

The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

In This Issue

St. Louis Mayor Clarence Harmon mailed and faxed in his objections to the new Performing Arts center. For this story, see page 3.

AS GOOD AS IT GETS

Jack Nicholson, Helen Hunt, Cuba Gooding Jr. and Skeet Ulrich star in the new comedy *As Good As It Gets*. For a review by Matt Regensburger, see page 6.



The Riverwomen basketball team is the talk of the conference with its 9-2 start. For more details, see page 7.

Chancellor Blanche Touhill became the first recipient of the newly named "Citizen of the Year" award. See page 8.

News From All Over

AOL chat room attracts aspiring Princeton bomber

PRINCETON, N.J. (UWIRE)—An America Online chat room became an arena for a bomb threat appearing to target the university over break.

A security officer for AOL notified the Princeton Borough Police of the threat, which occurred at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 19 and was reported at 4 a.m. the following day, according to a department press release.

The message posted in the chat room stated: "Princeton sucks an (sic) I am setting off a pipe bomb in one of the lockers on Monday so if you don't want me to set the pipe bomb off the (sic) you better send me 100,000 dollars by Sunday. P.S. you'll have to find me to give me the money I am not going to find you to get the money."

University Public Safety Crime Prevention Specialist Barry Weiser said Public Safety reported to Dillon Gym and discussed whether they should perform a locker-to-locker search with the Borough Police.

Investigation of the threat revealed that the message was posted by a 12-year-old boy from Holyoke, Mass., according to the press release. The youth did admit to sending the threat, but could not explain why he had done it. No arrest was made, and no charges were filed, Weiser said.

- Kate Deringer
Daily Princetonian
(Princeton U.)

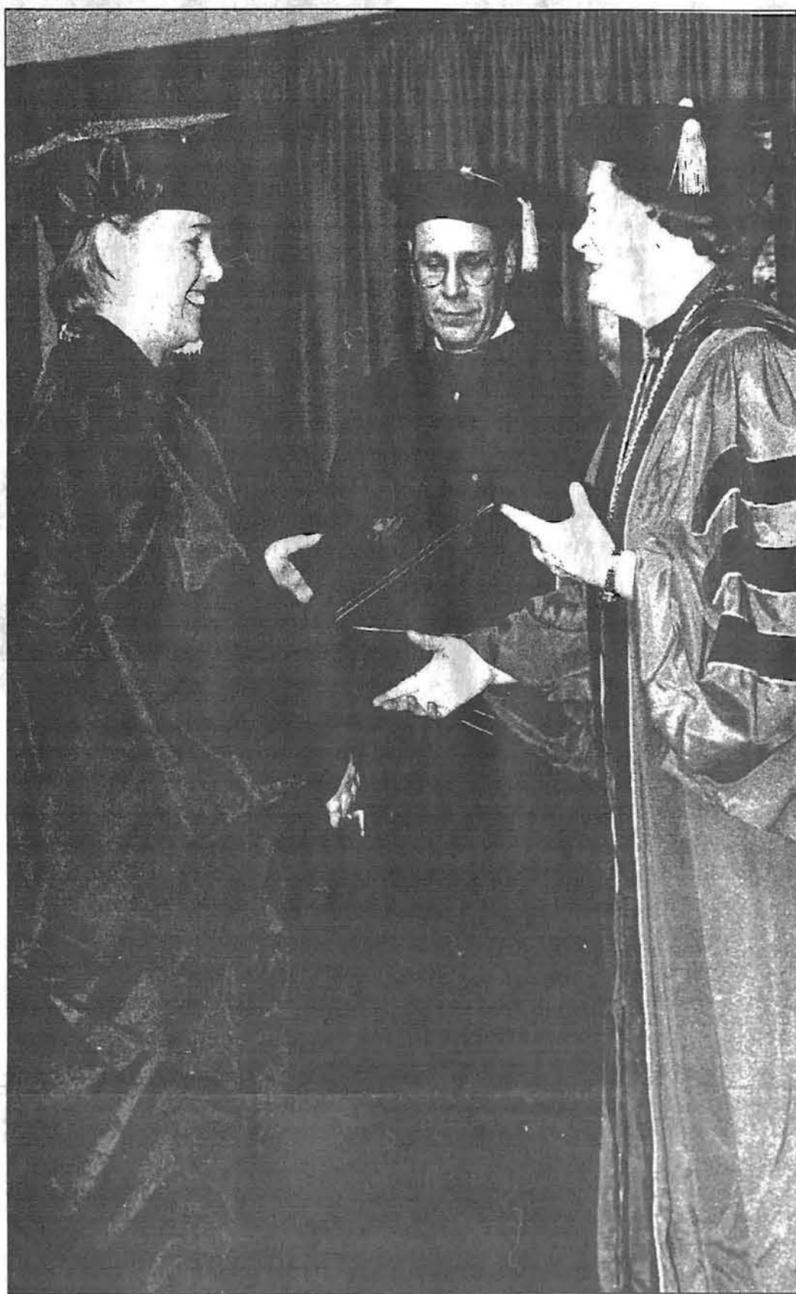
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Let's Shake On It



Sharon Roberts, left, graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences, receives her diploma from Chancellor Blanche Touhill and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Gary Grace. See page 5 for stories and more details on Sunday's commencement.

Daniel Hazelton/ The Current

Some e-mail accounts 'purged'

Addresses were accidentally removed in effort to save memory

BY DAVID BAUGHER
staff writer

Preparations for the replacement of the campus VMA server continue despite a minor glitch that left a few hundred students wondering what happened to their e-mail accounts.

According to Jerrold Siegel, coordinator of campus computing, the problem occurred when about 4,000 dormant accounts were purged from the server in an attempt to conserve computer memory. The accounts had not recorded a login in the past nine months.

"They were accounts that appeared to be inactive and had not been used for a very long time and

they were occupying disk space," Siegel said.

Siegel explained that unfortunately some of the accounts were still being used in a "passive" way by students, faculty and staff using e-mail programs like Eudora which checks mail without logging in.

"From the computer's point of view, collecting your mail is a trivial sort of act," Siegel said. "It's very difficult to log those events because you have hundreds of thousands of them every week."

Siegel said that most of the accounts deleted were actually dormant and estimated less than 400 were still in use. Of those only

see PURGED, page 3

Welcome Back

As you may notice, we've changed a few things since you last saw us. We hope you like the adjustments here and there and we trust, as you always do, that you'll let us know what you like and don't like about our new look.

The "new and improved Current" probably won't make your life easier or change your world vision or anything like that. But it may be a little easier to read, more entertaining in places, incorporate a few new ideas. So enjoy. It is, after all, your paper.

Doug Harrison
Doug Harrison, editor

Performing Arts Center sparks student opposition

Groups square off in growing debate over theater

BY DAVID BAUGHER
staff writer

The results of a recently released survey of the campus taken last semester by a student group is prompting controversy over UM-St. Louis' proposed performing arts center.

The group, Students for Quality Education, began distributing more than 300 copies of the survey late last semester, about 230 of which came back, according to the group's coordinator Gail Babcock, who is also president of the Political Science Academy.

According to numbers provided by Babcock, the results of the survey found that the majority of students do not believe their fees should be increased to pay for a performing arts center, nor that "student resources" in other departments should be cut back to fund such a center. Other numbers from the poll, which asks students how much they agree or disagree with 10 statements about the issue, show nearly 52 percent of students oppose building the arts center until the curriculum is developed further. Most of the questions featured large undecided votes, in some cases exceeding 30 or 40

percent. **St. Louis Mayor Clarence Harmon is opposed to the proposed center. See page 3.**

"I think it pretty much supports what we've been concerned about," Babcock said, "that students who are aware of the performing arts center have some major concerns about it that at the minimum I think need to be addressed."

I think (the survey) pretty much supports what we've been concerned about: that students who are aware of the performing arts center have some major concerns about it.

-Gail Babcock
coordinator, Students for Quality Education

Not everyone believes the survey's results are an accurate representation of student opinion.

"When I was reading this the first time I saw it, it just boggled the mind to think that anybody could have come up with this," said Benjamin Ash, a senior music major and co-founder of the Student Advisory Board, which represents music students.

