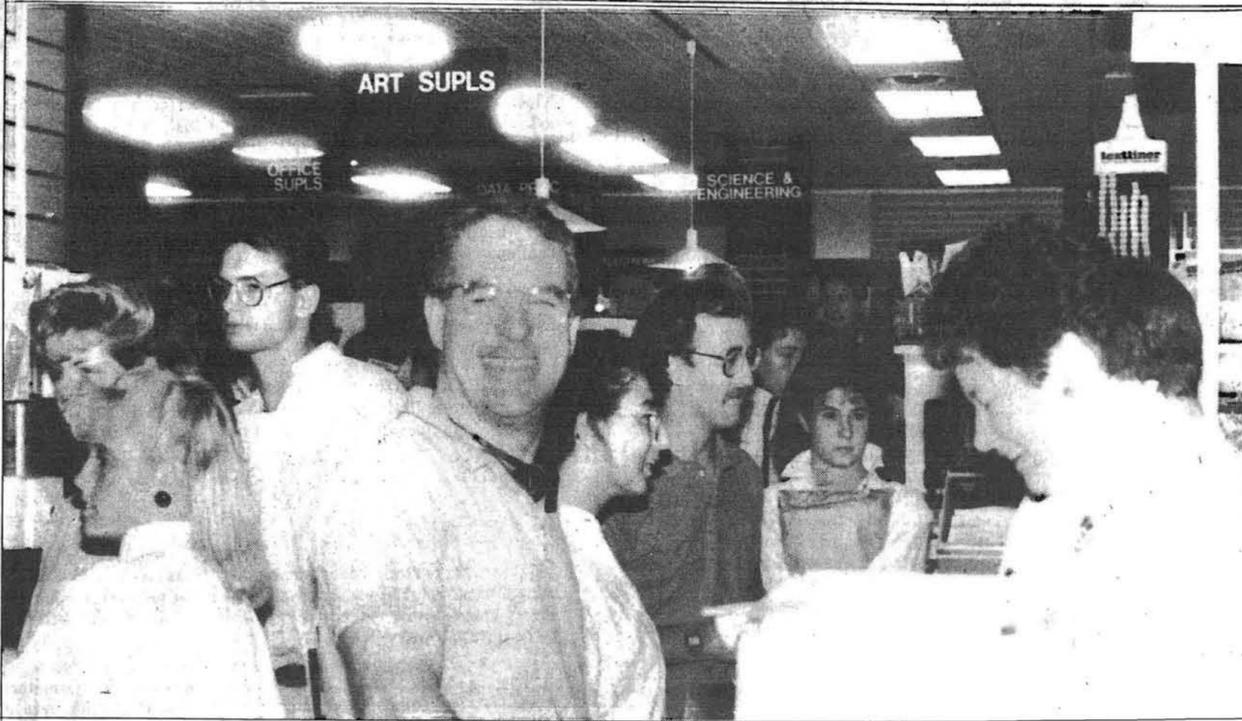


CURRENT

September 1, 1988

University of Missouri-St. Louis

Issue 609



BACK TO SCHOOL: Students at line in the University Bookstore as classes get underway. Everywhere one turns in these first few days of

classes, crowds can be found. But the excitement of the new school year is in the air. See editorial on page 6.

Rene Rowe

Reorganization Plan Explained

by Kevin Kleine
managing editor

The most recent change in the county reorganization plan by the Board of Freeholders will reduce their earlier plan of a 42-municipality county down to 39 cities.

Under the revised plan, Pagedale would become part of Normandy, Black Jack would be absorbed into Spanish Lake and Moline Acres split between Bellefontaine Neighbors and Jennings.

The new plan will be submitted to the Board of Election Commissioners on Sept. 16 for a ballot to be drawn up and an election scheduled. A special election is required to approve the plan and no other issues can be on the ballot, said Donald Phares, administrator for the Board of Freeholders and UM-St. Louis special assistant to the chancellor.

"The earliest it could be voted on is sometime between June and August of 1989," Phares said.

St. Louis County is currently comprised of 91 municipalities, but still about 40 percent of county residents live in unincorporated areas. The reorganization is an attempt to equalize the quantity and quality of municipal services such as police and fire protection county wide.

The biggest opponents to the plan are the elected city officials, Phares said.

"Most governments want to stay the way they are," Phares said. "Their second biggest concern is how much it is going to cost."

"It probably has less than even odds of passing," Phares speculated.

Reorganization would save money and provide higher quality service in the long run, Phares said. An overall increase in taxes of roughly 8 to 11 percent will be required for the plan.

"That comes out to about \$40 per year for taxpayers," Phares said. "It's a fairly modest increase. People on a fixed income will save money under the plan, and working people will pay according to their income. Everyone will save on property taxes."

The only part of the property tax left under the plan will be the debt retirement portion. Fire protection taxes will be equalized county wide. The lowest rate for fire protection is now 39 cents per \$100 assessed value the largest being \$1. The reorganization plan will make it 21 cents for every county resident.

Around the Normandy area, which surrounds campus, 20 municipalities will become the Normandy township.

"When people first started moving out of the city, they formed communities; some of them with only 200 or 300 people," Phares said. "Particularly in the Normandy area, since it was one of the first places settled. Champ, for example has only 30 people."

The smaller communities can't have the tax base to support city workers and police fire and emergency medical protection. The new map builds on strong existing cities and absorbs the smaller communities to provide them with the same services of their larger neighbors.

"People would have the same level of protection no matter where they live," Phares said.

UMSLPAC To Support Local Candidates

by Shelly Van Mierlo
reporter

This election year UM-St. Louis' political action committee has decided not to contribute to statewide races.

According to Lance LeLoup, chairman of UMSLPAC and the political science department, the organization believes they will have more of an impact at the local level.

With the elections right around the corner, UMSLPAC's steering committee has compiled a list of the

candidates they plan to support.

In the Missouri Senate race, Wayne Goode, John Scott and J.B. "Jet" Banks will receive support from UMSLPAC.

Goode, a Democrat from District 13, was elected to the Missouri senate in 1984. In 1976 Goode was honored with the Missouri NEA first annual Friend of Education Award.

Scott, a District 3 Democrat, is currently serving as president pro tem in his third term in the Senate.

Banks, a Democratic senator

from District 5, is currently serving his third term as the assistant majority leader.

According to LeLoup, word of mouth is the organization's main fund raising tactic. Besides the letter LeLoup sends to the faculty in April, there are no formal methods of contacting the public.

"The committee chooses candidates who support higher public education," LeLoup said. He added that UM-St. Louis alumni receive high priority as well.

"Our purpose is to help people

who support higher public education get elected and also to keep them in office," LeLoup said.

In June, LeLoup said contributions to UMSLPAC were at their lowest level in the organization's four year history. In mid-June the group had raised about \$6,000, several thousand dollars less than in previous election years.

Since then, the organization has received about an additional \$2,000.

Chancellor Barnett Discusses Developing First-Rate University

The following is an interview conducted by Current Editor Paul Thompson with Chancellor Marguerite R. Barnett. Barnett is now entering her third year as chancellor at UM-St. Louis. The Current will periodically publish interviews with campus officials, visiting dignitaries and others throughout the upcoming school year.

Q: You've said that your goal here is to lay the groundwork for the creation of a world-class university. With the new science and technology center, the new math and computer center, and the new addition to the library, that goal seems to be coming closer to reality. That's kind of heavy on the science and the math. In what ways are you seeking to broaden and strengthen the university in terms of the humanities?

A: You might want to take a look at the Vision for the 21st Century document, which is our plan, which was jointly arrived at by the entire campus. It's under the aegis of Partnerships for Progress, but in that plan there are 67 different departments or programs or projects that are slated for support as part of a five-year program to lay groundwork for the university making a great leap forward in its stature. Among the areas supported are the humanities. There currently exists a \$25,000 humanities fund, which I set up as part of the Partnerships for Progress program. I set it up with private funds. It's used by the humanities programs and departments to support faculty, to support faculty research, to support innovation in teaching. I think some of them used it for travel funds, but most of it was used to sponsor a humanities series last year. As part of that series, they brought in people in music and philosophy and history and art. They had some slide lectures that were well-attended and well-supported. The use of those funds is determined by a committee consisting of the chairs of the humanities departments.

Q: One of the areas that I've heard complaints from both history faculty and students is that the history department desperately needs a Soviet historian. And considering the dynamics of U.S./Soviet relations right now, should that be a priority for the university?

