



Meet Wally Sparks is a cinematic nightmare. See page 4.



Brain Folsom profiles senior Deena Applebury. See page 5.



The Student Voice of UM-St. Louis

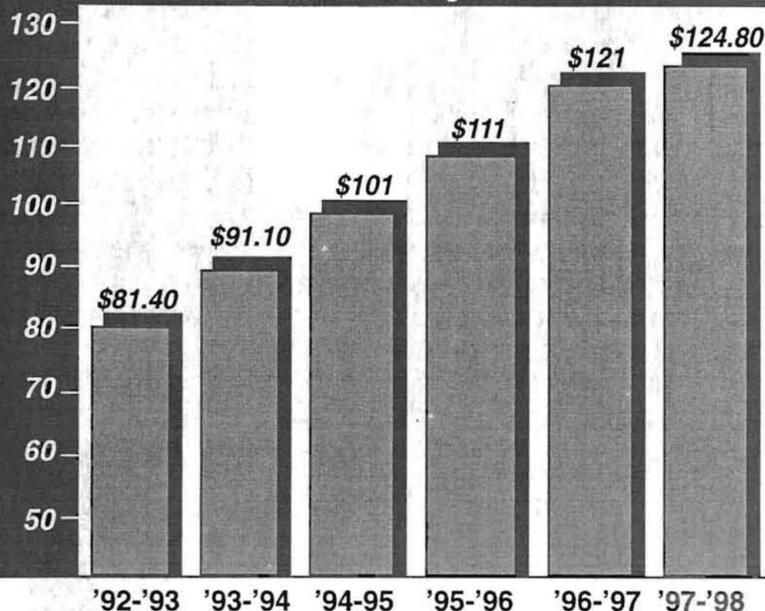
# The Current

30th Anniversary 1966-1996

Issue 878 UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

February 3, 1997

The cost per credit hour for resident undergraduates



## Curators ease up on fee increases

### Fee hike marks lowest percent increase in five years

by Bill Rolfe news associate

Malaika Horne presided for the first time as board president Thursday and Friday as the Board of Curators unanimously voted to increase educational fees by 3.1 percent for the 1997-98 academic year. The board increased educational fees from \$121 to \$124.80 per credit hour for undergraduate Missouri residents. The board's finance committee set the increase to comply with the estimated rate of inflation and the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI). Several supplemental course fees at UM-St. Louis increased by more than the HEPI. The instructional computing fee rose from \$6 to \$7 per credit hour, a 16.7 percent increase.

In a letter to Horne on Jan. 21, 1997, University President Melvin George said, "We have unusual pressures in extending computer services to students, and this increase is essential to serve student ad-

equately."

Student activity, facility and health services fees increased by 4.7, 3.6 and 2.3 percent at Columbia, Rolla and Kansas City. At the St. Louis campus, the fees increased 10.1 percent.

"The higher percentage adjustment at UM-St. Louis is caused by a 25 percent increase in health service fees, from \$12 to \$15," George said. "This increase will help defray institutional support and plant costs not previously charged to this program."

The resources and planning committee announced several goals for the Board of Curators to develop. One goal is to improve administrative systems and processes.

The committee plans to redo the system by purchasing hardware and making the processes more efficient.

Under the current system, a student goes to one office to register, another office for financial aid and also to the Cashier's Office. The committee's plan would offer a one-stop service, allowing a student to sit down

with only one person and address any inquiry.

Horne said she likes the idea of examining problems and recommending solutions. She said the Board still needs to discuss and thoroughly examine the goal of improving administration systems and processes.

"We will have to do a cost benefit analysis," Horne said. "If the cost outweighs the benefits, we won't do it. The benefits will have to outweigh the cost, by far."

Horne is beginning a six-year term as President of the Board of Curators. She succeeds Fred L. Hall, Jr., who served as president from Jan. 1, 1996, until Dec. 31, 1996.

Horne also announced the appointment of three curators. "Gov. Mel Carnahan has appointed, and the Missouri State Senate has confirmed, two new members and one not-so-new member," she said. The Gov-

see Fees, page 8

## Budget committee to begin hearings next Sunday

by Bill Rolfe news associate

At last week's Student Government meeting, Comptroller Ron Chamberlin announced the Student Activity Budget Committee will hear organizations' budget requests on Sundays, from noon until 3 p.m., beginning Feb. 8.

At the hearings, organizational representatives will present supporting evidence for their 1997-98 budget requests.

Chamberlin asked members of the assembly to be patient due to the large number of budget requests that the committee received.

"This year, we received 85 budget requests," Chamberlin said. "We will try to get through the requests as best we can."

Midway through the meeting, SGA President Bob Fritchey set a precedent by allowing a representative from United Parcel Service to address the assembly.

Jeff Sauter, a UPS representative, said he is usually on campus in the mornings to recruit students. He said his main purpose is to attract students to work for the company,

and one way of doing this is to sponsor different groups and activities.

"I open it up to you," Sauter said. "If there is anything that you have coming up for which you need a sponsorship, and you think that UPS might be interested in doing it, please feel free to give me a call."

Sauter said UPS won't sponsor everything, but he wants to hear from the students. He said he wants to know several things about a proposed event: if the group did the activity the previous year, how many people attended and what kind of advertising the group used.

"Traditionally, we spend a good chunk of our money on recruiting," Sauter said. "And this is one non-traditional way of doing that."

Sauter said UPS wants to promote employment within campus organizations. If a student belonging to a UM-St. Louis organization works for UPS for six months, the company will donate \$100 to his or her organization.

Angela Hornaday, vice president of the SGA, read a list of committees to the assembly. Hornaday said the people who signed up for the committees last semester did not meet often.

"I'm pretty sure most of the problems, complaints and concerns from last semester are still around for this semester," she said.

Hornaday reminded the assembly that one representative from each

see SGA, page 8

## A room with a view

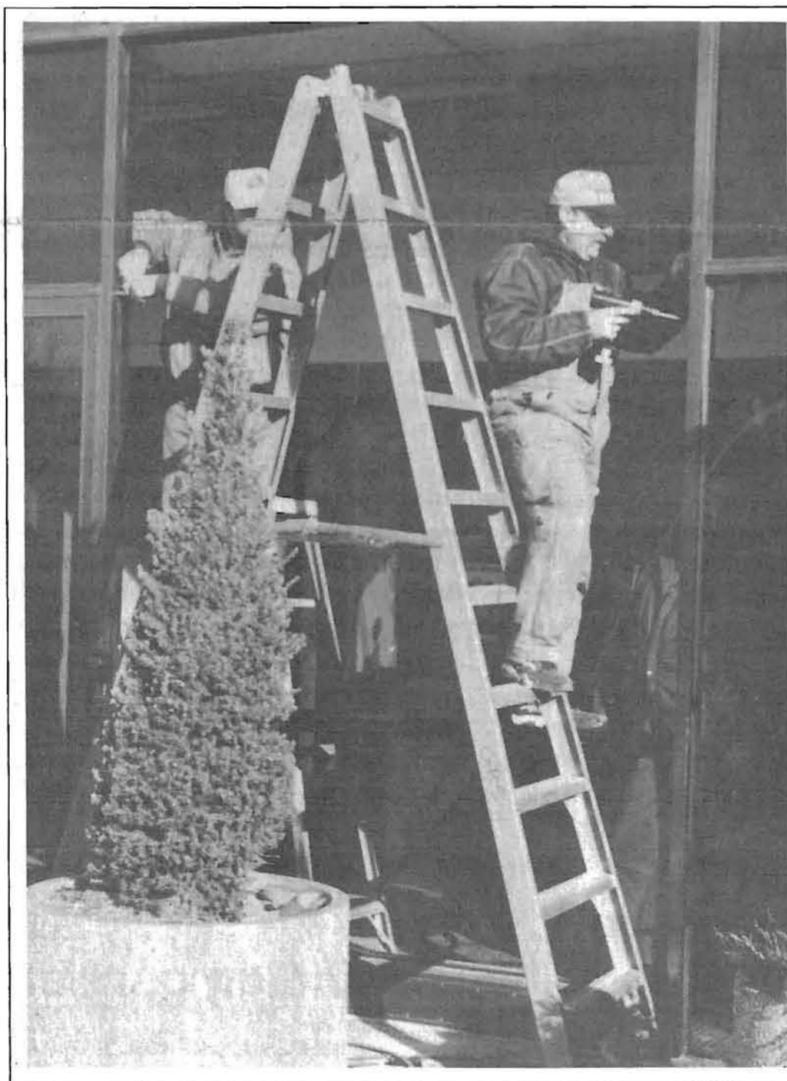


photo: Ashley Cook

Men brave the bitter cold to put in a new window in the Thomas Jefferson Library.