Ash said board members were "astounded" and he was "saddened" by what he considered to be a strong bias in the survey's questions and wording.

He doubted the validity of a question asking students whether they

see ARTS, page 3

UPB president sees growth, more interest in programming

BY BILL ROLFES
staff writer

The University Program Board introduced several new programs last semester, and the board's director, Sharone Hopkins, said its members are the most active he has seen.

This year's 13-member board is also the largest Hopkins has been on. He said the larger board has made it possible to plan a larger number of quality programs.

Hopkins joined UPB in 1995. He said UPB was not very active during the 1995-96 academic year, and last year the organization focused on letting students know it existed, Hopkins said.

"Our main goal this year is to

cater toward the students' needs, which is always going to center on programs," Hopkins said.

People have complained about the low number of programs on campus, Hopkins said, and he admits the UPB has not added many for the 1997-98 academic year.

"It's not necessarily quantity that I'm concerned with, it's quality," Hopkins said.

He explained that he would rather spend money to make programs better, rather than create many more.

Recalling the past two years, he said, "We would spend thousands of dollars on a program that only six

see UPB, page 3

It's Debatable

Forensics and Debate Club talks its way to many awards

BY MARY LINDSLEY
staff writer

It's an unavoidable fact of life - public speaking. Cited by many Americans as being their deepest fear, the thought of addressing a room full of people leaves some people quaking in their shoes.

Some of us, like the members of the UM-St. Louis Forensics and Debate Club, are more at ease in front of an audience. Students with the team are learning skills now that will prepare them for that moment when they will have to make the Big Speech.

"Students learn to put their best foot forward, and they fare a lot better economically and socially," said C. Thomas Preston, the group's advisor.

Senior Ken Winfrey, psychology major and president of the club, echoed Preston's sentiments.

"It's not just about winning awards," Winfrey said. "There is a high emphasis on learning and growing as an individual."

The club sponsors two on-campus tournaments including the Gateway Debate Tournament, one of the nation's largest. While most competitions have between 15 and 20 schools participating, the Gateway tournament annually draws teams from over 60 universities.

The focus of the club's activities is competing in a

see DEBATE, page 3



The Forensics and Debate Club regularly wins trophies and plaques for its work at competitions. Some are displayed in a case on the first floor of Lucas Hall.

Daniel Hazelton/ The Current

Bulletin Board

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. We suggest all submissions be posted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Todd Appel, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811. All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Monday, Jan. 12

• **HEC-TV to Broadcast Lecture.** The Higher Education Center of St. Louis will broadcast "What Do Museums Mean?," a lecture by Jay Rounds, the Des Lee Foundation Professor of Museum Studies and Community History at 9 p.m. on the Higher Education Channel.

• **Chemistry Colloquium.** Richard F. Heinze of Flavor Knowledge Systems Inc. will discuss "Flavors and Fragrances in Food from a Chemical Perspective" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Contact: 5311 for details.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

• **Planning meeting for Christian Unity Week** at 1 p.m. in 266 J.C. Penney. Contact : Campus Ministries, 385-3455.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

• **Midnight Cowboy** part of the UM-St.

Louis Riverman Film Series at 8 p.m. in the U-Meadows Clubhouse. Free with UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.

Thursday, Jan. 15

• **Midnight Cowboy** part of the UM-St. Louis Riverman Film Series at 10 a.m. in the U-Center Lounge. Free with UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.

• **Administrator to receive King Award.** Norman Seay, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, will receive an award in a ceremony held in the TeleCommunity Center from 2-5 p.m. Reservations are required. Contact: 241-5103 to RSVP.

Saturday, Jan. 17

• **Awakening Retreat** starting at 6 p.m. with pizza. The cost is \$20. It will be held in the South Campus Residence

Hall. Contact: Newman House, 385-3455.

Sunday, Jan. 18

• **Christian Unity Week** runs until Jan. 24 for more information contact Campus Ministries, 385-3455.

Monday, Jan. 19

• **Equal Housing Lecture Series** begins. Event will begin at 11 a.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. Free.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

• **International Seminar.** Cameron Munter, a U.S. State Department official assigned to NATO, will discuss "Enlarging NATO: Prospects and Problems" at 1:30 p.m. in 331 SSB. Contact: The Center for International Studies for details, 5753.

• **Biological Society meeting** at 4:30 p.m. in Benton 111. Call 516-6438 for more information

Wednesday, Jan. 21

• **Shane** part of the UM-St. Louis Riverman Film Series at 8 p.m. in the U-Meadows Clubhouse. Free with UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.

• **Inaugural Beer Tasting.** KWMU 90.7 will host an International Beer Tasting At the Tap Room from 6-9 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance for members, \$15 for non-members, and an additional \$5 at the door. Contact: 5968 for details.

Thursday, Jan. 22

• **Tanya Sofic and Tom Koole:** Crossing reception from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Gallery 210, Lucas Hall. Contact: Gallery 210, 5976.

• **Shane** part of the UM-St. Louis Riverman Film Series at 10 a.m. in the U-Center Lounge. Free with UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.

Campus Crime Line

The Campus CrimeLine is a free service provided by the UM-St. Louis Police Department to promote safety through awareness.

December 1, 1997

A student from the Honors College reported that between 12:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., the driver's door glass on his vehicle was broken out, while the vehicle was parked at the Honors College. A Sony compact disc player was stolen from the dash.

December 3, 1997

A faculty member reported that between Nov. 20 at 5 p.m. and Dec. 3 at 3 p.m., a combination clock/pen holder was stolen from a shelf in his office at 516 Clark Hall.

December 4, 1997

A student reported receiving a number of harassing telephone calls at his University Meadows apartment between Nov. 20 at 12:00 p.m. and Dec. 4 at 12:12 a.m.

December 7, 1997

A student reported that a window on her vehicle was broken between 1:00 p.m. and 2:50 p.m., while the vehicle was parked at the University Meadows.

December 8, 1997

A staff person reported that between Dec. 5 at 5:00 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 8:30 a.m., 15 Copy Machine Credit Cards were stolen from her desk drawer at the Fine Arts Building. The desk drawer had been locked.

December 10, 1997

A staff person reported that between Nov. 25 at 2:00 p.m. and Dec. 9 at 10:30 a.m. two textbooks were stolen from 110 Stadler Hall. Numerous persons have keys to the office.

A faculty member reported that between Nov. 21 at 1 p.m. and Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. a Sony 5" TV with AM/FM stereo was stolen from 1008 Tower.

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Harmon mails in opposition to controversial theater

BY DAVID BAUGHER
staff writer

In a letter to Chancellor Blanche Touhill last week, St. Louis Mayor Clarence Harmon stated his opposition to a performing arts center on campus, proposing instead that funding might go towards a renovation of Kiel Opera House.

"The Kiel Opera House offers an historic opportunity for UM-St. Louis to participate in the revitalization of the city," said Toby Paone, special assistant to the mayor.

Bob Samples, director of University Communications, said that while UM-St. Louis did not oppose renovation of the opera house, it would not abandon the proposed arts center on campus.

"We believe they are two separate projects," Samples said. "We do not believe that one is pitted against the other."

Samples also stressed that the center is part of a campus development project that goes back to 1979.

"The performing arts center is part of enhancing and support-

ing the entire academic mission of the campus and its students," Samples said. "It's not really feasible for our students, particularly commuter students, to believe that they could somehow split their course work at Kiel and come back here for their other core subjects."

The Kiel Opera House offers an historic opportunity for UM-St. Louis to participate in the revitalization of the city.

-Toby Paone
assistant to Clarence Harmon

Paone said the city would present "unique opportunities" to students since Kiel is near Grand Center and downtown entertainment venues.

Samples also said that he did not believe that money allocated by the state to pay for an on-campus center would be transferable to a different project.

"It has gone through a 20-year process to get where it is today," Samples said.

However Monica McFee, Harmon's press secretary, stressed that the renovation would be much cheaper than building the proposed campus structure.

"It makes good business sense, and we can all win," McFee said.

