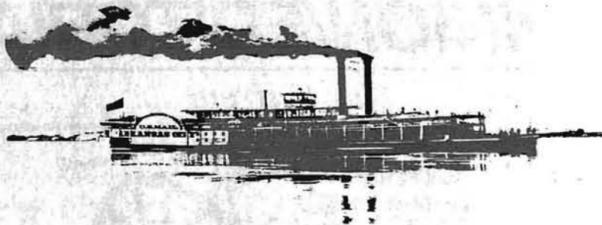




Kevin Tuckson soars for the Rivermen. See page 5.



Chris Farley is Kung Fu Fighting in Beverly Hills. See page 4.



The Student Voice of UM-St. Louis

# The Current

30th Anniversary 1966-1996

Issue 876

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

January 21, 1997

## Coffee bars give students espresso to go



Ashley Cook/The Current

(L-R) Optometry student Suzanne Bachman and education professors Marvin Beckerman and George Ruh socialize in front of a coffee bar.

by Kim Hudson  
news editor

**The menu features a wide variety of coffee drinks, from "fresh brewed coffee" to the "UMSL Mocha" made with espresso beans, Hershey's chocolate and whipped cream.**

Just when you thought the campus reached its culinary peak with The Cove, Aramark has surprised UM-St. Louis again with its new Coffee Carts.

Aramark, the campus food service company, introduced a new food concept to the campus on Jan. 13, 1997 in the form of two new Coffee Carts, one in Marillac Hall and one in the Social Sciences Building. And for those who think the selection is limited to caffeinated and decaffeinated, a surprise awaits.

The menu features a wide variety of coffee drinks, from your regular "fresh brewed coffee" to the "UMSL Mocha" made with

espresso beans, steamed milk, Hershey's chocolate and whipped cream.

Nancy Olliff, director of Catering at UM-St. Louis, said that the new carts were part of an ongoing effort to bring more food variety to campus.

"It offers a change," Olliff said. "We also placed a cart on South Campus to make food more feasible for people away from the University Center."

Olliff said that after many experiments with various concepts, Aramark settled on what she called The Wave of the '90s — flavored coffees.

But wait, there is more.

"For the non-coffee drinker, there are several non-coffee drinks," Olliff said. "We will also be serving pastries from Ken the

Baker."

Response has been difficult to analyze since the carts have only been open a few days with one of those being a snow day. However, Olliff remains optimistic.

"I think the Coffee Carts will do pretty good," Olliff said. "We'll give it a couple of weeks for students to find out about it."

The Coffee Carts are cash only and do not accept board plan payments. However, all the items on the menu are below three dollars.

"We are trying to stay within what a student can afford," Olliff said.

Aramark also boasts full service catering for student organizations, academic departments and individuals both on and off campus for almost any event. For more information on Aramark, or its services, call 516-5242.

## U-Center plans unveiled

by Scott Lamar  
editor in chief

The architects for the new U-Center unveiled a preliminary schematic and scale model of the structure dubbed as a "one-stop shop" for students.

Kennedy Associates and Chiodini Associates displayed floor plans for the three-tiered structure, which will be composed mostly of brick and glass.

Originally, the new U-Center was to house every student organization and all services. However, Don Driemeier, deputy to the Chancellor, said budgetary constraints are forcing a scaling down of the building from its original size. At this point, he said, counseling services, admissions, and the international student lounge are the casualties.

The new U-Center will be perched in the vicinity of parking lot E and Garage D and face the back of Lucas and Clark Halls. The building might include a pedestrian bridge adjoining the second floor of the new U-Center to the stairs located between Lucas and Clark.

Also included is a large, glass enclosed dining area facing the current University Center and the Thomas Jefferson Library. Other features include escalators and several conference rooms.

Behind the new structure will be two new parking garages, each with a capacity of about 800 automobiles.

The plan will be presented for the UM Board of

see Plans, page 6

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## Honors College cooks up 4th year of Brain Stew

by Wendy Verhoff  
of The Current staff

While most students on campus have long been familiar with *The Current*, many probably remain unaware of *Brain Stew*.

*Brain Stew* has served as the Pierre Laclède Honors College mini-magazine for close to four years, keeping honors students and others abreast of campus events.

Dennis Hall, an honors student who co-created the *Stew* with Thompson Knox three and a half years ago, explained that this is one of the main roles he envisioned for it.

"I wanted the student body at the honors college to have a place where they knew they could get a scoop," he told *The Current*.

Equally important, Hall and Knox wanted students to have a voice. They latched onto the idea of a quasi-newsletter as an ideal way to provide one.

*Brain Stew* gives students a forum in which they may discuss any topic from politics to driving lessons or share stories and poetry. Humorous quotes

## Here's looking at you



photo: courtesy of U. Communications

## Students take eye care to Mexico

by Bill Rolfe  
news associate

Three UM-St. Louis optometry students donated a week of their time and skills to treat about 1,600 needy patients in San Cristobal, Mexico, from Nov. 16 to Nov. 24, 1996.

Rick G'Sell, Jenna Morocco and Michael Kane worked with members of the Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH/International).

VOSH is a non-profit organization of both professional and volunteer optometrists and opticians who provide free visual care to the needy throughout the world.

G'Sell, Morocco and Kane belong to the student chapter (SVOSH) of St. Louis, which consists of UM-St. Louis optometry students. They traveled with three optometrists and three opticians from the Iowa VOSH chapter.

G'Sell, a second-year student, said they put in 10-12 hour days at a rather hectic pace. "It was non-stop, one after another," he said.

Morocco, a second-year student, said she did the same work as a professional optometrist would do. "But if we came across anything too difficult or unusual, then we would refer them to one of the professionals," she added.

Language was one of the greatest difficulties in treating the patients, said Kane, a third-year student. "Once we got translators it wasn't too bad," he said, "if we got translators."

"They did not speak just Spanish, but several dialects of Mayan," Morocco said. "You don't just pick up Mayan."

The facilities in which they worked were not like the average optometrist office. "We were set up in a large mission school," Morocco explained. "We didn't have the typical office equipment."

One piece of equipment they had to do without was a phoropter, "that thing in the optometrist's office with all the lenses in it," Kane explained.

Instead, they had to use trial lens sets. G'Sell said they brought about 75 lenses with them.

The group diagnosed problems with about 1,600 people and distributed about 1,800 pairs of glasses, G'Sell said. They had to give two pairs, for example, to people who needed bifocals.

