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IN DEPTH: FASTEST-GROWING PRIVATE COMPANIES

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From the May 19, 2000 print edition

Growing fastest

[Connie Bye](#)

Section Editor

Each year, the St. Louis Business Journal features the area's fastest-growing private companies in an annual list. This time, we decided to offer more by highlighting each of the 80 companies in this special section. (The list -- all four pages of it -- starts on page 47.)

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Perhaps the most striking characteristic is the list's diversity. The computer, construction, communications and technology industries are among those represented.

No. 1 is Maxine Clark's Build-A-Bear Workshop Inc. This company with plenty of kid appeal experienced an amazing 4,822.54 percent growth in revenue from 1997 through 1999.

To qualify, companies had to have a three-year sales history with an increase from fiscal 1998 to 1999.

Also, revenue had to exceed

\$200,000 in fiscal 1997. All were independent, privately held corporations, proprietorships or partnerships through 1999, and all were headquartered in St. Louis.

The Business Journal verified the financial information with each company's independent accountant or by means of tax returns.



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