A: I'm glad you asked that question, because...clearly this university should be interested and involved in a whole range of areas of political interaction right now — between the United States and the Soviet Union, between the United States and Israel, the United States and China, in what's going on between Iran and Iraq. We should have a broad ranging interest in world affairs. However — I'm particularly glad you asked that question because it enables me to say something about what chancellor should do and what historians and departments should do. I've met with every single department...and when a department would say something like that — you know, "Shouldn't we have a Soviet historian?" — I would say uniformly to each department: Departments should determine what the range of academic specializations in that department should be. Do you really want the chancellor to decide whether or not you should have a

Soviet historian in history? And all of them, after a minute's thought, said obviously you really don't want that. What you want is for a department to have the strength and the range of talent to have a kind of internal debate so that they can set a course for that department. And I certainly think that's true of our history department. That's one of our very strong departments. Up until this year, we had a Curator's Professor in that department, Professor Neal Primm. That is a department in which there is a great deal of very exciting intellectual ferment and debate about the direction the department should go. I would say that for any department it's always a mistake to recruit one person on an ad hoc basis, unless you have a way of building an area of quality around that person. In most areas, the recruitment of one person, without any context, is simply a mistake because that person becomes an isolated person in an academic area.

Q: Edward Fiske is the New York Times education columnist. He recently wrote that the quest for big-name professors is similar to sports teams seeking big name athletes. Is that an accurate analogy, and can a state university compete against private institutions to bring in the best and brightest academic scholars?

Current Interview

A: Well, this institution has had some very sharp people and has some very good people now. If you just take our Curators' Professors, for example: professors [Robert] Murray, Primm (retiring as of this month...), professors [Eugene] Meehan [in political science] and Jane Leventhal in the Physics Department are all nationally-known. Nelson Posby was also here — a nationally-known person. So if the question is, can we attract those people? The answer is, yes. We have done so in the past. Do we have the resources to attract them in all areas? The answer is limited. If you want to attract world-class scientists, normally you're talking about the person, the laboratory, equipment and lab assistants. When I was at City University in New York, sometimes the price-tag ranged between \$200,000 and \$500,000. That's the cost of playing in that league. Should we attract these people? It depends on the individual person. I think Professor Posby did a wonderful job of helping to build the Political Science Department. Professor Meehan is doing a wonderful job of helping to build the Political Science Department. That's also a very strong department. Physics, history, chemistry are all very strong departments. So that in addition to having the big names, the nationally-known people, there are strengths also in the departments. The danger in attracting a big name is that you have only the name and then you have a weak department surrounding that name. That's not been the case at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. And I think you have the kind of academic vice chancellor and the kind of deans here who will look for quality and depth.

Q: Do you see in the future your Partnerships for Progress program creating endowed professorships, from say, McDonnell-Douglas...?

A: In fact the Visions for the 21st Century is the Partnerships program as it now has entered its third iteration through the campus-wide planning process, and endowed professorships are part of that plan.

Q: When do you see that coming to fruition?

A: I'm working on it right now for them.

Q: Going back to this earlier question about competing with other universities, has there been any problem with attrition because we can't offer a high enough salary?

A: We have some very good faculty members who have left. Some have left because, as they have said to me, it was time to leave. They had been here most of their academic careers and they wanted the experience of going someplace else. I think that some of them have left because we haven't been able to offer them the kind of competitive salaries. I think the salaries for faculty on this campus are too low, the salaries for staff on this campus are too low, the amounts of scholarship dollars available to students are too low. We are trying very hard to remedy all of those problems. We need an infusion of funds beyond what we can generate internally. We cannot reallocate our way to excellence. We must have more outside funding from both private and public sources. We have done that. We have had some success, and we will continue to try to increase our budget, improve our budget so we can hold those faculty members for whom remaining on this campus it is the best decision. Sometimes in your career it's the best decision to move, to leave. You need to leave to grow. For those people who can grow best by being here or to attract first-rate people, we ought to be able to offer not just competitive salaries — we want to be able to offer the best salaries.

Q: A recent report indicated that Americans are really poorly educated in geography. From the standpoint of higher education, UM-St. Louis only offers, I think, one or two sections of geography. Is this an area that can be improved or changed?

A: Geography would fall within the College of Arts and Sciences. And again, that goes back to the first question you asked me about the history department. The College of Arts and Sciences has a policy committee consisting of all the chairs that meet to decide those areas that they will emphasize. That's a question that has to be decided by the faculty through the chairs and policy committee in the College of Arts and Sciences.

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CHINA BOUND

History Major Bruce Smith left for China on Aug. 25 on an exchange program between universities in China and the UM system.

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IN THE CARDS

Associate Sports Editor Tom Kovach discusses the changing world of the baseball card business.

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CAMPUS REMINDER

The last day to return books to the bookstore is September 14.

CHANCELLOR

from page 1

ces. Curriculum is a faculty matter. I should say that as a South Asianist, I was deeply hurt to find out that very few people knew where Bali was, or what Bali was. Having said that, I do believe that the faculty do have to decide where we're going to have our curriculum emphasis.

Q: In the School of Education, what can be done along the same lines for teaching geography to better teach teachers how to better educate primary and secondary students?

A: We have just recruited a new dean in the School of Education. We have recruited one of the best deans in the country, because that's an area that I want to see strong leadership. I think we're going to see strong leadership. I would be surprised if after Dean Robinson is here for a while you don't see some very strong proposals coming from the School of Education. I would wait to see what Dean Robinson has to say about the entire picture because we've also heard that Americans lag behind other countries in math and science, in overall knowledge of the humanities, of world history. So there are a range of issues, and again, it's a mistake to take them in an isolate fashion. You really have to look at the whole and say: where are our priorities, how do we order them, and what do we do about them? Dean Robinson is a man who is not someone to sit back and analyze a problem, but he is an activist scholar, and I think he is going to bring those characteristics to the school here. There will be an inaugural conference in which Dean Robinson will make an inaugural address, and we plan to invite all the deans of education from around the state. At that point — which will probably be in early 1989 — Dean Robinson will have an opportunity to talk about the ways in which the University of Missouri-St. Louis can play a leadership role in teacher education.

Q: Minority enrollment here is about 12.9 percent, or was last year. That's pretty low considering the minority population in St. Louis.

A: Especially since most of the minority population is black, and black enrollment is 9.2 percent.

Q: What can and is being done to change this?

A: The Bridge Program. We are working as hard as we can with the Bridge Program, and that 9.2 percent represents an increase in minority enrollment. Minority enrollment has increased in the last couple of years and the Bridge Program is having a real impact on recruiting and on this campus and will continue to do so.

Q: In the spring of 1987, there was the shanty incident, and as a result of that a group of students and faculty and staff met to discuss the problems of racial tension. And since then, I've never heard anything of what's become of that task force.

A: Well, I was hoping that dialogue group would continue. Apparently, everyone went to Dr. [L. Sandy] MacLean, who held the dialogue meeting, and said that they felt that they'd accomplished their purpose and that they wanted to dissolve the group. So it was dissolved by the group. I was very disappointed. I felt there was a lot more dialogue that could usefully take place on the campus.

Q: Do you see racial tension still being a problem here?

A: I don't think the shanty incident resulted from racial tensions. In fact, I think this institution is probably one of the best functioning, most democratic institutions in the region and mainly in the state. Where else do you have people from all economic classes, from all parts of the region, from all religions, all racial groups? And we have a mechanism for functioning together. I think that was an instance of isolated



Marguerite Barnett

hooliganism. And I think that what the campus as a whole demonstrated was that we would not allow that kind of action and activity on this campus; that we would protect freedom of speech for everyone. And I think that's the case on this campus, that those people who have liberal views, those people who have conservative views, those people who have a range of views have a right to speak out on this campus, and their right to speak is protected. That was what was at stake. And I was tremendously proud of the students, and faculty and staff, because everyone got out there to demonstrate that we could come together to protect those [rights].

Q: The library is now expanding, a 50 percent expansion. Yet we have somewhat of a problem with the periodicals and I've heard all sorts of complaints from students saying that in general the library is inadequate...Does it make sense to expand the building if there's going to be a problem keeping the shelves stocked?

A: There's not a problem keeping the shelves stocked. We've got books in storage that we have not been able to take out of storage because we have not had adequate library space. Secondly, I think what happened last semester was that everyone got the impression that we were going to cut periodicals and so that became a runaway impression. What happened was that we gave the library \$140,000 subsidy so that they would not have to cut periodicals. Now the library is not as well-stocked as I would like it to be, it is not where we want it to be. We have not solved the problem of periodicals, especially foreign periodicals, which are so expensive. Part of that problem is due to the fall of the American dollar, though. My hope is that if the dollar stabilizes that will help us to at least analyze the severity of the problem. Right now it's difficult to get a grip on the problem until we get a sense of where those prices are going to set-

tle. We've tried to develop partnerships with other libraries and companies in the area, so we can use some of those technical periodicals. We've worked very hard with the Library Consortium, and we're trying to work out other arrangements so we can get materials from the Columbia library. We do have the advantage of being part of this system. I hope to see more cooperation which will improve services to students...And as we complete this library addition... and then look at a second addition at the same time that we continue to look to increasing the library budget....

