



Alec Baldwin and Anthony Hopkins star in *The Edge*. See page 6.

Students debate Sexy Legs contest in formal forum. See page 3.

Riverman goalie Brad Beeler is optimistic despite recent injuries. See page 7.



THE STUDENT VOICE
OF UM-ST. LOUIS

The Current

CELEBRATING 31 YEARS
OF CAMPUS COVERAGE

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

SEPTEMBER 22, 1997

Chancellor's address charts map for the future

Annual excellence awards punctuate speech to U community

by Mary Lindsley
special to The Current

UM-St. Louis Chancellor Blanche Touhill reviewed the year's highlights and outlined future goals in her annual State of the University Address on Wednesday.

The event, held in the J.C. Penney Auditorium, included the presentation of the 1997 Chancellor's Awards for Excellence and the UM-System Thomas Jefferson Award.

In her speech, Touhill focused on how current initiatives would further the school's future development.

"I believe that we are shouldering a critical responsibility and that we are building a foundation from which new generations will succeed and prosper well into the new century and beyond," Touhill said.

Touhill cited new student housing and the construction of the new Student Center as examples of improved service to students. She also emphasized the support of cultural diversity programs to serve minority students.

"We derive much of our strength from diversity. It is a campus priority, and it is one of my priorities," Touhill said. She said the addition of the office of Multi-Cultural Relations/ Academic Affairs would aid in the development of diversity-building programs.

Touhill also addressed ways that land purchases and the building of new facilities would benefit students. The acquisition of property on Florissant Road is slated for a new entrance and the location of the St. Louis Regional Education Park.

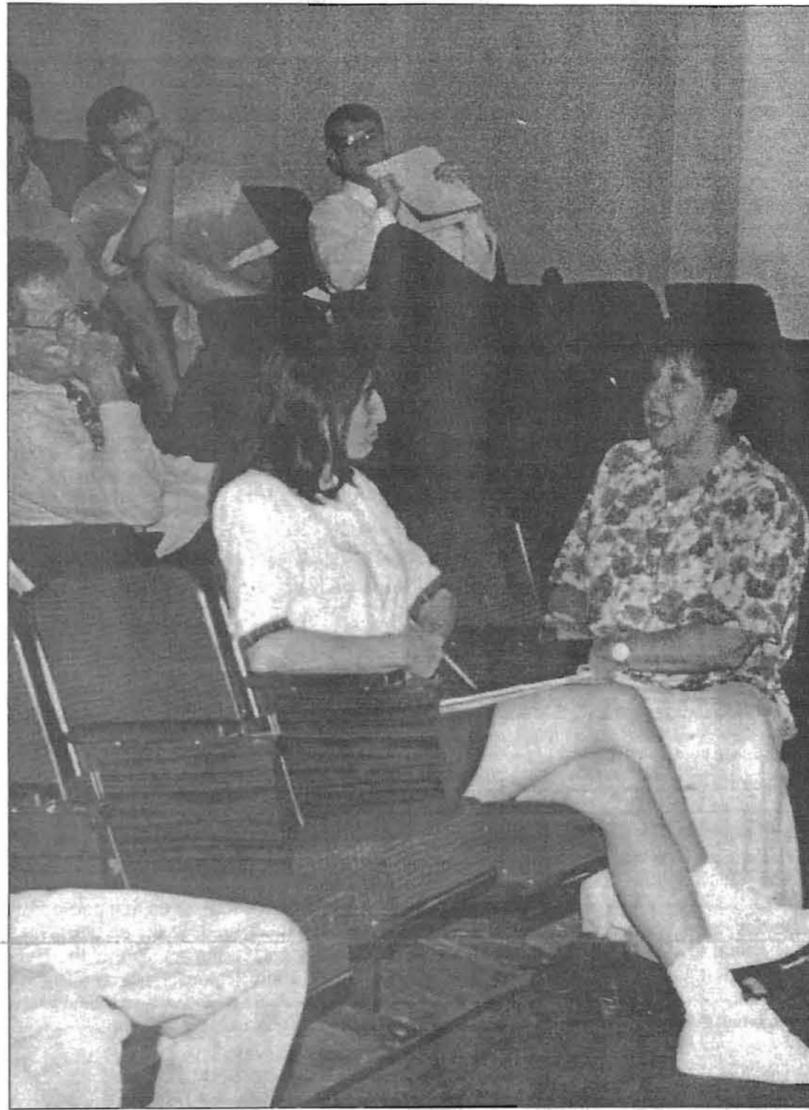
Touhill said the Communication Arts Complex would serve to give students a strong cultural foundation.

"It will be a factor which differentiates our students, our graduates, from the students and graduates of institutions throughout the region," she said.

Key to the University's growth will be a proposal for \$74 million in state funds to be distributed throughout the UM-System over the next five years. Touhill said the funds would be used to create new programs, enhance existing programs and promote faculty research.

See page 3 for a complete list of recipients of the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence.

Captive Audience



Joanne Bocci, right, Women's Center coordinator, addresses audience members attending the Sexy Legs debate Tuesday. See story on page 3.

SGA Assembly takes first action of new year

Representatives pass resolution, establish new committees

by Bill Rolles
staff writer

At Wednesday's meeting, the Student Government Association approved a resolution to request the re-establishment of two goals in the University of Missouri's mission statement.

SGA President Jim Avery said UM President Manuel Pacheco and the Board of Curators have decided not to include the words "accessibility" and "affordability" in this year's mission statement. Avery said past mission statements have included the two goals, and the effort to make them part of this year's mission statement is a "cooperative" one among the other UM campuses.

"Rolla and Columbia have already passed this (resolution), and so has Kansas City," Avery said.

The approximately 40 people who attended the meeting unanimously voted to pass the resolution.

According to the SGA constitution, every SGA representative must belong to at least one committee. At Wednesday's meeting, the assembly agreed to form seven committees. The seven committees were narrowed down from a list of 14 possible choices.

At the suggestion of SGA Vice President Michael Rankins, the assembly decided to wait to form the committees.

"I think we should wait until the next meeting to sign up so people can have time to think about what committees they want to join," Rankins said.

In an announcement, Rankins reminded the assembly that student curator applications are still available. The application deadline is Sept. 26.

Rick Blanton, interim director of Student Activities, added that the application contains involved questions that may take awhile to answer.

"It (would) be safe to say that it may take three to four days to complete it," Blanton said.

Rankins added that every applicant needs to include two letters of recommendation with the application.

The body also elected Barb Callaso to serve as treasurer. Callaso is also the administrative secretary.

Student disciplinary proceedings police conduct, punish offenders in secret

by Doug Harrison
staff writer

'Need for privacy' supersedes public interest, administrator says

Do the crime; do the time. Commit a crime on campus and you may have more trouble on your hands than just criminal prosecution.

Under provisions in the UM System student conduct code, the University may pursue its own investigation and disciplinary proceedings against students who violate the system's Collected Rules and Regulations governing student conduct.

According to former vice chancellor for Student Affairs Lowe "Sandy" MacLean, the student disciplinary process differs from criminal prosecution.

"Due process is elastic," MacLean said. "Students charged

with more serious crimes have more rights as citizens than they do on a university campus."

MacLean, who held his post in Student Affairs for over 15 years, said that while the University's disciplinary process often complements criminal prosecution, many student conduct cases proceed within the University even though no criminal charges are ever filed.

The difference is that criminal records are public; student disciplinary records are not.

In 1974, the so-called Buckley Amendment effectively sealed all "educational records" of college and university students. But MacLean said Buckley didn't clearly define what could and



Lowe "Sandy" MacLean

could not be classified as an educational record.

"At the time, administrators nationally fought hard to keep the [disciplinary] records confiden-

tial," MacLean said. "Their position as educators was that discipline is part of the educational process, not criminal, and as part of the mission to educate, those records needed to be confidential. Students need to learn from their mistakes."

As determined by the system guidelines, the vice chancellor for Student Affairs is vested with the authority to initiate an investigation of alleged incidents of misconduct.

If the vice chancellor determines a violation of the conduct code did occur, he notifies the student(s) involved of the charges and the penalty, which MacLean said could range from

University probation to expulsion.

