## **The Loudon Times**

A Weekly Report from the Missouri State Senate

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Dear Friends,

Welcome to your connection with the Capitol. The Loudon Times is my way to assist you in staying updated with "your" government.

## Short week, but not short on action

Senate was out Monday for The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, however, the action heated up quickly on Tuesday and Wednesday as several bills saw passionate debate in committee hearings. In the Education Committee we saw the first of a series of collegiate name change bills. The hearing was on SB 25, Senator Champion's request to change Southwest Missouri State to Missouri State University. Both sides discussed this bill with fervor. Depending on whom you ask, the "Southwest" people, including the famous graduate John Goodman, think this is the top issue before the legislature. While the MU people seem to think it is the #1 bill to the hill.



John Goodman in College at SMS in 1975

Also tackled this week was the continuation of Senate Bill 1. The committee hearing continued into the late evening and all sides had a chance to express their voice. We all worked long and hard to give Missouri the best bill possible. Senate Bill 1 has seen a lot of press both in print and on television. I will even be appearing on the PBS program "*Jeff City Journal*" to discuss the bill and to debate it with a fellow Senator. It will be on this Sunday in St Louis on KETC channel 9 at 5:00 PM.



## The Governor continues to clean house

Governor Blunt discovered a lot of taxpayer waste from the Holden administration and was quick to cut the fat from all the pork belly spending that took place. The Governor is staying true to his Campaign promise to develop an accountable and efficient government.

As this week comes to an end, I look forward to the challenges that lay before me.

Coming next week..... Governor Blunt's state of the State address!