Lora playing first base and Nora second base. Nora paints and plays the guitar; Lora sketches and is a pianist.

Each also has a steady beau—Lora dates Darren; Nora goes with Aaron. The men graduated from the same high school, have the same middle name, similar telephone numbers and birthdays two days apart.

Still, Lora insists, "Our taste in men is different, which is a good thing. We've only liked the same guy once."

Sibling rivalry isn't a problem. "It's great being a twin because you always



have your best friend around," Nora says. "You're hardly ever alone," Lora adds.

But after graduating in December, they plan to go their separate ways. "We want to establish our own careers before we would consider working together," Lora says.

THE EITELS

Teamwork pays off for Layton and Lee Eitel, honor students in mechanical engineering. "If one of us doesn't know how to solve a problem, the other can figure it out," Lee says. Members of Tau Beta Pi engineering honorary, the twins each have been named to the dean's list. Lee won the Milo Bolstad Scholarship for Mechanical Engineering, Layton the Horace W. Wood Memorial Scholarship.

The 21-year-old juniors spent the fall 1987 semester as co-op engineers for Union Electric at the Callaway Nuclear Power Plant near Fulton, Mo. They worked in different departments, causing some confusion. "I was working late one night and Layton's boss wondered what I was doing," Lee says. When he explained his job, the boss thought Layton had transferred.

In their leisure time, the sons of Kenneth and Barbara Eitel play intramural softball and basketball. On their high-school basketball team, the 6-foot-6 Eitels were dubbed the twin towers.

With appetites to match their size, the twins devised a cafeteria strategy. When they go back for seconds, they use opposite lines. "That way people don't think we're going back 10 or 12 times," Lee explains.

Weekends are spent working on the family farm near Greencastle, Mo., where they raise registered Angus cattle. In addition to farm chores this summer, the twins are working for Union Electric in Kirksville, Mo.

After graduating in December 1989, they hope to work in the Midwest and maintain their farming interests. Are they different in any way? "We both wear size 15 shoes," Lee offers, "but I think Layton's feet are a bit bigger."

THE KIRKS

The world's a stage for Barry and Brian Kirk. Each summer, the 21-year-old seniors produce a play in their hometown of Jefferson City. Last year the show raised \$500 for the United Way.

Brian, a psychology major, writes the scripts. "Psychology has a lot to do with being a writer," he says. "You need to understand human nature and the way people think." Barry will direct this summer's production, tentatively titled *Burdens and Visions*. The plot involves a woman's quest to gain custody of her autistic nephew.

Earlier, the twins produced movies. But as costs mounted, they switched to the stage. Barry, a broadcast journalism major, continues to work with film.

The Kirks have summer jobs at a YMCA camp in Jefferson City. "The kids have fun with our being twins," Brian says. "People always are attracted to freaks of nature," Barry deadpans.

Other dual roles for the sons of Jon and Nicky Kirk are singing in the University's Choral Union and teaching Sunday school classes at First United Methodist Church in Jefferson City.

They plan to attend graduate school after earning their bachelor's degrees in May 1989. Barry hopes to study documentary film production and folklore; Brian intends to earn a master's in special education to work with gifted children. It's likely that they will continue their educations at separate schools.

"I think our careers will bring us back together," Barry says. Joint projects might be producing a video for child-care professionals or writing an advice book for children who are twins.

THE ANWARS

Following a family tradition, Rosana and Rosita Anwar crossed oceans to come to Mizzou. Two of their sisters, Roselin Anwar, BS IE '86, and Rosetin Anwar, AB, BS EE '87, already had come to Columbia from the family home in Jakarta, Indonesia, to earn their degrees.



Jeff Adams photo





Barry Kirk, left, works with twin Brian on a class project. Rosita, left center, and Rosita Anwar hope for careers in finance. Lora, below left, and Stephanie Trapp develop different interests.

With a population of 6 million, Jakarta is the busiest and biggest city in Indonesia, Rosana says. Adjusting to life in a different country and in a much smaller town was a bit easier with her twin along. "We understand each other very well," she says. "Sometimes we have the same feelings, like telepathy," Rosita adds.

