At the Student Government Association meeting on Friday, Nov. 21, many proposals were discussed and passed by popular vote of the assembly. Increases in student fees among the proposals that will go to the Board of Curators.

Some of the student fees for the 2005-06 year may go up as much as 40 cents per credit hour. Currently, all-students pay 59.99 per credit hour for all-athletic events and activities involved with the university. The proposed increase for the next school year is 35 cents. Three people spoke at the meeting for the athletic department. A student athlete, Chris Pfa, the newly hired football coach Pat Dolan, director of the athletic department, experimented with the assembly to vote on the increase. "We are trying to create for the students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis," one of the proposals that will become active, as well as others asking for more funding every year. There are currently about 127 organizations on campus. More than $6 million is often allocated for student organizations. Some of the organizations make money in other ways, but others cannot fundraise.

The majority of that increase will go toward student organizations.

- Ornitha Montague, director of Student Life

Many more organizations continue to become active, as well as others asking for more funding every year. There are currently about 127 organizations on campus. Much more money is often allocated for student organizations. This is a reason that UM-St. Louis is pleased with the students and graduate students. Kristin Little and Orinthia Montague said that the offer was that was responsible for turning down the grant.

Tuition is a model for both of the prominent novels. Both McQuade and Rounds began to participate in the important progress. The museum in Hannibal is to be redesigned by the group. Eventually, the entire museum is to be redesigned by the group. At the end of May the first phase of the project will end. McQuade and Rounds said that the offer was that was responsible for turning down the grant. The proposal began last spring. The museum plans was finished in the spring of this year, and the museum opened in the fall.

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Announcements

Mon 1 world AIDS lecture
3:00 p.m. A panel of AIDS experts will discuss "AIDS," their mission. Call 516-5371 for more information.

Tues 2 Choosing a major
10:30 a.m. Students with academic majors and occupations using the Self Directed search will help students select their major.

Tues 2 - Thurs 4 Toy drive
11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Student volunteers will be at the Engineering Building to collect toys. Please bring new, unopen toys to support the thousands of kids who will not have the privilege of a toy.

Wed 3 Treating depression
12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. A panel of experts will discuss depression and the treatments available.

Thurs 4 Counseling Services
1:00 p.m. "Counseling Services for All" will be held in the Rose Room of the Student Library. Contact 516-5301 for more information.

Fr 5 Student study center
2:00 p.m. "Study Centers for All" will be held in the Rose Room of the Student Library. Contact 516-5301 for more information.

Sat 7 Fall field trip
10:00 a.m. "Fall Foliage Field Trip" will be held in the Rose Room of the Student Library. Contact 516-5301 for more information.

Sun 8 Chemistry lab
12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. "Chemistry Lab for All" will be held in the Rose Room of the Student Library. Contact 516-5301 for more information.

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QUESTION: Don't you think you've spent enough time growing roots into your sofa?

The Current is hiring for the spring semester. Dig yourself out of the winter slump and apply at The Current today!

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The Current, 388 MSC, 8001 Natural Bridge Rd, St. Louis, MO 63121. The Current is an E.O.E.
Michael Beman, business graduate student, was presented with the Scholarship for Diverse Minorities in Financial Professional on Nov. 3. The award was presented on behalf of the Sigma Alpha Iota Fraternity, which provides scholarships for students majoring in finance.

Lawrence, a sociology honors student, was named to the President’s Honor Roll. The honor roll recognizes students who have a minimum GPA of 3.5 or higher.

The Noyce Scholarship is a $7,500 award given to students seeking a teacher certification. Upon certification, teachers are guaranteed a job in St. Louis Public Schools. Recipients of the scholarship must commit to teaching math and science, at the middle and high school levels for five years.

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Hockey season again

Okay, so I am going to write about sports this week. I have decided that I am going to write about sports this week because hockey season has started and I am loving every second of it. I am not saying that I was not excited for the start of hockey season, but now that it has started, I have realized how much I love hockey. I am sure that many of you also love hockey and are excited for the start of the season. I am going to write about what I think is the best team in the NHL, the St. Louis Blues. Let me know if you agree or disagree with me.

JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

What's your opinion?

The holiday season is once again upon us. It is time for us to reflect on all that we have accomplished this year, our joys and our regrets. One thing that often looked over is that this happens each and every year. Do we see this coming? Do we go through food pantry services? This does not occur very likely, so it is only worth waiting after all of this occurs, we can determine ourselves that a problem is real, then wait for the next.

Then there are those who think they help by giving the boy thing. Not thinking how to convince ourselves that a problem is upon us. It is time for us to reflect on some of those options. Lots care of pumpkin pie, wiring and old heady bery, very fast go blank: and want to crawl under the table.

