The Student Voice of UM-St. Louis

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January 16, 1996

Passing the torch

UM-St. Louis celebrates Martin Luther King Day with a message of hope for the next generation

by Susan Benton of The Current staff

As the voice of barton jefferson rothenberg throughout the J.C. Penney auditorium, over 100 children of UM-St. Louis faculty, staff, students and community members joined in singing, "We Shall Overcome," in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday on January 15.

"If this program takes place anually, so we have an opportunity for faculty, students and community to come and celebrate the holiday with us," Coordinator Deborah Burris said. Burris is also the Assistant Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity. "This year's event was "Passing the Torch," Igniting the Vision of a New Generation."

This year's program included motivational speeches and a multimedia documentary on civil rights entitled, "You Can Achieve," which gave a comprehensive look at the struggles for equality in East St. Louis, Ill., and St. Louis. Music by popular bands Tooshees was featured at the event as well.

For the first time, children's choirs from surrounding schools were invited to participate in the program. "One thing that has really helped the program is this year the element of youth," Burris said. "All of the schools are closed today for Martin Luther King Day activities, pictures of what their dreams were and what they want to see when they enter the workforce."

The Whitaker Foundation allows us to expand our very successful partnership with the Saint Louis Symphony into a national model for cooperation between music education and music institutions with their communities," said UM-St. Louis Chancellor Deborah Burris. "To bring this level of music and expertise to the children of St. Louis, the Whitaker Foundation will help support the expansion of the program."

The Whitaker Foundation awards largest grant in its history to UM-St. Louis and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra

The Student

Congressman Dick Gephardt defends student loan program at Honors College convocation

by Michael O’Donnell of The Current staff

Congressman Dick Gephardt, Democratic Leader of the House of Representatives, defended President Clinton’s student loan program at the Honors College convocation Dec. 16.

"Everybody is at the balancing budget," Gephardt said. "The question is where to balance the budget, and how do you balance the budget?"

"At first the Republicans wanted to eliminate the whole program," Gephardt said. "Now they would only allow those schools that participated in the first year of the program to continue to participate. UM-St. Louis would be kicked out of the Direct Loan Program by funding 3,200 students to find other ways to graduation."

Congressman Gephardt said the advantages of the Direct Loan Program are the income contingent payment plan of base loan payments on a graduate's income, faster payments to students waiting for their funds and Pell Grants for students who qualify for less than $5,000.

"This is the last place we should be cutting funds," Gephardt said. "As far as I think we should be increasing funds. Rarely can a college afford to go to school on their own. What’s important is that they are trying to aid the lowest students of all the ones who have the least amount of money."

"The Whitaker Foundation awards largest grant in its history to UM-St. Louis and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra

The Student

The sounds of music

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The Student

"If this program is adults-guarded that we developed a second portion where the children are doing activities that are geared for their age level."

"Over 100 children ranging in age from 3 to 14 were in attendance. The children were gathered into two rooms in the first floor of the J.C. Penney. They made birthday hats and decorated for King's Birthday, learned about his "I Have a Dream" speech, drew pictures of what they thought was the element of youth."

"One thing that really helped the program a lot this year was the element of youth. All of the schools are closed today to pass down this problem to the next generation."

"Deborah Burris, Assistant Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity"
a message of peace

by Michael O'Brien

The Current staff

Together we pay respect to the legacy of the great leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, whom all of us here at the University can look up to as a role model 40 years ago. Together we attest to the accomplishments and legacy of this extraordinary man. Without him, the United States would not have had the chance to see the flame of freedom by drinking from the cup of equality within our white-dominated society.

T"s why I gathered together the students of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, together with the students of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, to the stage of the student center. The combination is the richest student organization at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Our fraternities are a reflection of the continued struggle for civil rights. Our fraternity brothers work hard to help the local community. We strive to maintain respect, dignity, and conduct.
FEATURES

The Spirit of the University City Loop on what would've been his 61st birthday

by Bill Barrett of The Current staff

Blueberry Hill brought a little touch of Vegas to the University City Loop Monday, Jan. 8. The occasion was Elvis Presley’s birthday, and Blueberry Hill presented the twelfth annual Elvis Birthday Celebration.

Legend has it that Elvis’s birthday party was the biggest outside of Memphis, and the party had been sold out for two weeks before the big event. That evening included a 3-hour live revue performed by Steve Davis and the Memphis Mafia, a trivia contest, an impersonator contest, and a four-hour long guitar ruckus.

Blueberry Hill has never been able to maintain its punch since this production has been so awkward you had to wonder why it was going to be kept on stage.

