

The CURRENT



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Racial slurs alleged in Woods Hall altercation

UM-St. Louis student claims
assault in dispute over parking

by Michael O'Brian
of The Current staff

An African-American student alleged that she was verbally and physically assaulted in a confrontation that started in the lower level parking lot of Woods Hall and ended in the Admissions office, Wednesday, Jan. 31.

Christella Hairston, psychology freshman, was pulling into an open parking space when she said a white woman cut in front of her forcing her way into the parking space. Hairston said that she got out of her car and told the woman that the driver of the car had vacated the parking space had given her the spot. She alleges the driver got out of her car and called her a nigger. Hairston said she told the other woman that she would let the police settle the dispute.

According to Hairston, a white man got out of the passenger side of the other woman's sports car and he and the other woman made a series of racial slurs directed at her as she walked into Woods Hall to report the incident. Once inside the Admissions office, Hairston said that the woman rushed toward her screaming at her to take the dispute outside and she began swinging and kicking at Hairston.

The confrontation stopped when a UM-St. Louis maintenance engineer and an administrator got between the two until the UM-St. Louis Police arrived.

Officer Pat Conway filed a report of the incident. The suspects were released on their own recognizance.

"I want those two individuals arrested and I want them to be banned from campus," Hairston said. "If the tables were turned, I would have been arrested."

Chief of UM-St. Louis Police Bob Roeseler said he has reviewed the incident, and he feels that the situation was handled properly with no deviation from procedure.

"We knew who the suspects were," Roeseler said. "Because of the nature of the incident we released them without an arrest."

Roeseler said that there should be no problem getting in contact with the suspects. He said the

same thing would have been done if they had taken the suspects to the St. Louis County Police Headquarters in Clayton. The case has been turned over to the county prosecuting attorney's office where it is under advisement pending information from witnesses.

Coordinator of the Coalition of Black Student Organizations Nicholas Wren pulled together a movement to express displeasure in the manner the situation was handled by the UM-St. Louis Police and the University administration.

"We, the black students on the campus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, are outraged by the racial incident that occurred to Hairston," Wren said in a press meeting Friday,

Feb. 2. "Black students are angry, because the administration and the campus police failed to take the necessary action of arresting the individuals that came on campus to make trouble.

"If nothing comes of this, we have to move forward with more action."

Following the press meeting, Hairston led a group of African-American students to the UM-St. Louis Police Station to file an official statement.

"I want it to be clear to everyone that neither violence nor racial slurs will be tolerated at UM-St. Louis," Chancellor Blanche Touhill said in an official release.

The release further stated that Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Lowe "Sandy" MacLean and Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity Norman Seay have been asked to monitor the situation and to suggest methods to ensure that similar incidents do not occur in the future.

"I feel degraded and embarrassed," Hairston said. "I want a public apology, and I want the campus police treat black students the way they treat the white students."

Neither of the suspects was available for comment.

CELEBRATING CULTURAL AWARENESS

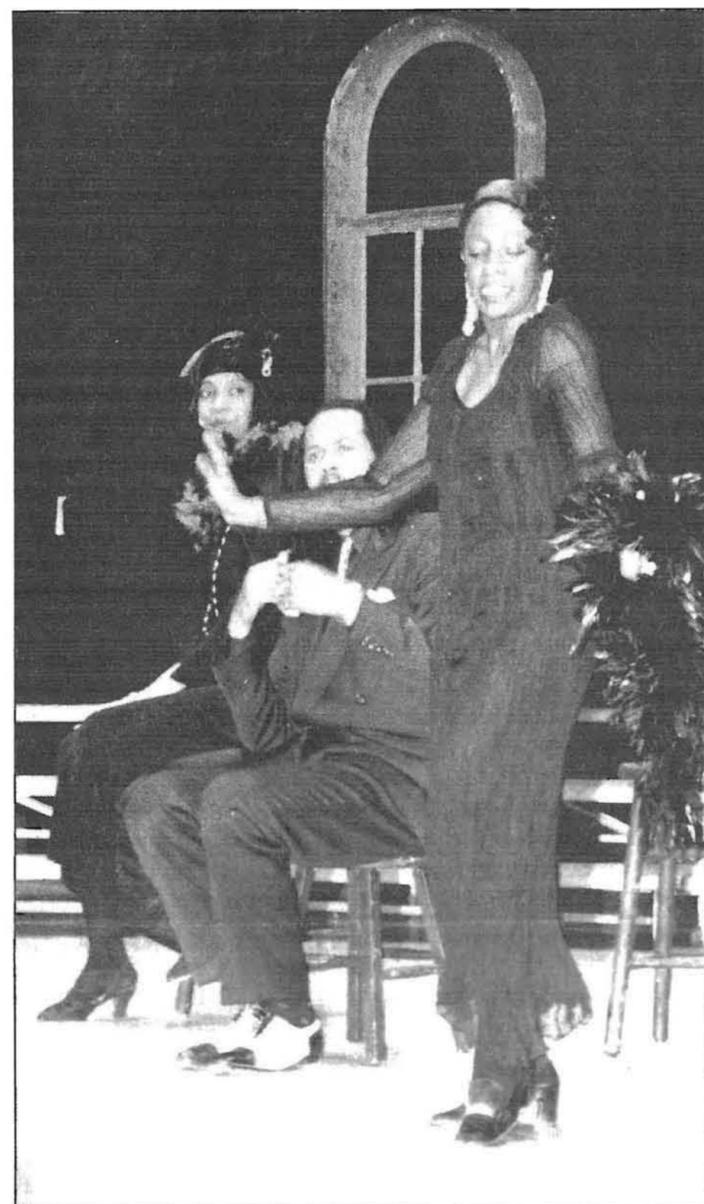


Photo: Monica Senecal

Linda Kennedy of the Black Repertory Theatre harkens back to Harlem's heyday in "I Remember Harlem."

Optometry students appeal Task Force on student fee increases

by Susan Benton
of The Current staff

A contingent of approximately 50 optometry students attended the Student Fee Task Force meeting to make it clear that their fees should not be raised.

The task force came to UM-St. Louis last Friday, Feb. 2, to seek input from students and faculty relevant to how student fees should be spent in the coming years. Four task force meetings are scheduled for each of the University of Missouri campuses within the month of February. A final report will be written and submitted to the president at the next curators meeting on Feb. 22. Dr. Brady Deaton, chief of staff for Charles Kiesler at UM-Columbia, moderated the forum and responded to the audience's comments. Kiesler, who chairs the student fee task force, was not in attendance.

Deaton stressed that all of the concerns raised at the forum would be passed on to the UM Board of Curators and would be contained in the final report.

"This is an informational process," Deaton said. "We want to listen to you."

Optometry students wanted the task force to acknowledge that the fees they were paying exceed those of other public and private optometry schools.

