

The CURRENT

Issue 809

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

November 28, 1994



Thanks for giving

For 20 years, Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity and the Bel-Ridge City Hall and Police Department have sponsored a Thanksgiving dinner for senior citizens.

EDITORIAL

Ever wish you had a break in the middle week? Clint Zweifel takes a look at the possibility of a stop hour on campus.

FEATURES

Success came at an early age for Q104 DJ and former UM-St. Louis student Rikk Idol, who says he's only in the first stage of his career.

SPORTS

Former St. Louis University basketball player Eric Bickel bring his game to UM-St. Louis.



Photo: Jeremy Rutherford

WHO'S GOT THE FLOOR?: Frank Meyer (left), a member of Sigma Pi fraternity, disputes a claim from Tonya Hutchinson (right), a member Gay and Lesbian Students for Change, during a protest Tuesday. About 50 people attended the event, which lasted one hour.

Protest triggers word exchange

by Jeremy Rutherford
news editor

More controversy was added to the "Sexy Legs II" case Wednesday when Gay and Lesbian Students for Change protested in front of the University Center Building.

The organization is upset with "sexism promoted by the University," but more specifically a sign displayed on campus by the Sigma Pi fraternity.

The sign depicted two females bending over the words "Sexy Legs II," promoting the fraternity's party in October. Tonya Hutchinson, a member of Gay and Lesbian Students for Change, filed a grievance with the Student Court, citing the Sigma Pi's alleged lack of concern for other students.

"If that sign offended one person, it shouldn't be here," said Hutchinson, who was one of about 10 protestors. "The sign promotes the atmosphere of hatred against women."

The grievance was filed Sept. 7 in the Office of Student Affairs. Karl

'If that sign offended one person, it shouldn't be here.'

—Tonya Hutchinson, member of Gay and Lesbian Students for Change

Beeler, assistant vice chancellor of Student Affairs, asked the fraternity to remove the sign and any flyers promoting the party from campus, and to forward a letter of apology to the Women's Center. The fraternity complied with Beeler's request.

Tom O'Keefe, a member and spokesperson of the fraternity, said that should have been Sigma Pi's only punishment.

"The University has the option of charging the fraternity with a formal or informal disposition," O'Keefe said in issue 801 of *The Current*. "They chose to offer us an informal disposition and we accepted."

O'Keefe said Friday, "Now I find

out that rule only pertains to individuals charged with misconduct. The policy does not say anything about organizations involved in misconduct on campus."

On Sept. 1, 1992, former SGA president Mike Thomlinson signed the UM-system Student Bill of Rights, along with SGA presidents of the other three schools in the UM-system (Kansas City, Rolla, Columbia).

"In there, it states that SGA waives its rights, and we are to be tried by due process of law under the constitution of the United States," O'Keefe said.

The Student Court, which was to hear the case Sept. 27, postponed the hearing two weeks because O'Keefe

said the fraternity was not ready. O'Keefe said in issue 801 that his fraternity was prepared, but the Court failed to give him proper notice of the court date.

The hearing was postponed a second time when SGA noted that the Court did not have five approved justices to rule on the case. Chief Justice Steve Bartok was the lone appointed judge.

SGA President Chris Jones and Vice President Kel Ward then interviewed five students for the vacant positions. But when Jones and Ward presented the five names to the assembly, it did not approve, citing not enough information on the candidates was available.

The candidates have to be approved by the assembly and its next meeting wasn't until Nov. 4, forcing a third postponement in the case. At the meeting, Jones and Ward presented the Assembly with biographies of the candidates, and they were approved.

see Protest, page 4

Problems continue to surface for SABC

by Matthew J. Forsythe
editor-in-chief

Controversy still thrives around the yet-to-be-approved Student Activities Budget Committee (SABC) and the Student Government Association's (SGA) Homecoming bar tab.

The new SABC members, who have already been approved by the SGA Assembly, are still waiting for approval from Lowe "Sandy" MacLean, vice chancellor of student affairs.

Tuesday MacLean opted not to approve the new SABC citing problems with the exofficio status of Chris Jones, SGA president, and Kel Ward, SGA vice president, on the committee.

"I'm not real comfortable with the exofficio status [of Jones and Ward],"

MacLean said. "Making new exofficio members must come through the Senate Student Affairs Committee."

Jones and Ward are also seeking approval of their exofficio status through the SGA assembly via an amendment.

MacLean said he advised Jones to consider changing their status from exofficio to that of voting member. He said this would help clear up the present problem with the number of people required for the committee.

According to Senate Student Affairs policy, there should be 11 members on the committee. The committee should include nine voting members and two alternate voting members.

see SABC, page 4

Long shot

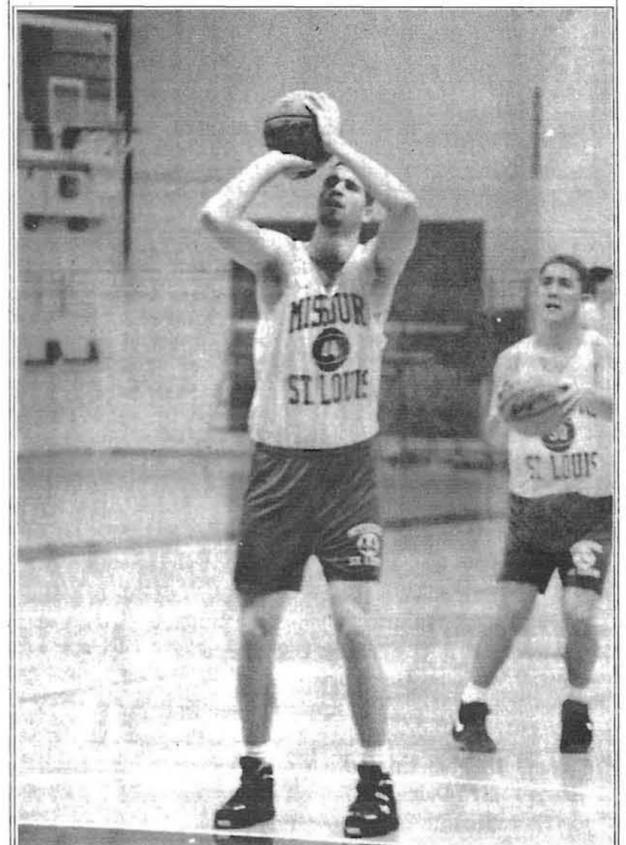


Photo: Ken Dunkin

HO, HO, HO... GREEN GIANT: Eric Bickel was a court force when he attended Rivermen coach Rich Meckfessel's first basketball camp in 1983. Eleven years later, Bickel is back. See story, page 7.

