

Chancellor creates new position of provost

New post combines two administrative positions

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

Chancellor Thomas George has decided that he wants to modify the structure of the administration. The new structure will eliminate the vice-chancellor of academic affairs as well as the vice-chancellor of student affairs position, conjoining them into a provost.

The new structure has not yet been finalized. This change would mean that there would no longer be a vice-chancellor of academic affairs or a vice-chancellor of student affairs. The provost model is the most common in the country. All of the other campuses in the UM System abide by this model. "We did make a decision at the end of last semester to decide to go to the model of the provost, now we don't have a person, but we do have a model," George said.

A provost is cited in the dictionary as having many different meanings. A town magistrate, someone who leads a battalion and the keeper of a prison are all formal meanings, according to George. In academic terms, the word means the second administrator behind the chancellor or the president (of the university).

The provost should be able to step in as the chancellor at any time necessary. The main concern of the position is academic affairs, with many other aspects added. Budget control is also an important function of the provost position. "What we're proposing here is to include student affairs under the provost office," George said. "Student affairs is a critical component; it is not as large of a component as academic affairs, but it is a critical component."

In academic terms, [provost] means the second administrator behind the chancellor.

Another component of the administrative position will include research. The vice chancellor for academic affairs position will be changed to the provost. Provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs will be the name that he or she will hold. Student affairs and research will also be incorporated into the position. This proposal has been announced and researched by many groups and individuals.

Ultimately, the chancellor makes the final decision in the structure of the position. George does, however, hear input from many people before finalizing anything. The University Assembly and Faculty Senate have been involved.

see PROVOST, page 13

Election committee proposes new rules

BY WILL MELTON
Staff Writer

Each year the Student Government Association forms a committee to oversee the election process for SGA elections held in the spring. Ideally, the committee should only be responsible for staffing the polling sites, writing the applications for candidates, making the ballots, enforcing the rules and hearing complaints. However, when looking over the rules, they realized that some changes needed to be made.

The committee, which originally consisted of co-chairs Jeff Griesemer and Adam Schwadron, decided to reform what they saw as ineffective and ambiguous election policies. Many of the problems with the election policies became apparent in last year's calamity surrounding the election for SGA president.

"If you take a look at the old election policy you'll see that they

have more holes than Swiss cheese in them. There were so many things not covered by the old rules that I felt needed to be covered in the new rules, especially since I'm the one that found all of these when I was going through the appeals process last time for the campaigns and elections," Schwadron said.

Schwadron claims that his involvement in last year's election, as a candidate filing complaints with the election committee, gives him a personal experience that grants unique knowledge. He also claims that his experience as a lobbyist in Jefferson City working with election committees and policies allowed him to help draft a new election policy that is broad enough to be effective.

Griesemer and Schwadron put in a lot of time and effort over the fall semester to overhaul the former guidelines. With Schwadron graduated, Griesemer is now the sole chair and member of the election committee.

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SGA elects new chairman

Ben Declue fills vacancy left by previous chairman David Dodd, who was called to active duty in Iraq

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

On Friday, the Student Government Association held the first meeting of the semester. Elections to replace the former chairman and former vice-chairman occurred at the assembly.

Due to former chairman David Dodd being shipped out to Iraq and former vice-chairman Adam Schwadron graduating, two executive positions were opened up on the SGA board. Two people decided to run for the office and by popular vote of the assembly, Ben Declue was named the new chairman. Declue was a member of the student court and is involved with various other organizations around campus.

Following elections of the chairman, a new vice-chairman was elected. Three people decided to run for this position, each providing the assembly with a speech concerning why he or she should be chosen. Newcomer Justin Rogers was elected to the office. Rogers comes to UM-St.

Louis from Forest Park Community College, where he was also a member of SGA.

President Kristy Runde announced some of the things that she has been involved with since the last meeting. Among those things was a conference with UM System president Elson Floyd. Runde said that they talked about the consolidation issue of Floyd moving into the chancellor position at UM-Columbia. "After talking with President Floyd, he said that they can not wait any longer to make a decision and they will make that decision by the end of this month at the Board of Curators meeting on the 30 and 31," Runde said.

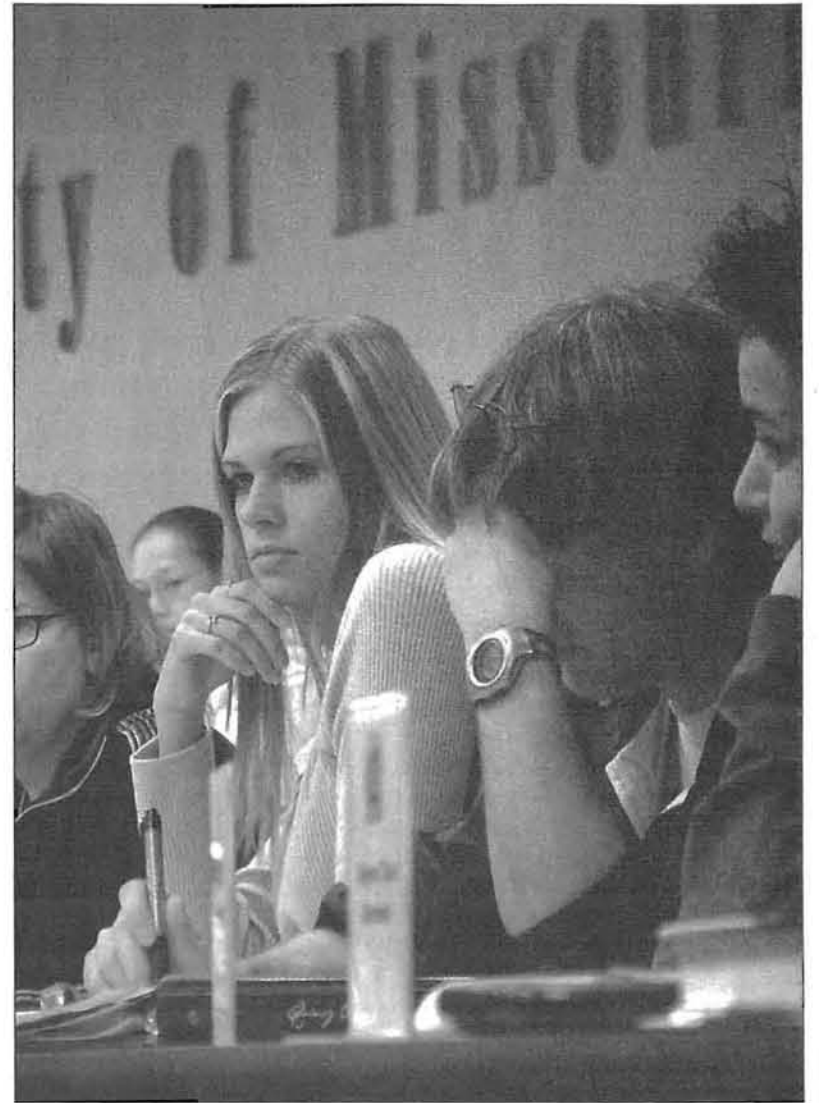
Vice President Beth Grindstaff said that she was in the works of forming a committee to discuss the consolidation issue. She will announce the meeting date at a later time. All students are encouraged to attend and voice their opinions on the issue.

Another issue that Runde discussed was the structure change of the administration on campus. Adding the provost position and eliminating the vice-chancellor of academic affairs and vice-chancellor of student affairs positions will be part of the change. Runde said that they would begin interviews for the new provost within the next couple of months. They hope to have the person in place by the beginning of next year.

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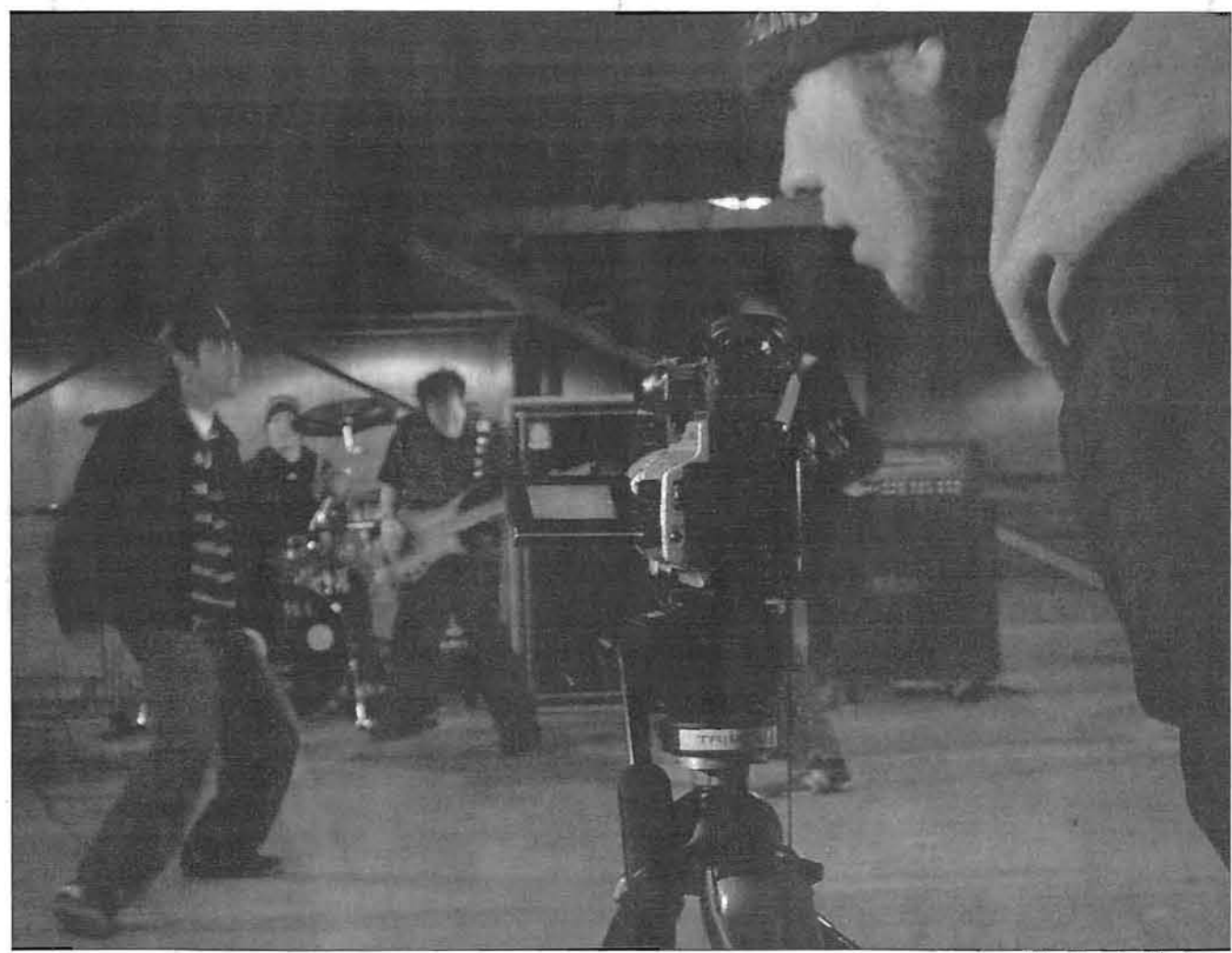
Ben Declue, new SGA chairperson



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Erin Abrahams, junior, sociology, listens to the proceedings of the Student Government Association's monthly meeting on Friday afternoon in the SGA chambers. The SGA voted to elect Ben Declue as chairperson.

Making the video...at UMSL



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Chris Ravenscraft, of "Loopdid Productions" of St. Louis, checks out the view on a digital video camera during the taping of a music video for local band "The 5th Element" in Garage D on Sunday night, despite the chilly 17 degree weather. The video will be added to an enhanced section of the band's upcoming CD, which will be released at a CD release show at Pop's in Sauget, Ill. on Feb. 13. Lead singer Jack Wiese and guitarist Patrick Luecke are students at UM-St. Louis.

Teacher education gets a boost with million-dollar grant from government

BY WILL MELTON
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis, along with the Missouri Historical Society and cooperating school districts, has received a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The one-million-dollar grant will fund a program called, "Liberties, Legacies: Historical Perspectives on Liberty, Equality, and Reform."

The program is focused on improving the teaching of traditional American History in area schools. "It's both to improve the content knowledge of teachers and it's also to improve their teaching skills—to improve their methods of teaching history in particular," Laura Westhoff, assistant professor of history and

The grant will fund a program called "Liberties, legacies: Historical Perspectives on Liberty, Equality and Reform"

education, and the content and pedagogical adviser for the program, said. "What we're hoping the teachers get from this is that they understand more about the discipline of history, what makes for good history, how to help their students be good history students and critical readers engaged in the discipline itself."

Consisting of two 18-month cycles, the program will work very closely with 35 teachers coming from surrounding school districts. The program launches in March with a three-day colloquium. Teams of three to five teachers will come in and work with an eminent scholar/historian, a curriculum specialist and a master teacher who will provide them with a

series of professional development opportunities. They will meet again for a summer institute and two workdays the following year.

"Well, it really puts the University squarely in the professional development of social studies and history teachers in the area. These grants have been very important national endeavors that Congress has funded," Westhoff said. "It says to the community that we at the University are committed to partnering with school districts to support quality history education."

Students agree. "The grant will be extremely beneficial for our University. It will strengthen the reputation of our history department

and within the community," Kristin Williams, senior, sociology and criminal justice, and chair of the Student Senate, said.

The grant focuses on themes of liberty and equality. "With the first part of the grant we start out with looking at founding documents, definitions of liberty and equality at the time of the Revolution and following, and then how those inspire reform throughout American history—how reform movements have changed our understanding those terms as well," Westhoff said.

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Bullet In Board

Put it on the Board:
The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations. University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121, fax at 516-6811 or email at current@jinx.umsl.edu
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Thru March Woodcock Museum

"Image and Imagination: Art of the American West" virtual exhibit is open online at <http://woodcockmuseum.umsl.edu>. Featured is paintings and sculptures from the permanent collections of the Woodcock Museum and the Mercantile Library at UM-St. Louis.

Mon 19 Martin Luther King day

The school will be closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King day. An event will be held at the Touhill Performing Arts center featuring the Normandy High School Choir. Richelle Carey, KMOV anchor, will be the keynote speaker.

19 Free aerobics

Enjoy a few weeks of aerobic training. Included are classes on spinning and water exercise. Check the schedule for dates and times. For information call Larry Coffin at 314-516-5124.

12 MSC closed

The Millennium Student Center will be closed to students in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The MSC will reopen for its regular hours Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Tues 20 Rec Sports

Rec sports aerobics classes will begin today and run through Jan. 24. They are free. Two half-semester sessions will be offered. Session fee is \$45 for the general public, \$35 for alumni, \$25 for faculty and staff and \$25 for students. Certified fitness instructors teach classes such as stretch and tone, yoga, total body toning and water exercise. Register at the Rec Sports office (203 Mark Twain/Athletic and Fitness center. Call 5326 for more info.

20 Basketball tournament

Today is the registration deadline for the Rec Sports three-on-three basketball tournament. It will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Jan. 21 in the gym at the Mark Twain/Athletic and Fitness center.

Wed. 21 Counseling services

Are you ready for a new year and a new semester? Learn how to set reasonable and achievable goals at the "Motivation and Goal Setting" workshop on Wednesday from 11-noon. This one hour workshop is free, but please call to reserve a place.

516-5711 Sponsored by Counseling Services 126 MSC.

21 Chieftans

Ireland's music ambassadors The Chieftans will bring their Celtic music to the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$23 to \$45, and UMSL students receive a 10 percent discount. Students can reserve tickets by telephone, and tickets must be picked up by 7:40 at the center's ticket office. A valid UMSL student identification must be presented when tickets are picked up 4949 for tickets, and visit <http://www.touhill.org> for more information.

Thurs 22 Irish music

Irish harpist Eileen Gannon and Irish fiddler Niall Gannon will perform an Irish music concert and instrument demonstration from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in room 205 of the music building. The event is free and open to the public.