Seeds care of pumpkin pie, wiring and old heady bery, very fast go blank: and want to crawl under the table. No one, doesn't love to be done. There are so many options available to us that we never take that it is embarrassing that those food pantry options are the sect they are. So what? Options are available, you may be willing. We then a list of some of those options. "Firemen say you are at the grocery store, throw in a couple more cups of soup or cups of corn. Then, at the end of the month, gather them all up and take them down to a food pantry and donate them. You will believe how inexpensive you will still find after you get back home."

"Make a run to the Aikin store next week! Believe it or not, you have not gotten; some food you can donate 100 cans to your food food pantry. Once again, you will feel incredible after doing an act of kindness like this."

"Use a cash to donation to the food pantry. If you don't know what to buy, you just $5 or $20 down the food pantry and make your donation the way. They can see the size and buy what they need. Your kindness will never be forgotten by the workers of the pantries."

"Votes to be recommended here, likely, the people who work at those food pantries are doing out of the kindness of their hearts."

Wishing you all the best this holiday season. Keep it safe, keep it healthy, and happy new year."

JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

No soup for you!

St. Louis area food pantries need your love

The issue

St. Louis area food pantries are despo- perately low.

Without these wonderful people, many of St. Louis' needy will go hungry. So it's time for those of us with some of those options. Both secular and religious. I would like to encourage anyone feeling overwhelmed, of course, with the periphery of my constant, all things, well. Due to my family's counseling, we are able to provide for a variety of tasks and organizations-both secular and religious. I would like to encourage anyone feeling overwhelmed and disposed to this whole, of course, with the periphery of my constant, all things, well. Due to my family's counseling, we are able to provide for a variety of tasks and organizations-both secular and religious.

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"What is even more exciting about all of this is the play of Chris Pronger. In the biggest game that may not have had since Chris' Jayson's birthday, Pronger has been a true leader in this NHL, the play of the Blues. Let us look back at it."

"Blues of the Detroit Redwings is well on his way to scoring playing Marian Gaborik on the left and Mike Langham in the middle. Hall now finds himself the best one-timer in league history and his confidence to take over the pace."

"This time of year is an exciting time for us, especially, people. When is everything well. I hope your holiday season is a time of joy that they can get."

What do you think?

Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 3083 or online at our website.

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 300 words will be edited. We will accept letters for 200 words and nothing longer. We will accept letters for 200 words and nothing longer. We will accept letters for 200 words and nothing longer. We will accept letters for 200 words and nothing longer.

What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we've written about?

You can make your voice heard in a variety of ways!

- Food pantry donations
- Hockey season
- Holiday thanks and giving
- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Visit the Online Forums at TheCurrentOnline.com

Hockey season again

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JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Granger
Does your head hurt?

By Catherine Manley

Home Science Columnist

Pain is actually in your brain. This apparently dismissive statement does not mean that pain is not real, but that the perception of pain is really logical painful experiences and a cut interpreted as a painful cut on the arm. The researchers found that blood flow was increased to an area of the brain that had previously been associated with physical pain, just as would be expected for physical pain. They also found that blood flow increased in areas of the prefrontal cortex, an area of higher reasoning, which they interpreted as the subject’s attempt to dampen down feelings of anxiety.

The researchers speculated that the eruption in pain response might be linked to the adaptive response of humans to physical injuries. Pain acts as a sign to the body of a problem. A similar reaction to social rejection also signals a problem, and being part of a group associated with greater chance of survival.

A recent study suggests that the similarity associated feeling of emotional pain to the brain as a physical blow. The perception of pain is really emotional pain, which might lead to new approaches to examining and treating social conflicts.

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By Gary Senn
Staff Writer

As the holiday season approaches, students who have disabilities have taken to campus to create awareness about issues pertaining to them.

As the holidays approach, students who attend college are faced with a number of challenges, from finding food to handling classes. Some students face these obstacles on a daily basis, while others may only face them during the holiday season.

Getting through college and maintaining a positive outlook can be challenging for everyone, but it can be especially difficult for those who are disabled. Many students with disabilities face issues such as financial hardship, social isolation, and limited access to resources.

The U.S. Department of Education estimates that about 15% of the population has a disability. This includes students who have physical, cognitive, or emotional impairments that affect their ability to participate in daily life. These students may need additional accommodations, such as note-taking assistance, enlarged text, or modified transportation.

Despite these challenges, students with disabilities are determined to succeed. They often take extra steps to ensure they have the resources they need, such as attending support groups, seeking help from professors, and utilizing campus resources.

Ultimately, the holiday season can be a time of joy and celebration for everyone. However, for those who have disabilities, it can be a time of struggle and challenge. It is important for us to remember that everyone faces different challenges in life, and we should strive to support and uplift each other during these times.
Spa Day brings gives much-needed late-semester break

BY CARLIE LEWIS
Staff Writer

It was the midst of hectic pace for the holidays and preparation for finals. UM-St. Louis students enjoyed a well-deserved break inside the Pilot House at the University Program Board’s Spa Day. Men and women were treated to a bit of pampering in between classes on Monday, Nov. 17.

