

# ELI Weekly

## Show Me What?

Have you ever heard that Missouri is known as the Show-Me State? Though Missouri is also called the Cave State, the Lead State, and the Ozark State, the Show-Me State is the most popular and well known nickname for Missouri. It's even on Missouri license plates. But, why is Missouri called the Show-Me State? What does that even mean?



William Duncan Vandiver

The truth is, no one really knows *exactly* where the nickname came from. There are a few legends, however, that give us possibilities. The most commonly circulated story comes from an 1899 naval banquet. It is said that U.S. Congressman William Duncan Vandiver was giving a speech and said the following: "I come from a state that raises corn and cotton and cackleburs and Democrats, and frothy eloquence neither convinces nor satisfies me. I am from Missouri. You have got to show me." He was saying that because he was from Missouri, he needed physical proof, and words alone were not good enough. Whether or not he originated the phrase is unknown, but he sure helped to popularize it.

If another legend is true, then that would mean the Show-Me State nickname originated as a means to ridicule mine workers from Missouri. This story says that during a miner's strike in the mid-1890's, men from Joplin, Missouri were sent to Leadville, Colorado to work in the mines there. The Missouri men were not familiar with Colorado mining methods, and required frequent instructions. The bosses began saying, "That man is from Missouri. You'll have to show him."

There is another legend that says the nickname might have originated on passenger trains in 1897. During that time, many free train passes were given to Missouri legislators. When the conductors asked for tickets and the legislators said they had free passes, the conductors would say "You've got to show me."



One other legend says that in 1898, at the beginning of the Spanish-American war, the gate guards at Chickamauga Park, Tennessee, were from St. Louis. Any soldier that wanted to leave the encampment had to "show" the guards a pass.



No matter where the nickname really came from, it has stuck for over 100 years. It has come to represent Missourians as dedicated to common sense and perhaps even a little stubborn. You've met people from Missouri, do you think the nickname fits?

## Activities This Week

**Wednesday, Feb. 27 & Sunday, Mar. 2**

**Movie on Campus: "August Rush"**

9:00 PM at the Plaster Student Union Theater; FREE with ZipCard

**Tues., Feb. 26 & Sun. Mar. 2**

**Men's and Women's Basketball**

Tues. (2/26): MSU Men's Bears vs. Drake; 7:05 PM

Sun. (3/2): MSU Lady Bears vs. Wichita State; 2:05 PM

Both games at Hammons Student Center; Free with ZipCard



For more events and activities, visit: <http://calendar.missouristate.edu/>

**Also, ALWAYS check the Student Activities Board across from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Computer Lab**

## Announcements



• **IMPORTANT!**

If you arrived in the U.S. **before** Jan 1, 2008, you need to check the signs posted in the ELI hallways for important tax information. There will be special workshops on campus to help you fill out tax forms. You need to sign up **IN PERSON** for the workshops in Glass Hall #439.

• **Academic Lectures THIS week:**

**Tues. (1/29): Levels 3, 4, & 5; room 401**

*The Writing Center--The 7 Habits of Highly Effective College Students*

**Wed. (2/27): Level 5; room 410**

*Research & Development*

• **ELI Conversation Night!**

**Thursday Feb. 28th; 7-10 PM**

This is your opportunity to talk with native speakers! There will be snacks, drinks, music, and games provided, but you can bring your own to share, if you would like.

Conversation Night will be at the Belmont, located at 428 W. Commercial St.

## Did You Know....

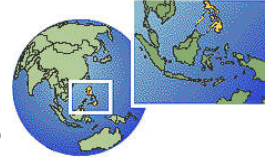
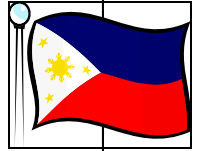
**A few interesting facts about the Philippines:**

The islands of the Philippines were a colony of Spain from 1565-1898 and were named after King Philip II (of Spain).

There are over 200 volcanoes on the islands, but only a small number are active. In Feb. 2000, Mt. Mayon erupted, forcing 30,000 people to leave their homes.

The capital city, Manila, is named after a white-flowered mangrove plant, the nilad (Maynilad--*there is nilad*).

Filipino and English are both official languages in the Philippines. Many dialects are also spoken.



## What's Showing at The Moxie?

The Moxie is downtown's independent cinema located near the corner of Walnut and Campbell.

**This week:**

- Persepolis
- Oscar Nominated Animated Short Films
- Oscar Nominated Live Action Short Films
- The Kite Runner



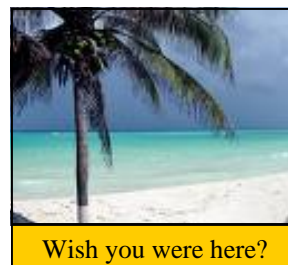
**See Schedule on the Student Activities Board**

## Weather Forecast

**Degrees: High/Low**

**Forecast for Feb. 25-Mar. 2**

	<u>Fahrenheit</u>	<u>Celsius</u>
Monday:	59/29	13/-2—rain
Tuesday:	34/22	01/-6—chance of snow
Wednesday:	44/27	07/-3
Thursday:	53/38	12/03
Friday:	48/29	09/-2—chance of rain
Saturday:	52/31	11/-1
Sunday:	54/31	12/-1



Weather forecasts are *always* changing, so for the most up-to-date forecast, go to: [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com), or watch the local news or weather channel.