Over the past two years, the University has secured about \$17.3 million from the state and almost \$2.5 million in private donations. □

ARTS, from page 1

would buy tickets to events at the center if they cost more than \$20. Less than 8 percent said they would.

"The ticket prices will be cheaper than anywhere you can get in the community, especially for students," Ash said. "Rarely if ever will any ticket prices be over \$20. Most will be free."

He also said some questions in the survey, such as one asking whether students would be willing to delay construction of the new University center in favor of the performing arts center, were irrelevant because they presented false choices.

"I think that the question is inaccurate," Ash said. "The student union is going to be built regardless of whether or not the performing arts center is funded."

Bob Samples, director of University Communications, also questioned the survey's relevance, calling the questions "confusing." He said that funding for the University center was in no way tied to that of the arts center. He also said the chancellor has no plans to reallocate student resources in other departments or to increase student fees since the University intends to build the center with state and private funds, not tuition.

Babcock denied that the survey was biased, and said the questions had been phrased both positively and negatively to avoid influencing respondents.

"I'd be interested to hear where they feel the bias is," Babcock said.

“We’re not angry. We’re just anxious to get out the facts and get out the truth.”

-Ben Ash
co-founder, Student Advisory Board

She said the question about whether students favored a delay in the University center to build the performing arts center was "hypothetical" and was asked in an attempt to assess student priorities.

Babcock said the funding issue was still murky, however since total costs for the center had yet to be allocated from the state.

"I don't think they originally intended to increase fees for the student center either and that ended up happening," Babcock said.

Samples confirmed that only about \$17.3 million of the expected \$41 million in state funds had already been allocated by the legislature but said that this was "typical" of state supported projects which are often funded over several years.

Babcock said that her group may establish a petition drive over the issue.

Ash said his organization would bring the survey up at the next Student Government Association meeting Jan. 21. "We're not angry," Ash said. "We're just anxious to get out the facts and get out the truth." □

UPB, from page 1

people would show up to ... that's a waste."

The UPB received the highest student activity fee allocation of any student organization for the 1997-98 academic year, \$78,000. However, Hopkins said one thing he wishes he would have concentrated on more last semester was raising funds for programming.

"We receive the largest (stu-

dent activity) allocation on campus," Hopkins said. "With that we should know how to generate more revenue."

He said the more money UPB raises the better programs will be.

One new program last semester, Step Show, raised funds for the board. Step Show is a program in which fraternities perform choreographed routines. Hopkins said the board sold over 500 tickets and turned away 200 to 300 people. It generated over \$7,000, Hopkins said. □

UPB: Past, Present and Future

Fall 1997 Programs

- Wednesday Noon Live (new)
- Film Series at the University
- Meadows (new)
- Juvenile Diabetes Walk for Cure
- Katy Trail Bike Ride (new)
- EXPO/Chancellor's Picnic
- Midnight Madness
- Friday Night at the Symphony (new)
- Mizzou Football Game (new)
- Comedy Jam

- Alternative Lifestyles Film (new)
- Trip to Kansas City (new)
- Step Show (new)

Winter 1998 Programs

- College Bowl (new)
- Fashion Show (new)
- Mirth Day
- Black History Month Programs
- Take 6 Concert (new)
- 3-D Series (new)

PURGED, from page 1

"about 20" were reactivated since most students chose to simply open an account on the UNIX server instead.

Siegel said students have been urged "for a year or two" to switch to UNIX anyway since VMA is

being replaced with a smaller, less expensive server. The new machine will have only a few hundred student accounts which are to be used only for course work.

"People had been told for several semesters to move over to UNIX," Siegel said. "Most of [those who lost their accounts] just said 'Oh, okay, I guess I should have done this awhile ago."

and opened up another [UNIX] account."

Siegel said the UNIX server, which contains most of the student accounts, was not affected by the purge.

Siegel said he did not believe that any e-mail was lost but there was no way to know for certain. He stressed that the difficulties during the transfer between

servers were probably unavoidable.

"Given that we had to do it at some point it was almost inevitable that some people were going to fall through the cracks," Siegel said. "I can't imagine anyway we could have done it that would not have caught a few."

The new server will go on-line later this semester. □

DEBATE, from page 1

series of local and out-of-town tournaments throughout the year in which members can polish their skills in a variety of interpretive, prepared and impromptu speaking events.

Some choose to compete in policy debate, which requires students to argue for or against a selected topic (this year's topic concerns aid to Southeast Asia). For those who prefer more spontaneity, parliamentary debate allows competitors to speak without notes, using their general knowledge in a way that "addresses the individual as well as society at large," Winfrey said.

Other events are available to students as well. Some, such as extemporaneous and impromptu speaking, give the speaker a limited amount of time prior to each round to prepare a speech. With persuasive and informa-

tional speaking, students can write and then memorize a speech on a topic of interest to them.

Those with an interest in theater can perform a selection from a play in interpretive events.

Preston said that students joining the team vary in their abilities and level of experience. Even some of the more unlikely candidates turn out to be successful debaters.

"We'll get students who are extremely shy, and you wonder if they'll have anything to say," Preston said. "But they get into a round and they're just awesome."

The team as a whole is in the midst of its most successful year, having won 52 awards during the fall semester. Winfrey attributed the team's success to all involved with it.

The club has several tournaments scheduled for this spring, including competitions at Webster University, Southern Illinois University and the Pi Kappa Delta Tournament in Louisiana. □

St. Louis Science Center

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January 23, 1998

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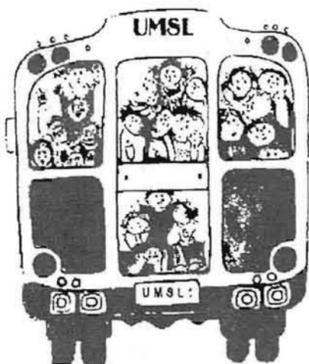
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The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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How to Respond

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 signed and include a daytime telephone number.



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OUR OPINION

Tale of two buildings is instructive

The Issue:

UM-St. Louis students are finally showing interest in the administration's decisions to construct new buildings on campus.

We Suggest:

Protesting the new U Center is futile, but students opposing the Performing Arts Building should continue to voice their opinions.

So What Do You Think?:

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

Rarely does the wider UM-St. Louis community take much notice of the political maneuvering that allows administrators to ensure the completion of large projects. Even more unheard of is organized opposition from students to projects or agendas that really affect them. That's why the two student groups circulating literature against two building projects in various stages of development is so surprising, and instructive.

Tonya Hutchinson is leading a group of students opposed to a fee increase that will fund the new University Center. No legislation without representation, they say.

The group has some valid points. Unfortunately, they are trying to make them four or five years too late.

Though we share some of the same concerns as Ms. Hutchinson and her allies - especially about the suspiciously late request from administrators for funding from students - it is futile to continue with a petition drive and call for a student advisory panel. The time for these students or others like them to raise these issues has long since passed and nothing they can say or do will keep the new U. Center from being built. Students will pay the exorbitant fee to keep the project alive.

End of story.

The tale of the Performing Arts Center, however, has only just begun. If recent events are any indication, the story of the \$50 million Performing

Arts Center will be a complex and multi-layered one that will involve some of the region's most powerful political figures.

That's why a group of students, spearheaded by leaders of the Political Science Academy, expressing their concerns about the feasibility of this undertaking might be easily overlooked.

Fortunately, this group has substantially more time on its side than Ms. Hutchinson and her fellow protesters have.

University administrators are years, if not decades, away from raising the money they will need to erect this behemoth.

This week's controversy, involving the University's plans for the Performing Arts Center and St. Louis city and county leaders' plans for remodeling Kiel Opera House, suggests territorial political spats may bog down the center in red tape even longer.

Admittedly, the arrival of these external figures into the mix will make it even more difficult for the voices of students like those from the PSA to be heard or taken seriously.

There is still time and hope for students to tell administrators what they think about the Performing Arts Center.

In the face of so many competing interests and agendas, we hope students with concerns about this project have only just begun to fight. □

Bank hours don't make sense

On Christmas Eve the bank in the University Center lobby changed from Normandy Bank to UMB, but its services will not be any more convenient for students.

Normandy Bank was open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and UMB officials have decided to keep these hours of operation.