Third-year UM-St. Louis optometry student, Mary Beth Rhomberg, presented an argument on behalf of the school of optometry. Rhomberg presented evidence that showed that on a national-level, UM-St. Louis was not a moderately priced school of optometry.

"Comparing graduate and non-graduate, private and public schools of optometry in the country," Rhomberg said, "the resident and nonresident fees are considerable higher at UM-St. Louis."

"Our student fees are providing 45 percent of our program costs." "This is the highest fee percentage of all the programs on this campus or any professional program."

Rhomberg compared the tuition levels of UM-St. Louis optometry to UM-Columbia professional program levels.

"UM-St. Louis charges more tuition-wise than UM-Columbia," she said. "When we [optometry students] graduate, we will be so much more in debt [after taking out student loans]. Doctors of optometry make two to three times less than medical doctors."

One student offered a suggestion on how to make the UM system fee structure more equitable.

"What needs to be done is setting fees that are campus-specific," said third-year optometry student, Rich Wilson. "That's the first

SEE STUDENT FEES

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UM-St. Louis buys Mount Providence

by Heather Phillips
of The Current staff

The University has made yet another land acquisition. Mt. Providence is being purchased from the Sisters of Divine Providence for \$2.3 million.

Mt. Providence is approximately 25 acres of land and 133,000 square feet of building space. The closing date will be between June 1996 and December 1997. The money used to purchase the land is from a bond issue approved by Missouri voters in August 1994.

Mt. Providence is located on S. Florissant Road across from Mark Twain Drive on the UM-St. Louis campus. This is where the UM-St. Louis Eldercare Center is currently located.

"The property will be used for education purposes," said Bob Samples, Director of University Relations.

The University has been purchasing land in order to assure that, in later

years, the University is not landlocked; hence the recent property acquisitions along Florissant Road.

"We want to be able to expand," Samples said. "We want the University to flow."

Since June 1995, there have been four major purchases including Mt. Providence. The Cardinal Newman purchase was approved by the Board of Curators June 1 for \$401,450. The Uncle Chunkies buyout was approved by the Board July 27 for \$328,600. Both of these properties are located on Florissant Road. The Passionist's House purchase was approved on July 27 for \$1 million. This property is located at 3036 Bellerive off of Natural Bridge.

There have also been a number of small purchases of residential homes in Normandy. Twenty-two properties have been purchased for a combined sum of \$697,000 and a total of 4.19 acres.

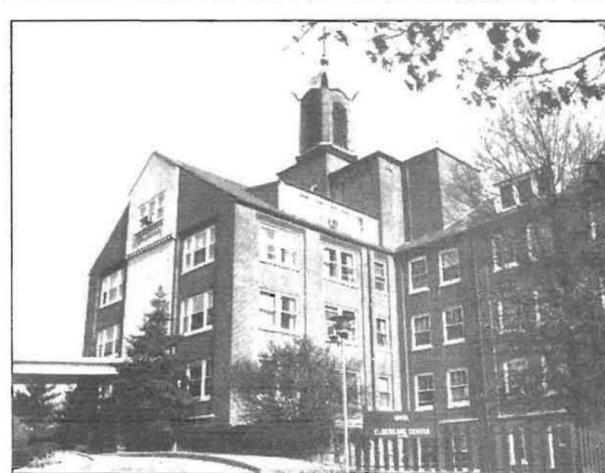


Photo: Monica Senecal

Mt. Providence is the most recent acquisition by the University.

Resignations rock Residence Hall

by Michael O'Brian
of The Current staff

Three resident advisers have left their positions from Residence Hall this academic year, two over the last week.

"Yes there were three resignations," said Campus Housing Administrator Lisa Grubbs. "But they were three very different and unique situations."

The first resignation was of Joe Murphy Sep. 26. Murphy cited academic reasons for leaving. Grubbs said he did not want to resign.

The second vacancy was spurred Friday Jan. 26 when Andy Beck, secondary math

"In my most recent conversation with Beck I clearly stated to him that he has chosen to resign."

— Lisa Grubbs

education senior, had an altercation with Grubbs after arriving late to work.

"She met me in the hall and started laying into me pretty hard," Beck said.

He said he was late because he was detained at his day job at Mercantile Bank when \$1,000 came up short in a shift count.

According to Beck the two quarreled until he went to make his rounds at Seton

Hall. "I called back to apologize," Beck said. "But I told her that I didn't know if I could work for an employer who doesn't respect me."

Beck said further conversation led to Grubbs telling him he was terminated.

However, Grubbs said that Beck was not terminated, but rather he resigned. She said because this was a personnel matter there was little she could say. She did respond to some of Beck's remarks.

"I did not scream at him," Grubbs said. "I was forceful with my tone. If I'm trying to get my point across, I use my voice as a point of emphasis."

The issue between whether Beck was terminated or resigned affects a balance of money he may have to pay

SEE RESIGNATIONS

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Photo: Michael O'Brian

Chris Hairston and friends are demanding a response to the alleged assault.

What was in that picture?

by Michael O'Brian
of The Current staff

Last Monday, I was at the Way Out Club doing a performance of some work that I had submitted for Litmag. It had been quite a while since I had been able to attend the open mic, because my work at the paper takes up so much time. So I started my set talking about what I've been doing at The Current.

I told people that you had to know what was going on in a community made up of 1200 faculty and 15,000 students. I mentioned the intricacies of a budget of \$78.8 million. I ranted and raved about keeping up with what the Chancellor was doing, what the Student Government Association President was doing and what everybody else who is taking active roles on campus was doing.

Every Monday I arrive on campus around 11 a.m. excited to see how the finished newspaper looks just as it is hitting the racks for distribution.

I am proud to be the editor of this publication. I take the responsibility very seriously, and though I'm not always on the mark, I truly try to give my best effort for this campus and the readers who pick up the paper.

However, last Monday my worst nightmare came true. A supreme error ended up in the paper. When I got to the newspaper office and broke open issue 846, my jaw dropped nearly to the floor when I saw what was on page three: a man's penis was hanging out of our photograph!

I apologize to the entire campus community for this grievous error.

Our photographer had taken the shots of Kurt Hoffman's group of renegades, and when the photos were developed, we saw that one band member had exposed his penis. In order to use the photo but conceal the loose appendage, we cropped the inflammatory portion out of the photo. However when the flats arrived at Press Journal Printing, a well-intentioned worker decided to make an editorial decision for us and re-cropped the photo so that it fell within the space with better composition. This worker did not realize that the penis was exposed, and the owner of the print shop, Ken Dowser, has apologized to me for the error.

The truth, unfortunately, is that this was really my error. When I saw the penis in the picture, I should have told my photographer to reprint the photo using the enlarger to crop the penis completely out of the finished product. If I had done this, the printer would never have been able to make the error in the first place. I made a bad call.