The students have 10 days to accept or deny the charges.

Should students refuse the findings of the vice chancellor, a panel of "five or six" members is selected from a pool called the student conduct committee. The pool consists of 10 faculty, 10 staff and 10 students. At the students' request, the panel that hears individual cases may or may not have students on it.

The panel hears the vice chancellor's case and a defense from the student(s). Attorneys are allowed to consult with the students, but the students themselves must conduct the exami-

see *Discipline*, page 3

The Path to Punishment

- Student is charged, offered punishment by vice chancellor for Student Affairs
- Student may accept or reject charges from vice chancellor
- If student rejects charges, committee is impaneled, which may include other students
- Committee hears charges and student's defense and rules for or against the student (committee may impose stiffer punishment than the vice chancellor originally recommends)
- Student may appeal to chancellor

INDEX

Bulletin Board	2
Op/Ed	4
Odds&Ends	5
A&E	6
Sports	7
Life in Hell	9

Editorial:
Multicultural Office
can only help
students

Sexy Legs, it's time
to put on walking
shoes



Heather Unash, left, Delta Zeta president, and other sorority members share a laugh at EXPO with Rick Blanton, interim director of Student Activities.

It's Greek to me

Fraternities and sororities enjoy more student involvement

by Bill Rolles
staff writer

Beginning the fall semester offers many opportunities for change. Instructors learn new names; students get settled in their classes; and potential Greeks rush for the fraternities or sororities of their choice.

Rush week was two weeks ago, but fraternities and sororities let students pledge for several months.

Joe Osborne, rush chairman for the Sigma Pi fraternity, said this semester seems to be an especially good one for boosting membership.

"This is the best rush we've had in I don't know how many years," Osborne said.

For Sigma Pi, rush lasts from Aug. 23 through Oct. 5. During that time, the fraternity has parties every Saturday night and also smaller, Sigma Pi-only events. But rush is not

entirely a social occasion because pledges for Sigma Pi have to take tests.

"They take a few tests on the history of the fraternity, so they have respect for it," Osborne said. "It weeds out the people who only want to party."

Many people think Greeks only want to eat, drink and be merry, Amy Pierce, Panhellenic representative for the Delta Zeta sorority, said.

"The biggest misconception on campus is that fraternities and sororities are all about having a bunch of parties," Pierce said. "We do a lot of activities that benefit our society and our campus."

Delta Zeta President Heather Unash said that despite negative vibes from years past, this semester has been successful.

see *Greek*, page 3

The Current Events Bulletin Board

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

Monday, Sept. 22

- The Monday Noon Series presents "Joe Baker is Dead." UM-St. Louis English instructor Mary Troy will read a story from her new book to be published in 1998. Event held in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center at noon. Free admission. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

- Institute for Women's and Gender Studies Colloquium Series: "Breast Cancer: An Effective Movement," in 1312 Tower from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 23

- Golf Clinic for Beginners at the Mark Twain Athletic Center at noon. Clinic will last one hour. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

- Student Dialogue Brown Bag Series I sponsored by Multi-Cultural Relations/Academic Affairs in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Contact: Linda Sharp, 6807.

- Golf Clinic for Beginners at the Mark Twain Athletic Center at noon. Clinic will last one hour. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

- "Armaments and Third Party Efforts to Resolve Ethnic Conflict," presented by Dr. John Sislis in 302 Lucas Hall from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Sponsored by: Center for International Studies, Political Science department, and the Lentz Peace Research Association. Contact: Center for International Studies, 5753.

- 9th Annual Career Days, a chance to meet with over 70 employees, in the J.C. Penney Conference Center from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Contact: Career Services, 5111.

- Math Club Meeting in 302 CCB at 2 p.m. Electing new officers. Contact: Al Stanger, 353-9388 or s886680@umslvma.umsl.edu.

- Student Council for Exceptional Children meeting in 111 SCC at 3:30 p.m. Contact: Dr. Tamara Timko, 6084.

Thursday, Sept. 25

- Programs in Ireland information meeting for the Study Abroad program in 301 SSB at 3 p.m. Contact: Peggy Dotson, 6497.

- "What Is a City?: Culture, Tourism and the Marketing of Memory." Conference in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center from 7-9 p.m. Students welcome. Free admission. For reservations, call 5974.

- 9th Annual Career Days, a chance to meet with over 70 employees, in the J.C. Penney Conference Center from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Contact: Career Services, 5111.

Friday, Sept. 26

- "What Is a City?: Culture, Tourism and the Marketing of Memory." Conference in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center from 9:00 a.m. - noon and 1:00-3:30 p.m. Free admission. For reservations, call 5974.

- Awakenings Retreat through Sept. 28 at the South Campus Residence Hall. Pick up application at the Newman House or call 385-3455 for more information.

Sunday, Sept. 28

- Sprint for Sight 5K run/1.5 mile walk sponsored by the UM-St. Louis School of Optometry American Optometric Student Association at 9 a.m. Start/finish at the Mark Twain Center. Contact: Mike, 305-1253.

Monday, Sept. 29

- Recorder and Baroque Flute Music from 18th Century England, Germany and France in the Convocation Hall of the Pierre Laclede Honors College at 7 p.m. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

- The Monday Noon Series: "The Flute and Recorder Families: Neighbors in History," featuring Susan Carduelis in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center at noon. Free admission. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

Tuesday, Sept. 30

- 1.5 or 3 mile Campus Fun Run beginning at the Mark Twain Athletic Center at 12:30 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

- Punt, Pass and Kick Contest at the Rec Sports field from 1-5 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

- Biological Society meeting in Benton 111. If interested attend one of the following: 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m. or Oct. 1 at 4:30 p.m. Contact: The

Biological Society, 6438.

Wednesday, Oct. 1

- Programs for Science Majors, information meeting for the Study Abroad program in 301 SSB at 3 p.m. Contact: Peggy Dotson, 6497.

- Biological Society meeting in Benton 111. If interested attend one of the following: 4:30 p.m. or Sept. 30 at 4:30 p.m. or 7 p.m. Contact: The Biological Society, 6438.

Thursday, Oct. 2

- Student Social Work Association meeting in the Lucas Hall Evening College conference room (3rd floor) at 2 p.m. Contact: Barb Callaso, 5105 or s999777@umslvma.umsl.edu.

Saturday, Oct. 4

- Artist's reception with Connie Arismendi at Gallery 210 from 4-6 p.m.. Arismendi will give a gallery talk at 5 p.m. Contact: Gallery 210, 5976.

- Katy Trail Bike Ride, a 14.4 mi. trip. Register by Sept. 26 in 267 University Center. Contact: Student Activities, 5291.

Monday, Oct. 6

- The Monday Noon Series: "Art Songs by Johannes Brahms - A Performance." Stephen Town, baritone, will sing, accompanied by pianist Richard Bobo in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center at noon. Free admission. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

Put it on the Board . . .

The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration

is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. For best results, make all submissions in writing at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Managing Editor, The Current, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63121.

Campus Crime Line

A service provided by the Campus Police. Published entries are selections from a larger list.

Saturday, Aug. 30

The University Meadows exit gate was damaged between 3 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 31

A ground tent owned by Southwestern Bell was

reported stolen between 5 p.m. Aug. 29 and 9:40 a.m. Aug. 30. The tent was stolen from the sidewalk area at 7940 Natural Bridge Rd.

Monday, Sept. 1

A vehicle was stolen from parking lot A, and was located in St. Louis City Sept. 9.

Thursday, Sept. 4

A student reported that between 6 and 6:15 p.m., his wallet was stolen from a locker at the Mark Twain Athletic Center. The wallet contained \$7.00 in cash

and a credit card. The padlock being used was not locked.

A student reported that between 11:30 and 11:40 a.m., she witnessed an unknown male to be masturbating on the first floor of the Thomas Jefferson Library. No description was immediately available to University Police responding to the scene as the victim had left the building.