The replacement of Normandy Bank is more convenient for UM-St. Louis because University paychecks go through UMB.

However, the idea of having a bank on campus is to provide convenient services to students. If the bank is open for only four hours, we do not have a large window of time to do our banking.

The bank is in an excellent location because hundreds of students pass by it every day and students who live on campus ideally could use its services.

The ATM in the University Center is convenient for a quick cash withdrawal, but how useful is it when a student needs to cash a paycheck at three in the afternoon?

"The Student Guide and Academic Planner" shows that banking hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The bank probably does not need to be open at 8 a.m., but it could benefit more students by staying open in the afternoon. □

Dianamania costs too much for me

Finally, 1997 is over and hopefully so is the seemingly endless canonization of the late Princess of Wales as the year's most memorable person. Now we can get on with the more lucrative business of selling her memory, or rather, junk that is supposed to remind us of her, to every sentimentalist with a dollar.

Try as I may, I can't seem to shake the cynical notion that the Princess's popularity was largely manufactured by those of my own ilk. The ubiquitous year-end blather was just another opportunity to get Americans hopped up on Dianamania.

After all, many of us erstwhile Britons on this side of the lake judge royals by a very different standard than those we apply to ourselves. Were they to live in America, the "people's" princess, her sons, her husband, his parents would likely be characterized as a degenerate clan of glorified welfare recipients leeching off the system and the backs of blue collar America. Jesse Helms or Phil Gramm would ride the wave of working-class disaffection to re-election in the Senate with his new campaign slogan: Put Windsors to work.

As it is, we'll do nothing of the sort. Instead, we'll start standing in line to purchase Dianastamps and Dianadolls and scouring the countryside for one more precious copy of "People: The Diana Years" for our daughter's hope chest. And we'll pay out the nose for anything remotely related to something manufactured and hastily associated with the idea of Diana.

Did Elvis teach us nothing? Apparently not. Tickets for dinghy rides to the island where Diana is buried went on sale last week. I suppose the Spencer family is only responding to the clamouring masses begging for a sail-by of the graveside.

Just like Elton John was only expressing grief for a lost friend when he warmed over his tribute to decadence for the Princess. And now we have only to wait until the first anniversary of her death for this musical miscarriage to be re-released in a slightly modified, more expensive version. Of course it's okay for Elton and every other moneychanging junk peddler to cash in on a car crash as long as "portions of the proceeds will go to charity."

Has anyone considered that charity, in this case, is nothing more than a diversion? Assuming for a moment that these Dianamaniacs are analytical enough to consider the implications of such uncontrolled commercialism on the memory and image of Diana before they purchase their next trinket or knickknack or songs by people who once visited Buckingham Palace, it's hard to imagine their foregoing a purchase when they remember that "portions" of the sale will go to charity.

"Wasn't Diana big on charity?" they'll say. Sure she was. Heck, Mother Theresa, the patron saint of charity, waited until after Diana's death to die. Surely Diana would want me to buy this plastic effigy of her to put on my dash board that will dance and shake



DOUG HARRISON
editor in chief

see HARRISON, page 8

GUEST COMMENTARY

A smooth transition

The beginning of "the experience that I'll remember for the rest of my life" has been interesting. I've been warned of the transition from high school to college from just about everybody: counselors, teachers, parents and some people that have never even been to college. I guess everybody has something to say.

Well this is what I have to say, college is hard! Not necessarily because of the classes but because of the freedom. There's too much free time!

Everyday I have the same debate, "should I do my homework or go home and watch Ricki Lake?" I think I'll watch Ricki Lake. Coming straight out of high school - where you don't have a choice of what

you're doing - and then going into college - where you might find yourself doing anything - are two very different circumstances.

Some days I just went to the mall, broke, when I should have been doing my homework. There were days when I did do my homework but my heart wasn't in it. It would either be sloppy or unfinished. The way I looked at it, "at least I did something. That's better than yesterday."

It's funny how I ended the semester so poorly when I started off so strong. I used to take accurate notes and paid attention in class. Throughout the whole semester I rarely was absent. By the end of the semester it was like high school all over again, "I just hope I pass."

All of the sudden it's December and the semester is coming to a close. Where did the time go? Finals week is coming up and instead of studying I'm trying to figure out how to get a low B instead of a high C. "Well if I get a 98 on the final I'll be okay. But anything below that will just not cut it. I better go talk to the teacher."

Now this is the same teacher I haven't seen since the last borderline test grade. She almost didn't break then; until she saw the tears. This time I don't think there's anything I can do to convince her to give me a

see GUEST, page 8



READER RESPONSE

President defends fee increase for new University Center

I would like to respond to a few of the issues surrounding the new University Center. I am concerned with the coverage of the students who are supporting a petition which I feel is misleading. The title of the petition is "No legislation without representation," and is a very misleading title at that! The members of this petition drive are leading students to believe that they were not represented in the proposed student activity fee increases. However, one of the leaders of the petition drive is himself a member of Student Government Association and a representative for his organization. How could one person who calls himself a representative claim that his organization was not represented in this issue? In fact, when I asked this person how he was not represented when he is a representative himself, he replied, "I voted no on the issue, therefore, I was not represented."

Well, I would like to tell this person and all others the way a democratic society works. First, in the SGA and other systems of government (the United States Government included) there is an executive branch. This includes the president and vice-president. We are elected by the people to represent the people. Not everyone voted for me, but I still represent everyone.

The same goes for President Clinton; he is not a Republican, however, he still represents me and everyone else in this country. When he sends our troops to war, people don't say that Clinton sent the Democrats to war; he sent U.S. troops to war. Therefore, he represents the United States, much in the same way I represent the SGA.

Secondly, the general assembly of the SGA acts in the same manner as the Congress. These people in the SGA are representatives of their organizations similar to senators and representatives who represent their respective states. If the people in that state or organization don't like what their representatives do, then they elect new reps. The job of these representatives is to represent their constituents as best as possible. That does not mean that every time there is a tax increase (or fee increase) that a representative goes to every person he represents and asks for his opinion. If that were the case then a condition called absolute democracy would be taking place. If that type of democracy were in place, nothing would ever get done, and that is probably why the framers of our Constitution made it the way they did and included separation of powers as a means for checks and balances.

With all of this in mind, I would like to warn stu-

see LETTERS, page 8

You could have said thanks

When I was too young to stay home alone, my mom would take me with her every time she had to go shopping or run errands. Some of the places we would go had lollipops for their patrons' children.

Every time I would get a lollipop I would forget to thank the clerk for giving it to me. My mom always had to remind me.

I must have received many a lollipop in my childhood, because I have learned to thank people when they do polite things for me. I probably sound like a self-righteous S.O.B., which is not my purpose, but I pride myself on having the manners to thank people. It's my one redeeming quality.

It's amazing how many people do not acknowledge random acts of kindness - acts that seem to become extinct at times.

When someone is waiting to pull out of a parking lot near a red light, wouldn't most people let that person in front of them if it weren't going to hold up traffic? I'll usually try to let the person in. Doing something nice for someone makes me feel all warm and fuzzy inside. Normally this will put me in a good mood - this is about the only thing that puts me in a good mood when I am driving.

However, the warm and fuzzy feeling turns into bitter disgust if the other driver does not wave or somehow acknowledge the act of kindness. I guess being bitterly disgusted negates the whole act and, therefore, I lose my good deed points.

This happens most often after church on Sunday. You would think people would be acting in a kind, 'love-thy-neighbor' manner directly after mass, but not everyone does. Most people are in such a hurry to leave that you don't need to let people in front of you; they simply cut you off. I know I should be satisfied with simply doing a good deed for the day, but it's frustrating when the act goes unnoticed.

Last Monday I went over to Woods Hall to buy a parking sticker. I opened one of the glass doors on the bottom floor and saw two or three women coming through the first set of doors. I held the door open for them and stood aside to let them pass.

I think one of them might have muttered a thank you.

A group of seven or eight women were following the first group. I had time to enter before they got to the door I was holding open, but I decided to be a gentleman and wait for them to pass.

Only one of these women acknowledged my existence, and that was only because she almost ran me over.