I'm not a perfect editor. In fact, some people may think that I'm not even a good editor (though I feel I have some worthwhile traits). The point is that I make mistakes. Some of you may remember the brew-ha that

I made over Aramark keeping Declining Meal Balance proceeds when they had done nothing of the sort. Certainly the campus let me know in force when they thought that I had come down too hard on Pat Rauscher for resigning as comptroller of the SGA. Now

I've put 6,000 copies of a picture of some guy's penis in racks all over campus. I think it's clear that I'm not

I'm not a perfect editor. In fact, some people may think that I'm not even a good editor (though I feel I have some worthwhile traits).

quite ready to be editor of the St. Louis Post Dispatch.

I encourage you, the readers, to help us do our jobs better. One way that you can help us serve your interests is by writing letters to the editor responding to the stories that we publish. You may have been the person we needed to talk to get the facts straight, yet we may not have known it. Write us; call us or stop by the newspaper and talk to us. You are always welcome, and we will always listen.

I want this newspaper to be the best it can be, but I need your help to make that happen. Does this mean there will not be mistakes in the newspaper? Probably not, but we will give it our best shot.

By the way, if we ever take your photo for the newspaper, please keep your privates in your pants.



Racial divisions split through the core of UM-St. Louis

by Scott Lamar
of The Current staff

February, recognized nationally as Black History Month, couldn't be a more appropriate time for students at UM-St. Louis to examine the links they have with members of cultures other than their own.

Few may doubt that friction exists between blacks and whites on this campus. Evidence of this can be seen every day in the University Center Lounge. The lounge, which lies in an alcove next to the candy store, is usually occupied by a majority of African Americans. Despite the fact that the lounge houses some of the most comfortable chairs in Missouri and offers a panoramic view of the quadrangle, very few whites can ever be seen in there. The lounge has been dubbed by some whites the "Black Lounge." This term is an illustration of the racial biases and prejudices



that have existed for hundreds of years. It is delusional to think that racial bigotry suddenly disappeared after the civil rights movement of the 1960s. It hasn't. It exists quietly in the back of many peoples' minds.

Racial tensions can easily surface during black/white confrontations. Christella Hairston, the African American student who was allegedly assaulted and called racial slurs in front of Woods Hall last week, said she was surprised that such an altercation could happen in this day in age. One could also point to the O.J. Simpson charade, in which the issue of a racist cop played a factor.

Episodes of racism are undoubtedly weakening, but unfortunately, deep-rooted attitudes and beliefs may be carried by whites and blacks for as long as their parents and grandparents can pass them along to an impressionable young ear.

Presently, nothing is ever done to

quell racial tensions, not even on this college campus. As a result, the black and white cultures will continue to drift apart. The main problem is that there is a serious lack of interaction between the races. Nobody feels secure unless they are in their own "territory" among people who have things in common with them. Groups of people that share common experiences and goals tend to become more alike. For example, cliques of fraternities and sororities have staked claims to the raised island in the Underground. If you are not a member, don't bother trying to enter, that is, of course, unless you know the secret handshake.

Groups that never communicate experience divergence. The same reason can be attributed to cultures as well. African Americans, for the most part, eat and study together. Many African Americans banded together in support of Christella Hairston. Black History events have historically been attended by a majority of African Americans. Whites, on the

other hand, usually stick together as well. On top of that, the only people who care about goings-on of the fraternities and sororities are the fraternities and sororities.

It is important for blacks and whites to take a good look at the relationships they have with one another. Instead of the stereotypical images of blacks as criminals and whites as snobbish bigots trying to put African Americans down, I think a thorough review will reveal that we are all just a bunch of poor working slobs trying to make it in a dog-eat-dog world.

Somewhere along the line, members of the two cultures need to make efforts to assimilate. If we don't, then society, and this campus, will continue to remain polarized along racial lines.

A merger of values and beliefs is, of course, unrealistic, but educating ourselves on each other's cultures may ease the discomfort one feels when say, going to the University Center Lounge or Fraternity Island.

Letters to the Editor

UPB director says The Current should be eliminated

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in order to serve two purposes.

The first is to inform the campus community about the outcome of a performance that was held on campus on Friday, Jan. 26. This performance was a comedy showcase presented by your University Program Board. This was a fantastic success which drew well over 250 people. The response was incredible and we as an organization are extremely pleased. I would like to congratulate Wesley Smith, Angela Hornaday,

Arron Mumins and Sharone Hopkins. They did an excellent job in programming this event.

I find it necessary for me to let the campus know of this performance due to the obvious oversight on the part of our campus' alleged news source, The Current. There was no one on hand from The Current staff to cover the story. I was surprised. The photographer for The Current spoke to me of the performance on the morning of the show. I am aware of one student who called and volunteered to write an article on the event. This person was told that the assignment

was already covered. However, if they indeed did not know of the event, then perhaps they should make stronger efforts to become informed. It should be the job of the campus news source to know what the news is. If merely haphazard efforts at journalism are given, then perhaps The Current should be eliminated.

The second purpose of this letter is to inquire about the apparent disagreement that Scott Lamar has with himself. It appears that Mr. Lamar would like to say one thing and act in the opposite way. In Mr. Lamar's editorial, 'UPB should get

their acts together,' Mr. Lamar attacked our organization for not putting on original programs. He also encouraged us to have more comedians perform on campus. Well, Mr. Lamar, I do not recall seeing you at the comedy showcase, nor did you or any of your writers cover the story. Perhaps you, Scott Lamar, should get your act together. Worry about your own job before criticizing others for theirs.

Jason E. Peery
Director, UPB
516-5531

Hey! Valentine's Day is just around the corner. We're sure you have bought the dozen roses, box o'chocolates and the mushy card-- But have YOU written your sweet-heart a personal in The Current? If not, drop us a line or call 516-5174 to leave a message for that special somebody.

The Current welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. They must be signed, as the editorial opinion of The Current is that a signed letter carries more weight with the readers.

Correction

In issue 846 of The Current, Sylvia Madeo was mistakenly identified as a member of the economics faculty. She is actually an associate professor in the School of Business Administration.

The Student Voice of UM-St. Louis
The Current

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The Current is published weekly on Mondays. Advertising rates are available upon request by contacting The Current's advertising office at (314) 516-5316. Space reservations for advertisements must be received by 5 p.m. the Wednesdays prior to publication.

The Current, financed in part by student activity fees, is not an official publication of UM-St. Louis. The University is not responsible for The Current's content or policies. Editorials expressed in the paper reflect the opinion of the editorial staff. Articles labeled "Commentary" or "Column" are the opinion of the individual writer.

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African-American History Month: celebration of culture and diversity

by John Jones
of the Current Staff

The month of February is Black History Month where the accomplishments and culture of African-Americans is celebrated throughout the country. Black History Month has been officially celebrated nationally since 1976, and it has been recognized by UM-St. Louis since 1988. UM-St. Louis has taken part by organizing several exhibits, concerts, and programs, all with an African-American theme.

