

Caution
Construction
Ahead

See what's being built and what areas to avoid in the next few weeks. Page 3.

Freeze. The Campus Crime Line has you covered. Page 2.



THE STUDENT VOICE
OF UM-ST. LOUIS

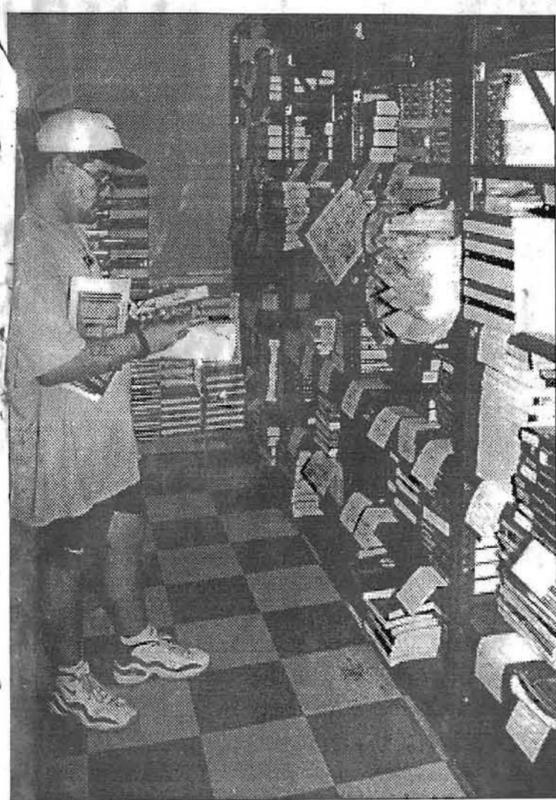
The Current

CELEBRATING 31 YEARS
ON CAMPUS

VOL. 31 ISSUE 891

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

AUGUST 18, 1997



Ashley Cook/The Current

Gerry Wiczorek, math education senior, searches for a chemistry textbook. Many books have not yet been delivered to the bookstore due to the UPS strike.

UPS strikes at the heart of deliveries to bookstore

by Doug Harrison
staff writer

UM-St. Louis students may have a new, and legitimate, excuse for failing to bring their books to class.

The Teamsters' strike against United Parcel Service, now in its second full week, is having a noticeable effect on publishers' shipments of textbooks to the University Bookstore, according to Gloria Schultz, bookstore manager and director of auxiliary and management services.

"It's a problem," Schultz said. "We normally would be receiving 35 to 40 boxes a day from

UPS. Now we're receiving one." She said the bookstore sells about 60,000 books. She estimates that about 7,000 are currently missing.

"We always have some titles missing due to late orders," Schultz said. "The biggest problem is the partial orders necessary to complete a previous shipment."

For the fall semester, the bookstore began ordering in late June, Schultz said. Most orders placed after July 25 have been affected by the strike, she said.

"We've called our publishers

see Books, page 3

Food Feud: Union says food service workers here were 'wrongfully terminated'

by Doug Harrison
staff writer

Officials from a local service employees union have asked the Labor Relations board to investigate the University's new food service provider for alleged violations of federal labor laws.

In a complaint filed July 31 with the St. Louis office of Labor Relations, Sheila Powell, second vice president for Local 50 Service Employees Union, alleged that Food Service Consultants Inc. and its director on the UM-St. Louis campus, Ron Medley, "wrongfully terminated" nearly 40 workers who belonged to Local 50 and were

employed by Aramark Inc., the former food service provider.

Aramark's contract was not renewed by University officials earlier this summer. Of four bidders, Food Service Consultants was awarded the contract to operate the Underground and the Cove as well as provide catering services on campus. It took over Aug. 1.

Aramark officials were not available for comment.

"He (Medley) kicked these people on the curb

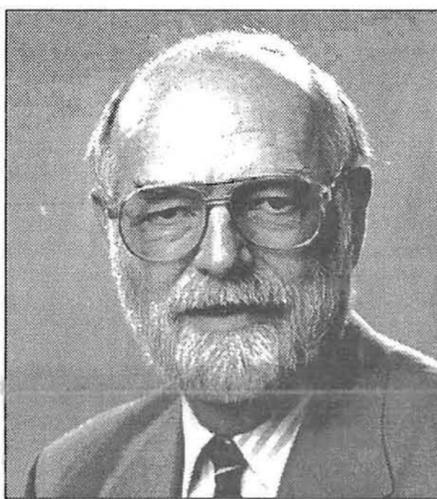
see Labor, page 3

"(Ron Medley, food service director) kicked these people on the curb because of their union activity."

-Sheila Powell
second vice president
Local 50
Service Employees Union

Off to work they go

Bill Rolfes and David Baugher
staff writers



The Jack Nelson File

age: 53
position: Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
arrival on campus: Sept. 1
most recent job: dean, graduate school, Temple University
education: B.A. (Dartmouth), M.A., Ph.D., Philosophy (University of Chicago)
family: wife, Lynn; daughter, Rebecca
office: 407 Woods
phone: 516-5372

UM-St. Louis will have a new vice chancellor for academic affairs this fall. Jack Nelson, a philosophy professor and administrator from Temple University, succeeds Roosevelt Wright, who has held the post for five years.

Nelson's appointment, announced last month by Chancellor Blanche Touhill in a memo to the campus community, was the result of months of work by a 15-member search committee, which reviewed applications this spring from more than 100 candidates.

"We're very fortunate to have recruited Dr. Nelson," said Deputy to the Chancellor Donald H. Driemeier, who headed the committee. "He has experience in dealing with the administrative issues of a growing and urban university."

In her announcement to the campus community, Touhill also praised Nelson, calling him "a creative individual with impeccable academic credentials" who "met and exceeded our expectations."

A new dean of the Pierre Laclède Honors College will take his position today, ending a 15-month span of interims.

Robert Bliss, of Lancaster University, was appointed dean of the Honors College by Touhill. Bliss replaces former dean Fred Fausz, who resigned in May of 1996.

Tom Schnell, associate dean of the School of Education and chair of the search committee, said the job of selecting a dean wasn't easy.

"It was difficult to narrow it down to one person, because there was a large number of highly qualified individuals," Schnell said. "It was even difficult to get a short list."