Q: Several new graduate programs we're approved by the Board of Curators this year. Do you see new undergraduate and graduate programs developing here?

A: We have a list of programs that have already been requested by faculty and approved by the vice chancellor for academic affairs. Again, in the five-year plan, we have put those programs with all of the approvals that have taken place from the faculty level and we hope to get approval for the next stage from the Board of Curators and from the Coordinating Board on Higher Education. So that will tell you, if you take a look at that five-year plan, what our plans are for the future we hope to get....We have a number of good programs that have been approved. I think they're going to be very appealing and of high quality, and I have reason to believe that we won't work systematically to move forward those other programs....

Q: What do you see, since we're in our 25th anniversary, as the biggest challenge for UM-St. Louis for the next 25 years?

A: To develop a model of what it means to be world-class urban research university, which does not necessarily mean replicating traditional models. I don't think it should be the goal of this campus to become an urban version of the University of Missouri-Columbia. The question is: What should 21st century urban research university of stature look like? and then define the resources needed to make that happen, and then to do it.

Q: What do you see as the biggest goal this year.

A: Beginning that process.

Q: One of the perennial questions on this campus is: Why don't we have dormitories? Is there any chance that we'll ever get dorms and without dorms how can this university create and retain student interest in extracurricular activities?

A: I don't know the history of why the campus was not given dormitories in the very beginning, but as the years have passed, I think there was always a concern on the part of the system as a whole that if the two urban campuses had dormitories that they would compete with the two rurally located campuses, and that the mission of the urban campuses was really not to compete with the students statewide but to serve students in the metropolitan areas...I think it's a real challenge to involve students in extracurricular activities without dormitories. When you have students living on the campus it does bring a different quality of life to the student activities. Our vice chancellor for student affairs works very hard at trying to think of ways to do that....I'm not sure that any urban university has really solved that problem. It is a thorny problem, not easily solved. Most of our students come for their classes and leave when their classes are over. When I've spoken with evening students, they've talked about that as a problem that they struggle with through the Evening Student Association. And that's a very strong, vibrant group of students and I know many of them have mentioned that they've tried holding dances, and they've tried holding receptions, and they've tried holding activities, and that they have very poor attendance....I don't know any other urban institution without dormitories that has solved that problem.

The UM-St. Louis Community
would like to present...

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Announce
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Auditions Will Be Held
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6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Benton Hall Theatre
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For more information call:
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Smith Takes Off For Far East

by Paulette Amaro
associate features editor

On August 25, a UM-St. Louis senior will be the second student to participate in this university's international exchange program to China.

Bruce W. Smith, a history major, will travel to the city of Zhengzhou (pronounced "jung joe") in Northern China. Smith "will be studying Chinese and doing research for his masters thesis."

Smith will not be totally unprepared for the language barrier. He studied Chinese for two semesters at Washington University, but will still be aided by a tutor at Zhengzhou.

"All their classes are taught in Chinese," Smith said.

At this point, Smith is not sure what his course of study will be, and says it's best to "have two or three projects in mind...submit (them) to the university and let them

decide."

Although Smith was scheduled to attend Zhengzhou last year, a conflict in the university's policy on housing children that would have required him to leave his daughter here caused them to postpone their trip. Now, however, Smith is enthusiastic and looking forward to the trip.

"You have to pay your own way over there, but once there, everything else is free (housing, schooling)."

Though this will be his first trip to the city of Zhengzhou, Smith is no stranger to China; he has traveled to Hong Kong twice before.

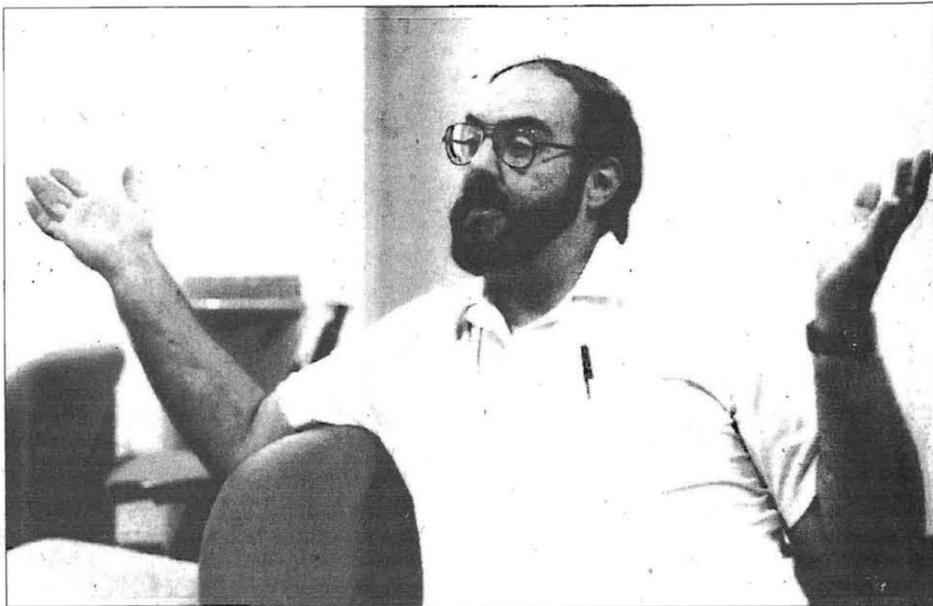
Wuhan University and the National Taiwan Normal University also involved in the exchange program.

Smith said one reason he chose Zhengzhou University is because it's "right in the middle of the ancient part of the city, (and) the railroad makes it easy to get around.

Smith also added, in a letter to friends, "Zhengzhou is a city of 1 1/2 million at the intersection of China's two main railroads. Although Zhengzhou was a capital of the Shang dynasty about 1400 BC, the city has been rebuilt since."

Smith gained a strong interest in Chinese culture while still in high school. Soon, thereafter, an uncle gave him some rare coins from World War II, which sparked his interest in the coin business. After marrying, and starting his own business, his wife's uncle gave him a coin collection consisting mostly of Asian coins.

Though Smith has since sold his business, his interests have not died. Over the years he has collected volumes of articles and information on China, and with his vast knowledge of the region, he may begin work on a book while studying at Zhengzhou.



HIGH ROAD TO CHINA: History Major Bruce Smith is the second UM-St. Louis student in the university's history to be going to China on an exchange program between universities there and the UM system.

Mixed Reviews: This Has Been A Great Summer For Movies

by Eileen Pacino
movie reviewer

This has been one of the best summers for quality adult film I can remember. Hardly any of those silly sex and slasher pictures. If I had any gripes, it was that there were too many good films to get around to seeing before they moved out for something else.

However, these are some that might hang around until the fall.

A box office boom since July, "Midnight Run" is a very appealing redefinition of the buddy film and resurfacing of the old "road picture."

Gritty Oscar winner Robert DeNiro and adenoical fussybudget Charles Grodin are "two men and a pair of handcuffs" as Jack Walsh hauling foot-dragging, nagging, fear-of-flying, mob-embezzling accountant Jonathan "The Duke" Mardukas from New York to L.A.

The two are one step ahead of the FBI, a rival bounty hunter and two doofus hit men; and Walsh has his hands full with his "easy job" mother hen who bugs him about everything from high cholesterol and cigarettes to visiting his ex-wife and daughter as they pass through the Windy City.

Director Martin Brest ("Beverly Hills Cop") doesn't let graphic language, violent action and aggressive humor eclipse personality.

And DeNiro does have a way with a one-liner.

Debra Winger lifts up the rock of Middle America and exposes the wriggling worms of racial bigotry and hatred in director Constantin Costa-Gravas' ("Z" 1969) new political thriller "Betrayed."

Prepare for your heart in your throat, your stomach in knots, your mind dazed by the portrayal of a cold-blooded terrorist hidden behind wholesome family values in the person of Gary Simmons (Tom Berenger), a widowed Vietnam hero and father whose pot roast, white cake-cooking mother (Betsy Blair) wistfully claims America "is not the same county I grew up in" to undercover Cathy Weaver (Winger), who finds herself innocently falling for the rugged wheat farmer, then having her rose colored glasses shattered when she learns he's a member of a white supremacist group.

Costa-Gravas' searing portrait of the ultra-right wing exposes everyone's guilt in our discriminatory society while putting human faces on anger over farm foreclosures; on the pain of the senseless loss of family members in Vietnam; over the fear that closely held religious beliefs are in danger of being stamped out and on the belief that "inferior" minorities and "outsiders" control the country's economy.

Winger may earn another Oscar nomination for her anguished portrayal of the naive agent whose boss

(John Heard) ruthlessly uses her to get his man.

A wife of a Mafia stooge is tired of reaping the benefits of a life of lying, cheating, stealing and murdering and wants to start a poor but honest life on her own in the screwball Cosa Nostra comedy spoof by Jonathan Demme "Married to the Mob."