The University celebrated the opening of Black History Month with a show by the St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre and with speeches given by guest speakers. The program took place in the J.C. Penney Building Auditorium February 2. Over 100 people braved the bitter cold to take part in the celebration. Several local African-American women from the Order of the Eastern Star gave speeches in opening the program. UM-St. Louis Chancellor Blanche Touhill also spoke. The

show was sponsored by the Office of Equal Opportunity, the Associated Black Collegians, the Institute for Women and Gender Studies, the Hispanic-Latino Student Association and the Women's Center.

"Yesterday, today and tomorrow things are changing in a positive way," Sheilah Clarke-Ekong said in a speech

ment was underscored by a confrontation between a UM-St. Louis student and two non-students on January 31. (See story on page 1)

"This University does embrace diversity," Touhill said. "This celebration tonight, in which we sing the praises of African-American women, reflects our commitment."

The program was full of spiritual music. One song, "Psalms," was written by Professor Robert Ray of the UM-St. Louis music department, and the University Singers performed the piece. Soprano Shanda Tierney sang an uplifting version of "God Bless America." Alto Jeanette Brown led the audience in the spiritual "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," and Yvette Blaine sang "Everything Must Change."

With the speeches and the songs finished, the St. Louis Black Repertory took the stage and performed the play "Leaving Harlem." Marsha Cann, Linda Kennedy, Percy Wells and Arthur Tony made the audience laugh with their humorous and sentimental portrayal of the history of Harlem-center of the Black Renaissance from the 1920s

to the audience. "This year's focus is on African-American women and their personal and collective achievements," Clarke-Ekong cited several well-known black women as influential examples of African-American culture. Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, and Maya Angelou were among those who were appreciated.

Next to speak was Chancellor Blanche Touhill, who extended a warm welcome to the members of the Black Repertory Theatre and to the audience gathered. The Chancellor went on to explain how the importance of the mo-

"Yesterday, today and tomorrow things are changing in a positive way."

Sheilah Clarke-Ekong



Photo: Monica Senecal

Yvette Blaine was just one of many who performed for the crowd at J.C. Penney February 2.

to the 1960s. The story unfolded through the eyes of three main characters who represent several generations of African-Americans living in Harlem.

"The goals of Black History Month everywhere is to educate the public at large as well as our campus community about the contributions of African-

Americans," said Vetta Sanders, coordinator of Black Studies at UM-St. Louis. "They have been significant," said.

Special events celebrating Black History Month will continue throughout February at various locations on campus.



MENACE

by Don Barnes
of The Current staff

Cold enough for ya? Heh heh heh heh-heh. Ooohhh quit whinin' 'I I I I I I I I I I like it!

Doesn't sound rational, does it? Well it isn't! But that doesn't matter to me. You know why? Because I'm a sleigh-ridin' fool! Heeeeee he he he he he he! Cuz I'm from Missouri, seeeee. Not Colorado or Utah or, or Northern California. Missouri, seeeee, sleigh-ridin' country.

I guess it all started in my yout. (That's right, I said yout.) Early yout. Preschool years. I have these vague images, eight or nine frames, of a snow bank built up against our front porch, which was concrete and about four feet tall without the rail. My brother and I wrapped in our snow suits and boots and gloves and hats and scarves, riding this plastic toboggan for all it was worth down the slope to the end of our yard. Man! I bet we were howlin'.

I suspect it was at this point that my present condition began to develop. During what I like to call my farm years, I was temporarily transplanted in this little town in central Missouri. St. James. You may have heard of it. It always seemed to snow a little more and more often there than it does here, but it could be perspective working on me. There were two places we would go to sleigh-ride. One was this monster hill that ran behind the football field. It was actually a road to something, I don't know what. Didn't care. All we cared about was how steep and straight that thing was. Man it was awesome. Just this old gravel road with gaping ditches on both sides and a small creek that crossed where it bent to head back up the adjacent hillside. The whole hill would turn to a solid sheet of ice for some reason, no matter how much snow fell. One inch or six, this thing was ice and you weren't stoppin'! We had to use a path in the woods to get back to the top. Talk about screamin'! Yow-za!

If we didn't land there, it was my buddy Brad Clinton's. (I know what you're thinking, so I'm not gonna say it.) His parents' house was the first one you saw when you were leaving town going south, just past the sign and around the curve. Where it sat, the plateau the town was built on began its slope back down to the springs, so his back yard—which was about three or four acres of wooded land—had this natural run flowing through it. We would start on his back porch, which was huge and open and made of this stone that seemed to turn snow into ice on contact. Down the steps and zigzag around the bushes into the first of two straightaways. You enter the woods, caaaa-rizzin', and you have to go right or left; you break and catch a banked turn that slings you back into the main run, whizz into the other straightaway and try to stay in the tracks. There's trees on both sides and these little indestructible winter weeds that are slapping at you like fans as you pass them. Then boom! The path breaks open and begins to flatten. You have three choices: a scorchin' left onto the tractor trail to see if you can glide to the creek bed (that is, if you don't fly into the fence); power slide and hope you don't get bucked (or, depending on your idea of fun, hope you do get bucked); or go straight and ball right before you rocket into the bottom strand of barbed wire. Man we tore up some sleds on that hill!

So you can have your snowboards or your warm weather or your cold nights by the fireplace. Not me. Give me a 56-inch Flexible Flyer and freezing temperatures at Art Hill, and a little kid coming up to me saying, "I bet that thing goes really fast, doesn't it." You know it does, little man. That's why I say "Let the good times snow!"—at least for a couple of months, huh?

Ruth Ruth making moves on tour with Everclear

by Jill Barrett
of The Current Staff

Ruth Ruth's creative talents are not limited to their music; their leisure pursuits are as entertaining as their song lyrics. "Man, they're crazy," say the band members of Everclear. "They're always doing something wild on tour."



Dave Snyder, Chris Kennedy and Mike Lustig of Ruth Ruth.

Andy Stackpole, Ruth Ruth's sound technician, once created a "spud-gun" of PVC pipe, sparking material and ether that successfully shot a potato through two layers of drywall.

"We tormented many cities with the spud-gun, but I think it came to its death in Chicago, or Milwaukee. It was so cold out it cracked," said drummer

Dave Snyder. But lead singer Chris Kennedy disagreed. It was in St. Louis on their last tour that the spud-gun died.

This tour is the second with Everclear. Ruth Ruth is Everclear's favorite new band, and they asked Ruth Ruth to tour with them. The two bands are perfect musical counterparts for one another. This tour helped to propel

elling to London later in February.

"We're pretty much moving in the same direction - just fun pop tunes. A Blondie Tribute band, that's how we'll end up," laughs Snyder.

Chris Kennedy, the band's figure head, named the band after an evil character in his favorite movie "The Incredible Shrinking Woman."

Kennedy is the man responsible for the lyrics and the humor of the songs which make the band stand out from its contemporaries.