Two-hour stop period receives mixed reviews

by Beth Robinson
associate news editor

Rick Blanton, associate director of University Center, wants to implement a two hour stop period on a trial basis at the UM-St. Louis campus.

During this period, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., no classes would be offered. The purpose of the stop period is to give students more time to become involved in on-campus activities and to

build a sense of community. It is also an incentive for more student participation in intramural activities.

On a primarily commuter campus, building a sense of community requires a creative approach.

"A stop hour on one or more days per week would help build a sense of community at UM-St. Louis by creating times during the week for [various] activities," Blanton said.

see Stop, page 4

Election analysis proves positive for 42

by Jeremy Rutherford
news editor

The commercials are long gone and the polls are closed, but the conversation continues.

The UM-St. Louis Political Science Department invited two reporters from the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch's* Washington Bureau to give their post election analysis.

Charlotte Grimes and Bill Lambrecht, of *The Post*, spoke to a crowd of 42 students, faculty and administrators Tuesday in the Social Science Building.

Lance LeLoup, director of The Center for Metropolitan Studies, conducted the two-hour session, which provided a question and answer period.

Lambrecht started the series of four speakers which included LeLoup and David Robertson, associate professor of Political Science.

Lambrecht said the voters wanted to take power and they did.

"My view was not so much the change, but that the people felt a need for change," Lambrecht said. "They wanted to take things into their own

College Republicans discuss demise of Democrats, Hancock II



Photo: Jeremy Rutherford

I HEAR YOU: (from left) Charlotte Grimes and Bill Lambrecht from the Washington Bureau of The St. Louis Post-Dispatch both address a question posed by Alva Smith (right), a UM-St. Louis graduate student.

hands. I don't think these sentiments are over; I think we'll see more of it in

1996."

LeLoup agreed with Lambrecht,

but went further by saying he had never witnessed such a swarm of votes for change.

"The voters always talk about change, this time something really happened," LeLoup said. "This is a blow to the Clinton presidency. It reflects the voters' disinterest with Democrats in Washington."

"In years of political science, I haven't seen anything like this before," he said. "I think it's monumental, but I also think it's important not to go too far in our conclusions."

Robertson said the Republicans now hold eight governor seats in the 10 largest states. This he said proves the new popularity of the Republican party.

Robertson interested the audience with two of his three scenarios the November election results may produce.

"Candidates exist for a new political party," Robertson said. "There are issues for a new party, and there are candidates. That scenario fails, though, because a real third party has to be a grass-roots movement."

see Post, page 4



Lance LeLoup

Correction

Due to a printer error, William Darby's photograph in issue 808 of *The Current* was identified as Lance LeLoup. Please note the correction.

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HOLIDAY FEST '94, a community building activity sponsored by U Center, will be celebrated Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 1994. Activities include placing organizations ornaments on the community tree Wed., Nov. 30th, between 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. which coincides with the Holiday Reception hosted by UM-St. Louis Student Leaders. Organizations donating food baskets may place them around the tree anytime Tuesday, Nov. 29 thru Friday, Dec. 2.

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Holidays give campus chance to lend helping hand

by Matthew J. Forsythe
editor-in-chief

The campus community is getting in gear for the holidays in a number of ways.

Many groups on campus are getting together to give of their time and of their money to fill this holidays season not only with good cheer, but with good, and charitable acts.

Probably one of the biggest of these events on campus is the Holiday Fest. This event is organized by Student Activities and makes a special effort each year to collect food for the needy. It does this by encouraging other administrative offices and student groups on campus to give gifts of food and money.

Marsha Miller, an administrative secretary for Student Activities, said the event has been very successful in past years.

"Last year we collected 116 baskets of canned goods and \$295 for people in need," Miller said.

The giving is not just restricted to University offices and student groups.

"Sometimes the students bring in their own baskets," said Dianna Thornton, Administrative Associate for Student Activities who helps out with Holiday Fest each year.

Each year the donated baskets of food are bundled up and placed around a decorated tree in University Center as part of the Holiday Fest. Students are served eggnog and cookies by representatives of different student and campus organizations. At the end of the day the food is picked up and distributed by North Side Team Ministries.

"[Holiday Fest] makes the whole University come together as a community to help these people in need," Miller said.

Helping people in need was also the theme at the 20th pre-Thanksgiving dinner given by Sigma Tau Gamma, Bel-Ridge City Hall and Alpha Xi Delta.

The event given for needy residents of Bel-Ridge takes place the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. The dinner takes place in the Bel-Ridge Community Center and afterward 40 meals were delivered to those shut-in their homes.

Marty Shutte, the president of Sigma Tau Gamma, explained what reward was earned by those involved in the project.

"You get a good feeling because you helped these people," Shutte said. "It is a personal feeling you get from making their day. When we deliver to the shut-ins it is even more special. By feeding and talking to them it is more personal, you get to meet the people."

The special feeling seems to have infected others even the people at *The Current*.

The Current with some help from the Athletic Department is ready to stage a charity basketball game this Tuesday night. All donations and gate receipts till 7 p.m. will go to benefit the Diabetes Association. Tickets are \$3 and that price will also get you in to see the Rivermen's first home game of the season.

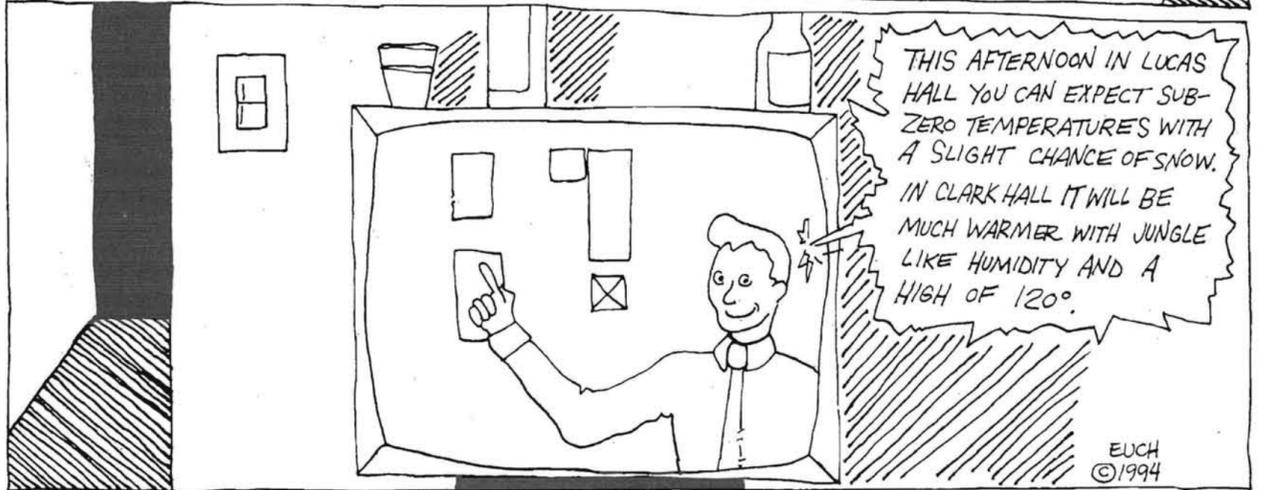
Coach Rick Meckfessel, who also happens to be our athletic director, said the athletic department likes to take on projects that can help others.