When it comes to The Family, once a member — by marriage or blood — always a member; especially if the Don has the hots for you. So run as far as she can (to the down side of slum on New York's Rivington Street) after Tony "The Tiger" Russo (Dean Stockwell) personally and permanently halts her husband's philandering, Angela DeMarco (Michelle Pfeiffer) can't shake the weasel-faced womanizer who has his own tail—wife Connie (Mercedes Rudhl)—a jealous verago with a personality like fingernails dragged down a dry blackboard and a flair for the dramatic that makes Lady Macbeth look like Little Bo Peep when it comes to settling domestic scores with her louse of a spouse.

And who's the cute little plumber who keeps bumping into Angela in the hall? Only your friendly FBI agent Mike Downey (Matthew Modine) who makes a slip of the heart when it comes to the innocence of this little bowl of minestrone. Only after she's poured out her heart to Mike and been threatened with tax evasion and trafficking in stolen goods raps does Angela see her way to work for the Feds (whose only difference from the Mob is that they "work for the President of the U.S.") in fingering Tony on Miami's Gold Coast. Terrific "Godfather" send-up reveals versatility of Pfeiffer and playful charm of Modine. A movie you can't refuse.

Francis Ford Coppola is back behind the camera to bring a close-to-the-heart project to life about a dreamer who dared to take on huge big boys of the automobile industry and failed. The story of Preston Tucker and his ahead-of-its-time car would seem to be tailor made for a wide and appreciative audience, and Coppola spares no expense to faithfully and artfully reproduce the time, the man, the automobile; but he fails, too, because there's no excitement, no suspense and no fully-drawn representation of the "hero." Most portraits of any greatness must expose the weaknesses of the person, not just the strengths, but this feel-good movie is relentlessly upbeat, glossy to the point of nausea and just reeking of Madison Avenue hype. Jeff Bridges as Tucker never stops smiling, his wife Joan Allen never stops smiling, his kids never stop smiling and even when he knows he'll never see another Tucker roll off the assembly line, all he can say is, "50 or 50 million, it's the idea that counts — and the dream." Too sappy for me. Sorry Francis, no matter how pretty you dress a mule, it's still a mule. Better luck next time.



TOP: John Ashton, Charles Grodin and Robert DeNiro traverse the country in "Midnight run." BOTTOM: Michelle Pfeiffer and Matthew Modine star in the comedy, "Married to the Mob."

by Christopher A. Duggan
features editor

This has definitely been a summer for movies. Earlier, I was occupying my time by trying to guess what the "Top Gun" or "Back to the Future" of this summer would be.

What I'm talking about is the one movie that is enormously popular and makes incredible amounts of money.

As it turns out, there wasn't one; there were several.

I'm going to write about some movies that have been playing for the latter part of the summer. Some are big money-makers, some are just good and some are both.

Of the movies I'm going to cover, the one that has been around the longest is "Midnight Run," a road film about a bounty hunter and a fugitive from both the law and the mob.

It has been described as "The movie that capitalizes on the F-word," among other things, and it is. Most of the characters' vocabularies consist of mainly words we don't want the younger members of our families to hear.

Still, that doesn't take anything away from the plot. Whether or not the movies capitalize on the profanity of harsh language, I could not tell you.

The plot involves a bounty hunter (Robert DeNiro) who is sent out by a bail bondsman to bring back a man (Charles Grodin) who embezzled \$15 million from the mob and then jumped bail.

What results, after DeNiro nabs Grodin, is a hilarious cross-country chase that involves the FBI, the mob, and another bounty hunter who wants DeNiro's money for himself.

I've often thought of Charles Grodin as one of the most irritating men in the entertainment business, judging solely from his appearances on the Tonight Show.

Imagine a trip across the country with this man handcuffed to you. I laughed through the whole thing.

As a side-note, one does not normally think of DeNiro as being funny, but he has some of the biggest laughs in this movie.

Another box office smash, as the ads so originally call it, is "Die Hard," with Bruce Willis as a cop who comes to Los Angeles to visit his wife at the high-rise she works at and ends up getting into a battle with terrorists who want the contents of the vault.

Although the previews make this look like a Rambo film, it really is not. It's of a little bit better quality, and the hero is more human than Rambo is.

Also, this movie is funny. How could it be anything else with Willis in the lead role.

The action doesn't stop in this one for very long at any one time, and for that reason, keeps the audience entertained. Another big difference between this and Rambo is the plot. In other words, there is one.

Although it gets a little corny in the end, the story is truly suspenseful, and more than a little gripping.

A third big movie is Tom Cruise's latest masterpiece, "Cocktail." In this one, he plays a bartender, "the bartender," as he calls himself.

Right after leaving the armed services, he comes to New York, where his uncle lives, to make his fortune. After finding out from several job interviews that he doesn't have the experience to hack it in the corporate world, he goes to school.

While he's there, he takes a job as a bartender to make ends meet and begins to learn the ins and outs of the trade from and old pro.

Soon he is flipping bottles all over the bar, looking like a juggling act, and climbing up the bartending ladder of success.

Before you know it, he is going to Jamaica to tend bar there and make a lot of money so he can open up his dream bar, Cocktails and Dreams.

There he meets Elizabeth Shue, a young artist whom he falls in love with and then throws away because of a bet over someone else.

This is one of those movies that wouldn't be bad if you took out all of the terrible parts. Unfortunately, they're there, and tough to ignore.

I agree with Harper Barnes' synopsis of the film, when he says, "It supports the yuppie ethic that says sometimes you have to wait a couple of weeks for all your dreams to come true."

My favorite movie of the group is tough to call in the money area, mainly because it hasn't been out long enough to tell. I have no idea how much money it will make, but I can assure you, "Stealing Home" is worth seeing.

Contrary to what the name might imply, it is not a baseball film, even though that is one of the subjects it covers.

Whenever a movie like "Bull Durham" comes along, there are usually a lot of imitators who try to duplicate its success.

"Stealing Home" is about an ex-baseball player (Mark Harmon) who is called home at the beginning of the film because of the death of his best friend, Katie (Jodie Foster).

Most of the film consists of flashbacks of the two when they were children and young adults.

Harmon proves here that he can actually act, something I don't think he has been given much opportunity to do in some of the glitzy roles he has been handed in the past.

Jodie Foster is great as the girl who is always there just when he needs her, even in death in a way.

"Stealing Home" is one of those movies that elicits a wide range of emotion from the viewers, from laughter to sadness, not unlike "Terms of Endearment."

There were people breaking down all around me.

Well, that's my wrap-up of summer films. And remember, this is just my opinion; you can take it or leave it.

The CD Rock And Roll Library Is Essentially 'One Man's Opinion'

by Loren Richard Klahs
book reviewer

The CD Rock and Roll Library: 30 Years of Rock and Roll on Compact Disk by Bill Shapiro (Andrews and McMeel, \$8.95, 188 pages)

Vinyl recordings are slowly but surely becoming an endangered species. Within the next five years the vinyl record album, like the

vinyl 45-rpm. phonographic record, will have become an artifact of recent popular history.

In place of the black platter, modern-day music will be delivered to the public via video tape, cassettes, and the superior compact disks.

With the demise of vinyl comes an onslaught of compact disks. The new book, "The C.D. Rock and Roll Library," explains this new art form in terms of both technology and in musical stance.

The author is subjective in his ratings. He avoids certain types of music like the plague (ie: Heavy Metal, Easy Listening, New Age Music, etc...).

He chooses to rate some of the best and some of the worst recordings over the last thirty years, and he specifically informs the reader as to what works on the C.D. format and what doesn't.

This is not so much a critique of the new technology, but instead a diatribe against certain recording companies for translating their

music from vinyl to C.D. in a hasty and unprofessional manner. He also gives praise where praise is due, especially when a recording has been met with expert digital processing and cleaning properties. (Note: Some vintage material has never sounded better.)

Faring quite well in the ratings game is virtually all of the vintage Motown anthologies. The Temptations, The Supremes, The Four Tops, Martha and the Vandellas, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Gladys Knight and the Pippis, etc...

To quote Shapiro, "...In a very real sense, Motown, the most financially successful black business venture in American history, was a vindication — the full realization of the commercial potential of the black music that had been co-opted and exploited in white rock and roll."

These early recordings dating back to the early 1960's have fared extremely well in C.D. form. The music is vibrant and hot. The percussion is still as vital today as it was over 20 years ago.

Other recordings that the author gives high marks to include: The entire Beatles catalogue (with the exception of "Live in Hamburg"), almost everything ever recorded by Bob Dylan (excluding "Nashville Skyline"), "Darkside of the Moon" by Pink Floyd, "Goodbye Yellow-Brick Road" by Elton John, "Led Zeppelin IV", "Tapestry" by Carole King, virtually anything and everything by Van Morrison (with especially high marks to the vintage

What I Did During The Summer



DON'T PANIC

by Christopher A. Duggan
features editor

Hi folks. That's right, it's me, back again for one last glorious semester as features editor of this wonderful paper.