"I came in here because I was stressed and needed a break," Crystal McCullogh, junior, business, explained. Six manicure therapists from a Bank Rob Company and Missouri College gave free chair massages on the stage of the Pilot House. The lights of the stage were dimmed and the music was turned down to allow students to sample a five-minute, four-step system that exfoliated and moisturized skin.

"My hands feel really soft," said Sara McFadlan, senior legal studies.

McFadlan said, upon completing the process. Sarah Clark, who works as a volunteer at the Salvation Army, said, 

"People who can participate in community service with the Salvation Army are being fed every night, and the food is actually measured for the hungry, so it is a great opportunity for the Salvation Army to help children enjoy the holidays more. Large toy boxes have been placed at 17 locations around St. Louis. The toy boxes will be filled with toys and gifts for every child at the Salvation Army’s Christmas toy drive. The Salvation Army’s Christmas Toy Drive is sponsored by several organizations on campus, including Interfaith Council, Catholic Newman Center and Interfaith Campus Ministry, and funds will be raised to purchase toys for children who are most in need. This year, the Salvation Army has received a large number of donations and is looking for more volunteers to help sort and distribute the toys. The toy drive will take place on Nov. 17, 18, 19, and 20. The toys will be distributed to children in need on Dec. 23.

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Athletes pulling double duty for UMSL

by Gretchen Moore
Sports Editor

Ashley Richmond and Scott Wittenborn sat in the student section on the volleyball team and construction team. However, while the rest of their teammates go into their off-season and can down to lower practice precision per week, these two are heading out to try playing to balance out sports at once while also keeping up with their classes.

Ashley Richmond, a junior guard from Cincinnati, played both volleyball and basketball in high school as well as track. However, she also played collegiate-level volleyball. "Because my dad didn't know much about the volleyball, so he couldn't yell at me as much," Richmond just finished a struggling season with the Riverwomen volleyball team and found the intensity of practices to slow down toward the end of the season because they were focusing on individual team strategies. "It's hard because basketball is more of a team thing and practices. The sports are kind of like split. I had a special skill I would work on (like shooting and basketball) shooting a big part of my game."

A sophomore guard from Cape Girardeau, Mo., played basketball, soccer and tennis.

Ashley Richmond

Rough start
Riverwomen basketball face an uphill battle in standings

by Judy Dieffenbach
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis women's basketball team has had a tough start so far in this season. In the season opener, the Riverwomen fell on the road to Lincoln 63-44. After falling behind in the first half, UM-St. Louis had a hard time keeping up with Lincoln. The main difference in the game was the shooting percentages of the two teams. The Riverwomen shot 33.3 percent while Lincoln was at 50 percent over 30 minutes.

A few days later, the Riverwomen continued their tough streak when they faced Central Missouri State on Friday, Nov. 1. UM-St. Louis lost 62-47 after playing CMU in the first half. CMU pulled away in the game by taking control of the game early on. The second half of the game was even more difficult for the team. The team had a hard time keeping up with the Bearcats. The main difference in the game was the shooting percentages of the two teams. The Riverwomen shot 27.7 percent while CMU was at 50 percent over 30 minutes.

The next night, Saturday Nov. 2, the Riverwomen faced a tough opponent at home against the Panthers of Drake. The ninth-ranked Drake was the next challenge for the Riverwomen with only one point lead to go. The team had worked hard all season to try and make this season better than last year. They were looking forward to playing against Drake. The game was tied 10-10 after switching 19 points in the first half and 50-50 at the end of the game. The team had a hard time keeping up with UM-St. Louis, but at least they tie it with a 3-3 record.

Head Coach Lee Buchman is in his second year with the Riverwomen. In his first year, he talked a lot about the way the team played and the programs for a winning season. This year, Buchman feels his young team will be constantly growing this year. "Our team is very young and we have nine freshmen. We only have nine players, and they are all new to our basketball program. None of our nine players have played at all so far in the season." Buchman said.

"I think we have a lot of improvement this year. We have a lot of young talent. We have a lot of young players and we are working hard to improve every year and to team with each other," Buchman said.

No matter the results, Buchman is proud of the way his team has played so far in this season. "Our effort is getting better every time we play and we are learning the new system a little bit better each game. We are still working on the fundamentals of the game and we are working hard at cutting everything I am trying to teach," he said.

Most importantly, Buchman believes the team can be competitive this season. "Their fans will support the team through the tough time and help us get to the NCAA Tournament."

"I think, if we continue to work hard and use the new system, we will be competitive in the league. However, we have a lot of work to do on our own. We are just trying to improve every game. We have a lot of room for improvement."

"I believe that the girls are getting better and they want to win as bad as the next guy," Buchman said.