## Speaker tells secrets to success

by David Baugher of The Current staff

Preparation, effort and involvement are the most effective ways for students to be successful in their chosen careers, Patrick Combs told a small gathering of UM-St. Louis students in J.C. Penney auditorium on Thursday.

"Good grades, the right major and a degree are not what get you a great job," Combs said. "The most important homework you will do in college is never assigned."

Combs, an internationally known motivational speaker and television personality, stopped here to give an address and sign copies of his book, *Major in Success: Make College Easier, Beat the System, & Get a Very Cool Job*. His visit was sponsored by the University Program Board.

Combs said that the key to impressing prospective employers lies in having abilities and experience other applicants don't.

"When employers have a job available, they are overwhelmed with the amount of resumes that they receive," he said. "If you don't have the basic fundamental qualifications, an internship or co-op, computer skills or something that demonstrates leadership on paper, you're not even going to get invited to the interview."

Combs, who has himself interned with such companies as Levi Strauss and Charles Schwab, stressed the importance of being an intern, noting that 64% of interns are offered jobs by their employers and that interns tend to make more in their first job than those who don't have on the job experience.

Computer skills are also important. Ac-

see Jobs, page 8

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Winter weather stinks. See page 2.

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## Weather not an issue at campus blood drive

by Tonya Hearon of The Current staff

Even though the weather took everyone by surprise, the annual Blood Drive held Monday in the J.C. Penney building continued.

Although nature took its course, donors continued to come in small groups to give blood.

The blood drive, which is sponsored by The American Red Cross, has been traveling across the bi-state area for over 50 years, attempting to increase the number of donations. The purpose of the blood drive is to supply area hospitals with much-needed blood

therapy patients, accident victims or surgery patients, just to name a few. According to Mary Donahue, the site coordinator, the American Red Cross is in more need of donors than ever before.

"We are pleading for help," Donahue said. "If anyone can sponsor us we would greatly appreciate it."

To give blood, one must be 17 years old, 110 lbs, not pregnant, not on antibiotics and not have a cold or virus.

Although donor participation varies according to the weather, Donahue said the Red Cross anticipates turnout based on pre-registration and lo-



photo: Ashley Cook

## At UM-St. Louis, students combat snow and ice

by Scott Lamar  
editor in chief

As a kid in grade school, I can remember watching the snow fall at night and praying to the god of sleigh riding punks that classes would be cancelled the next day.

Unsure of the verdict, I would run to the kitchen early in the morning to hear the school closings on KMOX.

It seemed like an eternity before the words "Pattonville R-3, closed" rolled off the announcers' lips. Geez, how many Catholic Schools were there?

When the good news finally arrived, it meant a day of frolic and merriment on the snow and ice. I lived on top of a hill, a steep one at that, which was perfect for six or seven hours of non-stop sledding.

The cold weather wasn't a factor. About six layers of clothes served to protect young skin from the biting wind. It also provided enough padding to cushion any spills on a slick surface.

Snow days spelled freedom. Yup, those were the days.

However, things are a little different now. I still anxiously await news that classes are cancelled. But the term snow day has taken on a new definition. Whereas snow days were once a luxury, they are now a necessity. It no longer means hour after hour of slip-sliding down the hill on my Flexible Flyer. Now I wonder if I'll have to slip-slide down the snowy interstate or sit in traffic for hours on end.

Personal safety also plays a big part. The days of popping back up from a fall are over. Slipping on ice could easily be preceded by a trip to the emergency room.

So far this semester, school cancellations have occurred twice. The latest instance happened last Monday. Evening classes were cancelled following a hellacious ice storm. At approximately 4 p.m., the official word came down.

At this time, the brunt of the storm had passed. The falling ice had switched over to snow, which masked the skating rink the storm had created.

Morning weathercasts predicted the unsavory event. With the information at hand, what did the University stand to gain (or lose) by cancelling school for the entire day?

Students on campus who awaited the decision were forced into the nightmarish situation on the highways. In my opinion, classes should have been called much, much sooner.

Impending storm aside, the walkways on campus weren't very safe to begin with.

I can recall walking to class at 11 a.m. and nearly slipping on a patch of ice left over from a previous winter storm. The small piles of salt dispensed every few yards up and down the steep incline coming down from parking lot E proved deceptive.

If I had fallen, there would have been several consequences. On top of the embarrassment of skidding/sliding down a hill as several dozen people looked on, the pain resulting from the fall would have been none too pleasant. In addition, the clothes I was wearing would now be sporting new features, mainly salt and dirt.

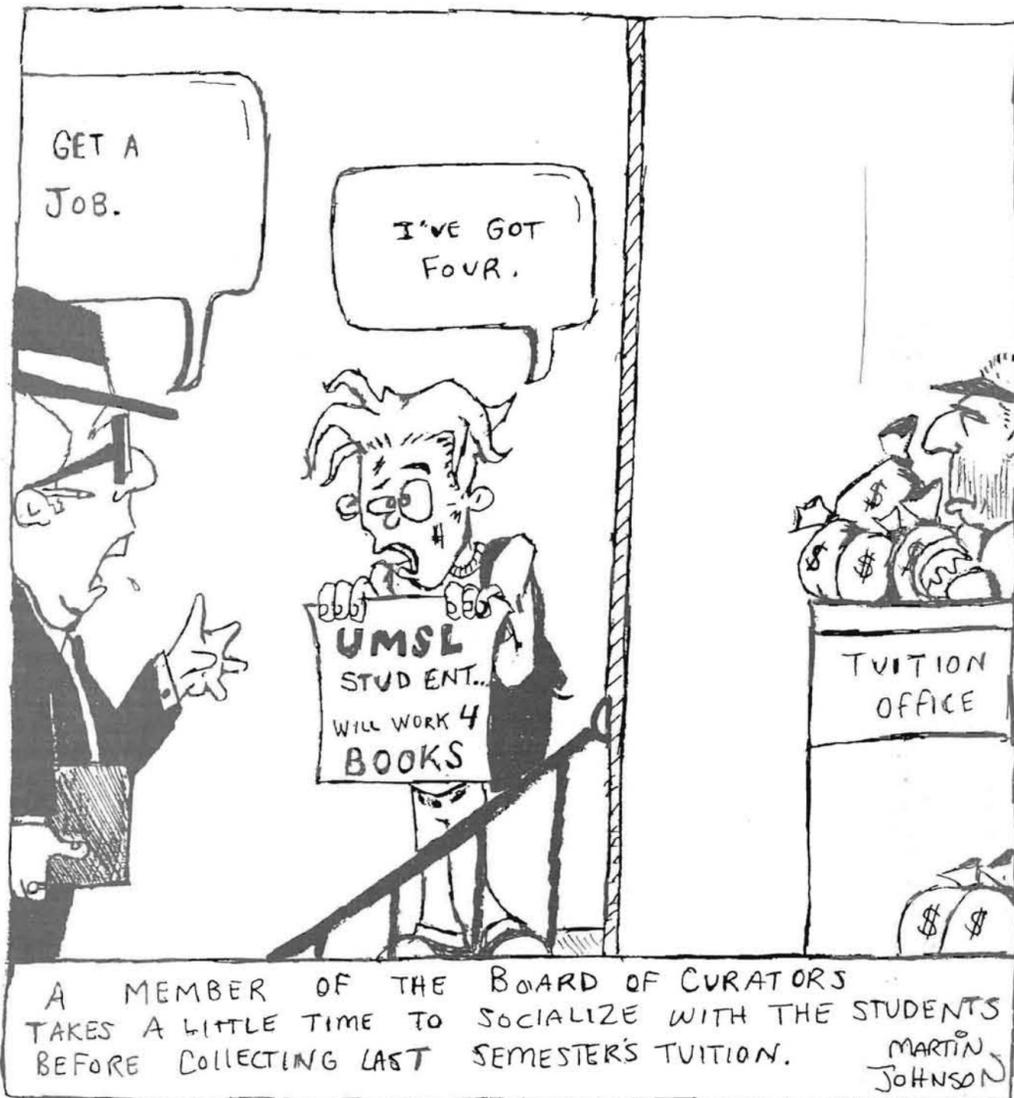
I attributed a small degree of agility and a good pair of hiking boots to the prevention of a fall in my case. Certainly though, not everyone could have been as fortunate.