For those of you who are new to the campus or have just been living in a hole for the last couple of years, I will tell you what this column normally deals with.

Everything we write for newspapers these days has to be so serious, so what I try to do is take a look at the little details of life that we sometimes overlook, except in a humorous way.

Well, I try to be humorous anyway.

I also try to make a point somewhere in there as well.

This isn't long enough for a column, so I should probably think of something more to write.

The pressure is really on here. This is my first column of the year. Many people are reading me for the

first time. I could gain those readers I've always wanted, so this has to be a real zinger.

Well, I'm sorry. I don't think this is going to be it. My brain has been in neutral for several weeks, and I think my gears are stuck.

I could tell you about the summer I just experienced, went through, endured, survived, just barely survived.

You may have the idea that I had a bad summer. I wouldn't go so far as to call it bad. Horrible maybe. Perhaps excruciating, agonizing, a living hellish torment, pain-filled and frustrating.

Actually, all that happened was I, after embarking on a new employment venture, lost most of my money; I didn't accomplish anything that I had set out to do in April, Arts and Sciences informed me that I wouldn't be graduating in January if I didn't take one more class this fall, and I had my heart ripped out and stomped on by a member of the opposite sex.

However, my bowling team did win first place in a summer league.

Isn't that special?

On the upside, unlike many St. Louisans, I do not feel that the world is coming to an end because the Cardinals are not going to be in the World Series. That is not so much because I don't care.

It's more due to the fact that I believe everyone is human, even those who are paid several million dollars to do what they do.

For more on that, see future column.

What I've learned this summer above all is that even when things are blackest...they can always get blacker.

Just kidding.

What I mean to say is that the world is what you make of it, and there is usually a solution to even the most pressing problems.

Just for example, to partially relieve my money situation, I crawled back to...I mean, went back to my old job on an extreme part-time basis.

To relieve the boredom that pervaded most of the summer for me, I went on several short trips here and

there around this great and landlocked state of Missouri.

One of them was to Hermann, a town with the least original name of any place in the world.

I can imagine the thought that went into that.

"Well Herman, what should we name it?"

Herman's face goes dark with concentration.

Another such trip, the most recent one, was to Hannibal, a town rich in historic memorabilia, the birthplace of Mark Twain.

However, the locals there have tourist-bumpers on their cars.

Looking back, I can see that this summer has not been a total loss,

and it has not been the worst experience in my life. It most certainly could have been worse.

But, my God, I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to the fall.

KLAHS

from page 3

"Moondance"), "Sly and the Family Stone's Greatest Hits", the entire Bruce Springsteen diskography (except "Greetings from Ashbury Park, New Jersey"), all of the Talking Heads material, some of the Elvis Costello and the Attractions, everything the Clash has ever recorded, "Boomtown" by David and David, all of the Pretenders, all of R.E.M., and all of U2.

In a somewhat surprising turn of events, the author gives mediocre remarks to some of the following popular artists and recordings.

Linda Ronstadt is attributed with the quality of being "achingly pure," while her contemporaries Neil Young, Jackson Browne, and Joni Mitchell are described as basically boring.

He also gives failing marks to those he dislikes (ie: The Lovin' Spoonful, Jefferson Airplane, Otis Redding, Ike and Tina Turner, The Allman Brothers, David Bowie, The Grateful Dead, etc...).

Like another subjective value judgement, "The C.D. Rock and Roll

Library" is basically one man's opinion.

Some of his criticisms are overly petty. A case in point is his analysis of the solo work of Pete Townshend. "...almost as if he's learned how to avoid enjoying himself."

And then there's his outburst concerning the Eurythmics. "...more synthesized, programmed pop pap by a group whose appearance remains more interesting than its sounds...quickly forgettable pastiche."

Still the author provides the reader with some valuable information concerning what is readily available on this rapidly rising form known as the C.D.

A small volume, "The C.D. Rock and Roll Library," is soon to grow into a monster with many others on its heels.

The compact disk is here to stay!

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Rivermen Set To Kick Off Season

Team Seeks 16th Bid New Scorer Sought

by Steve Ward
sports editor

Sweet 16. Everyone looks forward to their 16th birthday and even though the men's soccer program will be turning 21-years-old, they have 16 on the brain. If the men can pull together and click off another season vaguely representative of last year's 17-4-1 record, the Rivermen can make their 16th bid to the Division II NCAA Tournament.

Achieving that feat, however, is much harder done than said. For one, the team lost their leading scorer, Mark Reiter (17 goals), to graduation and the MISL. But the more things change, as the cliché goes, the more things stay the same.

"The last three years we have lost our leading scorer," reports Head Coach Don Dallas. "We lost (Ted) Hantak, (Terry) Brown and now Reiter. We have been lucky in that someone else has stepped in and carried the load for us. We are hoping that that will happen again this year."

Statistically, senior Boyd Buchek looks to be the man to rise up. As a forward and consistent starter for the Rivermen last year, Buchek netted 11 goals and 3 assists. No other returner enjoyed as much scoring success.

Buchek on the front line won't be known until the Rivermen take the field in the home opener tomorrow night against Harris-Stowe. The decision for Coach Dallas to make will be whether he wants to go with two or three forwards. The team went with only two forwards for the first time last year and finished with a number three ranking in the nation.

A big part of that number three ranking, of course, was defense. Once again, the Rivermen are strong. Anchoring the backfield will be senior Scott Wibbenmeyer. Last season Wibbenmeyer scored eight goals and earned himself a spot on the 2nd team All-America.

Behind Wibbenmeyer will be senior goalie Jeff Robben who, while earning 1st team All-Region recognition, made a near perfect shield, earning a 0.64 goals against average and chalking up 10 shutouts.

In order for the men to earn their sweet 16th bid, they will first have to win the four-team MIAA conference. UM-St. Louis won the MIAA last season with a 5-1-0 record; they have won the conference five of the last six years. The biggest challenger to UM-St. Louis' crown will be Northeast Missouri State. Southeast Missouri State and UM-Rolla don't appear to be very strong due to personnel changes. The NMSU Bulldogs, on the other hand, live to beat the Rivermen and did so for the first time when the two teams met early last season, 1-0. At the time the Rivermen were ranked number one in the country, NMSU finished the year ranked 16 in the country and number two in the MIAA.

Incidentally, if the Rivermen receive their 16th bid, they will have a chance to do something they haven't done in nearly 16 years and that's win the Division II National Title.

The first step to a tournament bid will be taken tomorrow night when Harris-Stowe visits UM-St. Louis Soccer Stadium at 7:30 p.m. Harris-Stowe is going through a coaching change and doesn't figure to be overpowering.

The second step will be taken Sunday, Sept. 4, against local powerhouse St. Louis University (12-7-4 last season). The match will be played at home and starts at 7:30 p.m. At stake is the St. Louis Cup which UM-St. Louis has not won in years. Last season the Rivermen lost to the Billikens 2-1 in a year which saw SLU earn a Division I National Tournament bid.



Ready, Set: The new addition of the women's soccer team practices for the Sept. 7 opener against Quincy College.

Rene Rowe

Youthful Women After Final Four Chance

by Steve Ward
sports editor

Summer in St. Louis is to heat as youth is to experience. At least women's soccer coach Ken Hudson hopes to find that analogy true.

"This is easily the youngest recruited team we've had since the first year of the program," says Hudson. "Yet, this is an experienced bunch of kids because they have played a lot of year-round amateur soccer."

In all, Hudson greeted 13 freshmen when camp started Aug. 19. And with only seven returning lettermen, it looks like quite a few freshmen will have starting jobs.

We have the possibility of two or three freshmen in the backfield and one or two in midfield, says Hudson. "Potentially, every freshman we have on the team could be a starter. They've got the ability."

One of the people with that ability is freshman Linda Allen, a St. Louis Post-Dispatch All-Suburban South goalie from Oakville. "I'm nervous," says Allen. "The girls are bigger and rougher (than in high school) and I'm not the biggest person in the world. But as soon as I get my first real game, I'll feel better."

This is not the first time the women have had to work with a

freshman goalie. Last season Amy Wibbenmeyer guarded the nets as a freshman. The team finished with a 12-8-1 record, but they also gave up a school record 42 goals. When asked if she felt any pressure to improve on that record, Allen responded that it will be a team effort to cut down on the goals against and that she would "take personal responsibility to give 180 percent and make sure that the ball doesn't get into the net."

Coach Hudson also feels confident that this year's record will be improved. "We won't lose eight games this year," said Hudson.