The search committee recommended that Bliss get the appointment, Schnell said, because of "his experience with working with honors programs and his shared vision with the [Pierre Laclède] Honors College to increase in size, funding and visibility."

see Work, page 3

Wizard's Words of Wisdom

Ozzie Smith honored, gives formula for greatness at commencement

by Bill Rolfes
staff writer

University of Missouri-St. Louis graduates received one last lecture from a true wizard before bidding farewell at summer commencement, Aug. 10.

About 250 graduating students sat engrossed in former Cardinal shortstop Ozzie Smith's commencement address in the Mark Twain Athletic Center.

Ozzie offered words of wisdom and was able to take something home, too. Before giving his speech, he received an honorary degree, Doctorate of Humane Letters.

After the ceremony Ozzie said he felt privileged because "not everyone receives this degree." He added, "Any time you receive something like this it's an honor and it's very special."

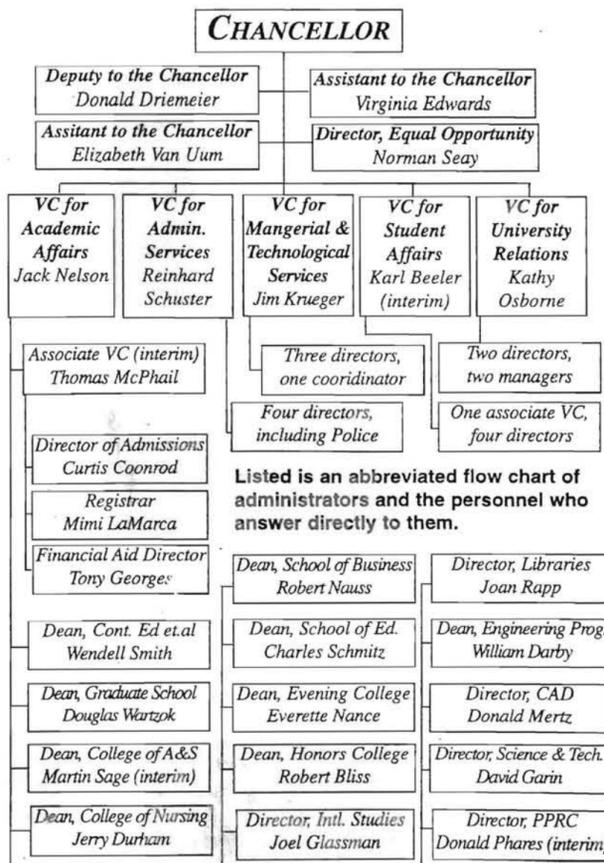
In his speech, Ozzie quoted poems and songs, and offered a bit of his own wisdom too: "Live life with passion, not compliance," and "rise above circumstances." He explained: "Too many people live under the circumstances, rather than above... That's atrophy and apathy in the making. To rise above circumstances one must nurture passion."

He said it was his passion that drove him to 13 Gold Glove awards in his 19 years as a major league baseball player. He recalled one occasion when an unbridled surge of passion inspired him to do a back flip before taking his position on the field.

For 15 seasons St. Louis baseball fans enjoyed Ozzie's acrobatics and hard work on the field. Some people have enjoyed his passion off the field even more. Ozzie devotes his time

see Ozzie, page 3

From the top down



The Robert Bliss File

age: We don't know
position: Dean, Pierre Laclède Honors College
arrival on campus: Today
most recent job: Professor of History, Lancaster University, England
education: B.A. (University of Pennsylvania), M.A. (University of Wisconsin), Ph.D. (Oxford)
family: wife, Paulette; children, Daniel and Greta
office: Honors College
phone: 516-6873

Formula For Greatness

- Think about who you truly are
- Believe deeply in the person you think you truly are
- Dream of what might become of the person you believe you truly are and can be

The Current Events Bulletin Board

Listings are subject to change; contact the organization for more information. All numbers use 516 prefixes unless specified otherwise.

Put it on the Board . . .

The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first come, first serve basis. For best results, make all submissions at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Managing editor, The Current, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63121

Monday, Aug. 18

- **Social Work Chapter Meeting** for the Alumni Association at the St. Charles County Community College Student Center at 5:30 p.m. Contact: Robin or Linda, 5833.

Tuesday, Aug. 19

- **Executive Committee Meeting** for the Alumni Association at Bernard's, 26 N. Meramec, at 7:30 a.m. Contact: Robin or Linda, 5833.

Wednesday, Aug. 21

- **Organizational Meeting** for the Forensics and Debate Club in 592 Lucas Hall at 3:30 p.m. Contact: Tom Preston, 5498.

Friday, Aug. 23

- **African American Chapter Family Night** presented by the African American Chapter of the Alumni Association in the Mark Twain Athletic Center at 4:00 p.m. Contact: Robin or Linda, 5833.

Monday, Aug. 25

- **Recreational Sports Aerobics and Aquatics classes** start. For program days, times and prices, contact the Rec Sports Office, 5326.

Thursday, Aug. 28

- **Elections Meeting** for the Forensics and Debate Club in 592 Lucas Hall at 3:30 p.m. Contact: Tom Preston 5498.

Campus Crime Line

The Campus Crime Line is a service of the campus police provided to The Current to promote safety through awareness. Published entries are selections from a larger list. For information about these and other crimes, call campus police at 5155.

Tuesday, June 17

- A student reported that between 5:55 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., unknown persons pushed in the rear plastic window on her Jeep, which was parked on the first level of garage "N." An attempt was made to steal two stereo speakers which were mounted in the vehicle.
- A student reported that between 4:45 p.m. and 8:25 p.m., unknown persons broke the driver's door glass on her vehicle while it was parked on parking lot "Y," on South Campus. Taken from the vehicle was an in-dash Alpine stereo CD player, a Motorola cellular phone and 11 compact discs.

Wednesday, June 18

- A staff person reported that between June 12 at 4:30 p.m. and June 13 at

7:00 a.m., unknown persons stole a Motorola pager from 340 Marillac Hall. The pager was taken from the desk-top. There was no sign of forced entry.