Morocco said some of the people did not understand that glasses don't fix everything. "It's sad, too, because a lot of individuals are farmers who work in the dust and in the sun," she said.

"They hear about medicines and think we're miracle workers," G'Sell added. "They think we can just put some drops in and clear up an eye."

"We take for granted what we have. If we had a little red in an eye, we would go to a doctor. They would ignore it due to poverty and location."

"If you're out in the middle of the jungle and your eye is a little red, you don't just pop over to the eye doctor. Their might not be one close to you."

The three students said the trip was interesting, and they gained a lot of experience.

"We saw some advanced-stage pathologies," G'Sell said. "It was a unique opportunity to see these sort of conditions. The professional doctors don't even see some of these."

VOSH does not receive government funding from either the United States or the country they visit. Each volunteer must pay or raise money for travel expenses.

Kane said to qualify for a VOSH trip, a student must complete 30 hours of: cleaning the glasses; separating them and getting them ready to ship; and doing some kind of public service.

Paul Hater, president of SVOSH in St. Louis,



## RAT'S RAMBLIN'S



by Michael J. Urness  
of The Current staff

Are you tired of signing on to check your e-mail only to find your inbox filled with advertisements? Have you ever wondered what possesses people and corporations to send hundreds of millions of unsolicited pieces of mail and e-mail to those of us who consider it both an intrusion and a waste of our time? It has to be costing marketers tens of millions of dollars especially when mailing the stuff through the U.S. Postal Service.

Lately the problem of junk e-mail is giving me the most grief. I do business on the internet. It never involves sending unsolicited e-mail, and I can't afford to ignore any piece of mail. Even though my online service provider, AOL, has switched the way it does billing and I'm no longer paying by the hour, it still raises my hackles to log on and see my mailbox filled with the lame come-ons used by bulk mailers:

"Hi, There; Guess Who?"  
"\$Make millions in your spare time\$\$"\*\*\*Dig This New Web Page \*\*\* "WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?" and my favorite, from the psychic network, "Urgent!!!! Please Call Immediately!"

Is this the hell where writers and marketers who can't hack it on Wall Street go?

Most online service providers have rules expressly forbidding their members from sending unsolicited e-mail, and they provide procedures for reporting abuses of these rules. Even when I was paying by the hour, I took the time to forward a copy of every piece of unsolicited mail to both my service provider and to the "postmaster" of the domain of the offending mail originated. Obviously other people with attitudes similar to mine were doing the same thing, because in no time AOL provider quit taking complaints except in those cases where the junk mail was sent by an AOL subscriber.

Recently many bulk mailers have been taking a hacker approach and they've begun falsifying the return addresses on their mailings. When you try to send a complaint to the domain's postmaster using the bogus address at the top of these mailings, it comes back as undeliverable. Who would do business with an outfit that forged a bogus return address on its correspondence?

America Online fought to block bulk mailers from sending unsolicited e-mail and took the case as far as they could in court. The guys who hide behind forged addresses prevailed. The courts held that virtual marketers have just as much a right to make people miserable as do the ones who send crap to your home through conventional mail.

As I see it, there is only one solution to unsolicited junk mail. Find out who the inbred, scum sucking idiots are who purchase stuff from these unscrupulous predators and take them out and torture them. People who buy the junk and ideas these mental midgets are pushing only encourage them, and with a little encouragement, they will continue to inundate the rest of us with unwanted

## They want their MTV Subscribers protest TCI's decision

by Jill Barrett  
features editor

Dozens of people braved the cold Saturday to express their discontent with TCI Cablevision.

Recently, the St. Charles' TCI dropped MTV from its programming service.

A spokesperson for TCI explained that the drop in MTV's national ratings contributed to the decision to discontinue that channel in the St. Charles and St. Peters viewing area.

In response to this decision, people participated in a rally in front of the St. Charles TCI Cablevision office.

They hoped they could retain MTV on their basic cable service.

Early Saturday morning, protesters gathered in the painful cold to wave posters and sign petitions. "When [TCI] got rid of WGN,

**"Cable TV is a service. I want to have some say in what I pay for."**

—Holly Sandstedt

the [Chicago] Bears' fans complained enough that [TCI] kept it. We're hoping to do the same thing about MTV," said one demonstrator.

Some of the protesters admitted that TCI's decision didn't affect their cable line-up directly. Others conceded that they did not watch a lot of MTV.

But they stated that they saw an unsettling trend — that their cable service would cancel channels without consulting the customers, or that additional channels would no longer be included.

According to Holly Sandstedt, a committed MTV fan, the rally was a way for customers to let TCI know what they wanted.

"Cable TV is a service. I want to be able to have some say in what I pay for," she explained.

Not every person present at the rally supported MTV, however.

Four college-age men organized a counter-protest, supporting TCI's decision to drop MTV.

"MTV corrupts the minds of youth," Nate Pionke said. "MTV tells kids what songs to like, what's cool, how to be like everybody else.



photo: Jill Barrett

Not every wants MTV. Kenny Milligan, Brandon Franz, Nate Pionke and Matt Picker speak out against music commercialism.

Let the kids think for themselves. Let them find their own music — not something that's force-fed to them in the name of profits."

Matt Picker agreed with Pionke's sentiments.

"All these radio stations engineer trends, and MTV is no better. It's like they throw on a crappy video and say 'Here's what's cool this week.' Then everyone buys the CD, the band becomes famous for a day, and the people who run MTV get rich. Nobody admits that the song is just s\*\*t. MTV is really just a way to sell certain CDs and stuff."

—Matt Picker

Two radio stations supported the rally. Both 105.7 KPNT and Q104 had mobile vans present. KPNT handed out MTV stickers, T-shirts and flyers with TCI's phone number for people to state their complaints.



photo: Jill Barrett

Linnette Martin, Katy Black, Beth Black and Jenny Schlup let TCI know that they are unhappy with a recent decision to drop MTV from their service.

## A matter of perspective: Exchange students share their first impressions of UM-St. Louis

by Jill Barrett  
features editor

The first semester at a new school can be a bureaucratic maze of paperwork. For some new students, this paperwork can become even more intimidating if they come to a new country as well. In addition to getting used to a new school, international students have to adapt to a new way of life. Part of this includes opening a bank account, applying for a social security number and coping with the differences between educational styles.