There are two reasons Hudson speaks with such confidence. The first reason is in the person of Sue Lammert. Lammert started all 20 matches at sweeper back as a freshman in 1986, but sat out last year with a knee injury. Lammert is a dominating player who, if she remains healthy, may lead the team to 1986 form when they allowed only 16 goals.

missed being named to the All-America team. "They picked 33 people. She was probably 34 or 35 on the list."

The second reason is team leader Stephanie Gabbert. Gabbert played sweeper back last season and just

list. If she is not All-American this year she either got hurt, played terrible — and I don't expect that — or somebody rigged the voting," laughs Hudson.

But don't look for Gabbert to score every goal for the Riverwomen. Publicized talent usually draws a swarm of defenders. But that will also leave other people open. "I don't mind drawing people," says Gabbert. "I can shield off and find the open player."

Allen, Lammert, Gabbert and their teammates will be tuning up for their season Friday at home at 6 p.m. in the annual Alumni Game. Even though the match does not count on the season record, most of the players, especially the alumni, take the game very seriously. "The first thing they said at the end of last season was 'See you at the Alumni Game.' Most of those women have been playing all year round, too," says Hudson.

The official season starts Sept. 7 when the Quincy College Hawks come down the river. And even though the schedule is still going through some minor changes, it should pan out to be as tough as last year's. A tough schedule and a lot of wins can help a team get a bid for the

coveted national tournament. "We need to beat all of the Division II teams to make it," says Gabbert. Slipping by a Division I school would also be helpful.

The Riverwomen are hampered on two fronts as far as making the national tournament this year. Barry University (Fla.) is in the same region as UM-St. Louis and qualified for the NCAA Tournament in 1987. They are expected to contend this year, too. It will take an extremely strong record to beat out Barry and win the region—and the region must be won to receive a bid.

The second trouble spot is because of a change in the NCAA. In past years both Division I and Division II schools competed against each other in the National Tournament. This year the Division II schools will have their own tournament—which is good. But only four teams, one from each region, will be accepted—and that's not as good. Coach Hudson, however, remains high on his team.

"I think it's great. It will be difficult to make the tournament with only four teams, but I think we have the people to do it."

"The last three years we lost our leading scorer."

-Don Dallas,
Head Coach

Buchek also seems to be in line for some fine, new help on the front line this year: Warren Dey scored 11 goals for Florissant Valley last year; Mike Dempster sat out last season, but in 1986 he led the Quincy College Hawks in goals with 10; freshman Bob Ferguson scored 17 goals for DeSmet High School. Exactly who will be starting with

Money: It's In The Cards

by Tom Kovach
associate sports editor

This is a story about two teenagers admiring baseball cards in the fifties.

Alan: "Hey Bob. Guess what? I just got a Mickey Mantle rookie card from the Five-and-Dime store and, wow, look at that swing."

Bob: "Gee Alan, I just found a Babe Ruth card. Golly, these cards are sure neat."

Now the year is 1988, and we still see two young teenagers looking at baseball cards.

Dave: "Yo, Jim. My dad just found this rookie card of Mickey Mantle. This card, dude, must be worth millions."

Jim: "I'll trade you a Bench rookie and a Rose rookie for that."

Dave: "Wait. Let me get the price guide. (Skimming through his book.) Dude, \$6500 for Mantle. Let's see...Bench rookie is...and Rose...No way. You're trying to rip me off."

Remember those days when baseball cards were...just baseball cards. Remember when monetary value didn't mean a thing? Remember trading a Mickey Mantle for a Joe Dimaggio?

Today, baseball card collecting has become more like playing the stock market. If boy A wants to trade a (Wade) Boggs for a (Don) Mattingly, boy B will consult his handy-dandy price guide. (Of course the guide must be current. Any guide two months out-of-date is unacceptable.)



Boy B sees that his thick book has Boggs for \$25 and Mattingly for \$30. No way. He sticks with Mattingly.

And speaking of Boggs and Mattingly, do you notice that baseball card players are only called by their last name when it comes to trading?

Remember that dialogue about the two young boys who live in the '80s and trade cards for money? Mantle for Bench and Rose? It sounds to me like they are trading home furnishings.

In any case, kids today are realizing that they might be more well-off than some of their parents. Imagine if dad, who works for a large investment firm finds out that his 10-year-old makes more than he does. Talk about the humiliation.

Dad thinks that insider trading is the only way to make money and rip people off. Shoot, his son makes deals with other

neighborhood kids, telling them that a (Wilbur) Wood is worth more than a rookie Brett. (Opps, I meant George Brett). The boy convinces the now scammed neighborhood kids that an older card is worth more than a rookie card. Actually, the 10 year-old has done two things: (1) A 1975 George Brett card is really more than a 1974 Wood card and most importantly, he makes \$50.00 in less than ten seconds.

Throughout this scenario, kids have been the prime focus, of trading baseball cards, but now more adults and females are getting back into the hobby, according to Dan Albaugh, the Price Guide Editor for "Sports Collectors Digest."

"There is more interest for girls because they are playing more sports," said Albaugh.

The history of baseball cards dates back to 1887 when Goodwin and Co., makers of Tobacco and

Cigarettes, didn't just produce baseball cards—they made cards of actors and various other personalities. Other tobacco card makers followed suit—until 1951. That was the year that Topps issued its' first set of cards

Until the late 1970s baseball card collecting was just a hobby for most people. But around the year 1979, the craze of baseball card collecting began. Besides setting off a demand for buyers, it set off a market for publications to produce magazines about the hobby. One of the leading magazines now, SPORTS COLLECTORS DIGEST, was actually established to bring collectors together. About eight years later, a company, based in Iowa Wisconsin, realized a demand for prices and bought it out. Albaugh explains the circumstances leading up to the buyout: "We call it the bible. It's a weekly publication known as SPORTS COLLECTORS DIGEST. It was started by a man in 1973. The idea was to try to get collectors together. It started out with 100 subscribers and it went to 6,000. We purchased SPORTS COLLECTORS DIGEST in 1981. We have about 50,000 subscribers. And now it is on national newstands, next to TIME, FIELD AND STREAM, and PLAYBOY."

As for the future for baseball card collecting, Albaugh foresees a stable one. "I think somewhere down the road, I see a plateau. But I don't think there will be a crash."

Women Look To Canada To Approach 49-9 Record

by Michael McMurrin
reporter

Last year's UM-St. Louis Women's Volleyball team set a school record for victories with 49. Last season, the Riverwomen established themselves as a legitimate conference power with a record of 49-9 and six tournament titles.

This year, however, Head Coach Denise Silvester admits that her club will not win 49 matches. But for a good reason. "There is no way we'll win that many matches this year," says Silvester. "We've put together a tough enough schedule that if we're successful, then we should be considered for an NCAA bid. What we do on the floor will be the key."

On the floor, the team will be without three all-conference performers from last season. Gone are Sharon Morlock, first team All-Region; Chris DeHass, second team All-MIAA; and Julie Munich, honorable mention, All-MIAA. What has Coach Silvester done to replace the loss of three All-Conference players? The answer: Stephanies.

Stephanie Jensen, from Aurora, Illinois, and Stephanie Hahn, a native of Nelson, British Columbia, both will be counted on to make big contributions in their freshman season. "Both of them are impact players," says Silvester. "Jensen is a solid, all-around player. She is very disciplined. I think both of

these girls will be in our starting six."

Hahn has a great deal of amateur experience to her credit. She has played on the British Columbia provincial team the past four years and led the team to a silver medal at the national championships last summer.

Jensen was a unanimous all-conference pick her senior year at West Aurora High School. She led her high school team to the sectional championships her senior year.

The Riverwomen will return nine players from last year's record-setting squad, including three starters. Sophomore Carla Addoh, a second team all-conference selection last season, sophomore Geri Wilson, honorable mention all-conference, and junior Karen Daehn, honorable mention all-conference, will be joined by seniors Jaquetta Bonney, Jean Daehn, Maureen Herdler, juniors Julie Boedefel, Renee Reimer, and sophomore Wendy Poropat. Freshman Cynthia Hall from Loami, Illinois, will round out the 1988 Riverwomen Volleyball squad.

Six NCAA Division II Tournament participants from a year ago, plus a Division III quarterfinalist will challenge the Riverwomen during the first half of the season. "I think that our first two years we've been successful, so now the top level teams will play us," says Silvester.

Funding Rift Should End

"We cannot reallocate our way to excellence," Chancellor Marguerite Barnett said in a recent interview. "We must have more outside funding from both private and public sources."

"We want to form what we call an Urban Coalition with UMKC to bring a bigger share of the money to our campuses," said Jerry Berhorst, President of the Student Government.

State Representative Laurie Donovan called UM-St. Louis the "poor step-sister" of the University System at a recent coffee series at the home of one of our professors.