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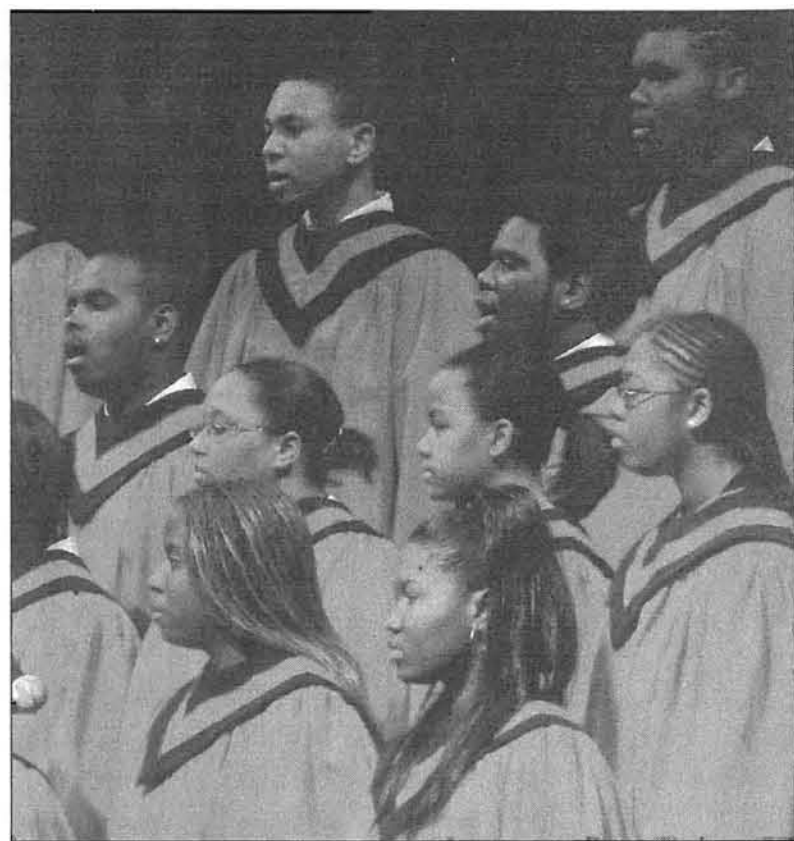
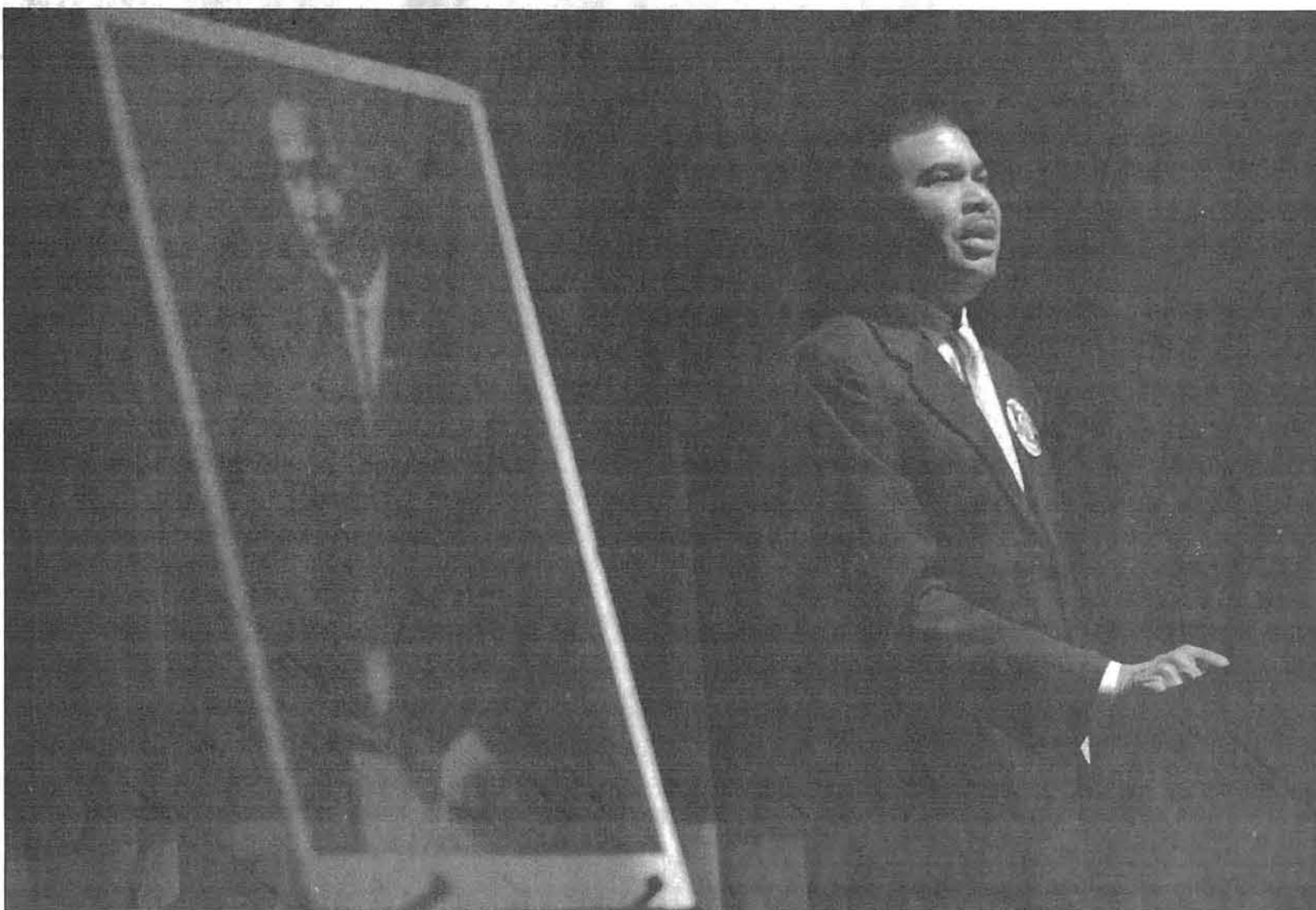
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LEFT: Congressman William Lacy Clay, Jr. was the featured guest speaker at the Martin Luther King Day celebration at the PAC on Monday. Clay spoke on the importance of continuing and fulfilling King's legacy, saying "Within all of us, there is a King."

TOP: The Normandy Senior High School Concert Choir, led by Joan Brown (not pictured), sings "Lift Every Voice and Sing" during the celebration Monday morning.

UM-St. Louis pays tribute to Martin Luther King at PAC

BY PATRICIA LEE
Staff Writer

On Monday, Jan. 19, UM-St. Louis commemorates the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. national holiday. King is best remembered for being one of the most important and unifying civil rights leaders and an advocate of non-violent protest.

This holiday holds special significance for many people. "It means a lot because he gave up a lot of his rights for blacks to join together and come together and be as one," prospective transfer student Keeyonna Harrison freshman, criminology, said. "I believe he did a lot for our community as far as white and black people coming together and respecting each other and trusting each other."

During his life, King was also recognized with the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize for human justice, becoming the youngest man to receive the award at age 35. "He was a man that believed in himself and his people, and he tried his

best to bring everyone together as one. It's great to have a day for someone who really tried to bring people together," Lawrence Leslie, custodian at Woods Hall, said.

Although King died in 1968, today's society reflects on much of his work. "Our society in general is benefiting today based on the work he did back then because he stood up for the rights of the individual or people who have not had the opportunity to pursue their dreams or hopes—education, employment, health—there were many issues that he brought to the forefront of our country to show the disparity in terms of access, various services, and hopes and dreams," Deborah Burris, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, said. "He really pointed out the disparity between various groups."

King is probably best known for advancing African Americans' place in society, but his ideas are significant to other aspects of society as well. "Civil rights and the importance of civil rights cuts across racial lines because many of the things as a result of a lot of work that he did, a lot of opportunities developed for women because in



Photos by Mike Sherwin/The Current

M.K. Stallings reads from his essay "Martin Luther King, Jr.: the Soul of a Courageous Man" at the Performing Arts Center on Monday. Stallings' essay won a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. essay contest held by the Office of Student Life and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

terms of having access to education, being able to pursue various careers," Burris said. "When you demonstrate the disparity between different groups, then it puts a spotlight on the differ-

ences in terms of how certain groups are able to excel, get ahead, and others are not."

In addition to advocating civil rights, King has been a role model for

all people. He accomplished a lot in his lifetime. "He was not just a drum major for justice for African American people, but for all people who were treated in an unjust manner," Gwendolyn Packnett, director of the office of multicultural relations/academic affairs, said. "He is important to all people."

King is not only a notable civil rights leader, but was one of the most influential and successful leaders. "I don't think we'd be where we are right now without Dr. Martin Luther King," Harrison said. "There were certainly other leaders, but the progress that we've made... I don't think we would have come as far as we have."

Many people believe that the day of observance is meant for people to gather together and celebrate the freedom that King provided for our country. "I think it's important that we do recognize Dr. Martin Luther King with a holiday because it sends a message in terms of what we value as a society. If we value freedom, human rights, opportunity for everyone, equality; those are things to me that this holiday represents," Burris said.

Although the third Monday of

January was designated a national holiday by Congress in 1983, not all businesses and schools are closed. "There are those who do not regard it as a day of significance," Packnett said. "It is a day for people of all walks of life to come together, a day to celebrate the changes that took place because a man dared to speak out; that's the kind of day that Martin Luther King Day is to represent."

The Office of Equal Opportunity annually sponsors a Martin Luther King observance event. This year's program is held at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. Speakers will include UM-St. Louis Chancellor Thomas George and Congressman William Lacy Clay, Jr. Richelle Carey, anchor and reporter for KMOV Channel 4, is serving as master of ceremonies. The event is co-sponsored by the African American Alumni Chapter, the English Department, the Office of Multicultural Relations, Office of Student Activities, Student Government Association, UM-St. Louis Staff Association, University Program Board and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

ELECTIONS, from page 1

At the SGA meeting on Friday, the constitution was suspended to allow elections for new members of the student court. During that time, Griesemer introduced the policies to the assembly and pushed for their approval.

"We wanted to do that because the elections are coming up and some of the dates in the old election rules in terms of making applications available and presenting the rules to the candidates are coming up before the next meeting,"

Griesemer said. "So, therefore we need to have the new rules in place so we don't have the same problems with elections as we had last year."

Students at the SGA meeting had some concerns with approving the new rules until they had a chance to properly look them over. Every organization, with SGA representatives present, was presented with a copy of the new election policies to look over. Joe Flees, coordinator for Student Life and University Relations, said he would be posting

the rules online for students to view. They are also going to be announcing the date for a special meeting of SGA within the next week for the sole purpose of getting student feedback on these rules.

"It's about time the SGA cleared up their election rules so we can concentrate on more important issues instead of being bogged down in senseless bickering between candidates," James Rawlings, senior, political science, said.

SGA, from page 1

Election committee revised the election rules and passed out copies to everyone in the assembly. The rules underwent changes to help prevent the debacle that happened with the elections last year. The rules were not voted on at the meeting, but were tabled until a further discussion session occurs. "Elections are actually coming up pretty quickly, so we want to get a lot of things out of the way so that there is no fiasco like last year," Jeff Griesemer, election committee co-

chairman, said.

Discussion of the Wellness Center that may be added to campus will occur at a meeting on Jan. 26 at 11:00 in room 313. A focus group will be formed to discuss the idea. Anyone is welcome to go to the meeting and voice his or her opinion on the issue.

It was announced that the student court now has the authority to hear student appeals again. The committee went through a lot to receive this privilege again. "We are back to handling

student parking appeals; we are going to have our first appeals meeting on the 30," Scott Bopp, student court member, said.

A resolution in support of our troops was also discussed. Grindstaff discussed that she made this resolution to show our troops that we care. The item was not passed but tabled until the next meeting, due to much discussion. The next SGA meeting will be held on Feb. 13 at 1:00 in the SGA chambers.

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OUR OPINION

Go long!

Why is it Mizzou can have football, but not UMSL?

The sun is coming up over the hillside as Rivermen football fans start to line their cars up in the parking lot. The sound of music starts to play as tailgates are opened, coolers are filled with ice and barbecues are fired up. A friendly game of touch football starts between a group of fans while others paint their faces red and gold.

The parking lot fills throughout the afternoon as more and more fans come to enjoy the best part of college life: tailgating and football. So what is wrong with this scenario? UM-St. Louis does not have a football team.

In a school system of four branches, Rolla, Columbia, Kansas City and St. Louis, why do only two out of four have a football team? When it comes to athletics, UM-St. Louis seems to be left behind in every aspect.

Rolla, a school with merely 5,000 students, has all the same sports as UM-St. Louis in addition to football, cross country, swimming and track. Jackling Field at Allgood-Bailey Stadium, where the Miners of the Rolla football team play, was built in 1967. It was recently renovated in 2001 to hold 8,000 fans. So the size of the school doesn't seem to play a factor in why UM-St. Louis doesn't have a football team. Maybe it has to do with lack of facilities.

Surely among the University of Missouri System there has to be some money lying around to establish a football team on the UM-St. Louis campus. But wait, we have to compete with the ever powerful Mizzou Tigers who will be using a hefty chunk to build a brand-new \$75 million basketball arena.

Money seems to be a big issue in beginning and maintaining a football team and a stadium. But all schools with football teams had to start somewhere. There has to be more than money behind the reason why UM-St. Louis does not have a football team.

Let's go back in time to 1968

when the athletic department was established at UM-St. Louis. In the writing of the covenants it is said that in order for athletics to be enabled, a football team may never be created on the UM-St. Louis campus. What? Why such a strict code, you ask?

The covenant restrictions come down to the battle of recruitment. Big bad Mizzou gets a majority of their strong athletic competitors from the St. Louis area, so they figured that if UM-St. Louis was to have a football team, then who would want to go all the way to Columbia to play?

Currently there are 25 players on the UM-Columbia football team who are from St. Louis. In a brochure for the development of the new UM-Columbia basketball stadium, there is a quote which epitomizes the underlying flaws of the covenant and how UM-St. Louis has been laid on the back burner in all athletic areas: "...to provide championship-level resources to attract the best student-athletes in the nation."

The revenue and popularity of a football stadium and team on campus would do so much for this school and its athletic department. The revenue and exposure can only benefit the abilities of these athletes and those they hope to bring in. The amount of scholarships available for all sports would be increased as the popularity of the athletic department could grow through the establishment of a football team.

"If you build it, they will come." OK, wrong sport, but you get the idea. We must rewrite these covenants and create an uprising in order to get UM-St. Louis what it truly deserves. We have to say to UM-Columbia, "If the only way you can persuade athletes from the St. Louis area to come to your school is by inhibiting them from going to one just as fine and closer to home, then there is something wrong with your program."

The issue

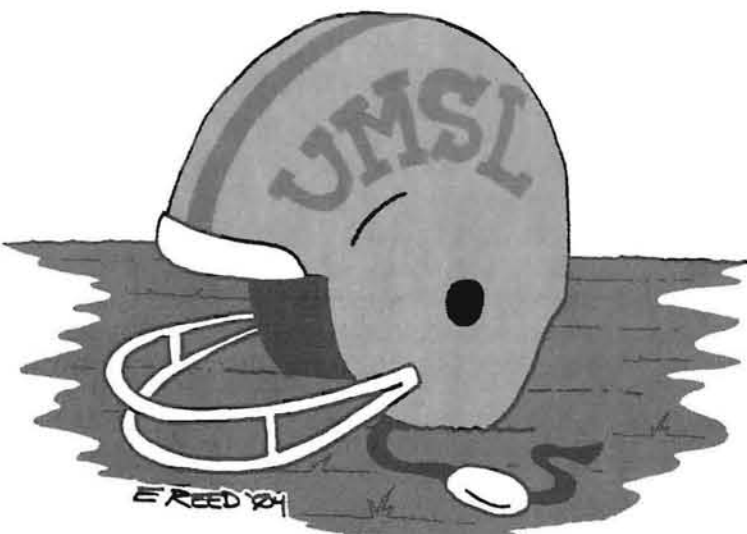
For too long, UM-St. Louis has been shunted to the backburner of UM System athletics. It has been relegated to second-rate status by the existence of UM-Columbia. We want a football team.

We suggest

The time has come for the system to stop making excuses and give UM-St. Louis its much deserved football team. It would be a boost to the local economy and give St. Louis its first college football team. Come on, President Floyd, have a heart.

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2003 left wacky legacy behind

Well, 2004 is off to its start and now we all get to sit back and reflect on the year that has come and gone. It was an interesting one, no doubt.

First and foremost, it was a year of conflict and battle. I mean, of course, the United States' invasion of Iraq to oust Saddam Hussein. Of course, Hussein has been found and arrested. He now awaits his fate and where he will be tried, as do we all. I will admit that before we went to war, I was very opposed to the action. Indeed, I still do not agree with the decision to attack. However, as soon as our fighting men and women touched Iraqi soil, it no longer became a matter of supporting a war, it became a matter of supporting the troops. No matter what, they always deserve our support.

There were some other big events in 2003 as well. It seems to me that the paparazzi were more prevalent than ever last year. Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera and Madonna's kiss sent those banes of the journalism community into raptures, while the rest of the world just kind of said, "Okay then..."

Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez...I'm not going to even delve into this.

For me, one of the happiest moments of 2003 was the release of The Beatles' "Let it Be...Naked." For those of you who are not in the know, the original "Let it Be" was "puked on" by Phil Spector, according to Beatles engineer Glyn Johns. So last year, in a

project approved by George Harrison before his death and John Lennon's widow Yoko Ono, a stripped-down, back-to-basics version of "Let it Be" was released. Gone are Spector's orchestration and choirs, and back are the guitars, pianos, basses and drums. The Beatles had always wanted. This was a treat for major Beatles fans like myself. If you have not invested in a copy of this great CD, do yourself a favor and do so.

2003 also gave California a chance to reassert itself as the most bizarre state in the Union. I speak, of course, about the recall. Is it just me or was that the most bizarre event in a long, long time? It was made all the more weird by the fact that the Californians decided to replace career politician Grey Davis with Arnold Schwarzenegger. Californians can now say Gov. Conan the Barbarian. That's something to be proud of.

On the film front, the big stories of this year were Jim Carrey's "come-back" in "Bruce Almighty," the animated smash hit "Finding Nemo" and my personal favorite, "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King." I truly believe the "Ring" trilogy is tied with "Star Wars" (the original ones) as the best trilogy of all time.

2003 has left big shoes for 2004 to fill. If 2004 is even half as wacky as 2003, then next year's editor-in-chief will have his or her own interesting things to write about.



JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Pets make life more enjoyable

I have spent the last two days trying to make up for nearly four weeks of pet-deprivation. Luckily, Beau, my family's dog, has been selflessly dedicated to reversing my deficit. With touching patience, or at least no obvious canine mutterings, he has recalled to me his favorite spots for petting and scratching, as well as where the treats are kept. The latter to be given liberally, due to his suffering another long absence and having to re-train me. Somehow, the furry little extortionist always knows when I'm an easy mark....

I love having animals in my life, especially dogs. My blood pressure is less prone to spike, I keep a somewhat saner schedule and I am just happier overall. Unfortunately, I only get my critter-fix on the weekends that I visit my parents. As much as I yearn for a dog of my own, I know that I wouldn't exactly make owner-of-the-year in my present situation. In fact, most college students wouldn't, as few know what they will be doing in, at best, four years. Add to this: erratic schedules, rental housing, low incomes, high probability for travel, etc.

Yet, a lot of us give in to the lure of pet ownership. Because of this, a lot of pets do not receive the care they need, or end up returned to the store or a shelter (and well past the cute puppy/kitten stage, when they are most likely to find homes). I have certainly known students who were able to keep pets (not just alive, but healthy and happy) throughout their school careers, but they were rare.

And so, this is my appeal to those of you yearning for a fuzzleball of your own to either hold out until your situ-

ation stabilizes, or to make sure you can (at least) meet your chosen pet's basic needs of veterinary care, exercise, grooming and training, companionship, nutrition and some sort of consistency in daily life. Be honest.

You are the only one who knows and whom you need answer to.