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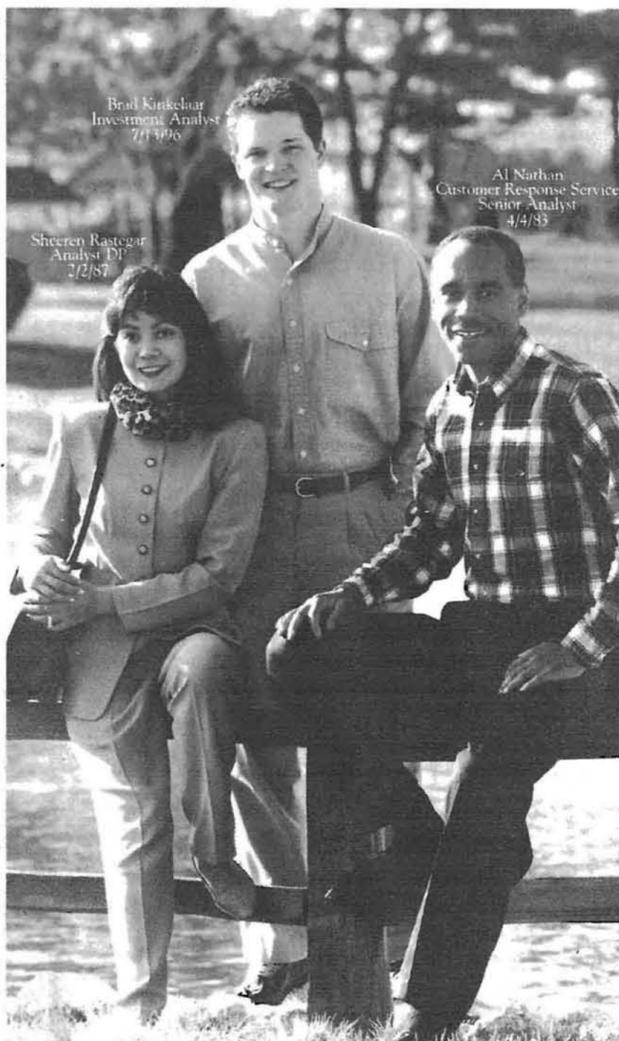
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Fraternity defends, is criticized for contest

Debate draws opposed groups, discusses issue in formal setting

by David Baugher
staff writer

In a heated, sometimes contentious exchange, representatives of Sigma Pi fraternity and a panel that included members of the debate team squared off in a debate Tuesday over the controversial "Sexy Legs" contest.

The debate, sponsored by Sigma Pi, the University Program Board and The Current, was prompted by the vandalism of a sign advertising the contest. The sign was found smeared with green paint early last Friday.

The contest, an annual Sigma Pi Rush Week event, has been the subject of controversy in the past over the content of its signs. Last year, a sign promoting the event was briefly removed from campus by the University because the administration felt it was inappropriate. This year's sign had been approved by the University.

The unknown people who vandalized the sign were invited to participate in the debate, but no one showed up to claim responsibility for the act. Instead, two members of the debate team and another individual agreed to argue in favor of a non-binding resolution denying University recognition to sexy legs contests across the U.S.

"We are here at this University to work, not to show off our bodies," Tina Fanetti, part of the panel in favor of the resolution, said. "By supporting these things, we are showing people that our bodies are more important than our minds."

Robert Dempsey, a member of the debate team, agreed, emphasizing that the real question was whether the University should approve of such events.

"We're not saying that these shouldn't go on, but what we're trying to say is that the recognized University-related organizations should not be doing this," Dempsey said.

Sigma Pi representatives responded by introducing their own resolution stressing the fraternity's freedom of speech.

"Give me liberty or give me death," John Jaus, an alumni member of Sigma Pi, urged. "Did someone not say that once?"

Tom O'Keefe, a past president of Sigma Pi agreed. "Our sign was an advertisement guaranteed to us by law," O'Keefe said. "Those who have disagreed with our expression have chosen a means outside the law to express those disagreements."

During the audience participation session of the debate, one audience member identified herself as Kendall, the author of what Sigma Pi representatives had referred to as "anti-male" flyers they said they found posted over and in place of flyers advertising the contest. Kendall said she posted the flyers next to, not on top of the fraternity advertisements.

Kendall said she had not had any role in the vandalism and did not know who the perpetrators were but said she was happy about their action.

"I have to say that I'm glad that whatever I wrote pissed somebody off enough to vandalize your sign," she said, "and that I hope what I write in the future promotes further acts of semi-violence towards men on this campus."

The event ended with an audience vote which failed the resolution.



Ashley Cook/The Current

Greek, from page 1

"This is the first year students really want to get involved," Unash said.

Delta Zeta had its formal rush Aug. 18-23, during which women pre-registered for membership. Rush week, however, is much more informal for sororities because they recruit students personally, Unash said.

"It's a lot more laid back," she said. "It's a more comfortable atmosphere because it's not so formal."

Pi Kappa Alpha, the only fra-

ternity not recognized by the University, is also reaping the benefits of more student involvement, said Michael O'Brien, the fraternity's rush chairman.

He said the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity is hoping to double its size from 40 active members to 80.

"I think the campus is changing," O'Brien said. "It seems like a lot of younger people, 18-year-olds, want more of the college experience instead of a commuter college."

"This is the first year students really want to get involved."

**-Heather Unash
president
Delta Zeta sorority**

Discipline, from page 1

nation of witnesses and make any remarks.

The panel then issues its decision, which may side with the vice chancellor, find for the student or issue an even more severe punishment than was initially recommended by the vice chancellor.

Interim vice chancellor for Student Affairs Karl Beeler estimated that the University adjudicates "about 50 or so cases" a year. Of those, he said "a handful" are violent.

MacLean confirmed that he has dealt with "brutal assaults" and rape in his tenure.

Under Buckley, the names of the stu-

dents involved in misconduct cases, the dates and access to the hearings, as well as the members who sit on the panels are not public.

"The accused and others associated with the case have a need of privacy," Beeler said.

He said he recognized that some students would want to know the identity of violent students who may not have been prosecuted in the criminal system, but he said he feels the system works.

"If the behavior is so egregious to warrant suspension or expulsion, then we have effectively removed the problem from the University," Beeler said.

Lorraine Garrett-Browder, whose son was attacked at University Meadows last year, disagrees.

"I think it would be healthier if the system were open," Garrett-Browder said.

Her son, Jason, was investigated and punished by MacLean's office under the student conduct provisions. Garrett-Browder said she still does not know what action, if any, the University took against her son's attackers because the records are confidential. She said she knew of no criminal action taken in the case.

"It was really hard on Jason to

deal with," she said. "Kids in these situations whether they are accused or have been victimized, need some kind of support and representation from the University."

MacLean said there is a national trend afoot to open student disciplinary records.

"Personally, I wish the records were open so that students could see that other students get a fair hearing," MacLean said.

1997 Chancellor's Awards for Excellence

Faculty:

Research and Creativity: Professor Dennis R. Judd, political science.

Teaching: Associate Professor Rudolph Ernst K. Winter, chemistry.

Service: Professor Mark Alan Burkholder, history.

Award to Academic Non-Regular: Associate Professor John A. Henschke, educational studies.

Staff:

Award to Administrative/Professional: Betty Jarvis, Administrative Associate I, continuing education and outreach.

Award to Office/Technical: Pamela McCann, receptionist, School of Education.

Award for Service Maintenance: Larry Spelbrink, route driver, business services.

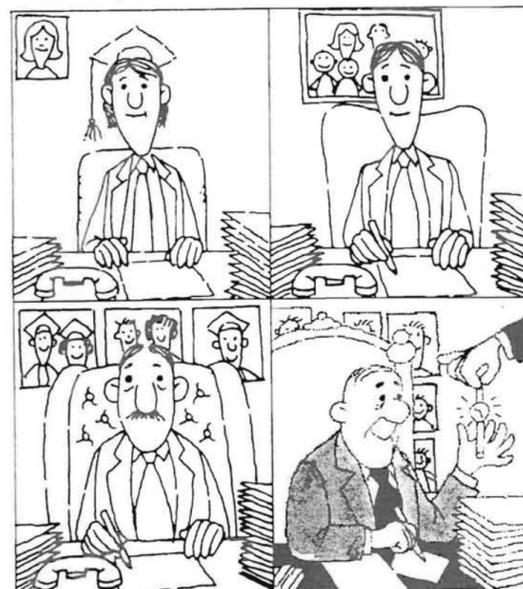
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OPINION/EDITORIAL

The Current

The student voice of UM-St. Louis

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

OUR OPINION

Multicultural Office can only help students

THE ISSUE:

The new Office of Multicultural Relations has begun operations, pooling three vital programs and staffs to offer more extension minority and cultural services to the campus.