Strong words, those, from people who care about the quality of education this campus provides, but who also know about the disparity of funds between the four campuses of the University of Missouri.

The Columbia campus, the largest and oldest of the four campuses, consistently receives larger portions of the university's general budget than the other campuses. With a student body about twice the size of UM-St. Louis', the Columbia library has five times as many periodicals as this campus, for example. UM-St. Louis' Thomas Jefferson Library is coping with ways to keep periodicals from being reduced.

Most commentators on the budget disparity say that state legislators and even members of the Board of Curators play favorites with the Columbia campus. Not that UMC is not a fine university or anything, but what gives?

UM-St. Louis, as well as UMKC, the two urban campuses, are viewed as competitors against the rural campuses of Rolla and Columbia. Our campus doesn't have dormitories, the wisdom goes, because Rolla and Columbia don't want us to "steal" students away from them.

The number of programs offered at UM-St. Louis is far fewer than that of the Columbia campus. Part of that is due to the relative youth of UM-St. Louis, now entering into its 25th year. But if allocations are not made to allow this campus to expand, then the number of course offerings are going to remain limited.

Chancellor Barnett is committed to building a better university. She says faculty deserve higher salaries. She's proved that she can effectively raise money from private sources, as is demonstrated by her Partnerships for Progress program's success in raising money for a library expansion, a new science center and, most recently, a math and computing center.

Yet, without the full support of the Board of Curators and the state General Assembly, the UM-St. Louis campus will remain the "step-sister" campus. That situation must change.

A New Beginning

Summer, as if by design, seemed to flow into autumn just a day or two before the semester began. While another heat wave is bound to return before the long descent into winter, the timely reprieve from 100 degree temperatures is a welcome sign for all returning students, faculty and staff.

A stroll across campus during the first few days of classes is a delightful adventure in the vitality of life. Youth, sporting healthy tans and an summery attire, mill about the common grounds renewing old acquaintances and establishing new ones. The walkways between buildings throng with students, bookbags slung across their shoulders as they venture into the unknown of new courses, and for many, a new environment altogether — the university.

The nervous freshman approaches an upperclassman to ask what the strange code on his class schedule means. "BH," the freshman is informed, is cryptography for Benton Hall, one of the three sciences buildings. With a few words to direct the newcomer to the appropriate building, the student is on his way into the brightly-colored confusion of the awakening campus.

Bumper to bumper traffic crowds the perennially inadequate parking lots. The frustrated drivers seem to drive for hours just to find parking spaces, only to discover that they've parked in a restricted area and are greeted with pink traffic tickets on their return from classes.

Parking on the grass, normally restricted, is now being officiated by campus police officers, while the grass that the groundkeepers have struggled to keep alive throughout the summer drought is beaten into the soil.

Across campus, crowds seem to be unavoidable. In the bookstore, students swell the narrow corridors in the back where textbooks are shelved. Lines at the cashier's counters snake their way through more crowds selecting notebooks and datebooks and pencils and pens.

More crowds in The Underground, where students and faculty congregate, socialize and eat their lunches.

For the late-starting student, Woods Hall and the offices of Financial Aid and Student Loans are spots to find yet more thronging masses of students rushing to get those financial aid dollars to make their educations possible. And lines at registration, lines at the cashier's windows.

Where do they all go when the semester is underway? To the libraries, to the study rooms and lounges, to classes — and then home to more studying, to jobs, to families.

Welcome to a new semester at UM-St. Louis.



Turning 30, Or Looking Death In The Face

In Focus

by Jamie Dodson
news editor

My birthday was August 12. That's not unusual. It happens every year, whether I like it or not.

But this time it was a little different. This time, I hit the Big Three-0. You know, 30 years old.

Turning 30 is an important milestone in one's life. Like turning 16, when you can apply for your driver's license to kill. Or turning 21, when you don't have to hide the booze anymore. And when you turn 25, your car insurance rates go down, so you can afford to use the license you got when you were 16.

Each of these milestones is enabling. You are in some way better off than you were before.

Then comes 30. Suddenly, I am forced to confront the fact that I am no longer young, that my youth has quietly slipped away into the past, gone forever. Instead of a door opening in front of me, I hear a heavy one slam shut behind. Once, all things seemed possible. Now, I can hear the clock ticking louder and shudder to think that I have but 40 years to live.

You can't ignore it, no matter how hard you try. Relatives no longer ask you what you want to do with your life. Now they just whisper about you to each other and shake their heads. The only reason people ask you over on Saturday night is to baby-sit for them while they're out carousing with their married friends.

Even your body lets you know that age is taking its toll. Jogging hurts more than it used to. The waistline creeps steadily outward. And you fall asleep watching the 10 o'clock news.

Thirty should be a time of reflection, of gaining new insights and different perspectives upon the greater issues of life. Such as, What is the meaning of life? Why am I here? And, Why do socks always disappear in the laundry?

Well, don't ask me. I don't know.

But having lived for over three decades and having a degree from the School of Hard Knocks, I do feel qualified to share a few thoughts, for what they are worth.

First, recall that Epicurus said that "One should not be concerned with death, for death has nothing to do with the living, and the dead do not exist." He was only partially right. Death has everything to do with the living, as it is indeed the most fundamental issue of life.

Let's face it. You will die. Maybe not today. Or tomorrow. But you will die. Some people have little difficulty with the idea of dying. For others, it can be a gnawing, paralyzing terror which cripples their ability to fully live the life they still have left.

Many strategies have been devised to deal with our natural apprehension towards death.

- Among these are:
- laughing about it.
 - embracing it.
 - denying it.
 - rationalizing.
 - religion.
 - drugs.
 - having children.
 - suicide.
 - acceptance.

However you do it, sooner or later you will have to come to terms with the realization of your death. Until then you will never be truly alive.

Second, take time to stop and smell the flowers. It is much too easy to run yourself into the ground trying not to fall behind in the 20th-century rat race. With planes to catch and bills to pay, there never seems to be enough time for things which really matter. Like teaching your dog new tricks or throwing a Frisbee in the park.

Take the time you need. All of it. Unless you really want ulcers. Or a heart attack.

Finally, fight for freedom. Your freedom. As hard as you have to. Because it's your life. You don't belong to her or him or them or it. You belong to you. Don't let anyone tell you what to do or not to do. Question authority. Think for yourself. Freedom is the most important thing of all. Use it, don't lose it. Declare your independence!

Jackson As President Would Build Up Trust

Golf Tips

by John Kilgore
special projects editor

Let me tell you why I'm sorry that Jesse Jackson will not be elected president or vice-president this year. Not that I can make much sense out of his (or anyone else's) foreign policy. Or the fact that I think his (or anyone else's) domestic policy will be, in and of itself, efficient and effective. No, the reason I support Jesse Jackson is the same reason that others have supported Ronald Reagan: symbolism.

This is a country, a world really, that responds to icons. Think of it: George Washington (honesty), Abraham Lincoln (wisdom), Franklin Roosevelt (compassion.) These are the men we look to with pride. These are the men we teach our children about. These men have come to symbolize this country and what's good about it.

Jesse Jackson isn't a hero to everyone. Some people fear him, just as some people feared Ronald "blow Vietnam back to the stone age" Reagan. But we lived through Reagan and, likewise, we can live through Jackson. Our country is bigger and stronger than both these men. The checks and balances within the system effectively prevent either the "radical left" or the "radical right" from sinking the ship of state.

America, "land of the free, home of the brave," is a good and positive force in the world only in direct proportion to its people's commitment to the idealism upon which it was

founded. Today, "in order to form a more perfect union," Americans must continue to "dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another." That is, we must not be afraid to step into the future. We have nothing to lose but our chains and our fear.

Jesse Jackson is a hero to many people. He gives hope to the hopeless. He represents something real, something of value to people. He has the ability to inspire. Let's move in the direction he inspires us.

What I am afraid of, what I fear, is not the Russians, is not the Sandinistas, is not the Ayatollah, but ourselves.

Our streets are filled with crime. Last year, blacks accounted for 47% of the arrests for violent crime. Almost 38% of the murders in this country last year were committed by black men. Why are all these young black men committing crime? It's because they have no hope, no values.

Will a black man sitting in the oval office put an end to this crime? Certainly not. But a black man, like Jesse Jackson, when we can learn to trust him, can do a great deal to instill hope and values into poor young black men everywhere.

If we can learn to trust Jesse Jackson, I believe that others can learn to trust us. Young black men may become a little more inspired. Inspired in small ways. To pick up a book instead of a gun. To face their problems in a country where anything is possible instead of turning to drugs in a country where the future, for them, is limited.

The American dream today, still, is white. It will always be white until there is a black man in the White House.

Who Are 'They' Anyway?



Big Deal

by Kevin Kleine
managing editor

Everything seemed normal while I was driving to campus for the first day of class. Normal for a mass migration anyway.