Of course, not everyone is so lucky as to have a family pet to enjoy in the meantime, but there are other options. Before I moved closer to home, I made myself available as an occasional pet-sitter and walker for my friends with dogs. The owners, myself and the dogs I "borrowed" were all quite happy with this

situation. There are also many community volunteer options available, from walking dogs or socializing with kittens at shelters to providing short-term foster homes for animals. Just a few of the organizations looking for volunteers include: Humane Society of Missouri, helping abused and homeless animals for over 70 years, (314) 951-1577 or www.hsmo.org; Metro Animal, dedicated to reducing dog and cat euthanasias in St. Louis, (314) 995-2655 or www.metroanimal.org; Stray Rescue of St. Louis, finding animals in need of medical treatment as well as new homes (make sure to ask about their "rent-a-pet" program!), (314) 771-6121 or www.strayrescue.org; and Buddies of the Animal Regulation Center, providing humane services for animals at the City Pound, (314) 221-4477 or www.barc-stl.org.

And, when you are ready, I know that these same organizations would be happy to introduce you to a new friend of your own.



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"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

LETTERS

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference.

We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers.

Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Staff Photographer

Where were you at midnight, New Year's Eve?



Krystle Wolfe
Freshman
Mass Comm

I was in a car driving around trying to find my sister who was coming in from out of town.



Jeanne Patrick
Freshman
Secondary Education

I was watching fireworks in Forest Park with my friends. It was a very special night.



Joe Wilson
Freshman
Political Science

I was in Chicago at StringCheese concert!



Elizabeth Overmann
Junior
Communications

I was babysitting my niece at my Mom's and Dad's house. How sad is that?

Scientists: The last word?



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

other emergency threat to public health. No news is good news, we assume, if there is nothing in the paper or on the news about a public health threat.

Since the days of Teddy Roosevelt, in the early part of the twentieth century, we have had government agencies of scientists overseeing aspects of public health. Government scientists monitor air, water, food, drugs and other environmental sources that can have an impact on public health. If there was an emergency and a threat to public health, these scientists were given the authority to alert the public. We all assume our government will notify us if a drug is contaminated and issue a recall, or notify us about potential health threats like the recent discovery of BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy), or "mad cow" disease, in an American dairy cow sent to slaughter.

However, there is a price for public health announcements. The FDA announcement that BSE had been found in an American dairy cow cost the beef industry money, due to the restrictions placed by other countries on exports of American beef and due to dropping consumer demand for beef. The FDA's government-issued public alert was a public safety precaution, the kind we expect from these scientific agencies, but a new White House policy would subject this kind of announcement to political review first.

According to an article in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* on Jan. 11, 2004, "The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) wants to have the final say on releasing emergency declarations to the public." At a minimum, the extra review step by a political division would delay the public release of the information; in other cases, it may block it or lead to release of partial information if it is considered politically sensitive. A political branch of government would now make the decision that had previously been left to the scientists with the expert knowledge.

This new policy from the White House will put politicians in charge of science issues in government. The American people will have to consider whether this is the best approach.

Common sense tells me that if I want an expert opinion, I go to an expert in that field. I do not ask a doctor for legal advice or a lawyer about the best treatment for a cut. Giving politicians

the final say in public health announcements seems to go against this common sense argument. Government agencies concerned with public health, safety and the environment will be affected by this policy change, according to the *Post-Dispatch* article.

This is not the only change in government scientific organizations and projects that are being called for by this new policy. According to the *Post Dispatch*, "Currently, each federal agency controls its emergency notifications and peer review of its projects," but under the new rules the "OMB also wants to manage scientific and technical evaluations - known as peer reviews - of all major government rules, plans, proposed regulations and pronouncements."

Typically, new scientific advances of any sort are announced by publication in "peer reviewed" journals. "Peer review" means that respected scientists in that field evaluate the quality of the research before it is published. Studies that do not meet the standards set for publication are not published. This is the standard technique of academic science, the open information approach that has brought us all of those scientific advances. The scientists on the peer review boards are experts in their field, the ones most qualified to evaluate the research.

Having peer review boards composed of non-scientists is a very different matter.

The new White House policy would replace the peer review panels with other political oversight panels, possibly influenced by industries that the agencies regulate. Right now, scientific merit alone is the criterion for publication. If studies have to meet with the approval of political groups and, by extension, possibly industry groups, it is hard to see how censorship will not become an issue. If some government study found that TV caused brain cancer, would politicians who took campaign funds from the TV networks want to approve release of that study? The potential for this kind of control of information hardly sounds like what a free and open society would want.

Once again, the new policy seems like a step to control the release of unpleasant or potentially costly information.

see SCIENCE, page 14

The best album that you've never heard

This week: Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers' 'Echo'

BY JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Tom Petty is one of those rare musicians who just seem to get better with age. I know I'll take some flack for saying that, but I think it is true.

Now, I don't want all you Tom Petty fans out there saying that I think

1999 to critical acclaim (as usual), "Echo" is Petty at his most introspective, but it is Petty back to doing what he does best. He has stopped trying to associate with youth and is back to playing straightforward rock and roll.

One of the best tracks on the album is the heartbreaking title track. "Echo" is one of the all-time great breakup songs, and you can feel an agony in

ving minor A chord, Petty weaves a story of a girl whose life has been tragedy after tragedy, but no matter the circumstance, she fights. "Moonlight on interstate/She was 'cross the Georgia line/Looked out the window feelin' great/Yeah, it had come in time/And she said I'm never goin' back/She said at last I'm free/I wish Ma could see me now/She'd be so proud of me/And she went down... swingin'."

The crème de la crème of this album is the first track, "Room at the Top." An incredible piece of songwriting, Tom Petty has a habit of writing love songs that don't feel like love songs. Now, what do I mean by this? It means you really have to listen hard to this song to get what he is really saying. He is pleading for a woman's love, pleading for her to see that he is not such a bad guy. "I wish I could feel you tonight, little one/You're so far away/I wanna reach out/And touch your heart/Yeah like they do on those things on T.V./I love you, please love me/I'm not so bad/And I love you so."

This album marked an era of growth for Mr. Petty that continues on with his most recent album, "The Last DJ." It shows an older, wiser

Petty who has lived through quite a bit in his life. Wars, label battles, divorce, he has seen a lot in his life. One of the great things about Petty is that he revels in his influences without sounding like them. He is a self-described Beatlemaniac, yet he does not try to sound like them. He is a huge fan of the Rolling Stones, but pays homage to them by having his own, ever-evolving sound. He has lived his own life and written his own songs. He has the best backup band in rock history that continues to get better with age, just like their front man. If you are a fan of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and you do not have "Echo," it's time for you to go out and buy it.



Photo courtesy Warner Brothers Records

Tom Petty's song writing just seems to get better with age, something few artists can say.

Tom Petty's work in the 1970s and 1980s is garbage. Quite the contrary. Tom Petty has been very consistent his entire career. However, I think in the last, oh, 10 years, his songwriting has elevated to a level that few can match.

Some of you know that I believe Petty is of a dying breed, one of the last true rock-and-rollers out there valiantly helping to carry rock's torch until someone else comes along and picks it up. As it is, Petty, Bruce Springsteen and Paul McCartney are pretty much carrying the torch by themselves, but they are doing one hell of a job.

Example: Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers' "Echo." Released in

the song that has never been present in a Petty song. You can hear the acceptance of lost love and the fact that there will be no reconciliation when he sings "Well you just got tired/You just gave in/You took it hard/And you just quit/You let me down/You dropped the ball/You feel on your face most of all/And I don't want to mean/Anything to you/I don't want to tempt you to be true." Petty's voice makes this all the more depressing, but the beauty of the song cannot be overlooked.

Another of the truly incredible songs on this album is "Swingin'." This song has an "American Girl" feel to it. In fact, it almost feels like the sequel to that classic. With a slow, dri-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student questions *Current's* objectivity

Dear Editor,

I've heard of your much vaunted status as a non-supported organization, i.e. that the campus does not pay to keep you in operation. I've heard from members of your staff in past years that this is to keep *The Current* objective and not worry about being a lapdog to the university, but I've read your paper for four semesters now and all I can see is a definite "lapdog" attitude.

Last semester, I could not believe that there was no hard hitting story against the parking problem. Sure, there was mention of it but there was no blame laid out upon the campus for what is surely a problem they should be addressing. The fact that they gave

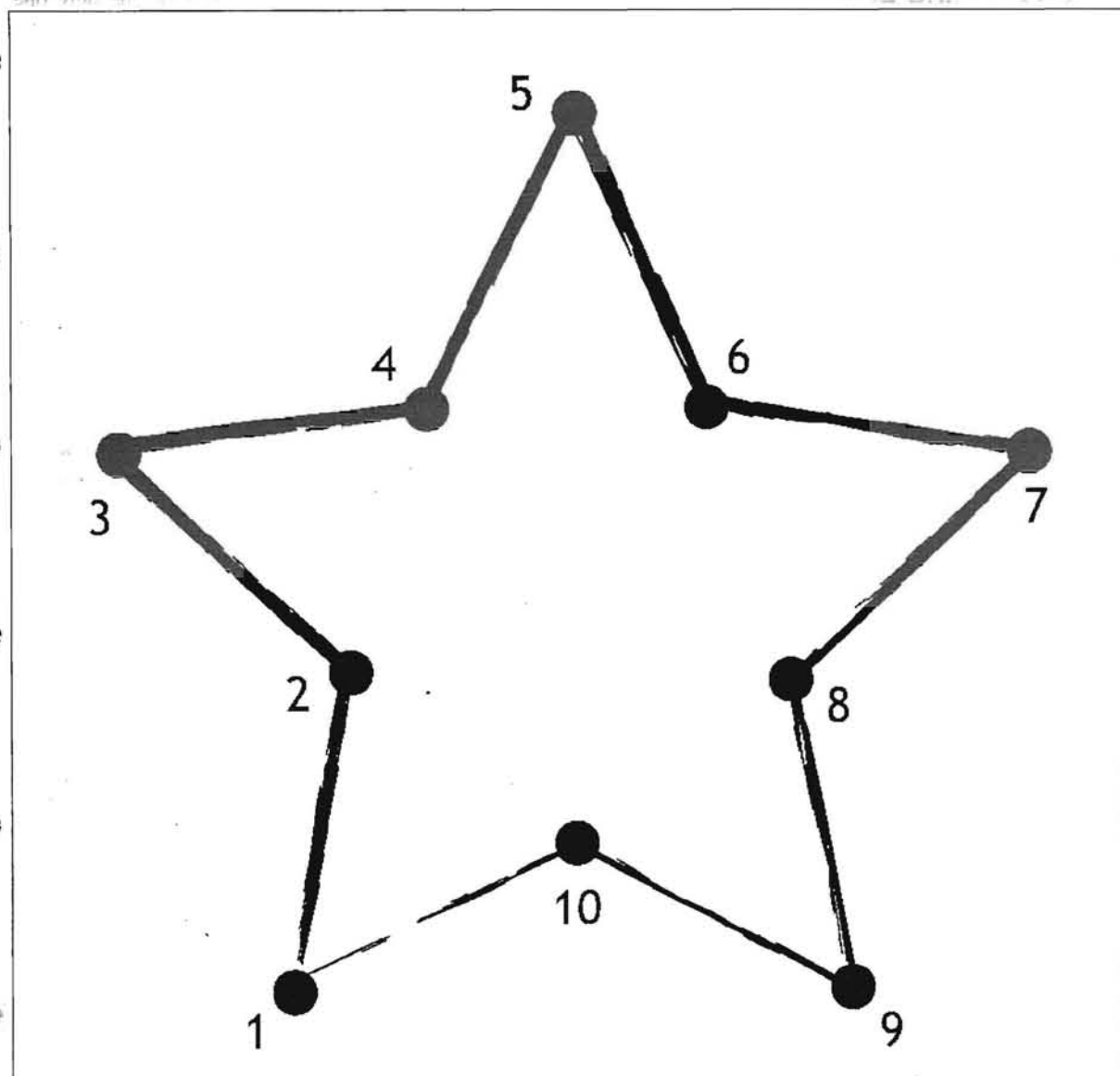
out parking tickets to students parking on the sides when all apparent parking spaces were full. Now you might think I'm just sounding bitter, but I did not get a ticket because I understand how the university works and I knew the problem was going to happen and I also knew that the university would show no understanding, despite it being their fault.

So, you let that go. But it is not just that, there is always an attitude of praise sort of perpetuating your newspaper. Look at your current *Current* and the article on telecourses where [the writer] all but pats UMSL on the back for doing something that other universities have done for a long time. Not only that she makes it sound like

they do it well, and as one who has taken a telecourse, I can only disagree. Not to mention the fact that though a student is using a lot less campus resources his or her pay for the credit hours are still the same. Another hit that could be mentioned at least to balance the article.

There have been other occurrences but I'm not going to spend time looking through old issues of the *Current* to prove this to you. As the writers and editors, you should know better than I do about your bias. So I ask you again, "Are you sure you're independent of the university?"

Sincerely,
Brent C. Willis
UM-St. Louis student



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What do the readers think: Results from the weekly web poll:

What was the biggest event of 2003?	
The war in Iraq	82% (23 votes)
Britney, Madonna and Christina kiss	0% (0 votes)
California recall, Arnold wins	4% (1 vote)
John Ritter's death	4% (1 vote)
Johnny Cash's death	0% (0 vote)
Howard Dean	0% (0 votes)
The Beatles' "Let It Be...Naked"	7% (2 votes)
The Lord of the Rings:	
The Return of the King	4% (1 vote)

Results via www.thecurrentonline.com

*www.thecurrentonline.com does not limit votes per person and the poll is not a scientific sampling.

FEATURES

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Features Editor

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New Year's promises

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

Saving money, improving grades, losing weight and quitting smoking are a few examples of challenging resolutions that people set each year.

Whatever the challenge might be, a New Year's resolution can be a difficult obstacle for some to stick by.

At the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve, a resolution becomes a task for the New Year.

All around campus at UM-St. Louis, students and faculty share some of their own aspirations for this coming year.

"My resolution is to make the best of every situation and live my life to the fullest this year," said Patti Riehl, freshman, business.

While some students wish to be more optimistic this year, others hope to dedicate more time to their studies and their jobs.

Sarah Hefner, freshman, elementary education, is one student who plans to put more commitment toward her schoolwork and work harder to improve her grades.

A resolution to practice healthier habits might also be an important long-term goal to some people.

"I plan to work out more and drink less," said Gwilym Lobo, sophomore, history.

see RESOLUTIONS, page 7

Malone educates through service

BY KATE DROLET
Features Editor

After an illness briefly put her out of commission, Dennise Malone asked herself, "What do I want to do with my life?" The answer to that question can be seen both on and off campus, as Malone's community service endeavors stretch across the city.

Malone, a senior majoring in both English and secondary education, spends a large portion of her time volunteering. As a member of the organization Students Helping Others to Succeed, or S.H.O.T.S., she works as a peer educator within the University. S.H.O.T.S. is sponsored by the University Health Services and the Wellness Resource Center. The group works to educate students about relevant issues such as HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases and stress management.

The majority of her volunteer efforts deal with HIV and AIDS.

"HIV and AIDS education is the biggest passion in my life," she said. "Some of my best friends in the whole world are no longer here because of [the disease]."

Malone speaks at Cor Jesu Academy and Roosevelt High School on HIV/AIDS and STD prevention on a regular basis. She also attends a Positive Living group, which is an organization composed of people who are affected and infected by the disease. The Positive Living group helps those live with the disease by providing rides, helping manage bills and assisting with similar challenges.

"If we can't help them ourselves, we direct them to an agency that can," she said.

Many of Malone's efforts can be seen during the holidays. From late October to early November, she works as an "elf" through St. Agatha's church in Souldard. As one of Santa's helpers, she works to raise money and gifts for low-income families in the surrounding area.

"I adopt a family every year [and] teach my kids how to give back. We go shopping and instead of them picking something out for themselves, they pick out something for someone else," she said.

During the Easter season, she collects toys for

infants and toddlers. Malone puts baskets together with the collected items, and on Easter, she and her two children take them to an orphanage for children with HIV and AIDS.

"I came from a situation where I was homeless at one point. I didn't have anything, and some people helped me. It was my miracle," Malone said. "My job in life now is to give back. Just because people are down and out doesn't mean they're drug addicts or alcoholics. Sometimes we forget that."

Malone is currently pursuing her second career. At one time, she worked as a real estate relocation and foreclosure specialist. After she became ill, she decided that she did not want to spend so much time away from her children.

"What do I want to do with my life? I have a passion in me to give back. I want to be a teacher where I could get through to high school kids, maybe some that are on the edge," she said. "I've been through a lot and I think I have something to offer."

She currently works as a substitute teacher at Windsor and Fox high schools. She plans to study abroad in Lancaster, England next fall and complete her degree by 2005.

Malone attended Jefferson Community College and graduated Magna Cum Laude with her associate's degree and teaching stamp. She wanted to earn her bachelor's degree at a school that was close to home. She researched Missouri Baptist University and UM-St. Louis, then decided to attend the latter.

"I commuted my first semester, and I spent so much time in the Honors College that they thought I lived there," she said. Malone moved on campus last year and is enjoying the experience.

"I love it on campus. I never got to go to college when I was 18. It is the experience of a lifetime. I'm having a ball," she said.

As a resident assistant in LeGras Hall, Malone works to build community and enforce policies among residents.

She advises incoming freshman and younger students to "take it slow. Don't think you have to jump right in... Learn to manage your time. There's time for everything you want to do... Take time to learn who you really are. Don't be in such a hurry to get out into life. Life's going to happen."



Denise Malone, English major, takes some time away from her studies to smile for the camera.

Amanda Schneidermeyer/The Current

Taking a closer look at the observatory

BY ANGELA ASHLEY
Staff Writer

Students at UM-St. Louis may have wondered about the white, dome-like structure located across from the Optometry School on South Campus. That structure, the Richard D. Schwartz Observatory, is currently used by the physics and astronomy departments.

The observatory was built on South Campus in 1981 and was just officially renamed in September 2003. Schwartz was a professor for over 28 years and served as a chairman from 1996 to 2000. He also oversaw the construction of the observatory.