Monday, June 30

- A staff member reported her vehicle was stolen from parking lot "A," on North Campus between 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The vehicle's keys had been left in the vehicle. The vehicle was recovered later by Ferguson police and released to the owner.
- A student reported that between 4:45 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., her driver's side door window was broken out and a Sony AM/FM stereo was stolen from the dash. The vehicle had been parked on lot "T," on South Campus.

Tuesday, July 1

- A student reported the theft of her purse at 1:55 p.m. from 414 Stadler Hall. The purse was found outside 430 Stadler Hall. Missing from the purse was \$5.00 in cash. A description was given on a suspicious male in the building.

Wednesday, July 2

- A student reported that at 10:30 p.m. two unknown males appeared at the front doors of her automobile, which was parked on lot "E," on North Campus. Neither of the males appeared to have been students. In fear, the student drove off.

The Current

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Member:



Welcome Back From SGA

First SGA Meeting

August 27th
JC Penney Building
Room 78
3:00 pm

Leadership Training and Development Retreat September 5th-7th

Presidents, Treasurers, and
SGA Reps
Call
516-5291



WANTED



Women's tennis players

Call Coach Lisa Schuito

515-5868

Athletic scholarships are available!!



If you build it, they will enroll

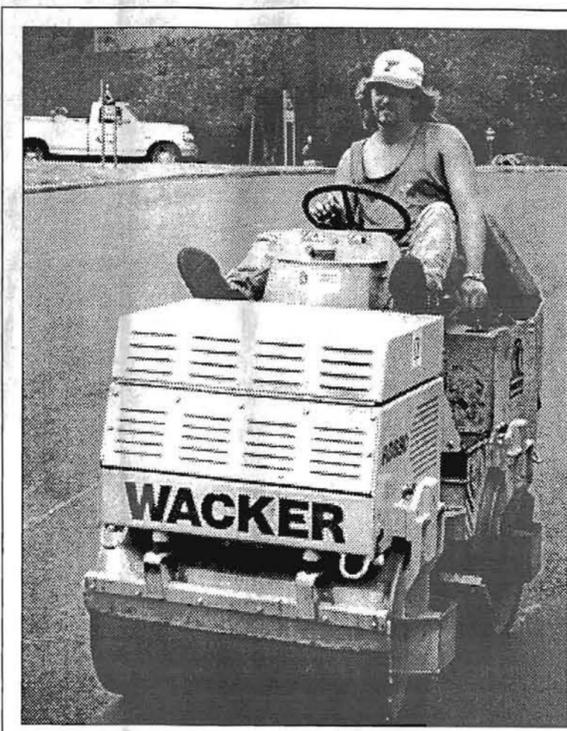
Construction, renovation, additions, enhance campus and its ability to expand in the future

photos by Ashley Cook
story and information
by Bill Rolfes

The University of Missouri-St. Louis campus is constantly changing and growing every year. Recently two new buildings have popped up, one on each side of the campus.

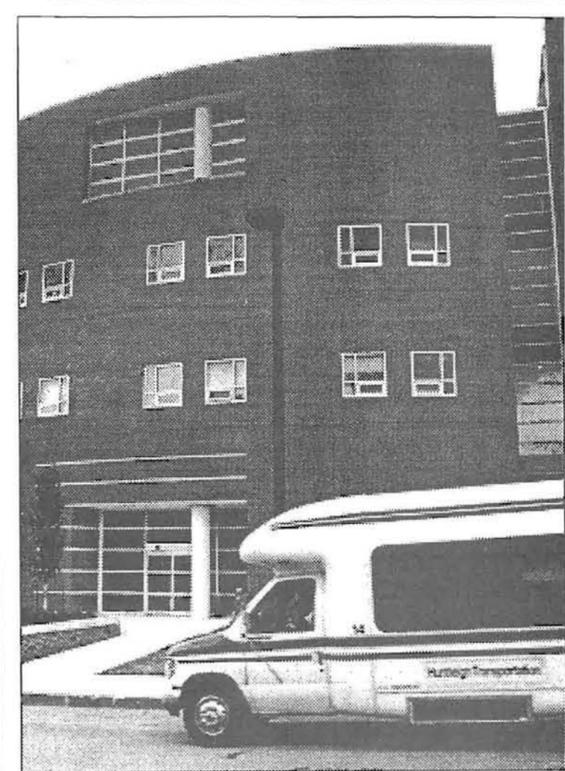
The molecular electronics center grew out of the side of Benton Hall and The Kathy J. Weinman Children's Advocacy Centre and Center for Trauma Recovery stands alone near the UM-St. Louis South MetroLink station. Official dedication dates for the buildings are not set, but they should happen sometime this fall.

Workers also took advantage of less traffic during the summer to repair parking lots and roads. Besides new asphalt on some of the lots, students probably will also notice parking meters installed in lot "B," near the J.C. Penney Building. The meters were installed July 16.



Parking lot and road repairs

- Parking lots S, U and XX, on South Campus, and lots E, J, K and L, on North Campus, were re-sealed and re-stripped.
- Parking lot A, at Woods Hall, and lots T, Y and V, on South campus, were torn up, re-paved with new asphalt and re-stripped.
- The gravel lot at Pierre Laclède Honors College was resurfaced with asphalt.
- Short sections of roads on South Campus were repaired.
- Curb repairs were made on Mark Twain Drive and West Campus Drive.
- Parking meters were installed on parking lot B, across from Woods Hall.



Center for Molecular Electronics

- Opened at the beginning of January.
- Worth \$10 million, the building cost \$7 million and it holds \$3 million worth of equipment.
- Structure divided into two separate slabs to keep vibrations on one side of the building away from the highly sensitive equipment.
- Designed to support equipment, with bigger labs and better facilities than in the Research Building.
- Equipment includes lasers and electron microscopes. One of the electron microscopes was held at Monsanto, but the new center has a large enough lab to house it on campus.



Kathy J. Weinman Children's Advocacy Centre

- Upper level of Kathy J. Weinman Children's Centre and Trauma Institute, on South Campus.
- Mission is to address the needs of children and families affected by child sexual abuse.
- Merged with the Children's Advocacy Center of St. Louis, on West Pine Blvd., to form the Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis.
- Contains a technologically advanced medical examining room and rooms for interviewing and counseling children, on an outpatient basis.
- Staff includes specialized professionals who are experienced in interdisciplinary care.