So when Pete Dicrispino, our own sports editor pitched the idea to Meckfessel he was very receptive.

"We thought it was a good idea," Meckfessel said. "We had to be careful with some NCAA rules involving active players, but we were able to work things out."

It is nice to do things like this to help people out."

Helping people out is really the crowning achievement in all of these events. It is good to see that a campus community composed of individuals who sometimes don't have time to properly take care of themselves still care enough to help others at this time of year.



Stop hour: a window of opportunity for students

by Clint Zweifel
managing editor

Scheduling conflicts and time constraints are primary opposition points when student leaders fight student apathy on urban commuter campuses.

For a campus like UM-St. Louis to have a pro-active student body, the student government needs to develop policies that combat students' time and scheduling problems.

A "stop hour" could provide a window of opportunity for students who usually get left out in the cold when it comes to participation in extracurricular activities. Once a week, on a scheduled day, for a couple of hours



classes would not be held, giving students a chance to participate in non-academic campus activities. It would give students something other than a usual day of zipping through classes and then darting home as fast as possible. This would at least provide for greater student involvement.

A stop hour could do wonders for a Student Government Association (SGA) that has little student support.

Currently, SGA meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. Unfortunately, the only students who hear about the meetings are those who are already attending them with regularity.

It is nearly impossible to publicize these meetings to students who are not directly involved in a student organization. A stop hour could eliminate this problem. Once a month, students could be mailed a list of events that would be take place during the open time, giving them knowledge of the campus life and a time to participate in it when they are freed from the burden of classes. During the stop hour, SGA meetings, Senate meetings and a collage of other non-

academic activities could be held.

Currently SGA struggles with little progress in accomplishing the goal of student involvement. They talk to the same students, expressing problems of student apathy. Student leaders forget, though, they are not talking to the right people. Leaders need to talk to those who are not involved. Continually telling involved students about student apathy does little good.

SGA needs to focus upon a game plan that allows organizations to make contact with students who are not involved and give them a chance to say no to student apathy.

Students deserve a choice. A stop hour would make that provision.

Letter to the editor policy

The *Current* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be kept brief. The use of any material is at the editor's discretion.

Editing may be necessary for space and clarity. Ideas will not be altered, but the editor will avoid obscenity, libel and invasions of privacy.

Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinion of *The Current*. For purposes of verification, all letters must bear the writer's handwritten signature, address, student identification number and home or work telephone number. If requested, all efforts will be made to maintain the writer's anonymity.

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Voice of the people...

SGA fiasco sensationalized, tinted with yellow journalism

Dear Editor,

I am writing in regards to the recent barrage of column inches that have been focused on the Student Government Association (SGA) officers who are "throwing ethics into the waste basket at students' expense."

It seems to me that someone who can actually form a cohesive argument should shed some light on the current problems on campus.

First, I would like to address the issue at the heart of the conflict. It would seem that the president of SGA, Christopher Jones, and the vice president, Kel Ward, made an executive decision to extend the deadline for the

appointment of Student Activities Budget Committee (SABC) members for five days. From what I gather from the SGA representatives that I have spoken about the "fiasco," it seems that as of the last meeting of that organization, there were not a whole hell of a lot of applications available. In fact, most of the members of the SABC were from a fraternity on campus. (*Editors note: Two members of SABC are Greek organization members.*) I have nothing against any group on campus, however, and it seems logical that having a large majority of members from any one organization in the SABC process would be, simply put, a conflict of interest. This is my philosophy on the issue, whether the persons involved would be from my organization, from

University Program Board or from the Accounting Club.

But, that not withstanding, we are chastising the officers of SGA for extending the deadline for submissions for five days. They postponed deadlines for five days, and we punish them as if they traded arms for hostages. Anyone who has been involved in a campus activity knows that the nature of students is to do things at the last minute, not because we are lazy, but because we, on a commuter campus, are very busy people.

I, as director of this year's College Bowl Competition, extended the deadline for team application up until the morning of the event in hopes of getting more campus involvement and no one wrote an editorial about my

incompetence. To postpone a deadline for five days is nothing. I, for one, applaud the executives for recognizing their limitations by making the extension and for their insight in attempting to provide the campus community with a more diverse group for the SABC.

To use *The Current* as a vehicle for personal retribution, because someone didn't get picked by the team he wanted to be on is unprofessional and "juvenile". And to run an editorial that is possibly the most slanderous since last year's attacks on the Dean of the Honors College, and then not even put a name to it, reeks with the same stench of unprofessionalism.

Thompson Knox
Editor, Brain Stew

The CURRENT

The student voice
of UM-St. Louis

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Financial Aid Office needs more workers, more efficiency

Dear Editor:

I am extremely angry with the Financial Aid Department, and so are many of my fellow students. We are unhappy with the amount of time that it takes to receive aid of any kind.

The department has been telling students that the wait for financial aid is six to eight weeks. This amount of time is just for processing of aid forms. After the forms have been entered into the financial aid computer, it is an additional two to three weeks before a bank will send out a promissory note. The wait for loan processing has never been this long before. I guess the question to ask is: "What happened?"

After constant prying, I found out that the Financial Aid Office is composed of nine advisors. These nine, full-time advisors are responsible for meeting the financial aid needs of nearly

6,000 people. It is no wonder students are having to wait. Figuratively speaking, when there are only nine lines for 6,000 people to wait in, the lines can get pretty damn long. My form has been waiting in line for seven weeks. When I call to inquire, I am told my paperwork is always right on someone's desk.

I guess you could say that I am angry, but I am not angry with the nine advisors who are undoubtedly overworked. I am frustrated that there are only nine people.

Most people know that UM-St. Louis has been under a hiring freeze due to the perceived repercussions of Hancock II. This proposition did not pass, so the administration can rest easy.

I write this letter in an effort to persuade the powers-that-be to do something to make this necessary ser-

vice more efficient. After all, if student enrollment goes down because financial aid is inaccessible, then the campus will not need new side walks or new student centers.