"The International Students Organization helped us a lot with registering and with banking," Aurelie Bruy said. Bruy arrived on the UM-St. Louis campus a week ago from Wambrechies, France, and already finds much that is different between UM-St. Louis and her home university. According to her and other new exchange students, just registering for classes was a new experience.

**"We meet some [Americans] in our classes, but it's hard to get in touch with them. They run in before class; they run out after class. They have their work. They have their own lives, actually."**

—Aurelie Bruy



"It's strange to have to choose all your courses," said Brice Delvalle, a computer science student from Mons en Pevele, France. "In France, you say 'I want this diploma' and [the school] makes your schedule. You don't have to choose — 'Oh, I want this course.' Your classes are planned for you."

Barbara Bertozzi, a graduate psychology student from Bologna, Italy, agrees with Bruy and Devalle that course choice is a major difference between American schools and

her college.

Bertozzi also thinks that American and Italian schools differ in their style of teaching.

"In U.S.A., students have more practical training. In Italy, it's more theoretical," she said.

Even a day of classes is different at UM-St. Louis. According to Bruy, Delvalle and Bertozzi, American schools have much less class time and much more homework than their European schools.

"We are in classes maybe thirty

hours a week, but we might not have any homework," Bruy said.

According to the students, because of the amount of class time, most students cannot work part-time jobs, and because they have so little money, most wait until they finish their schooling to marry.

All expressed surprise when they discovered that many UM-St. Louis students have their own children and work full-time jobs.

Lucie Massicotte, a business student from Montreal, Quebec, ex-

plained that Canadian universities are much more similar to American universities than European universities.

"Our classes only meet three hours a week, but they meet only one day a week. Many students have part-time jobs," Massicotte said.

Because the students have G-1 visas, they can work a part-time job on campus if they want but only after they receive a social security number.

Bertozzi stated that she wants to work through the psychology department, but the others are undecided.

Although the students have met many other exchange students since they've been here, they find it hard to meet native students.

"We meet some in our classes, but it's hard to get in touch with them," Bruy said. "They run in before class; they run out after class. They have their work. They have their own lives, actually."

## Under Current

by Ashley Cook  
of The Current staff

What is your favorite thing to do in the snow and why?



**"Walking in it with my fiance. It is very romantic."**

—Deirdre Oglesby  
Senior • Communication



**"I don't like it. I like to sit inside and drink coffee."**

—MaryBeth Huff  
Junior • Political Science



**"Pelting my friends with snowballs. I like inflicting pain on them."**

—Sarah Zimmerman  
Sophomore • Elementary Ed.



**"I like to stay home from work so I can sleep."**

—Nathan Ramsey  
Sophomore • Business



Meryl Streep with Leonardo DiCaprio in a scene from Jerry Zak's *Marvin's Room*.

## Marvin's Room touches the heart

by Nathanael D. Schulte  
entertainment editor

Everybody experiences crisis in their lives every once in a while. Some are brought on by one's own actions while others are just unavoidable.

What happens, though, when the two meet? Can one possibly help remedy the other?

First we meet Bessie (Diane Keaton), the self-sacrificing daughter who has taken care of her father, Marvin (Hume Cronyn), since he suffered a stroke twenty years previous, and his senile sister Ruth (Gwen Verdon).

She has recently learned that she herself is now ill, suffering from Leukemia. Now she finds that she must have a bone marrow transplant from a close relative.

This brings Bessie's estranged sister Lee (Meryl Streep) and her two sons, Hank (Leonardo DiCaprio) and Charlie (Hal Scardino), into the picture.

One large problem with this is that Hank is currently in a mental ward because of criminal behavior. He is granted one week in the custody

of his mother to go take a compatibility test, but he hasn't decided (or at least wants everyone to think he hasn't) whether or not he is going to take the test.

This is just one symptom of the bitterness and hardness of character that has been building up in Hank since his parents divorced.

The one thing that catches him off guard, though, is Bessie's unselfish kindness to him, despite his initial refusal to take the test.

It's not long before Hank begins to appreciate that love, and even returns it by taking the test a couple days later.

This long awaited breakthrough eventually results in a reconciliation between Bessie and Lee, who had not spoken since their father's stroke.

This film is very moving and shows how unselfish love can break down some of the thickest walls of hate and bitterness.

The roles are brought to life by a very talented award winning cast of acting veterans, including Meryl Streep, Diane Keaton, Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro, Hume Cronyn and Gwen Verdon. It's definitely worth your while.

## Ninja earns high marks

by D.J. Sermos  
of *The Current* staff

True to Chris Farley's self made movie niche, *Beverly Hills Ninja* is another laughable, physical comedy. This larger than life actor has taken much criticism for recirculating his SNL character in each of his comedy films. Unfortunately, these critics can never look past the cliché themes, story lines or plots to discover a very funny actor. Farley stays true to his illustrious title "master of disaster" reeking havoc from Hojo to five star hotels. This movie, though lacking in sections, does keep moving.

Farley's current character "Haru" moves from mainland Japan to Beverly Hills. Disguised as a pimp, he is wholly determined to rescue a blonde bombshell embroiled in a yen counterfeiting scheme. The brunt of Haru's ninja skill is innocently released on his brother Kobe

who is sent secretly to protect the clumsy "Great White Ninja." The comedy develops as Haru, aided by a lazy hotel employee (Chris Rock), tackles the counterfeiting ring. The most memorable scene captures Chris Rock's effort to scale a palm tree and infiltrate an industrial complex.

*Beverly Hills Ninja* follows suit with *Black Sheep* (95') and Farley's other various comedy attempts. The adult audience laughed heartily at the good-hearted Haru character, while the kids were left breathless. What the movie had was great tempo. What it lacked was a clinching climax and well-developed characters. What can you ask for in a slap-stick comedy? Overall, it was a strong movie that drags itself up by Farley's large pants to a "B" rating. This movie is worth seeing if you want a good laugh. Ratings range from A-F grades.



Chris Farley as Haru in *Beverly Hills Ninja*.

## Mother too predictable

by Nathanael D. Schulte  
entertainment editor

How many men do you know who would move back home with their mothers at 40 years old just to figure out their problems with women? I thought it was a weird concept myself, but it does make for a fairly interesting movie plot.

It all starts with John Henderson (Albert Brooks), a struggling science-fiction writer living in Los Angeles. He's also recently divorced for the second time. Perhaps it's not presumptuous to assume that John's feeling a little bit insecure about his relationships with women.