Institute for Trauma Recovery

- Upper level of Kathy J. Weinman Children's Centre and Trauma Institute, on South Campus.
- The Center for Trauma Recovery moved from its Stadler Hall location to this new facility on South Campus.
- Provides specialized services to trauma survivors and educational training programs for mental health professionals.

Ozzie, from page 1



Ashley Cook/The Current

Former Cardinal Ozzie Smith accepts an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Chancellor Blanche Touhill (left) assisted by Lawrence Friedman, University Senate president, (right) at summer commencement Aug. 10. Smith delivered the commencement address to the 250 graduates.

and money to public service activities, charities and organizations like the Mathews-Dickey Boys' Club.

In 1992 Ozzie was honored as St. Louis Man of the Year. He received the Branch Rickey Award for "service above self" in 1994. And in 1995 he received

the Roberto Clemente Award, as an individual who "best exemplifies the game of baseball, both on and off the field."

Also at commencement, 21 students made UM-St. Louis history by graduating with Bachelor of Science degrees in accounting. In the past a student would

have to earn a BS degree in business administration with an emphasis in accounting. UM-St. Louis is one of three universities in the state to receive accreditation for its accounting program from the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

Books, from page 1

and they've tried to send shipments by alternative carriers," Schultz said. "But RPS is not taking additional shipments and the Postal Service can only ship limited quantities."

The bookstore sells about 2,000 different titles from as many publishers.

Schultz said students shouldn't expect

many of their books to be missing, but said they may notice "some gaps."

"If one student is without a book in a class, it's a problem," Schultz said. "Students aren't too worried now, but they're likely to get more impatient as classes start. And I don't blame them. They're willing to bite the bullet and pay the prices, and then the mind as we enter this period of expansion. Quality must at the very least keep pace with quantity, and your presence offers the best of guarantees that this will happen, for quality has been the foremost criterion in making you offers of admission to the college."

The dean's job is a "hectic" one, says

book's not even there."

She recommends students call ahead before returning to purchase missing books. She said even the strike is resolved soon, students and instructors alike will still be missing a few books in their classes until deliveries to return to normal schedules.

Interim Dean Dennis Bohenkamp, but he has enjoyed his three-month term this summer.

Bohenkamp said he is glad the dean has been named.

He said, "We're getting over a period of interims, like myself, and it'll be good to have some permanent direction," he said.

Labor, from page 1

because of their union activity," Powell said. "He says they weren't qualified but that's poppycock. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to do these jobs."

Medley called Powell's charges "unsubstantiated" and said Powell's allegations are "near slanderous."

He said it was impossible for his company to have fired Aramark employees.

"How do you terminate people who do not work for you," Medley said. "I cannot fire union employees who worked for Aramark."

Medley said that his company was making "radical" changes in the food services provided to the campus. Those changes, Medley said, would require skills many of Aramark's employees didn't possess.

"We're looking for folks with a high degree of interactivity and interpersonal skills," Medley said. And he said Food Service Consultants made it clear to all Aramark employees that things were changing.

"We offered a courtesy interview to everyone," Medley said. "We told them we were looking for individuals who fit a specific mold and make. Some took us up on the interview; some didn't."

Under federal law, any company that replaces a service provider like Aramark must recognize an employee's union if the new employer, in this case Food Service Consultants, retains 51 percent or more of the existing workers.

Food Service Consultants hired three of Aramark's "35 to 40" employees.

Medley said he is not opposed to union activity but questioned Local 50's effectiveness with Aramark. Aramark employees were making "between \$6.00 and \$6.25 an hour," Medley said. He declined to give specific rates of pay for Food Service Consultant employees but said pay would be "more than the union rate, without fail."

Powell said she would have been willing to negoti-

ate with Medley just as she did with Aramark.

"If he wants to pay his employees more, fine," Powell said. "He comes across as a very cold man."

Demetrius Davis, 23, who was employed with Aramark for four years, first as a cook and then as a supervisor, said he wasn't told that Aramark no longer had the contract with the University until "around July 16."

He said when he returned from his honeymoon in late July, Food Service Consultants hired him, without an interview or his having filled out an application.

After working in the campus bakery for two weeks, he said he was abruptly dismissed by Medley on Aug 11.

Tonnice Hawthorne, 33 and mother of two, worked for Aramark for a year as a salad preparer. She said she didn't know she would be out of work until "about July 24," seven days before Food Service Consultants took over the University operation.

"Medley said Aramark knew in early June that its contract was not being renewed. He said Aramark officials wouldn't let his company interview Aramark employees until late in July.

"Many of them we interviewed didn't even know about the contract change," Medley said. "That's wrong."

In a statement issued Aug. 1, Chancellor Blanche Touhill said that Aramark has an obligation to its employees to relocate them in other positions. Touhill said she hopes they will reach an amicable solution.

If they do not settle the dispute among themselves, Don Jueneman, the Labor Relations agent assigned to the case, said an investigation that should begin in late August would determine if any official complaints are issued against Food Service Consultants at the Department of Labor.

Food Service Consultants Inc.

corporate headquarters:
2388 Schuetz Road,
St. Louis
accounts: 50, most
within St. Louis area
employees: about 2,000
campus services:
Underground, The Cove
director: Ron Medley,
516-5242
capture rate*: 11
percent of campus
population
contractual arrangement:
University pays food
costs, management fees

*percentage of population that use provided services

OPINION/EDITORIAL

The Current

The student voice of UM-St. Louis

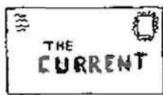
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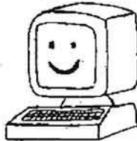
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Your response is an important part of the weekly debate on this page. Letters should be brief and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be accompanied by your name and daytime telephone number.

OUR OPINION

The many troubles of Ms. Dolan

THE ISSUE:

Athletic Director Pat Dolan begins her third year at UM-St. Louis in a department that has serious internal problems.

WE SUGGEST:

Ms. Dolan should focus on restoring the department's good name on and off campus by addressing gender equality in UM-St. Louis athletics.