Thank you,
Deana Autry

Correction

In issue 808, *The Current* mistakenly said Adell Patton was the first tenured African American professor at UM-St. Louis. Patton is actually the first tenured African American history professor at the University. Also, Patton's first name was misspelled Ardell.

Protest from page 1

Hutchinson said Wednesday she was notified of the new court date on Tuesday.

"I received a letter on (Tuesday), saying the court date is (today) at 2:30 p.m. in Room 75 of the J.C. Penney Building," Hutchinson said.

Sigma Pi, which was represented at the protest by about 15 members, is unaware of a court date.

"That's the first I've heard (of a court date)," O'Keefe said. "I have been in the SGA office three times this week, and there was no one in there all three times."

MacLean said Wednesday that some students are unclear of the defini-

tion of freedom of speech.

"What happened today, as offensive as it is, freedom of speech is involved," MacLean said. "Both sides were presented, and no one's rights were abused. But people won't agree to that."

Hutchinson was upset with MacLean's stance on the situation.

"The administration comes out here and does nothing about what is happening," Hutchinson said. "(MacLean) was smiling when I was trying to get my point across."

"I don't want to continue putting my money into a campus that promotes the objectification of women."



HEADS UP: Sigma Pi fraternity members listen at the protest Tuesday.

Post from page 1

"Looming on the horizon is a recession in 1995," said Robertson, who thought this was also unlikely. "This would make the government look even worse."

Lambrech was impressed with 39 percent voter turnout, a 2-percent increase from last year.

"Basically, people were interested in the election around the country because they had a stake in it," Lambrecht said. "Student voter turnout increased in an effort to get back state-funded student loans. I had to borrow lots of money when I attended school. It seems students want to stay on Congress about that."

Lambrech said student voters played a significant role in the 1992 elections.

"From most indications, young people will vote the same way when they're older as they do now," he said. "It is unlikely they will sway either way through the years. They'll just get smarter and wiser."

In an effort to become smarter and wiser, the College Republicans met Tuesday night at LeLoup's residence for its November meeting.

The theme of the night was "The 1994 Elections and the Demise of the Democrats: An Autopsy." LeLoup and Paul DeGregorio, former director of elections for St. Louis County, were the featured speakers.

Eric Barnhart, president of the College Republicans, said DeGregorio noted two findings which were evident in the recent elections.

"He showed examples of how one negative advertisement can make the difference in the election," Barnhart said. "Politics have become a nastier business."

"DeGregorio, who was against Hancock II, also showed how the amendment prevented the Republicans from taking over the Missouri State Legislature," he said. "Traditional democrats came to the polls just to defeat Hancock II. Many candidates who were tied to Hancock II ended up losing the elections."

Barnhart said the 35 or so people in attendance couldn't have left without knowing more about the election results.

"It was a way to wrap up the loose ends of the election," he said.

SABC from page 1

The present SABC is broken down as follows; seven voting members including Comptroller, Beth Titlow, two alternate voting members and Jones and Ward on board as exofficio (non-voting) members.

This still leaves the committee short two voting members.

To correct this error, Jones and Ward can opt to put themselves on as voting members or look at more ap-

plications to find two more voting members.

MacLean said that as far as getting the changes approved he would leave that up to Jones and Ward.

There is at least one student on campus who thinks the new budget committee shouldn't be accepted.

Comptroller Beth Titlow said that she disapproves of the fact that Jones and Ward accepted late SABC applica-

Campus Crime Campus Crime

The following criminal incidents were reported to campus police during the period Nov. 10-18.

Nov. 10

A student reported that between 10 a.m. and 12 noon, unknown persons took a hockey equipment bag, ice skates, and several other pieces of hockey equipment from the bed of his truck.

Nov. 11

A student reported that at 9 a.m.,

she was bitten by another student on the sidewalk outside of Lucas Hall. Arrest Warrants are to be applied for Assault.

Nov. 16

A student reported losing a bookbag on Parking Lot "G" between 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. The bookbag had been left on the ground and forgotten.

A student reported being slapped by an unknown male. Arrest warrants for assault are being applied for.

Stop from page 1

These activities include Senate meetings, SGA meetings, social, recreational, cultural, and educational programming. Other activities that could be held during this time are academic advising, faculty office hours, staff association meetings, student organization meetings, human resource training and new employee orientation.

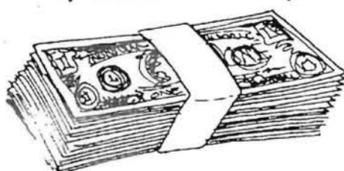
"The most obvious resistance to this program would come from those who believe that students must have classes scheduled back to back, in or-

der to complete their academic day and leave campus for work," said Blanton.

Blanton believes that student part-time employment would not be adversely effected. He said that students who miss developmental aspects that accrue from co-curricular activity involvement will lose a vital part of the collegiate experience. Others on campus might disagree with this approach.

"I think it is a good idea, but I don't think it would work," said Eric Barnhart, president of College Republicans. "It's hard to get people to attend anything."

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Advertisement for Mark Twain Gym featuring a cartoon of a man with a basketball. Text includes: Tuesday, Nov. 29th 5:30 p.m., Watch The Current get SLAMMED, Get a ticket for 1st Rivermen Home Game Benefits The Diabetes Foundation \$3 at the door.

Just a Thought

by Don Barnes
features editor

Count down break down



In a perfect world this would have been one of my easiest weeks as a features editor. Not much space to fill, plenty of stories to choose from, and lots of time to get the work done. Think again, Skippy.

If you're like me, the end of the semester is the toughest part of any season. It's hard to believe that there is less than two weeks of classes left. It seems like only yesterday I was filling out my financial aid paperwork for the second time.

The time is near though, and I hope everyone is doing better than I am.

Here lately, every time I sit down to do my homework this big steel door slams shut across the passage to my brain. I feel the information pass through my goggles, but then it ricochets off that door and bounces around my melon until it loses momentum and fizzles out like a chunk of space debris passing through earth's atmosphere.

So how was your Thanksgiving? I hope everyone's went well. I had a pretty good time. Drank a few beers, teased my cousin (who we found out is going to be a daddy in about six months) until he couldn't take it anymore and left, won about 75 cents playing poker and ate more cherry cheesecake than the law allows.

But it really hasn't been much of a break now has it? After all, who doesn't have a paper due this week? Who didn't have to work the weekend? Who doesn't have an instructor that's trying to cram the rest of the syllabus down their throat before the semester ends? No, it's business as usual for students.

Nonetheless I've found the time this weekend to have a new byline photo taken. My mom kept saying that I looked like a convict and asking me to replace the photo with one I "look nice in."