In any case, the snow situation could have been handled differently. In light of the ice patches and imminent winter weather, the University should have been closed.

Sure, students have choices and one of them is to stay home. But that isn't fair to students. They shouldn't have to pay good money to go to school and at the same time risk life and limb to reach the classroom.

What is the University trying to prove? That a blizzard can't hold back its students?

Perhaps the decision to close school should be left up to a panel of students. After all, it's students who must take the greatest risk during inclement weather.



## My kingdom for an Adam Brown

by Doug Harrison  
managing editor

Just four short days after the president of our nation renewed his oath of office, a young aspirant named Adam Brown took his oath to defend, uphold and protect the rights of his domain as student government president of, well, some other university.

His inaugural message was one of straight forward, plain-spoken ambition to do what he was ostensibly elected to do: get stuff for students.

Atop President Brown's agenda, adopting fixed-rate tuition, eliminating finals that start before Hardees begins baking Rise'n Shine biscuits and lobbying to repeal incremental grading.

Sound ambitious? Compare it to our own Student Government President Bob Fritchey's agenda for his administration: get students involved.

Thank you, Bob, for that stirring and original call to action.

While committing the resources of one's political office to combat apathy is commendable, it should not replace a specific agenda at eliminating pre-dawn finals and lobbying for a fixed-rate tuition. In choosing to focus on student involvement, Fritchey inadvertently lit upon the one cliché that has long plagued this University's student government and probably will continue to stifle and inhibit future administrations that hide behind the auspices of an apathetic student body.

Get over it already.

I too regret that more students do not choose to involve themselves in the opportunities that student life here has to offer. But think not for one second that I let these slightly misanthropic people drag me down or affect the way I perform my job. In truth, I and many of my counterparts in positions of leadership would likely not have risen so easily to our positions had more of the campus been involved thus heightening the competition among would-be student leaders.

But it is not a crime neither is it a mark of shame to attend a commuter campus. Rather than eternally lamenting the inescapable reality of our unique commuter student body, SGA, of which Fritchey is necessarily a part, needs to recognize this and move on.

Belonging to and, in Fritchey's case, representing a commuter student body simply means that fewer students will actively participate in SGA. That does not mean these people are to be pandered to or solicited as if their presence is necessary before any real action can take place.

Pretend for a moment that 200, 400, maybe 1000 students will show up at the next SGA meeting. Would that constitute an acceptable level of student involvement? Would a student government whose prime agenda is increasing student involvement be ready to take real action? Or would we hear that action must wait for more involved students?

Even Fritchey's predecessors recognized the unmanageable absurdity of this mentality. As a direct result of former President Chris Jones' efforts, students no longer have to pay out the nose for transcript. Former President Beth Titlow initiated an antidiscrimination resolution that sent a very clear and unequivocal message to those who, as our commander-in-chief said, cloak their hate in religious and moral pretenses.

But the real work of student government is yet to be done. And the only way to win the respect of the "uninvolved" masses is not to demand their time and energy before going to work, but to accrue a debt of gratitude, accomplished only through diligent and often thankless efforts on their behalf.

Above all, student government bears an unavoidable accountability to all 15,000 students, not just the smattering of voters who comprise the UM-St. Louis electorate. That thousands of students are not picketing, marching and petitioning for fixed-rate tuition or abolition of the incremental grading system does not excuse SGA leaders from pursuing these and other worthwhile efforts.

Indeed, the job demands a leader with vision and ambition. Just ask Adam Brown.

## UPS taints otherwise concise SGA meeting

If cleanliness is next to Godliness, brevity is next to perfection at Student Government Assembly meetings. The first SGA Assembly meeting held last week marked not only the abolition of the bi-monthly meeting schedule but also one of the shortest meetings of this academic year.

Unfortunately, last week's meeting also set a dangerous and particularly unsettling precedent when a representative from United Parcel Service was allowed to sidetrack the assembly with self-serving promotional propaganda.

While UPS's offer to sponsor student organizations' fund raisers bespeaks its community-mindedness, the offer smacks of a certain greedy altruism of which

SGA should be free.

Just as local municipalities, state assemblies and Congress do not allow promoters and fundraisers to hawk their wares at official meetings, neither should SGA offer the floor of assembly meetings up to every fast-talking dog-and-pony show.

The more tasteful and appropriate approach would have seen the UPS promoter waiting professionally at the door to greet assembly representatives as they departed.

Doubtless organizations that desire to employ the services of UPS could likely find the recruiting giant on campus any given week.

Furthermore, the precedent set Wednesday threatens to prolong meetings beyond reason as has been the case during much of President Bob Fritchey's administration.

Excluding the UPS intrusion, Wednesday's meeting was surprisingly to the point and pleasantly short. Hopefully this uncharacteristic brevity is a trend that will continue into the coming semester's meetings.

Assembly Chair Ben Ash, who was absent from Wednesday's proceedings, would do well to take his cue from that concise meeting in order to ensure that Wednesday becomes the rule rather than the exception.

Quite possibly the SGA Administration will devote more of that saved time to taking up worthwhile endeavors that has previously been pre-empted by unproductive, marathon meetings.

Doug Harrison and Scott Lamar

## Letters to the editor

### Absence of fans reflects poorly on University

Recently the UM-St. Louis Rivermen played the SIUE Cougars, and the Cougars had seven cheerleaders as well as many fans to help lead their team to victory. How many cheerleaders did UM-St. Louis have? None. Why? The Athletic Department eliminated our cheerleaders approximately three years ago.

Since then, two student groups have formed, the UM-St. Louis Dance Team and the Riverettes, to help instill spirit at the games. However, the primary focus

has been to perform halftime dance routines at the Rivermen home sporting events.

While it is nice to have halftime entertainment, it is not enough. It looked extremely bad when SIUE had cheerleaders and all UM-St. Louis had was me—the school mascot. What's worse, the members of the Riverettes sat in the stands dressed in their outfits before and after their halftime performance. On the other hand, the nights when the UM-St. Louis Dance Team performs, it helps the fans by taking on the role of cheerleaders.

UM-St. Louis needs to re-establish its cheerleaders in order to help motivate fan spirit at home sporting events. Second, more students need to come support the athletic teams at home games. To gain the true university experience, you must do more than just go to classes. Remember, admission to regular season home games is free with your ID.

Steven M. Wolfe  
Captain Rivermen

### Reader calls for kindler, gentler columnist

This letter is in direct response to Doug Harrison's editorial "Order in the student court."

When I saw the adjectives "disgraceful" and "inept," the verbs "fumbling," "bungling" and "mishandling" as well as the nouns "disinterest," "misconduct" and "unprofessional," I said, "Wow! The managing editor of *The Current* sure is out of touch with the facts." When I see or hear Steve Bartok's name, the aforementioned words are the last ones that I would use to describe him because he cares about our campus. He has taken on the job of several people and for a while worked alone on the student court. Where were all these political science majors that Mr.

Harrison mentioned?

For that matter, where was Mr. Harrison? Mr. Harrison also brought up a good point when he said that on an ideal campus, "students actually spend enough time on campus to interact with one another and thereby participate in events." I have been heavily involved on this campus for the last three years without ever seeing my friend Doug. Mr. Harrison, do you hang around campus after classes or just go home and write negative articles about the few unfortunate incidents that happen on campus? Negative attitudes such as the managing editor's fuel the apathy that lives and breathes on this campus. I am only picking on Mr. Harrison because he is a friend of mine, and he is actually in a position to make things better if he would

only choose to do so. Disrespectful articles such as his rip and tear this campus community apart and foster apathy.

Doug, *The Current* is a student organization, and when you bash it or one of its affiliates, you bash your organization as well as yourself. I sincerely hope that you treat people with respect in your future editorials.

For those of you reading, get involved with a student organization that appeals to your interests, and make the best of your education. But most of all, have fun.