The next game for the Riverwomen was at 7:30 p.m. in Southern Kentucky.

Mary Magraves, forward, for the Riverwomen, committed to the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Mary's father, who was a head coach at Lindenwood, was attending the game. Mary scored 21 points in the first 21 minutes of the game, but then she was forced to leave the game. She was later diagnosed with a torn ACL. "I am really proud of Mary's performance. She was playing well and really stepping up," Buchman said.

The current record for the Riverwomen is 3-3.

Scott Wittenborn

Senior Staff Writer

"We did not do well early in the season. Not only did we lose our first three games, but we also lost our first three at home. We did not play well as a team in these first three games. We are trying to improve each game and to learn from each game," Wittenborn said.

The Riverwomen lost their games against UM-St. Louis and Mary's due to lack of performance in the second half, as they wanted to come strong and take over the lead. The Riverwomen scored the first four points of the half and cut it to one point with only 38 seconds left.

UM-St. Louis scored a steal and a free throw to tie the game at 52-52. Wittenborn had 19 points and six rebounds in the first half. The Riverwomen are 3-3 on the season so far.

Ashley Richmond

in high school. Wittenborn has high hopes for his team this year as well as his personal performance on and off the court. "Of course, the guys want to keep us to know so I am always there for them. As a team, we want to get a conference title and move on to regionals. A long-term personal goal I have is to be named academic all-conference all four years."

Wittenborn could use his free time with the Riverwomen team as a forward for three games with three points. He scored 16-16 in order to cut the lead in the first half before the Rivermen came back to tie the game. The Rivermen fell 9-2 in the first five minutes of the half before the Riverwomen scored the hot shooting of Justin Stine to keep the lead.

The season opener was 9-23 and UM-St. Louis's first lead early in the first half.
The game was already 37 minutes old when the Lions took the lead for the first time. Lindenwood led by 10 points at one point during the game, but the lead slipped away in the second half. The Lions' lead was just under five minutes left in the game at 70-70, and had to hold their ground for the rest of the game. They couldn't hold on, and the UM-St. Louis Rivermen won 72-70. The Rivermen had the opportunity to beat the Lions, but the Lions were able to hold on and win the game.

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**University of Missouri - St. Louis Annual Dr. King Essay Contest**

Theme: "Dr. Martin Luther King, the soul of a courageous man"

**REQUIREMENTS**

- Essays must reflect upon the theme "Soul of a Courageous Man" and the values of Dr. King

- Essays are limited to 500 original words and must be double spaced typed

- Essays must be original work, neat, and grammatically correct

- Previous 1st place winners are not eligible to participate

- Participants must be enrolled UMSL students for the Fall 03 and Spring 04 semesters

Indivdual cash awards will be given to top winners

Winners will be presented with their award on Monday, January 19, 2004, at the annual MLK Holiday Observance

Submissions must be received in the Office of Student Life (566 Millennium Student Center) by Friday, December 5th at 5:00 p.m.
**Movie Review**

Amy Maties

**Master and Commander**

by Catherine Marquardt

The last Samurai: Tom Cruise plays a code, he must decide about the troubles of dating during college. Based on the Jane Austen novels, this film centers on a young, hard-working college girl who has no time for dating but lives with three other girls determined to meet the men of their dreams. Opens Dec. 9th.

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

by Monica Mattia

Mokabes offers up a vegetarian delight

by Nick Wilford

Mokabe’s offers an alternates environment for a traditional British meal. The table lighting came from over the buffet, and the walls and ceiling featured light fixtures. Mokabe’s was created by three women: Brandy, Caroline, and Molly (three names, one going for their favorite drink). The mokabe’s is a central café that offers vegetarian meals. The place has a black-and-white theme and a menu reminiscent of a British tearoom.

Mokabe’s offers up a vegetarian delight.

Melinda helped herself first and loaded up on veggie quiche, homemade potato, and a variety of vegetables. She did two Bedford salads with vegetables and a mushroom quiche, but not the delivery. Visit them at 5031 3rd Street (on the north side of the street). Mokabe’s offers an alternates environment for a traditional British meal.

**Green’s Remedy for Rainy Days**

by Paul Clurman

Let me be frank. Straight Talk is, hands-down, the best book I’ve ever read. I’ve been a long-time reader of political commentary, but this book surpassed all my expectations. The book consists of two parts: an introduction and a main section. The introduction provides an overview of the author’s background, while the main section begins with a comprehensive analysis of the main topic. The author’s writing style is engaging and easy to follow. Straight Talk is a must-read for anyone interested in politics, and I highly recommend it.

**Honey: Tough inner immorality**

Honey, to tough inner immorality, she opens a dance studio for soldiers in their fight about the troubles of dating during college. Based on the Jane Austen novels, this film centers on a young, hard-working college girl who has no time for dating but lives with three other girls determined to meet the men of their dreams. Opens Dec. 9th.