"He made several great contributions to the university and was involved in several interesting projects," said Dr. Bruce Wilking, current chairman for the department of physics and astronomy.

The observatory is presently used for several different reasons. Students in the departments of astronomy and physics are able to use the observatory to conduct research. The funding for the student research comes from NASA grants. An example of the funded research is a student contributing to a worldwide effort to observe a quasar, which is the nucleus of a galaxy.

"It is thought that the nuclei of all galaxies contain massive black holes,



The Richard D. Schwartz Observatory located on South Campus across from Marillac Hall opens for a monthly night-sky viewing from March to October.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

and as materials, such as gas, are absorbed through these holes, it creates a lot of activity," said Wilking.

The observatory is also used for public open houses.

"We can't have them through the

winter because there is no heat in the observatory. The heat would disrupt the viewing," said Wilking.

During open houses, students from the physics and astronomy departments show people the moon and various planets. The observatory has also been the site of increasing activity due to the recent development of Mars in the night sky.

"The developments have certainly been exciting and interesting to us. We've had a lot of phone calls and have had people bring their digital cameras to take pictures of Mars through the telescopes in the observatory," said Wilking.

The open houses are held monthly from March to November.

"I've passed [the observatory] on South Campus several times, and although I have never been inside it, I think it would be interesting to go to one of the open houses and be able to view the planets," said Martha DeBuhr, junior, marketing.

Students, faculty and staff who are interested in attending future open houses can contact the Department of Physics and Astronomy by calling 516-5933, or visit the observatory's website

at <http://newton.umsl.edu/astro/research>. The website will soon be updated with a list of upcoming open houses. It also has information about the types of equipment used in the observatory, as well as frequently asked questions about what can and cannot be seen with the apparatus.

Students share budgeting advice

BY STEFANIE TAYLOR
Staff Writer

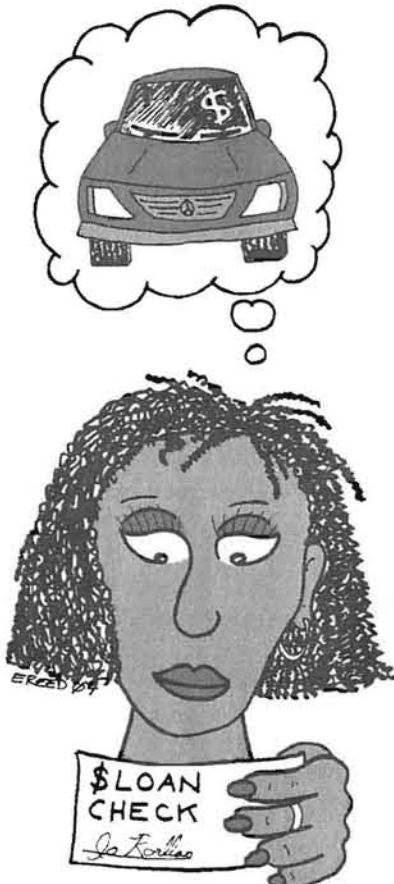
The signs of money-strapped students are everywhere, especially in the long lines at the Cashier's Office and the University Bookstore. With lofty student fees, expensive textbooks, mounting organizational dues and hefty parking costs, the start of a new semester brings financial woes to many UM-St. Louis students.

Although some students may receive some financial help from their parents, many students take on the monetary demands of their education alone. Those who do receive some assistance from their parents may still find it challenging to make that allowance last.

Sarah Jenkins, junior, psychology, and a server at a local restaurant, says she is hoping she will not have to borrow any more loans before she graduates. "I have to be real careful with my money," she said. "I can make it if I stick to my budget." Jenkins' budget includes some campus-savvy ways of saving money.

"The biggest way I save money is by bringing my lunch and avoiding the coffee shop," she said. Jenkins is not the only one whose lunch costs less than the typical Chartwells entrée. Around the dining room, many students can be seen with an assortment of Hot Pockets, sandwiches and other bring-it-from-home goodies.

Jenkins also avoids paying some of the expensive book fees. "I save time



and money buying my textbooks online at sites like BarnesandNoble.com," she said.

"[A psychology] textbook was only available new in the bookstore and was priced at \$120," said Jenkins. "I found it used online for \$45." Jenkins said that the shipping and handling for some online book carriers can be cost-

ly, but she still recommended buying all books at one site and saving on the packaging.

Jay Kanterman, junior, accounting, is another budget-minded student. Kanterman said students do not have to be accounting majors to make good decisions. He works nearly full-time as a salesman at a discount furniture store. "I see more than just college students struggling to make ends meet," said Kanterman.

Making ends meet may be particularly difficult for college students this time of year because of unpaid Christmas and holiday debts. This problem does not just plague students; holiday gift-givers everywhere are feeling the backlash of their spending binges.

"It's important to be realistic about your financial situation during the holidays," said Kanterman, who escaped the holiday season with no debt. "Everybody likes to give expensive gifts, but usually the receiver would be just as happy with something cheaper."

Other students advise cutting back on entertainment expenses. A full-time residential student pays \$365.68 in student facility, health and activity fees each semester, according to the UM-St. Louis website. Students may find it helpful to attend free activities on campus rather than lounging in front of a television moping about how going out on the weekends is unaffordable.

see BUDGETING, page 7

Events bring life to a new semester

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

Starting a new semester can be scary, but UM-St. Louis offers many exciting activities to help new students

get acquainted and eliminate these fears.

The Office of Student Life is one source for students to find out about organizations, upcoming events and activities that take place around campus.

Student Life sponsors many events such as Humpday Hoopla on Wednesdays, Quarterback Challenges, Snocones on the Bridge, talent shows, guest speakers, performances and activities off-campus, such as the upcoming Hidden Valley Ski Trip on January 30.

Residents have a number of other activities to choose from, as well as those who commute to class and just want to get more involved in on-campus events.

Residential Life and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) give students who live in dorms the opportunity to have fun while participating in events

away from home.

To kickoff the first week of the new semester, RHA held a welcome week called "Back to Basics." The week of activities began on Friday, Jan. 9, as all students living on campus were welcomed back with a night of games.

I think Saturday's event, when we got on a bus and took a trip to the City Museum, was one of the most fun times.

- Amanda Swaller

"I think Saturday's event, when we got on a bus and took a trip to the City Museum, was one of the most fun times," said Amanda Swaller, RHA programming chairwoman.

On Sunday, Jan. 11, "Relax Already" was the theme. Events focused on how students can relax and stay stress-free throughout the semester. A guest speaker from Counseling Services came and gave a presentation and discussed ways that students can find time to relax.

Chaos ensued on the front lawn of Provincial House on Tuesday, Jan. 13. RHA hosted a food fight for students, complete with mashed potatoes and Ramen noodles.

see EVENTS, page 7

BUDGETING, from page 6

The Office of Student Life provides many resources for inexpensive or free activities. According to their events website, the Mark Twain Recreation Center is offering free aerobics and spinning classes the week of January 19-23. The website also lists workshops, forums and performances.

Even after packing lunches, saving on books and cutting back on entertainment expenses, students may still lack the resources to simply pay the bills. The Financial Aid Office encourages all students, not just those in financial trouble, to visit the office and check out their resources. Inquiring about financial

aid does not automatically mean accepting student loans and debt. Scholarships and grants are available, as well as on-campus work study jobs.

"It's about the small things," said Jenkins. "Even if you aren't struggling to pay tuition, you can never have too much money, right?"

RESOLUTIONS, from page 6

Not only are students working to fulfill resolutions, but the faculty and staff at UM-St. Louis have also set some interesting goals for themselves.

Michelle Schmidt, coordinator of the alcohol and drug prevention program, described her resolution as being a goal that could help her stay physically fit, like joining an exercise program.

"I planned and signed up for a Pilates group," Schmidt said.

Career Specialist Ray Fogerty

believes that once he completes his number-one project, his New Year's resolution will be achieved.

"I hope to rewrite and finish publishing the recruiting booklet for new students who are interested in attending UMSL," Fogerty said.

Many people create resolutions, but a great deal of them do not always complete their challenges. Some goals might seem easy, while others seem impossible to keep. Some students have said that it takes a motivat-

ed person not to break his or her resolution.

There is no exact answer to why people make New Year's resolutions. Perhaps numerous people feel the urge to make a resolution because they might feel guilty for their past behaviors, or that they feel that a "new year" is a time to start over. Despite the fact that there is no science to prove the reasons for resolutions, now is the time for people to start making a difference in their lives.

EVENTS, from page 6

To end the "Back to Basics Week," a dance titled "Pajama Jam" was held on Thursday night at 9 p.m. at Bellerive Hall. Students arrived wearing their favorite pajamas, and prizes were given for the most comfortable attire, the sexiest sleepwear and the best-looking pj's.

Not only did RHA host some events to welcome students back to campus, but Residential Life also hosted some back-to-school events.

"A movie night, 'Back to Childhood Day,' which allowed students to remember growing up by finger-painting and coloring, and a Rams Football party bash were held before school resumed," Graduate Assistant Hall Director Dana Barnard said.

Managing Director of University

Meadows, Denise Giambelluca, described another student-oriented event that will be held at the end of the month.

"On Wednesday, January 21, we will welcome all new students and fellow students at the Meadows to attend a get-together at the Club House, where hot-wings and root beer will be served," Giambelluca said.

Giambelluca went on to say how this meeting will help students get to know one another, meet other people and share past stories with each other.

Not only do the residence halls Mansion Hills and University Meadows hold activities throughout each semester, but other groups and organizations around campus also encourage students to take part in their

events.

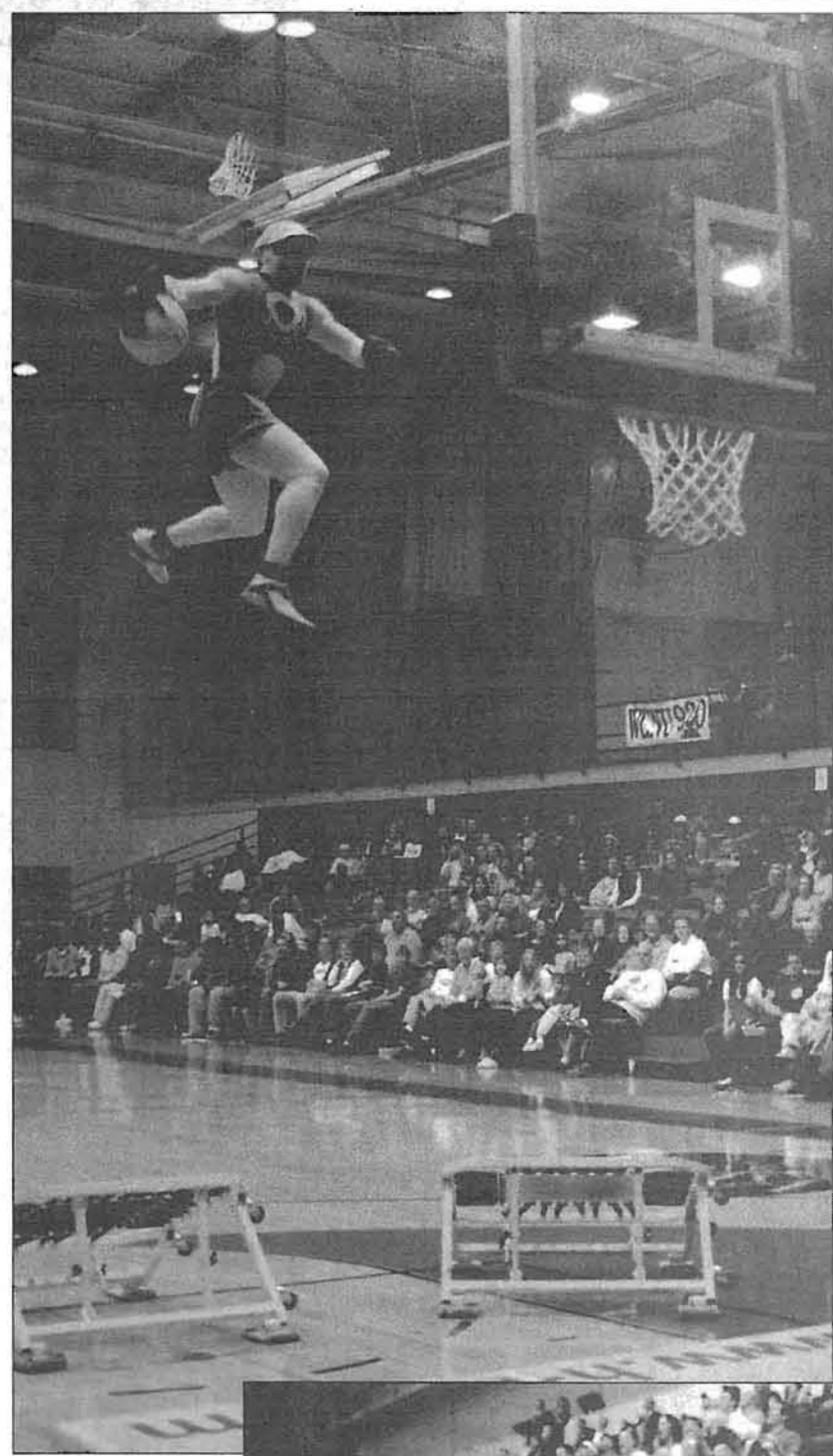
Career Services will be holding workshops, which focus on job strategies, resume writing and career techniques.

The Health and Wellness Center invites students to participate in programs such as Horizons Peer Educators and S.H.O.T.S.

The Recreational Sports Department also provides wellness and fitness programs such as aerobics, step classes, yoga, Pilates and martial arts during the winter semester.

For students interested in all upcoming events or organizations around campus, visit the campus calendar at www.umsl.edu or the Office of Student Life in the Millennium Student Center 366.

Flying High



LEFT:
A member of the High Impact Squad goes way up for a dunk during the group's performance at the halftime of the Rivermen basketball team's match Saturday afternoon at the Mark Twain Building. The squad's appearance helped draw one of the largest crowds of the Rivermen's season, as the official attendance count was 1167.

Photos by:
Casey Ulrich and
Mike Sherwin



RIGHT:
A young fan reacts to the high-flying stunts of the High Impact Squad on Saturday afternoon.

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BECAUSE WE CARE...

BACK TO THE FUTURE UM-ST. LOUIS HOMEcoming 2004

19

20

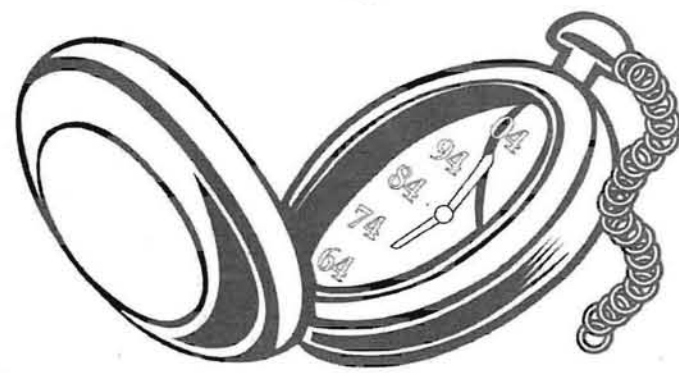
21

save the date!

26

27 Homecoming Dance

28



FEBRUARY 23-28

Men's basketball falls into a slump

With the losses on Jan. 8 and Jan. 10, the Rivermen are now 4-9 on the season overall and 1-6 in the GLVC

BY JUD DIEFFENBACH
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis men's basketball team continued their losing streak last week with losses to St. Joseph's and Indianapolis. In 2004, the Rivermen are winless and currently have a losing streak of five games.

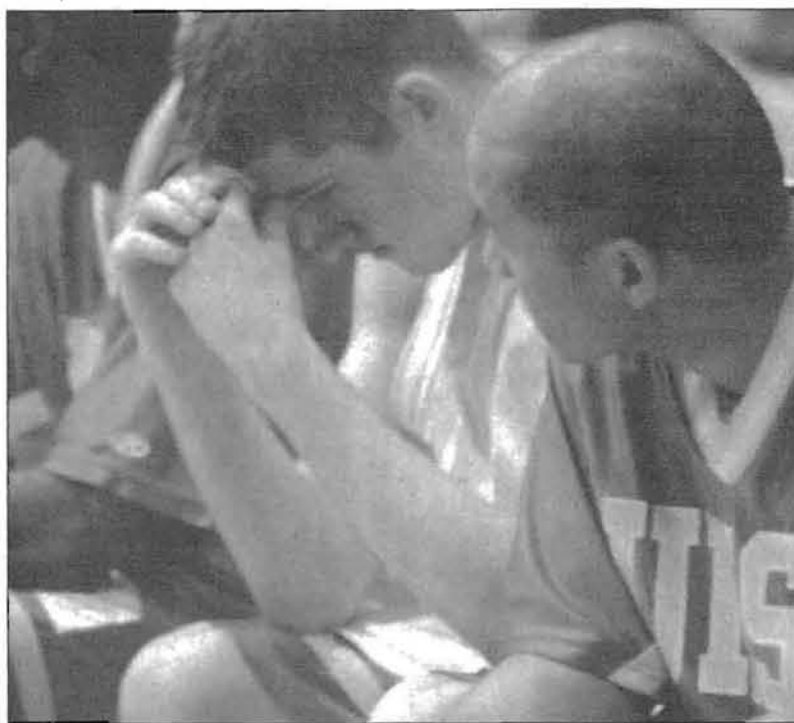
On Thursday Jan. 8, the Rivermen traveled to Rensselaer, Indiana to take on the Pumas of St. Joseph's. UM-St. Louis got behind early and the Pumas closed the first half with a 15-6 run over the last five minutes. The score was 50-32 at halftime and the lead proved to be insurmountable for the Rivermen as they lost 96-73.

The biggest difference in the game was the shooting ability of St. Joseph's compared to UM-St. Louis. The Pumas were able to control the game by shooting 63% from the field while the Rivermen shot a paltry 34% from the field.