Next steps in *Mother*, Beatrice Henderson (Debbie Reynolds), the perfect picture of pushiness and overbearing motherliness. There's also Jeff (Rob Morrow), John's married brother, who also turns out to be quite a mama's boy. This is where it gets interesting: to figure out his problems with women, John decides to move back in with his mother and into his old bedroom.

In the process, he discovers some major differences between his mother and himself. For instance, he likes to buy name brand foods occasionally. She thinks every brand is the same. He is a vegetarian. She is not. She buys 10 pound blocks of cheese and freezes them. He thinks it's a bizarre practice. John also discovers why his mother is always so hostile and critical toward him, not to mention the origins of his writing talent, when he stumbles onto some hat boxes full of old writings of his mother's. Initially, *Mother* is upset with him, but both of them eventually learn a little bit more about themselves and each other. They even learn to view one another as human beings.

Though this movie had a few hilarious moments, I found the overall concept to be just a little too strange to swallow. I can't say the basic concept was entirely unrealistic, because my mother's two 40+ stepbrothers still live in their parents' basement. However, I found the ending to be a little cliché and entirely too predictable. Although this movie managed to keep me interested, it barely did so.

## Submission Guidelines

### LITMAG

1996-1997 Yearly Anthology

#### Poetry

Limit: 5 Poems / No line Limit / One poem per page

#### Prose

Limit: 2 Works / Typed-Dbl Spaced / 20 Pages Max

#### Art & Photography

Limit: 3 Pieces

All written work must be typed and include a cover sheet with the author's name, address, phone number, student number or faculty/staff position, and department. Do not put any personal information on individual pages of the manuscript. Attach cover sheet to submissions. Put manuscript into the Submissions Box outside of the English Department Office-Lucas Hall 494. All art and photography entries should be handled directly with Susan Miller, Art Director. Final publication of all art & photography will be in black and white half-tones and scaled to meet page requirements. Please include SASE to return manuscript or art.

Any submission that does not comply with guidelines cannot be considered. Rights to all work selected revert to the author/artist after publication.

#### Submission Dates

Mon., Sept. 9, 1996 to Wed., Jan. 22, 1997

For more information please call  
Poetry Barry D. Willingham 725-4684  
Prose Bryan Hamann 397-5571  
Art Susan Miller 227-7050

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**North Campus Box, Woods Hall, 2nd Floor is accessible:  
Monday-Thursday: 7 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Friday: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

**South Campus Box, Marillac Hall-Main Lobby is accessible:  
Monday-Friday: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Saturday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

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# Tuckson pulls down victory for Rivermen

## IN OVERTIME



by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

Christmas break has come and gone, and the first week of school is finished. The break went by too fast, as it always does.

This Christmas, however, was probably one of the best I have had in a long time. Not only was everyone happy with what I gave them, but I got just about everything I wanted, and everything I got, I have been able to use a lot. My gifts range from everything from shirts and jeans, to calendars and books.

One of my favorite gifts was a portable CD player I have been wanting for a while. I use it every time I'm in my car, and even at home I've got my earphones on listening to my music.

My absolute favorite present was a CD-Rom baseball game I got from my girlfriend called "Triple Play '97."

This game is so realistic. It's amazing. It is so addicting that I could literally sit there and play with it all day if I could. The problem is that the computer isn't mine. I have a computer at home, but I don't have CD-Rom. My girlfriend's computer does, so I am over there even more than I was before playing this game became a habit.

Since the computer isn't mine, I can't play with it for too long at one time because other people need to use it. So, I'll usually wait until my girlfriend goes to bed late at night. Then I'll have a couple of hours to play on it.

Sometimes I feel like a little kid playing this game. It reminds me of when I was little and would sit in front of the television and playing Atari for hours. But I think as time passes, it won't be as new, so I won't be playing with it as much. With the new semester starting, I probably won't have much time for it at all. Plus I think I'm driving my girlfriend crazy because I want to play every chance I get.

Over the break, I didn't attend as many sports events as I would have liked. With all the confusion of shopping for Christmas, holiday plans and increased hours at work, not much time was left.

I haven't even been able to watch as many sporting events on television as I would like. I keep up with college basketball and the NBA by reading the *Post-Dispatch*, but rarely will I get time to watch a game.

Last semester was hectic, and I was not able to keep up with the NFL like I usually do, but I have caught every playoff game on T.V. so far. Even if I am at work, I'll sit up in the break room for "a while" and watch the games. I think NFL playoff games are so exciting to watch, even more than the Super Bowl. The Super Bowl is a blowout half the time anyway, but the playoff games are usually close nail-biters. Those are the "real" games.

You can bet I'll be watching the Super Bowl, though. I've already taken off work because I don't want to miss it. To be honest, I really don't care who wins. New England is the underdog, so I feel I should be cheering for them, but I like Green Bay too. All I want is a close, exciting game, and hopefully, for once, to win a few more this year.