Todd Appel  
Newman House SGA Rep.  
Honors College Student Assoc.

The student voice of UM-St. Louis

# The Current

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## Rat's Ramblin's



by Michael J. Urness  
of The Current staff

A few years ago a friend in California, sensing a deep need on my part, mailed me a copy of a book she had been given years earlier. It was the low point of my life emotionally and spiritually as it followed the breakup of a passionate romance. The book, *The Prophet*, by Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931), brought me out of the most profound depression I had ever known. It renewed my desire to continue the quest for love and knowledge.

Gibran, a poet, artist and philosopher, was born in Lebanon and moved to the United States twenty years prior to his death. In *The Prophet*, a book he considered his greatest work, Gibran writes of a traveler named Almustafa who mysteriously arrives in a city and ends up spending a long time among its inhabitants. One day as he prepares to leave, a group of towns people gathers about him, and the town seeress asks him to explain such things as love, marriage, children, teaching, pain and death. In perhaps the most brilliant treatise ever written on love Gibran wrote:

*When love beckons to you, follow him,  
Though his ways are hard and steep.  
And when his wings enfold you yield to him,  
Though the sword hidden among his pinions may wound you.  
And when he speaks to you believe in him,  
Though his voice may shatter your dreams  
as the north wind lays waste the garden.*

Since first receiving, reading and gaining considerable comfort from this book, I've given copies of it to friends and loved ones who needed to know that they were not alone in their suffering from a variety of troubles. I presented a copy of this book to a friend when he went into a treatment center in attempt to overcome a substance abuse problem. And, more recently, I gave one to a friend and neighbor who has been diagnosed with a life threatening illness. I hope he gets a chance to read it and that he finds peace in what Gibran wrote about death:

*What is it to die but to stand naked  
in the wind and to melt into the sun?  
And what is it to cease breathing,  
but to free the breath from its restless tides,  
that it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered?*

Despite its age *The Prophet* and its message transcend such earthly notions as time. If ever you find yourself facing a seemingly insurmountable number of trials and tribulations, consider reading this book. If you have friends or family members who are suffering in any way and you lack the words that would bring them comfort, give them a copy. The resolve that comes from reading it is Gibran's great gift to the world.

Next time I'll tell you about another book I've been reading that has had exactly the opposite effect on me. It's called *In Defense of Elitism*.

# EXPLODING ONTO THE JOB SCENE

by Michelle Sarver  
of The Current staff

It's you're fourth, fifth or maybe sixth year at the University. You have accumulated over \$20 dollars worth of student loans, and the payments begin the month you graduate. You know you need a substantial job upon graduation. Sound familiar?

You wonder how soon to begin looking for your full-time job. Surely, if you find a job tomorrow, your employer will want you to begin working the next day. Karen Loeffelman, assistant director of UM-St. Louis Career Services, disagrees.

"Begin now," she says. "Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors should start immediately. Companies often hire in the autumn for positions available in the spring. Also, according to Loeffelman, hands-on experience such as internships and co-ops offers the opportunity to sample fields of interest and gain experience before plunging into a full-time job.

Once narrowing the field of interest, how do you begin your search? Many professionals recommend two opposing schools of job-hunting, but both schools include networking.

Loeffelman advises to be broad in job search strategies. If you send your resume to enough places, you'll get lucky somewhere," she said.

Like Loeffelman, Harry Weber, lecturer in business writing and review writing, also urges students to network. "Research who is in charge of accounting at Monsanto. Write directly to that person, and include why you chose to write to him or her." Weber believes that students should try to get interviews with people likely to hire them. This approach is direct and personal.

In either case, students must have copies of their resumes available. Students can put their resumes on Career Services' software and enter them into the department's database. Career Services will then send resumes to any employer who requests applicants with skills similar to yours. The fee is \$35.

Having obtained an interview, students should prepare beforehand. First, research. Knowing the demands of the position in question is not enough. That position is part of a larger organization. Understand what that organization does and how it works. This can enhance a discussion with a potential employer.

Next, practice interviewing. Weber suggests that students recruit friends and family to ask them sample questions. Many business-communication books provide interview guides. Even if the interviewer does not ask identical questions, Weber believes this practice will "bolster your self-esteem."

Loeffelman states that employers most often look for employees with communication skills, computer skills and previous experience. For example,

## The Right Combination

- Appearance
- Friendliness
- Poise & Stability
- General Knowledge
- Good Communication
- General Impression
- Computer Skills
- Self-Motivation
- Experience
- Alertness

-compiled by Michelle Sarver

the new CEO of MagneTek wants energetic employees who adapt easily and move quickly, according to Sharon Adams, benefits specialist at MagneTek.

Students still unsure about what fields interest them can check out Horizon in SSB 427. They can get career counselling and take advantage of the career resource center. Career Services, located in Woods Hall, provides resume referrals, on-campus recruiting, a job vacancy listing and a career library.

UM-St. Louis students do find success if they work at finding a job. Jennifer Green, recent UM-St. Louis graduate and co-owner of Sahara Sands Productions, had "basically gone through the phone book looking under advertising. I was getting ready to send stuff out when I got the call from Amy of Capital," she said. Capital GBS Communications hired Green two weeks after graduation. Recently, she was promoted to creative director.

Kam Wise earned her teaching certificate in December 1996. In January, she went on her first interview at a local high school. She now teaches American Literature at that same school.

"Even though there is a general sense of optimism about new teaching jobs opening, accompanying it is the reality of high-level competition. I feel lucky to land a job at this time of the year," Wise said.

"It's a good job market, but you need to be prepared for your interviews. That's what really counts," says Loeffelman.

## Legacy of feminism comes alive in new book

by Pam White  
of The Current staff

Christina Baker visited UM-St. Louis Jan. 31 to discuss her newly released book, *The Conversation Begins: Mothers and Daughters Talk About Living Feminism*.

Baker, chair of the liberal studies program at University College in Maine is a women's studies scholar and political activist. She was recently elected to Maine's state legislature.

Baker co-authored the book with her daughter and namesake, Christina Kline, who teaches writing at New York University. Baker's visit was sponsored by the UM-St. Louis Center for the Humanities and the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies (IWGS).

Fran Hoffmann, director of IWGS, said that the book has been reviewed favorably in quite a few feminist journals and was glad for the opportunity to sponsor Baker's program.

"The second wave of feminism in the U.S. is now over 30 years old," Hoffmann said, referring to changes occurred in the 60s.

Hoffmann discussed how the women who worked diligently to bring about those changes are now in their 40s, 50s and 60s, noting that a new generation that includes daughters and students of the other generation has come

of age.

Hoffmann said these young women often view the discrimination which so affected the previous generation as a relic of the past—interesting as history, but irrelevant to them.

"We have much to learn from one another across the generation," Hoffmann said. "*The Conversation Begins* is a wonderful place to start."

"The book is about activist, feminist mothers and how their daughters have fit themselves into a feminist legacy," Baker said. "It is also about those mother-daughter relationships."

While researching the book, Baker spoke to mothers and daughters who had made public contributions to the contemporary women's movement. Some have widespread name recognition, such as Letty Cottin Pogrebin and Tillie Olsen. Others are known mainly in their local community.

This brought up the issue of telling the truth and hearing the truth, which can be an important but diplomatic issue. Baker quoted Gloria Steinem's observation that the women's movement moves forward to the extent that women tell the truth about their lives.

But did these public figures want to tell all? Baker said that she had to argue strenuously with Bantam Books' lawyer about the personal issues of the study's par-



Baker (right) with her daughter

ticipants. She was told that she wouldn't have a book without the sensationalism.

Many participants were willing to speak to her but did not want their personal issues reported as part of a book.

Baker was asked about archiving the results of her study, and she said that she would have to look into that aspect.

When asked by an audience member what conclusions the book draws, she stated that many of the stories are individual.

But she also found that all the daughters interviewed have continued in the mothers' political beliefs; all the daughters understand that somebody had to do it.

"Most of the daughters are not activists, but are actively doing the work of feminism," Baker said.

Hoffmann asked about the sons of activists, and Baker responded that she would love to do a follow-up study of feminist mothers and sons.

"That is another story, and their stories are terribly important," she said.

## Professor reaches out to 'at-risk' children through unique program

by Jill Barrett  
features editor

Dr. Vivian McCullum works to influence the educational system from the inside out.