In the Saint Joseph's game, Jonathan Griffin led UM-St. Louis with 18 points and seven rebounds on the night. Ike Attah, junior, center, had the best game of his career, with 16 points and seven rebounds. Unlike the Rivermen team, Attah shot well by going 4-of-8 from the field and 8-of-11 from the free throw line.

"We had some mental and communication breakdowns on defense and didn't guard the post and the three point threat," Attah said.

On Saturday, Jan. 10, the Rivermen went to Indianapolis to



Casey Ulrich/The Current

Rivermen guard Justin Foust (center) hangs his head while sitting on the bench during the second half of play Saturday afternoon. The Rivermen lost the game against Kentucky Wesleyan, 75-62.

face a tough opponent in the nationally ranked Greyhounds of the University of Indianapolis. The Greyhounds were ranked 16 and proved they were worthy of their ranking by pummeling the UM-St. Louis team 78-54.

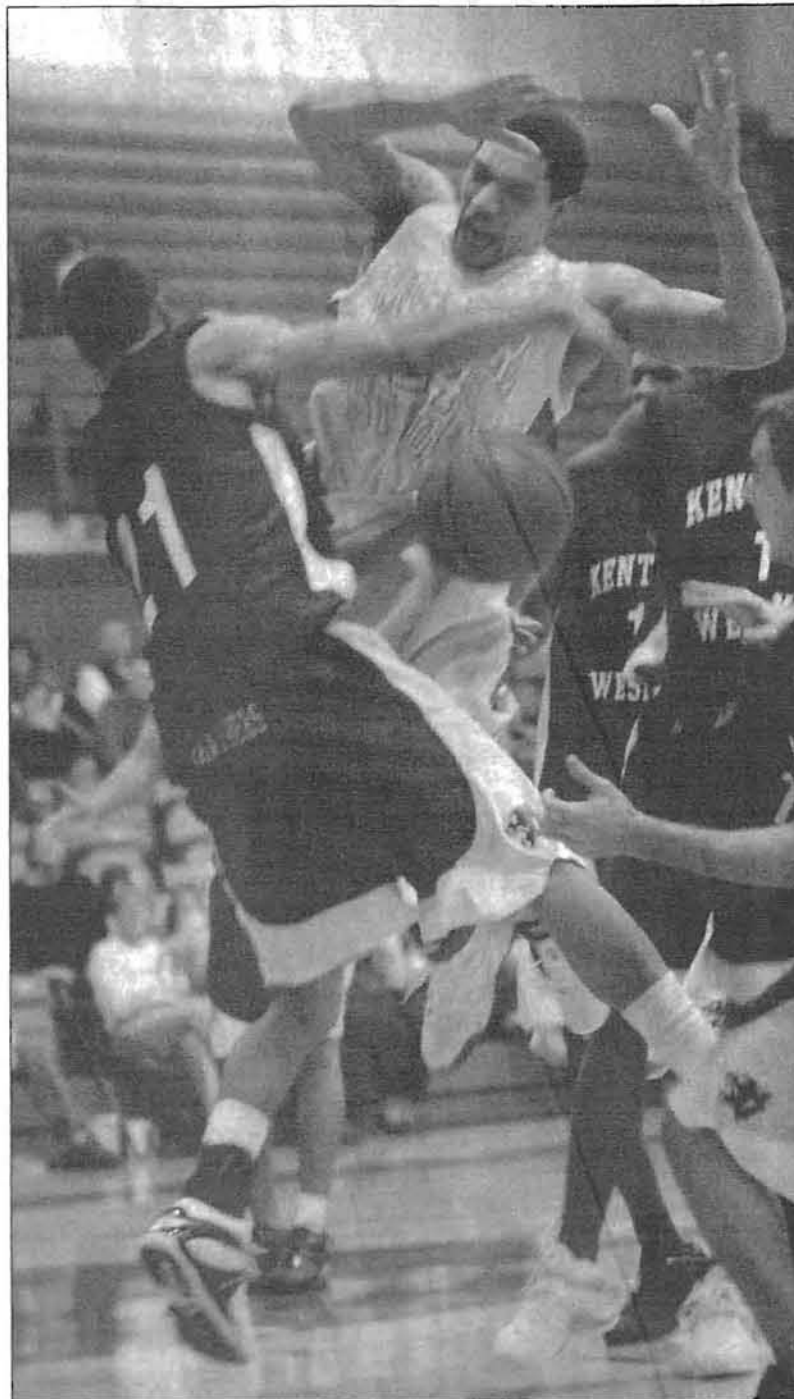
The first half of the game was a close battle as the two teams went back and forth to grab the lead. At halftime, the Greyhounds led 34-32. Unfortunately for the Rivermen, the second half was a much different story than the first. Indianapolis opened the second half with a 9-2 run to push their lead to nine points. After UM-St. Louis cut the lead down to five points, 47-42, with 12 minutes remaining, the Greyhounds went on a 20-1 run over the next five minutes and cruised to a 78-54 win.

The Rivermen were led by Sherome Cole, sophomore, guard,

who had a career high 16 points, including 11 in the first half. Ronnie Banks added 12 points, four assists, and three steals in the game.

Cole commented on his first start of the season: "We played a good 30 minutes but it should have been 40. We started to miss some shots and they started to hit theirs. I played pretty good, but could have played better."

With the losses, the Rivermen are now 4-9 on the season overall and 1-6 in the GLVC. The Rivermen will try to break their losing streak when they play at home this weekend. UM-St. Louis has games at Harris Stowe on Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 7:00 and then at home against Quincy Saturday, Jan. 24 at 7:45, with a half-time performance by the Rams Cheerleaders, then followed by a lock-in.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Rivermen guard Johnathan Griffin tries to blast through two Kentucky Wesleyan players during the second half of Saturday afternoon's game at the Mark Twain Athletic Building.

Riverwomen softball gets ready for Spring

BY JUD DIEFFENBACH
Staff Writer

Although the season is still almost two months away, the UM-St. Louis women's softball team has been busy preparing for the upcoming year. Along with weight training and batting practice, the team has been involved in several volunteering activities as well as getting some exciting news for next season in terms of recruiting.

Many of UM-St. Louis athletic teams participate in community service projects throughout the year in an effort to give back to the St. Louis community. The softball team gave time in assisting the Beyond Housing organization. Beyond Housing is a group that assists residents in low-income housing with maintenance and remodeling of the houses, as well as providing assistance with general-purpose supplies for those residents. The Riverwomen helped clean and organize the main warehouse for Beyond Housing. This included throwing out old equipment as well as cleaning and organizing the warehouse to make it easier for those workers within the organization.

In recruiting news, the Riverwomen just announced the signing of Jessica Keim, a local star from Incarnate Word High School. Keim is to play softball at UM-St. Louis beginning next school year. Keim played as

a third baseman at Incarnate Word and helped lead them to a 21-1 record this past season. She hit an amazing .424 on the year with 16 RBIs and struck out just once the entire season. Keim was honored this past season for her efforts by being named a first team all-conference selection and was named to the all-district team. In addition, she was named a second team all-state selection this past year.

"I am extremely excited to be coaching Jessica throughout her college softball career," said UM-St. Louis head coach Nicky Durmin. "I am counting on Jessica to be a key contributor both offensively and defensively for us next year. She has an exceptional amount of talent at both realms."

As far as this year's team, the Riverwomen have a fairly young squad. Of the 13 women on the roster, eight of them are underclassmen. The UM-St. Louis team looks to improve on its 15-29-1 overall record from last year. Of particular importance is the desire to gain ground in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The Riverwomen had a conference record of 3-15 last season, which put them near the bottom of the league.

The first official game for the Riverwomen this season is on March 3, when the team plays in the Rebel Spring Games in Florida. The UM-St. Louis team will finally have their first home game March 20 against Indianapolis.

Riverwomen tennis gets new coach

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis Athletic Director Pat Dolan announced Tuesday, Jan. 13 that Jason Hanes will be the new women's tennis head coach. Hanes returns to the St. Louis area after spending three years as the assistant men's tennis coach at the University of San Francisco, a Division I institution.

While with the Dons, he helped get the program on a winning track. In the 2001-02 season, USF finished 15-8 on the season and placed sixth in the West Coast Conference. Last year, the team went 18-7 on the season and improved to third in the WCC. In addition, the Dons had four players earn all-conference recognition and for the first time in school history earned a regional ranking of 15 in the west region.

Hanes will be replacing Rick



Jesse Gater/The Current

Jason Hanes, new women's tennis head coach

Gyllenberg, who resigned to focus on his other titles of assistant athletic director and men's head tennis coach. Gyllenberg reflects on the appointment of Coach Hanes: "He will be great for the program and bring a fresh new look with a new enthusiasm. He

will have more time to concentrate on the program than I did and help it succeed."

Prior to working at San Francisco, Hanes was the head boys' tennis coach at Belleville Althoff High School for two seasons. While there, he provided on-court coaching and supervised all conditioning and training for the boys' tennis program. In addition, he served as the co-coordinator at the Metro-East Tennis Camps for two years and was a tennis instructor at St. Clair Indoor Tennis Club in O'Fallon, Ill.

Hanes graduated from McKendree College with a bachelor of arts in political science, and received his master's degree in sports management from the University of San Francisco. At UM-St. Louis, he replaces Rick Gyllenberg, who stepped down as women's head coach after this past year to concentrate more time on his duties as men's tennis head coach and assistant athletic director.

Championship UM-St. Louis Baseball team can't get the funding it deserves

What is the best way to reward a GLVC championship team who is ranked in the top ten in the nation and who continues to hold up a dominating reputation and bring home victories time after time? Extra funding? New uniforms? More scholarship opportunities?

Obviously, those were not on the top of anyone's list when the Rivermen baseball team brought home their third GLVC championship title. Under the coaching of Jim Brady and Deron Spink, the Rivermen have never ended below fifth place in the conference. They hold four second-place finishes, six third-place finishes and two fourth- and fifth-place finishes.

The team was selected in the coach's poll to win the GLVC once again this year, all the while the Rivermen are recorded to be the lowest funded team in the conference. Their scholarship percentage is 2.33% while the next lowest is 5%. Full equivalency scholarships total 9.5%.

Baseball is a favorite of many St. Louisans with the popularity of the St. Louis Cardinals. However, Coach Brady remembers Reinhard Schuster, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, sitting down with the team to let them know that they were merely a tier

two sport and there was no effort by the administration to right the wrong.

During Coach Brady's tenure at UM-St. Louis, Brady has coached nine All-American players, 33 all-regional players and 62 all-confer-

ence players in either the MIAA or the GLVC. Brady has been awarded the Central Region Coach of the Year Award twice, in 1993 and again in 1996. In addition to his coaching duties at UM-St. Louis, Brady has served as an assistant coach at the U.S. National Baseball trials in November of 1991 and was honored

by the Multiple Sclerosis Society for excellence in coaching in 1994.

So, how were Coach Brady's achievements recognized? He was moved to part-time status and denied his medical benefits. After 16 years of being a full-time coach and graduating 80% of his players, he was demoted in the 2002 season.

UM-Rolla, sister school to UM-St. Louis and a Division II school, has an entire full-time staff. So in order to attract local talent to UM-St. Louis, the team must rely solely on the reputation that Coach Brady, Coach Spink and his talented athletes have established, because they have little to no benefits to offer in terms of scholarships or funding.

"The athletics of a school are like the front porch of a house. If it looks nice, people will come in and look around. If it is run down and dilapidated, people will just walk right by. It is not truly the house itself but the impression made when you look at it to come inside," said Coach Brady.

Coach Brady and his team live by the saying "identify, adapt, overcome," which he feels his team epitomizes wonderfully. It says a lot about the quality of the team and the staff, which creates it to be able to constantly bring prestigious awards home to a house that does little to help you in your endeavors.

Lock-in to follow Jan. 24 game vs. Quincy

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

Come spend the night with your favorite athlete! Saturday, Jan. 24 will be filled with games, gambling, food, Rams cheerleaders and drink specials at Greeks on Florissant.

The night will start at 5:15 when the Riverwomen basketball team will face off against Quincy University. Then the Rivermen will have their chance against the Hawks of Quincy at 7:45. The Rams cheerleaders will be in the Mark Twain building to sign autographs and perform at halftime of the men's game.

Then fans can head over to Greeks on Florissant for student specials to celebrate the victories. While everyone is celebrating, the Student Athletic Advisory Committee

(SAAC) will set up for the lock-in to be held from 12-6 in the gymnasium.

"This is a great chance for students to meet and hang out with all of our athletes," Coach Deron Spink said.

All of the athletes from the softball, baseball, basketball, soccer, tennis and volleyball teams will be at the lock-in. Come get to know the people that represent your school.

Everyone who enters the lock-in will be given play money to gamble with, in order to win more money to get raffle tickets for the end of the night where they will give away prizes such as Blues tickets and gift certificates. The athletic department will provide food, drinks and music.

SAAC invites all students to come enjoy the night and get to know the UM-St. Louis athletes. Anyone with further questions can contact baseball Assistant Coach Deron Spink at 516-7064.

SPORTS

GRETCHEN MOORE

Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

Questions
or
Comments?

Send me an e-mail:
current@jinx.umsl.edu

WEB

Check out the R-men
and R-women sports at
www.umsl-sports.com

UPCOMING

**Men's
Basketball**

Jan. 21

• at Harris-Stowe
7 p.m.

Jan. 24

• vs. Quincy at Mark Twain
Athletic Building
7:45 p.m.

Jan. 29

• at Lewis University
7:45 p.m.

**Women's
Basketball**

Jan. 20

• vs. Drury at Mark Twain
Athletic Building
7 p.m.

Jan. 24

• vs. Quincy at Mark Twain
Athletic Building
5:15 p.m.

DOUBLE TROUBLE

The Riverwomen's Trista Kolder and Riverman Johnathan Griffin make a formidable pair of starters

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Staff Writer

Every team needs its share of different types of talent. Some players are great at offense, some great at defense. Some are great at understanding the game and making decisions, and some have great instincts to use in clutch situations. There are also the steady performers and the streaky, explosive types that all teams need if they are to be successful. There is also another category that is crucial, and that is the tough competitor, the workaholic, the never-say-die type of athlete. This week we spotlight two of UM-St. Louis's grittier athletes.

Trista Kolder is from Parkersburg, Iowa. She played all four years of high school basketball and volleyball. She also played two seasons of basketball and volleyball for Des Moines Area Community College. She is currently attending UM-St. Louis as a junior majoring in business and starts at guard for the UM-St. Louis Riverwomen. Trista is averaging 8.5 pts per game with 30 assists on the season and 22 steals. She is a very tough, gritty player and is always involved in hustle plays.

She excels in many areas, not just those, according to UM-St. Louis Riverwomen Coach Buchanan, "Trista has a tremendous work ethic and very positive attitude. She practices and plays extremely hard and has a good understanding of the game. She does a little bit of everything for us. Something that doesn't show up in the stats is defense, and she plays tenacious defense. Whenever we figure out who the other team's best player is, Trista guards them. She draws the toughest assignments." Well Trista, somebody has to do it right?

Jonathan Griffin is not too far from his hometown of Normandy. He

is the leading scorer for the UM-St. Louis Rivermen, averaging 17.8 pts, with 2.5 steals and 6.5 rebounds a game. His numbers are up from last year, where he averaged 8.8 points per game. Coach Pilz commented on his improvement, "He's developed a lot since high school, when I coached against him. He averages about 17.8 pts a game, and he's worked hard to improve his midrange and 3-point shot. He's working offensively, and he could be an all conference type of player in the future. He makes a good effort, and we want him to play both ends well."

Anyone who has watched the games has seen the type of spark that Griffin can bring to the Rivermen when they need him. He has become the go-to guy, with good 3-point percentage (37%) and extreme quickness driving the lane. He is arguably the most entertaining player to watch on the floor, and it is particularly amusing to see the opposing team's defenders caught looking at where he was as he blows past them.

His drive and hustle means a lot to the Rivermen; "He brings maturity to the team. He has good leadership qualities, and he brings stability with a great work ethic. He's in the gym shooting a lot and putting in overtime. He does the same as a student as well, and he excels in the classroom. These are types of people we want to attract to the University," comments Coach Pilz. Griffin does indeed excel in the classroom. Last year he was a GLVC Academic All-Conference selection, and had above a 3.5 GPA on the year.

Kolder and Griffin are tough players for UM-St. Louis that bring a breath of fresh air to the team. Their hustle gives their teammates opportunities and the crowd something to see. If you are lacking drive and heart, I recommend coming to the next home game for Kolder on Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. here against Drury or Griffin's next game on Saturday, Jan. 24 against Quincy.



Johnathan Griffin



Trista Kolder

Tough weekend for the R-women

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen came up just one point short against Saint Joseph's Thursday, Jan. 8. It ended 63-62 despite a late second half run and a career game by Trista Kolder. Kolder scored a high 23 points on 9-of-14 shooting from the field to lead the Riverwomen. Kali Birkey helped the team with her fourth double-double on the season, scoring 10 points and adding 10 rebounds.