This from the woman who introduced my brother and me as her "two hippie sons" at my uncle's funeral.

She has a point though. The photo was taken a year ago, on a Friday afternoon, around 6, after a rousing four hours at Blueberry Hill on a payday. Come to think of it, I may have committed a crime or two that afternoon.

Anyway, I hope you like the new photo, mom. And don't worry, whatever I may have done that day I didn't get caught doing. (She just loves to hear that.)

I know it's a short offering this week, but I have homework, too. Good luck over these next few weeks.

Sigma Tau Gamma, Alpha Xi Delta, Bel-Ridge police/city hall provide Thanksgiving for community seniors

by Jack Dudek
of The Current staff

For some 20-plus years, Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity and the Bel-Ridge City Hall and Police department have sponsored a Thanksgiving dinner for senior citizens at the Bel-Ridge community center.

On Nov. 23 these groups once again combined forces, joined this year by the women of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, to celebrate the spirit of the season and provide a dinner for local area senior citizens.

The dinner, which was scheduled to begin around 5 p.m., kicked off a little earlier than expected.

Marty Shutte, president of Sigma Tau Gamma, said, "This event, for many of the senior citizens, is more of a social event than a social service."

The fraternity and sorority provided the labor needed for the event, while the city hall provided monetary support.

The police department was there to insure participants' safety as they crossed Natural Bridge.

An open invitation was extended to neighborhood residents through the Bel-Ridge community bulletin and the St. Thomas Moore church bulletin. RSVP's were handled by phoning the police station.



photo: Jack Dudek

SPIRIT OF THE SEASON: Three of the many community seniors who enjoyed the Thanksgiving dinner.

About 50 people attended the event. For those who RSVP'd but found themselves unable to make it to the dinner, Sigma Tau Gamma took the dinner to them.

"It's always nice to see the looks as you deliver the meal," Jason Kapayou,

co-chairman of the event, said. "To see them smile and hear their thanks is well worth the effort."

About 40 dinners were delivered throughout the event.

Near the end of the evening, Sheila VanOver, an Alpha Xi Delta pledge,

said, "It's very heart warming to hear their thanks and see their bright smiles. We feel it was a great success."

Shutte said he is enthusiastic about having the event next year.

"We're glad to be able to do this," Shutte said. "We'll be back."

Emerson Electric Excellence in Teaching Award presented to UM-St. Louis professor

by Eric Thomas
reporter

Lloyd Richardson, director for the Center for Excellence in Urban Education at UM-St. Louis, received the Emerson Electric Excellence in Teaching Award at the Ritz Carlton Hotel Oct. 30.

This is the sixth year this annual award ceremony has been held to acknowledge exemplary teaching by outstanding educators from the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Richardson graduated from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, La. in 1967. He later earned his Ph.D. in mathematical education from Peabody College at Vanderbilt and has been teaching in the field ever since.

"I'm a numbers man," Richardson said, "even though it can get complicating."

After receiving his Ph.D., Richardson worked on the John F. Kennedy Caragy Education Program.

"The program was organized to instruct educators on how to approach children; how to teach what seems like abstract material to their cognitive minds," Richardson said.

In 1973, Richardson was recruited by the renowned Robert Rea, then an associate professor of Elementary Education in Mathematics at UM-St. Louis, to do research on mathematical readiness in elementary education. This collaboration lasted until 1980, when Rea passed away.

In 1981 Richardson took a sabbatical to work on research for the Peabody Mathematical Reading Test. This research entailed working with first graders using profile tests given to random

samples of children. The main goal was to identify children not ready to learn primary mathematics.

"The key," Richardson said, "was not to label these kids, but rather identify those less apt, provide interven-



Lloyd Richardson

'I feel it's necessary to be familiar with the culture that you're teaching. The most important thing for people is to stay tuned into the world and be conscious of what's happening around them.'

- Lloyd Richardson

tion, and then observe progress. That's the key to the entire education system."

In Louisiana, Richardson set up the curriculum for the School for Residential Gifted and Talented Students. In addition, he aided in modeling the North Carolina School for Math and Science curriculum. Later he moved on to teach algebra II, pre-calculus and pascal to gifted students in Natchitoches, La., home of his alma

mater.

There was a five-part criteria to enter the high school, one of which was obtaining a 600 on the SAT by the tenth grade.

"I was amazed time after time by these students," Richardson said, "and I've kept in touch with a few of them."

One of Richardson's students was astounded to hear that Richardson had seen The Rocky Horror Picture Show.

"I feel it's necessary to be familiar with the culture that your teaching," Richardson said. "Each generation rebels in its own way, establishing a revolution to suit the times. The most important thing for people is to stay tuned into the world and be conscious of what's happening around them."

Richardson has published numerous educational works during his career as a researcher.

One of his favorites is "Dr. Lloyd's Fraction Kit" (Pegasus Publication LTD, 1994). The book is designed to be used by fourth to ninth graders. It consists of colored gel sheets cut into fractional proportions and paired with thirty questions concerning shapes and numerical distribution.

"This makes learning the whole concept of fractions easier to visualize and understand," said Richardson.

Along with the fraction kit, Richardson published the book "Mathematics Activity Curriculum for Early Childhood and Special Education" (McMillan Publishing, 1980) with three of his graduate students from UM-St. Louis: Kathy Goodman, Nancy N. Hartman, and Henri C. LePique.

With the aid of his wife, Judith, an associate professor of nursing at St.

see Award, page 6

Former UM-St. Louis student now one of area's hottest night shift jocks

by Jeremy Rutherford
of The Current staff

At 24, Rikk Idol is busier than most of us would care to be at any age. And despite having a larger-than-life billboard of himself over the Poplar Street Bridge, the Q104 disc jockey and former UM-St. Louis student is still amazed that he has been able to accumulate so much experience in so little time.

"It feels great," Idol said. "A sense of accomplishment, pride—definitely a blessing. But I still consider myself in the beginning stages," stages that took off with a desire to be on the radio.

Idol knew he wanted to be on the air at an early age.

"I was dead set on radio," Idol said. "I've wanted to be on the radio since I was nine or ten. Instead of listening to the music, I listened to the guy on the radio."

He started out attending UM-St. Louis in 1989, making that long drive from south county that so many UM-St. Louis students are familiar with.

"I really hated that [the drive]," Idol said, "but I wanted to get the basics out of the way and get some experience doing internships."

Idol transferred to Maryville College in 1991.

From there he was hired by Hot 97.1 FM for their daily 3 to 6 a.m. time slot.

"I didn't care [about the time slot]," Idol said. "I would have done anything just to hear myself on the

radio."