McCullum, an assistant professor of behavioral studies the School of Education, said she wants to train future educators to be comfortable with their skills so that they will "feel eager and enthusiastic about helping children."

Although training future teachers well is an important first step in reaching children through education, McCullum has created more immediate ways to help youngsters.

In 1993, McCullum developed Education Institute, a not-for-profit outreach program that provides educational opportunities for children who, because of their economic background, are at risk of being lost in the educational system.

"At the university level, I want to teach the attitude that all children can learn," McCullum said. "Just because they're disadvantaged doesn't mean that they are not capable. Also, I'd like to see that all children have the opportunity to be successful."

According to McCullum, there is a disparity among the dispersment of funds targeted for

education.

"My personal opinion is that the State School Board Association and the State Department of Education should work together to develop a more equitable funding mechanism. Why should one child receive \$1,000 for education and another child receive \$5,000, based solely on where they live?" she said.

McCullum, through Education Outreach, hopes to help compensate for this gap by tutoring students, providing homework help and introducing children to a variety of experiences, such as vocal instruction, art and multicultural issues, to which they might not otherwise be exposed.

McCullum thinks helping young students improve their grades has a more significant impact than just an improved GPA.

After an evaluation of the program last year, teachers reported changes in the behavior of students.

"One student, who had been acting out at the beginning of the year, began to have academic successes," McCullum recalled. "This student's behavior greatly improved because these successes raised [this student's] self-esteem."

see At Risk, page 4

## UnderCurrent

by Ashley Cook  
of The Current staff



"Receptionist. I wore a slinky black dress and talked my way into it."

—Jennifer Lofton  
Junior • Clinical Psychology



"Restaurant busboy. I had a cousin that worked there."

—Joey Michel  
Senior • Political Science



"Cart boy on a golf course. I had played on the course in high school."

—Michael Wyatt  
Junior • Business

"Cashier at a drive-in. A friend of my mother's helped me get it."

—Anjanette McKinney  
Junior • Accounting



What was your first job and how did you get it?

Movie Reviews

# Wally Sparks the White Castle of all movies

by Daniel Martinez  
of *The Current* staff

Meet *Wally Sparks* is Rodney Dangerfield's latest comical attempt at a blockbuster movie. Although this movie has some of the ingredients necessary for a hit, like big-name leading actors, hilarious one-liners and countless cameos, it lacks one main ingredient—a decent script!

The movie does have a couple of extremely comical scenes and several traditional Rodney Dangerfield one liners which left the audience rolling in the aisle.

Unfortunately, these scenes and one-liners were short lived and were all heard within the first half hour, leaving audience members wondering if they could just replay the first part of the movie again instead of watching this sad attempt at a plot, which I would have been very capable of sleeping through if I didn't have to review it for the paper.

Wally Sparks (Rodney Dangerfield) is the most outrageous talk show host on television. The FCC and politicians want him off the air. The network president (Burt Reynolds) has no choice but to cancel the show unless Wally Sparks can clean up his act and increase his ratings. So he and his producer (Debi Mazar) decide to go after an interview with the extremely conservative governor of Georgia (David Ogden Stiers) who happens to be leading the campaign to get Wally Sparks off the air. The governor is also being blackmailed to halt his campaign for state senator. Along the way Sparks encounters a jealous corporate bad guy who will stop at nothing to ensure Sparks fails. So, it is up to Wally Sparks as only he knows how to get the interview with the governor, expose the blackmailer, stop the bad guy from ruining him and save his show in the process.

I suppose to ask for a decent and original script from a Rodney Dangerfield movie is like asking for a White-Castle burger with real meat. It just can't be done.

But let's face it—when we think of seeing a comical Rodney Dangerfield movie a good story is perhaps the furthest thing from our minds.

So, if you enjoy Rodney Dangerfield movies and decide to see this one, please heed my warning leave after the first half. You won't miss a thing, and your comical image of Rodney Dangerfield will remain intact.



Rodney Dangerfield and Cindy Williams star in the comedy *Meet Wally Sparks*.

## Cannes Film Festival Winner *Prisoner Is Story Of Humanity*

by Pam White  
of *The Current* staff

"It's easier to kill a man than to love him," said Sergei Bodrov, director of *Prisoner of the Mountains*. Killing can be fast, but to love takes time, understanding, communication and work—lots of work. This conflict is the basis of Bodrov's newly released film. It is a quiet, gentle Russian film with subtitles that won a Cannes Film Festival award and is scheduled to open in St. Louis Feb. 14.

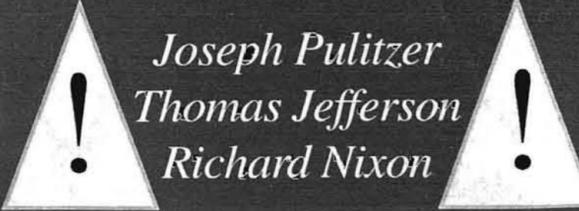
The movie is based on Tolstoy's classic short story "Prisoner of the Caucasus," written for children. Both Bodrov's and Tolstoy's versions are about war. The Tolstoy original is about a young man who is captured by the enemy in a war between Russia and its neighboring nations. Tolstoy wrote his story over 150 years ago, but the movie is set in the Caucasus mountains, near Chechnya, so it seems very relevant today.

Chechnya becomes a place one can see instead of just the vague name of a foreign place—it becomes real; the people become real. The movie was filmed in Dagestan, about 300 kilometers from Chechnya. The

village of Rechi was chosen for the film because of its majestic landscape, and the mountains have a fascinating, surrealistic grandeur that is Dali-esque. Rechi has no hot water or sewage, and women still climb the mountain every day to get water from a nearby spring.

Bodrov tells that the only way they have been touched by the 20th century is through television, and even that is sporadic. Bodrov's version of the story does not use the war as its main focus. His story is about people and relationships and lost innocence. The quiet strength and determination in the faces of the characters is central to his theme. His use of the music and words to the songs is also basic to the tale. "The wind frightens the heart of any strangers here," sings a woman.

But he also uses a Louie Armstrong song later in the film as part of an ironica, humorous touch. Louie sings "Let my people go" as the prisoners dance. Bodrov calls his film a tragicomedy that talks about serious things with humor. The film is rich with many qualities, but it is also eclectic and discrete. Don't go to this movie if you're looking for an action film. It employs artistry, not noise.