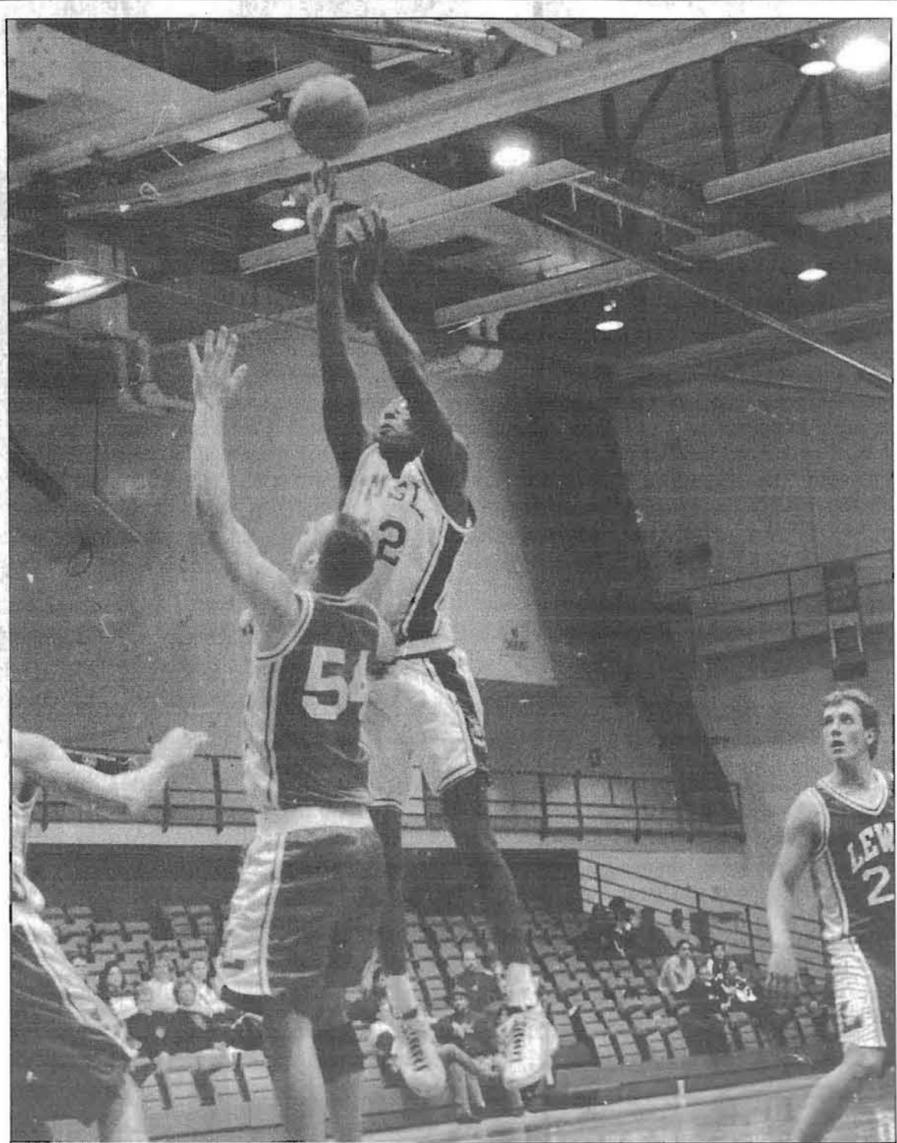


photo: Ken Dunkin

Riverman Kevin Tuckson (#52) shoots on a Lewis player. Tuckson pulled down 19 rebounds and scored 18 points in the 62-55 victory.

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

Led by Kevin Tuckson's 19 rebounds, the Rivermen basketball team defeated Lewis in a conference battle.

The Rivermen were sparked by Tuckson's career high in rebounds. He also led the game in scoring with 18 points. Tuckson played 38 out of the game's 40 minutes.

"Kevin has rebounded better this year than any player I have ever coached," Rivermen Head Coach Rich Meckfessel said. "I felt that going into tonight's game he could have done better than he had been doing. Even though he was averaging 10.2 rebounds a game and ranks among the top rebounders in the nation he did better tonight."

Tuckson came out firing early in the game. He scored the team's first six points.

"He was a tiger from beginning to the end," Meckfessel said. "Though he wasn't as dominant at the end of the game, it wasn't for lack of effort. It was because he was tired."

Guard Todd Miller kept the team in the game as he connected on three 3-Pointers to end the first half.

"We were in real trouble and Todd went out and hit 3 successive 3-Pointers to erase a 10 point lead," Meckfessel said. "He shot well in our pre-season scrimmages, but when the season started, he seemed to lose confidence. In the past two games he has been excellent."

Miller finished with 12 points on 4-for-6 shooting and 4-for-5 on 3-Pointers shooting.

"Todd hit four big threes for us," Meckfessel said. "He hit three big shots at the end of the first half to bring us back in the game. He also hit a big shot in the second half."

The team shot 42 percent from

the floor. The decisive moment came when Jason Frillman hit a 3-Pointer with 1:06 left. His shot put the team up by five, Lewis wouldn't mount an attack after Frillman's shot.

"I hadn't hit many tonight," Frillman said, "so it was nice to hit that shot to get back on track."

The win put the team up 5-9 for the season and 2-5 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

"This is a pretty big win," Frillman said. "They are a good team that had beaten Southern Indiana earlier this season."

Southern Indiana, the top-rated team in the conference, had been undefeated prior to the loss to Lewis.

"Jason hit a couple of big shots including his three at the end, and he also had a nice bank shot earlier," Meckfessel said.

This game pushes the team towards the second half of the conference schedule. It could be a spark point for the team.

"It was a big win for us," Meckfessel said. "It is the first good win that we have had all season. Just as important, we played well. We settled down after the first few minutes."

The team will play their next two games on the road against Kentucky Wesleyan and Bellarmine. They will then play 6 of their next 10 games at home.

"It's always better to play at home than on the road," Meckfessel said. "The road conference games are all winnable. They won't be won easily, but we don't have to go to Southern Indiana."

"All we have to do now is win all of our home games and grab a few on the road, and we'll be back in the middle of the conference race," Frillman said.

## Riverwomen get first conference victory

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen basketball team showed signs of improvement in hopes of turning their season around with a conference victory over Lewis University on Thursday.

The Riverwomen gained their first Great Lakes Valley Conference win as they defeated Lewis 75-67.

The teams both came out strong and appeared to have much energy. Senior Deena Applebury scored 8 of the first 11 points for the Riverwomen, and just when one team looked like it would pull away, the other team got right back into the game.

Early in the game, Lewis had a 13-5 advantage, but sophomore Sarah Carrier hit a 3-pointer to ignite an 8-2 run by the Riverwomen.

It was evident that the Riverwomen

were playing tighter defense, and the offensive ball movement was much smoother.

Freshman Missy England then hit a 3-point field goal to give the Riverwomen a 16-15 lead. However, Lewis proceeded to go on a 6-0 run to take the lead.

The Riverwomen played tough and stayed close, eventually taking the lead again 28-27 on two free throws by freshman Donna Simon.

Lewis then took the halftime lead on a jumper with under 15 seconds left in the half.

In the second half, UM-St. Louis struck first, and with the help of great shooting and tough play, they eventually held a 53-40 advantage.

According to head coach Jim Coen, the resurgence in the second half was due to what was said at halftime.

"We just talked about how we were going to have to adjust to their pressure defense and take away Lewis's overplay by making a lot of 'backdoor' passes," Coen said. "It

Applebury continued to shoot well, and the Riverwomen rebounded well, considering their top rebounder, sophomore Denise Simon, was on the bench for most of the time because she was in foul trouble.

It was a much more physical game in the second half as both teams scrapped for the ball.

Lewis cut into the UM-St. Louis' lead near the end of regulation, and at one point got to within 6 points, but a 3-pointer by Donna Simon with under three minutes left secured the victory for the Riverwomen.

Applebury led the way with 23 points, and Donna Simon added 11 for the Riverwomen (4-9 overall, 1-6 GLVC).