I walked into Woods Hall and sarcastically muttered to myself, "Your welcome."

No wonder chivalry is dead - no one appreciates it any more. □



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Stick It In The Fridge



BECKY RICKARD
features editor

For weeks now, I have been asking all of my friends and family what they got from Santa Claus or for Hanukkah. I'll admit it; I'm shallow. I know the holidays are supposed to be about love, giving, family, friends and all that crap. However, I think it is much more interesting to ask what new and exciting things people received for the holidays than to find out who they spent it with or how many glasses of eggnog it took to wash down the taste of the year old fruit cake.

So, what did you get?

Well, I got some fairly cool stuff this year. The biggest gift I received was a round trip airline ticket anywhere in the world. Sounds expensive and impressive, doesn't it? Well, it was free for the person who gave it to me. You see, my best friend works for Delta Airlines, and she gets an allotted number of free tickets. Although the gift was free to the giver, it meant the world to me. She has family all over the US and a not so little brother who goes to college on the East coast. She gave the ticket to me instead. When we talked before Christmas she told me that her gift for me was cheesy so I shopped for her with a sense of humor. I got her a glow in the dark solar system for her ceiling and a book about dreams because she has some crazy dreams about hippos.

I never understood how people could cry when they received a gift from someone . . . until now. It wasn't a gush of tears that caused a sprint toward the tissue box but rather this constant watering that still comes to my eyes when I tell people of my gift. I know that gifts are not supposed to show you how much someone cares about you but the sad truth of the matter is that a gift can do exactly that.

I have had some best friends in the past who have really cared about me and whom I have cared about deeply. This friend is different from the others. She's more than a friend she is like family - the sister I never had. Except I know many people who have sisters and even they wouldn't give the gift I have received. She's the person who can laugh, cry, talk, drink and be bored with me. AT&T could do a great long distance commercial about our friendship - when we eventually move away from each other.

So now I'm stuck with this amazing gift that I will never in a million years be able to repay. Even though I will travel with her (she gave herself a free airline ticket also), I can't pay for her expenses. A sweater won't do the trick either. For the first time in my life, I am confronted with a situation that makes me feel minuscule and helpless. I try to be a good friend but I never really know how successful I am at that task. I don't know how to repay her for the gift. I don't think I have ever had anyone care that much about me to give me gift like that (except my parents, but they are required to care about me). Instead of spoken words telling me that I have a best friend, her gift to me proved the fact.

Even though I am petty and ask people what gifts they received for the holidays, I am only asking the question so that people will ask the same question of me. When I tell people about the airline ticket, I should really say that I received love and thoughtfulness. Maybe I'm not as shallow as I think I am. Sure, I got a spectacular gift but the gift isn't as important as what it represents. What I received was a sense of how important I am to my best friend and how important she is to me. □

Now Get a Haircut

Like clockwork, every January about this time, several hundred weary but noticeably happy people line up, wrapping around the track in Mark Twain normally reserved for walkers or runners. But the only exercise these people will get is the walk from the track to their seats on the gymnasium floor and finally to the podium where each will receive a diploma, the pigskin, their walking papers, a license to work for real now, in the adult world. It is their graduation from college.

Over 500 UM-St. Louis students received their degrees at the ceremony. In addition to these, honorary doctor of laws degrees were awarded to two individuals who keynote speaker and UM-System President Manuel Pacheco said "have dedicated their lives to serving the public interest."

One of the recipients was John Hume, leader of Northern Ireland's Social Democratic Labor Party. Hume was praised by Chancellor Blanche Touhill for his role in helping to end the civil conflict in Northern Ireland.

"He [Hume] is a reasoned, non-violent voice to sustain peace in Northern Ireland," Touhill said.

Richard Fleming, president and chief executive officer of the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association, also received an honorary degree. During his tenure, Fleming has introduced several economic development initiatives, including one

to bring 100,000 jobs to the St. Louis area.

Pacheco, in his keynote address, likened the road ahead for graduates to that already followed by Hume and Fleming.

"[Thomas]

Jefferson's example taught us that public service is the responsibility of every educated man and woman," Pacheco said. "As educated individuals, you are better prepared to combat the forces of ignorance and prejudice wherever you may find them. . . you can help ensure that public discourse is civilized and respectful of the rights and dignity of others."



With the handshake, the smile, the "congratulations," it's official. You're free.

and get a **REAL** job

story by Mary Linsley
photos by Daniel Hazelton
of The Current staff

Linda Coleman receives her diploma from Chancellor Blanche Touhill. Coleman, graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences, was one of about 500 graduates who participated in yesterday's commencement exercises.

uates to extend a commitment to public service to the University.

"As alumni of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, you will have frequent opportunities to lend your talents, energy and support to the work of your alma mater," Pacheco said. "I encourage you to maintain your ties with your professors and your University."

Pacheco also spoke of his childhood in northern New Mexico. Although his family was poor, he and his 11 siblings all graduated from college. He said education was key to the idea of the American Dream: "the dream [that] allows us to rise as far as our talents and energy will take us."

Following Pacheco's speech, Touhill,

along with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Jack Nelson presented degrees to students.

Sue Hartman, who received a master's degree in educational administration said graduating was "a relief," and hoped to obtain a position as an assistant principal in the near future.

Tom Williams was excited about finally earning his bachelor's degree in business administration.

"This feels real good," said Williams. "I'm starting a new job tomorrow [with United Health Care] at twice my normal pay - I feel like the poster boy for UM-St. Louis." □

UNDER the CURRENT
compiled by Stephanie Platt/staff photographer

What lesson did you learn in 1997 that you'll apply in '98?

"Don't study at Denny's until midnight the night before finals."

-Svetlana Podokshik
junior/biology



"Don't procrastinate."

-Sherri Virdure
senior/special education

"Don't drink and drive."

-Jim Krause
freshman/business administration



"Avoid missing class."

-Tom Spivey
senior/education

"Keep a copy of everything."

-Ken Cloud
graduate/physical education



Hume makes mediation a way of life in Ireland

World-renown politician receives Global Citizen Award here

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff writer

Chancellor Blanche M. Touhill honored politician John Hume with this year's Global Citizen Award. Hume spoke to a crowded auditorium in the J.C. Penney Conference Center on the UM-St. Louis campus this past Saturday.

The award is a \$1,000 cash prize and the presentation of the Global Citizen Medal. The UM-St. Louis' Center for International Studies takes nominations from the International Affairs Committee and from members of campus community to determine the recipient.



I say the trouble with the English is that they never remember and the trouble with the Irish is that they never forget.

-John Hume
1998 Global Citizen Award Recipient

should be, provides an understanding and appreciation of other cultures, and inspires others to work for solutions to world problems," Touhill says.

Hume is a globally respected politician for his efforts to achieve peaceful solutions to the conflict in Ireland. He began his political career in 1968 when he led the Civil Rights movement and has since been elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly, the European Parliament and the UK Parliament.

Hume has led the Social Democratic and Labour Party since 1979. The SDLP rejects the IRA's terrorist methods and works towards a goal of Irish unity to be determined by the vote of the people.

Hume believes that peace can be accomplished through nonviolent action. Despite strong opposition from all sides, he held conferences with Gerry Adams, leader of the Irish Republican Army's political wing, Sinn Fein. These talks resulted in the 1994 IRA cease-fire.

His efforts for peace are widely known and appreciated. In 1995 he was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize.

In his speech on Saturday, Hume spoke of the casualties of war and the need for an agreement without any additional violence.

"In a population of a million and a half in the north of Ireland, 3,500 people have lost their lives, and over 30,000 people have been maimed. That's the equivalent of one out of 500 people losing their lives. That's the equivalent of one out of 50 people being maimed or injured. There is nowhere in the north of Ireland where every citizen doesn't know someone who was killed or who was maimed," Hume states.

According to Hume, the only way to start the solution is to first reach an agreement. Once an agreement has been established, the effort must turn to living together by respecting diversity. He feels that institutions must be built that have respect for differences, however allowing people to work together on common interests.

Another key in Hume's philosophy is the need to focus on the future and to leave the past behind. Hume believes that too much energy is devoted to history that cannot be changed.