Joseph Pulitzer  
Thomas Jefferson  
Richard Nixon

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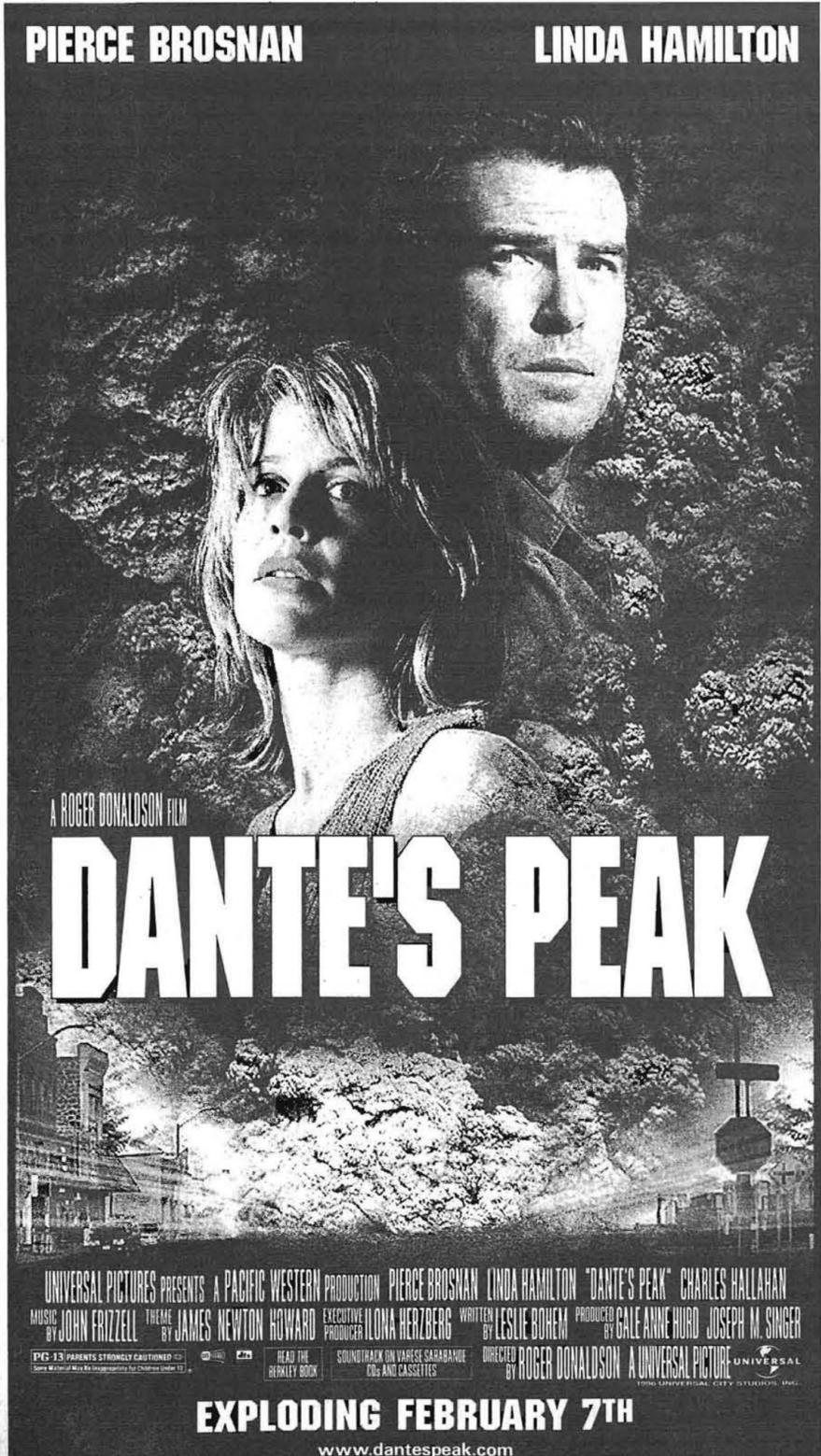
Show up and say "I am not a crook" and receive absolutely nothing off your next purchase at the University Bookstore.

### At Risk, from page 3

them."  
Another program that McCullum coordinates is an after-school program which helps students who are in transitional housing. This program operates in the Normandy School District. These students often need extra attention at school, McCullum explained, because the lack of the lack of a permanent home can have a negative impact on the children's behavior, attention-span and self-esteem. These problems make it diffi-

cult for them to maintain an interest in learning.  
McCullum stated that 99 percent of the 23 children enrolled in this program are African-American.  
"Children need to know they have a measure of success, even if they are minority and female," McCullum said. She stressed that schools are always in need of volunteers to help tutor students.  
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February 3, 1997

# Applebury excels as lone senior

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

Although the team has struggled this season, senior guard Deena Applebury has made the most of her final year at UM-St. Louis.

Applebury is a two year starter for the Riverwomen and has been with many different players, but this season's team is different since it is made up of mostly freshmen and sophomores.

The Riverwomen are 4-15 overall, and 1-11 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, but according to Applebury, this team has a lot of talent.

"We are a young team, so it is going to take a while to come together and play like we are capable of playing," she said. "But we are a pretty balanced team; we've just been struggling."

There is no doubt that Applebury has been doing her part to get the team on the right track. The senior standout leads the team with 365 total points and a scoring

average of 19 points per game. She also leads the Riverwomen with 43 steals and a 69 free throw percentage. She is second on the team in 3-point field goal percentage at 34 percent and total minutes played

**"We are struggling now, but I would hate to imagine where we would be if we didn't have (Applebury) with us."**

**-Riverwomen head coach Jim Coen**

with 570.

Head Coach Jim Coen said that Applebury is invaluable to the Riverwomen.

"We are struggling now, but I would hate to imagine where we would be if we didn't have her with

us," Coen said. "Deena is a great athlete, and she has done a great job of creating her own shots and keeping us in a lot of games."

She kept the team in their game against Southern Indiana. Southern Indiana is undefeated in the conference and Applebury responded with 31 points.

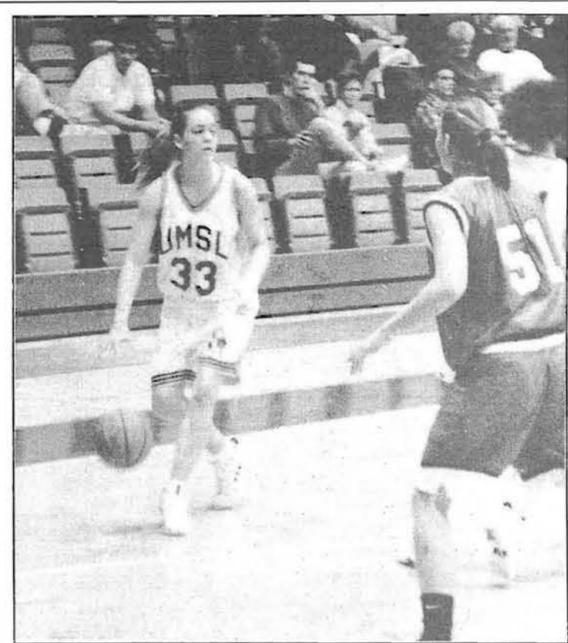
Last season she was the teams second leading scorer. She averaged 14 points per game. Her 3-point shooting helped her to the total. She scored on 42 of her attempts. She also averaged 4.4 rebounds per game.

Coen added that the only problem with the success Applebury has had is that the other players are not being as aggressive.

"The other girls look for Deena to shoot the ball, and that hurts us because they are not putting up as many shots," he said.

Applebury came to UM-St. Louis after two seasons at State Fair Community College, and she says her success comes from a lot of

see Senior, page 6



Deena Applebury drives to the lane against a Southern Indiana player. Applebury scored a season high 31 points against the conference power.

photo: Ken Dunkin

## IN OVERTIME



by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

How many sports fans out there really follow the "minor" sports? By this I mean sports such as boxing, tennis, sometimes golf qualifies, auto racing, swimming and skiing. I am not putting these sports down in any way because each of them is very competitive in its own right. However they don't receive nearly as much coverage and recognition as the four "major sports" which include baseball, football, hockey and basketball.

Growing up, I never really paid much attention to other sports besides the "big four." They always seemed more exciting to watch, as well as play. The players were always in the media spotlight, and the other sports just didn't interest me as much.

I think a lot of it had to do with ignorance. I didn't know enough about the sport, so I didn't bother to take the time to learn.

By the time my teen years came around, I took a little more interest in tennis and golf. Since there was a tennis court and a golf course in the field behind my house, I started playing on them with my friends, and before long I was out there all the time playing.

This got me started on broadening my interests a little, and when I would be flipping through the channels and see a tennis match, I would find myself watching a little of it.

Over the next few years, I became interested in many other sports besides the main ones, and I gained more of an appreciation for them.

In the last couple of years, more coverage has been given to these sports with ESPN 2 and other similar stations on television. Before, the only time they were on television was the Olympics. I will often watch these events for a while I come across them. I am amazed to turn on television and see pool games and table tennis matches being played.

A few years ago, when I first started my subscription to *Sports Illustrated*, I would skip right over any article on boxing, skiing, etc. Now I at least glance at them, and sometimes even read them in depth.

There are some sports that I just can't get into watching on television, such as golf and snow skiing. It's funny because these are two sports in which I would participate in a heartbeat if a group of friends were going to play.

I don't get much time to play golf, but I do think that it is a great sport to play. I am more prone to fast action sports, but something about golf attracts me to it. I think it is because it is a challenge to see how far I can hit the ball, how straight I can shoot on the green and figuring out which club to use in a given situation. It is a competitive game, and it makes you think. That's why I like it.

Snow skiing is also something that I don't like to watch on television but love to do. The first time I ever went was a couple of years ago at Hidden Valley Ski Resort, and I had the best time. It took me a while to get used to the skis, but once I did, I had a blast. I plan on going again this weekend, and I am definitely looking forward to it.

I don't think that these sports will ever gain as much recognition as the other ones, but I am glad to see that they are getting more coverage because I have gained a great appreciation for them.