The characters named A, B, C, and D were never as interesting as their names imply. Susan Roberts (A) fair a little better on the bunch. Her expressions lacked substance to their characters’ personalities, and any possibility of realistic interaction was defused because the characters’ personalities were so bland.

“I didn’t really review anything. I was too busy this year. I’m just going to wing it this year.” He’d do just that. He’d do just that. He’d do just that.

Steve Davis and the Memphis Mafia, a trivia contestant, took his Elvis impersonator contest from the later, flashier years.

The set for the play is pompous and excessive. All of the action takes place in a bedroom. The room is furnished with what seems to be some of the most expensive antique wares.

“I didn’t really review anything. I was too busy this year. I’m just going to wing it this year.” He’d do just that. He’d do just that.

The staging for the play is terrible. The three main characters form a triangle with a lot of space between them and they mostly stay within their own personal boundaries. Through this may have been an intentional move to show the lack of connection between the personalities of the different characters, any possibility of realistic interaction is defused because the characters’ personalities are so bland.

What may the stage design is supposed to give audience members something to jump out of a plane for and if the audience members would've been sold out for two weeks earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier and bought their costume from the earlier.

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“Three Tall Women” will continue with Tuesday and Sunday performances ending February 2. The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis is located on the Webster University campus at 1350 Ridge Road.

The play depicts a struggle between a young adult woman, a middle aged woman, and an elderly woman. The characters’ bizarre interrelation is really all of the punch that this production has.

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Three Tall Women on the Mainstage of The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. (from left) Susan Erickson, Darrie Lawrence and Judith Roberts star in Edward Albee’s play "Three Tall Women,” that opened at The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis (the Memphis Mafia, a trivia contest, an impersonator contest, and a four-hour long guitar ruckus.

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Cypress Hill
"III (Temples of Boom)"

Success hasn't come easy for Cypress Hill. The group has come a long way from their days of getting stoned to their recent tour on Lollapalooza. The band has found a huge following. They released "III," after a two-year break from recording new music. The last hit "Black Sunday" had barely hit the "今はさまらない in the music. The three hit single's first release was a under-ground hit that contained "How I Could Just Kill A Man." But with this release, the band establishes itself as a force to be reckoned with.

We wanted to change our style a little," Cypress Hill member Sen Dog said. "It's been an enjoyable process to work on "III." And it's about time Cypress Hill fans would like it.

The band has been using various styles of music and instruments that they've experimented with before, and it really shows in how different the music sounds. Along with their standard dialog, Cypress even sampled a section from the movie, "Tupac Fiction."

ONXY
"All We Got Iz Us"

Onyx is one of a hard core rap group whose members mean what they say and say what they mean. The group prides this on their second disc "All We Got Iz Us.

The group found themselves in the spotlight two years ago when their rookie release "Back that A** up" went to the top of the charts. It was projected by the song "Blame It." While the new disc lacks the mainstream power songs that the first disc, the group still has hit songs that you can't help but sing along.

From the opening skit "Life Or Death" to the final song "Walk In New York," this disc features great tales of photos lifestyle as well as hard core beats.

The best song on the disc "Last Days" in classic Onyx. With their patented yelling and nonstop growling, the group finds that they don't slip during their break - they get right back into it. The best DJs in the rap industry.

"Wanna" is the group's first hit to the radio. "Every song on this disc is highly recommended."

---Ken Dunkin

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The Current Reviews

by Ken Dunkin

Ong movies have become a dime a dozen. From "Boyz In The Hood" and "Menace II Society" to "Juice," it seems that the idea of an urban crime story has become a dime a dozen.

The Wayons brothers, Marlon and Shawn know it was time to do a parody of these flicks. From that idea comes the new movie "Don't Be a Menace to South Central While Drinking Your Juice in the Hood."

"We wanted to do an iteration of these films, the cliches in these movies, the cliches in the themes," Shawn said. "Whenever a guy, like "best movies, plays it- self out, that's what it's time for a parody."

The movie revolves around Ad­ ray (Shawn Wayans) and Lac Dog (Marlon Wayans), and their exploits throughout south "Hood."

The movie often features scenes that are similar to those in other gangster movies. In the beginning of the movie, Ashtray's mother returns home to find her son, a scene similar to one from "Boyz In The Hood."

There is one huge catch though - his father is younger than he is. It's this type of clever skit that fills this movie.

As the movie goes on, Ashtray and Lac Dog catch up with their two buddies Prach (Chris Spruc­ k) and Crazy Legs (Kell­ McCullough). The scenes with Crazy Legs are the best of the movie. He is a peeping tom and has a cus­ tom-made wheelchair outfitted with gold-plated hub caps.

The Bond ended up in a party being thrown for Toothpick (Shawn Wayans) and Lac Dog (Marlon Wayans), and their exploits throughout south "Hood."