**Mokabe’s offers an alternates environment for a traditional British meal.**

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BY AMY GODFREY
Music Critic

Holding onto the same sound that made the Stokes rise to fame, they have released a second album, "Run on Fire." The disc contains everything you would expect from the Stokes and more. The album contains two million copies worldwide. Since then, the five men that make up the Stokes have been equally successful with their music. They are a band composed of intelligent young men with a dedication to perfection.

In their evolution from the time of their first release, the Stokes remain, for the most part, the same. Instead of identically sharing their message and sound for their second release, as many artists do, the Stokes stood behind their original ideas. All of these elements combined to form the complete and much anticipated release of "Run on Fire."

"Run on Fire" is a finely tuned exposition of modern day rock 'n' roll. The experimental nature of their sound has brought about a new standard in today's music scene. With dynamic compositions and vibrant rhythmic patterns, the album is sure to be another success for the Stokes.

The Stokes have now released the new, tenth canc- ers of rock and roll.

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UM–St. Louis Campus Housing

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The Current
State legislator, UMSL alumnus Zweifel comes back for ‘lunch’

TOP: Clint Zweifel, Missouri representative for the 76th district, listens to a question from the audience during ‘Lunch with a Legislator,’ on Nov. 20. The event was held by ASUM.

RIGHT: Zweifel, who graduated from UM-St. Louis in 1996 with a B.A. in political science, and later received his MBA in 2001, spoke on “Before and After: My Experiences at UM.”

All the acting is high quality, just as the visual quality and entertaining storyline is first rate. But the film, despite its high polish and historical accuracy, fails to become a real classic epic. Action, history and a good script are not enough for epic status. For those who want a bit more depth, the lack of the human in the epic will sink the tale.

In "Master and Commander," there is power of a human to details and realism, just the detail without the character depth and philosophical undertones is not enough. I suspect women might be more likely to notice this gap, another reason you have Russell Crowe looking really good for Crowe. Certainly you have Russell Crowe looking really good, but the fact is that the character remains heroic, and bold but two-dimensional. He has no softer side, no soft emotions and no secret weaknesses that make him more, well, human. The best epic and heroic stories also have another deeper layer. The lack of shading in characters, not just the story and history and love this kind of attention which an epic cries out for. While I realize these films come to mind while thinking about "Moby Dick," the historic scope, it lacks the epic which an epic needs to make him more, well, human.

"Moby Dick" doesn’t blow away when the next could. I don’t spend it all in one place. Details and realism, just the detail and realism, not just the blustery, backslapping camaraderie, will likely leave at least some viewers unimpressed and unimpressed about the men in this tale of the high seas. Persistently a guy black at the end, the film will be fine for many in the audience but will be put out of the main-category. It will likely leave at least some viewers unimpressed and unimpressed about the men in this tale of the high seas. Persistently a guy black at the end, the film will be fine for many in the audience but will be put out of the main-category. What it boils down to is that this highly entertaining action film, despite its high polish and historical accuracy, fails to become a real classic epic. Action, history and a good script are not enough for epic status. For those who want a bit more depth, the lack of the human in the epic will sink the tale.

All the acting is high quality, just as the visual quality and entertaining storyline is first rate. But the film, despite its high polish and historical accuracy, fails to become a real classic epic. Action, history and a good script are not enough for epic status. For those who want a bit more depth, the lack of the human in the epic will sink the tale.

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Shakespeare at the PAC
BY Amelia Sigley
Staff Writer

Shakespearean pieces draw a large crowd to the premiere performance of "The Comedy of Errors," with the PAC, directed by Eric Love, which opened at Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

The play centers around twins, Antipholus of Syracuse and Antipholus of Ephesus. A simple set, the audience is mesmerized by the two sets of identical twins and their servants that are also twins.

The core characters were separated at birth, and there were turbulent times, but we all pulled together to put out a good product," said audience member Bob Mick, of St. Louis. "We're glad that it was fun doing it now." The audience said that part of the problem with this is "We're glad that it was fun doing it now."

Mistaken identities, main conflict, a simple set, a twisted plot, all were reasons for the audience to enjoy the show. The show had a lot of fun with the people involved, and everyone was as happy as possible. The audience really enjoyed the play, and I am looking forward to the next one," said audience member Carrie Coleman, senior, music education.

For information about upcoming performances at the PAC, visit www.touhill.org.

UMSL makes a splash at parade

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Santa Claus: He was more real
than many of you may think

BY JASON DENNIS
Editors/Chief

What do you think of when you hear the name Santa Claus? Do you think of jolly Santa in a red suit with black boots? Do you think of Dinner and Rudolph and Donner? Well, you may be surprised at the very humble beginnings of the myth of Santa Claus.