## Riverwomen drop two to conference rivals

### Riverwomen no match for Southern Indiana

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

Clutching the almost impossible goal of beating a 16-1 opponent, the Riverwomen basketball team faced the Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles last Saturday.

The Eagles hold an amazing 16-1 record and a 10-0 Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) record. The Riverwomen came into the game 4-14 and 1-10 in the GLVC.

The Riverwomen played tough, keeping the game fairly competitive in the first half. They were down 57-33 at the half.

The second half went better for the team, it was still out-scored 52-39. The Riverwomen shot 50 per-

cent in the second half. The final score was 109-72.

UM-St. Louis was further inhibited as freshman Donna Simon and Jamie Dressler were held out of action. The team was left with only six players, meaning one substitute. This meant increased playing time. Denise Simon led the team with 38 minutes played while Deena Applebury followed close behind with 37. Fatigue hurt the team down the line.

The team was led in scoring by senior Applebury with 31 points. She shot 9-for-24 in the game. She was perfect from the free throw line, hitting all 10 of her attempts. Charlee Dixon also poured in 23 points, in addition to her team high of 4 assists.

### Edwardsville wins big in border battle

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

The problems continued for the UM-St. Louis Riverwomen's basketball team Thursday as they suffered another disappointing defeat to conference rival Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, 68-54.

SIU-Edwardsville (14-4 overall, 9-2 Great Lakes Valley Conference)

jumped out to an 18-4 lead with nine minutes remaining in the half, and it appeared that they had total control of the game.

According to head coach Jim Coen, the problems started with poor shooting.

"We were missing too many easy shots, and if we had made those shots, we probably would have had the lead,"

see Battle, page 6



Missy England, UM-St. Louis guard, tries to get past a Southern Indiana player last Saturday. The Riverwomen fell 109-72. The team will play their next home game Feb. 13 against Quincy.

photo: Ken Dunkin

## Tuckson's 24 points, 21 rebounds stand out despite loss to SIU-Edwardsville

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

Despite a stellar effort by center Kevin Tuckson, the Rivermen lost a battle against SIU-Edwardsville last Thursday.

The Rivermen fell to 5-13 with the 69-64 loss. Tuckson kept the team in the game as he continued his season of spectacular outings. He pulled down a career high 21 rebounds. He also poured in 24 points.

It had been more than 20 years since a Rivermen player has scored more than 20 points and made 20 rebounds in a single game.

"Tuckson has been playing well all season," Riverman Stein Rotegaard said. "It's the rest of us that have to step up. We have to have five guys on the court at all times playing well."

That was a problem for the Rivermen as they combined for 14 turnovers in the game. They were led by Rodney Hawthorne with seven turnovers.

"The turnovers in crucial spots were the key to this game," Tuckson

said.

The game started well as the Rivermen scored the first six points. It went down hill three minutes into the game as SIU-Edwardsville began to score and eventually had a one point lead at the half.

"A lot of times we come out and have a big spurt," forward Eric Stiegman said. "We get a lead on them, and then we have a few turnovers and don't hit our shots and their back in the game."

"We usually come out and get behind early and then attempt a comeback, and usually, like tonight, it is to late," Stein Rotegaard said. "If we can play hard for 40 minutes, we can win a lot of games."

A difference between the teams was scoring off of the bench and shooting overall. The Rivermen shot 39 percent while SIU-Edwardsville shot 42 percent. The Rivermen bench was also outscored 29-13. SIU-Edwardsville sub Nathan Kreke had 13 unexpected points.

"They hit their shots and we didn't," Stiegman said. "We both turned the ball over but it came

down to them hitting their shots. It came down to other players like Nathan Kreke. He hit three 3-pointers and we weren't expecting that out of him."

The turnovers troubled the team; the 3-point shooting haunted the team. They were a poor 2-for-16 from the 3-point marker. They shot a dismal 13 percent.

"We got cold on our shots; we also had too many turnovers in a row," Tuckson said. "They then started hitting their shots and got their confidence back."

Tuckson led the team in scoring and rebounding. Teammate Rodney Hawthorne was second in both points and rebounds. He had 15 points and 12 rebounds.

Rotegaard saw more minutes in the game than he has seen in his brief Riverman career. He responded with 5 points in 16 minutes. He had a good 2-for-3 shooting performance.

"Stein (Rotegaard) has stepped up his play lately," Tuckson said. "We told him that his thing is to go and hit the 3-pointer, and he has done it well."

## Men lose big to Southern Indiana

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

Turnovers killed the Rivermen as they lost to the 14-3 Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles.

The Rivermen lost the game 95-68 after trailing at the half by 7

points. The turnovers, a problem all season, reappeared as the team gave the ball away 20 times. The Eagles in comparison only turned the ball over 12 times. Rodney Hawthorne was the top-turnover

see Loss, page 6



Kevin Tuckson shoots against a SIU-Edwardsville player.

photo: Ken Dunkin

**Senior, from page 5**

hard work.  
"I try to work on every aspect of my game equally because I really

want to be a well-balanced player," Applebury said.  
Applebury is the lone senior on



photo: Ken Dunkin

Deena Applebury prepares to shoot a free throw last Saturday against Southern Indiana. She was a perfect 10-for-10 from the free throw line.

the team, and she said it has been difficult at times.

"I try to help them (the younger players) out in any way I can," she said. "Everyone is improving, and I really think we are becoming a better team."

Applebury added that the younger players have helped her as well.

"Really, we have all helped each other out because we are all in this together," she said. "The losing has been tough, but it has been equally tough on all of us."

Applebury is a physical education major, and she said that in the near future she would like to be a basketball coach at either the high school or college level.

For now, Applebury is focused on getting the team back on track.

"We don't lack in one particular area of our game," she said. "We just need to work a little on everything so that our total game is improved."

Applebury added that she thinks the team will get better.

"We are capable of beating anyone in our conference when we are on top of our game," she said.

As the leader of the team, Applebury will do her best to see that the Riverwomen do stay on top of their game.

**Battle, from page 5**

Coen said.

Freshman Donna Simon ended a seven minute scoring drought for the Riverwomen when she hit a three pointer with four minutes left in the half.

UM-St. Louis slowly began to chip away at the SIU-Edwardsville lead but trailed at halftime 28-15.

In the second half, senior Deena Applebury returned to action after sitting out most of the first half after receiving a technical foul just four minutes into the game.

The Riverwomen may have been

rejuvenated by the return of their senior leader as they forced a couple of turnovers and converted them into layups, cutting the SIU-Edwardsville lead to 34-25 five minutes into the half.

Applebury led the way for the Riverwomen with 16 points, and Denise Simon led the team with 10 rebounds. Coen said that it is frustrating.

"Right now, Deena is our only true scorer," he said. "Players like Denise Simon, Donna Simon and Charlee Dixon have to exert themselves more because we need more points from other people."

The Riverwomen shot only 30 per-

cent from the field in the game and were also out-rebounded 46-29.

"Rebounding is another problem," Coen said. "We are not getting anything from the inside."

However, Coen noted that the Riverwomen improved defensively and took care of the ball well, as they only committed 12 turnovers.

"At this time, we are lacking so much confidence as a team," Coen said. "We have a high frustration level because things have not been going our way, and we are looking for bad things to happen to us."

**Loss, from page 5**

offender with eight.

The Rivermen shot well in the first half. They shot 44 percent, which helped to keep the game close.

When the touch wore off in the second, they fell, connecting on only eight shots. in the half.

Kevin Tuckson again led the team in scoring with 17 points. He was trailed by Hawthorne with 15 and Torrance Smith with 13.

The rebound leader was Hawthorne with nine. Tuckson had eight.