Now at Q104, Idol hosts the 7 to midnight time slot Monday through Thursday.

On Friday and Sunday nights, he hosts one of the biggest parties in the area with the Q104 Dance Party at Stagez nightclub.

"I have a fantastic relationship with the whole Stagez organization," Idol said. "They've been nothing but great."

Idol also speaks to high school

"Of course doing all of these things makes for a pretty hectic schedule, sometimes 13-14 hours a day," Idol said. "But I never stop to appreciate what I have. I'm always thinking about what I want to do next."

And television seems to be the next stage.

Idol recently made an appearance on the Fox television sitcom "Living Single."

"I love TV," he said. "It was a great chance to get my feet wet."

But network sitcoms are not exactly what Idol has in mind when he thinks of a career in television.

"My next career step is MTV," Idol said, though he declined to comment further on his talks with the cable music television station.

Not a bad resume for a 24-year-old. Idol knows that he hasn't accomplished all of this on his own.

"A lot of different people gave me a chance, opened doors that should have been shut in my face," Idol said.

Someone who inspired him to carry on—even when the doors were shut in his face—was his grandmother.

"She was my biggest influence," Idol said. "She was an all-around showboat until she passed away about a year ago. She was my life and inspiration."

Despite the absence of her living influence, Idol still relies upon his grandmother for guidance.

"When I have a question on whether or not to stay on this side or



Q104's Rikk Idol

students on behalf of the D.A.R.E. anti-drug program, and even stars in a few commercials on KDNL Channel 30 and KPLR Channel 11.

"I enjoy going out to high schools and speaking out against drugs," Idol said. "I think when you're a public figure whether it's TV, radio, or whatever, you have to be yourself and at your best."

see Idol, page 6

Pulitzer prize-winning composer visits UM-St. Louis music department

by Julie Pressman reporter

Pulitzer prize-winning composer Jacob Druckman presented a group of 50 UM-St. Louis music students and staff with his piece "Counterpoise," a 20 minute operatic and symphonic piece featuring poetic works in both French and English, Nov. 23 in Room 205 of the Music Building.

Druckman's works have been commissioned by major orchestras throughout the world.

Claude E. Baker, UM-St. Louis Composer in Residence, said, "I rather suspect that there is not a single kudo offered by the music world that Jacob Druckman has not received."

The Philadelphia Orchestra commissioned Druckman to write "Counterpoise."

Songs 1 and 4 of the four part piece featured lyrics from Emily Dickinson poems. Songs 2 and 3 used works by French poet Guillaume Apollinaire.



Jacob Druckman

He successfully integrated these seemingly opposite poems into a classical music presentation featuring the operatic talents of Dawn Upshaw.

"I see the human voice as a soul above the other instruments," Druckman said.

After presenting the 20 minute recording, Druckman answered several questions concerning the technique he follows in his compositions.

"The hardest thing about composing is getting your butt down in that chair," Druckman said.

The event was sponsored by the Kenneth E. Miller fund and organized by the UM-St. Louis department of music.

Although these poems produce a different emotional response, Druckman justified their link by their references to alcohol, literally in Apollinaire's poems and symbolically in Dickinson's poems.

Award from page 5

Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, he co-authored a book titled "The Mathematics of Drugs and Solutions" (Mosby, 1976) which has been reprinted four times since the original edition was distributed.

This book was a pioneer in the medical field because it was the first to involve labeled illustrations of medicine cups and syringes to be shaded in by the students.

"This gives a visual aspect as opposed to just reading the question and doing the math," Richardson said.

Richardson has also created a computer program to compliment the text.

The elaborate program took roughly one-hundred and twenty hours to write.

It operates on a random set of exercises in random order. Upon entering a three digit number, the user is then shown a screen displaying the chapters. Once a chapter is selected, there are problems from the lesson in that chapter. The program then perpetually retains the three digit code for future use.

"I'm a big fan of computers," Richardson said. "I enjoy just playing around with them."

Richardson wished to extend his thanks to the 80 teachers from the metropolitan area who were in attendance

at the award ceremony, along with all of his colleagues here at UM-St. Louis, for their support and encouragement.

Idol from page 5

go a little risque, I think about how she would have handled it," he said.

For now, Idol is a single man, but he has been involved in a steady relationship for the past year.

"She works in television, so she understands how time consuming what I do can be," Idol said. "We work with each other and are very involved in

each other's work, constantly pushing each other."

Judging from his accomplishments so far, Rikk Idol doesn't appear to be the kind of guy that needs much pushing.

"I always have the desire to do more," he said. "Every day I feel that way."

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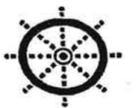
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Out in the open



Volleyballers get Awards

by Rob Goedeker
associate sports editor

Even though the 1994 Riverwomen volleyball season, with a record of 9-27, didn't get the team any recognition from around the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) conference, *The Current* sports staff recognizes the hard work and dedication the players put into this season.

Chemistry is an important element to any team in any sport. Chemistry takes time to develop, and being basically a new team this season, the Riverwomen never seemed to develop the right chemistry. But, they're close to finding the mix that should formulate a winning attitude.

These awards go out to the players who have worked hard over the past season.

Freshman Of The Year.

Ann Marie Gary, outside hitter- No surprise here. The freshman out of Louisville, Ky. made an immediate impact on the team. She was a highly-touted recruit when she signed with the Riverwomen, and with an outstanding performance in her first season, she made no disappointments.

Most Underrated.

Jessica Tobin, outside hitter- Even though Tobin had only 21 kills, she played a major role for the team when coming in off the bench. She probably has the best serve on the team. She also finished the season second best on the team with 270 digs, all while commuting between the bench and the court throughout most of the season. Being only a freshman, Tobin should play a significant role for the Riverwomen in the seasons to come.

Comeback Player Of The Year.

Debbie Boedefeld, middle hitter- After an injury-plagued season last year, Boedefeld was ready to return to her high-school form, and return she did. She finished second on the team with a .179 hitting percentage and second with 90 total blocks. She also finished with 207 kills and 141 digs. Last season, she finished with 59 kills, 39 total blocks and 68 digs. Great job Debbie!

Best Defensive Player.

Karen Baskett, middle hitter- At 5-foot-10, Baskett was the Riverwomen's best shot blocker on the front line. She was first on the team and ninth in the MIAA conference with 125 total blocks. She also finished with 210 digs. As a freshman, Baskett had a great season, and she should only get better.

Best Offensive Player.

Ann Marie Gary, outside hitter- Gary led the team three offensive categories. She was first in kills with 417, attempts with 1,188, and digs with 298. She also finished second on the team and eighth in the MIAA conference with 57 service aces. She was named to the Honorable Mention MIAA All-Conference team. Congratulations! Gary is a player any coach would love to have.