WE SUGGEST:

The campus community should consider itself lucky to be at the University as this crucial new service begins operation and looks to the future.

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

As three significant minority services combine forces in the new office of Multicultural Relations, UM-St. Louis stands poised on the threshold of a grand opportunity, a new era when the amount of aid available to minority students pursuing an education will multiply to match increasing need.

The new office will command the resources of the African-American Scholars Retention Program, the Student Support Services Program and African American Student Relations, along with additional funding. This cumulative strength will allow Multicultural Relations to address more effectively minority issues and problems on campus, than any one of the three former offices would on its own.

Such heightened effectiveness will rise not only from increased financial strength, but also from a broadened mission and a streamlined organizational structure.

In the new office, programs which formerly benefited African-Americans exclusively will expand to serve all minority students as well as increased numbers of African-Americans, greatly increasing the number of students aided by the service.

At the same time, this single office will be more accessible and

able to address as a unit students' individual and collective concerns, drawing from the expertise of professionals from three programs, where formerly they were unable to unify the University's response to cultural needs.

Efforts will be coordinated, and as such, more potent.

The office's new location in 110 Clark Hall will add to its effectiveness as students need no longer seek services in a tiny office on the fifth floor of the Tower and may instead find them in a more convenient location.

The recent Guaranteed 4.0 seminar and other proposed projects like the Student Dialogue Brown Bag Series, several lunch meetings scheduled to address racial problems, bode well for the success of the new office of Multicultural Relations.

Gwen DeLoach-Packnett, director of Multicultural Relations, the staff of each program within the office and the countless others who have helped in the creation of this new entity deserve thanks and commendation for anticipating the needs of thousands of future students and acting to ensure the University can meet them.

Time will most surely confirm the value of this new arrangement.

Sexy Legs, it's time to put on walking shoes

It's time for Sexy Legs to take a hike - far, far away from the University.

Let's be clear: what fraternities and the crowds they draw find to entertain themselves with on the weekends is certainly their business.

And inasmuch as fraternities offer students an environment for social expression and interaction, they should be allowed to promote their activities on campus.

But Sigma Pi's promotional hype for and the controversy that invariably attaches itself to the Sexy Legs fundraiser (masquerading as a party) completely diminish any potential or stated benefits of the actual contest for students.

And what those benefits are exactly is becoming harder and harder to identify amidst the vandal's smeared green paint on the fraternity's billboard and the glare of police lights outside of the fraternity's house, both of which highlighted this year's "competition."

"This is a typical 1980s fraternity party," Sigma Pi rush week coordinator, Joe Osborne, said.

And we agree. It's time for the party to assume its place alongside that unforgettable decade - in history.

Jason's story should have taught U a lesson

Jason Browder doesn't go to school here anymore. He used to. He used to live in the residence halls and then he moved to University Meadows and then one evening last semester he exchanged words with a neighbor.

Not pleasant words, mind you. Bad words, and gestures, too. Something about noise on the balcony late at night, a Friday night, but a night no less.

The words turned into a full blown argument. Jason said his neighbor overreacted. Jason's neighbor said he spit on her, or at least he tried.

The neighbor, fed up with the whole ordeal, called some friends of hers, who, though they were quite occupied with their adult beverages at the time, were gracious enough to pile into a car or two and cruise on over to U Meadows around 1 a.m. to beat the bejesus out of Jason.

By the time the police arrived, the neighborhood welcoming committee was gone and Jason and his neighbor were left to accuse one another: he threatened to kill me, she said. I was just hanging out on the balcony, he said. I was scared he would hurt me, she said. Who does it look like got hurt, he asked.

The prosecuting attorney sought no charges against anyone involved in the case. But thankfully, the vice chancellor for Student Affairs investigated the assault and pursued it as a misconduct case under the University's collected rules and regulations because both the victim and some of the assailants were students.

Unfortunately our story ends rather abruptly here. All records pertaining to the University's disciplinary action are confidential, "educational records" they're called. We do know, because Jason told us, that the vice chancellor actually charged Jason with violating the student conduct code, but Jason was cleared in a conduct hearing of any wrongdoing.

And maybe the vice chancellor brought charges against the alleged assailants as well. I sure hope so.

But we don't know. Not even Jason knows what, if anything, happened to his assailants. Maybe they were expelled; maybe they were put on probation. Or maybe you're sitting next to one of them in your MWF class.

Administrators say disciplinary records should be kept sealed. We should help students learn from their mistakes, not make public spectacles of them, the administrators say.

But what about the students who don't commit violations? Where is the consideration for their safety and their well-being in this process?

Trust us, administrators say. The process works.

And that may be true. But these same people, who hide behind an ambiguous, 20 year old legislative measure that was never intended to protect violent people from public scrutiny, don't have to have walk to their cars in dimly lit garages at night, use a restroom on the 5th floor of the library just before it closes or sit in class wondering what that person next to them might have done last semester.



Doug Harrison
editor in chief

Lacking ingredients for 'college experience'

One of the most recurring topics of conversation on campus is student involvement, or, to be more accurate, the lack of student involvement at UM-St. Louis. After speaking with a few fraternity and sorority members, it seems like more and more students are wanting to get involved this year than ever before.

By the way EXPO turned out, I guess more students are showing an interest in extracurricular activities. At least that's what everybody seems to be telling me. I'm not much of an expert on EXPO because I was not able to attend the last three years. It used to look like fun, but I always had to go to work straight from class (that was when I had a normal job with regular working hours).

The social atmosphere at UM-St. Louis will always suffer because the majority of students work. We don't have the same amount of free time as students from universities like UM-Columbia have.

Not to say that they have nothing but free time on their hands, but almost everyone I know that went there did not have a job during their freshman year of college. That extra 20 to 40 hours a week could be used for going to the gym, hanging out with new-found friends and of course studying.

UM-St. Louis will not have much student involvement unless the number of students living on campus increases. Students who go away to college their freshman year and stay in dorms are pretty much thrown together. When living in a dorm, most of the people would normally associate with other students, and even the most introverted person must run into a fellow student some time during the day.

I'm sure the construction of the University Meadows apartments has helped to enhance student involvement. Students living there at least have the opportunity to constantly be around other students. But not enough students live in the Meadows or in the residence halls to create the fun-loving "college experience" many UM-St. Louis students dream of. We must ultimately resort to living vicariously through our old high school friends who go away to college and tell us stories of going to football games and skipping class because they were too hung over to get out of bed. I like to watch Animal House over and over again to aid my imagination of what college would be like.

A social atmosphere just doesn't seem practical at UM-St. Louis. Many people attend UM-St. Louis so they can save money. I mean, if you're going to stay in St. Louis to attend college, you might as well live at home and save up during your first couple of years.

I've met a lot of students who said they go here because they are broke. They went away to college their first year and got an education in budgeting. They can no longer afford to go away.

My reason for attending UM-St. Louis? I was too lazy to fill out a bunch of applications when I was in high school (I only filled out one). I'm not utterly disappointed in my decision to attend UM-St. Louis. At least by staying at home, I was able to save enough money to buy a brand new car.

Anyway, I'd say the place has kind of grown on me. And my involvement at the paper has definitely helped to make the time more enjoyable than when I was just a student who walked around campus with his head down, not saying a word to anyone.

I hope that I am being too pessimistic, though. I hope there is a chance that students here will become more involved.

From what I've heard EXPO was successful. So maybe there is hope for some kind of life at UM-St. Louis after all.



Bill Rolfes
managing editor

GUEST COMMENTARY

A grain of salt

It's only the beginning of the fall semester here at UM-St. Louis, and even though I've just transferred here, I've been here long enough to notice that there are some things here that just aren't kosher.