With the loss the Rivermen fell to 5-14 and 2-10 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

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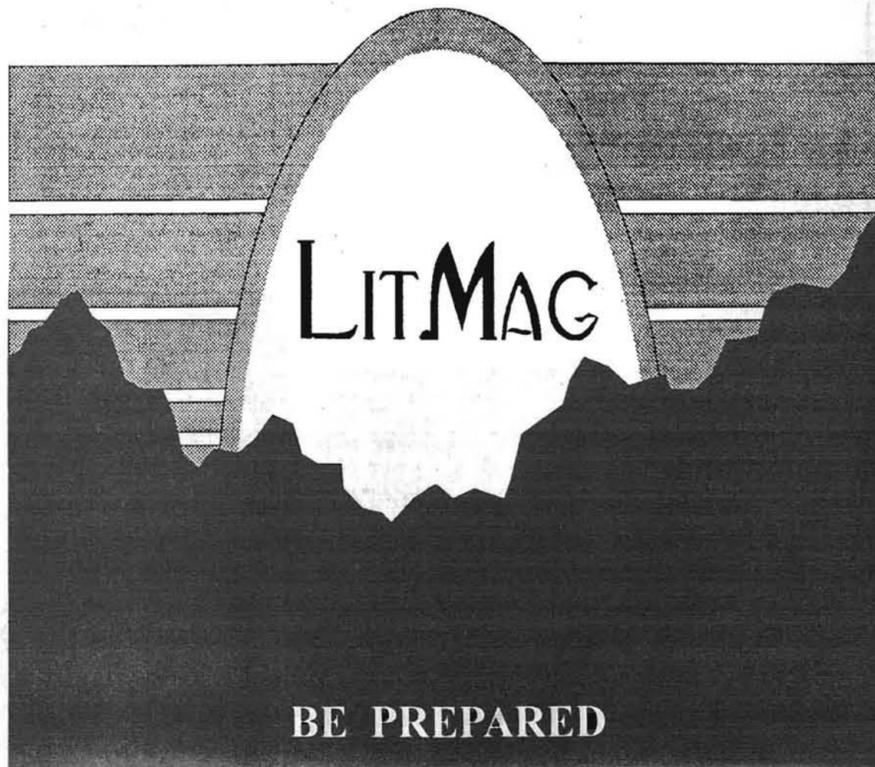
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The Current

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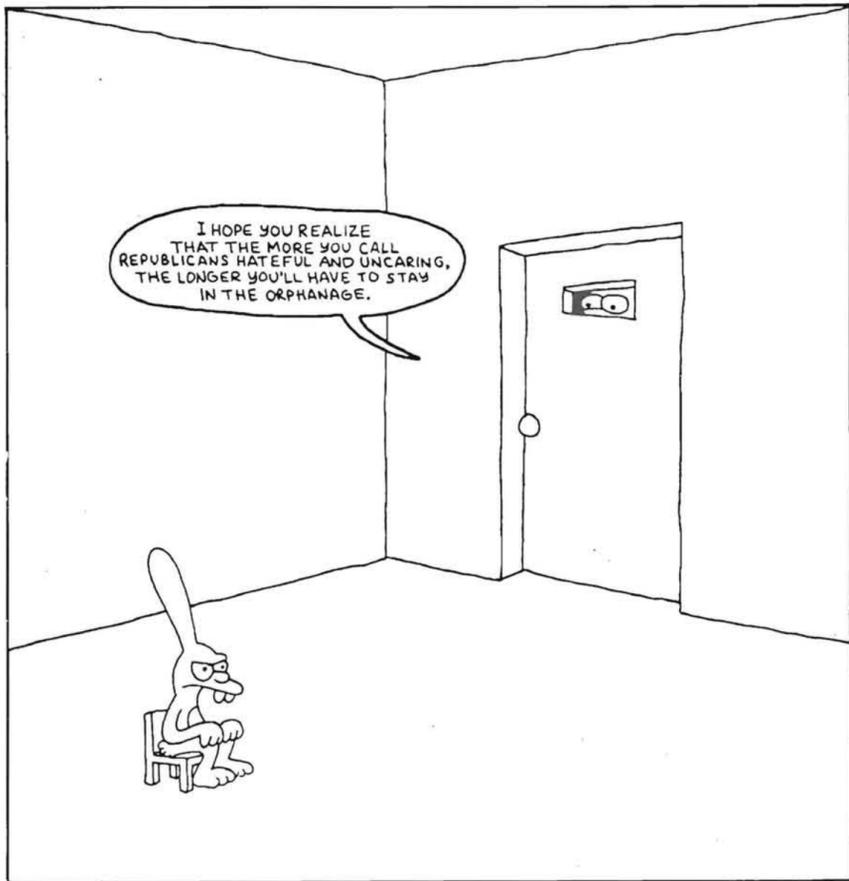
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**Fees, from page 1**

ernor appointed John Mathes and Paul Steele to succeed James L. McHugh and John C. Cozad. Last summer, the Governor appointed Hugh E. Stephenson to succeed John David Collins. Stephenson has been serving on the board by way of confirmation. "The University of Missouri and the Board of Curators are, indeed, fortunate to have the services of these distinguished gentlemen," Horne said. "All of them are well known to the University family."

**Drive, from page 1**

tion. "We set goals each day depending on how many people sign up," Donahue said. "The size of the drive facility is also a factor, depending on its location." Not only are the blood drives conducted in universities, but also in churches, corporations and hospitals.

In the past, sororities and fra-

**Jobs, from page 1**

According to Combs, by the year 2000, 90 percent of jobs will involve the use of a computer.

Combs' other tips include:

- Joining campus clubs and organizations. Employers respect leadership ability.
- Find a mentor. Professors who have been in your career field and know how things work can "point out your weaknesses," Combs said.

• Join professional associations. Employers would rather hire a "semi-professional." "Students are not normally members of professional organizations," Combs said, "but they can be."

• Set goals. Knowing what you want to do in life can help you get that dream job. "A question that comes up in every interview is tell me about yourself," Combs said. "The person [who answers] with enormous clarity gets hired."

**SGA, from page 1**

organization must sign up for a committee.

Each representative can decide which committee to join. Also, each committee decides when and where it will meet.

The Constitution states that the SGA must have seven committees. Hornaday announced only six.

One spot remains available, and she said any representative who has a suggestion for a committee should

Combs is a graduate of San Francisco State University and currently heads the "Good Thinking Co."

He has appeared on such television shows as *Donahue* and *Good Morning America* and can be seen as a regular on *Hard Copy* and *Real TV*. Combs' website can be reached on the internet at [www.goodthink.com](http://www.goodthink.com).

*Major in Success* is available at the University Bookstore.

call 516-5286 or visit the SGA office at 262 University Center.

Bob Fritchey, SGA president, also reminded the assembly that organizations with new representatives need to file a change-of-officer form with Student Activities. About 45-50 students, rather than the usual 20-25, attended the meeting.

The next SGA meeting is scheduled for Feb. 26.

# The Current Newswire

African-American history month observance. Christopher Edley Jr., professor of law at the Harvard Law School, will be the featured speaker for "Civil Rights and African Americans: A Reappraisal," a program being held from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Feb. 3, in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. The program will include music and songs from the UM-St. Louis Symphonic Band and St. Alphonsus "Rock" Catholic Church. Call the Office of Equal Opportunity at 516-5695 for details.

African poetry to be focus of international seminar. Abena P.A. Busia, associate professor of English, comparative literature and women's studies at Rutgers University, will discuss "African Narratives of Defiance: Historical Poems on Slavery and Resistance" at 2 p.m. Feb. 6 in Room 331 of the Social Sciences and Business Building. Her presentation is sponsored by the Center for International Studies and the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies. Call 516-5753 for details.

Dean named vice president of national consortium. Charles D. Schmitz, dean of the School of Education, has been appointed to a three-year term as national vice president of the Holmes Partnership. The Holmes partnership is a consortium comprising 75 major American universities as well as partnerships with schools, human services agencies and others working for the improve-

ment of schools and the development of educator preparation programs. Schmitz will preside over the South Central Region of the Holmes Partnership, which includes Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico and Texas.

Technology in teaching to be conference topic. The Gateway Writing Project and the Greater St. Louis English Teachers Association are co-sponsoring a conference on new technology in teaching, writing and language arts. It will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 7 in the J.C. Penney Building. The conference theme is "Now What? We Have Technology; Now, How Do We Use It?" Eric Crump, director of the University of Missouri-Columbia Learning Center, will deliver the keynote address at 10:30 a.m. Call Connie Jeffries at 516-5972 for more information.

Women's Center to present a pair of programs. *The Call of the Jitterbug*, a film featuring interviews and vintage footage of dancers at the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem, will be shown at 3 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Women's Center, in Rm. 211 Clark Hall. The Center will host a presentation titled "Springing the Time Trap: A Time Management Workshop," given by Deb Harris and Jason Selk of the University Counseling Service, at noon Feb. 6. Call 516-5380 for details.

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