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Let us hear from you. Submit a letter to the editor on this or any issue.

We don't envy Pat Dolan. At any other university, an athletic director whose short tenure has been marked by such a long list of problems, not the least of which has been a lawsuit against her department and the University for alleged Title IX violations, would be summarily run out of town.

Fortunately for Ms. Dolan and us, Chancellor Blanche Touhill and her predecessors have focused on refining a research mission and seeking academic excellence over promoting athletics, as colleges and universities should.

Nevertheless, Ms. Dolan heads an embattled department plagued by documented inequality and unsettling turnover.

In fairness to the athletic director, she inherited some of the problems whose bad karma may have tainted her administration.

She arrived just after the swimming program imploded: the coach had resigned amid allegations of misconduct, factions of team members with

divided loyalties turned on one another and the Athletic Department tried to eliminate the problem by eliminating the program. Though she had no direct part in that misguided decision, the furor it created cast a pall over University athletics and Ms. Dolan.

That pall only intensified when she fired women's basketball coach Jim Coen, citing poor performance. His subsequent lawsuit, settled out of court earlier this summer, suggested that even Michael Jordan and Cheryl Miller together could not have produced a winning team at UM-St. Louis with the grossly inadequate resources afforded the women's program.

Hopefully, with the arrival of Coen's replacement and the end of Coen's litigation, the Athletic Department can assume a less controversial role on campus and start addressing the issue of gender equality in UM-St. Louis sports.

The new women's softball field is a start. But as Ms. Dolan well knows, she and her department have a long way to go, and we'll be watching.

What's in a (building's) name?

The recent decision to name the new molecular research facility after career politician William Clay was at best misdirected. While Mr. Clay's assistance in securing tax dollars for the project is commendable, it doesn't seem to warrant this type of significant, long-lasting recognition.

As a politician, such assistance is more or less expected of him. We, as a University community in his area, are part of his defacto constituency. For his part, Mr. Clay has rather decently requested that the building take his name only after he leaves office.

But to name the building after him at all is to suggest that Mr. Clay accomplished something extraordinary or made inordinate contributions to the University when in fact he was simply doing what is was that he was elected to do.

Sadly, the Board of Curators passed over a far more worthy and appropriate candidate — the late Marguerite Ross Barnett, under whose chancellorship the research building was made possible.

But then, it is difficult to identify a single structure that embodies the breadth and significance of her contributions to UM-St. Louis. In Mr. Clay's case, the choice wasn't that hard.

Maybe that should tell us something.

An open letter to Honors Dean Robert Bliss

Welcome to UM-St. Louis. I'm sure glad you're here even if you didn't go to high school in St. Louis (this will come up a lot. Trust me).

True, I hated to see your predecessor, Fred Fausz, go as much as the next Honors student. But he's gone, and he ain't comin' back.

So I say, get to work with my blessing. Unfortunately some of my contemporaries may not be so evenhanded about your arrival.

Don't get me wrong. It's really got very little to do with you personally. In fact, the way I figure it, you're a pretty hip guy. You're a bonafide English scholar, and you could have bloody well stayed over there and aged like a good bottle of wine. But you chose to come here.

Oh no, the problem isn't who you are. It's who you're not. You see, Fausz was a pretty popular fellow among Honors students. And the way things went down with him and the college left some Honors students with a bad taste in their mouths. Most of them blamed the chancellor for Fred's, ahem, resignation. And I'm rather inclined to agree. But then it's no big secret that I think the chancellor forced Fausz out.

My guess is, she told Fausz to hit the road and left him with a choice not unlike the one former A&S Dean Terry Jones probably had a few months ago: resign or be fired. Jones was fired; Fausz resigned.

The chancellor's official line was that "Fred submitted his resignation, and I accepted it."

Well, okay. But when you play dumb, you look dumb. And in this case, when you play dumb you look like an administrator who knows how to put the squeeze on your employees but not how to own up to it.

Sure, he resigned. And I'll stand on my head and sing Ave Maria if you hold a gun on me. Doesn't mean I'm particularly good at standing on my head or that I like to sing Ave Maria. It just means you've got a gun.

The big question on Honors students' minds is what now? It mostly boils down to the ubiquitous quandary of quality versus quantity. They don't mind quantitative growth so long as they have assurance that the integrity of the college (i.e. class size and camaraderie) won't be eroded by doubling the current enrollment as the chancellor wants.

If the chancellor is willing to pony up the cash to finance the promises she's made on numerous occasions, we'll not have a problem. Only thing is, cash from the chancellor is hard to come by around here unless your department is home to an endowed professorship or a partnership with a rich white man in the community.

But take heart. We Honors students are a resilient bunch and will do right by you if you do right by us. And I just know that you're going to be as good for the college as it will be for you, even though you didn't go to high school in St. Louis.

Good luck, Dr. Bliss.



Doug Harrison
editor in chief

Cort Furniture Rental

Sells previously rented furniture from 30-70% off retail prices. Sofa's from \$99, T.V.'s \$99, 5 Drawer Chest \$129, Desks from \$169, Lamps from \$19.

Hurry in for best selections!

Cort Furniture Rental

12409 St. Charles Rock Road
Bridgeton, Mo 770-1406

Furniture Housewares Clothing

NCJW Council Resale Shop
6914 Page 426-6295
Between Warson & Lindbergh
Tues-Sat - 9-4
10% off with this ad

The Current is looking for a few good commentary writers. Emphasis on the good.

Submit an original work of commentary (that's opinion pieces) of less than 300 words to Bill Rolfe at The Current. Call 516-5174 for more information.