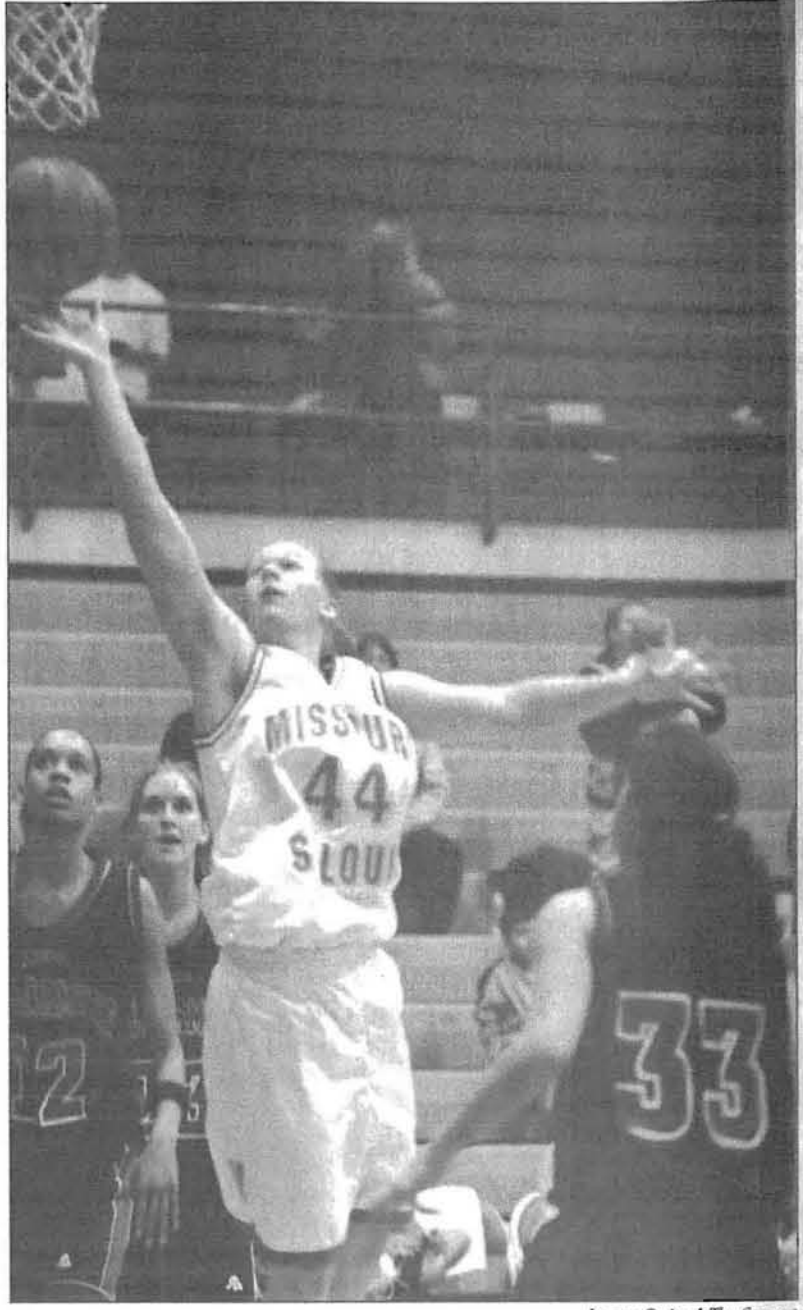
Their contribution unfortunately wasn't quite enough, as Coach Buchanan commented on the game, "We had too many turnovers at crucial times, at the end of the game especially, when they got three separate offensive rebounds for put backs. We had 19 turnovers, but it wasn't the quantity of the turnovers, it was the quality."

UM-St. Louis could never completely close the gap against Saint Joseph's. In the first half, they got close on several occasions, but each time they came close they were unable to take lead and ultimately take control of the game. The trend continued in the second half, when the Riverwomen were down by 11 points and after closing the gap they again could not capitalize.

The Riverwomen continued their string of close losses in conference games on the road the following Saturday, against Indianapolis, ranked 19. UM-St. Louis stayed on par with Indiana the entire game, but could not come up with the points at the end in the 70-61 loss.

Tough play, key baskets by Kali Birkey and Debi Dibella and a 3-pointer by Simone Verhulst, kept the first half exciting. The Riverwomen only had one lead the entire game at 5-4 and entered half time trailing 31-30. In the opening minutes of the second half, UM-St. Louis stayed close to Indianapolis and kept the game within one point at 39-38, but then with 14 minutes left, Indianapolis went on a 14-0 run to go up 51-38.

The Riverwomen fought back to get within 6 points, after a 3-pointer by Ashley Richmond, but couldn't close the 63-57 gap and eventually dropped the game 70-61. One of the key factors in the second quarter was Indianapolis's field goal percentage, which reached 62% on 13 of 21 shooting.



Jesse Gater/The Current

Kali Birkey, Junior/Forward, goes up for a lay up in the Riverwomen's game vs Bellarmine last Thursday night.

Dibella summed the game up: "We played well because we had fewer turnovers than usual, and we played really good defense. If we could have done anything better, it would be to attack the basket to get fouls and free points. Then again, if we would make our free-throws we would have won several of our games."

Coach Buchanan agreed with his player, "The first thing I told the girls was we would have been 1-1 on this trip if we played this way on Thursday too. I was pleased with everything except the final score. We were a little bit tired, so they got to shoot 15 more free throws than we did. Our effort and

execution were good though, and we actually outscored them in field goals. We have now lost four conference games by an average of 3.7 points." The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen are now 3-10 on the season and 0-7 in the GLVC.

Birkey led the Riverwomen with 15 points and eight rebounds. Crystal Lambert had 14 points and five assists, and Dibella added 12 points and six assists in the game. The next game for the Riverwomen is going to be a tough match-up Tuesday against fourth ranked Drury.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Ronnie Banks
#10

Against Bellarmine Thursdy, Jan. 15, Banks scored a career high 33 points Ronnie says: "In anything you do you need to give it your all and do it like it is your last time to ever do it. You never know when things are going to end, and through Christ there is strength in everyone."

Megan Albers
#15

Career high 23 pts. vs. Kentucky Wesleyan, Jan. 17.

When asked what is the most important element of a team Megan replied, "Perseverance through the tough times. That's what we are going through right now and it helps to know things will get better."

Baseball season never ends for nationally ranked Rivermen

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

Since taking home the GLVC Championship title last year, the Rivermen baseball team has been on a nonstop training schedule to keep in shape and prepare for the upcoming 2004 season.

The Rivermen are ranked in the top ten in the nation and want to get as much practice in as possible to bring home the GLVC title as well as a chance to play in the World Series. The 30 players attend practice six days a week for three hours a day.

"Practices have been a conglomeration of fundamentals on the little aspects of baseball. We need to work on fundamentals and conditioning early and then on offense and defense

once we know what we are up against," head coach Jim Brady said. The team has been going strong since the fall and found out who could do what during the preparation period. The team consists of much of the same starting line-up, which should be good for the aspiring national champions. They are once again picked to be the GLVC champs in the coach's poll where they are ranked number one. Coach Brady reflects on the honor, "It's nice to be well thought of."

The Rivermen are recorded to be from the lowest funded school in the conference and have been busy raising money to support their championship team. They have hosted a basketball tournament, baseball barbeque weekend as well as recent fundraisers of selling magazines and hosting an alumni dinner where the general man-

ager of the Cardinals has been invited to speak on Saturday, Feb. 7 in the MSC.

Being around each other six days a week can be straining on a team but Coach Brady has faith in his team's attitude. "They have outstanding chemistry. Our senior class is full of leaders who are willing to win and work. Their dedication filters all the way down to the freshmen. I love being around the group of guys who are as passionate about winning as I am. When you are surrounded with guys like that, starting with Coach Spink the sky is the limit. I love being around them, they are therapeutic to me."

Fans of the Rivermen baseball team are asked to come out to watch the opening game on March 13 against University of Indianapolis.

UMSL WELLNESS

W/S 2004 - JAN 20 - MAY 8

START TIMES	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
6:30am			SPIN with Ester		SPIN with Ester
9:00am	Strength & Sculpt w/ Ester	W.E.T 45 min. w/Rae		W.E.T 45 min. w/Rae	
10:00am		Stretch & Tone with Rae			
11:00am		SPIN with Rae			
11:30am				SPIN with Rick	
12:00pm	Boxrobix with Michelle		Cardio Combo with Michelle		Body Challenge with Kristan
12:30pm		STEP JAM with Kristan		Cardio Resist-A-Ball with Michele	
1:00pm	Piloga with Michelle				
1:30pm			Yoga 90 min. w/ Melissa		Piloga 30 min. w/ Melissa
4:30pm	Total Body Toning 45 min. w/ Rae	Stretch & Tone with Rae	Total Body Toning 45 min. w/ Rae	ABC with Rae	
5:30pm	W.E.T. with Rae	W.E.T. with Rae	W.E.T. with Rae	W.E.T. with Rae	
	SPIN w/Core Strength 90 with w/ Jim	Cardio Resist-A-Ball with Heather	SPIN Multi-Sport with Jim	SPIN	

Abs Buns & Cardio. Isolate & tone the major muscle groups of the lower body in combo with cardiovascular conditioning on the track.

Cardio Resist-A-Ball A series of cardio floor movement with core resist-a-ball training

Boxrobix High energy cardio workout with a kick. Shape up, lose weight

Body Challenge Burn those calories! Shape your whole body as you interval strength train w/cardio "sprints"

Piloga Amaze yourself with this. Pilates & yoga based workout. Stretch your body & mind to enjoy great health benefits. Introductory mat work.

Cardio Combo Cardio Workout using weight training & step to tone & sculpt w/o building bulk.

STEP & JAM Love dancing on the step? This class is for you! So much fun, you won't even realize how hard you're working.

Stretch & Tone Firm every part of your body while increasing flexibility and strength.

Total Body Toning Body shaping using exerc-tubes, weights, bands, step & your own body's resistance.

Yoga Experience the mind/body connection as you improve strength, balance & flexibility.

W.E.T. Low impact Water Exercise Training for fitness, body defining, & weight loss. Shallow end erobics & deep end jogging.

SPIN Core Strength 60min spin followed by 30min focus on core stability strength and functional balance using floor, mat and exercise ball. Take your training to the next level and maximize your core strength

SPIN Multi-Sport 90min training class oriented for triathlons and other adventure endurance type race. With spinning as the primary base, running & swimming are also employed.

AEROBICS
Two Sessions

SESSION 1 Jan 20 - Mar 13
SESSION 2 Mar 15 - May 8

One fee allows participants to attend any class at any time for the entire session!

Cost per Session: Students \$25
Fac/Staff/Alum \$35
Others \$45

Save!
BOTH Sessions: Students \$45
Fac/Staff/Alum \$60
Others \$80

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A&E

EDITOR

CASEY SCHACHER
A&E Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

A&E Calendar

Movies

*Film openings are subject to change.

Ongoing

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King- The third installment in the intense epic tale of Frodo's journey to the heart of evil. Accompanied by Sam and the insane Gollum, Frodo must battle his own will in order to save the world.

Jan. 19

The Butterfly Effect- A psychological thriller about a man who desperately wants to repair the mistakes of the past. Luckily, or not so luckily, he has discovered the ability to harness the power of time travel. Ashton Kutcher stars in the lead role.

Mindhunters- In a remote and isolated training facility, FBI agents uncover clues that lead them to believe that one amongst them is a serial killer

Win a Date with Tad Hamilton!- Romantic yarn about a promotional stunt to improve a young actors image.

BAND REVIEW



Photo courtesy Sevenstar

Seven Star shows off UM-St. Louis student's talent

In no particular order, Jaclyn Mayer, Dustin Keller, Grant Essig, Eric Cooper, and Jeremiah Miller of the band Sevenstar.

BY LAURA HEPBURN
Music Critic

St. Louis is thriving with talented musicians. From Mississippi Nights to the Creepy Crawl, there are local bands performing everywhere and all the time.

Considering this, it should come as no surprise that some of the local talent walks amongst the students at UM-St. Louis. Jaclyn Mayer (sophomore, music business) and Dustin Keller (freshman, graphic design) are two members of Seven Star, a local band with a lot to offer. Mayer, who plays bass guitar, and Keller, acoustic and electric guitars, are joined by

Grant Essig (lead vocals and acoustic guitar), Eric Cooper (electric guitar and backing vocals) and Jeremiah Miller (drums and backing vocals) to create the energetic and upbeat rock album "Superstar Wraparound."

This six track CD offers a sound that blends the fun, simple beats of Better than Ezra with the acoustic and vocal goodness of Dispatch. The music never sounds strained or forced, which provides the listener with a feeling of easy-going delight. The band also has the ability to perform as an ensemble, rather than rely on one star talent, which seems to be a rarer and rarer quality in modern music. Each instrument and talent is woven together to achieve a strong composi-

tion, not just fluff like many bands.

Though all members of Seven Star are obviously talented, the lead vocals will prove to be a unique asset. Essig sings very naturally with a smooth breathiness that will help Seven Star transcend many other local sounds. While it would seem there are tons of "vocalists" out there, finding one with a unique style and so much natural talent is not easy. Essig should help the band attract attention from music fans looking for something different.

"Market Street" and "Over the Moon" are songs with a light acoustic rock sound to them, highlighting the guitars and vocals. "Break on Out" goes back and forth from gentle vocals and light guitar strumming to

more intensive rocking, heavy on talent from all members. "Blue" and "Push" are both fun and energetic songs that make fingers and toes tap in time.

While these songs do have that upbeat edge that makes the album easy to listen to, they also have a little too much in common. The sounds get slightly monotonous and, once listened to, become a little bland. The exception is the song "Typical," which I felt to be the strongest song on "Superstar Wraparound." This track mixed the right amount of laid-back bass, perky drumbeats, rock-out guitars and delicious vocals. There is an especially good section in the second half of the song that makes a valuable

contribution to the standout sound. "Typical" is just the spice needed on this otherwise mild album.

Any St. Louis resident who wants to support our fast-growing music scene should check out Seven Star. For those interested, I highly recommend the web site www.sevenstarmusic.com, one of the best local band web sites I have seen. There, one can find information on upcoming shows, look at pictures of the band performing and entertaining, read Seven Star cartoons and listen to some songs. With a little sound expansion, Seven Star has the talent to be a rising star in the local music scene. We should enjoy them while they are still close to home.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Fitz's has great food



Jesse Gater/ The Current

Fitz's, which is located in the heart of the University City Loop, provides the young and old great food as they watch the production of its well known root beer being made.

BY MONICA MARTIN
Staff Writer

If you like great food, great service and cheap prices, you need to check out Fitz's Restaurant.

The atmosphere at Fitz's is cheerful and laid back. The lights are bright and the walls are painted all the colors of the rainbow. Aside from where customers dropped food on the floor beneath their table, the restaurant was clean. Above the restaurant sat a bar, a pool table, darts, games and a bigscreen TV. Everyone was relaxed and took time to enjoy their meals and talk. Some people even stretched out in their booths.

Upon arriving on Sunday at 6:00 p.m., the hostess sat me and Melissa right away. This surprised us due to the popularity of the restaurant. Outdoor seating is available, but due to the weather, we sat inside. Seated in a booth in the back, we could watch the famous Fitz's Root Beer being made. Although the children were interested in watching the root beer making, the adults seemed more interested in catching up on the latest gossip with their friends. The restaurant was full but not over-crowded, which accounted for the fast seating and service.



Jesse Gater/ The Current

Fitz's, which is known for its root beer, also provides its patrons with great food as well. Its dual-level restaurant caters to the family as well as to the single crowd. Fitz's is located in the heart of the University City Loop.

see FITZ'S, page 13

BOOK REVIEW

Professors launch compelling book

BY PAUL CRUTCHER
Staff Writer

Just as most of us wrapped up our final exams and handed in that bulky research paper, a group of students

and teachers crowded around a conference-room table in SSB and listened to editors, contributors and the Center for International Studies' host launch

"Reconciling Catholicism and Feminism?" For UM-St. Louis students, especially those in English or education, the speakers were familiar. Sally Barr Ebest and Ron Ebest edited

and provided the introduction for "Reconciling," and Jane Zeni contributed "Journey from/to Catholicism," an essay in Chapter 14. The launch gave the speakers an opportunity to introduce the book and address questions concerning it.

My question for the affair, produced by hiccups in my understanding of the discussion, was this: Do you need to have a strong background knowledge about Catholicism or feminism to understand the book contextually? They answered no. Rosemary Radford Ruether provides a coherent introduction to the relevant history necessary for understanding "Reconciling." I have backgrounds in both Catholicism and feminism, but needed neither when working through the book.

Part of the reason that readers do not need this knowledge is the format for "Reconciling." Twenty-one contributors divide themselves into two sections: reflective and progressive. The former section makes up

three-fourths of the book and follows women as they retell stories from their past. The latter focuses explicitly on teachers' work with students and the conflict between Catholicism and feminism, telling stories about what we might expect from the

future generations of women working with personal, political and social issues in the Church.

All of the essays that make up the twenty chapters in "Reconciling" are narrative. Once I completed half the book, I understood why the speakers at the book launch answered my question as they had.

"Reconciling" is a tapestry of shared experiences. You do not need a Ph.D. in gender studies or membership in the Church to understand and relate to stories. Of course, essays also vary in the combination of theory and therapy.

Moreover, the writers certainly provide diversity. Some are nuns, others are women who have married clerics and taken them away from celibacy, their vocation. Still other writers have doctoral degrees in theology and anthropology. Other contributors have no special distinctions outside of being female and raised Catholic.

But they are not merely diverse in their circumstances. A second question arose as I read "Reconciling Catholicism and Feminism?" Why the question mark? The answer is an important element in understanding the point of picking up this book in the first place.

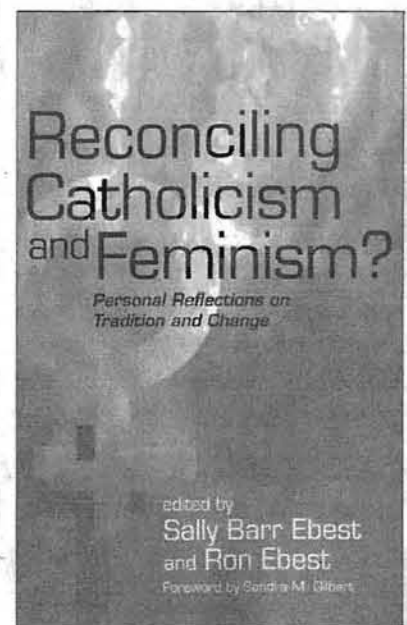


Photo courtesy Terry Williams.

see BOOK, page 13

MOVIE REVIEW

Tim Burton trolls new waters in 'Big Fish'



Ada and Arlene Tai play conjoined singers in Columbia Pictures' fantasy-rich family drama **BIG FISH**, directed by Tim Burton.

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Movie Critic

The best of director Tim Burton's films has always had a Halloween feel to them. It is not Halloween in the sense of the blood-fest teen slasher movie but in the more child-like realm of spooky stories and Frankenstein movies. The same dark and spooky looks, ironic humor and underlying sweetness filled such films as "Edward Scissorhands," "Sleepy Hollow" and even "Ed Wood." His films are undeniably visually creative and distinctively unique.