With their musical fate rising, they are not concerned with undue influences on their music. "We've got to worry about next month's rent before we worry about losing control of our music as we get bigger," says Kennedy and Snyder. Although sales of Laughing Gallery are "great," production costs and New York rent take their toll.

Not quite past their struggling artist stage, they are enjoying their tour. They play their music every night, and are getting public exposure. The band even gets to see the local sights. In Memphis, it was Graceland; in St. Louis, it is Beetle Bob.

"He came to our last show. He sang on stage with us. He sang lead; louder than anyone else in the band. He's groovy," says guitarist Mike Lustig. "We had a lot of fun at that show."

Everclear, No Doubt, Ruth Ruth show sells out at The Galaxy

by Jill Barrett
of The Current staff

If you think a concert isn't a concert unless the music interrupts your heart-beat and inspires people to cause struc-

tural damage to the club floor, then the Ruth Ruth/No Doubt/ Everclear concert was for you. These three bands played to a sold-out crowd at The Galaxy on Friday, February 2, and rocked the house, (quite literally, with a little

help from the audience).

Ruth Ruth opened for No Doubt

SEE SHOW
PAGE 4

Student concerns increase over eating disorders

Counseling Services offers free screenings during Eating Disorders Awareness Week, Feb. 5-11

by Jill Barrett
of The Current Staff

Concerned that your eating habits have gotten out of control? Many of us diet frequently, skip meals, or eat when we are not hungry. Eating behaviors like these are so common that it is hard to tell when these behaviors might be an early sign of an eating disorder. In an attempt to teach students

In an attempt to teach students about eating disorders, Counseling Services and the University Health Services will take part in the National Eating Disorders Screening Program (NEDSP) on Wednesday, Feb. 7.

As part of Eating Disorders Awareness Week (February 5-11), this screening program provides students with the opportunity to complete a screening questionnaire and receive information on eating disorders and the treatment available. Students who show symptoms of an eating disorder will be encouraged to make an appointment for a full evaluation. All screenings are free and anonymous.

"This year we have seen an increase in students who have concerns about eating disorders," says Doug Strauss, staff counselor at the Counseling Services. The inventory is designed to help direct students in need toward treatment.

Screenings will take place Wed. Feb. 7, in Mark Twain, Marillac Hall conference room, and Room 72 J.C. Penney from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. Information tables will be in the University Center Lobby and the Women's Center in Clark Hall.

the UnderCURRENT

Who do you think is the most influential African-American today?



"Farrakan, because of how he organized the Million Man March and brought a million black men to D.C. for atonement."
- Anton Abby
Junior • Communications



"Bill Cosby, because he's well respected by everyone and he's a positive influence, not a negative one."
- Brenda Jumper
Junior • English



"Michael Jordan, because he's marketable, rich, and he's a good guy."
- Matt Regensburger
Freshman • Biology



"Oprah, because she's a person that's focusing on the betterment of everyone rather than just African-Americans."
- Yolanda Campbell
Freshman • Engineering

The Current Reviews

The Burns Sisters

"Close to Home"

The Burns sisters, Marle, Jeannie and Annie, are something of a modern version of the Carter family. They sang together for a time in the early 1980s and even recorded two albums for Columbia Records before going their separate ways. Back together they have just released their first album "Close to Home" since being musically reunited.

Harmonizing like only siblings could, the 30-something-year-old Sisters get off to a great start with the Latin-flavored "We Never Said Goodbye."

The ladies are backed musically by the Burns Sisters Band made up of Rich DePaolo, bass; Walter Strauss, acoustic guitar; Mike Riccardi, drums and Eric Aceto, guitar and fiddle.

Not only do each of these women possess incomparable vocal talent, but each is a phenomenal songwriter too. And a quick look at the song credits shows these aren't the only members of the Burns clan who can write. In fact, the trio are just one quarter of a total 12 siblings. At least two of the others are musically inclined.

Acoustic Singer/Songwriter

Marlee's "New Kind of Old Fashioned Girl" is a rousing two-step in which she explores the virtues, or lack thereof, of being a non-traditional woman in today's world. Non-traditional roles are something each of the Sisters has some experience with.

The second and one of the most compelling tracks on the disc, "Into the Wild" was written by Annie. It features inspiring vocal solos performed by Annie herself. The vocals are again nothing short of incredible on the Sisters' rendition of the Van Morrison penned "Irish Heartbeat."

Other songs that can't be ignored include "Runaway Train," "You Have Arrived" and "Savannah," each demonstrating another dimension of the Sisters' incredible range.

Melding such diverse styles as gospel, rock, country, R&B and folk the Burns Sisters have, with *Close to Home*, carved themselves out a significant place in the contemporary singer/songwriter market.

Singer Janis Ian paid them the ultimate compliment saying, "If I could split myself in three I would be the Burns Sisters." —Michael J. Urness

SHOW



Costello, Ruth Ruth showed why Everclear chose them as their favorite new band. The energy of singer Chris Kennedy helped prime the crowd for No Doubt and Everclear.

The audience was not as familiar with Ruth Ruth as they were with the other groups, but the band made a lasting impression Friday night.

Everclear, the headliner, also per-

formed well. They played songs from their first CD as well as from their second CD "Sparkle and Fade," but the real highlight of the evening was the performance of No Doubt.

Although I hated the band's single "I'm Just a Girl" before the show, their live performance converted me into a believer. The lead singer, whose little-girl voice was too pure and sweet for me on the

FROM PAGE 3

recorded version of the single, adds a large dose of acid to their songs in the performance. Dressed as '50s Glamour Girl Meets New Wave, the lead singer added a screaming delivery to her lyrics to offset her high-pitched voice. The trumpet in the background also gave the band a musical edge that the other two bands (who rely mainly on guitars and drums) lacked.

The three bands complemented each other well and deserved the sell-out.

FILM spin

beautiful girls

by Jill Barrett
of The Current Staff

"Beautiful Girls and the Men Who Love Them" isn't the name of a new self-help book; it's the concept of Ted Demme's new movie "Beautiful Girls," a story about a group of men and their relationships with the women in their lives.

Willie Conway (Timothy Hutton) returns to the small town of Knight's Ridge, Mass. from New York City, where he plays the piano-bar circuit. Ostensibly in town to attend a high school reunion, he also needs time away to think about where his relationship with Tracy Stover (Annabeth Gish) is going. While in town, he meets the next-door neighbor, 13-year-old Marty (Natalie Portman in a charming portrayal), and Andera (Uma Thurman), a friend's cousin from Chicago. Both women cause Willie to reassess his relationship with Tracy.

Tommy "Birdman" Rowland (Matt Dillon), and Paul Kirkwood (Michael Rapaport) plow snow for a living, and both have relationship troubles. Birdman is having an affair with his married high school sweetheart Darian Smalls (Lauren Holly), while in a relationship with Sharon Cassidy (Mira Sorvino). Paul idolizes supermodels, (his dog is named Elle MacPherson), and he refuses to commit to his girlfriend,

(Martha Plimpton) but doesn't want her to date anybody else.

