I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped with making National TRIO Day a huge success. Nearly 200 people celebrated with us on February 19, 2003 at the WSU Metroplex and at Hubbard Hall. A big “Thank You” to all school personnel who helped with transporting students to the event: Mark Cotton (Northwest), Ernest Johnson (North), Wilma Holloway (West), Sheila Bowling (Metro Meridian), Lisa Adams (South), Bobbi Martin (Southeast), Carrie Clapp (Metro Boulevard), Paul Schulte (East), David Wessling (Northeast Magnet), Barbara Lofstead (Heights), Lola McLaurian (Metro Midtown), Shantel Taylor (Field Kindley – Coffeyville), Joe Sechrist (Allison), Pat Ireland (Mayberry), Kathy Randels (Marshall), Philomene Peet (Pleasant Valley), Roneshia Williams (Curtis), Tracy McKay (Hamilton), and Nikki Clavin (Coleman).

Special thanks goes out to all the WSU TRIO staff who served as bus and school chaperones including Kaye Monk-Morgan (Upward Bound Math-Science), LaWanda Holt-Fields (McNair Scholars Program), Rhonda Hicks (Upward Bound/Wichita Prep), Travis Feeney (Upward Bound/Wichita Prep), and Linda Michaels (Educational Opportunity Centers). Much appreciation and thanks is in order for all of the speakers who volunteered their time to share their expertise and knowledge with the middle school and high school students. Speakers included Sheila Kinnard, John Wright, Don Sherman, Bonita Gooche, Larry Clemons, Carla Eckels, John Rolfe, Jan Mead, and Sherrell Breathett. Our keynote speaker, Tou Ger Xiong, gave outstanding presentations that students won’t forget for some time.

Lastly, I also want to recognize the efforts of the Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery staff for their hard work and dedication in planning National TRIO Day. We have already begun plans for next year’s event. Mark your calendars for February 18, 2004.
Coming Events
By Darryl Neighbor, Assistant Director
Just a few words to let you know what's up in Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery.

Campus Visits
March 14  Langston University
April 2   Pittsburg State University
April 11  Coffeyville and Independence Community Colleges
April 24  Cowley County Community College

Invitations are sent out two weeks in advance of each visit. It is important to RSVP as soon as possible. Most colleges want us to inform them of the number in each group one week before the visit. The first 20 students who RSVP are selected for each campus visit. Don't delay, call me at 978-6757 to reserve your place.

Do you have BIG Plans for Spring Break?
By Stephanie Haynes
Are your friends going to Colorado for a ski trip or Cancun for a relaxing time near the beach, but you have not made plans to have fun yet? You too can have a wonderful Spring Break. How? Come take advantage of our free services.

Plan to spend part of your Spring Break with your EDA counselor looking for scholarships, filing your FAFSA, résumé building, preparing to improve your ACT scores and making your final college selections.

Counselors will be available Monday-Friday. Your EDA counselor looks forward to seeing you.

Have a GREAT Spring Break!

SENIOR CHECKLIST
By Heather Ybarra, Educational Development Assistant
Students and parents, can you believe it is almost graduation?! May will be here before we all know it. Here are a few items to keep in mind as the end of the semester soon approaches. Keep in mind all Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery counselors can aid you in the majority of these items. Feel free to ask for help. All questions and concerns are welcome.

- Admissions applications completed and submitted to at least 2-4 colleges, include:
  - Admission fee
  - Request an official transcript be sent to the colleges in which applications have been submitted. This is usually taken care of by the high school registrar.

- Housing application(s) completed and submitted to colleges where necessary include:
  - Application fee
  - Roommate request if applicable

  Schedule additional campus visit(s) if necessary to make final decision.

- Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FASFA) completed and submitted ASAP!!! Priority deadline for the FASFA is March 15 for the state of Kansas. Materials need to complete this document include:
  - Parent(s)/Guardian(s) 2002 completed taxes
  - Student 2002 completed taxes

  Do you need to take the ACT one more time? You still have time to register for the April 12 test. Deadline for registration is March 7. If additional time to prepare is needed the registration deadline for the June 14 test is May 9.

  Check with your high school to inquire about a visit with Josten's or the appropriate cap and gown provider to order:

  - Cap and Gown
  - Graduation invitations

  Start gathering addresses of those you would like to invite to graduation. This is a great event in your life and those close to you would love to share in this celebration!!

  Plan ahead. Are you moving away to school? Start compiling household items from now throughout the summer. Do not let this large expense hit in August.

  Stop to take time to enjoy this time in your life. High school graduation only happens once. These memories will be the ones your friends and you look back on to laugh and smile!!
In the spotlight

Tiffany Hudnall

Tiffany Hudnall is a 17 year old junior at Field Kindley High School in Coffeyville, Kansas. She has a good outlook for her future. Born and raised in Coffeyville, Tiffany volunteers for the local Head Start program where she works with small children. While in the 5th grade, Tiffany won a contest at Pittsburg State University. The book she wrote, "The Unicorn", was published as a result. She is involved in many school activities; Spanish Club, SKS Cheer Squad, Prom Committee, and Band. Tiffany said that her major dislike about school is that they took Study Hall away. She feels like this was very beneficial to the students. Tiffany recently participated in National TRIO Day at Wichita State University. Tiffany felt the program was beneficial in learning about the variety of scholarship programs available. She said that she didn’t realize the amount of programs out there. After Tiffany graduates, she plans to attend Coffeyville Community College and then progress to either K-State or KU to pursue her interest in Design/Interior Design.

WHAT IS YOUR BATTING AVERAGE?

By Gael McCulley

Do you have a batting average? How about yards per carry, or points and rebounds per game? How many miles per gallon does your car get? What do these statistics have in common? They are all measures of performance. They indicate how well the individual (or car) performs in a certain area.

Do you as a student have a batting average, or measure of performance? Yes you do! It is your cumulative Grade Point Average or GPA. This is the indication of how well you have done in the classroom. Your high school and college GPA will follow you for many years and may affect your opportunities.

How is your GPA figured? On a four point system, each grade is given a value as follows:

A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0

The two elements in determining GPA are the number of grade points earned and number of grades received. The number of grade points earned is divided by the number of grades received. For example, if you were to earn one of each of the grades above, you would have 10 grade points (4+3+2+1+0=10) divided by 5 grades (10/5=2), giving you a GPA of 2.0 for that grading period.

A cumulative GPA reflects all of the classes and grades a student has attempted in his or her high school or college career. The total number of grades and grade points earned increases from semester to semester. The more grades and grade points there are, the more difficult it is to change the GPA significantly. It is easier to start a high school or college experience with a good GPA and maintain it, than trying to improve a low GPA established at the start.

Now that your GPA is not a mysterious factor, you can actually plan what your GPA will be if you get certain grades. “What if” scenarios can be calculated to determine what grades you need to earn, to maintain, or obtain the GPA you are seeking. Give it a try and you will be in charge.
This newsletter is published 4 times a year. To submit an article for publication please send it to: Wichita State University Attn: Louana Wylie

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