Unbeknownst to some, there ARE permanent residents on this campus. During the weekends, over 150 students are left to fend for themselves or starve. The kitchens in the dorms are only a small step up from a hot plate, and it's not so easy for people that don't have access to cars to make a Mickey D's run every six hours. To complete the fleecing, dorm students are required to pay \$700 into a meal plan they don't even have access to on weekends.

Obviously, the hours are inconvenient. For example, The Cove is only open from 11 to 4. Nix having a nice dinner in the evening, unless you want it before the ungodly hour of 4 p.m. Another slightly skewed thing... has anyone else noticed that even though this is supposedly a dry campus, the Cove serves beer and wine? So, ostensibly, someone with financial aid that pays for meals could be boozing it up on someone else's money. Hm...just some things to think about.

There are also some unfair things going on that ordinarily I would never notice. As a Gentile, naturally I'm not terribly concerned with the availability of kosher food here on campus. One day, when I was able to fit those inconvenient Underground hours into my busy schedule, I had a great conversation with someone who just happened to be Jewish. In the course of the conversation, I learned about the almost total lack of kosher food in the campus dining establishments. While this is a sticking point with some, I later learned about something even worse: the incredible callousness of scheduling Homecoming over Yom Kippur. For the uninitiated, Yom Kippur is "THE" Jewish holiday. The Day of Atonement.

This scheduling snafu was pointed out to the powers that be in July, so they took it to a representative of the UM-St. Louis Jewish community. The gentleman said something approximating: "Well, it won't affect my attendance, so why should it affect anyone else?"

Who is one person to make a values call like that for the entire Jewish population of this campus? Even today, some people take their religion seriously, and they have as much right to attend Homecoming as their Gentile counterparts.

It seems obvious to me that whoever is in charge of the planning around here needs to indulge in a little forethought. Well, it's my two cents, and I'll spend it where I please. Oh, and pass the salt.



Stephani Crawford
guest commentator



READER RESPONSE

The vandal speaks out

Editor's note: the following letter is printed anonymously given the extenuating circumstances surrounding the writer's identity.

I defaced the Sexy Legs sign in protest of the Sexy Legs contest and in order to draw attention to the issues that such a contest raises. The inclusion of men as well as women in the Sexy Legs contest does not make the contest acceptable. Two wrongs do not make a right, and I do not support the deliberate and intentional objectification of men or women.

I commend the Sigma Pi fraternity for inviting public debate on the issues surrounding my destruction of their Sexy Legs sign. I fear retaliation for my actions; therefore, I do not feel safe in revealing my identity. However, I see no reason why a public debate on these issues requires that I identify myself as the vandal of the Sexy Legs sign. I am more than willing to debate these issues publicly without revealing my identity. In fact, had I been available to attend the forum on Tuesday, I would have done just that.

The Vandal

EXPO, a resounding success

Kudos to the entire Student Activities staff for another successful EXPO. Throughout my 14 years at UM-St. Louis, this has always been a good way for students to find organizations that suit them.

When as advisor of the Forensics and

Debate Club I view the hundreds of awards displayed across campus from Lucas Hall to the Honors College won by students, I am reminded of all of the students who contributed who found out about the organization through EXPO. I know from many years of conversations with other faculty who advise student organizations that this is also the case.

This year's fair was exceptionally well organized, and the Chancellor's picnic was a nice way for students to interact with professors. The music was wonderful. Such activities are essential, to my mind, to attain a University's balance between its research and its teaching missions.

C. Thomas Preston, Jr.
associate professor of communication

In defense of John Onuska

I was greatly distressed to read your article concerning Melinda Long's allegations against Dr. Onuska. There are several things she and I have in common: we are both black women, both senior English majors and we've both had Dr. Onuska for Shakespeare 338 (although not at the same time).

The first day of my class Dr. Onuska made clear that he gives "average grades for average work" and that "As and Bs are honors grades that must be earned." I knew right away that his would be a tough course and I was some-

see Letters, page 8

ODDS & ENDS

column



a generic offering

Jill Barrett
columnist

Ever said you've been to Hell and back? Well, this summer went to Purgatory, and it was closer to Hell than I anticipated. It all began when some friends and I planned a camping trip to Colorado.

These friends live in Albuquerque and so of course I had to make a little detour first to New Mexico. But it was all good because I love New Mexico. Also, one of my friends is a St. Louis native and coincided her visit home with my vacation time. I rode out west with her, and we imagined we were doing the "Thelma and Louise" thang. Unfortunately, we didn't have it in our hearts to shoot anybody (at least no strangers) and never got the opportunity to even see a semi blow up.

We, as group, had underestimated just how much rain Colorado was getting at the time, and just how much of the state had been getting it. But like all intrepid weekend adventurers, we thought nothing of a little rain. These people had backpacked. They had appropriate camping gear and not a tent bought through K-Mart or something.

While we originally planned to pitch that tent outside of Silverton, we were running a little late and decided to find a campsite in Purgatory. And we did - right across the highway from a Best Western and several bars. This was not nearly far enough away from civilization for us.

We found a site, pitched our tents and tried to start a campfire with wood we had found. We had noticed the ground was wet and asked the Campsite Gatekeeper if Purgatory had been getting much rain. He told us that the rain just started last night, and we were hoping the wood was so dry that we might be able to get a fire going. As with many of my hopes, this too was a crushing defeat. We ended up doing something that my friends felt was a major camping sin for purists - we bought a bundle of wood. What was even more humiliating was that even with bought wood and white fuel, we couldn't get the fire going.

What losers. When we went into our respective tents, everything was just peachy until it started to rain. Hard. It was still okay until I, in my infinite wisdom, touched the ceiling which started a leak. But three hours later, the tent was getting flooded and once our sleeping bags got wet - well, we pretty much knew that were going to be awake for the whole miserable experience. By dawn, all we wanted to do was get ourselves and our stuff dry and watch the Weather Channel to see what part of CO or the Four-Corners area would be dry enough to dry out our gear. We did the only thing we thought could give us public access to cable TV.

We drove back to Durango and started to look for an early-Sunday-morning bar. We found one - Father Murphy's. Although it wasn't open when we got there, a worker said they opened in an hour or so, and sure, we could reserve a table right in front of their many TVs and have our way with its channeling.

We amused ourselves eating breakfast and approaching tourist families with kids asking if they knew of an open sports bar. Considering we had been wallowing in the mud our in the wilds of Purgatory, I'd be disappointed if the parents didn't point us out as tourists gone bad to their children.

When the bar finally opened, we commandeered a TV table and headed straight for the Weather Channel, the oracle to campers and backpackers. Things were not lookin' good for us, though. Cloud cover over almost all of Colorado and the Four Corners area. We tried to talk our server into letting us pitch our tents right there, and he was all for it 'cause just think of the tips and entertainment he'd get from us.

We did complete the rest of our three-day camping trip, and it just got weirder from there. I did learn one important lesson. Purgatory is closer to Hell than I thought, but I had no idea it would be so wet. What's all that crap about the fires in Hell, anyway?



I got it, I got it

Intramural softball tournament hits a homer with students

by Stephani Crawford
special to The Current

The smell of barbecuing hot dogs and hamburgers was redolent in the air as student teams gathered last Saturday at noon on the softball field at Mark Twain to determine the best of the... er, best.

The recreational sports softball tournament, an intramural competition, attracted students from many different groups for one purpose: to play some hot softball. Although the rules were a bit skewed to favor the ladies playing, most still managed to have a fairly good time, according to freshman Terrie Greene.

"The rules were kind of messed up in favor of the girls, but it was unnecessary. For instance, guys only got two strikes; girls got three, and every girl who crossed

the plate counted for two runs. It was kind of insulting, but I still had a good time," Greene said.

D-Mike Bauer, an honors student expressed satisfaction over one particular success of the Honors College team, dubbed "Dammit!"

"I was pretty bummed until we kicked the Residential Life team's butt," Bauer said.

Nyx Greene, also of the Honors College team, added, "I'm not dead yet!"

"Coach" Terry Southard, of the Residential Life team, was pleased by the turnout. "It was great to see so many people out and involved," Southard said.

The day was not without its casualties, however. Gina Puglisi, a junior, met up with a softball in a not-so-nice way.