Considered as we have been that there is no Santa Claus, at one price from actually was a man who was very much like the Santa you see today. Born in 245 AD, Nicholas may be the one for whom the Church called him "Bishop." 

Even at a young age, Nicholas was a kind and generous boy. He often had high aspirations for him. His parents were not done there either. According to the legend, Nicholas was afraid that he would starve at the very humble beginnings. So, when he was named a bishop, another part of the Santa Claus tradition, he could not afford to feed. Nicholas wore a red robe and a red hat as well as black shoes. When Nicholas raised the money, he was determined to help in some way. So, one night, he climbed on the family's roof and dropped three bags of gold down the chimney. The legend says that the girl had not been lying a week by the fireplace and gold fell into each sock, hence the tradition of hanging stockings by the chimney. The next morning, the girls woke up to find gold and not done there either. Thus, the legend of Santa Claus was born.

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As the legend goes, Nicholas would, on Christmas Eve, go around the house, and throw a bag of gold into the windows of the children's rooms. The next day, when Nicholas entered the Church and said, "Nicholas was named St. Nicholas Day, in honor of the patron saint of children." 

In one village in France, young Nicholas overhead a sad tale of a man who had three daughters he could not afford to feed. This man was afraid that he would have to send his daughters away from home and raising the money, he was determined to help in some way. So, one night, he climbed on the family's roof and dropped three bags of gold down the chimney. The legend says that the girl had not been lying a week by the fireplace and gold fell into each sock, hence the tradition of hanging stockings by the chimney. The next morning, the girls woke up to find gold and not done there either. Thus, the legend of Santa Claus was born.

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Tree hunting

St. Louis offers up a plethora of options for those looking for the perfect tree

Photos by Michael Pellikan and Mike Shewin

By Jason Grunden
Editor-in-Chief

For many families, one of the first tasks of the holiday season is going to pick out the family Christmas tree. Size, style and tree type all play a factor in the choosing of a Christmas tree. The St. Louis area has a number of different tree lots and vendors to choose from.

"We usually don't prep the week before Thanksgiving," Tim Smith, assistant manager of Frank's Nursery and Craft in Kirkwood, said. "We have Price's, Franke's and Sarah's.

Smith said Frank's has been selling Christmas trees for at least 20 years, if not longer. He said for the past eight years, Christmas trees have sold out by the time it is new. The Kirkwood Frank's is located at a half mile north of Interstate-44 on Lindbergh Blvd.

Smith said Frank's does not just carry Christmas trees, but many other festive items as well.

"We sell live and artificial trees, but that's it," Smith said. "We also have live and artificial wreaths, live and artificial roping as well as ornaments, tree toppers and poinsettias.

Smith said perhaps the most unique Christmas tree they carry is a potted Christmas tree that patrons can plant in their yards and watch grow. That way, according to Smith, families can grow their own Christmas trees for a few years down the road.

Smith said prices range from $19.99 for their assorted potted trees, which are nine feet tall, to $79.99 for the Cathedral trees, which are nine feet tall and ten inches across.

Smith also said Frank's commonly sells about 600 trees per month, and there are four in the St. Louis area, over 1,300 nationwide.

Another popular Christmas tree location is Thies Farm and Greenhouses, Inc. Located at 4215 N. Hanley, the other location is at 4224 South Grand.

"We have a lot of families that come in every year to get their trees from us," Smith said. "They have a rooted stock of trees. They carry Balsam, Fraser and Douglass Pines as well as Con Conifer, Scotch Pine and White Pine trees.

Thies Farm and Greenhouses, Inc. is located at Interstate-44 on South Hanley. For more information on the tree lot, call (314) 428-9878.

Perhaps the most popular place in St. Louis to get a Christmas tree in Ted Drewes. Made famous for its frozen custard, Ted Drewes' has been selling Christmas trees for almost 30 years. It started small, but now they are in their own Christmas tree lot.

Tina Dillon, general manager of Ted Drewes, said there are many attractive qualities of shopping at Ted Drewes for Christmas trees.

"The convenient store opens up during the winter months," Dillon said. "That way, customers can eat their tree while they pick it out.

Dillon said Ted DrewesChristmas tree lots sell between 6,000 and 7,000 trees per year. They carry Balsam, Fraser, Douglas and White Pine trees. Prices are $59 and up. Both Ted Drewes locations will be carrying trees this year. The main location is at 4224 Chippewa. The other location is at 224 South Grand. For more information, call (314) 481-2652.

Photos by Michael Pellikan and Mike Shewin

This customer finesses tying his freshly-purchased Christmas tree to the roof of his minivan in the parking lot of Ted Drewes.