"Sometimes I try to be somewhat light-hearted and people will ask me to sum up the Irish problem. I say the trouble with the English is that they never remember and the trouble with the Irish is that they never forget," Hume quips.

The peace talks will resume Monday morning, at which time Hume and other political leaders will begin the process of resolving key issues that go deep into the heart of Ireland.

This year is the 200th anniversary of the 1798 uprising in Ireland. It would be a great accomplishment if 1998 could mark the official end of the conflict. □

Movie Review

Music Review

Nicholson leads 'Good' cast to great performance

As Good As It Gets
 Rated PG-13
 Running time: 1:38
 Now Playing

As Good As It Gets is a romantic comedy with an emphasis on comedy. It features Jack Nicholson as Melvin Udall, Helen Hunt as Carol Connelly, Greg Kinnear as Simon Nye, and Cuba Gooding Jr. as Frank Sachs.

The story is about Melvin. Melvin is a little paranoid at times, incredibly rude most of the time and loves the routine lifestyle he lives. That all changes when his gay, artist neighbor - Simon - is robbed and beaten. Frank, Simon's friend, makes Melvin take care of Verdell, Simon's cute little dog while Simon is in the hospital recovering. At about the same time, Melvin's customary breakfast waitress of choice at the local restaurant, Carol, is having problems with her



Jack Nicholson as Melvin, left, attempts to show neighbor Simon Nye how to win back the affection of his dog Verdell in *As Good As It Gets*.

young son who is allergic to everything. Well, Melvin goes crazy because he doesn't have the same waitress and he has to take care of his neighbor's dog.

Eventually, Simon has to take a trip to Baltimore to beg for money from his parents. Melvin is asked, by Frank, to drive Simon to Baltimore. Melvin reluctantly agrees and invites Carol to go with them. She agrees, even more reluctantly than Melvin had at first. As the story goes, you have to see the film.

I like this movie. It shows human feelings, nervousness, distrust and despair. It also shows how people can change with experience. Jack Nicholson is at his usual greatness and his supporting cast is superb. I recommend this movie to anyone who is tired of the same old movies with no plots but great special effects.

-Matthew Regensburger

The Verve makes strong return with *Urban Hymns*

Lyrics and melodies engage listeners on many levels

Urban Hymns
 The Verve
 Virgin Records

After an 18-month break-up, The Verve has released an almost perfect album, *Urban Hymns*, that entangles the listener in singer/songwriter Richard Ashcroft's feelings and attitudes.

The album starts with an amazing song, "Bitter Sweet Symphony," which you have probably heard on the radio. It was written by the dynamic duo of Mick Jagger and Keith Richards. Ashcroft, The Verve's frontman, supplied the lyrics. After listening to this song carefully, it sounds as if Ashcroft is being a social critic. With lyrics such as "trying to make ends meet/ you're a slave to the money/ then you die," it sets the tone and the mood for the rest of

the album.

The second song, "Sonnet," is exceptional as well. After hearing this song a few times, you begin to sing along with the chorus, "Yes, there's love if you want it/ don't sound like no sonnet."

There is a chance that the song with the most important message is track four, "The Drugs Don't Work." The message of the song is the same as the title. When was the last time you heard a rock-n-roll star say drugs are not worth it?

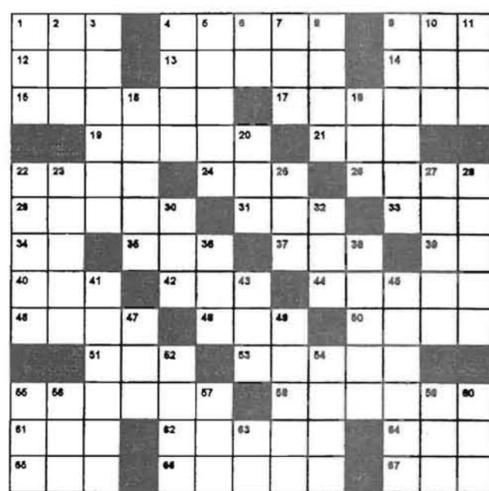
We can give thanks to The Verve for re-forming and putting out another album. Let's hope it does not take another year and a half for another great album from The Verve. *Urban Hymns* is one of the few albums, put out each year, that you can listen to over and over again.

-Matthew Regensburger

Crossword Companion

will appear weekly. Answers appear on page 8 for this week's puzzle. Answers can also be found at The Current Online. www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current

Crossword Companion



ACROSS

- 1 Mire
- 4 Make points
- 9 Common noun suffix
- 12 Ever (poetic)
- 13 Path
- 14 Born
- 15 High Pitch
- 17 Give
- 19 Smell
- 21 Catch
- 22 Passable
- 24 Miscue
- 26 Epoxy
- 29 Nymph
- 31 Children's game
- 33 Navy rank (abbr.)
- 34 Near
- 35 Animal
- 37 Chart
- 39 Inanimate object
- 40 Degree
- 42 Rest
- 44 Dish
- 46 Toy
- 48 Fuel

DOWN

- 1 Ante
- 2 Over (poetic)
- 3 Oil
- 4 Alone
- 5 Best; elite
- 6 Toward; to (pref.)
- 7 Free
- 8 Jacket
- 9 Authorize
- 10 Mesh
- 11 Prepare golf ball
- 16 Wide
- 18 Gripe

50 High cards

- 51 No (Scottish.)
- 53 Rushlike plant (Scotland)
- 55 Hungry
- 58 Reviews
- 61 It is (Poetic)
- 62 Leaves
- 64 Grain
- 65 But
- 66 Resin (Scot.)
- 67 Edu. group (Abbr.)
- 20 Craft
- 22 Sussy
- 23 Comb. form meaning straight or correct
- 25 Male goat
- 27 Join
- 28 Park, CO
- 30 Put on, as clothes
- 32 Crack
- 36 Joke
- 38 Clothes worn by Scottish highlanders
- 41 Monarch, ruler
- 43 Ballet step
- 45 Performance
- 47 Paddle
- 49 Sudden flood
- 52 Always
- 54 Deteriorate
- 55 Pig pen
- 56 Same score
- 57 Outside (Pref.)
- 59 Toe; prong of fork (Scot.)
- 60 Station (abbr.)
- 63 Form of verb "be"

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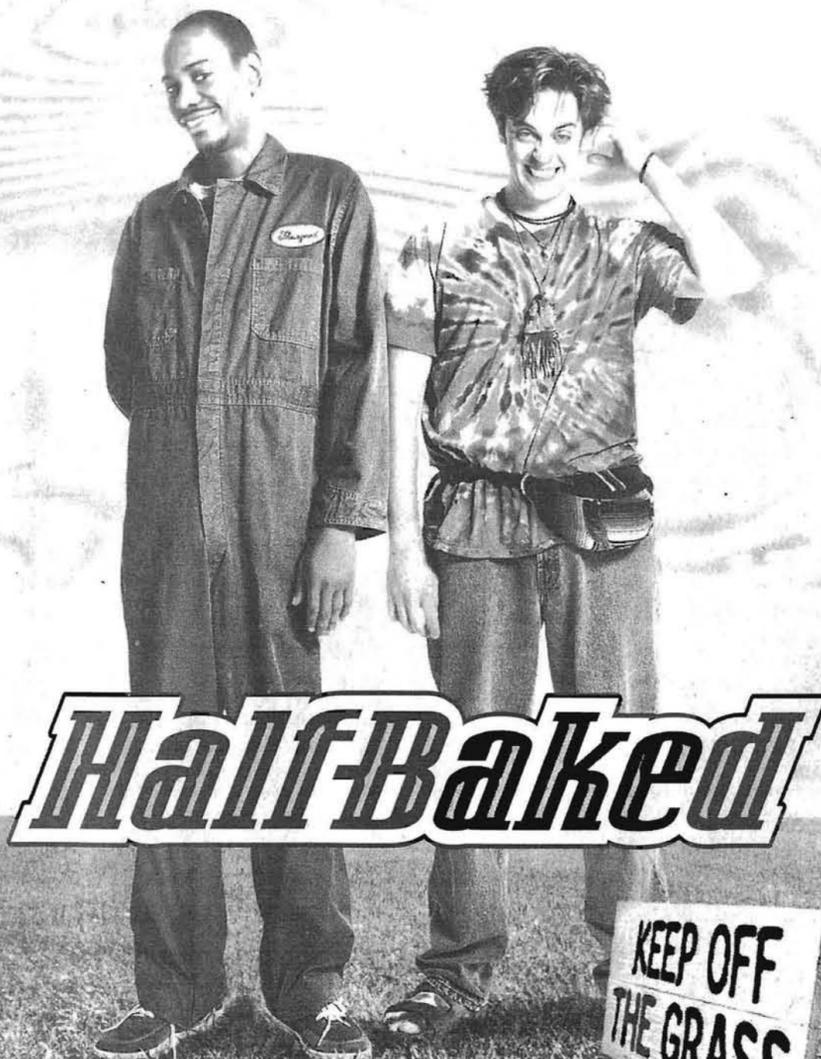
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Sports

OFF THE WALL



KEN DUNKIN
sports editor

Riverwomen riding wave of success

Women's hoop squad trounces Quincy by 26

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff writer

The women's basketball team rolled by Quincy Thursday 95-69.