Coen said he was very pleased with the Riverwomen's performance.

"We had a couple of bad stretches, but overall we really improved on our rebounding, which was especially important with Denise Simon on the bench," he said.

In particular, Coen said that the team's zone defense was the key in taking Lewis out of its offense.

"We ran our offense very well, and we were patient most of the game," he said. "We were also able to force 27 turnovers, which is pretty impressive."

From an individual standpoint, Coen said that everyone gave a solid effort on the court.

"Missy England and Jamie Dressler played really well, and Deena was Deena," he said.

Coen stressed that the team still needs to work on free throw shooting. The Riverwomen were 15-27 from the line.

"It's still a major concern because we missed some crucial free throws down the stretch, and especially when we had a big lead," he said.

Coen added that although he saw much improvement, there is still a lot of work to be done.

**"We were able to force 27 turnovers, which is pretty impressive."**

**—Jim Coen  
Riverwomen  
Basketball Coach**

## Hockey to host National Tournament in March

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

The Rivermen hockey team has been selected to host the National Tournament in March.

This event will bring the best teams from the club rankings to the St. Louis Sports Complex in Chesterfield. The Rivermen, by way of hosting the event, have received an automatic bid into the tournament.

"I'm really looking forward to this event," Rivermen winger Dave

Hessell said. "I'm real pumped. I'll be happy if we come out and have a very good showing in the tournament, even if we struggle the rest of the season."

The team will have eight games to prepare for the five day event which will take place March 5-9. When the tournament starts, the Rivermen will see nothing less than great teams.

"This event will push our skills to the limit," goalie Scott Bokal said. "We will see the greatest talent, the 31 best teams in the nation goin' hard

for one trophy and a year's bragging rights. Out of all the clubs, you'll see undefeated teams, top ten opponents, Division III squads like Marquette and Lawrence."

Despite the tough competition, the players feel if they play as they have in the past, they will win several games. They also want to show that UM-St. Louis has a quality program.

"As long as we play hard and don't make mistakes, we'll make this town proud," Hessell said.

## Problems trouble Riverwomen

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

The 1996-97 UM-St. Louis Riverwomen basketball team has had its share of disappointments, and the struggles begin with free throws and rebounding.

According to head coach Jim Coen, this season has been frustrating, but he knows what his team must work on if it is to contend.

"Our rebounding is going to have to improve," he said.

Coen said that when the team does not rebound well in a game, he works

them hard in the following practices so they will try to be more focused on rebounding.

"If a team does not rebound, the players can be disciplined," he said.

Coen also added that rebounds are something that a player has to "really want."

"I want to stress to my players how important rebounding is to winning games," he said. "Rebounding just takes a lot of determination and hustle."

Coen also noted that the free throw shooting has been dismal. However, he said he is cautious when it comes to disciplining his team for missed free

throws.

"The difference between free throws and rebounding is that free throw shooting is more mental," Coen said. "If I worked them harder at practice or made them run more because they missed free throws, it would put a great deal of pressure on the girls, and that would just make things worse."

Coen said that the key to better free throw shooting is to keep practicing, and also concentrating more at the free throw line.

Coen said he feels that the Riverwomen will improve as the season progresses.

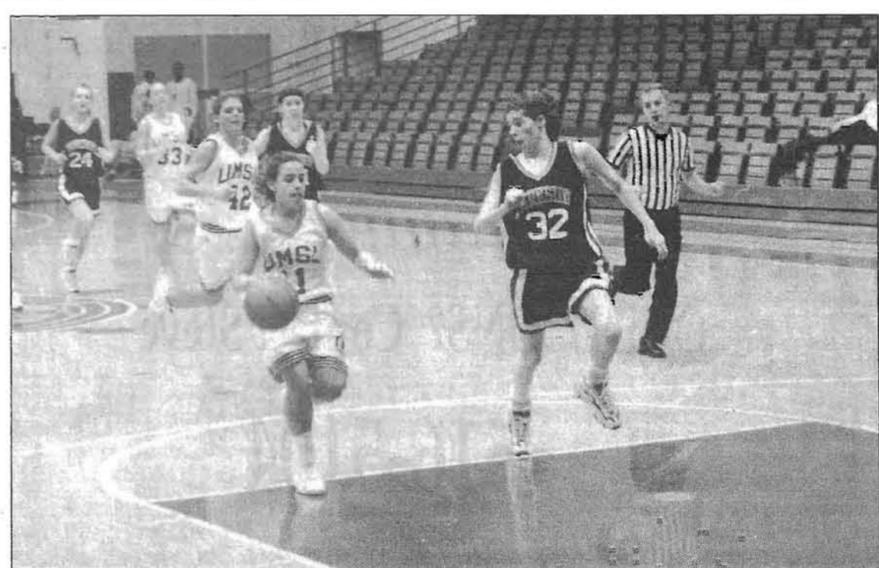


photo: Ken Dunkin

Charlee Dixon (#11), Riverwoman guard, drives against an opposing player. The Riverwomen

# "It's not how long you live, it's how well."

## DeLoach-Packnett remembers her husband

by Kim Hudson  
news editor

Gwendolyn DeLoach-Packnett expressed more pride and adoration than sadness when describing her late husband, Rev. Ronald Packnett, and his work.

Rev. Packnett was born in Chicago, IL, in 1951 with a strong Baptist background. And though he obtained a bachelor's degree in accounting and economics from Illinois State University, it was this background that led him to a Masters of Divinity Degree from Yale University. He took on his first pastoral responsibilities at the St. James Baptist Church in New Britain, CN. He later moved to St. Louis where he pastored at the Central Baptist Church. It was here that he met his wife of 15 years, Gwendolyn DeLoach.

In "A Decade of Disciplined Duty," a program of Central Baptist Church services celebrating his tenth year as pastor, Packnett wrote, "She has become my soul

mate, my friend and companion. She is a mother extraordinaire and a wife supreme!"

DeLoach-Packnett had many glowing words for him as well.

"I admired him immensely," she said. "He was an intellect."

Although Rev. Packnett had been ill for about a year and a half, his death from a heart attack on Dec. 17, 1996, came as a shock to his wife and his colleagues.

However since that time, expressions of love and appreciation have been the order of the day.

"I have received lots and lots of love from people from all walks of life," DeLoach-Packnett said. "I will be sending out thank-you's for a long time."