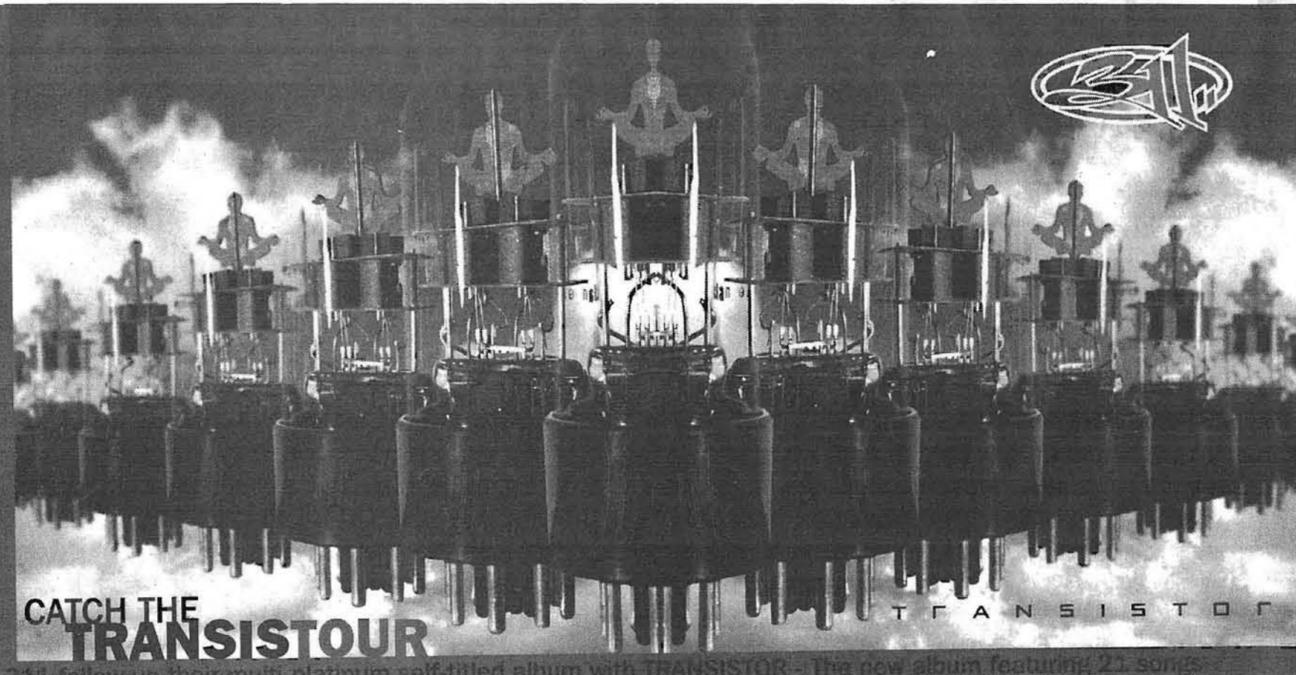
WHAT A DEAL!!!

\$300 per Month
1 Bedroom Townhouses
Short-Term Leases
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Metrolink, and
everything else!!!

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and air, off street
parking, w/w
carpet, 24 hour service,
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311 follow up their multi-platinum self-titled album with TRANSISTOR - The new album features songs

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| 8/5/97 San Diego, CA | 8/22/97 Camden, NJ | 9/9/97 Jackson, MS |
| 8/6/97 Las Vegas, NV | 8/23/97 Hartford, CT | 9/10/97 Huntsville, AL |
| 8/7/97 Salt Lake City, UT | 8/24/97 Asbury Park, NJ | 9/11/97 Nashville, TN |
| 8/9/97 Morrison, CO | 8/26/97 Wantagh, NY | 9/12/97 Knoxville, TN |
| 8/12/97 Cleveland, OH | 8/27/97 Burgettstown, PA | 9/13/97 Atlanta, GA |
| 8/13/97 Clarkston, MI | 8/28/97 Virginia Beach, VA | 9/16/97 Birmingham, AL |
| 8/14/97 Milwaukee, WI | 8/29/97 Raleigh, NC | 9/17/97 New Orleans, LA |
| 8/15/97 Kalamazoo, MI | 8/30/97 Bristow, VA | 9/18/97 Memphis, TN |
| 8/16/97 Chicago, IL | 8/31/97 Charlotte, NC | 9/19/97 St. Louis, MO |
| 8/17/97 Cincinnati, OH | 9/4/97 West Palm Beach, FL | 9/20/97 Bonner Springs, KS |
| 8/19/97 Darlen Center, NY | 9/5/97 Orlando, FL | 9/24/97 Phoenix, AZ |
| 8/20/97 Mansfield, MA | 9/6/97 Jacksonville, FL | 9/25/97 Los Angeles, CA |
| 8/21/97 Albany, NY | 9/7/97 Pensacola, FL | |

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The Current NEWSWIRE

The Current to offer free listing for organizations. Student organizations can now post their activities and events, free of charge, on The Current Events Bulletin Board. All student organizations (and any University departments) should submit the event name, the organization name, time, date, location and contact for each activity at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event. Direct submissions to The Current by mail or call 516-5174; ask for Bill.

KWMU news. KWMU, the campus radio station, has received a news award from the Public Radio News Directors Incorporated. The KWMU news staff was given a Certificate of Merit for consistent, on the mark reporting in the large staff category.

Chancellor named to National Panel. Chancellor Blanche Touhill has been named to the 11-member National Commission on the Cost of Higher Education. The commission's goal is to study and make administrative and legislative recommendations regarding the cost of attending college. The commission has been asked to submit a detailed statement of its findings to President Bill Clinton no later than 120 days after its first meeting scheduled for later this month.

Nominations sought for staff award. The deadline for submitting nominations for the Chancellor's Award for Staff Excellence is Aug. 25. The awards are intended to recognize

individuals in three categories: administrative/professional; office/technical; and service/maintenance. Nomination forms and assistance in preparing a nomination may be obtained from Human Resource Services by calling 516-5258.

Chancellor to host reception for new community leader. Chancellor Blanche Touhill will host a welcoming reception for Rodney S. Wead; president and CEO of Grace Hill, a local community services agency. The reception will be held at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 26, at the Chancellor's Residence. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by calling 516-5789.

Desegregation to be conference topic. "The Course of Desegregation in Missouri: 1954-1997 and Beyond" is the title of a teleconference to be held Sept. 23-24. The teleconference is being held jointly between UM-St. Louis and UM-KC. The conference is sponsored jointly by the Missouri Historical Society, the College of Arts and Sciences, Continuing Education & Outreach, Public Policy Research Centers and the School of Education. Call Becky Walstrom at 516-5960 for more information.