"I was playing behind the pitcher. Since the pitchers pitched to their own teams, they certainly weren't going to catch any pop-ups. Anyway, I got shotgunned in the shin by a hard line drive and had to be taken to Normandy Community in an ambulance. While I was there, getting x-rays and such, I was stranded in one of those rooms divided by a curtain where I had to listen to a mother and son on the other side have an argument about him using drugs," Gina said, rubbing her crutch-sore arms.

The Recreational Sports program also hosts other similar events, like a golf scramble, floor hockey and still more pastimes, but without participation, nothing is ever as much fun. So show up and play!

Faculty exchange marks diamond anniversary

University of Western Cape is home away from home for UM-St. Louis prof

by Stephanie Crawford
special to The Current

Everyone knows a little about the student exchange programs - study abroad, learn a new language, make friends, learn a new culture.

Not many students are aware, however, of the faculty exchange programs here at UM-St. Louis. One of the most exciting opportunities offered through the Office of International Studies is the exchange program with the University of Western Cape in South Africa.

September 3, 1996, marked the 10th anniversary of this ambitious program, which was first designed as a positive academic influence in the face of South African apartheid. The UM system-wide program was granted an exemption from the African National Congress' academic boycott because of its inherently anti-apartheid, positive example in the academic community.

Joel Glassman, director of the program, said, "We were granted the exemption because of the nature of the program as a constructive engagement, its spirit to end apartheid." He said it was understood that the program would not cooperate with the established norms of the apartheid system.



Sheilah Clarke-Ekong

Sheilah Clarke-Ekong, professor of Anthropology, one of the alumni of the program, actually attended twice, spending seven weeks there in the Fall of 1995 as part of a gender equity seminar and another stint in March of this year as part of a research team.

"As anyone who has taken a class in the Social Sciences can tell you, the catchwords of the social sciences are 'continuity and change'. South Africa is a wonderful example of this, an actual living contemporary example of a polar change in political views. Because I

was still very young during the Civil Rights Movement of the '60s, it was very interesting to see that 'continuity and change' in action," Clarke-Ekong remarked.

This year marked the beginning of a new chapter in the relationship between the University of Western Cape and the UM system. For the first time, UM-St. Louis is hosting 8 students from South Africa, marking the beginning of a new era in an already rewarding academic relationship.

Clarke-Ekong had this advice for American students who might travel to South Africa: "Open yourselves to understand the challenges of change, even in such small things as a conversation or how you look at someone. Also, because apartheid bred such intense internal violence by intimidation, one needs to be vigilant about personal well-being."

The period of recovery from South African apartheid is far from over, but the changes being implemented by Nelson Mandela aimed at the formation of a new South Africa can only be helped by such beneficial academic relationships as the one between the University of Missouri and the University of Western Cape.

'Joe Baker is dead' but Mary Troy is alive and well

2 U alums discuss their most recent works

by Becky Rickard
staff writer

Last Monday night, two former UM-St. Louis students, Mary Troy and John Dalton, read from their recent literary works and discussed the writing process with a group of 15 people.

"Conversations with the Authors" was a seminar sponsored by the Ferguson-Florissant Branch of the American Association of University Women.

Both Troy and Dalton attended UM-St. Louis as undergraduates and later taught in the same English department that molded them.

Mary Troy is currently teaching fiction writing in the English department while Dalton has taken a sabbatical from teaching to finish his novel, Volunteer.

Mary Troy's latest piece, *John Baker is Dead*, is a collection of short stories that has been accepted for publication by the University of

Missouri Press.

Troy's collection includes nine short stories, displaying a variety of characters from a "South City" St. Louis neighborhood.

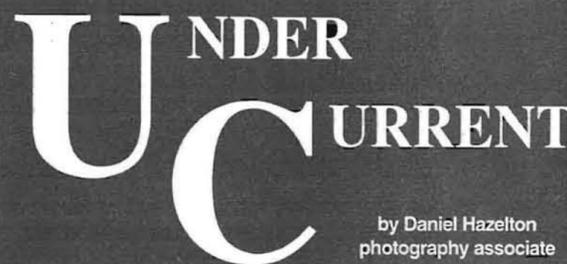
"After I moved to South St. Louis, I began to notice so many characters that could be in stories," Troy admitted.

Troy said the importance of the character, Joe Baker, who appears in the title of her collection is minimal.

"The book is called *John Baker is Dead* because I thought it was sort of funny that Joe Baker is not a main character in any story. He lives in the neighborhood, sells produce and is dead in all but one story. He is used entirely for character development," Troy said.

The collection of *John Baker is Dead* was almost an accident. Troy didn't write all of the stories in succession. In fact, she took time to distance herself from short story writing

see Authors, page 6



IF YOU COULD MAKE ONE CHANGE ON CAMPUS, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

"Parking. We need more spaces!"

- Yolanda Campbell
junior/civil engineering



"Clean up all that nasty goose crap!"

- Kevin Kemper
junior/electrical engineering



"We need more bars close to campus."

- Stan Miller
junior/education



"We definitely need closer and more parking."

- Angie Coffell
junior/psychology



"Air conditioning in the chem labs."

- Nicole Johnson
junior/biology



"More money back for books."

-Christine Birrane
teaching certificate



MOVIE REVIEW



Anthony Hopkins, left, and Alec Baldwin fight off a killer bear in *The Edge*.

Hark — Alec Baldwin can actually act

Unbelievably, Alec Baldwin successfully acts in this film. Billionaire Charles Morse (Anthony Hopkins) accompanies his wife (Elle MacPherson), a model, on a photo shoot in the Alaskan wilderness. While in search of the perfect photos, the plane in which photographer Robert Green (Alec Baldwin) and Morse are traveling does a nose dive

into the mountains. While stranded in the ferocious winter landscape of Alaska, Charles and Robert must bond as they face each new obstacle in their attempt to return to civilization. Braving the harsh elements and even a blood-thirsty bear, Charles utilizes his vast knowledge of life, even though it is all theoretical. The twist in the plot

occurs when - oh yeah, I can't tell you that.

The movie keeps you on the "edge" of your seat. The intense performance from Baldwin, balanced by Hopkins' on-screen demeanor, provides the ultimate theatrical experience. Well, almost anyway.

- by Travis Regensburger

Authors, from page 5

ing to complete a novel. When she began writing short stories again, she noticed that Joe Baker kept appearing as a minor character. Troy then decided to finish the collection.

Joe Baker is Dead will be available to the public early in 1998.

Dalton has taught fiction writing at UM-St. Louis and Webster University. After winning the Henfield Transatlantic Award, Dalton took a paid sabbatical from teaching to finish his novel, Volunteer, in Cape Cod.

Dalton read a short excerpt from his novel that is representative of its

thrust. The novel is written from a third-person-limited point of view through the eyes of Vincent, a Christian missionary and Red Bud, Illinois native who travels to Taiwan to spread his beliefs. Vincent takes a second job teaching English at a private Taiwanese academy.

Dalton has traveled to Taiwan and taught English as a second language. Through his travels, he has a wide base of experience from which to draw scenes for Volunteer.

"I think what you do as a writer is take an incident, a small incident, and exaggerate it. . . . not make it

bigger, flashier or sexier than it actually was, but make it interesting in a thematic way," Dalton said.