She continued to speak of the many people that her husband had helped in his lifetime but focused on the way he touched young students' lives.

"He delighted in helping young people and challenged them to pursue higher education," DeLoach-Packnett

said. "But he also taught them to stand on their beliefs, to be respectful of all opinions but to stand their ground."

Rev. Packnett also took a more active role in students' lives with his classes on the history of the black church at Washington University and St. Louis University.

DeLoach-Packnett has since been busy with memorial services commemorating the life of her husband. Rev. Packnett will be honored at the annual YMCA of Greater St. Louis Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration Breakfast Jan. 20. She will then travel to Nashville, TN, to help the National Baptist Convention with a memorial service next week. Words of sympathy have also been many from UM-St. Louis, where he was a member of the Chancellor's Council and honored by the African-American Chapter of the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association in October 1996.

DeLoach-Packnett said that this is all evidence that her husband lived his life properly.

"He really personified a Christian walk and no one's concern was too simplistic to get his attention," she said. "I will miss my best friend."



Ron Packnett

### Stew, from page 1

from students and comedians like Dennis Miller appear alongside the other submissions.

Hall and Knox wanted to create something entertaining, as well as informative, something that students would enjoy reading. In fact, Hall's favorite memories surrounding the Stew involve the reactions of readers.

"Seeing everybody waiting in line to get it made the long nights worthwhile,"

### Optometry, from page 1

VOSH does not receive government funding from either the United States or the country they visit. Each volunteer must pay or raise money for travel expenses.

Kane said to qualify for a VOSH trip, a student must complete 30 hours of: cleaning the glasses; separating them and getting them ready to ship; and doing some kind of public service.

Paul Hater, president of SVOSH in St. Louis, said each person going on the trip must bring 300 pairs of glasses. He said 28

he said.

Though he and Knox have passed their creation into other hands, they desire for it to continue serving readers at UM-St. Louis.

Hall says he has one wish for the Stew: "that it remain the voice of whatever student body is in charge of it."

As the mini-magazine embarks on yet another semester, it still affords students the chance to reach an audience.

One of its editors, Erin Stremmel,

people, including four UM-St. Louis students, will go to Ixtap Zihuatanejo, Mexico, Feb. 16-23.

VOSH concentrates its efforts mainly on third world countries. Morocco said, "We don't do this in the United States because the FDA doesn't allow the dispensing of used glasses."

The St. Louis chapter receives most of its glasses from the Lions Club, which collects from doctors offices and supermarkets. The SVOSH members clean, recondition and sort the donated glasses.

said she thinks reading student submissions is the best part of working on the little periodical.

She also has several ideas for expanding it, including the addition of a word puzzle, brain teasers and more comic strips.

The next issue should appear within one to two weeks, and issues usually appear once or twice monthly. *Brain Stew* is distributed from the Honors College and will soon be accessible on-line.

### Plans, from page 1

Curators' approval in March. If all goes well, Rees said, the firm will begin design development in April.

Rees guessed that groundbreaking could occur in the spring of 1998. She anticipated a grand opening in 2000. When the plan for the building was voted on and approved by students two years ago, the structure was supposed to be finished in 1998. However, the Chancellor had trouble locating sufficient funds to pay for the administrative units in the building.

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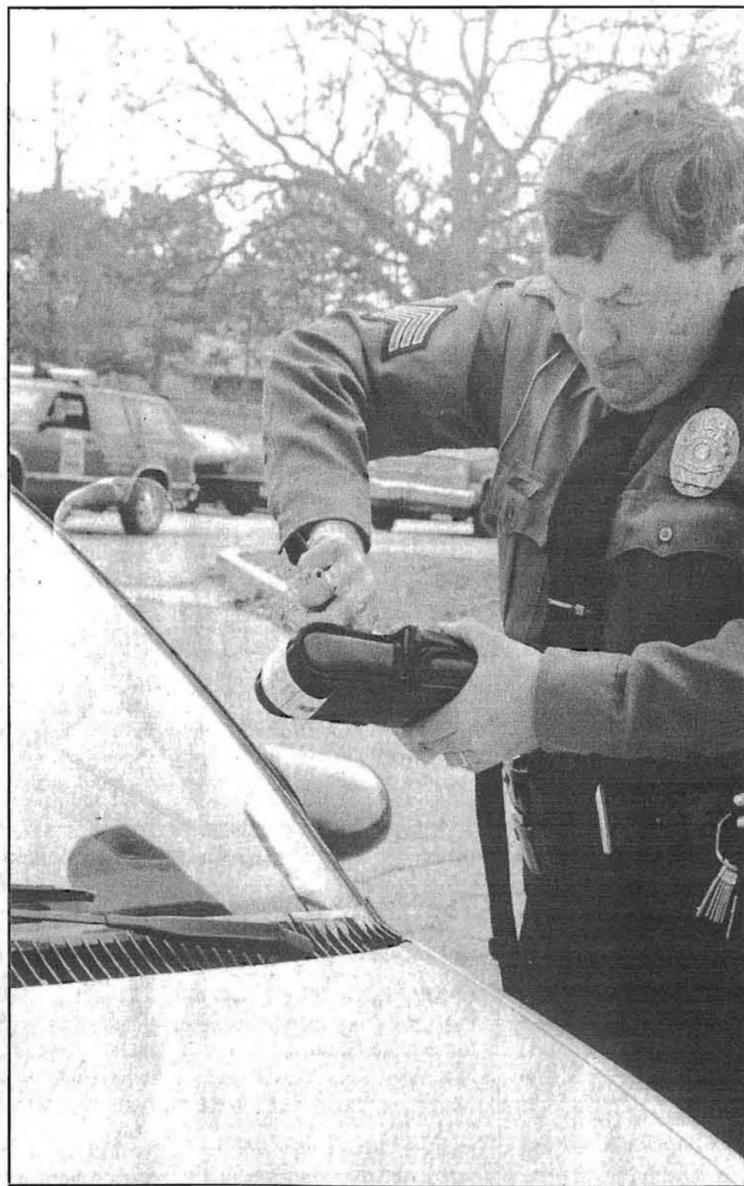
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To all and any interested person or group planning for Hunger Awareness Week Tuesday Jan. 21st at 1:30 p.m. Room 266 University Center. For more information call Betty Chitwood at 385-3455.

### Writers wanted

The Current is in need of features, sports, news and entertainment writers for the upcoming semester. No matter what your major, writing for your campus newspaper shows to potential employers that you are versatile. In a world of corporate downsizing, one-dimensional employees are the first ones to get their walking papers. If you are one of the few ambitious students on campus, give Doug or Scott a call at 516-5174.