Credit Union Office to close temporarily. The Mizzou Credit Union office, Room 423 of the General Services Building, will be closed today through Aug. 28. It will reopen Aug. 29. During this period, those needing access to the credit union should call 1-800-451-1477.

After five years of competition, UM-St. Louis student Michele Eise recently became Miss Missouri and realized her



Crowning Achievement

by Bill Rolles
staff writer
photo courtesy of Michele Eise

When she was six years old, Michele Eise would entertain her family with singing and dancing. On Sept. 13 the 24-year-old will perform for the entire country when she competes in the 1997 Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City, N.J.

Eise, a senior vocal performance major at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, won the Miss Missouri title in June in Mexico, Mo. Since 24 is the age limit of the competition, winning the title couldn't have come at a better time. After five years of competing for the crown, Eise will finally get her "one shot at the big dance."

Eise was a music education major before changing to vocal performance. She still wants to teach but not in a classroom setting. Eise said she respects teachers who teach in classrooms and thinks there is a definite need for them. But she prefers a studio.

"I was observing in a classroom, and I realized that it was not the environment I wanted to teach in," Eise said. "I wanted to create an environment that was more laid back and fun. A lot of what I do is teaching confidence."

As part of her Miss Missouri competition platform the past five years, Eise has been giving motivational talks to local youth. She teaches about goal setting and ideas.

"Ideas are great," Eise said. "But you also need a foundation. I tell them to restate their ideas on paper, then I tell them to balance and prioritize those ideas."

Eise believes that many times people look at the final product of an idea and don't consider all the obstacles they may encounter. Eise teaches the youths that fulfilling goals is not always easy, but it takes hard work and determina-

tion. She uses her own life as an example of overcoming obstacles. Eise has taken part in many auditions in the past several years and has felt the sting of getting cut from time to time.

"I would be auditioning and not making it and not understanding why," she said.

Eise teaches perseverance.

"Imagine if I wouldn't have stuck it out for five years," she said. "It's a shame. Some of those girls get so close, and they don't realize how close they really are."

For a while after the age of six, Eise became a bit quiet. She figured she had to be a quiet person because of the label an adult had given her.

"When you get older you become conditioned by what others say," Eise explained. "I tell the kids, don't limit yourself to what others say about you."

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Required and recommended books may be returned for full refund when:

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- 2) Accompanied by sales receipt;
- 3) Returned in same condition as purchased;
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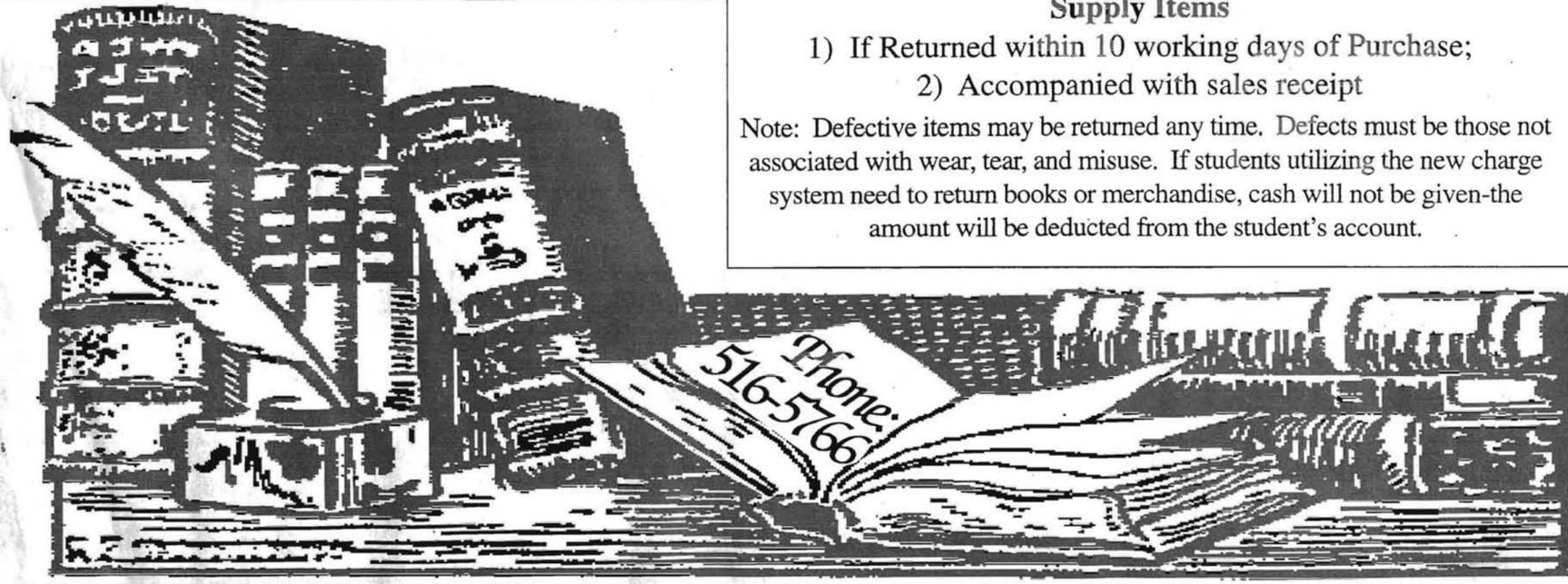
Study Guides, All Books Other Than Text

If Returned within 24 hours, with sales receipt

Supply Items

- 1) If Returned within 10 working days of Purchase;
- 2) Accompanied with sales receipt

Note: Defective items may be returned any time. Defects must be those not associated with wear, tear, and misuse. If students utilizing the new charge system need to return books or merchandise, cash will not be given-the amount will be deducted from the student's account.



Building to take name of politician

by Bill Rolles
staff writer

The center for molecular electronics will get its new name, that is, once its namesake retires.

At its July 24 meeting the University of Missouri Board of Curators voted 7-2 to name the building for Rep. William L. Clay, D-St. Louis, once he retires from office.

The late Marguerite Ross Barnett, former UM-St. Louis chancellor, made a commitment to name the \$10 million center for Clay, who secured the federal funds to build it.

Curator Mary Gillespie, a UM-St. Louis alumna, said the Board was pleased to comply with Barnett's promise.

