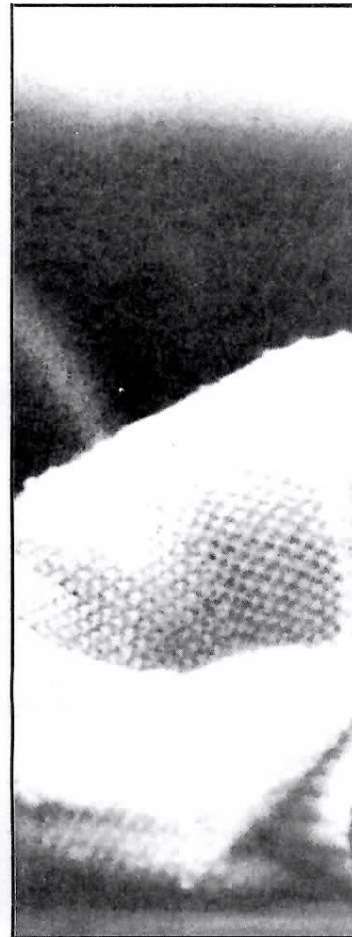


Shouting is not part of Rob Allen's approach to discipline. He prefers the QUIET approach.



Brad Huskey concentrates on his math bomevon

Mizzou memorabilia covers one of the corners in the back of the room along with computer-created posters that say, "Get The Grade You Want," and "You Can Do It." The chalkboard is filled with boxes holding important notes.

The students clamor as Mr. Allen turns his back to write on the board. He marks a U; the class quiets. Using a teaching technique he learned at the University, he sketches out a map with "Whole Numbria" on one side and "Th Land" on the other. Running through the diagram is the number road that crosses over the One's River.

Mr. Allen begins the scenario by issuing a mission for General José Hightops. The students respond quickly to the questions as General Hightops completes his orders. Finally, a student raises his hand and reveals to the class that this is just another way to learn decimal numbers. Mr. Allen smiles.

His point is made.

Teacher Rob Allen remembers taking a course at the University where he observed a classroom in progress. "After the first day I really knew what I wanted to do. You couldn't put a price tag on that."

Heather's hand shoots in the air. Ms. Glenn asks for volunteers to read from their journals. She has an Ace bandage wrapped around the wrist that she hurt in gym class, but it does not deter her enthusiasm. The class groans a little when Ms. Glenn calls her name, but Heather reads on undaunted by the reaction of her peers.

The schedule has been changed for a day so Ms. Glenn must hurry to get math in before the end of school instead of its normal time at the beginning of the day.

She uses plastic "manipulatives" to teach the lesson about decimals. The large ones are worth ten and the smaller ones just one. Just a blonde-haired girl in a multi-colored shirt reads a story problem aloud while Jesse and Heather whisper back and forth at their desks in the corner of the room.

Ms. Glenn tries to maintain her concentration. Finally, her patience wears