Rosie O'Donnell as Gina Barrisano, the local beauty-shop owner, rounds out the ensemble cast. O'Donnell, as brash and funny as ever, has the best scene in the movie, in which she drags Dillon and Hutton through a drugstore and tells them about "beauty."

O'Donnell adds a fresh presence to a movie that is otherwise no different than other movies about relationships and camaraderie among friends. The plot is not compelling, and the movie doesn't really go anywhere. While all the actors play their characters well, these characters, except for O'Donnell's and Portman's, just aren't very interesting. (This, oddly, has some appeal, because they resemble people you might have as friends. Not everybody is surrounded by witty yet eccentric best friends other movies are filled with.) Thurman adds an additional bright spot to the movie, but she, along with O'Donnell and Portman, are not on the screen long enough to save the movie from being "just okay."

The movie does ring true to life in many aspects: it's kind of boring, the characters can be irritating rather than entertaining, and there isn't a lot of action or plot line. Calling a friend who has relationship woes might give you the same feeling as watching this movie, without the cost of a ticket.

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OFF THE WALL



by Ken Dunkin
of The Current staff

Anyone who says the St. Louis Cardinals aren't trying to put together a winning team must not be watching the news.

The Cards have been throwing around money like a game of Monopoly in hopes of putting together a winner. But the players acquired are surrounded by question marks.

The biggest signing this winter was Ron Gant. Gant, a "big time slugger," is just the type of player the Cardinals needed. He is fairly quick despite breaking his leg two years ago and he has surprising power. But the question is "Is he worth \$25 million over 5 years?" I think the answer is yes.

The one thing the team lacked was someone that the opponents feared. The Cards always have had slap and judy hitters who would nickle and dime you to death, but they lacked someone who could consistency knock the ball over the fence. That player is Gant.

Put Gant in front of slugger Brian Jordan and watch the opposition cringe. Jordan is a player who will do well with a feared hitter in front of him. Ray Langford will also benefit from having the big man batting behind him, because they will throw him better pitches in a attempt to not have to face Gant.

The pitching has improved more than anything. Last year's dismal rotation has been tinkered with, and new manager Tony LaRussa has come up with a quality group. Acquiring Todd Stottlemyre from the A's was a great move. Getting free agent Andy Benes was even better.

Benes has always needed someone to guide him. With the Padres the guy relied on pure skill, and he did O.K. With the Mariners late last season, he did horrible.

Now paired with pitching coach/genius Dave Duncan he should be a top-notch pitcher. Duncan has a history of taking pitchers who have gone astray and turning them into high caliber players. Dave Stewart, Storm Davis and Bob Welch come to mind. All it will take is time, and Benes will be the anchor to this rotation.

Joining Andy in the rotation will be his younger brother Allan. Allan has tore up the opposition in the Arizona League, winning the pitching MVP award. Though he will go through growing pains, (all rookies do), he has a lot to give this team.

Also in the pitching rotation is Donavan Osborne. Osborne had a rough season in 1995, mostly due to not having pitched in a competitive game in over a year. He had surgery two years ago that caused him to miss the '94 season. Veteran Mike Morgan will also be in the picture.

The two questions that plague the team are at the second base and the closer position. The second base slot can be filled by resigning Geremimo Pena. He has all the tools and should be ready to play a season without suffering a injury...maybe. If he does well, the Cards will be sitting pretty.

The closer roll was boosted by signing Greg Olson. Olson, American League Rookie of the Year in 1989 has been hurt by arm trouble the past two seasons. If he can return to form, he will help the team immensely.

With all these moves, the team has caught the labels like "can't miss" and "sure winners." I think it is too early to make those predictions.

Will this team win the pennant and the series? I doubt it. Rome wasn't built in a day. Will this team be exciting? I guarantee it.

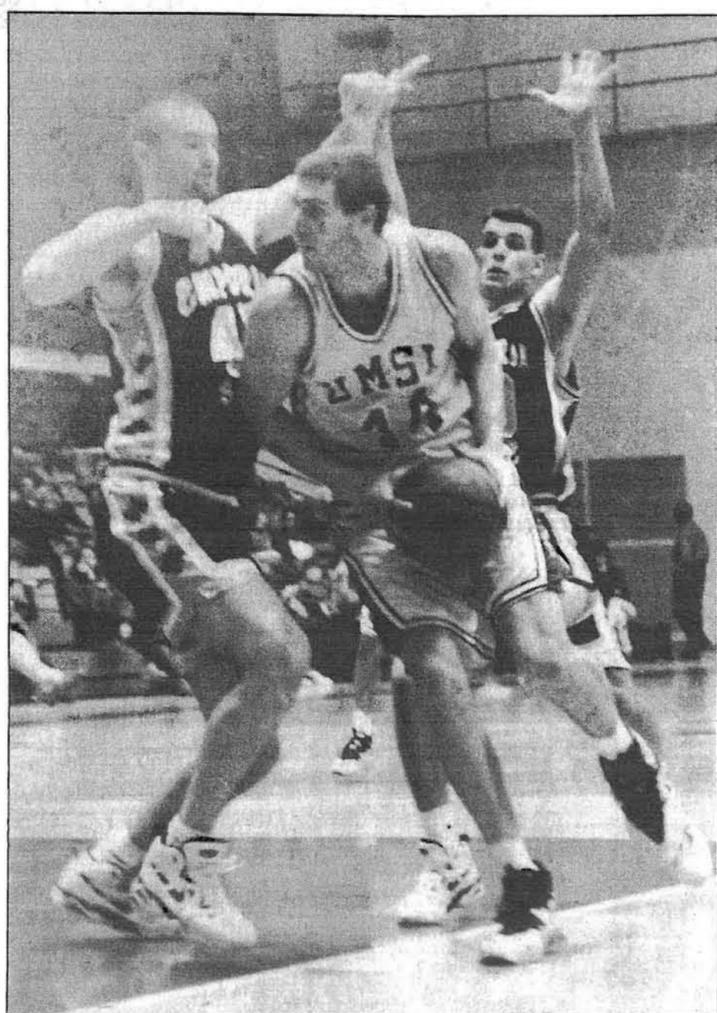


Photo: Ken Dunkin

Rivermen Center Eric Bickel navigates through a maze of Washburn Ichabods during the game last Thursday. Despite excellent play by the Rivermen, they lost the game to Washburn.

Men's basketball miss hoop against Washburn Ichs

by Eric Thomas
of The Current staff

Washburn	29	45	—	74
UM-St. Louis	37	28	—	65

The UM-St. Louis Rivermen basketball team tipped off against the Washburn Ichabods Thursday night seeking to avenge the loss of the Riverwomen just hours earlier. The Rivermen were up by eight points at the half, but play weakened in the second.