"The Board of Curator's action to name the center for molecular electronics for Congressman Clay in a small way reflects our gratitude for his vigorous advocacy for

this community and University over the past four decades," Gillespie said.

When UM Interim President Melvin D. George recommended the building take Clay's name, his suggestion specifically required that it not happen until after the congressman retires.

The *St. Louis Post Dispatch* quoted George's explanation, "I, as a matter of policy, do not like naming buildings for sitting politicians."

The two curators who opposed naming the center for Clay were Paul Steele of Chillicothe and Paul T. Combs of Kennett.

The *Post* quoted Combs saying, "I personally am against the naming of buildings for political officeholders while they are living, whether they are in office or not."

Doris Coleman, president of the African-American Chapter of the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association,



Rep. William Clay

said she was "impressed" with Clay and the work he has done for the University.

"Congressman Clay was very instrumental in getting the funding for the center, and that will bring the University into the next millennium," Coleman said. "It will lead to a lot of prestige for the students, because it is state of the art."

SGA president plans busy agenda for fall semester

by David Baugher
staff writer

New computers, teacher evaluations and homecoming plans are only a few of the things on the agenda for newly-elected Student Government Association President Jim Avery this semester.

Avery officially took office July 1, succeeding ex-President Bob Fritchey as head of the SGA. Avery defeated opponent Barb Collaso with more than 60 percent of the vote in last April's elections. Avery said he was especially pleased with recent moves to modernize the University's computer labs.

"The ball is rolling," he said, adding that he expects new computers to be installed in the Social Science Building lab by the beginning of the semester. The computer issue had been the centerpiece

of his campaign against Collaso.

"A lot of people are surprised when I tell them about the lack of technology we have in our labs," he said. "If you ask the students what their number one complaint is about the university, I'd say the majority of them will tell you that it's the crummy computers that we have here."

In addition to the computer modernization, Avery points to other recent successes such as the planning meetings held over the summer for this October's homecoming.

"We already have the hotel it's going to be at," he said. "We already know who the DJ is going to be."

Avery also points to the revitalization of the dormant Intercampus Student Council as another achievement. Headed by

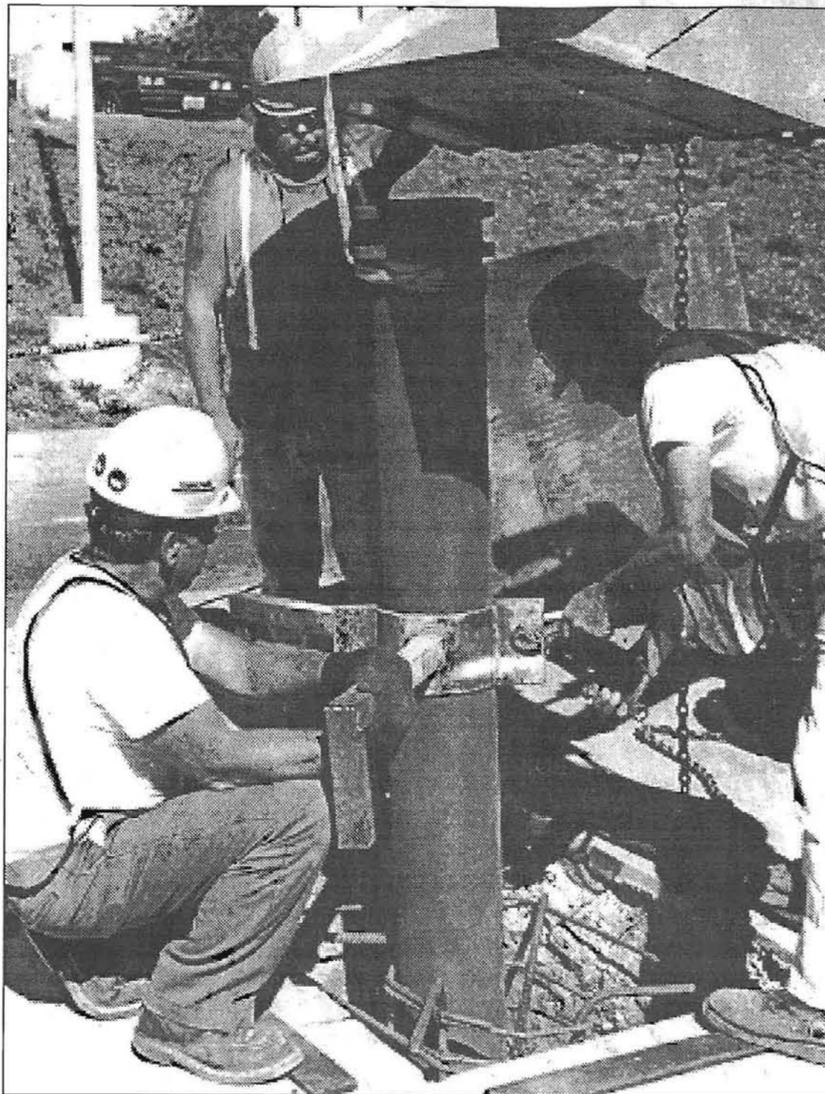
the student body presidents of all four UM campuses, the council is designed to strengthen student representation in presenting ideas to the Board of Curators.

"Instead of me speaking as Jim Avery, student body president of UM-St. Louis, if we have an issue that we'd like to bring up to the Curators we can bring it up as all the student bodies of all the campuses," he said. "It gives you a little stronger voice."

Avery has several projects for the immediate future, including working to eliminate early morning finals and continued research on implementing standardized SGA-sponsored teacher evaluations to isolate "poor lecturers" and "poor test givers."

"I hope to put the results online so it won't have any cost for the students," he said.

Pole Position



Ashley Cook/The Current

L-r: John Lorraine, Rob Giddes and Marvin Schubert from Castle Contracting, Inc. install safety bumpers at the South Campus MetroLink station. The barriers are designed to stop or significantly slow down buses and other vehicles that may hit them. Installation of the barricades follows a deadly bus crash there earlier this summer when a bus jumped the curb and struck and killed four people waiting in a shelter nearby. Among those killed was a UM-St. Louis student, Christina Green. Other MetroLink stations with similar designs have had the bumpers installed recently.

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