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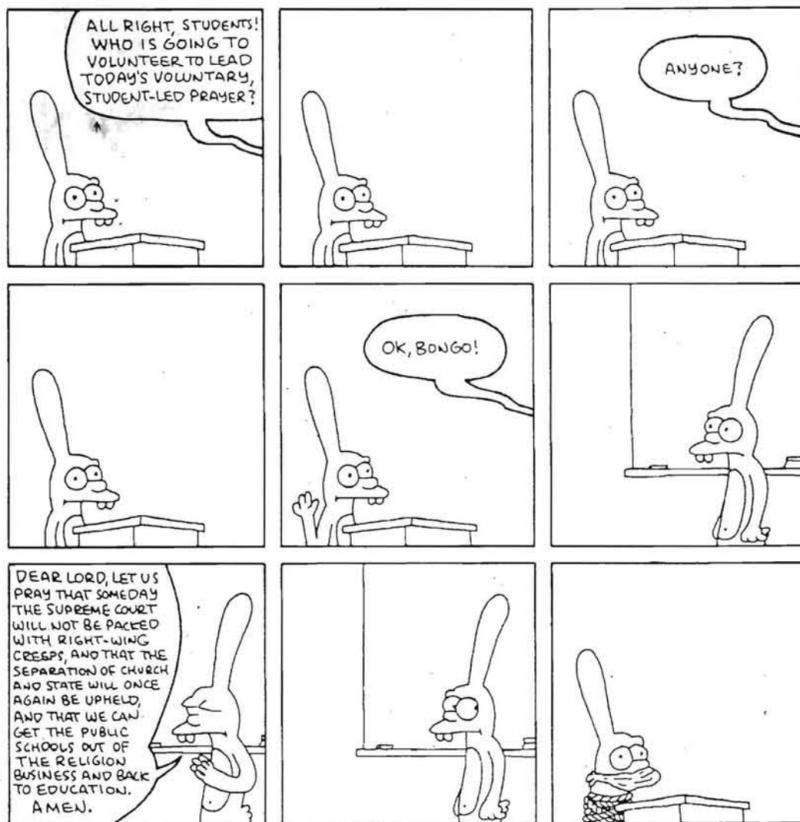
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## MISC

**PIZZA PARTY** to get acquainted with Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry 11:30AM - 1:30PM, Thursday, Jan. 23rd at Normandy United Methodist Church, 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Free - Everyone welcome. For more information contact Roger Jaspersen, campus minister at 385-3000.

## LIFE IN HELL



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Auditions for parliamentary debate team will be held at 2:00PM room 592 Lucas Hall, Wed. Jan. 22nd. A three minute speech is required. Any questions call Tom Preston at 516-5498

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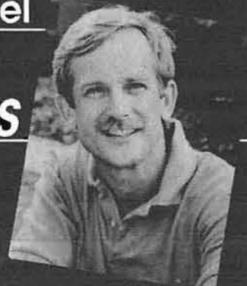
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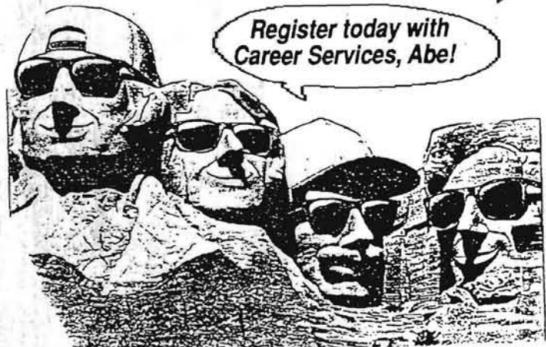
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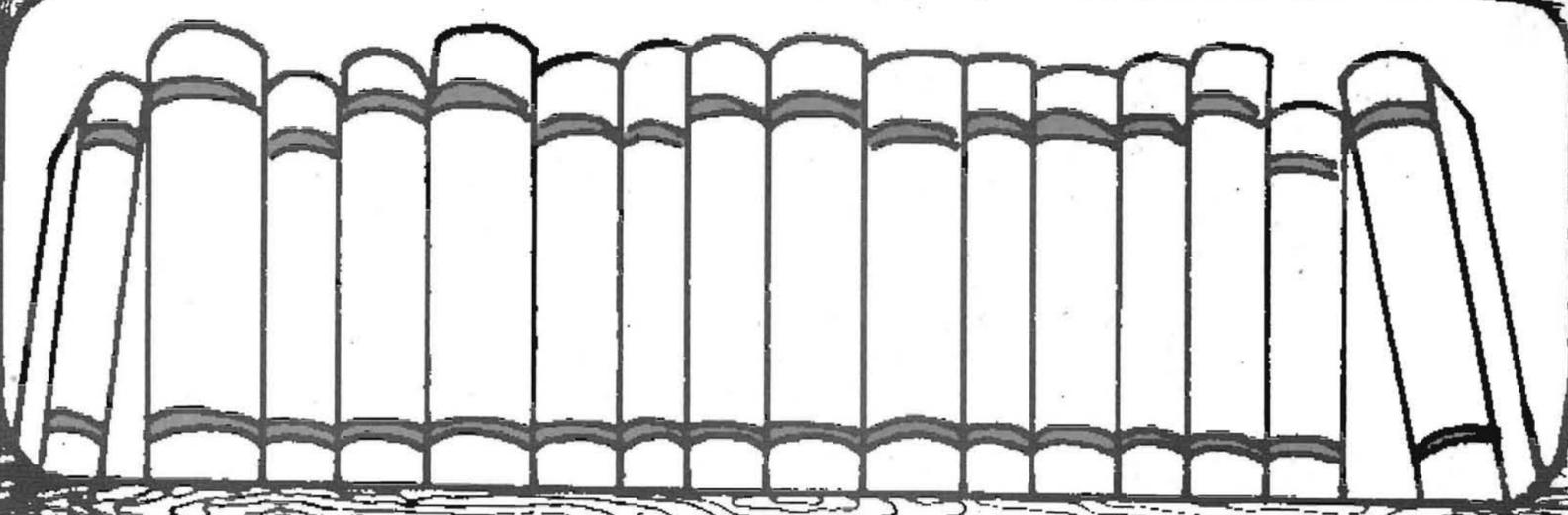
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