Most Improved Player.

Karen Baskett, middle hitter- Serving as team captain for two seasons at McCluer North High School, Baskett knew what it took to be a leader, and as the season grew, so did her

see Awards, page 8

Bickel starts fresh at UM-St. Louis

by Rob Goedeker
associate sports editor

Early last May, Rivermen assistant basketball coach Chico Jones received an unexpected phone call from St. Louis University Billikens' center Eric Bickel.

"He called me and said that he was thinking about making a move," said Jones, who coached Bickel at a basketball camp set up by Rivermen head coach Rich Meckfessel. "He wanted to get on with his basketball career, and he thought a move would be the appropriate thing to do."

Back in the fall of 1990, Bickel decided to attend SLU because of his relationship with former Billikens coach Rich Grawer, who is now the athletic director at Clayton High School. But after Bickel's first season at SLU, Grawer was fired and replaced by Charlie Spoonhour.

Under Spoonhour, Bickel never seemed to fit into the game plan, and as a result, his playing time suffered. In his two years at SLU, he averaged only eight minutes a game. Then, after an ankle injury last season [93-94], Bickel chose to be redshirted.

"I just didn't feel like I was fitting in," Bickel said. "So, when I really thought about it, I figured my education should come first."

At SLU, Bickel was enrolled in general business courses, and was unaware of all the options available in the business field. When he finally



photo: Ken Dunkin

BIG MAN: After being redshirted last season with the Billikens, center Eric Bickel decided to join the Rivermen. At 6-foot-10, he'll give the Rivermen some size up front. He hopes lead the Rivermen to a winning season.

decided what direction he wanted to take, he found out that SLU didn't have what he was looking for. That's when UM-St. Louis came into the picture.

"I wanted to go into business education and UMSL had what I was looking for," Bickel said.

Bickel was just what Jones and

the Rivermen were looking for. Over the years, Jones developed a relationship with Bickel at the basketball camps and always knew he had the right stuff.

"He's always had a lot of skills," Jones said. "He just needs a little push from behind to get him to that next level."

Meckfessel said that Jones was just what Bickel needed.

"Eric's father told me one time that Chico [Jones] was the only coach who's ever been able to push the right buttons and get Eric to work hard," Meckfessel said.

Jones agrees.

"When he was in camp he would

like to screw around," he said. "When I would get on him about it, he seemed to always respond. I guess it's carried over."

Jones is excited to be finally coaching Bickel at the collegiate level.

"I've been looking forward to coaching him for quite some time," Jones said. "I know he has the potential, and I know he needs pushing from time to time."

After being redshirted for a season at SLU and receiving little playing time even when healthy, this season may be the most demanding for Bickel since his day's at Ritenour High School. Meckfessel isn't expecting anything spectacular this season.

"I expect him to have a good year, but I think next season he'll have a very good year," he said.

So far, in practice, Bickel's teammates have noticed his potential to be a big-time player.

"He's a good player," said guard Marcus Albert. "He's a winner. He doesn't have any selfishness, he just wants to help the team."

Even though Bickel will be getting more playing time with the Rivermen, he will still be fighting for the minutes along with sophomore center Kevin Tuckson.

"Kevin Tuckson is our most improved player," Meckfessel said.

see Bickel, page 8

Rivermen hoopsters start 2-2

Thomas, Robinson both have big weekends

by Pete Dicrispino
sports editor

Even though the teams shooting isn't there yet, the UM-St. Louis men's basketball team managed to split their first two games of the season on Nov. 18 and 19.

"We played hard and played as a team," said head coach Rich Meckfessel. "We tried to do the things the coaches feel will win for us."

On Nov. 18 the Rivermen lost to Grand Canyon College by the score of 74-69. Newcomer Eric Bickel led the way for the Rivermen by scoring 16 points.

"Eric Bickel played very well for us," said assistant coach Bill Walker. "He is going to be a good player inside for us."

Guard Lawndale Thomas added

14 for the Rivermen. If the Rivermen would have shot better, they could have won the game. The Rivermen shot 23 of 57 from the field.

"We shot terrible from the perimeter," Walker said, "but the shots will begin to fall. We are not worried about the shooting."

"I'm pleased with the shot selection," Meckfessel said. "Out of the 133 shots we took in the two games, I'd say 125 were good shots."

On Nov. 19 the Rivermen beat Montana State in a nail-biter 92-90.

Guard Marcus Albert led the way for the Rivermen with 19 points including three, three-point shots.

Thomas had another strong game. He scored 16 points, while adding five assists. Jamar Sanders also contributed by scoring 15 points.

"Our effort was good both nights,"

Meckfessel said. "We tried to do the right things, we just need to get everyone back healthy."

The players Meckfessel was referring to were Sanders, Rodney Hawthorne and Jim Robinson. All three players have missed quality practice time and need to get into playing shape.

Besides getting players into shape, the coaches believe there is more work to be done.

"Our post-defense could be better and it will get better because of our size," Walker said. "We gave up too many offensive rebounds and bad post-defense can cause bad rebounding."

"We need to defend and rebound the ball better," Meckfessel said. "That is a concern we will stress at practice."

If the post-defense and the shooting pick up, the Rivermen will be a force to be reckoned with in the Mid-

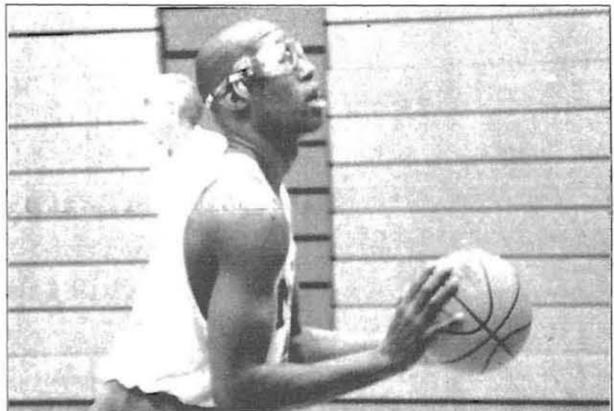


photo: Ken Dunkin

AT THE CHARITY STRIPE: Riverman center Kevin Tuckson gets ready to shoot a free throw in practice last week.

America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Conference.

"I think we feel better about our team, than we have in the last three years," Walker said.

"If things continue to go the way

they are going, we will have a good year," Meckfessel said.

The Rivermen went 1-1 in the Executive Inn Rivermont Classic.

see Start, page 8

Riverwomen lose to Lewis; Win big at Tampa Tourney

by Ken Dunkin
of *The Current* staff

Several school records were broken even though the UM-St. Louis Riverwomen basketball team lost to Lewis University.