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The UM-St. Louis Rivermen basketball team has been on a winning streak in its first three games in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAA). The Rivermen are 5-0 and 3-0 in the MIAA.

The conference opened their record with an 83-82 victory over Mid-Richland last weekend. The team dropped the Miners two-to-three in the season opener. The Rivermen have lost most of their game by name at 18 points. The Rivermen went down the streak of the game clipping in a three-point lead and when Eric Bickel was blocked across the shoulder while trying to complete a layup. He was awarded two free throws. The free throw helped Bickel and wasn’t able to stay in the game.

The Rivermen are currently riding a four game winning streak. Their latest loss was against Iowa State. The team played at Iowa State on Dec. 18. Iowa in a Division I school that was 4-1 when the Rivermen played them. The score was 76-63.

"We played very well against Iowa State," Meckfessel said. "We lost by 3 in the half, and by 7 by 7 with about 15 minutes left. They then just went in and did their thing. Iowa State managed to hold Bickel to a season low two points and one rebound. Bickel came up big against Iowa. He had 15 points and 12 rebounds. Lawndale Thomas and Kevin Tuckson each had 10 points.

It was kind of the performance that we’re capable of," Meckfessel said. "They gave us a taste for the Top 25 and they are in 11 now. Even though it was a loss, it was a good way for the good things that have happened since then.

The Rivermen are 3-0 in conference play as a result of the victory over Rolla, Missouri Western 7-71 and Southwest Baptist 73-71.

"We didn’t play well against Missouri Western," Meckfessel said. "We won our shots down the stretch and won the game.

The Rivermen will return home to play Pittsburg State on Wednesday at the Mark Twain Gym. Game time is 7:00.

Rivermen center Eric Bickel lays the ball in. Bickel is averaging over 10 points per game this season.

"It’s been a long road to success for Rivermen center Eric Bickel. He is finding his consistency this season just as he did in high school.

Bickel’s 10th scoring basket came in the game of the season at the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. He casually averaged 17 points per game in the first three games. He was a key player for the team.

"He had a good guy in the middle, more time to work, and made it easier for the perimeter players to get their shots."

Rivermen Center Eric Bickel is the man for the game. He is a great low post player.

Rivermen head coach Rich Meckfessel said. I mentioned his toughness and made him the man for the game. We made a few free throws. There were a few mistakes, but overall it was a good game."

The Current staff

"We made the shots down the stretch and won the game."

Eric Bickel had been lacking at the center and needed a player to build around. Bickel seemed to be the man for the position.

While at SLU Bickel played 46 games. He averaged 1.2 points and 1.6 rebounds per game as a freshman and 2.1 points and 1.5 rebounds per game as an sophomore. The lightning for Bickel was over the eight men per game in his senior SLU. Bickel had 8 points and 18 rebounds against Missouri Western.

Bickel has shot a steady .496 percentage from the floor this season."

"I didn’t feel I was fixing," Bickel said. "So when I really thought about it, I figured my education should come first.

"At SLU, Bickel took advantage of the town in his senior SLU. Bickel had 8 points and 18 rebounds against Missouri Western."

With Bickel making field goals all over the court, every offensive and defensive category, the Rivermen have found themselves inside 5-0 in the season and 3-0 in the MIAA.

"Eric has the ball in his hands for the majority of the season," Meckfessel said. "If he’s keeping the ball with him, we’re going to have a great scoring season.

Rivermen’s Resolution for 1996: Score often to beat Mizzou

Andy Strickland takes a shot on goal against MA-Columbia.

"Eric Bickel is an integral part of our team."

Photo: Ken Dunkin

Rivermen建筑业者 names in ‘96 MIAA tournament

By Eric Thomas

The Current

Photo: Ken Dunkin

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Photo: Ken Dunkin
The Riverwomen opened the Mid-America Intercollegiate
Athletic Association (MIAA) Play in
Joplin, Mo., against Missouri West-
ern Jan. 3. Despite senior guard
Nicki Christ’s season-high 22-point
effort and a near two-point deficit
by halftime, the Riverwomen dropped
the game by a final score of
99-76. Four-of-seven-guard
Deena Appleby added a career-
high 20 points to the score, sinking
five three-pointers.

Six-foot-one center Becky
Pawlick hit 4-of-9 field goals, 3-of-
3 free throws, and totaled five re-
bounds in 21 minutes of action.
Guard D.J. Martin added six points
and four rebounds.