In "Big Fish," Burton moves into a more grown-up realm while retain-

ing the fantasy element. The story concerns a man, Will Bloom (Billy Crudup), trying to connect with his dying father, Ed Bloom (Albert Finney), a man who has always been such a fabulous storyteller that his son does not feel like he knows who his father really is. With Albert Finney playing the old man who never lets the truth get in the way of a great story and Ewan McGregor playing his younger self, the story moves back and forth between the present reality and the tall-tale past. The real-world story of the dying father both grounds and brackets the fantasy sequences, making this film quite different for this director. Billy Crudup plays his exasperated, straightforward adult son, Will, who tries to get his father to

tell the truth about his past, only to hear anew the same tall tales. The people around Will are of little help in his quest for truth, since all are under the spell of the storyteller. Even though his mother (Jessica Lange), family doctor (Robert Guillaume) and others know the real version, they embrace the storyteller's version as more charming than mere facts.

The result is a story that has one foot in the familiar Tim Burton world of fantasy and one foot in the world of human drama and emotion. The son's struggle to connect with his father at this stage in his life will likely touch a heartstring for any grown son. The father resists his son's efforts at breaking down his wonderful stories, holding them as the soul of who he really

is rather than offering a chronicle of dry factual events. The father's stubborn embrace of his reality and rejection of his son's more practical need to know the concrete facts form the dramatic center of the film. While "Big Fish" is in the present and the story is a straightforward drama, the real fun of the story is in the fantasy stories that the father spins.

Here, magical things happen, just as you would expect from a Tim Burton film. Again, Burton creates a visually lush, finely detailed, imaginary world, but this fantasy is a bit more circus-and-fairytale in tone than the usual ghost-and-goblin world. We encounter a witch who can give you a glimpse of the future, a giant, a circus, a magical town frozen in idealized tranquility, Asian conjoined twin cabaret singers and, of course, the biggest fish anyone has ever seen.

see **BIG FISH**, page 13

MOVIE REVIEW

'Pearl Earring' is 'hauntingly beautiful'

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Movie Critic

Johannes Vermeer's painting, "Girl with a Pearl Earring," is a famous work of art, yet we know little about the artist's private life or how he came to create this masterpiece. The appeal of the subject, a beautiful girl looking back over her shoulder, is enhanced by its mystery. Though Vermeer's paintings are well known, nothing is known about their subjects. The painting's irresistible mystery was the inspiration for a novel of the same name, which creates a what-if tale about the creation

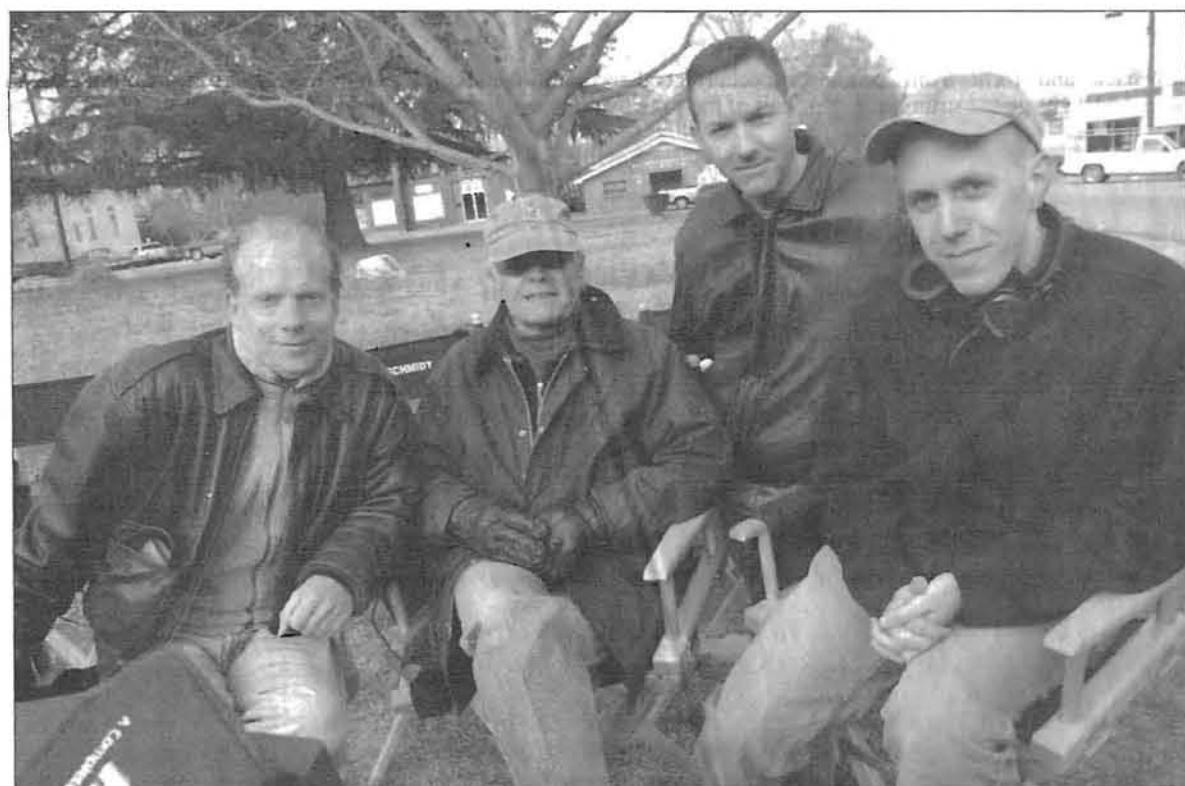
of this work of art. The book inspired by the hauntingly beautiful painting was the basis for the film "Girl with a Pearl Earring."

Colin Firth stars as the painter Vermeer and Scarlett Johansson stars as Griet, a young maid in his household, who poses for the painting. Griet is the daughter of a tile maker who has gone blind, forcing the family to send Griet into service at the Vermeer household. The social divides of the era are reflected in the household divisions, and Griet struggles to adjust to her new situation, where she serves at the whim of the painter's wife and her mother.

see **PEARL EARRING**, page 13



Scarlett Johansson in **GIRL WITH A PEARL EARRING**.



(Left to right): Producers Bruce Cohen, Richard D. Zanuck and Dan Jinks and screenwriter John August on the set of **BIG FISH**.

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PEARL EARRING, from page 11

The film paints a picture of the everyday life in such a household with a precarious hold on the middle class, a balance that can be upset by any financial reverses. Griet is assigned to tidy the painter's studio. The story of the painting unfolds as the painter notices her and starts to introduce her to his world of art.

Like the painting, this film is hauntingly beautiful and slowly paced, with an almost profound stillness. The film has a breathtaking painterly beauty, as shot after shot captures the vividness of Vermeer's paintings. The restrained action follows the everyday life of the maid in the household of the great painter. By indirect means, the story illustrates the social landscape of the time, the great gaps between social classes, the power of men and the powerlessness of women, the great divide between wealth and poverty, as well as the precarious nature of an individual family's position when a single financial mishap could tumble any family from comfort to poverty.

Everything in this film is slow, deliberate and underplayed. While the visual elements are stunningly beautiful and studiously historical, the art film framing might be undercut by the slow pace and lack of dramatic action. The restraint of all the performances and lack of dramatic action

might be more realistic but will likely make the film too slow-paced for many filmgoers. The book's internal nature may have needed a bit more to open it up on the big screen. Colin Firth does well in his part, although the role is smaller than you might expect. Scarlett Johansson, a rising star with a string of impressive performances ranging from "Ghost World" to "Lost in Translation," underplays the part of Griet to the extent that it is hard to detect the emotional depth or native intelligence that character must have to be interesting, leaving instead a too frequent blank but beautiful stare into the camera. In other scenes, Griet's cunningness provides her with the caution she needs to avoid mistreatment at the hands of the powerful people around her.

While the director does not really give us a feel for Griet's fascination with the world of art, he does a better job drawing a picture of the social and power dynamics of the time, especially in the powerlessness of women and class inequalities. With no direct access to wealth and subservient to the man of the house, Vermeer's mother-in-law uses her wiles, flattery and political tactics to advance the wealth, and therefore the security, of the family by securing commissions for paintings from Vermeer's wealthy patron Van Ruijven (Tom Wilkinson).

Griet's modesty and work ethic contrast glaringly with the lewd advances of Vermeer's wealthy patrons and with the treatment of her as property.

As much as the film resembles a painting visually, one wishes for more about painting and art within the story. There is a passing reference to the "camera obscura" method that art historians believe was used in the creation of the hyperrealism of paintings of this era in a few scenes where Vermeer teaches Griet about mixing paints or the quality of light. Apart from these oblique references, there is surprisingly little in the film that concerns art.

"Girl with a Pearl Earring," though beautiful to look at with shot after gorgeous shot suitable for framing, the slow pace and emotional restraint are likely to lose at least some of a mainstream audience. Director Peter Webber has to be given credit for what he got right in this film, while his lack of experience may have contributed to its flaws. Although the film is perhaps too emotionally restrained, it does not commit the more egregious mistake of creating a contrived romantic story. Still, it is a very beautiful film with a subtle story and a hypnotic quality to its slow, dreamlike pace and real power in its snapshot view of everyday life of the era.

PROVOST, from page 1

George is now beginning to form a search committee to hire a provost for the University. Either later this month or early next month, the committee will be chosen and the structure of the position will be finalized. The committee will be comprised of 14-15 members. A representative from the deans, SGA, Staff Association, someone from all of the colleges and two representatives from external groups will be part of the committee. Eight of the members will be faculty. Elections are now taking place through the Faculty Senate.

A search will be conducted nationwide, so it will be open to people from this campus, as well as people from around the nation. As soon as a person is found, the position will be filled. The hope is that the position is filled by the beginning of the next academic year.

One effect to current administra-

tive positions is that two vice-chancellor positions are being eliminated. Vice-chancellor of academic affairs will be completely eliminated and the vice-chancellor of student affairs will become vice-provost, which is a very common model around the country. There will also be a vice-provost of research added, and the deputy to the chancellor position will be eliminated. "It's [the change] more in keeping with what other universities do and it just made sense," George said. "In my role as chancellor, I will be increasingly external as we begin to raise more dollars and I want to make sure that we have a model provost that allows me to become more external."

This administrative change will not have much of an effect on students. There exists a number of programs on campus that are associated with both academic and student affairs. "We're hoping that by merg-

ing student affairs with academic affairs, we can make the services to students better," George said.

According to George, the structure that the University currently holds is not a highly agreed upon structure. Both negative and positive feedback have been addressed and the new structure is the most highly agreed upon. George listened to all of the feedback and decided on a structure that was most common. The new structure is widespread in many universities.

The new provost will reside where the vice-chancellor of academic affairs is currently located. "I'm coming in from a model where there is a provost and sometimes it takes bringing in someone from the outside to make changes," George said. "I remain as committed as before to students and students will see no less of me."

BIG FISH, from page 11

The stories seem drawn more from Paul Bunyan and Pecos Bill than Frankenstein. The fantasy is less scary, more adventurous and even romantic, as the storyteller recounts tales of growing up, leaving home, meeting the love of his life and serving in the military.

The performances by Albert Finney and Ewan McGregor, along with Burton's fantasy world, are what make the film soar. With drawing Southern accents, the Irish Finney and Scottish McGregor embrace these roles with such vigor and sense of fun, that their enthusiasm is nearly irresistible. They are both so charming and entertaining that it becomes difficult to see why the son so dislikes his father's storytelling. Here is the major flaw of the film. Billy Crudup, a fine actor otherwise, never seems to get a handle on the son's character. Crudup plays Will in such a reserved way that we never get a feel for his underlying emotions, even if his lines vocalize his irritation. His few outbursts at his father's tales ring hollow rather than seeming like pent-up frustration. Everyone adores the old storyteller except his son, and yet we never get a feel for the son's personality or why he finds his father so grating. This missing element stands in the way of developing the needed sympathy for the son's feelings that the drama requires. This lack of contrast diminishes the emotional tension of the film, although the ending is still touching.

Apart from this flaw, the rest of the film works quite

well. Other performances are Burtonesquely quirky, with Helen Bonham Carter as both an old witch and a young woman, and Danny DeVito as a circus ringmaster, among other delightful small roles. Jessica Lange is fine as the old man's devoted wife, long accustomed to having her own history remade into an entertaining yarn and still cherishing her husband's quirky ways, as much as her son rejects them. The film is funny and touching, and one suspects the performers had a grand time making the film. Although the fantasy strains a bit at times, the real emotion of the bracketing story of the dying father redeems any excesses.

The film is likely to appeal to you, or not, depending on how much you like Burton's other work. If you are a big fan, the departure from his usual world might be a bit of a letdown, because "Big Fish" is more about the father and son resolving their differences and with a sweeter, less ironic tone than the director's other films. On the other hand, if you have harbored a view of Burton's work as too childish or too emotionally distant, this film will likely have much more appeal for you, as this is much more emotionally real than anything the director has ever done. This new aspect to Burton's body of work is why some reviewers have embraced it as his best film, while other reviewers have been cooler toward it. Either way, this enjoyable film harnesses all of Burton's creativity while taking a somewhat different, more grown-up shape.

Book, from page 10

The contributors do not reconcile Catholicism and feminism. Rather, through shared stories, a sense of community develops. Each writer finishes her essay with some conclusions. All were Catholic women going in, but they emerge in all varieties of shades. Some advocate Catholicism and defend the idea that women can be both strong feminists and devout Catholics. Some broke with the Church because they could not stand the oppression but found a way to rec-

onile their problems with the Church with their personal identities. Some saw these problems, hit the doors, burned a patch of rubber in the parking lot and few have looked back.

"Reconciling" works well because it presents this spectrum. No one can say with any force that the book presents an unbalanced argument. It works because readers can identify with the writers and get into this community with those who have tried to reconcile their gender and personal

identities with their faith and tradition. It works because it accurately portrays the conflict, the struggle and the resolve in humanity against human institutions.

For Christians, particularly Catholics, and for students of humanity, especially those interested in feminism and gender, "Reconciling" would likely deserve a good look and a spot on your bookshelf. The book is available for \$20 at barnesandnoble.com, \$25 elsewhere.

EDUCATION, from page 1

They hope that this program can help change the attitude that history is boring, by helping students understand these themes at a time in their lives when they can easily relate. "Issues of liberty and equality can be very important for middle school and high school adolescents who are trying to understand who

they are and understand the ethical code of the world in which they operate," Westhoff said. "Our hope is that it speaks to where they are in their own development."

Students also agree that the program will be beneficial to many. "I think that improving the way American History is taught in high

school is a vital step in combating political apathy among young people," Jeff Griesemer, senior, biology, and chairman of the SGA election committee, said. "This grant will not only benefit the UMSL community, but it will also help build a stronger democracy for our county's future."

FITZ'S, from page 10

The waitress, Kathy, brought our drinks almost immediately: bottomless root beer floats. The food offered at Fitz's will please anyone's taste. Aside

from root beer, you can order burgers, shakes, starters, pastas, pizzas, greens, entrees, burgers, sandwiches, sides and even meals for the kids.

After perusing the menu for several minutes, I settled on the Grilled Chicken Club (\$6.79). Melissa ordered an appetizer called Wonder Wings (\$6.99) with and order of ranch (bleu cheese is also available). After only a ten-minute wait, the food

arrived. My sandwich was juicy and hot, and the fries were hot as well. Melissa's wings were hot and spicy. Melissa got a little messy with her wings and dressing. Everything was delicious. "The wings were incredible, and the service was great," Melissa said. "I would definitely come back here again." I would have to agree. For dessert, I ordered the Big O' Piece of Chocolate Cake (\$3.99), and Melissa ordered cheesecake (\$3.99). My slice of cake was so big I wound up taking it home in a box. Of course, I also wanted to save the deliciousness for the next day.

For all of you night owls, Fitz's is

open from 11 a.m. until 1:30 a.m., but the kitchen closes at midnight. After 9 p.m., no one under the age of 21 can be allowed into Fitz's. On the upside, those of legal drinking age can enjoy happy hour twice per day, the first begins at 4 p.m. and lasts until 7 p.m., while the second begins at 10 p.m. and ends at midnight. Be sure you have a designated driver to go along with you if you intend to drink.

Obviously, Melissa and I had a great experience at Fitz's. We both plan to go back, maybe in the spring to try eating outdoors. If you enjoy a nice, relaxing and cheap dinner, head to Fitz's.



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SCIENCE, from page 5

When the truth was uncovered, people had been infected and lawsuits flew. The private companies staved off an earlier crisis but what did that mean to the people infected through transfusions? Whose rights were more important?

The most benign assumption is that the White House only wants to be informed and to have a bit of time to brace for a storm. However, that bit of time might come at the public's expense, if the hazard is something like a food-borne illness. The way the new regulations are being presented is that the politicians are in charge of those decisions, and the scientists are not. If common sense says to go to the right expert for a problem, it seems clear that most people would rather have a scientist in that field make that call rather than a politician, who has no expertise and might have motivations that conflict with the public interest. David Michaels, a research professor at George Washington University and former assistant secretary for environment, safety and health at the Department of Energy, said, "OMB is not a science agency. The ramifications of it attempting to insert itself into a time-proven system of having the most knowledgeable scientists available evaluate proposed policy or regulations is a disaster in the making."

This topic might seem like a political issue but it is really a scientific one. At a November meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, according to the *Post-Dispatch*, "Speaker after speaker warned that

implementation of this proposal would lead to increased costs and delays in disseminating information to the public and in promulgating health, safety, environmental and other regulations, while potentially damaging the existing system of peer review." If scientific information is restricted for political reasons, what will be the effect on the advancement of science? Will levels of scientific information or its reliability vary with administrations?

So far, a non-partisan group of former top officials from various government health and safety agencies has drafted a letter asking the OMB to withdraw its proposal, also according to the *Post-Dispatch* article. One of those officials, Michaels, said of the proposal that, "It goes beyond just having the White House involved in picking industry favorites to evaluate government science. Under this proposal, the carefully crafted process used by the government to notify the public of imminent danger is going to first have to be signed off by someone weighing the political hazards."