Laura Satterfield's eight three-pointers and 24 attempts shattered the previous marks of seven three-pointers and 16 attempts.

"It's easier to stay out of the paint (and shoot), you don't get hurt," said Satterfield, explaining why she shoots the three pointer.

Center Angie Stubblefield also got into the record breaking habit. She broke the school record for blocked shots with eight. The previous total was six. Nicole Christ had a career-high eight assist, while leading the passing game.

Though they lost, the team had a solid effort. Satterfield had 24 points, Stubblefield 13, and D.J. Martin had 11. One key fact to remember about the team is they only have one player on the bench. Three of the five starters played the entire 40 minutes, while the other two played no less than 36 minutes.

"I thought we played really well," Satterfield said. "We only have one substitute. We were all worried that we would struggle on defense because we would be tired, but we were in ten times better shape than the other team."

A major problem against Lewis was shutting down their rebounders, especially on the offensive boards. Lewis had an outstanding 29 boards, which led to many second and third shot opportunities.

"I thought we played great defensively," said head coach Jim Coen. "I

'Effort and intelligence and our desire to win stood out. I felt really great about it.'

-Jim Coen, Riverwomen basketball coach

thought we played adequately on offense. We got the shots we wanted, but we didn't hit them early. We did an extremely poor job boxing them out on the boards. We were out-rebounded 34-64."

The problems with the offensive rebounding didn't harm the total effort of the game. They still exhibited a lot of effort which impressed their coach.

"It might have been one of the most impressive performances from a

see Women, page 8

Coaches Corner

Featuring
Bill Walker

Men's assistant Basketball Coach



by Pete Dicrispino
sports editor

Walker begins his sixth season as assistant coach under head coach Rich Meckfessel.

Walker was named assistant coach after serving a two-year stint as a graduate assistant for head coach Gene Bartow at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

Walker played three years of basketball UM-Rolla and was two-time all-conference pick.

He was a three starter at Warrensburg High School in Warrensburg, Mo., where he led the team to a three-year record of 73-6. As a senior, he was a first team all-state choice.

He and his wife Karen have been married for four years.

Walker's duties include recruit-

ing and on-the-floor coaching.

Birthplace: Fayetteville, Ark.

College: Received degree from UM-Rolla and Masters from University Alabama-Birmingham.

Favorite college memory: St. Patrick's Day at UM-Rolla. 20,000 students from all over came down to party.

Personal Hero: My Dad because he didn't treat anyone the way he wouldn't want to be treated himself.

One thing I can't stand is: People who drive slow in the left lane.

People who know me in college will say: We always knew he would be a coach.

Fantasy: To play golf at The Augusta National in Augusta, Ga., where the Masters [Tournament] is held.

What I like best about coaching: I like the players and the outlet the competition gives me, since I can't play competitive anymore.

If I could change one thing about myself: I like to drop 10 to 15 pounds.

What I'm reading now: "Beat the Dealer," by Doctor Ivan Braun on how to play winning blackjack.

Greatest game I ever coached: When we beat Dayton a Division I

school 66-63 in front of 12,000 people at Dayton.

Another good one was in 1991 when we beat Cal Bakersville 63-54. They had won the Division II championship the last two years.

Most disappointing game: I would have to say it was when we lost nine in a row in 1993. We didn't win a game in the month of February and up to that point we were 12-5. We were on our way to the playoffs.

Favorite sport (other than basketball): Golf.

My favorite golf players: Tom Watson.

My impressions on the way sports have become a business: I don't have sympathy for players who turn down millions of dollars.

Favorite movies: "Patton."

Favorite restaurant: Gates Barbecue in Kansas City, Mo.

Favorite fast-food: Fazoli's

Favorite childhood memory: Going to Royals game with my family and friends.

What would I want people to remember about me: That people had more fun when I was around them than when I wasn't.

Start from page 7

After beating Rock Haven 76-64 in the first round, the Rivermen lost the consolation championship game to host Kentucky Wesleyan 89-72. The Rivermen kept the game close in the first half, trailing 34-32 at half-time. Then, Wesleyan started the second half with a 11-0 run, and the Rivermen couldn't recover. Albert led the Rivermen in scoring with 19 points. Robinson had 17 points and was named to the all-tournament team. Hawthorne scored a

season-high 12 points. In the Rock Haven game, Robinson led the Rivermen in scoring with 15 points, and Bickel added 12 points. The Rivermen easily handled Rock Haven, leading by as many as 21 points midway through the second half. The Rivermen will play their first home game of the season when they host the Lindenwood Lions Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Awards from page 7

confidence. Along with Gary, she should be a team leader for the Riverwomen in the future. Most Consistent Player. Tracia Clendenen, setter- Finishing with 1,248 assists, Clendenen was counted on to be there to set up the Riverwomen's attack game. Clendenen was first on the team and second in the MIAA conference with 72 service aces. With her help, the

Riverwomen finished third in the MIAA in aces per game. Most Valuable Player. Ann Marie Gary, outside hitter- There's no doubt that Gary is the Riverwomen's MVP. She not only led the team in almost all of the offensive categories, but on the court she was a team leader. She gave the team character. She was always there to encourage the players after they would lose a close

game. Gary is a franchise player. She's the type of player that any coach would love to build their volleyball program around. If she stays with the team for the next three seasons, the Riverwomen's future could be Gary great. Although individual awards were not given to every player, all should be proud of what they accomplished in their first season together as a team.

Bickel from page 7

"The competitiveness and effort that he has put forth will make him a better player, and it will also make Eric a better player." Tuckson is ready to accept the challenge. "I like the competition," Tuckson said. "It makes me work harder." Bickel is excited to be playing for the Rivermen, and already has high expectations for the team in only his first season. "I see us winning about 20 games, top three in the conference, and hopefully going on to the NCAA Tournament," he said. And with the addition of Bickel on the roster, those goals could become reality.

Women from page 7

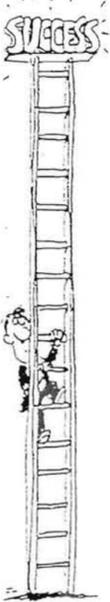
group of young ladies," said Coen. "I don't know if I've had any team play harder or give more effort. Effort and intelligence and our desire to win stood out, I felt really great about it." The Riverwomen won the River-

side Holiday Classic last weekend Nov. 25 and 26 after beating host Tampa 86-83 in the consolation championship game. Satterfield scored 39 points for the Riverwomen, 25 in the first half. She

was named the MVP of the tournament. The Riverwomen will open the home season with a record of 2-1 when they host Missouri Baptist Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.

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