The 21-year-old sophomores sometimes earn the same scores on tests, even though they don't study together. "That's because she likes to study at midnight," explains Rosita.

Business majors, the daughters of Idwan and Shiana Anwar hope for careers in finance or banking. Mizzou was their school of choice because they can earn a bachelor's degree in four years, compared with up to six years at universities at home.

"One of the best things about going to school here is being independent of our parents," Rosita says. Living in an apartment near Campus, the twins learned to fend for themselves. "At home we never cooked," Rosana says. Now they prepare traditional Indonesian and Chinese meals, plus a new favorite—barbecue.

After class, the athletic Anwars do aerobics. In addition, Rosana bowls and Rosita swims.

This summer marks the start of another Anwar family tradition. Rosita will pick up some extra hours at California State University at Long Beach, where Rosana studied last summer.

THE TRAPPS

As mirror images, Lora and Stephanie Trapp have a distinguishing trait: Lora is right-handed; Stephanie is left-handed. One-fourth of identical twins are mirror images, with the left side of one matching the right side of the other. But the Trapps are not carbon copies. "Our parents wanted us to be individuals," Lora says.

James and Deanna Trapp of St. Joseph got their wish. Lora, a junior in photojournalism, studies ballet and is a member of Kappa Alpha Mu, the photojournalism honor society. Outdoorsy Stephanie, an archaeology major, rides horses, is a member of Marching Mizzou's Flag Corps and is active in Missouri Students Association.

"When people get to know us, our personalities are so different that they can tell us apart," Stephanie says. Casual acquaintances are more easily confused. One of Lora's classmates, unaware that she is a twin, marveled at how often she changed her hairstyle. Lora usually wears a bun; Stephanie prefers a longer style.

Despite their differences, the 21-year-old twins and roommates say they are best friends. "I always have somebody to depend on," Lora says. "There's always someone to share ideas with," Stephanie adds. "Sometimes I don't even have to tell her what's on my mind; she knows."

After graduating in May 1989, Stephanie plans to continue studying archaeology in graduate school. Eventually, she'd like to be a museum curator, work on excavations or do research.

Lora hopes for a career as a magazine photographer, perhaps studying at the Brooks Institute in California.

"We are different, but close," Stephanie says. Adds Lora, "We tend to be competitive with each other, so it's good that we like different things." □

APPLICATIONS RISE BY 14.5 PERCENT

More students want to attend Mizzou, according to early application figures. As of April 1, applications from first-time freshmen were up 14.5 percent over the same time last year. Black freshmen applicants posted a 27 percent increase.

"It's a larger and better group than last fall," Chancellor Haskell Monroe says of the applicant pool. More than half are in the top 20 percent of their high-school class, and 40 percent earned an ACT score of 25 or higher.

The number of black students applying for graduate school rocketed from 22 at the same time last year to 146. Total graduate school applications stood at 1,688, compared with 1,185 last year.

"We are encouraged by the early figures," Monroe says. "Not only does this indicate an increased interest in the state's premier public University, but I also hope it indicates an interest in higher education in general." The state remains below average in the number of students, minority and non-minority, attending college.

The number of freshmen officially admitted for fall 1988 stood at 6,137, compared with 5,568 a year ago. Typically, about 60 percent of those admitted actually enroll. Last fall Mizzou had 3,722 first-time freshmen, an increase of 228 over 1986. The Campus' total enrollment was 22,796. Mizzou's record enrollment, set in 1981, was 24,774.

To handle the anticipated increase this fall, the Campus will offer more introductory sections of math and English. "We must provide as fine a freshman experience as we can," Monroe says. "We must put in those freshman classes as many capable teachers as we can." For his part, Monroe will continue to teach an American history survey course for underclassmen.

Monroe credits the application boom to stepped-up recruitment, "bright flight" scholarships and minority scholarships. The bright flight program awards \$2,000 to freshmen who score in the top 3 percent of Missourians on a standardized test and attend a college in the state. Last year 334 of the 1,113 winners picked Mizzou, making it the top choice overall. The minority scholarship program, started last fall, provides \$5,000 a year to top students. — Carol Hunter