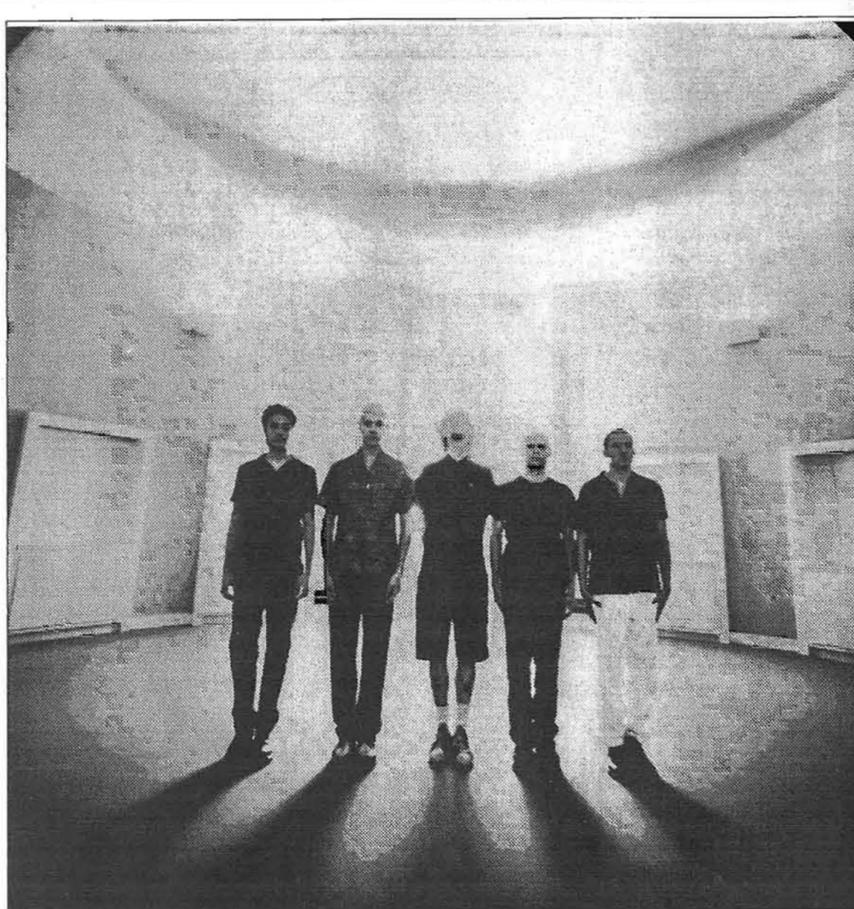
Dalton told a few stories from his experience in Taiwan that helped the audience understand the tone and voice of the novel.

He also stressed that his experiences in Taiwan do shape the novel but are in no way biographical.

"I've always been a world class daydreamer," Dalton said. He hopes to finish the novel within the next two years.

Both Troy and Dalton were excited to read from their works, and both gave exciting presentations.

MUSIC REVIEW



311 members, l-r, Timothy Mahoney, Nicholas Hexum, P-Nut, Chad Sexton and S.A. Martinez.

311 breaks new ground with *Transistor*

311 *Transistor* (Capricorn)

The group 311's latest release, *Transistor*, is a departure. For those who don't know the band's background other than its self-titled 1995 release, this album is slower and relies more on the reggae background the band claims.

Transistor is more laid back than the so-called "Blue" album.

However, the bass which is so prominent in all of the band's previous albums remains with *Transistor*. This album has quite a diversity even within itself. The title track, *Transistor*, is classic 311, with hard rocking guitars and two-part vocals. The album then jumps right into a reggae-influenced "Prisoner," which doesn't sound that bad. "The Continuous Life" is completely different from those two songs and is

based on the funk style of music that 311 has been known to play.

Transistor IS a departure from their wildly successful self-titled album ("Blue"), but I think it's a good departure. For those people who have grown tired of overplayed hits like "All Mixed Up" and "Down," *Transistor* will not disappoint you. It's a good album that deserves attention and recognition.

- by Matthew Regensburger

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DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 15, 1997

Beeler, from page 7

so far," he said. "In fact, he has pushed me to work even harder at my own game."

According to Head Coach Tom Redmond, Beeler is not only a positive influence on the younger players like McCarthy, but also on all of his teammates.

He's a good role model because he is serious about school and soccer," he said. "He's a real classy kid."

Redmond added that he thinks Beeler is going to have a fine season in goal.

"He's made some key saves, and he has been a real steady player," he said. "He is mature and goal oriented in everything he does."

As far as the team's chances this season, Beeler said it could be successful even though it lost many key players from 1996.

"We have the ability to shut down

teams," he said. "We may not be able to outskill teams, but we can outplay them."

Beeler added that through the first three games, he has seen bright signs.

"We have shut down opposing forwards well, and in the games we won, we made the opposition play our type of game," he said. "We just need to keep our intensity up for the entire game."

Beeler is earning his graduate degree in criminology and criminal justice, and he plans to graduate in May. His hard work and dedication extend beyond the soccer field as he was a member of the Honors College his first two years at UM-St. Louis.

"He is a great example to incoming freshmen, realizing that hard work belongs not only on the playing field, but also in the classroom as well," Redmond said.

Men's soccer, from page 7

ding," Redmond said. "Also, Jason Aft has been shutout. He also has had very few shots on goal."

The season began well for the Rivermen. They won a big game

against Truman State. Truman has since defeated several very good teams in the early part of the season.

"We had trouble in the game

against Rockhurst (Truman)," Redmond said. "But we bounced back against Truman. They went on to beat some good teams. That win is looking really good."

Volleyball, from page 7

form well on Saturday came back to play strong on Sunday.

Silvester also gave much praise to senior Laura Gray for her excellent defensive work and to freshman Michelle Hochstatter for her play at

the middle hitter position. She said the team must still work hard to improve.

"We need to raise our confidence level, but we are working hard in practice on that," Silvester said.

"However, practice and competition are two different things."

The Riverwomen are a young team, with only one senior, and Silvester said that they can't let youth hinder them.

Letters, from page 4

what intimidated since this was my first 300-level English Course. However, I decided to stay in and meet the challenge. I did very well in the course! In fact, I enjoyed the course so much that I have since taken several of Dr. Onuska's classes. On many occasions he has suggested that fellow students (white and black, male and female) who were disappointed with their grade look over my essays or ask me for help. Further, I am not the only black woman he has esteemed (sic) to classes as a possible source for help!

It is unthinkable that a "racist" would suggest white students use papers written by their black counterparts as an example of excellent work! It grieves me that The Current did not seek out other minority students who have done well in Dr. Onuska's classes to present a more balanced article. I am opposed to racism in any form and believe it should be exposed and extinguished when it occurs, but Dr. Onuska is not a racist and I have every confidence in him as a professor!

Renee Goings

More support for John Onuska

As an African-American student, I would like to voice my objections to the September 15 article that reports allegations of racial discrimination against Dr. John Onuska. I have had three classes taught by him, including the Shakespeare class that was mentioned in the article.

I have never experienced any form of racial discrimination by Dr. Onuska. He has given me high grades on papers and has praised my work in class in front of other students.

At least two other African-American students that I know of have also received high praise and high grades from him. In addition, Dr. Onuska enthusiastically wrote a recommendation for me based on my writing ability.

He takes a personal interest in my activities and I have seen him behave the same way towards other African-American students. Dr. Onuska's class is a challenging 300 level course.

A student must come to class regularly, pay attention to his lec-

tures and have a college level writing ability. If she skips class one a week or does her reading assignments for another class during lectures, then she will receive a D grade.

The grade is not evidence of racism but is a reflection of the student's lack of effort. Individuals who file false discrimination claims exploit the sensitive nature of society's views of racial issues.

As a result, true cases of racism are harder to prove. The Board of Curators must not tolerate students who use racial discrimination as a method to improve a bad grade.

Kara Toomer

Riverettes respond to letter

In response to the letter written by a Riverette, my name is Heather Brand. I was a member of the UMSL Dance Team (UDT) from January 1996 through May 1997.

During the summer, Tanya and Jennete, two members of the Riverettes, came to my job, embarrassing themselves. Jennete, showing too much emo-

tion for the situation said, "We took down your flyers because you took down ours."

Did I mention that they were holding \$15 worth of flyers purchased by the UDT and threw them in the trash can?

Has it ever occurred to the Riverettes that students could be interested in trying out and take down a flyer to have the necessary information needed for try-outs?

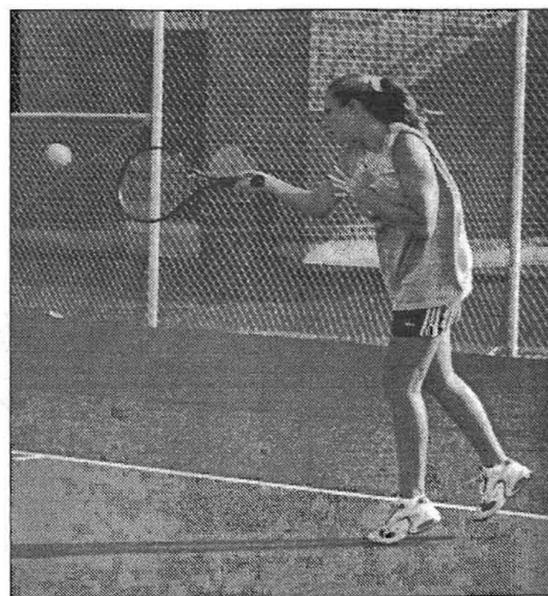
Maybe UMSL employees take them down for lacking the necessary stamp needed to post flyers on boards?