Southwest Baptist 35-44-79
UM-St. Louis 26-29-85

In the MIAA home opener
against Southwest Baptist Jan. 6,
the first five points of the game
were scored by Riverwomen. Un-
fortunately, by half-time the Lady
Bears had established a 33-28 lead.
Forward guard Christy
Dixon scored 17 points to lead the
Riverwomen, and fellow freshman
despite getting 42 minutes on the
floor, the Rivermen scored 22
points against the Northwest.
Missouri Wildcat Azariah
Hernandez added a
two points and rebounds in eight
minutes of court time.
The Riverwomen will be in
action again this Wednesday in
the Mark Twain Building to play
Pittsburg State. Tip-off time is
5:30 p.m.

The latest in dance moves, mu-
sic, power, and motivation to gi-
vе you an innovative and enjoy-
able workout. Complete with mind-
body components of fitness.

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The Rivermen travel to
Northwest Missouri 32-34-46

Last Saturday afternoon the River-
men were hosted by Northwest
Missouri State University, in just
25 minutes of play, sailed five field-
goals, 7-of-10 free-throws, and
won from 3-point range. Simon con-
tributed 12 points to the Riverwomen’s score, with Christy
following right behind with eight.
Crystal Logan had her way with
five points and eight rebounds.
Martin fought for five rebounds,
as did Pawlick. Forward guard
Michelle Hogan scored two points
and rebounds in eight minutes of
court time.
The Riverwomen will be in
action again this Wednesday in
the Mark Twain Building to play
Pittsburg State. Tip-off time is
5:30 p.m.
January 16, 1996

NEWS

A UM-St. Louis holiday wrap-up

by Scott Lamar of The Current staff

There weren't many students on campus from mid-December to early January, but that didn't mean that the events took place that are worth noting.

A reception was held to honor Bob Schmalfeldt on Dec. 15. Schmalfeldt was the director of student activities at UM-St. Louis for 14 years. Popular events such as Holiday Fair, Minithon and Expo were the brainchild of Schmalfeldt.

Dr. Frederick L. Fausz, dean of Pierre Laclede Honors College, resigned from UM-St. Louis. Fausz is credited with increasing the enrollment and creating a sense of community on campus, but that didn't mean that the events took place that are worth noting.

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The University Staff Association kicked off the holiday season at M.P. O'Kelly's Dec. 14. Staff Association members helped themselves to free hors d'oeuvres at the "Holidays Get Together."

The Chancellor's holiday luncheon for the University, originally scheduled for Dec. 19, was held Dec. 20 because of the snow. Approximately 300 people were served tea, cookies and the St. Louis Choral Society entertained.

Snow forced the campus to shut down again Jan. 2. See the Campus Current for upcoming events.

Gephardt from Page 1

The Whitaker Foundation supports initiatives and institutions that thoughtfully address needs in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Their current focus areas are strengthening the arts, improving parks and advancing medical care. The Foundation is particularly interested in projects in the focus areas that are neighborhood-centered or significantly affect youth.

"We are delighted to provide the seed money for the Whitaker Music Education Collaborative," said Executive Director of the Whitaker Foundation, Dr. Lynza Koenemann. "We believe it will improve the total educational experience for children in the St. Louis area."

UM-St. Louis and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra began a partnership in the fall of 1994. Together they provide four scholarships for African-American music students at the University. In addition, Claude Baker has arranged an residence at UM-St. Louis conducting advanced seminars for superior music students.

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January 14 marked the day for Winter Commencement 1996 and a time for excellence.

The afternoon began with a familiar musical interlude of chimes, introducing the graduates, faculty, and staff.

Donald Dinsmore, deputy to the chancellor, welcomed everyone. He said he was proud of the University that had "provided them men and women" for the success of St. Louis region, state, and nation.

After some welding speeches, Chancellor Blanche Touhill presented the keynote speaker for the commencement, Horace Warner, Jr. Warner is president of Southeastern Company of Missouri. He has promised the plan to create Ted-City Community Councils throughout Missouri and will be opening the first center at UM-St. Louis in the fall 1996. Warner is also active in the community. He is chairman of the Boy Scout Research 1996 Fair St. Louis, and was chairman of the 1994-1995 Nergy College Fund campaign.

Warner discussed the idea of excellence. He told the students to study hard to do their best. They would be the very best because they "have people to stand behind you and people who stand with you."

Warner had three suggestions for the new graduates: "Don't spend too much time trying to come up with the answers," he said. "Spent trying to understand the questions and the problems. Make a difference by doing something. You will only be as strong as the partnership you form, as much as you are as a student."

The afternoon ended with presentations of the graduates. Approximately 350 students attended the ceremony. The new Alumnae of UM-St. Louis, "Tug of Missouri," was conducted by John Dill.

The afternoon ended with the occasional and every-thing going to congrats from friends and family.

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by Heather Phillips
of The Current staff

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