Starting for the Rivermen were Lawndale Thomas, Scott Crawford, Rodney Hawthorne, Mark Lash, and Eric Bickel.

Hawthorne lead the squad with 19 total points and eight rebounds. Thomas followed up the top scoring with 10 points and fouled just once. Bickel netted 4-of-8 field goal attempts and grabbed five rebounds, despite having to come out and have his knee bandaged with 14:54 left in the game.

Crawford totaled seven points and three rebounds.

Fouls, bad passes and turnovers plagued the Rivermen, and at 14:04, the squad found their lead dwindling to only four.

At 12:51 Lawndale Thomas fouled, and after the Washburn player hit both shots, it was just a two point game with 12:50 left.

At 12:23 Meckfessel called a time out.

A turnover by Washburn put the ball in their net, courtesy of Hawthorne. But a three pointer by Washburn made the score 47-46.

A foul called at 9:50 sent Kevin Tucson to line with two shots, which could have given the Rivermen the lead, but Tucson only made one.

Hitting a three-pointer was Scott Crawford, negating a three-pointer by the Ichabods. This tied the game at 9:27.

The Rivermen then let their guard down and began missing rebounds and shots. They were down by two at 8:50.

Play got dirty under the net, and tons of elbows forced the referee to call a foul. Fortunately for the Rivermen, Tucson hit the line and had the opportunity to tie the match but didn't. There were eight minutes remaining and UM-St. Louis was down by two.

Thomas gave the crowd something to cheer about with a three-pointer at 7:29, which put the Rivermen even with Washburn.

Barely one minute later Hawthorn sank a field goal and drew the foul. He shot one-and-one at 4:43, but missed. Washburn led 59-56.

It was soon thereafter that Washburn cut loose and began to plague the Rivermen with three-pointers. The score was 62-56, Washburn, with under four minutes left in regulation.

Turn overs then began to tell the story, and the Rivermen found it increasingly difficult to score. It was 64-56, and getting worse.

Lash took a trip to the line at 2:43 and scored. These two points helped the Rivermen, who were down by eight.

Hawthorne weaved and put two points on the board with 1:25 left, but it was too little and too late. With 26 seconds left in the game, the Rivermen faced an eight point deficit; a deficit that they could not overcome that night. The final score read 74-65, Washburn.

Each team committed 10 fouls. Lash and Todd Miller fouled out.

Despite effort by Riverwomen, Emporia snatches victory

by Ken Dunkin
of The Current staff

In a game filled with hard play the UM-St. Louis Riverwomen fell to Emporia State 96-64.

The Riverwomen found themselves up early. They were leading 17-8 at 6:34 in the first half, that lead soon dwindled. They were down 36-45 at the half.

"We just didn't play well enough," Riverwomen head coach Jim Coen said. "We didn't do the things we need to do to win game."

The Riverwomen found that the referees weren't nit-picking and wouldn't call cheap fouls. The Hornets found this out too and began to play a more physical game.

"They out physicaled us," Coen said. "Their kids were just so big."

The Riverwomen found a distinct height disadvantage against the Hornets. The Riverwomen have two players 6-foot or taller, the Hornets had three.

"Stacy Humphrey, Dawn Gronewaoller and Elizabeth Rulon just pushed our kids around," Coen said. "We can complain about the officiating but if their not going to call it then play that way. They took advantage of it."

In the second half the officials slapped the UM-St. Louis fans with a technical foul. The fans had been hounding them for making questionable calls.

"The officiating was bad and it

cost us," Coen said. "Maybe with better officiating then we wouldn't have been behind like that and we could have played a different game."

The Riverwomen were led in scoring by Nichole Christ with 14 points. Sarah Carrier added 11 points and Krystal Logan had 10 points.

"Krystal Logan plays as hard as anybody," Coen said. "She is going to be a good player because she plays so hard. All the kids play hard, but Krystal goes the extra yard."

Carrier and Logan are one of seven freshmen on the team. Giving the freshman time to play and the on the court experience could pay off for the team in the future.

"You look at the experience that the freshman are getting and that

helps," Coen said. "Sarah Carrier, Denise Simon, Charlee Dixon, and Krystal Logan are all going to be much better because of the experience. That is if they can put this year behind them."

The losing season has put a down look for the young team. But as Coen said, things will get better.

"Our kids are really down," Coen said. "They play hard, they do the right thing. It just seems that what ever we do isn't enough. We're young and we are struggling. The only solution is to get older."

"It's very difficult for the girls to feel good. You can be as nice as you want but it's very difficult for them. Nobody likes losing. We work as hard as anybody, maybe harder be-

cause we're losing."

The Hornets came into the game 10-9 overall. They faced a Riverwomen team that has won 1 of their last 10 games.

"You can point the blame here or there," Coen said. "The truth is we're just not as right now good as some teams were playing. The truth is Emporia State is a better team than us."

The Riverwomen will be in action this Wednesday against Central Missouri State at the Mark Twain Building. Game time is 5:30.

"We just need to come back and play hard," Coen said. "That's not going to be easy to do with Central Missouri coming on Wednesday. They are probably the best team in the conference."

Profile

MARK LASH

Men's
Basketball



by Ethan McCollister
of The Current staff

Hustle and hard work are two things a basketball player has got to have to be successful. Mark Lash a senior on the men's basketball personifies that type of play.

Lash, a shooting guard for the Rivermen, has been playing hard for the Rivermen for two years. He was a key player on last year's squad when he average 6 points and 3.2 rebounds per game.

"Mark is the type of player who solidifies our team," Rivermen Head Coach Rich Meckfessel said. "I know we'll get all the things he has to offer."

Lash is a starter this season for the Rivermen. He is the teams shooting guard. Lash has been described as a player who leaves it all on the floor.

"I play hard and try to lead others to play hard," Lash said.

The stats from this season show that Lash has improved his play. He has improved his scoring to 9.9 points per game. His rebounding has remained consistent at 2.9 boards per game.

The team, though, has remained almost the same as last year, when they were 14-13. The team's current record is 9-8 overall.

Upon his graduation from UM-St. Louis Lash said he plans on becoming a physical education teacher. He also wants to be a basketball coach.

In his last season as a Riverman, Lash said he has a few goals.

"I would just like to to win the conference and get in a National conference."



Photo: Ken Dunkin

Veteran Guard Mark Lash takes a shot.

HIGH ON HOCKEY



Rivermen continue scoring spree

by Eric Thomas
of The Current staff

The UM-St. Louis Rivermen Hockey team out scored Vanderbilt University 20 to 7 for another winning weekend at the Chesterfield U.S. Ice Sports Complex.

Vanderbilt	2	0	1	—	3
UM-St. Louis	4	6	3	—	13

Rookie forward Rob Altman got the Rivermen on the scoreboard first Friday night with a goal on a pass from crasher Brian Horn at 13:10 of the first period. Six minutes later, forward Craig Herweck slapped one in, assisted on the play by Andrew Strickland.