In the past, a few of the UDT members did take down some of your flyers, including our old advisor who is now your advisor. Yes, a married woman with children, who is also an employee of KWMU, participated in such childish actions shared by both teams.

Let's follow the UMSL Dance Team's lead and GROW UP ladies.

Heather Brand

Power Stroke



Ashley Cook/The Current

A member of the Riverwomen tennis team volleys the ball back over the net at practice last week.

COMING SOON TO A SPORTS PAGE NEAR YOU: BOX SCORES

Sexy Legs is disgusting

I am disgusted that the Sigma Pi fraternity sponsors an annual "Sexy Legs" contest - that even after hearing our objections to the event, these men continue to promote the objectification of women by reducing us to our body parts rather than valuing us as people with stimulating ideas to share. Should we be evaluated by the shapeliness of our legs or should people look at our whole person, our ambitions, our hard work, our passions and rewarded for what we have accomplished? Women are still looked upon as objects to be beautiful, to be sexy, to make men happy and as prizes to be won by the best man. Only when this perception fizzles from the subconsciouses of men and women will women be taken seriously as originators of ideas, as thinkers, as scholars, as professionals.

I attended Tuesday's debate about the Sexy Legs contest in which the Sigma Pi fraternity assert-

ed its right to have the party and to put their signs all over campus. I don't disagree with them. They have that freedom, but I hold that in having a Sexy Legs contest, they flaunt their disrespect for women and perpetuate a societal disease which afflicts women by treating us as nothing more than bodies for men to enjoy. I don't want to deny anyone's rights but wish the Sigma Pi fraternity could understand the harm they are causing and would willingly design another fundraising event which doesn't dehumanize anyone.

Suzanne Rataj

Your turn now. We love to hear from you. Hate us Love us Either way. See page 4 for addresses and numbers

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www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current/

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Table with 7 columns: Period, CREF Stock Account, CREF Bond Market Account, CREF Social Choice Account, CREF Global Equities Account, CREF Equity Index Account, CREF Growth Account. Rows for 3-Year, 5-Year, and 10-Year periods.

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The Current
NEWSWIRE

E. Louis Lankford has been named the Des Lee Foundation Endowed Professor for Art Education at UM-St. Louis. The position is a joint appointment between the School of Education and the art and art history department in the College of Arts and Sciences. Lankford is the author of two books and holds degrees in art education and commercial art. He is currently a member of the educational staff of the St. Louis Art Museum.

The text of the chancellor's State of the University Address delivered Wednesday is available in its entirety at the University Relations website at <http://www.umsl.edu/services/ur/sou.html>

If weather permits, paving will resume on the South Campus Monday. The work area will include the East Entrance Drive from the Bi-State bus entrance to the property line between UM-St. Louis and Daughters of Charity. Work will continue approximately one week.

The Office of Student Activities has collected \$185 for the American Diabetes Association. The funds will be donated, along with money generated through sponsorships of UM-St. Louis walk-a-thon participants at the annual Walk for Diabetes in Forest Park on Sept. 28. A group of 30 faculty, staff, and students representing UM-St. Louis will be walking. For more information, call 5291.

Contact David Baugher at 516-5174 to submit items for Newswire.

Partnership sets sights on free vision care

by Sarah Evilsizer
special to The Current

A partnership between UM-St. Louis' School of Optometry, the St. Louis Society for the Blind and the Visually Impaired will benefit the community and optometry students.

Fourth-year optometry students have the opportunity to assist Dr. Larry Brown, a clinical assistant professor specializing in low vision (severe vision loss) and geriatrics. Dr. Brown works part-time at the Society for the Blind.

Dr. Brown said the society, a free community service located in Webster Groves, helps people with low vision to "assess what vision remains."

By training alongside Dr. Brown, students have a chance to work in the area of rehabilitation rather than only the medical, clinical side of optometry.

"Students can have access to a large population of visually-impaired people," Dr. Brown said

of the partnership.

One side of the profession that students view first-hand is the human aspect.

"With any loss, vision or physical, there are a lot of emotional aspects that go along with it. People aren't very heartbroken over broken glasses," he said, describing the nature of severe-vision-loss care. "It's a different profession. You kind of have to be cut from the right kind of stone."

Dr. Brown would like to see his students gain knowledge of low-vision care through this partnership.

"I hope that even if they never do it in their lives," he said, "they know how to help that person."

First-year optometry student Melissa Hau looks forward to helping people through the partnership.

"It's kind of like giving something back to the community," Hau said. "I think that is the goal of many health care professionals, to serve people."

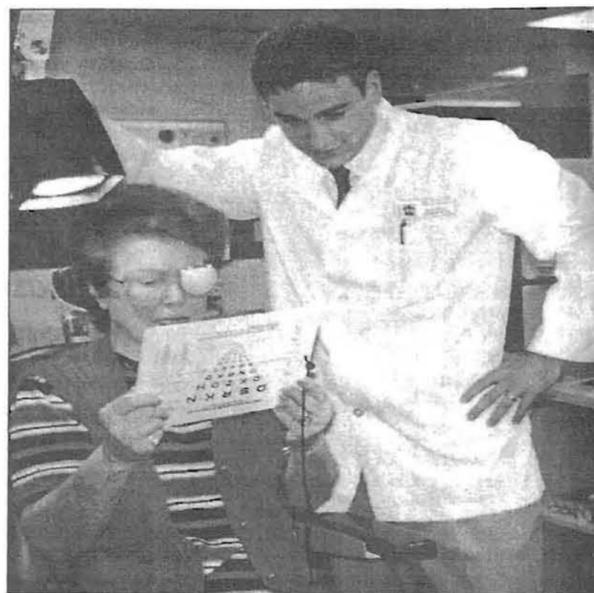


photo courtesy of U Communications

A UM-St. Louis optometry student conducts an eye exam with a patient at the Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Administrators: scholarship money often goes unused

Local, national programs can pay tuition, fees, offset students' expenses

by Joshua Stegeman
special to The Current

UM-St. Louis annually awards approximately \$5.9 million in scholarships to all levels and majors of students, and in most cases, would-be recipients can request consideration for scholarships by filling out a simple application.

The two most helpful resources for learning about these scholarships are the Bulletin (course description book) and the UM-St. Louis Homepage, which can access a database of scholarships.

Both include information that is categorized by student major or class level.

The database outlines who is eligible for any given award, how much money is applicable and

where applications can be obtained.

Generally, one need only visit Financial Aid in 209 Woods Hall and obtain a general scholarship application.

"The Financial Aid Office is a database for the scholarship selection committees as a resource to select eligible students," Tony Georges, director of financial aid, said.

The application deadline is March 31, 1998.

"We encourage ALL students to apply for scholarships," Georges said.

The College of Arts and Sciences, along with several other colleges, is working with Financial Aid to promote these University and National scholar-

ships.

Sharon Clark, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the lack of applications is disappointing because the money cannot be distributed among a more diverse and wider group of students. According to Clark, a scholarship is a great investment in one's future and an effective resume-enhancer that requires only a little effort and time to pursue.

Scholarship information can also be obtained from the offices of individual departments.

Many of these different departments have their own money to distribute, but students often do not take advantage of opportunities to form relationships with their professors.

The professors, then, sometimes have difficulty making nominations, Clark said.

If students experience difficulty finding information in their departments, the dean of their college can also provide application information.

The Harry S. Truman and Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships are two national awards for which applications are now available in 303 Lucas Hall.

All of these scholarships are endowed for the benefit of students, and Clark emphasized the great opportunity such awards constitute for applicants.

Anyone can take a couple of hours to produce a solid, competitive application and make thousands of dollars for the effort.

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