Andrew Ghiassi, a worker with Ted Drewes, trims a Christmas tree trunk for a customer on Sunday morning. Ghiassi says that even more than a month before Christmas day, the lot often is filled with customers.
Wanted: cheap gifts for the shopper with a small budget

Shopping for the holiday can be stressful, and dropping on a budget just adds to the pressure. For some, gifts aren't available, and even better, affordable. This gift-guiding guide is designed to help penny-pinching shoppers save money and find the perfect present for their loved ones.

For him: $10 and under
- For women: "Love creative gifts" is a big bag with a movie of "Cosmopolite"; her favorite candy and a homemade card. If you're not interested in creating a thoughtful gift, you could consider a Men's Book Club; a female favorite is "Target". This guide is over $10, but $10 or under.
- For him: If you are on a budget, buy a gift certificate from a movie theater that covers the cost of two movie tickets, popcorn and soda. Ask the theater about an at-home movie package. If you're getting a gift for a professional, a Diablo gift certificate is a great bet.
- For her: $25 and under
- For him or her: $50 and under
- For $50 and under, you could consider getting a gift box. For $50, Sephora has a gift basket, and eBay also has luxury items such as Burberry scarves and Tiffany and Co. jewelry at discounted rates. There's also a silver-handled knife to cut the meat, which you would use at a fancy dinner. A set of 21 silver knives is available for $108. And for $10, you could consider a miniature bottle of high-quality wine.

And to think, before this all happened tonight, I was planning to come back out and dance around my skin.

Rudolph almost had a happy ending...

Cusumano’s Pizza
Sunday - Thursday 10 pm til Midnight
2 for 1 Rail Drinks
Wednesday & Thursday 10pm to Midnight
$1.00 pitcher refills (natural light beer)
Must be 21 to enter - must have Missouri ID
7147 Manchester Rd in Maplewood
entertainment every night 4 pool tables and game room.
OPEN 10pm 645-5599 close at 3am every night

December 1, 2003
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Movies for the true Hollywood Christmas afficionado

BY BARRY ROSSER

Wanted: cheap gifts for the shopper with a small budget

Shopping for the holiday can be stressful, and dropping on a budget just adds to the pressure. For some, gifts aren't available, and even better, affordable. This gift-guiding guide is designed to help penny-pinching shoppers save money and find the perfect present for their loved ones.

For him: $10 and under
- For women: "Love creative gifts" is a big bag with a movie of "Cosmopolite"; her favorite candy and a homemade card. If you're not interested in creating a thoughtful gift, you could consider a Men's Book Club; a female favorite is "Target". This guide is over $10, but $10 or under.
- For him: If you are on a budget, buy a gift certificate from a movie theater that covers the cost of two movie tickets, popcorn and soda. Ask the theater about an at-home movie package. If you're getting a gift for a professional, a Diablo gift certificate is a great bet.
- For her: $25 and under
- For him or her: $50 and under
- For $50 and under, you could consider getting a gift box. For $50, Sephora has a gift basket, and eBay also has luxury items such as Burberry scarves and Tiffany and Co. jewelry at discounted rates. There's also a silver-handled knife to cut the meat, which you would use at a fancy dinner. A set of 21 silver knives is available for $108. And for $10, you could consider a miniature bottle of high-quality wine.

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Auld lang syne

Ringing in the new year St. Louis style

by Kate Dilley
Features Editor

1. Pose in front of your New Year photo on the wall in your dorm room. Some places like to hang a photo no matter how horrible it is in order to create a New Year’s Eve mood. Find something that you would adore for the future or even wear it to parties in the future.

2. Grab a few friends and find a club to dance the night and your favorite music. Get out of your dorm room and let out your inner party animal! Enjoy the happiness and the great music! Make sure that you would never want to remember this night.

3. If dancing is more of a preference, plan a night out, plan a birthday, plan to play poker, or learn a new game, such as battles of canasta.

4. Rent movies and eat all the food that will still be on shelves once the New Year comes. Have a big night with the “Eagles,” “Nightmare on Elm Street,” and other thrillers. Watch Indiana Jones, “Star Wars,” or “The Empire Strikes Back” for a good night. Rent science fiction classics and laugh at Godzilla versus the city. Think off the screen and make up the script. Feast on the click of your feet. Rent romantic comedies in a sense of “Sex in the City.”

5. Go midnight bowling. Some allies hold all-night parties, complete with black lights and neon.

6. Play all night at St. Louis’ City Museum. This old warehouse–turned-playhouse is full of activities equipment for bowling, karaoke, and exploring. For more information, visit www.citymuseum.org.

7. Plan a friends party at home. Progressive parties work well with large groups, and they take the pressure off of one person hosting. Play karaoke, have a cocktail shaker, do dinner and a movie at another, and major decor and mood machines with Dick Clark’s T.V. specials somewhere else. Rave a bit party where all in attendance are expected to wear some sort of head gear or a catchy event wear is a catch all the way to the door. Go elegant with a wine and cheese party. Sing along on an ecstatic chorus and grab a box of cheap champagne.