When I topped the hill on Mark Twain drive I ran into a sea of cars. I thought I heard the faint sound of mooing over the engine noise as we waited in line like cattle.

The eternal wisdom of the UM-St. Louis administration has struck again. Sometimes I wonder if someone sits in Woods Hall and dreams up ways to improve revenue. They probably came up with the idea to sell more parking stickers; however they failed to take into consideration the number of spaces. It must have taken a financial wizard to figure out that they can weasel all kinds of money out of the that bottomless barrel of cash: the students. The campus police said there were about 300 illegally parked cars at 9:30 am. They always said get here early.

Just who is "they" anyway? Is it some secret organization of bureaucrats that are out to send us on paper chases and ruin our system from within? Should that organization be capitalized when written?

When people find themselves in the wrong class the typical response is, "They told me I could take this class." See what I mean? Maybe this parking mess is not some administrator's fault. It could be the work of They.

In fact, the government should investigate They. Oliver North didn't send arms to Iran, They did it. It was probably They that dug up Senator Dan Quayle's past in the National Guard. I really don't care if the man was a weasel when he was 22 years old or not. People change; for better or worse.

The Democrats act like Quayle committed a mortal sin or something. We all know that all Democrats are honest and would never do anything wrong, right Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Wright? Everyone is making a big deal out of nothing with Quayle's service record. What the press needs to start focusing on is the voting records and issue stands of all the candidates instead of nitpicking.

That's enough of my bitching for this week. For those of you who are reading my column for the first time, what I try to do is make sense out of craziness and relate them to campus issues. So remember, whenever something seems weird on campus it could be the work of They.

LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETT

A Little Older, A Little Wiser, But Eager To Grow

To the editor:

I barely graduated from high school in 1976. Instead of concerns toward academic performance, I was looking forward to weekend partying. My statement through high school was one of escape or to bamboozle authority figures and to just live for the night time.

Recently, I took my SCAT for admission to UM-St. Louis and thoughts of my past flashed through my mind as I observed young adults come five and ten minutes late for their test. As I observed pretty feminine legs reminiscent of earlier days (not that I don't appreciate them now, but on a dif-

ferent level) I was aware of a shift in my priorities.

On subtle levels there is no change. On other levels, a world of difference. I now often enjoy novice books on astronomy or physics. I have a passion to understand how the world around me works and doesn't work. Without a solid foundation, understanding comes more difficult.

Within the intervening time, I have had 12 years of terrific experiences; from travelling across the country selling cookware to cruising the Caribbean and skin diving. And from sky diving to closing several million dollars worth of

transactions in the real estate brokerage business. There were also times I had to leave a city for I didn't have enough money to pay the electric bill.

The last four years I've been a REALTOR associate and have found the business world competitive and often combative. I've made a very personal decision, giving up what I think are society's expectations of a success and my own propensity for financial independence by moving from expectations to what I really want: learning and expanding myself.

I now have a foundation of the business world, spirituality and ex-

periences that many people won't get in 80 years. But one can take only one's own inventory. I'm looking at my climb towards a degree in Biology not just as a next step or an adventure but as a natural event to get me more of what I want. That goal should also serve others later.

I graduated in the bottom 10 percent of my high school class (at Parkway Central) and I'm sure there are a lot more students with superior Algebra skills and writing techniques than I but how many can say, just out of high school, this is what they want most in their lives?

Steve Weber

CURRENT

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LETTERS POLICY

The Current welcomes letters to the editor. The writer's student number and phone number must accompany all letters. Non-students must also include their phone numbers. Letters should be no longer than two typed, double-spaced pages. No unsigned letters.

will be published, but the author's name can be withheld upon request.

The Current reserves the right to edit all letters for space and newspaper style considerations. The Current reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.

The Current needs to fill several staff positions

Call Paul Or Kevin at 553-5174

Bi-State Information Days



Wednesday, September 7 & Thursday, September 8

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Steve L. We still need to have our tennis match. I'll let you pick the time and place. Do you have enough (tennis) balls? Prepare to be humiliated. Cyrano.

To the elder not so Spanish sister: Don't let the paper steal your time and grades. We can handle it with a little difficulty without you. Looking forward to James Taylor. Cyrano.

Jeanne Beanne Keanne Lianne Meanne Neanne Oeanne Peanne Queanne Teanne Veanne Weanne Zeanne: Hil Can't wait till Friday! D.S.

Hey Loril How was your Summer? Laura told me you guys are in Stats. together. Good luck. Diana.

Ingrid, Let's do lunch! Call me. Diana P.S. Have you seen T.H.?



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The Mental Health Association is interviewing volunteers for its COMPEER program - a unique program that matches community volunteers with mental health patients in a one-to-one friendship relationship. Ideal for

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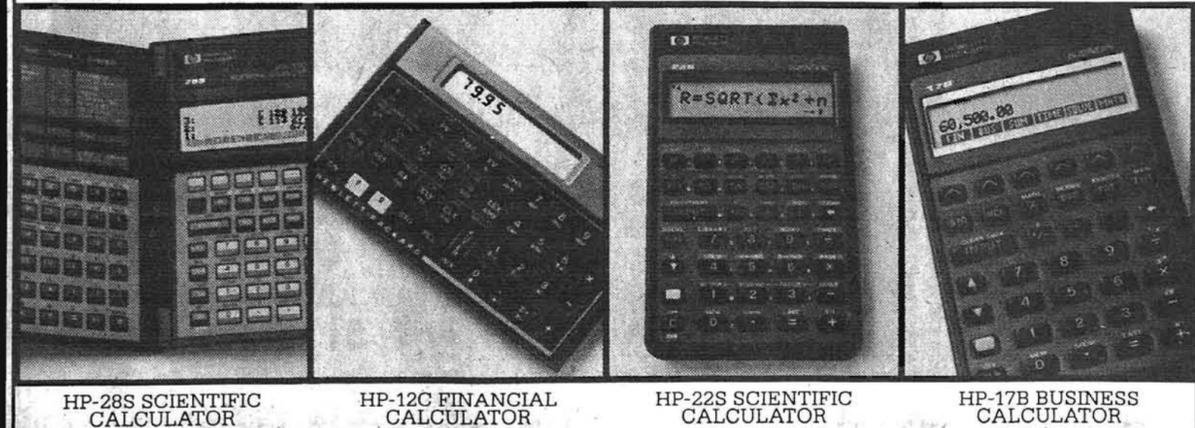
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Law Keeps Dioxin On Campus

by Barbara James
reporter

The dioxin that has been on campus since 1981 still remains in the General Services Building.

According to Mr. M. Thomas Jones, deputy to the chancellor and professor of chemistry, and Ms. Gwen Moore of Administrative Services, it is required by law to remain on campus until a way to remove and destroy it can be found.

"The thing we want to emphasize is that we're not keeping it on campus because we want to," said Professor Jones, "but federal and state laws prevent us from moving it until there are accepted procedures and organizations that can destroy it. We have no intention of violating the laws."

Dioxin is a material that has been known to cause cancer in laboratory animals. So the question becomes whether or not the University has

been storing the dioxin safely. A number of reviews have been done and every one of them has come back that the procedures on how and where the material is stored is in proper accordance with the laws.

So the University is at a standstill as to what they can do about the removal of the dioxin, but assures that all proper procedures are being done and that no one on campus is in danger from it.

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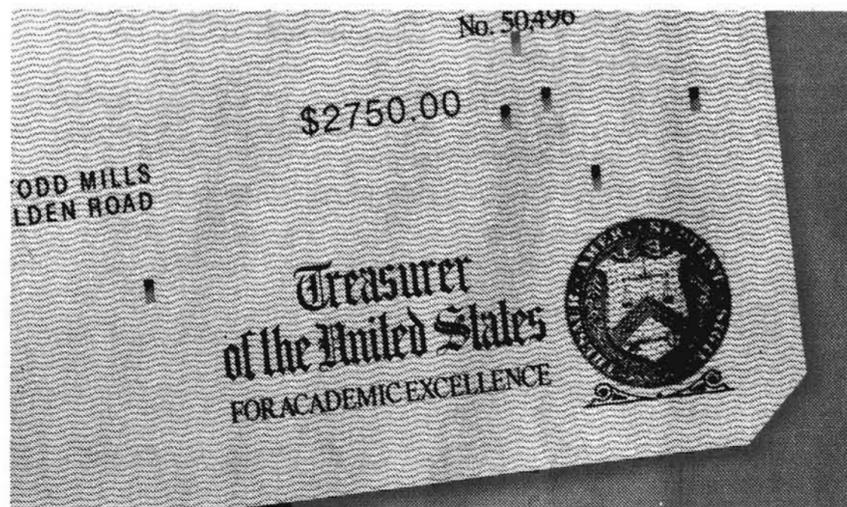
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For More Information Contact:

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