Even a former FDA official under the first Bush administration, Michael Taylor, criticized the government proposal, saying OMB's proposed "involvement in the dissemination of information on 'imminent health hazards' is dangerous...speed is often essential," in public health warnings. This is not a Republicans-versus-Democrats, conservatives-versus-liberals issue, but one that can undermine our present assumptions about government-sponsored scientific

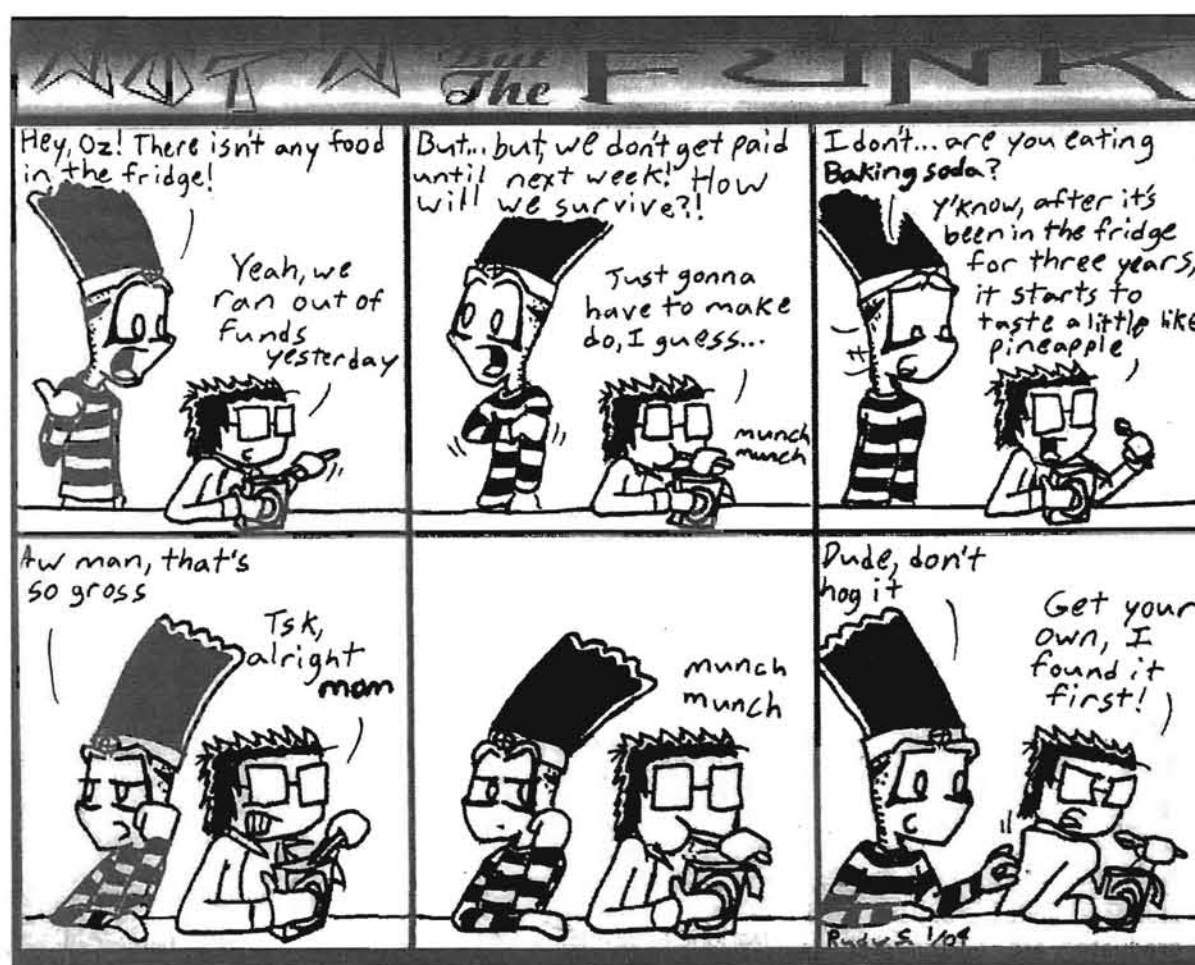
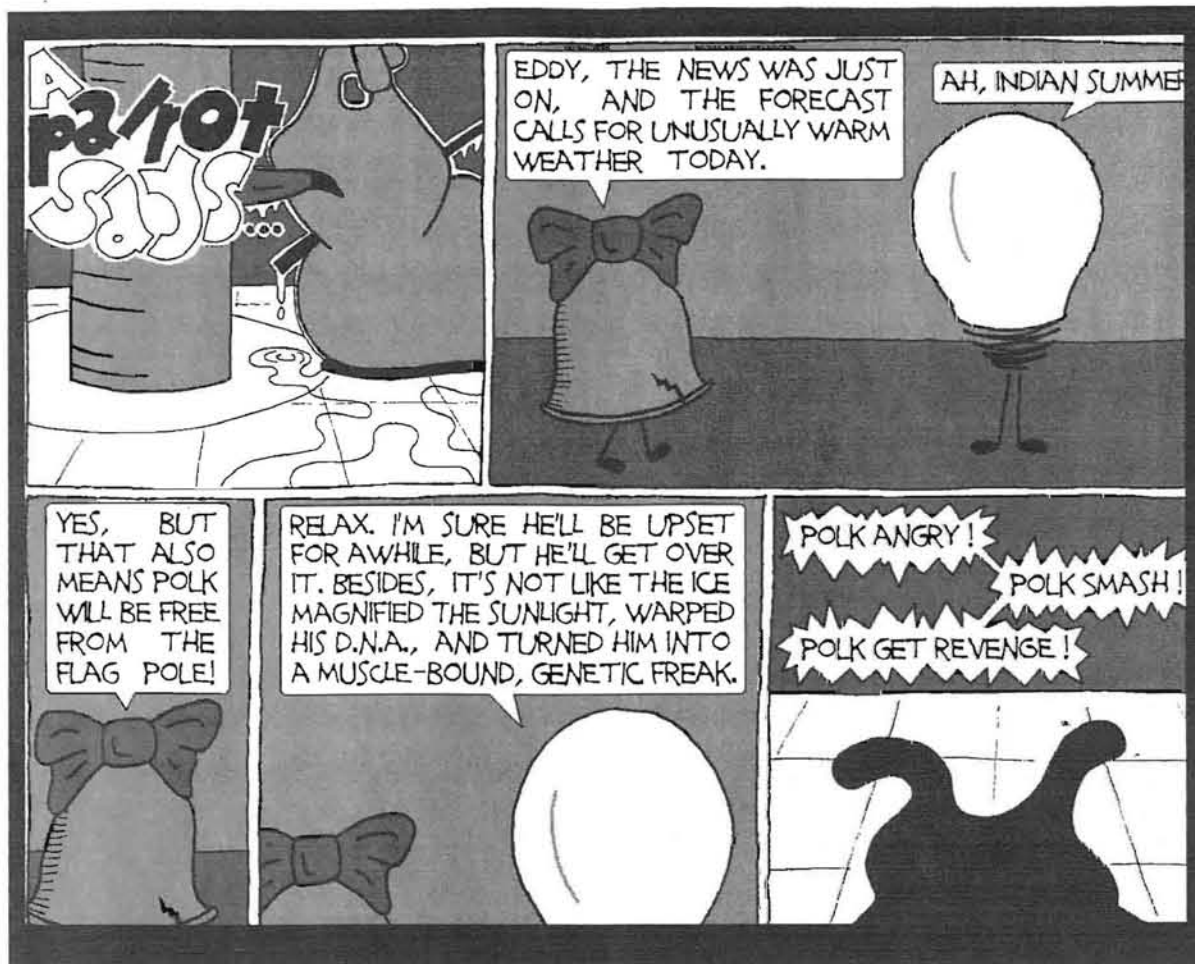
information and can change profoundly how we evaluate our daily health and safety. This is all new territory and Americans need to think about whether we are comfortable going there. These government studies that might uncover unpleasant facts, like one that might indicate arsenic levels in drinking water, or evaluate any public health threat from new products could be subject to censorship. If such a study produced results that were unfavorable to a particular industry, the results could be held back during political review. Drug recalls could be prevented and the manufacturer would be given time to correct the problem. This approach could have saved the beef industry some money during the BSE scare but would the changes in regulations and to industry practices, designed to prevent new cases of BSE, have happened as fast or even at all if the information had been withheld from the general public?

Of course, really unpleasant news held back might eventually be uncovered and released by news agencies, but what about that delay? Right now, we all tend to assume diseases can be treated and no news is good news for the safety of food, drugs or other things in our daily environment. This kind of political review of scientific information has been tried before in France, at the beginning of the AIDS epidemic. In that country, the government suppressed information about HIV contamination of the blood supply, to protect the profits of companies selling blood.

More parking, soon to come



Construction workers install glass panes on the new parking garage being built adjacent to the Millennium Student Center Garage. The 17 million-dollar garage will add approximately 920 parking spaces for the campus. The garage was originally slated to open last December, but weather delays have moved the completion date back to at least February 2004.



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All classifieds are due via email by 5 p.m. on the Thursday before the publication date. In addition to the name(s) of the advertiser, each classified submitted must contain a student number or faculty/staff department and title(s) prior to publication.

<http://www.TheCurrentOnline.com> current@jinx.umsl.edu

Help Wanted

Bartender Trainee Needed

\$250 a day potential
Local Positions.
1-800-293-3985 ext. 144

Mortgage

Loan officers - F/T work one-on-one with large client base in the Mortgage industry. Professional attitude a must. Commission only plus benefits. Call Matt McClure 314-442-2025 or fax resume to 314-442-2062.

Help wanted

Sales-Agent, Insurance Co., weekly pay, no experience, 2-yr training program, must have car, Ft, background check, fax resume (314) 845-5150 or email resume to george.fewquay@western.southernlife.com.

WANTED

1 Zookeeper and 12 Gorillas needed for grassroots marketing campaign in one of America's fastest growing franchises. Evening and daytime hours. Must be personable, outgoing and have a flare for the outrageous. Marketing internships welcome. Earn money and have fun at the same time. Close to UM-St. Louis. Call David at (314) 423-4529.

Get published

Get published in Litmag

Submissions now being accepted for the spring issue. All UMSL students, undergraduate and graduate, are encouraged to submit their poetry, fiction, and personal essays. Submission mailbox located by English Department offices, 4th floor, Lucas Hall. 516-5512.

Scholarship

\$7500 Scholarships available

NSF/Noyce Scholarship program offering scholarships to juniors, seniors, graduate students interested in teaching middle/high school math/science at SLPS. Guaranteed teaching contact upon completion. For complete details: <http://teachnow.umsl.edu>. Click Noyce Scholarship link. Print/complete "application" form. Inquiries: Rosanne Vrugtman, (314) 516-4349, vrugtmanr@msx.umsl.edu.

Personals

Like To Bowl?

Join our Intramural league (Jan. 29- Apr 16)
Wednesdays 3:00-4:30pm at North Oaks Bowl. Only \$1.25/week for 3 games. 2 guys and/or girls per team. Register in the rec office 203 Mark twain by Jan 21

Rec Sports Fun

Intramural basketball, Arena football, wiffleball, Bowling, 3-on-3 basketball, Coed Volleyball. To Play sign-up in the rec Sports Office, 203 MT. **Deadline is Wed, Jan. 21**

We know you have something to sell, a room to rent or a study to conduct. Put it in the classifieds and get....
RESULTS! Call 516-5316 for info!



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Help Wanted

Marketing/sales internship

Spring Internship available at Medical Contracting Services, Inc. Send resume to internship@medicalcontracting.com. Contact Erica Skeen 800-388-5581 x175.

Lifeguard

CERTIFIED LIFEGUARD needed for UMSL indoor pool: Mon-Thurs 11:30-2PM. Pays \$6.30/hour. Apply in the Rec Sports Office 203 Mark Twain (516-5326)

Housing

House for rent

Male grad student to share two-bedroom house. Short walk to north campus. Available January 2004. \$200 per month plus utilities. 516-5046. Leave message.

House for sale

Wonderful 4 bedroom, 2 bath, updated house with large deck and deep backyard for sale. Close to UM-St. Louis. Call for information. Marjorie at 521-4677.

Apartment for rent

Spaced, clean, quiet, 1 bedroom with fire place, hardwood floor, large back yard, washer dryer, garage. No pets non smokers only. Price \$550. Call for information at 314-369-1016

Apartment for Rent!

Charming, clean, quiet, 1- bedroom apartment, hardwood floor, off street parking. No pets, non smokers only. Price \$500. Call 369-1016

Apartments for Rent!

Now leasing one and wo bedroom apartments only 5 minutes from UMSL. Prices range from \$415-\$519. Call today and ask about our student discounts! 314-381-0550

Housing

Apartment for Rent

Four Bedroom apartment fully furnished, near campus, available for rent January 1st, 2004. If interested please call Erin or Kerri at 314-516-7953

Seeking roommate

Two family flat renting. Two bedroom and one bath. Apartment, garage, new appliances. \$700 per month plus utilities. Call (314) 651-7523.

Prof. Services

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Free service

Would you like to quit smoking?

If so, contact Michelle Schmidt at the Wellness Resource Center for more information on free services offered. Russellms@umsl.edu, 516-5380.

Misc.

Business Opportunity

Need an extra \$36,000 a year? Vending route for sale. Fifty high traffic locations. Cost \$5000. 1-800-568-1392 or www.vendingthatworks.com

Spring Break

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1995 Ford Explorer 4x4

Dark green; automatic; air con.; all power options; new trans. and new CD player; excellent condition; 115,000 miles. Price \$6200. (314) 432-1360 or (314) 740-2266

1998 Dodge Neon

Great shape and only 45,000 miles. Manual, 4-door, AM/FM/cassette, A/C, new tires. Very good mileage, reliable and fun to drive. Asking \$4250. (314) 952-8822.

Bunk bed and dresser

Bunk bed. Full size futon on bottom, twin bed on top. \$250. Mattress included. Dresser \$25. Call (314) 869-4072.

1995 Ford Explorer

Dark green; automatic; air cond.; all power options; new trans. and new CD player; excellent condition; 115,000 miles. Price \$6,200. (314) 432-1360 or (314) 740-2266.

1993 Honda del Sol

102,500 miles, 4-speed automatic transmission, black color. Very good condition. Price \$4200. Call (314) 629-5438.

Cars for Sale!

1999 Mercury Cougar (Red), 1999 Pontiac Grand AM SE (Metallic Blue), Mitsubishi Eclipse 1997 (Black). All cars are in excellent condition and inspected. Special rates for students. Call (314) 583-2557 For pictures and description visit: www.autostlsaleszone.com

For sale

1997 Audi A4

1.8T. cactus Green, auto, heated seats, trip computer, climate control, OEM spoiler, air conditioning, alloy wheels, 70,000 miles. \$8500.00. (636) 946-2789.

'90 Acura Integra LS

Champagne in color, 2-door, runs good w/ great stereo and clean interior. \$2000. Call Denny at (314) 731-7554. Leave message.

1995 Ford Mustang

3.8 V6, replaced 70K miles engine, auto, AC, blue-green metallic, loaded-all power, spoiler, tinted windows, alloy wheels. \$4350. (314) 255-3637

1998 Ford Mustang

Silver, 5-speed, CD player & cassette players, power front seats, 103K miles-highway, 1yr old clutch, dual air bags, small ding left front fender, and split rear seat. Only \$4600 obo call (314) 771-1953.

Musicians! Bass for sale

Kay M-1 Bass with pickup, excellent condition, a real find. \$1600. (314) 409-5091.

1997 Dodge Dakota Sport

Only 67,000 miles, V6, 5 speed, extended cab, CD player, power locks & windows, bed liner and cover, overall excellent condition. \$8500 (negotiable). Day: (314) 516-7846. Night: (618) 719-9818. Ask for Sean.

Silver 1986 chrysler New Yorker

\$1,500 76,000 miles, automatic, 4 cyl., 2.2L Turbo Engine, power windows, locks, steering, dual power seats, cruise control, AM/FM radio, cassette, rear defrost, leather interior.. (314) 630-8598.

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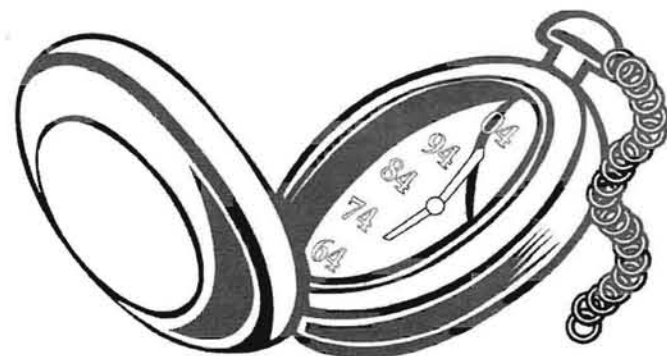
Beautiful juvenile Iguana, cage, heat lamp, set-up, \$50 to a good home who has time to care for her and give her lots of attention!!!! (636) 390-8127 cell: (636) 297-5260. Ask for Debi McDonald.

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UM-ST. LOUIS HOMECOMING 2004

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR HOMECOMING

King & Queen

PICK UP APPLICATIONS IN STUDENT LIFE, 366 MSC



Look for the annual April Fools issue in April (or March 32!)

This annual satire issue is one of our most popular issues of the year. Last year's leaves some pretty big shoes to fill be we feel we are up to the task.... Just thought we'd give you a heads up.

NEXT AT THE

BLANCHE M. TOUHILL
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PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND

Friday, January 30, 8 p.m.

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CANADIAN BRASS

Wednesday, February 4, 7:30 p.m.

Experience the unique rapport and impeccable musicianship of Canadian Brass, the world's preeminent brass quintet. Well into its third decade of fantastic musical exploration, the five virtuosi continue to erode musical boundaries by presenting the classics along side jazz, pop and contemporary music.

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Byzantine Choir of Pittsburgh, Jan. 24 • New Century
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Arianna String Quartet Family Concert, Jan. 31 • Arianna String Quartet Concert Series, Feb. 1 •
Marvin Hamlisch, Feb. 14
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