8. Bundle up and go to the St. Louis Zoo. Enjoy the cold weather and visit the Penguin exhibit. Some activities include fireworks and activities by the Jewish Zoo, the Missouri History Museum, the Zoo, the St. Louis Art Museum, Science Center and Zoo, Missouri Historical Society and the Grand Center. LEMS, a “one tuned in light,” will also put on a live show.

9. The event will mark the beginning of several events of St. Louis, including the U.S. Olympic Women’s Marathon trial, the U.S. Olympic Diving trials and the Olympic centennial celebration. Now Montessori Center at the Art will create a New Year’s Eve party that includes a New Year’s Eve menu, toast, music and a midnight party. The festivities will take place during the season of 2004, and will feature fun, food, music and, of course, the midnight New Year’s Eve dinner.

10. Visit the Zoo. From 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., transform into the animal world, see the fox, hippos, butterflies, birds, butterflies, birds, and many other animals on display. For more information, visit www.museumofscience.com.br/zoom-2004.org.

Above, Santos proves he can rock with the best of them (at least the best of them are alive). We can also assume that Mr. Claus must be kicking out to the 500-ton AD/C or Metallics. Santos is actu-
Happy Hanukkah... or is it Chanuka?

by Gary Zohn
Staff Writer

For some, December is about Christmas, lights, presents, Santa, and the twinkling of the Christmas tree. For others, December brings Hanukkah, the festival of lights, presents, Santa, and the twinkling of the Christmas tree. The Hebrew word 'Hanukkah' means 'dedication' and got its name from an ancient Jewish festival that lasts for eight days. For those who are not familiar with this holiday, it is a time to remember and appreciate the miracle of the first Hanukkah.

The menorah is not properly lit by adding five candles on the third day, four candles are added on the fourth day, three candles are added on the fifth day, and so on until all eight candles are added on the eighth day. The menorah is lit from right to left, and the candle on the far right side is lit first. These candles are lit from left to right each day. On the third day, three candles are added and placed in the menorah from right to left. On the fourth day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left. The menorah is lit on the second day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left. The menorah is lit on the third day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left. The menorah is lit on the fourth day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left.

The Hebrew word 'Hanukkah' is not supposed to be used for dedication of objects or rooms. The menorah is lit from right to left. The candles are lit from left to right each day. On the third day, three candles are added and placed in the menorah from right to left. They are lit from left to right. On the fourth day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left. The menorah is lit, the candle on the far right side is lit first. These candles are lit from left to right. The menorah is lit on the second day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left. The menorah is lit on the third day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left. The menorah is lit on the fourth day, four candles are added, being placed in the menorah from right to left.

In getting ready for the holiday season, we have all noticed the Christmas lights and traditions. Perhaps we have participated in this tradition on our own terms, but have we ever stopped to ask ourselves if these traditions are truly meaningful? To define all of our Christmas traditions in more than this article is impossible. However, we can look at some of our own. To begin with, let’s start with the popular Christmas story.

For those of us who set up the Christmas tree, we have probably read or heard about the story of Santa Claus. Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, and we have been taught that Jesus was born on December 25. This is the reason we celebrate Christmas after all, right? But why? We do celebrate Christmas as a commemoration of Christ’s birth, but not because He was born on a particular day. Dec. 23 was suggested in the Bible as the day to celebrate Christ’s birth by Church Fathers in the fourth century. The purpose is to elevate the birth of Christ above the other days of the Christmas season. The purpose is to emphasize the spiritual significance of Christmas. The purpose is to identify the day of Christ’s birth as a day of spiritual significance.

In the case of Christmas, we have been taught that Jesus was born in a manger, in Bethlehem. The purpose is to elevate the birth of Christ above the other days of the Christmas season. The purpose is to emphasize the spiritual significance of Christmas. The purpose is to identify the day of Christ’s birth as a day of spiritual significance.
Irish sensation,
The Chieftains
January 21
An early start to
Mardi Gras with the
Preservation Hall
Jazz Band
January 30
The world's preeminent
brass quintet
Canadian Brass
February 4
Valentine's Day with
Marvin Hamlisch
February 14
Lincoln Center Jazz
with Wynton Marsalis
February 15
The Acting Company presents
Shakespeare's "Richard III"
February 19
The Montana Repertory
Theatre presents
"A Streetcar Named Desire"
February 28
Broadway smash hit
Fosse
March 25

Synonymous with
musical innovation
Kronos Quartet
March 31
Chaplin! Keaton!
Paragon Ragtime
Orchestra presents
"The Clown Princes"
April 3
Teatro Lirico
d'Europa presents
"Rigoletto"
April 4
American Indian
Dance Theatre
April 30
In the mood with
The Glenn Miller
Orchestra
May 8
Dance St. Louis presents
Contemporary
Moves 2004
May 20 - 23

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