At the 5:49 interval, Team Captain Neil Diepenbrock began his scoring spree by sending one past the Commodore net-minder, with an assist going out to Strickland.

Vanderbilt struck back twice with goals at 4:24 and 0:54, but with 32 seconds left, Diepenbrock scored the last goal of the period.

Less than three minutes into the second period, Diepenbrock broke into the Commodores' zone and passed to Strickland for the goal. The next line out for the face off was Horn's, and he scored

a short-handed goal at 17:13 to make the score 6-2.

Canadian goon Glenn LeCour earned two minutes in the penalty box, but this had little effect on the Rivermen's scoring. At 13:18 Diepenbrock scored the seventh UM-St. Louis goal, a solo effort.

With LeCour in the penalty box again at 10:44, Rivermen winger Barclay "Rocket-Man" Poole slapped in his first goal of the game, with both line mates assisting on the play. Three minutes later, Diepenbrock made it 9-2 on a wrap around attempt from Strickland. Then LeCour, at 3:44, sent the Commodore goalie flailing fruitlessly on a blast from the point. Forward Mike Olzowaka earned the assist on that goal in the second period.

The players hit the ice for the final period, and at 13:41 Altman scored on an rush led by Herweck with defenseman Brian Diel pinching in on the play. The scoreboard read 11-2, Rivermen. Play became physical from that point.

Herweck slammed a Vanderbilt forward breaking out into the boards at 11:43 and earned himself a two-minute rest in the box for interference. A short time later, Poole was called for his usual goonish behavior and re-

warded by the referee with a five-minute major.

"The ref gave me a five-minute major for extra-curricular activity," Poole said.

"I didn't drop the gloves but did throw one or two (punches). Corner play is everything in hockey, and we dig rough in the corners for the puck. It's key."

Despite the slashing and stick-holding, Strickland worked across the blue line and scored on a rebounded shot from the point, courtesy of LeCour, at 5:59.

Mackie's repeated glove saves kept the score 12-2 until 2:52, when Vanderbilt scored after pelting the Rivermen's goalie with shots from all over the zone. These events were due to a defensive breakdown, and numerous Rivermen skaters were caught up on the play.

But 18 seconds later, Diel headed end-to-end with moves resembling Paul Coffee, burned all Commodore players, and sent a rocket through the goaltender. The game ended without any player ejections and with a final score of 13-3. The Bud Ice Three Stars were Poole, Herweck, and

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STUDENT FEES

FROM PAGE 1

step in getting the UM-St. Louis optometry program back in line with other schools."

David Davidson, associate dean of optometry, cited three points.

"First of all, tuition increase has outstripped the availability of financial aid," he said. "Students get the aid, then graduate, and can't afford to pay it back."

"Second, the money available is resulting in debt burdens that is unrealistic as far as the income earning potential of recent graduates. Third, it's frustrating to hear [curators] refer to UM-St. Louis as a 'moderate-tuition school' when the optometry school is the most expensive of all 16 optometry schools

in the nation-even private schools that are 100 percent dependent on tuition for their income."

Suggestions were made about how to obtain the money for professional programs from sources other than tuition increases, such as through hospitals or other programs.

Deaton focused on expenditures for professional and graduate degree programs. He also mentioned that, on a national level, Missouri was a moderate-tuition state, ranking 42nd of 50 states in higher education spending based on a percentage of income per capita. Missouri is 43rd in higher education spending per capita and 28th in income per capita.

RESIGNATIONS

FROM PAGE 1

to the University. When a student takes a job as an RA, he or she must sign a room contract. If the student breaks the contract he/she must pay 25 percent of the remaining balance for the room.

"In my most recent conversation with Beck," Grubbs said. "I clearly stated to him that he has chosen to resign. I outlined his options and responsibilities."

Grubbs said that Beck did not dispute this with her. She said that she could not say whether or not he had a remaining balance due.

Though Beck worked the rest of the weekend after the incident, he maintains that he was fired.

Kathy Leicht, psychology/social work senior, resigned her position for academic reasons on Jan. 30. She said there were other factors that led to her resignation.

"I felt trapped in the position," Leicht said. "Grubbs held the room penalty over our heads."

Leicht also said that Grubbs had yelled at her and her co-workers during floor meetings, and that she was pushy

about a programming clause in her contract.

"I was avoiding her," Leicht said. "I would go to the office after 5 p.m. just so I knew she would be gone."

After several incidents of vandalism at Honors Hall in early October, both Beck and Leicht said Grubbs yelled at them during a floor meeting.

"She started yelling at the residents," Beck said. "She threatened they would each pay \$20 to pay for the vandalism if it didn't stop."

Grubbs said that during the meeting in question she had only used her voice as a point of emphasis. She said that the monetary punishment was just an advisement and that she would consult her supervisors before ever implementing such a procedure.

"We had a situation that was dangerous," Grubbs said. "I had to respond quickly and forcefully. It was as close to yelling as I have ever come."

Grubbs said that she is disappointed that the RAs have resigned.



Kathy Leicht

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The Current Newswire

Eating disorders screenings. University Health Services and Counseling Services will sponsor information tables and screenings for eating disorders from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, in Room 72 J.C. Penney at Marillac Hall and in the Mark Twain Building. Call 516-5711 for more information.

Video conferences on violence. "Social Workers and the Challenge of Violence Worldwide," will be the topic of two national videoconferences to be hosted by broadcast journalist Charles Kuralt and broadcast at UM-St. Louis. The first videoconference can be seen from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, in Room 222 J.C. Penney. The second videoconference can be seen from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, in 78 J.C. Penney. Call 516-6385 for more information.

Volunteers sought for optometry research. The School of Optometry is one of 15 participating clinics enrolling volunteers for the Collaborative Longitudinal Evaluation of Keratoconus (CLEK) study. The five-year study will characterize the natural history of keratoconus in 1,000 patients, 80 of whom will be followed at UM-St. Louis. Virtually all keratoconus patients are eligible. Enrollment runs through Mar. 31, 1996. Call Dr. Larry J. Davis at 516-6367 for more information.

NASA Project to be colloquium topic. Cesary Janikow of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration will discuss NASA's objectives for the Electronic Homunculus Project at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, in Room 304 Computer Center Building. Call 516-6520 for more details.

Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual Students for Change (LGBSC) meeting. Those who would like to find out more about LGBSC or would like to find out how LGBSC can help you come to a meeting or call 516-5013 for more information. The next meeting is Feb. 7 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in 441 Stadler Hall.

Coca-Cola Gymnastics Classic to be held in Mark Twain. Over 800 gymnasts, representing 50 teams from 16 states will compete in one of the largest and most respected gymnastic events in the country on Friday, Feb. 9 from 10:05 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 10 from 8:50 a.m. to 10 p.m. Advanced tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children and seniors. At the door tickets will be \$6 for adults and \$4 for children.

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