The Riverwomen improved to 9-2 overall and 3-2 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The victory was a solid one for the team as every member of the squad played a role.

The team was led by a red hot Lindsay Brefeld who scorched Quincy for 26 points. She was 6 of 8 from the 3-point line. The Riverwomen also got double digit point games from Annette Brandy and Jane Ackerman.

"It was a big game because we got a lot of minutes from everybody," said Shelly Ethridge, Riverwomen head coach. "There wasn't one person that stood out because everybody played well."

UM-St. Louis	50	45	—	95	
Quincy	32	37	—	69	
UM-St. Louis	PT	FG	3-FG	FT	RB
Annette Brandy	13	6	0	1	9
Lindsay Brefeld	26	9	6	2	1
Melanie Marcy	10	5	0	0	2
Charlee Dixon	8	4	0	0	1
Jane Ackerman	11	4	1	2	1
Angela Stewart	2	0	0	2	3
Beth Ragsdale	0	0	0	0	4
Denise Simon	6	2	0	2	4
Jamie Dressler	4	1	0	2	6
Krystal Logan	3	1	0	1	5
Missy England	3	1	0	1	3
Sarah Carrier	7	3	1	0	2
Sarah Lawrence	2	1	0	0	1
Totals	95	37	8	13	42

The defense also limited Quincy to 69 points in the 26 point victory. UM - St. Louis had 14 steals in the game and every member of the squad had a rebound.

"It was the first time we went in and fought and played well as a team," Ethridge said. "Defensively it was one of our better efforts." □

UM-St. Louis is surprise of Great Lakes Valley Conference

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff writer

The talk of the conference has been the 9-2 Riverwomen basketball squad.

The Riverwomen are the surprise of the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The conference picked the squad to finish in 10th place based on the dismal record from last year. With a new coach, new players and a new system, the team is improving with every game. The rival teams are talking.

"We went to scout Edwardsville as a team, and Edwardsville's parents were telling the girls that they were the talk of the conference," said Shelly Ethridge, Riverwomen head coach.

With all the success the team has achieved it had to fight for respect early in the season.

"The girls had to prove themselves early," Ethridge said. "They have been in the papers and been on radio and television. They have the

confidence now. They are really enjoying it now."

The team has gained respect with solid victories. The Riverwomen have respect for every opponent and every team is seen as a challenge.

"I am pleased that we are 9-2," Etheridge said. "I think out of the two losses we should only have one. It feels good to

have a winning record but we aren't counting our chickens before they're hatched. In this conference you cannot take anyone lightly. If you do that you will lose."

One player who has helped to get the Riverwomen winning is for-

ward Annette Brandy. Brandy is averaging 22 points and 6 rebounds per game.

"Annette is really playing both sides of the ball now," Ethridge said. "Her defense is coming around. She is being a rebounder for us. That is what she was lacking in the first part of the season."

While the team has been playing well it is having prob-

lems keeping players on the court. Donna Simon is no longer playing for personal reasons and Melanie Marcy is playing with a nagging

see GLVC, page 8

Rivermen continue rough season, fall to 4-9

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff writer

Tough times have stuck the Rivermen basketball squad. They lost to Quincy Wednesday 88-69.

The Rivermen fell to 4-9 overall and 0-5 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The team knew Quincy was going to play tough because they had four returning starters from their NCAA Tournament qualifying team.

"We got off to a good start but the shots stopped falling for us," said Richard Meckfessel, Rivermen head coach. "That happens so much that I think it affects us on defense as well. We had some defensive let-downs and they got some fairly easy scores to build their lead. We just couldn't overcome it."

The Quincy game was a microcosm of the whole season. The Rivermen struggled offensively and the defense suffered.

"We have really struggled," Meckfessel said. "We have gone through a confidence crisis on the offensive end. We are having a hard time making our shots. It is a catch-22, you can't win without confidence and you can't get confidence without winning."

Winning will be tough for the Rivermen as they face two very tough teams, Indianapolis and

We have really struggled. We have gone through a confidence crisis on the offensive end. We are having a hard time making our shots.

-Rich Meckfessel
Rivermen head coach

Northern Kentucky, this week. Both squads made the NCAA Tournament last season.

"They both have lost quite a few players," Meckfessel said. "They are having good seasons but they aren't as strong as they were last season."

Jason Frillman has a broken hand which will keep him out until at least Feb. 1.

"We miss Jason," Meckfessel said. "Kyle Bixler is really struggling and it would have been nice to have Jason to replace him."

Greg Ross has played well this season. He has started every game at point guard and has held his own

see STRUGGLE, page 8

Shooting for a Victory



file photo

A member of the women's basketball team shoots over her teammate during a scrimmage. The Riverwomen are 9-2 this season.

Rec Sports forming leagues

BY JOSEPH HARRIS
special to The Current

The weather may be getting colder, but UM-St. Louis' Recreational Sports department is heating up.

The department's first deadline is Jan. 21, for volleyball, basketball, bowling and soccer leagues. Interested participants can sign up at the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center as individuals or teams.

Volleyball is a mixed league. The games take place every Monday from 7 to 10 p.m. at Mark Twain Gym. The league starts Jan. 26, and ends March 16.

Basketball has both men's and women's divisions. Games are held every Tuesday from 7 to 10 p.m. at Mark Twain Gym. The season starts on Jan. 27, and ends on March 24.

Bowling features doubles teams and the season begins Jan. 28, and finishes on March 24. Games are scheduled on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at Ferguson Lanes.

Soccer, like volleyball, consists of a mixed division. Unlike the other sports, however, soccer is a one night event. The King of the Court competitions will be held Wednesday, Jan. 28, from 7 to 11 p.m. at Mark Twain Gym.

Teams signing up for these activities need to pay a \$10 forfeit fee.

"The officials get paid either way," said Larry Coffin, manager of Rec. Sports. "The fee pays the officials in case of a forfeit. If the team doesn't forfeit at all during the season, the money is returned."

Even though teams are subject to the fee, participants signing up as individuals do not have to pay the fee.

"Individuals who sign up for these events generally take them seriously, so we have never really had a problem with a team of individuals forfeiting," Coffin said.

All of the team sports are scheduled in a round robin fashion. Coffin emphasizes that the Recreational Sports department tries to promote parity and tries to pair teams with equal abilities so the games are evenly matched.

Rec. Sports also tries to get every team into the play-offs, but with limited space sometimes that's impossible. "We would like to make sure that every team has at least one play-off game," Coffin said.

Winners of these activities can receive T-shirts or shorts. Coffin also wants interested participants to know that if they sign up individual-

see WINTER, page 8

Hockey game cancelled after contract dispute

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff writer

The men's hockey team waited nearly one month to play Saint Louis University, but when it came game time, there was no ice for the two arch-rivals to skate on.

The reason for this was the contract dispute that the schools had

with the North County Complex contract.

Although the game was cancelled, head coach Wayne Gholson stated that nobody was clearly at fault.

"There is no blame on anybody. It is just one of those legal complications that are out of our control," Gholson said.

The chief reason that the game was not played Gholson said was due in large part to liability for the hockey players.

"Everybody is concerned more about injury and liability in this case. You do not want to move forward until responsibility is taken," Gholson said. "The University's legal department saw something in

the contract and did not want to sign to those county agreements."

Last season, the teams played at the Chesterfield Complex, but Gholson pointed out the benefits of returning to the North County Complex.

"The cost was more reasonable at the county rinks and it was closer to campus. The ice times were also more reasonable," Gholson said.

When questioning North County Complex officials about the entire incident, they put all of the blame on the schools.

"There was no ice time rented," said a North County Complex official who wished to remain anonymous. "Neither a reservation nor rental of the complex was purchased. Whoever wished to have the game is at fault for the cancellation."

Gholson said the next step for the two sides is to come to an agreement in the contract and bring it before a board.

"Once both sides are satisfied, it has to go to USA underwriter hockey insurance for verification," Gholson said. □

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Contact the Athletic Department for information about these and other events.

Tuesday

Thursday

Saturday

13

15

17

Men



vs Indianapolis
7:30 p.m.

vs Northern Kentucky
3:00 p.m.

Women



vs Rockhurst
7:00 p.m.

vs Indianapolis
5:30 p.m.

vs Northern Kentucky
1:00 p.m.

Ken Dunkin's column appears every other week. Contact him at 516-5174, by fax at 516-6811, by mail (see page 4) or by e-mail at kdunkin@rocketmail.com

Chancellor named St. Louis' first 'Citizen of the Year'

BY DAVID BAUGHER
Staff writer

UM-St. Louis Chancellor Blanche Touhill was recently named the first woman to be honored as "Citizen of the Year" for 1997.

According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, which has sponsored the award since the late '80's, the award has been called "Man of the Year" since it began more than four decades ago. The award was renamed to honor Touhill.

"I am deeply honored and quite thrilled to be named Citizen of the Year," Touhill said in a prepared statement. Touhill said the award was a credit, not just to her but to the University as whole.

"I feel I can share the honor with everyone here at the University—students, faculty, and staff—because it's the University's extra-

“I must add that I am especially pleased that the award now recognizes the accomplishments of all of St. Louis citizens.”

—Chancellor Blanche Touhill
Citizen of the Year

ordinary growth and leadership role in the region that is being recognized."

The chancellor also noted the award's larger significance.

"I must add that I am especially pleased that the award now recognizes the accomplishments of all of St. Louis' citizens, not just its men," Touhill said. □

LETTERS, from page 4

dents who are thinking about signing the petition titled "No legislation without representation."

Do you really feel as if you were not represented? Do the people who started this petition really think that the people who voted in favor of increasing the student fees enjoy paying extra money? I know that I personally don't enjoy paying extra money unless it is going for a good cause.

I will not be here when the new U-Center is built, however, I am paying extra money to ensure that this campus continues to grow. When the campus grows, it gains more respect. I'm sure everyone will agree with me when I say that people who graduate from Mizzou have a more prestigious degree than the students from UM-St. Louis.

Well, that happens for a reason. They have more students, more money, better buildings, which in turn attracts better teachers. Washington University in St. Louis is one of the more prestigious Universities in the area, and if you have ever visited their campus you will know why. It did not happen overnight, it took many decades to achieve what they have, but those pretty buildings weren't born, they were built, one at a time.

What I'm telling you all is that if you want your degree to be worth more money (in the form of higher pay in the future) then think about what the new University Center is all about. Also, think

about the fact that you were represented regardless of the fact if you voted yes or no.

If you voted "no" and feel as if you were not represented, I would have to say that you need to take a political science course and learn about representation, and how it works.

After all, majority rules! I don't agree with President Clinton or the Democrats in Congress, however, whatever decisions are made by our government apply to everyone, and represents everyone.

—Jim Avery
SGA president

Student: new group needs your help

A new chapter of CASAD, Citizens Against Speeding and Aggressive Driving is being formed here on the campus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis. This organization, dedicated to the memory of Jennifer Hywari, will work toward correcting the problem of road rage through education and through lobbying for the passage of legislation aimed at ending this problem.

I call upon you, the student body, to take an active role in helping this organization get off the ground. CASAD will need any volunteers; especially those that can work as executive officers. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Jennette Lienman at P.O. Box 3158, Florissant, MO, 63032.

—Robert Rath

GUEST, from page 4

break. I must go to a higher force, yes I must pray about it. I'll go to church. The reverend hasn't seen me in years, since Easter, 1992. Oh well, that didn't help. I still finished with a low grade point average.

I look at the beginning of the second semester as being round two. As a freshman I started off empty handed and without direction. I now hold in my hands experience, strategy and motivation to fulfill my potential as a student. I will be back — with an attitude this time. □

HARRISON, from page 4

while I cruise down the road because "portions of the proceeds" are going to charity.

Well, okay. But 20 years from now, it won't surprise me if Muzak versions of "England's Rose" are all that's left of Diana's so-called legacy. As for the rest, you might be able to find it at a yard sale in Peoria. □

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The Current Newswire

Effective January 12, 1998, the Shuttle Route will eliminate stops at the Music Building and the Research Building in order to have less waiting at other shuttle stops. New schedules will be available from the shuttle driver and in Honors College, University Meadows, and Seton Hall.

Ron Himes, founding director of the St. Louis Black Repertory Company, will discuss the company's production of "Train a Comin'" during a symposium Jan. 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Building.

The Gateway Writing Project will offer courses for writing teachers at UM-St. Louis during the spring semester. Creative writing and adolescent literature will be covered in credit courses, and workplace writing and the tools of writing will be taught in non-credit courses. For information on registration and fees, call ext. 6910.

The National Research Council will award 350 full-time Associateships in 1998, providing opportunities for research at the postdoctoral and senior postdoctoral levels. Deadlines for applications are January 15, April 15, and August 15, 1998. Information can be obtained from the National Research Council, Associateship Programs (TJ 2114/D1), 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418.

Contact Mary Lindsley at 516-5174 to submit items for Newswire.

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GLVC, from page 7

shoulder injury.

The team did get two guards back from injuries which helped to ease the loss of Simon. Jane Ackerman and Sarah Lawrence are back on the squad after missing eight games each due to injuries.

"Jane has the potential, but I don't think she is comfortable yet," Ethridge said. "The same goes for

STRUGGLE, from page 7

against opponents' point guards. He had 10 points against Quincy.

"Greg has played pretty well over the past half-dozen games," Meckfessel said. "We knew we would have to rely on him a lot. He has had his ups and downs but he has played well lately. He isn't totally over the hump, but he is getting there." □

WINTER, from page 7

ly they will be placed on a team with other individuals instead of an established team.

"In the past we have placed individuals on already established teams, but have found they received little playing time," Coffin said. "Now we make teams of individuals so everybody gets a fair amount of playing time." □

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10:30am						Cardio Circuit with Kathleen Weathers
12 noon	Step with Cindy Haines	I		Step n Box with Diane Blanchard	I A	Cardio Jam with Diane Blanchard
12:30pm		Cardio Circuit with Diane Blanchard	I A		Step with Janine Wolfe	B I
1:00pm	Turbo Sculpt with Diane Blanchard	M		Weight Room Circuit Workout with Diane Blanchard	B I	
1:30pm		Kick Boxing with Lynda Davis	M		Turbo Sculpt with Janine Wolfe	M
2:30pm		Turbo Sculpt with Lynda Davis	M			
4:30pm				Cardio Circuit with Kathleen Weathers	M	
5:30pm	Low Impact with Kathleen Weathers	B I	Step w/ Muscle with Diane Blanchard	I	Boot Camp with Rae Mohrmann	M
	W. E. T. with Donna Brooks	M	W. E. T. with Kathleen Weathers	M	W. E. T. with Donna Brooks	M
					Step n' Box with Diane Blanchard	I A
					W. E. T. with Kathleen Weathers	M

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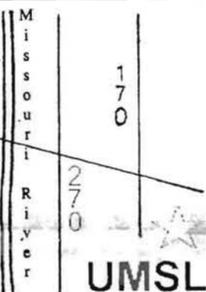
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